

PEOPLE'S PULPIT...



Sermon by CHARLES T. RUSSELL, Pastor Brooklyn Tabernacle.

PALM SUNDAY THE LOST OPPORTUNITY

Test, "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! But now they are hid from thine eyes" (Luke xix, 42).

Little did the Jews understand the momentous importance to them of the event which Christians commemorate on Palm Sunday. It will be remembered that the incident occurred at the close of our Lord's ministry—three and a half years after his baptism at Jordan and five days before his crucifixion. The Jewish Sabbath had been spent in rest at Bethany. Lazarus, whom Jesus awakened from the sleep of death, with his sisters Mary and Martha, prepared for Jesus a banquet, and when the Sabbath closed the supper was eaten. It was at that time that Mary brought forth the box of perfume, spikenard very valuable, and therewith anointed our Lord's head and feet. It was the same occasion on which Judas, in a wrong spirit, had murmured against this expression of her loving devotion; that it was a waste; that preferably the money should have been given to the poor. It was then that the Master defended Mary and announced that the anointing was for his burial (which occurred later the same week), and suggested to the disciples, "The poor ye have always with you. And whatsoever ye will ye do them good; but me ye have not always."

The next morning, the first day of the week, corresponding to our Sunday, Jesus made ready for his triumphant entry into the city of Jerusalem as the Jewish King, according to the custom of the Jewish kings riding upon an ass and hailed and acclaimed by the populace. The incident had been foretold by the Prophet Zechariah in great detail, saying, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, thy King cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass" (Zechariah ix, 9).

Prophecy Must Be Fulfilled. When the apostles had brought the ass and Jesus sat thereon, the large concourse of people (which had come from Jerusalem to see Jesus because of his awakening of Lazarus) shouted aloud. They were filled with enthusiasm and, after the manner of the time, some broke off palm branches for the ass to step upon; others laid their garments in the way and thus formed, as it were, a carpet in the road leading to Jerusalem near by. The shout of the people was just as the prophet had declared. They hailed Jesus as the promised Son of David, the Messiah long waited for. On previous occasions, when they sought to make Jesus a king, after witnessing his marvelous works, he withdrew himself from them, to wait for their ardor to cool, knowing that the Father's time was not yet due. But now he knew that his hour was come and hence, instead of hindering, he helped on with the enthusiasm by sending for the ass, etc. Prominent sectarian Jews present, although unable to account for the miracle, were unprepared to think of Jesus as the true Messiah, or anything short of an impostor in that role. When these heard the multitude shouting and addressing Jesus as the Messiah they were offended and sent word to Jesus that he should restrain the ignorant people who were thus acclaiming him.

But instead of forbidding the ovation Jesus intimated that it was the proper thing, that because the Prophet Zechariah (ix, 9) said, "Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem," therefore there must be a shout. If the people had not shouted, rather than have the prophecy go unfulfilled, Jesus said the very stones would have cried out. Enroute to Jerusalem Jesus halted the ass and the procession at the top of the Mount of Olives and, overlooking the Holy City, wept while he pronounced his sentence upon it—Unworthy! Unappreciative! As the evangelist declares, "Israel knew not the time of her visitation." The time for Israel to receive the King had come and they were not only ignorant of the matter collectively, but they were not in the heart condition to understand or appreciate. Jesus cried, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matthew xxiii, 37). For three and a half years and his faithful apostles had been declaring that the Kingdom of God was at hand; that the people should repent and believe the good message. And even six months in advance of this John the Baptist and his disciples had similarly preached.

After those four years of faithful preaching throughout the length and breadth of Palestine, the nation was apparently as unprepared for Jesus as at the first. Hence our Lord's following words, "Therefore I say unto you, Your house is left unto you desolate! Ye shall see me no more until that day when ye shall say—Blessed be that cometh in the name of the Lord!" That day has not yet come. Meantime the Jewish nation was there cast off from fellowship with God, as the prophet declares, "Because they knew not the time of their visitation." Israel has been outcast from national favor for more than eighteen centuries. Thank God the day is near at hand, when, at the second coming of Messiah, his Kingdom shall be turned over to them. And then, as he declares, they will be glad to say, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of

the Lord." The long centuries of persecution and separation from God's favor will have brought that people to a humbler condition of heart, where they will be glad to receive of Divine grace upon Divine terms. To this great event St. Paul refers us in Romans xi, 27-31.

Although God foreknew all that had happened the offer of the Kingdom to Israel was just as bona-fide, just as genuine, as though he had not known it. God always does his part! Whatever failure there is in any matter of contract belongs to humanity.

If thus we have before our minds the origin of Palm Sunday and what it signified as the climax of the test of natural Israel, in respect to Messiah, we are prepared to go further and to note that in God's providence there is a similar test for us Christians.

"Enemies For Your Sakes."

St. John emphasized particularly the fact that the rejection of the Jewish nation, because of their rejection of Messiah, did not apply to all the individuals of that nation. As the Prophet Isaiah had foretold (Romans ix, 27-33) there was a small, faithful section or "remnant." This remnant accepted Christ and were by him accepted and became the nucleus or foundation of Spiritual Israel on the Day of Pentecost. Thus we read, "He came unto his own (nation) and his own received him not (as a nation); but to as many as received him, to them gave he liberty (privilege) to become sons of God, even to them that believed on his name; which were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God"—at Pentecost (John i, 11-13).

Thus so far as the spiritual part of God's great promise to Abraham is concerned it has passed from the Jewish nation; but there still remains for them a glorious earthly portion, to which they will be introduced at our Lord's second coming. Then their sins will be cancelled, and as a people the Hebrews will return to Divine favor and will inherit the earthly features of the promise made to their fathers. Then, through them, God's blessing will be extended to all nations and peoples under Israel's New Covenant, which will then become operative at the hands of their great Mediator—the Christ, the Messiah in glory. But by that time the election of the saints of this Gospel Age will be complete and the Messiah in glory will include Jesus the Head and the Church his Body—joint-heirs with him in his Kingdom—joint-heirs with him in the spiritual features of the great Abrahamic promise (Galatians iii, 29).

All this is clearly stated by the Apostle in Romans xi, 25-32. But somehow our eyes of understanding as Christians have been hidden so that, until of late, we have not seen these lengths and breadths, these heights and depths, of Divine Love and Wisdom and arrangement. The fact that we now see these things is a corroborative evidence that they are right at hand. Just so it was at our Lord's first advent. Many things pertaining to that time were completely hidden until the time of their fulfillment came, and then only the "Wise Virgins" were so blessed, so assisted, that they trimmed their lamps effectively and were enabled to see these beauties in the Divine Plan.

The Time of Our Visitation.

Apparently very few of God's people, until recently, have noted the fact that Spiritual Israel has had a parallel history to that of Natural Israel. Few have seen that these are dealt with all through the Scriptures as type and antitype. Few have noticed that from the death of Jacob to the death of Jesus finds its exact parallel of 1,845½ years between the death of Jesus and our day. Few have noticed that in both cases there is a nominal and a real Israel. The nominal Jewish system was tried and all but the "Israelites indeed" failed. Likewise will be the experience of Spiritual Israel. The nominal Christian systems will be tried, and all will fail except the spirit-begotten and faithful. As only a remnant or small number were found in the proper condition at the first advent, so the Scriptures clearly intimate that only a small number will be found sufficiently saintly and zealous and loyal to the Lord and the principles of his Truth in the end of this age, to graduate with first honors.

As there was a special period of testing and trying at the close of the Jewish Age, lasting for forty years, so the Scriptures clearly indicate, there is a special sifting and testing due to come to Christendom during the closing forty years of this Gospel Age before the inauguration of the glorious Millennial blessings. As the trials and tests came upon the Jews in a subtle manner, to test their faith and obedience, so even more subtly must we expect will be connected with the trials and testings in the harvest time of this Gospel Age. Of this time the Lord through the prophet said, "Who may abide the day of his presence, and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord acceptable sacrifices" (Malachi iii, 2, 3).

Both Houses of Israel. Natural and Spiritual Israel are contrasted. The Lord through the Prophe-

et foretold that Messiah would be "for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel"—to Natural Israel and to Spiritual Israel. We have seen how the first house stumbled on that Palm Sunday—celebrated today. They stumbled "because they knew not the time of their visitation"—they did not know that the time had come for the establishment of the Kingdom; hence they were not alert to their privileges and failed to be in the proper condition of heart to receive the blessings. Or, we might state the matter reversely and say that those who did not know and did not accept Messiah, were those whose hearts were not in the right condition, else they would not have been left in darkness (I Thessalonians v, 4).

Many things indicate to us, now, that we are living in a time corresponding to that Palm Sunday! Many things imply that Christendom is now undergoing its great test and that only the fully consecrated of heart and life will be accepted of the Lord as his "Jewels" and be granted a share with Christ in his Kingdom. Many things imply that we are now in the time when the true people of God are being divided into two classes, as pictured for us by our Lord in the parable of the Wise and the Foolish Virgins. As only the Wise Virgins were prepared to enter into the marriage, so only the consecrated ones, the polished Jewels of the Lord, will be accepted as fit for the Kingdom and be granted a share in the glorious resurrection change which will precede the great time of trouble, in which the Foolish Virgin class, although not of the world, will participate with the world.

True, that great time of trouble will usher in the glorious Millennial dispensation, in which the Church in glory with the Great Redeemer will pour out upon all mankind the wonderful restitution blessings which God has promised by the mouth of all the holy prophets (Acts iii, 19-23). True, the Foolish Virgins may subsequently get the oil and subsequently have a glorious future, but they will lose the choice place of Divine favor and blessing. They cannot be of the "Bride" class, but will receive their blessing under the figure of "the virgins her companions that follow her" (Psalm xlv, 14).

It is in order for all of God's people who now get awake from the stupor of worldliness which has long stifled them, to join hearts and voices in a great shout—the shout that the Kingdom is at hand! The shout of Hosanna to the Son of David! And that the time is at hand for the fulfillment of the passage, "Gather together my saints unto me, saith the Lord; those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice. They shall be mine, saith the Lord, in that day when I come to make up my jewels" (individually) (Malachi iii, 17).

"See That Ye Refuse Not Him."

As the Jewish nation was not ready to receive Jesus as its King, on that first Palm Sunday, neither is Christendom now ready to receive him at his second advent. As it was, only the "Israelites indeed," in whom was no guile, that then knew the voice of the Shepherd, so it will be here an individual matter. The Laodicean period of the Church's history is upon us (Revelation iii, 17). The Nominalism of our day is fully portrayed by our Lord's words. Christendom boasts that she is rich and increased in goods and has need of nothing; and knows not that she is poor and miserable and blind and naked. The Lord now stands at the door and knocks. He offers himself to the "Israelites indeed." Ours is Palm Sunday in the highest sense of all. How are we receiving the great blessings which be- token the parousia of the Master? Do we hear his knock? Have we opened our hearts? Are we searching his Word and listening for his voice and seeking to know and to do his will in all things? To all such very shortly, we believe, will come the greater and fuller Pentecostal blessing—the resurrection "change," from the glory of character merely to the glory of person as well, when we shall see our Redeemer as he is, and share his glory. As St. Paul says, "See that ye reject not him that speaketh from heaven!" Greater light, greater privilege, greater blessing everywhere are ours than were those enjoyed by the Jews at our Lord's first advent. These privileges and blessings are our tests. Let us be faithful. Let us present our bodies living sacrifices and with renewed zeal seek to glorify our Lord in our bodies and our spirits, which are his (I Corinthians vi, 20).

Those who have the eyes to see and the ears to appreciate the voice now speaking from heaven should be alert to hail him Lord of all—to accept him as their Redeemer and King and voluntarily to present themselves to him and his service—not waiting for the time when he shall reveal himself in power and great glory to the world in general. The Lord is now looking for saints, for overcomers, valiant, faithful, persevering, and thoroughly devoted to him, to his Cause of Righteousness, and thoroughly opposed to its domination in their own hearts, in their own minds, in their own bodies. Such the Master pictures as his joint-heirs, priestly kings, sitting with himself in his Throne of glory and world dominion.

The Ingenious Magpie.

The magpie is nothing if not ingenious. He always barricades his bulky nest with thorn branches, so that to plunder it is by no means an easy matter, but when circumstances oblige the "pie" to build in a low bush or hedge, an absence of lofty trees being a marked feature of some northern localities, he not only interlaces his home, but also the entire bush, in a most formidable manner. Nor does he stop here. To "make assurance double sure" he fashions a means of exit as well as an entrance to the castle, so that if disturbed he can slip out by his back door, as it were.—London Graphic.

WON'T GET RAIL BILL.

Aldrich Refuses Request of Senate Insurgents to Recommit Bill. Washington, March 26.—The request of the senate insurgents that the railroad bill be recommitted to the Elkins committee, so that certain amendments might be made there, and not in the full glare of the open senate, has been refused. Senator Aldrich has informed Senator Clapp of Minnesota, who took the question of recommitment up with the regulars, that there is nothing to be gained by recommitment, unless the entire bill can be fixed up as a result, and both sides brought into line to support it. Clapp replied that such a course would be out of the question.

There are minor defects in the bill, as the insurgents look at it, which it would not be possible to fix up in committee, but which must be fought out on the floor. What Clapp wanted was to have the committee look after those larger matters of amendments which the insurgents think involve the consistency of President Taft. The president is on record as favoring certain things in his speech accepting the presidential nomination and in his messages to congress. The railroad bill, which has the president's approval, goes contrary to those statements.

It was the desire of the insurgents that these matters might be looked after in the executive sessions of the committee, for the general party good as well as for the president's personal sake. But Aldrich was obdurate, and so these matters are to be threshed out in the senate debate.

Senator Cummins has already referred to them in his speech, and it is the purpose of Senator Clapp and the other insurgents to do likewise.

One of the points on which the railroad bill runs counter to the public utterances of Taft has to do with traffic contracts. The Chicago platform says these contracts should be made subject to approval by the interstate commerce commission, and Taft, in his letter of acceptance, says these contracts should be valid when approved by the commission. In his Des Moines speech, last September, he said the same thing. The bill pending provides that these contracts shall be validated when filed with the commission.

The president, in his interstate commerce special message, quoted the interstate commerce commission as to the value of requiring notice before restraining orders are issued, and the value of appeal by the shippers from interlocutory decrees. The pending bill cuts out the necessity for such notice and the right of the shipper to appeal from interlocutory decrees.

The president is on record in speeches as saying that there is no advantage in having rates go into effect until investigated and approved by the interstate commerce commission, and that the commission ought to have the power to prohibit advances of rates until such investigation and approval can be made.

The pending bill defeats this proposition by allowing the commission to stay an advance of rates for sixty days. The insurgents insist that this time is not sufficient for the commission to go into the question of the reasonableness of the proposed rates.

The foregoing three points were the ones put before Senator Aldrich by Senator Clapp in the request that the bill be recommitted for amendment.

Real Estate Transfers.

Transfers of real estate for the past week. Compiled by Madison County Abstract & Guarantee company, office with Maps & Hazen, Norfolk.

- August Schell to A. M. Jones, warranty deed, \$8,800, sw 1/4 20-24-4. Alfred M. Jones to August Schell, warranty deed, \$500, lot 4, block 6, Meadow Grove and lot 7, West Meadow Grove. Thomas F. Memminger to Frank C. Duhachek, warranty deed, \$2,240, w 1/2 4-22-3. John F. Muller to Alexander Miller, warranty deed, \$300, s 1/2 e 1/2 lot 8, block 3, Pasewalk's addition, Norfolk. Leo Braun to Warner H. Daniel, warranty deed, \$450, part ne 1/4 se 1/4 1-22-3. Minnie E. Dowling to William Roker, warranty deed, \$1,950, lots 1 and 2, Fleming subdivision, Norfolk. Albert B. Richardson to Riecka Egan, warranty deed, \$12,000, s 1/2 sw 1/4 and ne 1/4 sw 1/4 and part of nw 1/4 sw 1/4 28-24-2. Frederick W. Richardson to Riecka Egan, warranty deed, \$12,000, ne 1/4 33-24-2. John P. Sheer to Willard M. Kreider, warranty deed, \$3,500, part of se 1/4 1-23-3. William Micolay to Peter Newark, warranty deed, \$5,200, sw 1/4 19-23-2. Anna Zitkowski to J. C. Engelman, warranty deed, \$2,250, e 1/2 lot 3, block 2, Koenigstein's addition, Norfolk. Axel Johnson to C. E. Barrett, warranty deed, \$1,650, lot 7, block 10, R. R. addition, Newman Grove. Nils S. Field to Andrew H. Froland, warranty deed, \$1,250, north 49 feet of lot 20 and south 10 feet of alley, block 7, R. R. addition to Newman Grove. E. H. Lulkart to A. E. Stubbs, warranty deed, \$3,950, lots 1 and 2, block 7, Kimball & Blair's addition, Tilden. Fred K. Fulton to Susan Bley, warranty deed, \$425, lot 19, Durland Suburban lots, Norfolk. Fred K. Fulton to G. D. Bley, warranty deed, \$425, lot 20, Durland Suburban lots, Norfolk. Jack Koenigstein, executor to Fred K. Fulton, executor's deed, \$1,050, lots 19, 20 and 26, Durland's Suburban lots, Norfolk. Fanny Lamb to Elizabeth Herden, warranty deed, \$1,050, lot 3, block 7, Fritz addition to Madison. Charles Knapp to John H. Shary, warranty deed, \$4,000, lots 1 and 5, block 15, Durland's subdivision, Nor-

folk. A. E. H. Oury to Ernest I. Saltz, warranty deed, \$3,300, nw 1/4 4-24-3. John A. Schneck to Maggie Edwards, warranty deed, \$1,200, part of ne 1/4 25-24-4.

Arthur L. Rice to Myra Briggs, quit claim deed, \$1, ne 1/4 lot 6, block 3, Pasewalk addition, Norfolk.

Gustav C. Freifag to A. J. Hartle, warranty deed, \$300, lots 4, block 6, Dorsey Place addition, Norfolk.

Gustav Jacobi to Henry Jacobi, warranty deed, \$1,250, lots 2, 3, 5 and 6, block 8, Bauch's addition, Madison.

J. J. Clements, sheriff, to Fred A. Seiler, sheriff's deed, \$100, n 1/2 w 1/2 lot 3, block 5, Pasewalk's addition, Norfolk.

J. H. Conley and wife to Minnie Williams, quit claim deed, \$1, se 1/4 nw 1/4 and ne 1/4 sw 1/4 20-23-1.

Minnie Williams to John W. Best, warranty deed, \$1,900, se 1/4 nw 1/4, ne 1/4 sw 1/4 20-23-1.

Katherine Schweitzer, et al to August Boysen, warranty deed, \$2,940, sw 1/4 nw 1/4 and w 1/2 sw 1/4 36-22-2 and nw 1/4 1-21-2.

Herman Fricke, jr. to Katharine Schweitzer, warranty deed, \$2,100, lot 8, block 31, F. W. Barnes Third addition, Madison.

Mabel F. Collamer to Minnie E. Brown, quit claim deed, \$1, lots 5 and 6, block 2, Collamer's addition, Norfolk.

Durland Trust company to Minnie E. Brown, warranty deed, \$4,000, lots 5 and 6, block 1, Pasewalk's Third addition, and lot 10, block 13, Durland's addition, Norfolk.

Amelia Whitwer to Jonathan S. Stewart, warranty deed, \$3,100, e 1/2 lot 3, block 1, McComb's Suburban lots, Tilden.

Clyde Pancoast to Minnie E. Brown, warranty deed, \$1,850, lots 5, 6, 11 and 12, block 2, Collamer's addition, Norfolk.

William L. Lehman to William Kientz, warranty deed, \$600, w 1/2 sub lot 8 of lot 14, block 1, Pasewalk's addition, Norfolk.

Laura M. Thomas to Edward Fricke, warranty deed, \$160, lots 2 and 3, block 1, Bauch's Second addition, Madison.

Edward Fricke to Samuel Kuppewit, warranty deed, \$260, lots 2 and 3, block 1, Bauch's Second addition, Madison.

H. F. Slaughter to D. A. Ommerman, warranty deed, \$75, n 1/2 w 1/2 lots 5, block 5, Pasewalk's addition, Norfolk.

Henry Ertzner to J. L. Thornburn, warranty deed, \$1,050, lot 7, and sw 1/4 lot 6, block 10, Haase Sub lots, Norfolk.

John W. Carlson to Simeon C. Cleveland, warranty deed, \$9,000, w 1/2 e 1/4 26-21-4.

Carl Schilling to John H. Garrett, warranty deed, \$18,300, nw 1/4 32-22-1.

George H. Gutru to Mildred Dora Anthony, warranty deed, \$11,000, nw 1/4 6-21-4.

George H. Gutru to Magnus Broberg, warranty deed, \$9,200, nw 1/4 30-22-4.

William C. Davenport, et al to Mary E. Davenport, warranty deed, \$2,000, block 8, Koenigstein's Third addition, Norfolk.

HAWLEY A JOHN D. MAN?

Who is the Money Power Behind His 15,231 Miles of Lines.

Chicago, March 26.—Within the last three years Edwin Hawley has come to be the dominating influence in 15,231 miles of railroad, having a combined bank and stock issues of \$1,012,920,744. Where did he get the money? What is the financial power back of this aspirant for the honors of Harriman?

It is believed in certain quarters in Wall street that eventually Standard Oil resources, through the agency of Kuhn, Loeb & company, will be found to be the financial power which has enabled Mr. Hawley to get together these 15,231 miles of second class railroad properties for the purpose of welding them into a trans-continental system.

Mr. Hawley is credited with a private fortune of forty million dollars. That may be too high. It probably is. But if it were not it would be still insufficient to obtain control of the railroads now popularly designed as Hawley lines. An individual fortune is neither available nor sufficient for a project of such dimensions.

It is significant that up to this time Mr. Hawley and his associates have not secured a single mortgage or sold a single bond with which to recoup themselves for money paid for railroads, though it is now planned to purchase with bonds the Hocking Valley, the Chesapeake & Ohio, the Toledo, St. Louis & Western, the Chicago & Alton, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas, the Iowa Central and the Minneapolis & St. Louis's way without any special source of funds being disclosed.

combination at that time. Mr. Yoakum severed his relations with the so-called Rock Island crowd. While it is reiterated that friendly relations exist and that the Frisco lines will work in harmony with the Rock Island lines, it is significant that the agreement to separate the systems was made public. It is officially announced that one of the reasons for segregating the lines was because of the obstacles which had sprung up in the path of the Rock Island. The two roads, it was stated, were parallel and competing lines in several states, and the question had been raised by both federal and state authorities concerning their right to be under one management.

That Mr. Hawley and his associates should have the backing of Kuhn, Loeb & company and National City bank references will readily appear. And if J. P. Morgan & company eventually should be found to be friendly with the Hawley forces it will not be a matter for surprise. For Hawley to have the support of the Standard Oil interests and even of Mr. Morgan, would mean antagonism to the Rock Island crowd and the Rock Island people never have been admitted to full membership in the brotherhood of railroad finance as that organization exists in Wall street. To help Hawley and Yoakum would mean to antagonize James J. Hill on the north, Mr. Morgan's friend; E. H. Harriman interests on the west and southwest, fostered by Kuhn, Loeb-Standard Oil capital, or Mr. Morgan's properties in the south and east, or the financial backing of the Pennsylvania Railroad company.

Second Term Not Worrying.

Washington, March 26.—When President Taft is asked about 1912, he smiles. Does he expect a renomination? Asked if, with a renomination, he thinks he can be re-elected, he says the question is one nobody can answer. Meanwhile, he is doing the best he knows how, and will continue to do that to the end. If he should be renominated and re-elected, he will be lucky; if he should fail of one or both, he will be in distinguished company, and then he recalls the one-term presidents by name—both the Adamses, Van Buren, Polk, Taylor, Pierce, Buchanan, Hayes, Arthur, Harrison, most of whom wanted another term, and several of whom were renominated only to fail at the polls.

It is the idea of President Taft that he ought not to use his office with reference to a renomination, and thus far he has steadily declined to do so. As the leader of his party, he is anxious to have the party, as represented in congress, carry out the wishes of the national convention, and he is working earnestly to that end. But there is never a word about himself.

No president for many years has put on so perfect an air of disinterestedness. He says to his political advisers this in substance: "I will have been president four years at the end of my term, and if I then am to step down and out, I shall be just as much entitled to the respect of the people, assuming that I do my duty for a second four years. This matter of the second term is the least of my troubles at present. I am much more interested now in securing the enactment of certain legislation. My thoughts do not go beyond that, and the congressional campaign which is soon to begin. All these other things will take care of themselves when the time comes, and I have so many other things that are daily pressing for immediate attention that I think I am wise in declining to burden myself with them."

How a president of this kind will come out in the political game, nobody knows. He says he has no particular aptitude for politics, doesn't know the game, and finds much in it that gratifies his sensibilities. He notes that he has been for many years a judge, and because of the training of the bench prefers to look at things in a judicial way. For the same reason he likes to be deliberate and to take his time about deciding questions. There is none of the push and rush about the executive offices that one found there under Roosevelt, and he says he doesn't like to do things in that hurry-up way.

As for the next house of representatives he would like to see it republican, not, however, because of his own chances in 1912, but because if the house should be democratic, the party will be able to do nothing further in the way of carrying out the pledges of the Chicago platform than can be done at the present session of congress.

In several letters to personal friends the president is saying frankly that the chances for his renomination and re-election do not appear as bright as they might be. But he always adds that he isn't worrying about that, and shall not worry about it at any time.

Because of his desire to have the next house republican, he will do everything he can during the campaign. In all probability he will make no speeches, this being contrary to the properties, but he will undoubtedly write one or more political letters to friends, with a view to having them made public, these letters to discuss the issues and tell why, in his opinion, the republican party is entitled to a vote of renewed confidence.

Politicians here are saying that no president since the civil war has come into office with the handicap that has been Taft's. They discuss this question, not as sympathizing with him, but merely as an interesting political development. Roosevelt was a crusader, say these men. He awakened the country as no former president had awakened it, and set it to thinking seriously, and with more or less intelligence, about problems involved in modern capitalistic and industrial development. He went out of office before the country had gone far enough

with its thinking to be prepared to offer definite solutions of these problems. For instance, there is no formula which a majority of congress seems likely to accept providing for further regulation of the trust so called; everybody favors conservation, and yet congress is not agreeing as to the language of conservation legislation.

The work of agitation, in other words, is still going on, just as it went on under Roosevelt, the people demanding something, but they don't know precisely what, and congress is marking time, hoping that the situation will clear up so it can know what to do.

In the midst of this confusion stands President Taft, with the Chicago platform in mind, demanding that congress shall carry out the promises therein made. And congress comes back at him, saying it cannot act intelligently until public sentiment has further crystallized.

In New England and the east, there is absolute indifference as to conservation matters. In certain parts of the west conservation is the one great issue of the day. In the east there is much interest in the pending railroad legislation, but it is largely an interest that doesn't want anything drastic done.

In the central west the railroad issue looms large. Statehood for Arizona and New Mexico is promised in the platform, and yet the practical men in the republican party are hesitating about admitting two new states, and thus giving the democrats four new members of the senate. The president tells these men that they should have thought about this while the Chicago convention was in session.

The reply is that the statehood pledge was inserted at Chicago for the sole purpose of placating certain sections of the country, and should not now be taken too seriously. The president says he knows nothing about this placating business; he finds statehood in the platform, and believes that as party leader he should urge the legislation.

And so the matter goes on. The people are restive, and political ties are more loose than for more than a generation. One section of the country is demanding one thing in the way of legislation, another section is demanding something else and opposing the demands of other sections. All sections look to the president as their special champion, and threaten to bolt the republican ticket if he fails to do what they think should be done. Was there ever such a situation during the time of any man now alive?

The president continues to smile, and to be good-natured with all who meet him. He understands the condition of unrest in the republican party, and wishes things were otherwise. But because they are not otherwise, he does not purpose losing any sleep, or adding any lines to his face. He simply wants to do the very best he can with a very unusual and very difficult problem. If he can solve it, well and good; if he cannot, he will have the consolation of having done his very best. And that is about all there is to it, from his point of view.

There are many persons who are saying that Roosevelt's proverbial luck didn't desert him when he declined to stand for a "second elective term." Were he president instead of Taft, these people say he would be having just as much trouble as Taft is having, which being the case, he got out just in time. The "my policies" which he left over for Taft have proved to be a very troublesome legacy.

This town's stores are bigger, better, newer, more appealing today than ever before. And the ads. are "keeping pace."

VIRGINIA EARLE WOULD DIE.

Poverty Now the Lot of the Onetime Stage Favorite.

New York, March 26.—Virginia Earle, ten years ago the brightest star on Broadway, the queen of musical comedy stars, was taken away from her residence at 214 West One Hundred and Ninth street, at midnight yesterday in an unconscious condition. She had taken poison.

With two doctors attending her, she was placed in a private ambulance and driven rapidly downtown, leaving behind her the shabby flat in which she has passed the last six months of her life.

Virginia Earle, whose last appearance was in vaudeville, has had no work this season, and her friends say she has been despondent and melancholy. Tuesday night she came in at 1 o'clock and climbed the stairs to the little 4-room flat which she shared with Miss Lawton.

A few moments later there was a sound of crashing glass inside the flat and then the thud of a body striking the floor. The people in the flat underneath telephoned the janitor. He was forced to break the lock in order to get into the apartment. Miss Earle was lying on the floor in the front room unconscious.

Virginia Earle was the most popular comedienne of her time. In London she divided honors fairly with Edna May; on Broadway she stood alone. A very beautiful woman, she was one of the most photographed persons in the world.

In 1894 she made her first appearance on Broadway with George W. Lederer's "Passing Show." She made her first hit with an imitation of Della Fox in the "Pretty Girl" song from "Wank."

She was a fixture with musical comedy shows for several years and in 1902 became a star. She appeared in "The Lady Slavey," "The Geisha," "The Runaway Girl," and as the Geisha Girl in "The Casino Girl." In "The Belle of Bohemia" she proved a capable actress as well as a comedienne.