

Taft Agrees to Speaking Tour

Vigorous Speechmaking Campaign to Be Undertaken Soon to Explain Attitude.

MANY ADDRESSES ON THE CARDS

Chicago, New Hampshire and Georgia Limits of March Trip.

NO DIRECT REPLY TO COLONEL

Plans to Talk on Doctrines Enunciated by Roosevelt.

NEW YORK SITUATION DISCUSSED

Conference with Barnes Satisfactory to Both in Connection with Delegates and Fording of Proposed Platform.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—President Taft will soon start a vigorous speechmaking campaign to explain his position on current questions and further his candidacy for re-nomination.

Before the republican national convention meets in June the president will spend many days on the road, and is expected to deliver scores of speeches. He will travel as far west as Chicago, as far north as New Hampshire and south at least as far as Georgia. Other engagements may be made in the next few weeks. The president's political advisers believe he is in his best order.

Will Explain Views

Tonight after a short conference with Senators Crane, Smoot and Gallinger it was said the president would extend his coming trip to Boston to include Nashua and Concord, N. H. He will leave Washington for Boston on March 17, spend March 18 there and will visit the two New Hampshire cities on March 19. Although no announcement has been made of subjects for speeches the president will make on these trips, it is practically certain that he will not fail to include in his addresses the usual judges, the "real" of judicial decisions, possibly the initiative and referendum and topics touched by Colonel Roosevelt in his speech at Columbus last week.

Probably Mr. Taft will make no direct reply to that speech and it has been said with emphasis that he will not indulge in personalities, but that he will make clear his own views on many of the doctrines advocated by Colonel Roosevelt in Columbus is almost certain.

A canvass of the New York political situation made at conferences today between William Barnes, jr., chairman of the New York state republican committee, Vice President Sherman, State Senator Brackett and Representative Calder, a Brooklyn leader in congress, resulted in an informal declaration that President Taft would have an almost solid New York delegation to the republican national convention.

Talk with Barnes Satisfactory

It was claimed today that the conference between President Taft and Chairman Barnes was satisfactory to both in so far as the selection of delegates and the proposed wording of the platform was concerned.

Congressman McKinley, director of the national Taft headquarters, today returned from Chicago, where he made arrangements for the western end of the Taft campaign.

Mr. McKinley had a short talk with the president, but did not go over the western situation in detail.

To visitors at the Taft headquarters he expressed the belief that the president was gaining support in Illinois.

HOUSE COMMITTEE WANTS TWO NEW BATTLESHIPS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The house committee on naval affairs today decided in favor of authorizing two new battleships this year and will demand that the democratic caucus rescind its action declaring against additions to the navy at this time. The committee will ask for a free hand to determine the matter for itself.

The committee unanimously decided that a battleship appropriation was necessary and the members have assurance of the required twenty-five signatures to a petition for a new caucus next week. The action of the committee is held to be an assurance that there will be an appropriation probably for two battleships. There might be a compromise, however, on one battleship in addition to torpedo boats, submarines, destroyers, cruisers and other auxiliaries. The caucus will be called sometime next week.

Republican leaders in the senate say that congress will provide for at least one and probably two battleships.

The Weather

FOR NEBRASKA—Unsettled and probably more blower; colder east portion. FOR IOWA—Fair and colder.

Hour	Temp.	Dir.
5 A. M.	28	W
6 A. M.	28	W
7 A. M.	28	W
8 A. M.	28	W
9 A. M.	28	W
10 A. M.	28	W
11 A. M.	28	W
12 M.	28	W
1 P. M.	28	W
2 P. M.	28	W
3 P. M.	28	W
4 P. M.	28	W
5 P. M.	28	W
6 P. M.	28	W
7 P. M.	28	W
8 P. M.	28	W
9 P. M.	28	W
10 P. M.	28	W
11 P. M.	28	W
12 M.	28	W

The National Capital

Wednesday, February 28, 1912.

The Senate.

In session at 2 p. m. Labor Leader John Williams of Pittsburgh told finance committee any reduction in steel plate tariff would result in conflict between capital and labor.

The House.

Considered "calendar Wednesday" bill. A report by Stanley steel committee on an investigation of United States steel corporation's books and minutes revealed the corporation operated in restraint of trade and prevented competition.

Foreign relations committee favorably reported Sulzer resolution, which would virtually recognize new Chinese republic.

Roosevelt Holds Council With His Bay State Advisers

BOSTON, Feb. 28.—The leading volunteers in the campaign for Theodore Roosevelt in Massachusetts had a final meeting with their candidates today before his departure for New York. Several men who have just enlisted for the fight were introduced to Colonel Roosevelt, and there was a council of war as to the selection of a leader for the Massachusetts forces. It is understood no decision was reached on this point.

Mr. Roosevelt was asked what he thought of the prospects here and of the result throughout the country of his announcement that he was willing to accept the nomination. "I have absolutely nothing to say," he replied.

Turks Defeated in a Fierce Battle East of Tripoli

ROME, Feb. 28.—A severe battle resulting in the utter defeat by the Italian troops of the Turkish forces and their Arab allies with great loss is reported in official dispatches received here today from Rome, which is also known as Leida. The victory is said to be the east of the city of Tripoli on the Mediterranean coast.

The engagement occurred at Mount Merghib, which lies at some distance behind the town. The Turks and Arabs had taken up a strong position on the slopes where they were attacked by the Italians with infantry and artillery. After a fight which lasted all day the Italians put the enemy to flight by storming the heights.

CONSTATINOPLE, Feb. 28.—The German embassy has taken up the cudgels on behalf of the Italians in Palestine. The ambassador today made a vigorous protest to the porte against their expulsion from Turkish territory under the terms of the recent decree. Many of the Italians affected by the government's order of expulsion are workmen on the Bagdad railroad, which is a German undertaking.

Part of Garrison at Wu Chang Revolts

HANKOW, China, Feb. 28.—A portion of the republican troops stationed at Wu Chang revolted during the night. Considerable fighting occurred, but no details have reached here regarding the casualties. The city gates have been closed.

The outbreak is attributed to the dissatisfaction among the soldiers at not receiving their pay.

The foreign gunboats stationed here have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness for eventualities.

NO DISTURBANCES HAVE OCCURRED IN THIS CITY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The house committee on foreign affairs today favorably reported the Sulzer resolution, which in effect would recognize the new republic of China, and congratulate the Chinese people "on their assumption of the powers, duties and responsibilities of self government."

Folke E. Brandt Released on Bond

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—Folke E. Brandt, former valet of Mortimer L. Schiff, sentenced to thirty years imprisonment for burglary in the first degree, was formally released from the Tombs today, details of his bail bond having finally been adjusted. He left the criminal court building immediately, followed by a large crowd.

GIANT IS CANDIDATE FOR SHERIFF IN HARDING COUNTY

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Feb. 28.—(Special.)—Mont Vickers, who is a candidate for nomination to the office of sheriff in Harding county in the extreme northwestern part of the state, is referred to by his friends as "the largest specimen of physical manhood in captivity." This is because of his enormous size. He stands six feet and seven inches in his stocking feet and weighs 350 pounds. Vickers keeps in perfect physical condition and is unusually powerful even for one of his great size. If elected sheriff his dealings will be largely with horse and cattle "rustlers."

STRIKE TO HAVE DOUBLE INQUIRY

Agent of Department of Justice Looking Into Alleged Violation of Interstate Commerce Law.

LABOR BUREAU TO INVESTIGATE

Wages and Working Conditions in Mills to Be Looked Into.

CHILDREN GO TO CAPITAL

Committee of Strikers Will Appear Before Congress Saturday.

CHARGES AGAINST POLICE

Court Officials Are Accused of Offering to Compromise Fines—Haywood Makes Charges Against Golden.

LAWRENCE, Mass., Feb. 28.—The first of at least two investigations by federal officials into certain phases of the situation surrounding the long-standing strike of mill workers in this city was begun today.

Special Agent William C. Dannenberg of the Department of Justice, acting under United States District Attorney Ans P. French, presided over an inquiry into the exportation of children. He came to Lawrence to ascertain whether the police officials in preventing the departure of 100 children for Philadelphia last Saturday acted in violation of the interstate commerce law. Alleged ill treatment of children and women by the police did not enter into this inquiry.

The wages and working conditions in the mills of the city are to be the subject of another investigation, and officials from Washington will arrive here tomorrow morning to pursue the inquiry.

Committee Goes to Washington

The situation will be brought before congress on Saturday, when a committee of striking men, women and children, including thirty-six of the latter, will appear before the house of representatives to submit to questions. They may not leave Lawrence before Friday. Several of these children have been selected because of injuries received while at work in the mills, for which the mill owners are alleged to have made no compensation.

Charge Against Police

At the session of the strike committee today it was charged that police and constabulary officers "were to be seen in one case offering to reduce a \$5 fine first to \$2, then to \$1 and finally to the deposit of an overcoat worn by a man arrested. It was said also that the women among the strikers have decided not to pay a fine in any case after arrest, but to remain in jail.

In connection with the cases of two women arrested today, both of whose cases were continued, Judge Mahoney again criticized "the fellows behind who are putting women and children on the streets to picket," and he added that he could deal with these women only as he would with men.

A permanent organization to assist in the maintenance of law and order in Lawrence was perfected today at a meeting of a committee of citizens.

Lawrence people generally were made easier in mind by the announcement that the troops were not to be withdrawn until affairs become more settled.

Will Send Children to Washington

In the expectation that a party of children would be sent to Washington today a large crowd gathered about the railway station, but as preparations had not been completed the departure of the delegation has been deferred for the day.

Representative Berger of Wisconsin, at whose suggestion they are to appear before congress on Saturday, telegraphed to William D. Haywood that only children who worked in the mills are wanted, so an entirely new party had to be enrolled.

The children who were originally enlisted for the Washington trip may be sent to Philadelphia, it is said.

Investigation is Ordered

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The federal bureau of labor will make an immediate investigation of the wage and working conditions at the textile mills at Lawrence, Mass. A representative of the bureau will leave Washington today for the strike-ridden city.

The decision to investigate the strike was reached at a conference today between Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel and Dr. Charles P. Neill, United States commissioner of labor. The bureau of labor has considerable data about conditions at Lawrence as a result of recent inquiries. The continuance of the strike and the turbulent situation resulting, however, made it desirable in the judgment of the federal authorities, to ascertain the exact conditions today and all the causes of the labor trouble. There has been agitation in congress during the last few days to have the bureau of labor investigate the Lawrence situation.

Representative Wilson, chairman of the committee on labor, received scores of letters and telegrams today relating to the proposed congressional investigation of the strike to be considered by the rules committee next Saturday.

William N. Haywood, leader of the Industrial Workers of the World, sent a telegram attacking President Golden of the textile workers, charging that Golden aided the police and was an enemy of the strikers. In a letter Golden made counter charges against Haywood, declaring that he and others made inflammatory speeches which precipitated riots.

SNOW USED TO FIGHT FIRE AT RIDGWAY, MO.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Feb. 28.—The inhabitants of Ridgway, Mo., used snow in a desperate fight with fire that almost destroyed the village last night. Four stores were consumed.

Commerce Court in Action

Ruling by Commission in Rate Case Flatly Overruled.

SURE TO ADD TO THE FRICTION

Decision Says Commission Assumed Power It Never Possessed and Made Ruling Contrary to the Evidence.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—An order of the Interstate Commerce commission reducing certain class freight rates from New Orleans to Montgomery, Selma and Mobile, Ala., and to Pensacola, Fla., today was annulled by decision of the commerce court.

The decision, handed down by Judge Archibald, is certain to add considerable fuel to the controversy already acute between the Interstate Commerce commission and the commerce court.

The court declares that congress never intended to clothe the commission with the wide authority it has assumed. It was further asserted that the court could discover nothing in the record in support of the conclusions of the commission or to justify the reductions in rates that it ordered.

Commission Flatly Overruled

The court's opinion concludes: "Counsel for the commission and for the government simply rely on the authority of the commission to determine what is a reasonable rate and the conclusiveness of its judgment where it has done so, against which, it was argued, the courts are to be shut unless the rate which has been fixed is shown to be confiscatory."

"This contention must be rejected. In our judgment it was never intended to confer on the commission any such unrestrained and undirected power. It is not within the authority of the commission to reduce the rates in this or any other case not merely against the weight of the evidence produced to sustain them, but without anything substantial to warrant the conclusion reached or the reasons assigned therefore."

"And this we are convinced is a case of that character. Having regard to the undisputed evidence adduced at the hearing, the existing rates were not shown to be unjust or unreasonable and there was, therefore, no valid basis for the commission's conclusions."

First Case in Commerce Court

This was the first case argued before the commerce court after its establishment, more than a year ago. It was brought by the Louisville & Nashville railroad in an effort to modify or annul the commissioner's order of reduction.

It was declared in the record that if in its opinion, were reasonable rates were enforced, the loss to the Louisville & Nashville would be \$25,000 a year.

The New Orleans board of trade alleged that discriminating rates against New Orleans were made by the Louisville & Nashville and urged that that city be put on an equality of rates to the southeastern territory with New York, Baltimore, the Carolinas and Virginia. The opinion of the court is directly opposed to that contention.

Validity of Idaho Divorce Challenged By London Woman

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Hugo K. Ames, the well known author who was in 1890 private secretary to Sir Julian Pauncefote at the British legation at Washington, appeared today as defendant in the divorce court here. His wife, Kate, daughter of A. Villiers Palmer of the Indian civil service, claims a divorce on the ground of her husband's alleged misconduct and desertion, and of his marriage with Flora Northesk-Wilson, daughter of the late Colonel Hayter, in America, which she asserts is bigamous.

Counsel for the plaintiff said that the question was whether the divorce obtained by the defendant in Idaho was valid. The case was adjourned.

The Early Bird



From the Washington Herald.

REBELS PUT OFF CHIHUAHUA TRIP

Railroad Officials Succeed in Getting Rolling Stock in Juarez to American Side.

WAS READY TO START SOUTH

Train of Thirty-Six Freight Cars Had Been Made Up.

PLAN TO CUT OFF SUPPLIES

Madero Expects to Compel Surrender Without Fight.

UNITED STATES ASKED TO AID

American Collector of Customs Requested Not to Clear Goods, as Port Has Been Declared Closed.

EL PASO, Feb. 28.—General Salazar prepared a train of thirty-six box and flat cars to move his army against Chihuahua. Today railroad officials of both the Mexican Central and Mexican Northwestern by a sudden strategic move ran the motive powers in the Juarez yards to the American side. This coup temporarily at least prevents Salazar from leaving Juarez with his 500 men. He had proclaimed that he intended forming a junction with other rebels in the west for attack on Chihuahua. The entire movement he declared was to be directed by Pascual Orozco, whose resignation from the federal army becomes effective March 1.

Antonio Rojas and his command of 300 Vasquezas reached Juarez this morning to join the command which captured the town yesterday. This unites the forces of Gen. Salazar, Emilio Campa and Antonio Rojas.

Absolute quiet reigns in Juarez and perfect order is being maintained. Traffic has been resumed between the two cities. Mexican Consul Lorenzo declares that the port of Juarez is closed. United States customs officers declare the port of Juarez is open as usual, so far as they are concerned, and all regularly entered shipments for Juarez or points south will be cleared here.

Plan to Cut Off Supplies

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 28.—Plans for the recovery of the city of Juarez without bloodshed are to be the subject of discussion at the meeting of President Madero's cabinet today.

A project to starve out the rebels by surrounding the Mexican side of the city with loyal troops and counting on the aid of Americans to cut off supplies from the El Paso side is to be considered. The secretary of the treasury will formally declare the customs house in Juarez closed.

The government is organizing auxiliary forces for the pacification of the northern regions of Mexico.

United States Asked to Aid

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The Mexican consul at El Paso, Tex., today requested the American collector of customs there to forbid the exportation of American goods into Juarez and urged that the rebel port be recognized by the United States as closed. The Treasury department has taken up the question with the departments of state and justice.

The matter of stopping all supplies is resented by the State department as a delicate one, because of the lack of food and other necessities in Juarez. A considerable district is dependent upon Juarez for its supplies and the cutting off of exports from El Paso, it is feared, would cause much suffering. It is understood the Mexican ambassador is preparing to lay before the State department the demand of his government that the shipment of supplies into Juarez be stopped.

Congressman Hanna reported today from Monterey that the statement that General Gervasio Trevino had had his lot with the rebels was without foundation. General Trevino, he said, was in Monterey in command of the government troops. A real leader of the revolutionary movement, Mr. Hanna reported, was Emilio Vasquez Gomez.

Reports to the State department indicate that affairs are serious at Torreon and at Voladores, where American mining men successfully fought off a rebel band. In Vera Cruz the insurgents here said to have captured several towns. American consular representatives at San Luis Potosi, Papagula and Saltillo report all quiet.

Senators May Secede

MEXICO CITY, Mex., Feb. 28.—A plan for the temporary secession of the state of Sonora from the Mexican central government was promulgated here today. The plan was fathered by the business men of Sonora, who want the officials of this state to propose it to President Madero and the Mexican congress.

LADRIDO, Tex., Feb. 28.—A movement to throw the support of General Bernardo Reyes' followers to President Madero was reported here.

(Continued on Second Page.)

FORMER STATE TREASURER OF NEBRASKA DIES SUDDENLY

Peter Mortensen Is Dead

Former State Treasurer Dies Suddenly at Home in Ord.

FUNERAL FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Mortensen Came to Valley County Forty Years Ago and Had Long Been Prominent in Public Affairs.

ORD, Neb., Feb. 28.—(Special Telegram.)—Peter Mortensen, president of the First National bank and one of Valley county's most respected citizens, died suddenly at 8 o'clock this morning. He came to Valley county in the early days and has been a prominent figure in the development of this section of the state. The funeral will be held Friday afternoon.

Mr. Mortensen was for many years a leader in the republican party of the state. He had served as state treasurer for two terms. He was first nominated for this office in 1886, but suffered defeat with the rest of the ticket. In 1892 he was again given the nomination and was elected. He won a re-election in 1894, and when talk of candidates for state offices began in 1896 he was strongly urged for the office of governor. He could probably have been nominated were it not for the constitutional provision prohibiting the election of an executive officer of the state to any other office during the term for which he was elected.

Mr. Mortensen was a native of Denmark, born October 18, 1844. He came to America when 23 and located in Valley county in 1872. Here he built the first civilized dwelling in the county, a dug-out, that section of the state being principally occupied by Sioux and Pawnee Indians when Mr. Mortensen arrived. In 1875 he was chosen to the office of county treasurer and held the place for nine years. He was one of the founders of the First National bank of Ord, and was its president from 1888 to the time of his death. He leaves one son, Crawford J. Mortensen.

Wilson Refuses to Give Out Letters in Baking Powder Case

Secretary of Agriculture Refused Request of Dr. Wiley, Head of the Pure Food Board, That All the Correspondence in a Recent Baking Powder Decision Be Made Public.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson today denied a request of Dr. Wiley, head of the pure food board, that all the correspondence in a recent baking powder decision be made public. The request was made by Dr. Wiley because of the charges against him by the editor of a food publication who declared that in the baking powder decision Dr. Wiley "acted at variance with his oft-repeated statement that in cases of doubt he always gave the doubt to the public."

The editor claimed Dr. Wiley's baking powder decision "let the public take all the risk," because otherwise it might have "involved or embarrassed the baking powder trust." Dr. Wiley recommended that a case against a certain baking powder company be placed in permanent abeyance, although examination had revealed a small quantity of lead, about two one-thousandths of 1 per cent in the product.

Secretary Wilson said nothing would be made public in regard to the matter until after the board had reported.

Dutch Farmers on the Way to Iowa

Two Hundred Dutch Farmers and Their Families are in New York, en route to Iowa, where they have purchased a large tract for farming purposes. They arrived here on the liner Noordam from Rotterdam. All are in possession of ample funds and the men, women and children are splendid specimens of the sturdy Frisian yeoman farmers, who have been the backbone of Holland in the time of trouble. Heavy taxation and high rents were the causes of their emigration from Frisland.

SILK SHAMROCK AND GOLD SNAKE ARE SENT TAFT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The White House mail today brought President Taft a silk shamrock and a gold snake from Mary F. Flattery of New York, which the president will wear in the lapel of his coat when he rides at the head of the St. Patrick's day parade in Boston Monday, March 18.

SOCIAL LEADER FOR SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS DEAD

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Feb. 28.—Julius A. Bradner, one of the oldest residents of Central Illinois, is dead, aged 97. For seventy-five years she has been a social leader in Bloomington.

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A Competent Cook

Domestic happiness starts in the kitchen.

When the cook in charge is a good one, everybody in the family is happy.

And when it comes to entertaining, a first-class cook is indispensable. You can have just as good a cook as your neighbor, whose dinners are always such notable events.

The Bee will get one for you. The Bee reaches the better class of domestic help. And it gets results. Send in your advertisement or call by phone.

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