

UPHOLDS A FEDERAL CITY

President Taft's Defense of National Rule in Washington.

WISDOM OF FATHERS IS SHOWN

A Notable Address in Support of the Present Form of Government in the District of Columbia.

A political movement designed to promote "home rule" in the District of Columbia, secure the right of suffrage for the residents, and representation in the house of representatives and in the senate, culminated in a banquet in Washington on the evening of the 9th.

President Taft's address follows: "Mr. Chairman and the solid men of Washington (applause): I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the courtesy that you have extended to me this evening in this magnificent banquet and in your coming to take part in this occasion. I am proud of it, it is the case, and I must believe it from the assurances given tonight that this is the first time that a president of the United States has ever had the pleasure of meeting on such an occasion and under such circumstances, the business men of Washington." (Applause.)

"I have not been here very long in the city of Washington as some men count it long. I was here two years between 1890 and 1892. Four years from 1894 to 1898, but that is a little longer than Justice Stafford. (Continued applause.) I have been a taxpayer; I have invested some money in land in Washington and have not seen a dollar come out of it; I have sent my children to the public schools; I have hung to straps in street cars, going both ways to the capital; these streets into which always creep unbidden that beautiful shaft that marks the memory of the founder of this city. (Great applause.)"

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have, and they must know that they must depend, not upon the principles ordinarily held by the government, but that they must trust in order to secure their liberty—to get their guarantees, they must trust to the representatives of eighty millions of people, selected under that Constitution. (Applause.)

"Now I want to say, with reference to this discussion, that if this meeting or subsequent meetings are to be devoted to securing an amendment to the Constitution by which you are going to disturb the principle of two senators from every state, and you are going to abolish the provision that was put in there ex-Industria by George Washington, you will not get ahead in the matter of better government in Washington by such meetings. I do not want to seem to be abrupt, but I believe it is possible by such meetings as this to arouse the interest of Congress and the executive to the necessity of consulting the people of Washington, to let them act as Americans act when they don't have the right of suffrage—let them act by the right of petition. And are they not exercising that right all the time? (Applause.)

"Isn't it possible to determine on the part of the committee of the House and the Senate what the attitude of the Washington citizens is? Why the government that we have today in Washington everybody admits is a good government. Has it not been brought about through the aid of those very committees in the House and the Senate, who you say know nothing about Washington, and who make their knowledge, or lack of knowledge, ridiculous by showing it? We are all imperfect. We cannot expect perfect government, but what we ought to do is to pursue practical methods, and not, I submit with deference to Justice Stafford, make it seem as if the people of Washington were suffering some great and tremendous load and sorrow, when as a matter of fact they are the envy of the citizens of the States?"

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can see clear down to the Potomac and see six and seven base ball games going on with all the fervor of young America, and nobody to say them nay. (Applause and laughter.) And to think—to think that we had a genius a hundred years ago almost. In his way, as matchless as Washington, to make the plan for a great capital, like the Frenchman whose remains were buried here the other day (applause) and whose plans were hardly changed in the new plan made by Burnham and his associates.

"I know there has been discussion as to the plan. There has been a feeling that perhaps it was slipped onto us at one time and slipped in at another; but we all know, even my dear friend good Uncle John, that we are going to build up on this same day. (Laughter and applause.)

"It is not coming at once, but we ought to thank God that we have got a plan like that to build to (applause), so that when we go on with the improvement every dollar that we put in goes to make Washington beautiful a hundred years hence.

"Then, Justice Stafford in his very eloquent remarks called attention to the fact that in 1846—I am sorry to say it ought to be characterized, at least as far as that is concerned, as a day of small things—when the Congress had recited this: 'Whereas no more territory ought to be held under the exclusive legislation given to Congress over the District, which is the seat of the general government, than may be necessary and proper for the purposes of such a seat. Therefore we give back all that we got from Virginia. (Laughter.)

"While it is true the early statute said that no buildings should be put on anything but the Maryland side of the river, and perhaps they felt that we were not going to use that side for buildings, they did not need it at all. (Laughter.) I have never been able to satisfy myself that that retrocession was within the power of Congress to make. (Applause.) They did attempt to settle it once in the Supreme Court, but the Supreme Court has a facility in avoiding the main question (laughter and applause) born of long practice. (Laughter.) And when a gentleman who is paying taxes on this side asks that they be extended to the other side, on the ground that that retrocession did not carry Virginia, so that he might have his taxes reduced, the Supreme Court said he could not do it in a collateral way; said that, as both parties to the transaction seemed to be satisfied up to that time they did not intend to investigate or seek any burdens that their salaries did not require them to meet.

"(Laughter and applause.)

"We have never had that question tested. I believe we ought to look forward to a great city of Washington, and while the Anglo-Saxon—and especially the Anglo-Saxon in Virginia—territory as long as he can (laughter), it might be possible by agitating the question in a legal way to induce another settlement by which we should get the only part of that that we really would like to have, the part that we own now in fee, the 1,100 acres of the Arlington estate, and a great deal that is unoccupied, leaving Arlington out (laughter) and Falls church (laughter), taking in only that that is inhabited, so that we may have in this district, under our fostering control, where we can build roads and make the district still more beautiful—that bank of the Potomac on the other side, as you go up toward Cabin John Bridge. We will need it; the city will continue to grow.

"Washington's Influence.

"It may be, as Justice Stafford said, that there will be inaugurated a protest by the people living here that they have no political power; but I think that the Justice will find, when he comes to looking into the hearts of the American people, that they will not be convinced when they come to Washington that the Washingtonians are suffering to that degree that requires a reversal of the policy adopted, with entire clearness of mind, by the framers of the constitution. Washington, who doubtless inserted that particular provision in the constitution, through his influence, also had L'Enfant draw the plans of Washington, and the plans of Washington were not adapted to a village like Alexandria and the village that was in the district at the time we came here—that was adapted to a city of magnificent distances, and to a city of millions of inhabitants; and, therefore, the clause was adopted, knowing that just such a city we would have here, and just such a city would have to get along, relying upon the training in self-government of the representatives of 80,000,000 of people to justice by it.

"Now, my dear friends, I want to say to you that I have got into a constitutional discussion here that I did not anticipate, but I hope it has not clouded, in meaning, which I intended to make as clear as possible, that I am deeply interested in the welfare of the district. I am deeply interested in securing good government to every man, woman and child in this district, and to secure as far as is possible, with the original plan under the constitution, such voice as the people of the district may require in their local matters. (Applause.)

"But when it comes to defining how that is to be given, I cannot be any more explicit than to say it must rest ultimately on the right of representation and petition. (Applause.) I do not see how you can do anything else. I am sure that if you will constantly agitate, and if you will have as eloquent an orator as Justice Stafford talk to the committees of the House and Senate every year, he will rouse them to such a desire to save you from the 'slavery' that he has pictured that you will get the attention you deserve. (Applause.)

SIZE OF COAL ROADS' GRAB

Manipulation of Rates by Carriers in the Coal Mining Industry.

Numerous inquiries into the nature, arrangement, and profitability of the business of railways which both produce and transport coal have been occasioned by the decision of the United States Supreme Court on the "commodities clause." One of the strongest complaints against the exercise by railroads of the dual function of producer and carrier has been summed up in the terse statement, heard occasionally in the trade, that "they get too little for the coal and too much for hauling it." The meaning of this is that the railroads derive their profit not from the mining of coal, but from the transportation of it. The coal-producing business which they own or control may be conducted at a nominal profit, if any, and the railroads receive a high rate for moving the output to market. The independent coal producer must get his profit, if any, on the coal itself, and he is, therefore, at a disadvantage in competition with the coal companies, owned and controlled by the railroads, who produce coal without profit and pay the railroads high rates for its transportation.

The allegation is worth examining. Of the several coal railroads named as defendants in the government's action to enforce the commodities clause of the Hepburn act, not more than three furnish statistics sufficiently full to show the relation of the rate on coal to that on other

Miller, Stewart & Beaton. We are exclusive agents for the Victoria Suction Carpet Sweeper. We are agents for the ALLWIN one-motion Folding Go-Cart. Great Furniture Sale Tomorrow. Tomorrow will be Furniture Bargain Day at Our Store. We have gathered together hundreds of pieces of furniture of this spring's styles which we will discontinue—do not wish to duplicate as the season for reordering is now late. They have been our best sellers, the quantity of each pattern is small—some of these are odd pieces—others full sets, and many of which we have only two or three of a pattern.

Plan Your Summer Trip Now. Low Rates. Via Union Pacific. Effective June 1, 1909. Visit Colorado, Salt Lake City and Yellowstone National Park en route to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.

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Table comparing freight rates for various routes and commodities, including Central of New Jersey, Del. Lack. & West., and Lehigh Valley.

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