ernment. A New York dispatch says: "The jury was out ten hours. Under the indictment, Oliver Spitzer, a dock superintendent; John R. Coyle, Thomas Kehoe, Edward A. Boyle and Patrick J. Hennessey, checkers, may be punished for the commission of two overt acts, the maximum penalty for each of which is two years' imprisonment and $5,000 fine. The failure to convict Cashier Bendernagel is regarded by the government as a distinct disappointment. The effort of the prosecution has been to trace the customs frauds already admitted to a higher source and Bendernagel, though not an executive officer of the company, was an employe who came into contact with those who shaped the company's affairs in their larger aspects."

Francis Drysdale, shot through the heart while handling a revolver three weeks ago, is now able to sit up in bed at St. Joseph's hospital, St. Joseph, Mo. The doctors think he will fully recover.

A St. Louis dispatch carried by the Associated Press says: "A scheme by which $220 is made out of ten $20 bank notes has been called to the attention of local banks by the St. Louis officers of the United States secret service. The scheme is as follows: Ten $20 bank notes are laid one on top of the other with a quarter inch margin of each note showing at one end. All are then firmly held together, and by one stroke with scissors or a sharp knife, each note is divided in two parts, one of which is larger than the other. The pieces are then fitted together to make a note a trifle less than the regulation size. There remain nine complete bills, and two portions of bills, each of which is more than three-fifths of a complete bill. The government redeems at full value a mutilated bill which is three-fifths of the proper size."

THE PRESIDENT ON THE "BREAD LINE"

"They would not wait there if they did not need it, look at the storm. It is all wrong if these men really wish work that they should wait for bread."—President Taft.

(From the New York World of December 17.)

President Taft invaded the Bowery last night, thus establishing a record as the first chief executive of this country who has delivered an address in that territory. He made a speech at the Bowery Mission, which was crowded to the doors, despite the lateness of the hour and the driving rain, when the automobile with the president followed a police automobile into the alley at the rear of the assembly room.

As the president appeared, J. G. Hallimond, in charge of the meeting, called for three cheers for the president. These were given with a will, but appeared faint when "three Bowery cheers" were called for and given.

"Good Night, Boys"

The Bowery cheers before and after the president's address were the occasion for President Taft turning toward the crowd, after completing his speech and calling:

"Good night, boys."

And then you should have heard the cheers.

In introducing the president Mr. Hallimond said:

"In being the first president to come to the Bowery, the president, Mr. Taft, has done an exceedingly kind act. Are you grateful?"

"We are," came in an impressive chorus from 300 collarless throats.

"Do you from the depths of your heart thank the president for coming here?" continued the chairman.

"We do," rolled back the enthusiastic response.

"It is a big journey from the seats of the mighty to the Bowery, to the depths of despair," continued the speaker. "Once more give three Bowery cheers."

They were given, and then the president had a chance.

"My friends," he began, "I am just about as much surprised at finding myself here as you can possibly be at seeing me. I had a note from Dr. Louis Klopsch asking me to come down here after the Carnegie Hall meeting. I have not known the doctor very long, but I do know him by what he has done and I appreciate that.

Why He Visited the Bowery

"It has been my fortune in life to play the part of a figurehead. Some men do the work in this world; some are figureheads. Nature has made me a pretty good figurehead. I have been the head of that excellent movement known as the Red Cross movement. While working in that I came to know the powers for good of Dr. Klopsch in relieving from the utmost distress suffering humanity.

"So when he wrote me to come here and told me that it would be on the Bowery I felt stirred. I had a curiosity to know the Bowery. I felt certain that wherever Dr. Klopsch and the Bowery met there I would find the best of the Bowery, and so I came.

"Your superintendent has said several complimentary things about me. I am not conscious of claiming any credit for coming here. As I look into your faces—the faces of earnest, well meaning, ambitious American citizens—some of you, to use the colloquial, down in your luck perhaps, but responding nevertheless to every call upon you for the love of the city, the state or the nation—I clearly see that you have every desire for doing right, every aspiration for the better that I hope every American citizen has.

"I am glad to be here, if by being here, and saying so, I can convince you that the so-called chasm between you and the people who seem for the time to be more fortunate than you, is not a chasm, and that there is between them and you a deep feeling of sympathy and a deep desire that you shall have that equality, that means of getting on your feet, of supporting your family, and of earning your livelihood that we hope every man under the stars and stripes may fully enjoy.

The Great Work of Dr. Klopsch

"I am glad to be here and to testify by my presence, my sympathy with the great work of Dr. Klopsch in this mission, by which he helps men over hard places. To help you over the time when things seem desperate and when it seems as if the Lord and every one else has turned against you is his plan, and to help you in those times to know that there are men in the world who do sympathize with you and wish to help you to better things.

"It is probably difficult for you to believe that I, who am for the time being president, and receiving a salary from the United States that is large, living in comfort and even luxury, can understand or take into my heart your feeling of despair—the feeling that you have not had the chances that other men have had.

"Yet I assure you that your fellow citizens are not the greedy, oppressive persons you may have thought them. Their hearts are open to help to suffering—their desire to do this is growing and this thought must have been conveyed to you by Dr. Klopsch.

"If there is one thought I could convey to you it would be to hope one, struggle on, forget the difficulties, the disasters of the past, and go ahead with the thought of the future, the big things it has in store for you."

As the president ceased speaking the cheers and applause became almost deafening.

In fear that the Bowery crowd might become too demonstrative, the secret service men began to gather about the president, but he waved them to one side and, turning to the audience, called:

"Good night, boys."

"Three more Bowery cheers," called the superintendent, but his plea was not needed. Cheer after cheer filled the long, narrow hall and the departure of the president became an ovation.

He Visits the Bread Line

From the mission he was taken in his automobile to see the bread line waiting outside a bakery where it has been the custom for many years to give each applicant a loaf of bread.

There were fully three hundred men in the line, and the president appeared deeply impressed.

"They would not wait there if they did not need it, look at the storm," he exclaimed to the friends with him. "It is all wrong if these men really wish work that they should wait for bread."

The rain was descending in torrents. The wind swept it along the streets drenching every person exposed. The president shuddered in his comfortable automobile and reluctantly gave the order to go ahead to the residence of his brother, where he passed the night.

THE REPUBLICAN PROGRAM

Walter Wellman, in a dispatch printed in the Chicago Record-Herald, outlines the chief features of the republican program agreed upon by President Taft and the party leaders in congress and says: "This statement may be regarded as semi-official. Here is the program:

Railroad Rate Legislation

1. The president is no longer a radical upon this subject, but during the past fortnight has changed his views and become a conservative.

2. The president has become convinced that the powerful railway employes' organizations are going to make a concerted demand for increase of wages, that such demands are justifiable in principle and must be acceded to in some measure by the railroads, and that the railroads can not increase wages without increasing freight rates.

3. The president will not ask congress to take out of the hands of the railroad managers the power to make new rates.

4. He will ask congress to create a court of commerce, and to so legislate that hereafter the relations of the federal government to railroad ratemaking will be substantially as follows:

(a) When a railway company files a new rate it is to go into effect at once.

(b) If its reasonableness be attacked by shippers through formal complaint to the interstate commerce commission, the question of reasonableness may be at once referred to the court of commerce, which is to be so organized and managed that it shall be able to give prompt decisions.

(c) The decisions of the court of commerce to be final and binding, save that appeal may be had to the supreme court upon constitutional grounds solely.

5. It is to be made lawful, under certain restrictions and with the approval of the interstate commerce commission, the Sherman anti-trust law to the contrary notwithstanding, for railroads to unite in fixing rates, but without obligation to maintain them for any given time and with the right of any party to withdraw at will.

6. The authority of the interstate commerce commission as to classifications, bills of lading, through routing, designation of routes by shippers, furnishing shippers in writing by the railroads advance statements of the cost of any given shipment, etc., are to be enlarged.

7. Holding stock in competing lines is to be regulated by the commission, with requirement of publicity.

8. Stock and bond issues are to be regulated by law.

In view of the absence of anything hurtful, drastic or "confiscatory" from the foregoing program, the railroad managers of the country have called off their agents and

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