

for the present. I have not felt that I ought to be connected with an enterprise unless I am in a position to give time to it."

State Senator Hugh S. McGill, principal of the Princeton, Ill., high school, has announced his candidacy for the republican nomination for United States senator, against Senator Cullom. He says he is a progressive and promises to work with La Follette.

Governor Plaisted, and his council, of Maine, have reviewed the returns from the late prohibition election and they have decided to accept the corrections in the vote from four towns. These corrections reverse the result which indicated a majority of 26 for the repeal of the prohibitory amendment. The corrected returns as accepted by Governor Plaisted show that Maine retains constitutional prohibition by 758 votes.

TAFT AND LITTLETON ON THE SHERMAN LAW

United Press dispatch: Morgantown, W. Va., Nov. 1.—There was rejoicing in the Taft camp today, and the president was congratulated over the "victory" last night, also there was no little indignation over what the Taft supporters declared was a deliberate "baiting" of the president by the Pittsburgh chamber of commerce. Before an audience that included perhaps hundreds of Pittsburgh "millionaires" and at least 150 minor officials of the steel trust subsidiaries, the president was forced to sit while he heard Representative Martin W. Littleton (dem., N. Y.) denounce the Sherman anti-trust law and demand its repeal. The Pittsburghers cheered Littleton to the echo as he riddled the statute, declaring that it was incapable of enforcement.

It had been a long evening of tiresome speeches up to that time, and when Littleton concluded with a burst of oratory amid a storm of cheers, the president had but nineteen minutes to the time his train was scheduled to leave Pittsburgh and for the first time since he became president, Taft "got mad" right out in public. Realizing that he was butchered to make a Pittsburgh holiday he went right after Littleton's argument. Scarcely a sound of applause greeted him as he arose, Pittsburgh business men being convinced that he had been subdued. But with more vigor than he had ever put into public utterance, the president defended the laws with his face suffused and his huge body swinging from side to side he swung his fists at the Pittsburghers and told them they must obey the law.

Littleton had said that the law was indefinite, and the president, shaking his big fist at the long rows of business men, shouted:

"That law has been on the statute book twenty years. It has been construed, and construed and construed by the supreme court. I have had myself, when on the bench, an opportunity to consider its purpose and its effect, and two decisions were rendered last spring which are epoch making and which in my judgment give definite meaning to that statute. They are there, and you will find them, if you will search through the language of the speech of the gentleman you have just heard.

"That any combination in restraint of trade with the purpose and effect to control prices, stifle or suppress competition, or establish a monopoly, is a violation of the statute. I say the supreme court put into that law the purpose, and I am talking to men who understand business, and I am talking to intelligent men, and I

WASHINGTON NEWS

President Taft will be asked to transmit to the Czar of Russia a protest against the "systematic oppression" of the Jews in Russia.

In a decision handed down by the supreme court complete control of the railroads by the interstate commerce commission and the virtual elimination of state commissions from such control is foreshadowed.

The supreme court of the United States declined to grant the request of the commonwealth of Virginia to "speed the cause" in the commonwealth's suit against West Virginia to compel it to pay a portion of the old debt of the Virginia commonwealth.

Theodore Roosevelt has made an attack on President Taft's peace treaties.

The Associated Press correspondent says: The legal host gathered in Washington to fight before the supreme court of the United States for the constitutionality of the initiative and referendum methods of legislation in this country was augmented by counsel representing the state of Washington. They sent a brief to the court, but they are not expecting to participate in the oral argument of the point which arises in a case from Oregon. In the brief it is said that the "lifting of the veil" in James Bryce's "American commonwealth," in 1888, from the

know what I am talking about when I say that men who know whether they intend to stifle competition, men who know whether they intend to establish a monopoly.

The president's face grew red, and his sentences flowed fast and vigorous, and his breath came in short gasps. The thousand Pittsburghers leaned forward eagerly to see the president in a fighting mood. He turned to Littleton who sat at the table with him, and waving his arms around his head flail-like he almost screamed:

"My friend, Brother Littleton offers what? Does he offer anything but a repeal of this statute and then an enactment of another statute, which is to be subject to the same construction and to be put in a form of federal incorporation? I am in favor of federal incorporation, but that is no reason for repealing this statute. Let us enforce the statute, and then let the parts into which these trusts that were formed for these illegal purposes go into the federal incorporation act and receive the protection that they are entitled to if they follow the law. There is only one course open to us, gentlemen, and I say that with all the sincerity I can command, either we are going to have individualism and a freedom from these combinations that suppress competition, that control prices, and that establish a monopoly, or else we are going on to the point where the people will demand that the power which these few men are going to retain in their hands shall not be further exercised by them, but that it shall be transferred to the government, and then we will have state socialism. I know I am speaking against the leaning of most of these gentlemen. I can not help it. The law is on the statute book. I believe it is a just law.

"The main point is that the law has got to be enforced, and this stifling of competition, this establishing

machine rule in this country followed by further publicity of machine rule methods, has aroused a large proportion of the American people. "They are thoroughly aroused, more so than when the British passed the stamp act against the colonists and began to encroach upon their liberties," says the brief.

The court is told that the people are demanding the initiative and referendum method of legislation to cure the evils of machine rule. Already seventeen states, it is said, have taken to themselves, or to vote on a proposal to take to themselves, an option to ballot direct upon public questions whenever they choose to do so.

It is argued that the question is a political one for congress to decide and not a judicial one for the courts to pass upon.

The American dreadnought Delaware of the Atlantic fleet, leads the other battleships in efficiency at battle practice held off the Chesapeake capes during last September, with a score of 52,551.

There is now every expectation that the exploration of the portions of the Maine immediately affected by either an explosion of a mine or of the magazines, will be completed by the end of November.

Secretary of War Stimson is strongly in favor of military training in the public schools of the country.

of monopolies, this arrangement to control prices must cease, or we must deliver over to the gentlemen who have it in their hands to run the entire business of the country or, and then, the final step, turn it over to the government to fix prices, and to fix compensation for every one and we will have a socialistic republic."

The big form of the president, shaking with emotion, leaned forward over the tables. The veins on his forehead stood out like taut cords, and he rattled the dishes before him as he pounded the table with his big fist. Littleton had declared that it was practically impossible to prove intent to violate the Sherman law.

"No man within the sound of my voice, but what knows," shouted the president, "if he is in business that makes a contract with his competitor, whether he is trying to control prices, whether he is trying to stifle competition, or establish a monopoly and that intent is easily proven by the circumstances. Can you tell me any business corporation that has been punished by that statute that ought not to have been? Tell me that, before you tell me how difficult business is. Show me where the statute has worked unjustly. You can not do it.

"If your purpose was honest and innocent, and you only increased your corporation as much as possible, and your pursued the methods that are known to honest business, without attempt to drive out competitors, without an attempt to control prices, you can go on and make your business as large as you choose. I say with great deference to my friend, Mr. Littleton, that his remedy is only to abolish this statute and give us another one just as difficult of construction, and what are you going to do with those who are now under indictment or under the decree of the court? Are you going to abolish that statute and let them go back in?"

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