

**PRESIDENT ON  
UNIFORM LAWS**

Chief Executive Makes Opening Address to Conference of National Civic Federation.

**DISTINGUISHED MEN ATTEND**  
Mr. Taft is introduced by Seth Low of New York.

**FAVORS CHANGES IN PROCEDURE**  
Elective Reforms in Federal Court Methods are Advocated.

**EXAMPLE FOR STATE ACTION**  
Law's Delay Made Possible to Riel is Also Scored by Chief Executive—Conservation by the States.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—With the opening address by President Taft, complimenting the organization for the work it had done and referring to some of the important questions of national moment to which it could yet lend its aid, the National Civic Federation today began a three-day conference here.

At the opening session, which was presided over by Seth Low, president of the body, were a number of state governors here to attend a conference of their own which will begin tomorrow, and delegates from all parts of the United States representing the American Federation of Labor, the National Grange, the Farmers' National Congress, the National Association of Life Insurance Presidents, the National Association of State Boards of Arbitration and other bodies.

Speakers at the opening session included Judge Alton B. Parker, former president of the American Bar association.

**Big Crowd Greets President.**  
"Your presence here, Mr. President, is highly appreciated by this conference because your presence indicates your active sympathy with the objects of the conference."

In these words President Seth Low of the Civic Federation welcomed President Taft, whose appearance on the stage of the Belmont theater was greeted by a representative audience with every manifestation of pleasure.

Flanked by Seth Low and Judge Alton B. Parker, President Taft led a distinguished body of men to the stage of the theater at the opening session of the conference.

Mr. Low opened the conference by introducing the president of the United States. Felicitating the Civic Federation for its good sense in meeting in Washington, especially at the same time as the meeting of governors, President Taft said that from Washington everything radiated to the farthest parts of the country.

"And you are not the only citizens of the United States looking in the direction of Washington, there are others," which statement was met with a round of applause.

In discussing the movement started by the Civic Federation for uniformity of state laws, President Taft said it was the outgrowth of a demand on the part of good citizenship to bring about better conditions in the social fabric.

He defined a constitutional lawyer as "a gentleman who has gone out of the practice of law and has gone into politics," which caused forth laughter and applause and cries of "good, good."

**Powers of Supreme Court**  
Tracing the growth of centralization of power in the general government in contradistinction to the power of the states, he said that the early appointment of Chief Justice Marshall made centralization possible by exercising that power which a good judge exercised with his colleagues, "he did not minimize the power of the constitution."

The president said there should be uniformity in judicial procedure, and he declared with emphasis that if anything in the system deserved attack it was the delay that could be secured by the wealthy under the judicial proceedings, and he advocated some change in the form of federal court proceedings which could be taken as an example by the states. He wanted court proceedings simplified along the lines of English practice, both in equity and criminal law.

Mr. Taft told of the movement for a uniform law relating to child labor and the utterance of the governor of Massachusetts in behalf of a federal law regulating child labor that the power of the federal government was greater than the power of the states.

Speaking on the subject of conservation the president said:

"The federal government has no power to compel owners of forests to attend to those forests with a view to the welfare of the community or the neighbors who live there, or of those who are affected by the denuding of the land. That must be done through state government if it is done at all, and so with respect to many of the streams. Indeed, if one follows legal reasoning it will seem, I think, that there is more to be done by the states in the conservation of resources even than by the federal government."

Judge Parker was named temporary chairman.

**HEIKE UNDER HEAVY BAIL**  
Secretary of Sugar Company Must Come Into Court Next Month.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Charles H. Heike, secretary of the American Sugar Refining company, was today arraigned in the criminal branch of the United States circuit court and held in \$5,000 bail to plead next Monday on indictments charging him with conspiring to defraud the government.

Henry W. Walker, assistant to Oliver Dutton, was held in \$5,000 bail on similar charges to which today he entered a plea of not guilty, as did James F. Bender, nagel and Voelker and Halligan, the other sugar employees indicted with Heike last week.

**STATEHOOD BILL IS PASSED**  
House Endorses Measure to Let Arizona and New Mexico Go Separately.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The house today passed by a vote of 239 to 161 a bill granting separate statehood to the territories of New Mexico and Arizona.

**Walsh's Last  
Hope of Liberty  
is Taken Away**

Supreme Court Refuses to Hear Appeal of Convicted Chicago Banker

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The petition for a writ of certiorari in the case of John R. Walsh, former president of the Chicago National Bank of Chicago, under sentence of five years imprisonment in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., on the charge of misapplying the funds of the bank, was denied today by the supreme court of the United States.

**Missouri Farmer  
Slays His Father**

It is Result of Quarrel Over Land—Neighbors Are Aroused.

SEPH, Mo., Jan. 17.—A special to the News-Press from Cameron, Mo., says Joseph Montz, a young farmer, shot and killed his father, Alex Montz, early this morning, at his home on a farm near Cameron. The son, 21 years old, who was a tenant of his father, 67 years old, had had trouble with his parent and had been ordered to vacate the farm. When the old man went to the boy's house this morning to insist upon the son's removal they quarreled and the young man fired the contents of a shotgun into his father's head. The son and his wife then went into Cameron and surrendered to the authorities, claiming self-defense. On account of strong feeling against the young man by his father's neighbors, he was hurried into hiding by the sheriff.

**Incubator Baby  
Case in Court**

Joseph H. Gentry and Captain Frank Tillotson on Trial for Kidnaping at Topeka.

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 17.—Mrs. Stella Baroley of Buffalo, N. N., was in court here today at the trial of Joseph H. Gentry and Captain Frank Tillotson, who are charged with helping her kidnap Marian Beakley, the "incubator baby," in Topeka last August. The day was taken up in arguments for a change of venue, the defendants declaring they could not get a fair trial here.

When the application is denied Mrs. Baroley's trial will begin. An attorney connected with the case said an effort was being made to have Mrs. Baroley plead guilty of kidnaping and will be paroled by the judge.

Mrs. Baroley is the foster mother of the child. She and Gentry were arrested in Kansas City, with the baby, after an exciting chase.

**Russia Hostile  
to Knox Plan**

Council of Ministers Decides Proposal for Neutralization is Not Acceptable

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 17.—The council of ministers has decided that the United States proposal for the neutralization of the Manchurian railways is not acceptable to the Russian government at present. Russia's reply to Secretary Knox's note will be delivered to United States Ambassador Rockhill in a few days.

**COTTON MARKET UP AND DOWN**

May Contracts Open Up, But Later Become Unsettled and Lower.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—In the cotton market today there was some excitement caused by violent fluctuations.

May contracts here closed at 14.96 on the call, comparing with 15.06, the low point on Friday afternoon, but any further advance was prevented by renewed liquidation and the market later became very unsettled under the local bear pressure, stop-loss orders and Wall street liquidation, with May selling off to 14.16, or 83.90 per bale under the closing price of Saturday.

The market closed at 14.20 for that delivery, with the general list steady, at a loss of from 14 to 46 points, as compared with Saturday's closing prices.

**MEIKLEJOHN HEADED SOUTH**

Nebraskan Starts on Trip to Colombia, Not to Return Until March.

G. D. Meiklejohn has gone to New York and sails from there for Colombia, South America. He will not return to Omaha until March 1. He goes to look after interests, which he has in that country. He contemplates crossing the Isthmus of Panama and returning by the way of San Francisco. Mr. Meiklejohn is quite at home in the Latin republics, as he speaks, reads and writes the Spanish language.

**OMAHA MEMBER  
FILES CHARGES**

Congressman Hitchcock Alleges that Secretary Ballinger Authorized Illegal Payments to Cousin.

**LATTER WAS HIS CHIEF CLERK**  
He Also Alleged Irregularities in Handling Conservation Fund.

**JACK BALLINGER'S DENIAL**  
Former Official Says There is no Truth in the Charge.

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
Argument on Methods for Conducting Inquiry is Promptly Passed by the Senate—Goes Over in the House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Somewhat waning interest in the investigation of the so-called Ballinger-Pinchot controversy was quickly revived in congress today by national charges against Secretary Ballinger filed by Representative Hitchcock of Nebraska and incidentally by the senate's adoption of the investigation resolution as agreed upon in conference.

The most important allegation of Mr. Hitchcock is that funds of the interior department were improperly used in paying private traveling expenses of Secretary Ballinger's cousin. The secretary and other officials of the interior department will be subpoenaed before the house committee on expenditures to which Mr. Hitchcock's charges were addressed.

Senator Nabuco today reported to the senate the conference report on the resolution providing for the investigation of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy. The conference report would permit "any official or ex-official concerned to appear personally by counsel, and the time limits provided would make it possible to extend the investigation beyond this session of congress.

The report as presented was unanimously adopted by the senate. The house also received the report as adopted by the senate and it went over until tomorrow.

The republican caucus to select members of the joint investigation committee probably will be held Wednesday evening. The democrats have selected Rainey of Illinois and James of Kentucky. The senate members of the committee will be named by Vice President Sherman.

**Contents of Affidavit.**  
The affidavit was presented by Mr. Hitchcock at a meeting of the committee called to permit him to substantiate his charges of extravagance in the interior department. The committee decided to issue subpoenas for Commissioner Dennett of the general land office and all others interested in the charges to appear as witnesses in the case before the committee next Wednesday.

The statement alleges improper use of the \$1,000,000 appropriation "for the protection of the public domain against frauds" by the purchase of the expensive furniture, mounting into the tens of thousands of dollars, the erection of "a certain large brick chimney for a land office at considerable expense," the employment of some eighty additional clerks, "salaries increased and in one case at least doubled over the \$1,000,000 fund" (ending the case of Chief of the Field Service Schwarz as this instance); long telegraph bills which "cover long extracts from the newspapers sent in by traveling representatives of the general land office, selection of special agents not at all qualified," etc.

**Place Made for Cousin.**  
The affidavit asserts that when Mr. Ballinger became commissioner of the general land office, the position he held before entering the cabinet, he reduced the salary of Law Clerk Wright so that Judge Wright's \$2,000 salary "could be given to Charles W. Bryan, known as 'Brother Charlie,' Tommy S. Allen, brother-in-law, and Richard L. Metcalfe, associate editor of Mr. Bryan's Commoner. They may all have made the statement, but it has been attributed at least to Mr. Metcalfe.

Those same trusty leaders summoned to Lincoln to save the state from being physically that under no circumstances would Mr. Bryan become a candidate for the senate, though he believes Nebraska may go democratic. Strange enough, Metcalfe is for Congressman Hitchcock in preference to W. H. Thompson. It is believed that Mr. Bryan thinks there is a possibility that the state might be "plunged" by Hitchcock when Bryan "snatched the toga" from him some years ago and had Governor Poynter place it on the broader shoulders of William V. Allen.

And Mr. Bryan's "friends" have urged Mr. Hitchcock against coming out too bold for the senate at this time, saying that he can better afford to let Thompson spend some of his ammunition while the battle is young and then come in for a grand finish later.

The fact is that no great sort of enthusiasm has been aroused in favor of Mr. Bryan among Omaha citizens. North Dakota, involving the constitutionality of the North Dakota statute of 1907, requiring liquor dealers to pay to the state a fee of \$10 upon receipts issued to them by the federal government for the payment of internal revenue tax was decided by the supreme court today favorably to Flaherty and against the state law.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The case of R. E. Flaherty against O. G. Hanson, himself of Grand Forks county, North Dakota, involving the constitutionality of the North Dakota statute of 1907, requiring liquor dealers to pay to the state a fee of \$10 upon receipts issued to them by the federal government for the payment of internal revenue tax was decided by the supreme court today favorably to Flaherty and against the state law.

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The Modern Job's Comforter.

**BRYAN AGAIN FOR PRESIDENT**

Fearless Leader's Intimates Give Word to Party Leaders.

**CALL THEM TO COMMONER OFFICE**  
Fail to Arouse Any Storm of Enthusiasm for the Thrice Defeated Candidate Among the Omaha Democrats.

"Mr. Bryan will be a candidate for the presidency in 1912."

This statement has been made by his closest and most intimate friends to begin with, and it is expected that the scientists now examining the stomachs of the Swopes at Chicago.

This statement was made today by a man connected with the case, who went on to declare that the chain of evidence wrought against the alleged plotter or plotters had now been made almost complete.

In the meantime the greatest interest attaches to the departure for Chicago last night of John H. Atwood, leading attorney for the Swopes, and James G. Paxton, executor of the estate, the two men who have been most active in pushing the investigation into the sudden deaths of the Swopes.

Authorization to cause an arrest here might also be expected from Chicago as a result of a conference set for that city today between the lawyers and physicians working on the case, it was stated.

**Wild West Stunt  
in New York Hotel**

Young Man Who Does Not Dance Fast Enough to Suit Drunken Stranger Permanently Crippled.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—"In from the wild and woolly west," yelled a stranger in an uptown hotel today, as he drew a six-shooter and pointed it at the neat party leathers of a mild-mannered young man.

"Dance, you tenderfoot; dance." The terrified young man did his best: a buck and wing but the stranger defamed: "Faster, you dude, faster."

The young man could not go faster and the man with the gun sent a bullet through his ankle and quickly escaped into the street. The victim is in a hospital with a permanently crippled foot and the police are looking for the man with the gun.

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PERMITS IS HELD NULL**

Supreme Court Declares Invalid North Dakota Law to Catch Dive Owners.

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**Arrest in Swope  
Case is Expected  
in a Short Time**

Chain of Evidence is Declared Complete to Show Murder of Millionaire.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 17.—An arrest in the Swope case, involving the death of Colonel Thomas H. Swope, his nephew, Christian Swope, and the alleged poisoning of seven heirs of the dead philanthropist, may be expected within forty-eight hours, irrespective of the finding of the scientists now examining the stomachs of the Swopes at Chicago.

This statement was made today by a man connected with the case, who went on to declare that the chain of evidence wrought against the alleged plotter or plotters had now been made almost complete.

In the meantime the greatest interest attaches to the departure for Chicago last night of John H. Atwood, leading attorney for the Swopes, and James G. Paxton, executor of the estate, the two men who have been most active in pushing the investigation into the sudden deaths of the Swopes.

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**SENIOR NABUCO  
DIES SUDDENLY**

Rupture of Artery of Brain Causes Death of Ambassador from Brazil.

**TAFT OFFERS CONDOLENCES**  
President Calls at Embassy in Person Within an Hour.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUNERAL**  
Body Will Probably be Sent Home on American Warship.

**PROMINENT IN PUBLIC LIFE**  
Father Was Head of Liberal Party in Brazil—Four Generations of Family Served in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Senator Joaquim Nabuco, Brazilian ambassador to Washington, died suddenly today at the embassy in this city. He was 60 years old. The immediate cause of death is said to have been the rupture of an artery of the brain. For several months the ambassador has been in failing health and ten days ago his ailment was diagnosed as arterio-sclerosis.

Within an hour after the ambassador's death President Taft called in person at the embassy to convey his condolences.

Mr. Nabuco left a widow, two daughters and three sons. It is expected the funeral service will be held at St. Matthew's Catholic church in this city when the body will be celebrated in the presence of President Taft, the cabinet and the entire diplomatic body.

If the precedents are followed, as they probably will be, the body will be conveyed to Brazil in an American warship as a mark of respect and an evidence of the esteem in which he was held by this government.

Ambassador Nabuco was a son of the late Senator Nabuco, chief of the liberal party in Brazil during a period of Dom Pedro II's reign. Both his grandfather and his great grandfather were senators, so that he represented a family which had been in the Brazilian parliament, when he entered it, the fourth generation of his name, the only such instance under the empire.

For years he devoted himself in parliament to the cause of the abolition of slavery. The abolition of slavery in 1888 attached Mr. Nabuco to the imperial dynasty, for which he risked all and when November 15, 1888, the republic was proclaimed he kept apart from the general that led both the monarchial parties to accept his new regime.

He was the author of several books dealing with constitutional subjects and history and in 1888 he expressed a wish to reconcile himself with the republic. His proffer was immediately accepted. He served as Brazilian minister to England, was president of the third international conference which met in Rio, Janeiro in 1906, and was a member of The Hague court of arbitration. He came to Washington as ambassador from Brazil May 14, 1908.

**SIX THOUSAND BAR MEAT**  
Backers of Cleveland Movement Trying to Smit Beef Trust in Ohio.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 17.—Cleveland's anti-meat strike, as a blow at the increased cost of living, was in full swing today. It is estimated that fully 6,000 men have signed a pledge to abstain from meat for one month in an effort to break the high prices. An effort will be made by the promoters of the plan to spread the doctrine of anti-meat to all parts of Ohio.

While the strike is directed at the high cost of meat, the advanced price of other staple foods will not be overlooked.

A prominent dealer in live stock is authority for the statement that if the meat eating were stopped for one week, prices would drop to the right level. It is presently estimated that by the end of the week upwards of 20,000 families will be enlisted in the movement.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 17.—Attorney General Major said today that he expects to investigate the high prices of meats in Missouri.

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 17.—The joint legislative food probe commission, of which Senator Daniel Williams is chairman, will begin work Wednesday, J. S. Cattleberry of Wauson writes that the consumer there not only pays great prices, but is short weighed and measured on nearly everything he buys.

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 17.—Special Telegram.—The county attorney has commenced an investigation locally with a view to laying before the grand jury the facts regarding a supposed trust or combine among the grocers and butchers to keep up the prices of food stuffs. There is in the city a very strong association of these people and it has been asserted many times that there is an agreement as to prices. Now since the cost of living has gone up it is proposed that the matter be probed. There is also a belief that some sort of a combine exists in the coal business and in sale of milk.

**FATAL FIGHT NEAR LEMARS**

Delbert Church is Shot Dead and His Brother Wounded by Otto Nigling.