

Looking Backward
This Day in Omaha
Thirty—Twenty—Ten Years Ago
—See Editorial Page of each issue

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

WEATHER FORECAST
Generally Fair

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OMAHA, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 23, 1912—FOURTEEN PAGES.

SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

TAFT WILL REPLY TO ROOSEVELT

President Will Answer Address Made by Predecessor in Columbus Wednesday Morning.

WILL PRESENT CLEAR CUT ISSUE

Executive Will Point Out Differences in Political Creeds.

WILL MAKE SEVERAL SPEECHES

First of Series Probably Will Be Made at Toledo.

EXTENDS TRIP TO CHICAGO

President Has Dates in New York, New England and Ohio and Has Requests for Speeches in Many Other States.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—President Taft will reply to Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's Columbus speech. Although the president will make no direct attack on Mr. Roosevelt, and although administration officials refuse to discuss the latter's Columbus speech, it became known today that the president would answer the speech and present a clear-cut issue between his political creed and that of his predecessor. Mr. Taft's answer will not be made all in one speech, but between the present and the last of March he has many speaking engagements that will be utilized for this purpose.

President Taft, it was said, felt that Colonel Roosevelt had at last given him an opportunity to make his position clear without indulging in any personal attacks. With many of the doctrines the former president enunciated at Columbus, President Taft is in agreement; to others he is known to be unalterably opposed. Among those are the initiative and referendum, the recall of judges and the recall of judicial decisions.

Taft will speak in Chicago, Cleveland, New York, Ohio, Chicago and New England and it is possible that others will be made for him.

The president has speaking engagements in New York, Ohio, Chicago and New England and it is possible that others will be made for him.

The president today extended his forthcoming trip to Chicago. He will stop in Toledo, O., and speak to the Chamber of Commerce there the night of March 5. In Toledo he will probably make the first speech of a series that will reply to Roosevelt.

Many telegrams reached the White House today asking the president to stop on his way to Chicago and other additions that the Toledo speech may be made.

ROOSEVELT'S HAT IN THE RING
Teddy Promises More Definite Statement Monday.

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 22.—"My hat is in the ring,"

"That is what Theodore Roosevelt did here tonight when an admiring Cleveland friend sought to learn whether he was a candidate for the republican nomination for the presidency.

During the latest stay of Colonel Roosevelt in Cleveland, W. F. Erickson, well known locally in politics, greeted the former president, whom he knew well.

"I want a direct answer, colonel," said Mr. Erickson. "All your friends want to know and want to know now whether you are to be a candidate."

"My hat is in the ring," replied Colonel Roosevelt. "You will have my answer Monday."

Belief in the political doctrines of the "progressives" was reiterated today by Mr. Roosevelt, who made four speeches in Ohio. It was his first trip of the kind since the series of journeys shortly after his return from Africa in 1900.

A mixture of snow and rain fell steadily until nearly midnight, but Colonel Roosevelt was welcomed by crowds wherever he went.

On the train between Columbus and Cleveland late today, Colonel Roosevelt conferred at length with a number of politicians leading the Roosevelt movement in this state. Among them were A. I. Garford of Elyria, member of the Roosevelt national committee; Nathaniel C. Wright of Cleveland, chairman of the Roosevelt national publicity committee and Judge R. M. Wamsamaker of Akron.

James R. Garfield, secretary of the interior in the Roosevelt cabinet, and Frank C. Knox, chairman of the republican state committee of Michigan, also talked with Colonel Roosevelt and in Columbus he saw Walter Brown, chairman of the Ohio republican state central committee.

WILSON IS ALSO IN THE RING

Governor Says Hat Was in First and His Head Was in It.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 22.—"My hat was in the ring first, and my head was in it," said Governor Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey here today when his attention was turned to the subject.

(Continued on Second Page.)

The National Capital

Thursday, February 22, 1912.

The Senate.

Met at noon. Washington's farewell address read by Senator Kern.

President's message transmitting postmaster general's annual report suggesting government ownership of telegraph, which the president said he did not favor; and second class mail matter commission's report recommending increase of second class rate to 2 cents, which the president approved.

Met at noon. Vice president's message transmitted against steel tariff bill before finance committee.

Adjourned at 1:30 p. m. until 2 p. m. Monday.

The House.

Bills on unanimous consent calendar were considered.

Washington's farewell address read by Representative Clark of Florida. President's message read.

Mystery Surrounds Shooting of Girl at Hutchinson

HUTCHINSON, Kan., Feb. 22.—Investigation of the mysterious death of Miss Edna Melson, ward of the late Dr. E. H. Richardson took on a new color today when the fact that the girl was a spiritualist was advanced in support of the theory that she was a suicide.

Miss Melson's body, shot through the head was found in the home of her wealthy guardian last Saturday.

"It was a strange fatality, the police say, that bound the 23-year-old girl to the white haired man of 71. When he died of heart disease three weeks ago, Miss Melson threw herself upon the body, crying: 'Oh, my darling, speak to me, and never cease to mourn him until her own death.'

"What have I to live for? I loved him and I can never love another," she told Mrs. W. C. Hutchinson, according to testimony at the coroner's inquest. "I was without twin spirits. If mine is so lonely without his, what must be the sorrow of his spirit wandering alone in the strange other world, calling me to come over."

To her sister, Effie, who found her body and called the police, she requested that she be buried by the side of her guardian. The wish was carried out. The day before her death she made her will.

Against the theory of suicide Coroner Williams has advanced the fact the bullet entered the left side of the head above the ear. The girl was right handed. The coroner said she could not have fired the bullet, which took a forward course and came out at the front of the head. There were no powder burns upon the body. The weapon used was a revolver from the dresser drawer in the girl's room.

Testimony by the coroner and expert physicians has caused authorities to reject the suicide theory advanced by relatives and neighbors. Search was continued today for a strange man who is said to have entered the Richardson home an hour before the girl was found dead.

Niles Paper Maker Identifies White as George Kimmel

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 22.—In a deposition read to the jury in the Kimmel case before Judge Anderson today, Amos F. Niles, a paper manufacturer of Niles, Mich., testified that he saw George A. Kimmel at his mother's home in Niles, Mich., twice after the time Kimmel is said to have disappeared, which was in 1908. He said he was absolutely sure that the claimant is George A. Kimmel.

Byther deposed that he had known Kimmel many years, having been a depositor in the First National bank of Niles, which Kimmel was a teller. He saw the claimant in Niles last September and asserts he is absolutely sure the man is Kimmel.

The bank to which he referred is the one involved in the present litigation.

Byther said his home adjoins the home of Niles in which Kimmel's mother lives. At first he fixed the time when he saw Kimmel there as three, four or five years after the man's disappearance in 1908. Then he said it was some time either in 1907 or 1904.

One Kimmel within that time he said he saw Kimmel looking into a window at his mother's home, but that the man disappeared when he saw the witness looking at him.

A night or two later, he said, he saw Kimmel inside the house. The man was in a lighted room, he asserted, so that he could easily recognize him.

Five Contests Held in District Debates

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 22.—(Special.)—Five district debates in the first series of the fifth annual contests of the Nebraska High School Debating league will be held tomorrow on "the desirability of the closed shop"—one in the central district, two in the eastern, one in the northwestern and one in the southwestern.

The contests are as follows, the school named first arguing the affirmative for the closed shop:

Central District—Geneva and York at Geneva.

Eastern District—South Omaha and Fremont at South Omaha.

Northwestern District—Chadron and Crawford at Crawford.

Southwestern District—Beaver City and Oxford at Beaver City.

FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF GEMS STOLEN

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 22.—A collection of diamonds and pearls, valued at \$50,000, was stolen from Mrs. Eugene De Sabla, at her apartments in a local hotel here early yesterday. The jewels had been worn to the annual Mardi Gras ball, a notable society event, at the same hotel, and had been left on the chiffonier by Mrs. De Sabla when she retired. Her husband, entering the room an hour later, discovered the theft, which did not become known until today.

Among the gems stolen was a diamond tiara, a pearl brooch, a diamond bracelet, several diamond finger rings, diamond ear rings and a diamond studded long necklace and chain.

SENATOR KERN READS ADDRESS

Upper House of Congress Again Hears Washington's Farewell Message to the People.

COMPLIMENT TO INDIANIAN

Vice President Selects Opponent in Last Campaign for Honor.

MASONS GO TO MOUNT VERNON

President Taft Lays Wreath on Tomb of First President.

EXERCISES IN MANY CITIES

Ambassador Janssard of France, in Address in Chicago, Emphasizes Washington's Wards in Favor of Peace.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—George Washington's declaration against a third term was loudly applauded in the house today when the first president's farewell address was read.

Vice President Sherman's designation of Senator Kern to read the address in the senate was an unusual compliment. The inspiration of which was the fact that Mr. Sherman and Mr. Kern were rival candidates for vice president in 1908.

President Taft, Senators Stanton and Martin of Virginia and members of the Alexandria-Washington lodge of Masons, of which General Washington was the first master, journeyed to Mount Vernon this afternoon and President Taft laid a wreath on the tomb of Washington.

Exercises at Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—A part of the annual Washington's birthday exercises at the University of Pennsylvania today was the conferring of honorary degrees.

Horace Harmon Lorton, associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, doctor of laws, and William J. Mayo, Rochester, Minn., surgeon, doctor of laws, were among those honored.

Janssard Speaks in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—Meetings in celebration of Washington's birthday here were staged by the Union League club today in the Auditorium theater.

The morning meeting was addressed by Jean Adrien Antoine Jules Janssard, of the French ambassador to the United States, who took for his subject "What France was for Washington; What Washington is for France."

Janssard spoke of the words of Washington in favor of peace and said:

"On this matter of such paramount importance, not only to your country and mine, we may, I hope, consider in France that our republic would deserve the approval of the departed leader."

Stated Unveiled in Mexico.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 22.—A bronze statue of George Washington by Pompeo Coppini, the gift of the American residents of the city to Mexico in commemoration of the centennial of the Mexican republic, was unveiled today in the presence of President Madero and the members of the Mexican cabinet.

The statue has been erected in the residential district and is placed on a pedestal of polished marble. The figure itself is ten feet high.

The presentation address was made by Henry Laph Wilson, ambassador of the United States, to which President Madero responded.

Two Celebrations in London.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The American women's resident in London provided two entertainments today in celebration of Washington's birthday.

The Society of American Women gathered at Sunderland house, the residence of the duchess of Marlborough. The duchess of Marlborough presided at the meeting.

The American members of the Ladies' Lyceum club held an "at home" at the club.

Iowa Labor Leader Renews Attack on Chancellor Pitney

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 22.—President A. L. Erick of the Iowa Federation of Labor today declared that Chancellor Mahlon Pitney, who has been nominated to succeed Justice Harlan on the supreme bench by President Taft, was "very much like his father" in his ideas on masters and servants. He said that he could not possibly be mistaken in his charges against the chancellor, details of which were made by the latter's friends last night.

"If it is true that Chancellor Pitney's father rendered the decision which I quote the other day," said Mr. Erick today, "will the chancellor or his friends deny that he wrote an opinion on this same subject much more pronounced in February of last year? I desire to reiterate as forcibly as I can that Chancellor Pitney, whom President Taft desires to place on the supreme bench, is the consistent enemy of the workman."

Mr. Erick quoted a decision from the 9th Atlantic Reporter, page 32, which he declared Chancellor Pitney wrote in February, 1911, as follows:

"That to create the relation of master and servant it is not necessary that there should be a contract in writing, or even verbal, between them to work for any particular length of time; that the relation exists when one person is willing from day to day to work for another and that other person desires the labor and makes his business arrangements accordingly."

PUGILIST HURT IN FIGHT IN CLEVELAND IS DEAD

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 22.—Charles Ellis, the negro welterweight pugilist, who fell unconscious at the start of the sixth round of his bout with Joe Motto here Tuesday night, died today at a hospital.

It was thought at first that a blow over the heart, received by Ellis, was the cause of his condition, but examination showed that he was suffering from cerebral hemorrhage.

Happy Days in View for China



Just wait until they get that new republic working on a real republic basis.

TAFT NOT FOR POSTAL WIRES

President Not in Favor of Buying Telegraph Systems.

HIGHER POSTAGE ON PAPERS

Recommendation of Postmaster General to Double Rates on Second-Class Matter is Approved.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—President Taft today informed congress that he did not approve of Postmaster General Hitchcock's suggestion that the government buy and operate all telegraph lines as an adjunct of the postal system. Mr. Taft said that if it could be shown that the public would benefit by receiving service at a less price than is now paid, he might think differently of the plan, but that he was not convinced such would be the effect.

After referring to the practical whims of the postal deficit and other features of Mr. Hitchcock's administration of affairs, Mr. Taft, in transmitting the Postoffice department's report to congress today, said:

"There is only one recommendation in which I cannot agree—that is one which recommends that the telegraph lines in the United States should be made a part of the postal system and operated in conjunction with the mail system. This presents a question of government ownership of public utilities which are now being conducted by private enterprises under franchise from the government."

"I believe that the true principle is that private enterprise should be permitted to carry on such public utilities under due regulation as to rates by proper authority rather than that the government should itself conduct them. This principle I favor because I do not think it in accordance with the best policy of this country to increase the body of public servants."

Could Not Cheaper Service.

"Of course, if it could be shown that telegraph service could be furnished to the public at a less price than it is now furnished to the public by telegraph companies, and with equal efficiency, the argument might be a strong one in favor of the adoption of the proposition. But I am not satisfied from any evidence that if these properties were taken over by the government they could be managed any more economically or any more efficiently or that this would enable the government to furnish service at any smaller rate than the public are now required to pay by private companies."

The president found much, he said, to commend in Mr. Hitchcock's department. "I cannot speak with too great emphasis of the improvement in the postal management," said the president. He showed that there was a surplus of \$27,181.22 at the end of the last fiscal year, compared with a deficit of \$11,679,736.72 two years before. This was to be accounted for, the president pointed out, not by reductions of force or numbers of postoffices or salaries, but by scientific economy.

Mr. Taft approved the adoption of a parcel post recommended by Mr. Hitchcock today and forwarded to congress the report of the commission on second class mail matter recommending that the postal rate on magazines and newspapers be raised from 1 cent to 2 cents a pound.

Postmaster General Hitchcock originally recommended a 4-cent rate, but later changed this to 2 cents. The commission finds that the cost of handling second class matter is about 15 cents a pound, in approving the 2-cent rate, however, President Taft declares that the business enterprises of the publishers of periodicals have been built up on the basis of the 1-cent rate and therefore it would be manifestly unfair to put into immediate effect a larger increase in postage.

As to the effect of the proposed increase from 1 to 2 cents a pound President Taft quotes from the report of

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New York Police Blame Chauffeurs For Robberies

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—A sharp police supervision of taxicab chauffeurs is being urged by members of the police department as a means of preventing and checking the numerous automobile robberies which are being perpetrated daily by bands of motor car highwaymen.

The detection of crimes, such as the recent holdups of bank messengers, is made extremely difficult by the taxicab, which is used as a "getaway." Many of the chauffeurs with criminal records came here as strikebreakers, and while the police know them they are powerless to do anything unless the chauffeurs are detected in the act of committing a crime.

MINISTER OSPINA RECALLED

Colombia Officially Disavows Insulting Note to State Department.

NOT AUTHORIZED IN ANY WAY

Official Statement Says It Does Not Represent Position of Government or Sentiment of the People.

BOGOTA, Colombia, Feb. 22.—General Pedro Nel Ospina, Colombian minister to the United States, was recalled by the Colombian government this morning.

The action of the Colombian government was taken because neither it nor the Colombian people uphold the position taken by the Colombian minister at Washington in notifying the State department that the proposed visit to Colombia of Secretary of State Knox would be inappropriate, owing to the fact that Colombia's claims in connection with Panama have not yet been arbitrated.

The notification given by the Colombian government today says that General Ospina is "separated" from his post at Washington and that the incident between Colombia and the United States is thus closed.

Colombia, it continues, will maintain her international policy.

Houston's Fire Loss is Six and a Half Million Dollars

HOUSTON, Feb. 22.—The total loss in Houston's great fire was \$6,000,000, with total insurance of \$4,500,000. These figures were taken from nearly complete computations today of local insurance men.

Damage from the burned district is counted on to reduce the actual insurance payments to nearly \$2,000,000.

The 45,000 bales of cotton, representing about \$2,000,000 still smoked today in the burned area. Cotton men assert a considerable amount of the good staple might be saved from the interior of partly burned bales. Firemen poured water into the smoldering ruins of the burned area all night, but this morning smoke and flames still sputtered from the debris.

In the ruins of a small packing house a quantity of bones staked and fried. Crews of negroes who detected the aroma of frying ham from afar off, hurried to assist in its salvage.

The infant child of Charles Foster, who was rescued through his mother's daring, will live, physicians say today. The child, suffering from meningitis, was left in his cradle when the fire broke down on the Foster home. Mrs. Foster broke away from guards and rescued the infant just as the flames reached her home.

GOLD NUGGET FOUND IN DUCK'S CROP IN IOWA CITY

IOWA CITY, Ia., Feb. 22.—A gold nugget worth \$1, found in the crop of a duck killed on a farm west of here, has caused considerable excitement in university circles. Mineralogists at the university who assayed the nugget, said today that a pocket of gold may have been deposited on the sandy soil of the farm during some of the upheavals of past ages. The nugget was brought to the university last Monday.

WOODMEN ASSAIL HEAD CAMP

Strenuous Scenes Mark Opening of National Insurgent Assembly.

HEARING REFUSED TO SULLIVAN

Sundon Delivers Denunciation of Officials of Head Camp and Rates Adopted at Chicago—Three Hundred Attend.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 22.—Strenuous scenes marked the opening here this afternoon of the session of the National Woodmen assembly, in which officers of the head camp of the Modern Woodmen of America were bitterly assailed, action taken at the head camp convention recently held in Chicago was severely criticized, and John Sullivan of Kansas City, chairman of the law committee of the head camp, was denied the privilege of the floor, although he declared he held credentials from his home organization.

About 200 Woodmen from various states of the middle west are attending the assembly, which was organized to revise plans to protest against rates adopted at the Chicago meeting.

The climax came at the close of the speech of John L. Sundon of Minneapolis, who led the fight at Chicago against the adoption of the rates.

"It is up to you men to save the order," he said, after delivering a denunciation of the officials of the head camp and the rates adopted at Chicago. "It is up to you, Woodmen, at the executive session to be held tomorrow, to approve the plans which will release the Woodmen from the unjust burden which the head camps have unjustly shouldered upon them."

Attacks Sullivan.

Turning his attention directly to Mr. Sullivan, he made a bitter attack upon him, closing with the statement:

"I am satisfied that the last head camp has been held where the committee are not composed of delegates, and, therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that the delegates whose credentials have been approved by the committee of this assembly, resolve themselves into a permanent organization and that those delegates who favor the action taken at the Chicago convention be excluded."

The question was instantly acceded and the previous question moved, when Mr. Sullivan raised a point of personal privilege, but amidst cries of "throw him out" and "he's not a delegate," Dan E. Richter of Minneapolis, acting chairman, refused to recognize him and apparently Mr. Sundon's motion was adopted.

Mr. Sullivan, however, attended the session until its close.

In the election of officers the name of John L. Sundon first was presented as temporary chairman, but he declined and C. W. Lyon of Des Moines nominated J. H. Ligon, Ia., a member of the first camp of the Woodmen, who was unanimously chosen.

P. P. Priest of Lincoln, Neb., was chosen temporary secretary. The remaining session was given over to an "experience" meeting, in which the rates and head officers of the order were denounced.

Demands to Be Made.

According to Mr. Richter, resolutions will be adopted at the executive session tomorrow, stating just what demand will be made of the head camp in the way of readjustment of present rates.

"There are three plans to be considered, I believe," he said. "The first is whether there shall be an increase at all over the old rates; the second, whether there shall be more than 25 per cent, and the third whether it will not be advisable to throw the Chicago convention rates to apply to old members at the age of entry into the order instead of attained aged January, 1912, when the rates adopted by the head camp are to go into effect. This last plan will about double the rates."

"A committee then will be chosen from the assembly to see the head camp officers at Rock Island and ask them to call another session to consider our demands and readjust the rates. If this is refused us, it is difficult to say just what we will do, but it is my belief that it will be taken to the federal court to obtain an injunction."

The delegates were guests tonight at a banquet given by local Woodmen.

Woman is Acquitted.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 22.—Mrs. Clara Murray was acquitted today of a charge of murdering her husband. She shot him with a cat rifle last October, after, according to her testimony, he had kicked her. She said she did not know the rifle

TRADE BOOSTED BY AUTO SHOW

Auto Dealers, Merchants and Hotel Men Are Well Pleased with Results.

BEATS AK-SAR-BEN, SAYS PETERS

Crowds Bigger Than We Could Anticipate, Says Powell.

MAJORITY WANT TO OWN AUTO

Door Receipts Swelled by Increase in Local Attendance.

AUTOMOBILE ROW VERY LIVELY

Each Garage Has Several Drivers Who Are Kept Busy Trying Out Cars for Prospective Buyers.

"Attendance" in the 10-14 to express the feeling of local automobile dealers over the success of the seventh annual Omaha automobile show, "attendance" would be a better word.

"Interest in the show is more than ever the most significant of the auto industry," Clara Powell, general manager of the show, said last night. "This automobile business has got a powerful hold on the people. While we are not yet out of the winter, but thousands of people were coming to the show, we had no means of knowing that such an immense crowd would come as this here."

Herman B. Peters, proprietor of the Merchants hotel, says the automobile show has brought more business to his hotel than did the Ak-Sar-Ben festival last fall. The hotel is full of visitors