

WASHINGTON NEWS

A Raleigh, N. C., dispatch says: Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels and his wife were honor guests at an informal reception celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding. This had been kept secret from them until they arrived in Raleigh from Washington on a visit. The reception was in the old home of Mr. and Mrs. Daniels and was given by Mrs. Daniels' brother, W. H. Bagley, and his wife. There were from 400 to 500 callers during the evening. With few exceptions the attendants at the wedding were in the receiving line. Messages of congratulation were received from friends throughout the country.

Representative Underwood celebrated his fifty-first birthday.

John P. Mitchell has been named collector of customs for the post of New York to succeed W. M. Loeb. The appointment pleases Senator O'Gorman and also the opponents of Tammany.

Representative Lewis J. Martin of New Jersey dropped dead in the union passenger station at the national capital. He was serving his first term.

An Associated Press dispatch says: After a conference with President Wilson, Postmaster General Burleson announced that an executive order would be issued requiring all fourth-class postmasters now in office, or candidates for prospective appointments, should be subjected to a competitive examination to determine their fitness for the office. The postmaster general issued a statement explaining the purpose of the new executive order, declaring that President Taft's action in putting fourth-class postmasters in the classified service was not sufficient and that the mere placing of a "great horde of persons" in the classified service was not in conformity with the spirit of the civil service as there were no tests to determine the merits of the applicants. The new order, which substantially amends the Taft executive order, retains in the classified service all fourth-class postmasters, but specifically requires a competitive examination and a selection by post-office inspectors from among the first three eligible applicants. The order places the age limit for appointees at sixty-five years. Mr. Burleson, in his discussion of the situation, indicates that the Wilson administration wishes to take the fourth-class postmasters out of politics, but points out that democrats as well as republicans will have an opportunity under competitive examination to show their fitness. Burleson also announced that it was the purpose of President Wilson and himself to take into the classified service, probably during the next year, all postmasters of the second and third classes. Fourth-class offices already have been covered by executive order.

An Associated Press dispatch says: Efforts in congress to incorporate the \$100,000,000 Rockefeller foundation were scored by Senator Works, who declared them a "proposal to 'farm out' to John D. Rockefeller and his associates the right and power to educate the people of the country with money accumulated by criminal means." Senator Works' statement was made in connection with a speech he made in the senate on trusts and combination, the existence

of which he blamed to the high protective tariff policy. "The extent to which this may be carried out is practically unlimited," said he. "We don't want our children to be taught the ways or methods of John D. Rockefeller or his kind, nor to be generous with ill-gotten gains, nor to touch, handle or profit by gold that should blister the fingers of the man who has accumulated it by extortion, oppression and crime, and is not attempting to rid himself of it by giving it away, nor to become the receivers of stolen goods in the name and under the guise of charity."

The federal government has issued a bulletin through the agricultural department which is entitled "Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard," and is the Farmers' Bulletin No. 513 and may be purchased from the agricultural department for 15 cents per copy. This bulletin is one of the most useful bird books issued in recent years and has excellent colored plates. Copies of this pamphlet may be obtained by addressing the members of congress.

Chas. C. Glover, the Washington banker, who attacked Representative Simms of Tennessee, was brought before the bar of the house of representatives. He apologized to the house.

An Associated Press dispatch says: Vice President Marshall replied to Col. George Harvey's statement that his recent public speeches were meant to incite the "predatory poor." "If anybody will produce a public utterance of mine advocating the curtailment of honest wealth, except by a fair inheritance tax, I will go to Wall street and personally apologize," said Mr. Marshall. "In the course of a long professional career I have learned that the witness who had knowledge of fraud invariably got mad when he was interrogated as to the fraud."

An Associated Press dispatch says: Representative H. Olin Young, republican, of Ishpeming, Mich., announced in a speech in the house his intention of resigning his seat. He discussed the contest instituted by William McDonald, a progressive, saying 458 votes intended for McDonald had not been counted for him, and he did not feel justified in holding his seat.

C. J. Smyth, of Omaha, has been appointed special assistant to the attorney general. He has been detailed to the investigation of alleged violation of the anti-trust law by the telephone companies in Washington, Oregon and California.

President Wilson sent to the senate the following nominations: Ambassador to Japan—George W. Guthrie, of Pennsylvania. Collector of customs at New York—John Purroy Mitchell. Commissioner of Pensions—Gaylord M. Saltzgeber, of Ohio. Collector of internal revenue, Seventh Kentucky district—Ben Marshall. Collector of customs, district of Georgetown, S. C.—James C. Congdon. Collector of customs district of Charleston, S. C.—Frederick C. Peters. Postmasters to the number of 150.

Mrs. Helen Longstreet, widow of the famous confederate general lost her fight for the post office at Gainesville, Ga. The president named Mrs. H. W. J. Hamm for the place.

A SIGNIFICANT ELECTION

Three years ago the upturning of a strongly republican congressional district in the state of Massachusetts and the election of Hon. Eugene N. Foss as a democrat from that district pointed clearly to the defeat of the republican party in the nation.

The Thirteenth congressional district of that same state elected a congressman to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. John W. Weeks, recently elected to the United States senate, and the result of that election demonstrates just as clearly that the republican party is far weaker than it was last November.

The vote of the district last November was: For Taft, 15,934; for Wilson, 13,583; for Roosevelt, 5,853. The vote of the district on April 15 was: Mitchell, democrat, 12,991; Cutting, republican, 8,853; White, progressive, 5,678.

The democratic loss, as compared with November, was 591 votes, the progressive loss was 145, while the republican loss reached the great number of 7,081, or very nearly 45 per cent of the vote received by Mr. Taft but six months previous.

There can be no mistaking this dissolution of the membership of the republican party, as based even upon the vote cast last November.

Even those who voted must have been hopeless of accomplishing anything by going to the polls for their nominee.

It is not difficult for the democratic party to keep on winning while the opposition continues so divided, and that the old republican organization gives no hope of success to its nominees or supporters is plainly demonstrated by this latest result in the state of Massachusetts.

The meeting of the executive committee of the progressive party and its determination to carry on national and state campaigns receives new significance in view of the vote in the Thirteenth district of Massachusetts.

It is but logical and in accordance with precedents to expect a sloughing off of democratic strength through differences upon tariff schedules, opposition to other policies and dis-appointments as to patronage distributions.

Those who drop away are far more likely to ally themselves with the progressive party, young and vigorous, than with the defeated and dejected remnant of the republican organization.

On the other hand, as republicans become more and more convinced of the hopelessness of their party's future they will find that strong plank of old, the protective tariff, a bridge to the progressive party, and they will find themselves at home with political friends of former years.

That finally the elements of opposition to democracy will combine under the progressive standard seems to be a certainty, as revealed by this Massachusetts special election, in which the progressives held their November strength and republican forces went to pieces.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

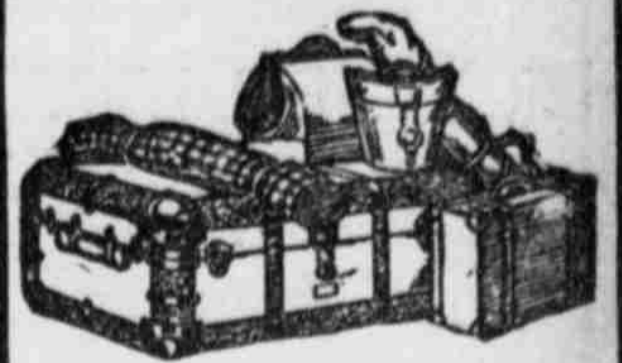
STUDYING LAW

A special dispatch to the Los Angeles Times: Tucson, Ariz., May 4.—William J. Bryan, jr., son of the secretary of state, is following in the footsteps of his father by studying law. He is now in the office of Frank H. Hereford. Mr. Bryan said Wednesday that he expects to take the state examination for admission to practice in the fall.

He has studied at Georgetown university in Washington, D. C. He is a graduate of the University of Arizona, having the degree of bachelor of arts.

He will make his home in Tucson indefinitely.

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