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Taft of Ohio

**Administration's Handy Man, Who
Is Talked of For the Presidency.
His Vast Bulk, His Tact and His
Talent For Sitting "on the Lid."**

TALK about Secretary William H. Taft as a presidential candidate has excited interest in the personal characteristics of the famous head of the war department. The secretary is the kind of man people like to read about whether they agree with his variety of politics or not. He is noted first of all, perhaps, for his bigness—the weight, the ponderosity of both body and brain, that makes him a good man to sit on the lid when there is something underneath that is steaming hot and liable at any minute to cause an explosion. He is noted for his good nature, his ability to get a laugh out of any situation, no matter how serious it may look to the average eye, and his cleverness in smoothing over things by his diplomacy and tact when a less gifted person would only cause riot and rebellion. Indeed, some say that if one letter in his name were changed and he were called Secretary Tact instead of Secretary Taft the alteration would be an appropriate one. Another of his qualities is his readiness, if not actual eagerness, to tackle a difficult situation. It was popular awhile ago when any hard proposition presented itself to "Take it down to Washington and put it up to Teddy." Secretary Taft has in the past few years had so many complicated tasks put up to him for settlement that he has earned a reputation almost rivaling Mr. Roosevelt's as a national and even international arbitrator.

The question has been raised, in fact, whether Mr. Taft ought not to be called secretary of peace rather than secretary of war, since his pacific errands form so prominent a part of his duties. When he was a student at Yale and known as "Bill," he was a great wrestler, but no brawler, and he often disarmed opposition by his boyish way of breaking out into laughter at a critical moment and putting his arm around the shoulders of some college mate, a half hug and half slap, and it is in the same way that in later years he has won over fierce chieftains of divers races and calmed antagonism in many an American politician's breast.



SECRETARY TAFT'S INFECTIOUS SMILE.

He has been to Panama so many times that most people have lost track of the count. On his return from his last journey thither, which included stops on the way homeward at Porto Rico and Cuba, Washingtonians got scarcely a glimpse of his portly figure before he was off again on a flying trip to Ohio to make two or three speeches on subjects not having much to do with politics and to exchange a word or two with the relatives and friends who are grooming him for the presidency. With the advent of the commencement season he will pack his grip and start for Minnesota and Iowa to advise colleagues who are about to take up the serious business of life, and a few weeks later he will be off for the Philippines again to help inaugurate an era of self government for the islands in whose welfare he has such interest.

When he was governor general of the Philippines, Judge Taft was so enthusiastically devoted to his duties that he refused to leave his post until certain important tasks were completed, even though in so doing he lost the opportunity of going on the supreme bench, where, it has been said, he would rather be than even in the presidential chair. Yet when he accepted the post of chairman of the Philippine commission he did so with great reluctance. It is related that when President McKinley summoned him to the White House and offered him the place he said:

"I can't be of any use. I didn't want you to take the Philippines. It was a mistake."

The troubled gray eyes of the president regarded the bluff giant intently and then smiled as only the McKinley eyes could smile.

"Nor did I want to take the Philippines," he answered, with great earnestness. "I had to. There was nothing else to do. We must build a new nation out there. I want you to help us."

And help he did.

COREY-GILMAN.

The Head of the Steel Trust and His Beautiful Bride.

The nuptials of Mabelle Gilman, the actress, and William Ellis Corey, president of the United States Steel corporation, have been the subject of almost as much talk as the marriage of Alice Roosevelt and Nicholas Longworth or of King Alfonso of Spain and the Princess Victoria. Mr. Corey is forty-three years of age and is head of the United States Steel corporation, commonly known as the steel trust. He was re-elected to this post for the third time but a few days ago. Miss Gilman is a daughter of Charles H. Gilman of San Francisco, and her career on the stage has been full of incidents that have caused her to be talked about. She has had admirers by the score, and her affair with the crown prince of Siam won her much publicity. The love letters and poems the prince wrote describing his passion found their way into print and proved a great boon to Miss Gilman's press agent.

Mr. Corey began his career in the steel business when he entered the



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM E. COREY.

chemical laboratory of the Edgar Thomson Steel works at sixteen. His rise to influence in this concern and in the great steel making industry was rapid, and he succeeded Charles M. Schwab as president of the Carnegie Steel company. In 1903 he stepped into Schwab's shoes again as head of the United States Steel corporation. It was in 1905 that Mr. Corey sat in a box in a Pittsburgh theater and heard Miss Gilman sing in "The Mocking Bird." That was the first time he saw her, and from that time on his attentions to her caused comment. They finally led to an estrangement between him and his first wife, who was Miss Laura Cook. She filed a petition for divorce in June, 1906, and obtained a decree at Reno, Nev., in July of the same year. Mr. Corey was then said to have settled \$2,000,000 on her and her sixteen-year-old son.

MRS. JOHN W. TIMMONS.

**The Handsome and Clever Daughter of
the Vice President.**

Lieutenant John W. Timmons of the United States navy, who has been charged with important duties in connection with the expenditure of the large sum recently appropriated for submarine boats, married a daughter of Vice President Fairbanks. As Miss Fairbanks the present Mrs. Timmons was very popular in Indiana society and also at the nation's capital, and after acquiring a naval officer as a



MRS. JOHN W. TIMMONS.

husband she added many wearers of the naval uniform to her circle of friends. Mrs. Timmons is naturally interested in the art of war and is herself an excellent pistol shot. She takes great delight in shooting at a mark with a revolver, and as she has been slight and steady nerves few men can excel her in handling the weapon. Some time ago her husband, then an ensign in the navy and on duty aboard the battleship Kearsarge, was stricken with typhoid fever while visiting a town in Italy. She hastened to his bedside and nursed him until he recovered his health.

The Dressmaker's Diploma.
Many New York women who patronize a new dressmaker for the first time propound an embarrassing question.

"Have you a diploma?" they ask. "I didn't know what answer to make to the first customer that put that question to me," said one dressmaker. "I certainly did not have a diploma. I knew how to sew, but I had no certificate to that effect. Finally I found that many women have suffered so grievously at the hands of incompetents that they were unwilling to trust their work to a person who could not show some guarantee of experience and efficiency, so, although I knew more about sewing than half the fashionable dressmakers in town, I actually worked in one such establishment for four months so that I could point to a printed diploma which says, 'Formerly with Mme. A. of Fifth avenue.' It pays any dressmaker to arm herself with credentials of that kind. She ought to have her diploma framed and hung on the wall like a doctor's diploma, so as to give confidence to doubting customers."—New York Sun.

Great Schemers.

"These traveling men are great schemers when it comes to getting rooms assigned to them ahead of other guests who registered first," said a hotel clerk. "There were several guests on the waiting list for rooms yesterday. One traveling man came up to the desk holding his hand to his stomach, saying he was so sick he must have a room at once. He was accommodated. In a few minutes another traveling man who was among the list of guests waiting for rooms, came up and said he had beard a sleeper at 2 o'clock in the morning and tried to get some sleep, but that it ran into an open switch and gave him such a shaking up he couldn't sleep. He said he was almost dead with exhaustion and loss of sleep and must have a room at once. Hardly had he gone to his room when a third one came up and said he, too, must have a room immediately. What do you suppose his reason was? He said a horse fell on him the day before, and he thought he was injured internally."—Kansas City Star.

Pepper and Onions and Garlic and—

At a restaurant downtown, redolent of pepper and garlic, where swarthy representatives of Spain and all the Spanish-American countries gather every day at the lunch hour a lone American, accustomed to strictly unseasoned food, was glancing apprehensively at the bill of fare.

"What is chile con carne?" he asked the waiter.

"Ah, senior, zat is pepper and a little meat and pepper again and once more pepper and—"

"No matter. What is bacalao a la vizcaina?"

"It is delicious—codfish and red pepper and gar!"

"Forget it! What is oia a la Espanola?"

"Ah! Zat is onions and pepper and garbanzos and chorizos and!"

"Bring me roast beef!"—New York Times.

Barrimore's Dilemma.

Maurice Barrimore, the once famous actor, was once in London with a new piece which he was anxious to have produced. He had read it to a manager, and it had been decided that he was to play the leading role. About a week after it was supposed to have been definitely settled Barrimore received a note from the manager asking him to call. Barrimore called, and the manager said: "I like the piece, old fellow, but I don't see how I can use you in the cast. Your beastly American dialect won't do at all, you know. They won't have it."

"Well, that's strange," said Barrimore. "They told me on the other side that they wouldn't have me on account of my beastly English dialect. What am I to do, give recitations on the transatlantic steamers?"

No Insult Intended.

A London exquisite had gone into a west end restaurant and was far from pleased with the way in which his order was filled.

"Do you call that a veal cutlet?" he demanded of the waiter. "Why, such a cutlet as that is an insult to every self respecting calf in the British empire."

The waiter hung his head for a moment, but recovered himself and said in a tone of respectful apology:

"I really didn't intend to insult you, sir!"—London Answers.

Origin of the Cross Bun.

The exact significance or origin of the cross bun is not too certain. A superstition regarding baked bread on Good Friday appears to have existed from an early period. Bread so baked was kept by a family all through the ensuing year under the belief that a few gratings of it in water would prove a specific for any ailment.—Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury.

Suspiciously Cheap.

Mrs. Schoppen—The price seems low, but I'm afraid of antique rugs. You know the old saying, "Snug as a salesman—'As a bug in a rug.'"
Ha! Ha! But there are no bugs about this rug. Mrs. Schoppen (shrewdly)—No? I half suspect the presence of a little humbug.—Philadelphia Press.

Her Troubles.

Teacher—Who was the most patient person that ever lived? Student—Mrs. Job. Teacher—How do you make that out? Student—Why, Job endured a whole lot, but she had to endure Job.—Judge.

He who seeks a brother without a fault will have to remain without a brother.—Talmud.

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This is one Kansan woman's testimony:

Mrs. Melissa A. Love, of 211 Hendricks street, Fort Scott, Kan., says: "Last winter I had an attack of the grip, and it effected my kidneys so that I suffered for a long time afterwards with pain and lameness in the small of the back. I had felt this trouble coming on all during the fall, and a cold I took was the final means of bringing it to a climax. If I swept the floor or exerted myself in any other way, I had to go and lie down, but the dull heavy aching would commence again as soon as I got up and stirred around. My son urged me to try Doan's Kidney Pills, and I got a box at T. W. Atkins' drug store, and began using them. I found such gratifying relief that I continued the treatment until the trouble had entirely disappeared. My experience certainly warrants me in recommending Doan's Kidney Pills to others." For Sale by all dealers. Price, 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.



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RESOLUTION.

Estimate of expenses for the current year 1907, by the city council of the city of McCook, Neb. Be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of the city of McCook, in the state of Nebraska, that the following be and the same hereby is adopted as the estimate of expenses for said city of McCook, for the fiscal year commencing May 7, 1907.

Salaries of officers..... \$ 850.00
Supplies, claims and elections..... 180.00
Making and repairing alleys, streets and crosswalks..... 230.00
Fireman and supplies..... 100.00
Rent on water troughs, street sprinkling and for flushing sewer..... 200.00
Lighting streets..... 120.00
Interest on bonds and sinking funds..... 300.00
Maintenance of free library..... 100.00
Maintenance of sewer..... 100.00
Total..... \$ 1880.00

The entire revenue for the city for the year ending May 6, 1906, was as follows:
General fund..... \$ 220.29
Occupation fund..... 286.75
Water fund..... 305.44
Cemetery fund..... 181.00
Light fund..... 1189.50
Sewer fund..... 132.45
Library fund..... 1062.91
Fire fund..... 604.82
Total..... \$ 3289.65

The entire expense of the city for the year ending May 6, 1907, was as follows:
General fund..... \$ 3621.12
Occupation fund..... 2155.01
Water fund..... 210.00
Cemetery fund..... 286.45
Light fund..... 1212.45
Sewer fund..... 1062.91
Library fund..... 623.21
Fire fund..... 944.50
Total..... \$ 7215.65

Adopted and approved this 13th day of May, 1907.—4-17-4

Attest: C. L. FAHNESTOCK, Mayor
H. W. CONOVER, Clerk.

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