

ly, the candidate who passed highest from some other district where there was no vacancy should receive the appointment.

The secretary refers to the attempt to stamp out slavery in the Philippines and declares that if the existing law is inadequate it should be strengthened and if adequate it should be enforced. Of the turning over of the Philippine commission to native control he says "the step which has now been taken will be carefully observed. Those best acquainted with conditions in the islands anticipate no evil consequences."

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Attorney General McReynolds, in his first report as head of the law department submitted to congress, made it clear that he would oppose court decrees in anti-trust suits where the combination was dissolved into parts under the control of the same stockholders. Further information concerning the attorney general's report is contained in the following press dispatches:

"Mr. McReynolds, in his report, asserted that dissolution of the Standard Oil company and the tobacco trust carried a 'fundamental defect' in that the same men were left in control of the separated companies.

ELUCIDATES HIS POLICY

"Mr. McReynolds draws a sharp distinction between the decrees in the Standard oil and tobacco trust cases, and the dissolution he insisted upon for the Union Pacific-Southern Pacific merger. In that case, by permitting the transfer of stock to non-competing lines and creating a trust of other holdings, a complete disjinder, not only of control but of stock ownership, was accomplished. With regard to this Mr. McReynolds says:

"The principle established has been adhered to in similar suits instituted during this administration. Thus, in the suit against the Reading company and affiliated corporations—the anthracite coal combination—the petition asks that the Reading company be required to dispose of the stock of constituent companies composing the combination to persons not its stockholders or agents or otherwise under its control. My fixed purpose is to oppose any plan of dissolution which would leave the separate parts of the unlawful combination under the control of the same set of men."

SUPERANNUATED FEDERAL JUDGES

"The attorney general offers a novel solution of the problem of superannuated federal judges. Such judges under the constitution hold office during good behavior, although they may retire at the age of seventy after ten years' service.

"I suggest," says the attorney general, "an act providing that when any judge below the supreme court fails to avail himself of the privilege of retiring now granted by law, that the president be required, with the advice and consent of the senate, to appoint another judge, who shall preside over the affairs of the court and have precedence over the older one. This will insure at all times the presence of a judge sufficiently active to discharge promptly and adequately the duties of the court."

"Mr. McReynolds suggests that clerks of United States courts should be appointed for specified terms and subject to removal by the president for cause, and asks that provision be made for a review by the supreme court of the now final decisions of the court of customs appeal, on application only by the government. He approves the bill introduced by Representative Clayton, giving the supreme court power to promulgate the rules for trials on the law side of federal courts. He reminds congress also of needs of changes in his office and an increase in the salaries paid. He terms the present salaries 'moderate for the character and amount of work to be performed.'

EVENTS DURING HIS TERM

"Coming to a review of the events with which his department has been concerned for the fiscal year, the attorney general shows that when he took office fifty-two cases were pending under the Sherman law, and that since March 4 eight cases have been begun. Investigations of complaints that the law has been violated pour into the department by the score each month, and come from all parts of the country.

"In many instances," the report reads, "the investigation has failed to disclose facts which would justify the institution of formal proceedings, but notice of the activity of the government has impelled officers of large industrial corporations to curtail dangerous tendencies. The bureau of investigations has looked into thousands

of cases of all kinds, those concerning violations of the Sherman law and the national banking act averaging together more than fifty a month."

"Through the bureau of investigations and a corps of local white slave officers, the department, the attorney general says, has vigorously carried on the work of prosecution of offenders and has helped suppress the traffic. Out of the \$475,000 allotted for the detection and prosecution of crime, \$175,000 has been set aside for that work and the attorney general concludes 'the department feels that very material progress has been made, particularly during the past year, in suppressing the most vicious features of this traffic.'"

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT

During December Uncle Sam's infant prodigy—the parcel post service—will be called upon to perform a herculean task in connection with the transportation and delivery of millions of Christmas gifts. Postmaster General Burleson, who is responsible for the conduct of this service, has made extraordinary preparations to prevent congestion in postoffices and insure prompt delivery of these parcels. Several thousand additional employees will be added to the force during the holiday season and the collection and delivery equipment will be augmented wherever necessary. Every possible effort has been made to strengthen those parts of the postal organization which will be under the greatest strain and Mr. Burleson stated that with these special arrangements he is confident of the ability of the service to handle successfully the avalanche of parcels that will be thrown upon it during the rush period.

The postmaster general is anxious, however, lest the public fail to cooperate with him in observing important conditions necessary to enable the postal authorities to effect the timely delivery of Christmas gifts. In order to secure this cooperation he has caused to be printed for distribution throughout the country hundreds of thousands of circulars and placards containing directions for the proper preparation of Christmas gifts for transmission by mail.

Christmas parcels should be mailed early. For local delivery they should be mailed not later than December 23 and for out-of-town delivery as early as possible, but in any event in time to reach the offices of destination at least two days prior to Christmas.

Christmas gifts sent by mail should be wrapped securely. The containers or wrappers should be sufficiently strong to withstand the necessary handling incidental to transportation and delivery.

Glassware, crockery, Christmas toys easily breakable, glass framed pictures, etc., should be carefully packed in boxes of metal, wood, leather, or corrugated pasteboard with sufficient excelsior, raw cotton, or similar matter to prevent the contents from coming into contact with any portion of the box. These parcels should be marked "fragile." Postmasters will refuse to accept for mailing packages that are insecurely prepared.

Parcels should be addressed plainly. The addresses should be complete and plainly written in ink. The regulations require that parcel post packages shall bear the names and addresses of both the sender and the addressee. If a tag is used the names and addresses of the sender and the addressee should also be written on the parcel itself.

Parcels sent in advance of Christmas may be marked "Not to be opened until Christmas," or some similar direction. Written or printed messages such as "Merry Christmas," "Best Wishes," etc., may be inclosed in parcels but no other written or printed communication should be placed therein, as this will subject the parcel to a higher rate of postage. Parcels should not be sealed or otherwise closed against inspection. Sealed parcels are subject to the first-class rate of postage.

Photographs, printed books, and other printed matter are not included in the parcel post but are third-class matter on which the postage rate is one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof.

Parcels not exceeding four ounces in weight may be mailed in street boxes, when prepared in conformity with the foregoing requirements. The postage on such packages is uniformly one cent for each ounce or fraction thereof. Parcels weighing more than four ounces are mailable only at the main postoffice or its stations.

Ordinary postage stamps are valid for postage on parcel post matter. Christmas stamps or

stickers of any kind other than postage stamps should not be placed on the address side of mail matter as this renders such matter unmailable.

Valuable parcel post packages may be insured against loss in an amount not exceeding \$25 on a payment of a fee of five cents in addition to the postage, and for a fee of ten cents such packages will be insured in any amount not exceeding \$50.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

The following account of Secretary Daniels' first annual report was published in the Philadelphia Public Ledger:

"Written in a breezy, unconventional way, this first report of the new naval secretary lacks anything that suggests perfunctory preparation, and is no less interesting on account of its diction than the far-reaching importance of several of the recommendations it makes.

"Two dreadnoughts, eight destroyers and three submarines constitute Secretary Daniels' building program for next year.

"This is not a large program, but it is a progressive one," Mr. Daniels asserts. "It meets the demand to go forward in the continuation of an adequate and well-proportioned navy."

FAVORS NAVAL HOLIDAY

"Secretary Daniels goes a step further than Winston Churchill in the latter's advocacy of a 'naval holiday.' 'It is not a vacation we need,' says Mr. Daniels, 'but a permanent policy to guard against extravagant and needless expansions. * * * I venture to recommend that the war and navy officials and the other representatives of all the nations be invited to hold a conference to discuss whether they cannot agree upon a plan for lessening the cost of preparation for war.

"The growing cost of dreadnoughts, of powder and of everything that makes an efficient navy, gives reason for pause. This heavy expense commands national and international consideration. The naval appropriation has doubled in thirteen years and yet this country has not joined the expensive competition and race for over-large navies to the same extent as have some other great nations. Ten years ago our largest battleship cost \$5,382,000. The next dreadnought will cost \$14,044,000. When is this accelerating expenditure to be reduced?"

"Naval programs announced by the nations already having the largest navies, and the entrance into the building of dreadnoughts by nations which have not hitherto burdened their people with the expense of large battleships, indicate that the end is not yet. No single nation, with large interests, can safely take a vacation in the building of battleships. That much to be desired vacation must come through concerted action. If it is not hastened by appeals for the peaceful settlement of national differences, the day is not far distant when the growing burden of taxation for excessive war and naval expenditures will call a halt.

NEEDLESS EXPANSION OPPOSED

"The suggestion of a vacation for one year in battleship building has met with hearty approval and I venture the earnest hope that this will bear fruit in a well-considered plan by navy-building nations not to let the unnecessary competition go to further lengths. It is manifestly not possible for the proposed cessation in battleship construction to be declared at once. It is not a vacation we need, but a permanent policy to guard against extravagant and needless expansions. Any vacation proposed would of course, take into account the conditions in government navy yards and in private establishments, where battleships are built under contract. The whole force is at present concentrated in building ships for which material has been purchased. Time should be given for shipbuilders to obtain commercial orders so as not to ask shipbuilders to incur loss.

"It is recognized that the desired end of competitive building, carried on under whip and spur, cannot be effective without an agreement between the great nations. It ought not to be difficult to secure an agreement by which navies will be adequate without being overgrown and without imposing over heavy taxation upon the industry of a nation.

"I trust the tentative suggestion for a naval holiday by the strongest of the powers will be debated and the matter seriously considered by an international conference looking to reduction of the ambitious and costly plans for navy increase. I trust that this country will take the