

STANDS BIG STRAIN

Physical Endurance of Taft Is Extraordinary.

IS DUE TO HIS TEMPERAMENT

Beautiful Lawn Party at the White House for International Red Cross Delegates—Plan of Comptroller Murray to Check Bank Debitations.

By GEORGE CLINTON. Washington.—President Taft has been through some strenuous campaigning this year. He has made not only political addresses, but certainly 50 or more speeches on occasions non-political. Mr. Taft is an extraordinarily big man physically, and yet the strain of hard work does not seem to tell upon him as it does upon other men who carry much less weight. Friends of the president ascribe his continued good condition to his buoyant disposition. In other words, his temperament stands him a friend during his hard work.

There have been one or two lawn parties at the White House this year, and before the spring season closes there probably will be on or two more. At one party the guests of honor were the visiting delegates to the International Red Cross convention. The president and Mrs. Taft, standing under the trees on the south lawn of the White House, received distinguished guests from all over the world. The president had just returned from a week's campaigning and was to leave again at midnight, but he stood the three hours' "social siege" as if he had been resting instead of working. Physically, the president of the United States is a wonder to that part of mankind which gets a chance to see him.

At the Red Cross Reception. The lawn parties at the White House are the most picturesque social events of the year in Washington. It is not probable that those who do not actually view the scene can realize the extraordinary beauty of the grounds of the White House in May and June. There are many trees, much shrubbery and in some places a profusion of flowers. At the back is the house itself, a fine specimen of colonial architecture, pure white and impressive, with each of its great pillars adding a line of beauty. The day of the reception on the lawn given for the Red Cross people was perfect. The thermometer was at 70, and the sun was in a cloudless sky. The ladies all wore white, while the men, or most of them, for it was largely an official reception, were in uniform, many of them being in the picturesque garbs of the Latin-American countries and Europe and the countries of the far east.

Present at that reception, unknown to most of the guests and bearing herself with extreme diffidence, was a woman who had just returned from China. She has been connected for years with a school maintained by the Protestant Episcopal church in the heart of the flowery kingdom. When civil war broke out in China recently and the Young Chinese started on their crusade, the woman who was a guest at the White House reception left off her teaching in the college and went into the field as a volunteer Red Cross nurse. She had many hard experiences, but not as hard as it was expected that she would have. China ordinarily is not considered thoroughly civilized, but even in the midst of the madness of civil strife it was found that both factions of the Chinese observed the Red Cross regulations as implicitly as would the countries of the west.

To Stop Bank Debitations. Comptroller of the Currency Lawrence O. Murray has made a study of some of the methods by which banks occasionally are defrauded by their employees. He has had a number of specific cases put before him and as a result of his investigations he thinks that such unfortunate occurrences as these and many that have preceded them may be avoided in the future if the national banks will co-operate with his office in the plan which he has just suggested to them. This is nothing more nor less than the simple device of sending to his office a carbon copy of the semi-annual report made by the examining committee of the board of directors of each bank—the report which states in black and white what the directors think of their own bank.

When Mr. Murray assumed office about 3,000, or between 30 and 40 per cent of the national banks, had no by-laws and therefore made no provision for examining committees. They now all have adopted by-laws suggested by the comptroller and are fitted out with regularly appointed examining committees. When carbon copies of the reports are sent to the comptroller a study will be made of them which will be supplementary to the study made in the bank. In this way it is believed that the depositions and stockholders will have a double check against loss from defalcation and forgery.

Some Specimen Cases. Here are some of the cases which moved the comptroller of the currency to act: George W. Coleman, bookkeeper of the National City bank of Cambridge, Mass., kept a small personal account on the individual ledger. He would "kite" his own checks through a Boston curb broker and abstract them from the mail as they came back from the clearing house, as the cashier never saw the contents of the clearing house letters and simply posted the totals of the letters on the cash book. The general ledger and the general cash book were kept by the cashier. In order to make the total amount of deposits in the individual ledger agree with the amount shown by the general ledger, Coleman resorted to false debit entries (plugs) and the reduction of balances when carrying forward accounts. Within five years Coleman looted the bank of more than \$200,000 and he is now serving a long term in the state prison. The directors noticed the reduction of the deposits in the bank, but attributed it to competition. The defalcation was not discovered until the books were examined by the auditors of the Harvard Trust company, to which concern the directors had agreed to sell out.

Henry M. Dearing, cashier of the Albion National bank of Albion, Mich., is serving a term in prison. A search of the cashier's desk, after the closing of the bank, disclosed leaves removed from the loose leaf individual and savings depositors' ledgers carrying credit balances aggregating \$185,317.41, which of course represented a shortage in each of an equal amount. This method of "covering" had been in vogue since the bank began business. The cashier stated to the examiner that he found no difficulty at all in deceiving the directors. The bills receivable were added by him on an adding machine; the list was checked with the notes of the directors, but at no time, the cashier stated, did the directors check the total of the adding machine list with the general ledger. The assistant cashier stated that practically all of the manufacturing customers' notes owned by the bank were forgeries.

Insect Quarantine Bill. Representative Simmons of New York on behalf of this committee on agriculture has reported favorably a bill to enable the secretary of agriculture to establish quarantine districts for plant diseases and insect pests and to regulate the importation of nursery stock and other plant products. Mr. Simmons says that under our present laws the United States has become a dumping ground for diseased and insect infested plants.

If the Simmons bill is passed the United States will be able to retaliate upon Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, Holland, Switzerland and Turkey, all of which countries absolutely prohibit the entry from the United States of all nursery stock and admit fruit only when the most rigid examination shows freedom from infestation.

MEETING CLOSES IN SPRINGFIELD

GATHERING OF STATE BRANCH OF AMERICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION ENDS.

EXHIBIT FOR ILLINOIS FAIR

Society Will Add New Department to Exposition—Many Addresses Are Delivered by Prominent Men.

Springfield.—A poultry institute will be added to the list of agricultural assets of the Illinois state fair. This was determined upon at the meeting of members of the Illinois branch of the American Poultry association and representatives of the national organization who closed their meeting in Springfield in preparation for the annual state poultry show next January. Members of the two organizations called at the office of Governor Deneen and in person presented the executive with resolutions incorporating the desires of the state association and the Illinois branch of the national organization with respect to proposed legislation. Greater appropriations are asked. The poultrymen want a better poultry department at the state university and they believe also that closer inspection of poultry and eggs offered for sale ought to be practiced.

Talks were delivered by Dr. A. T. Peters of this city, superintendent of the state biological laboratory. Dr. Peters is an expert on livestock tuberculosis and on poultry questions. In his address he discussed poultry diseases. Prof. A. G. Phillips of Purdue university also gave an address.

D. E. Hale of Quincy, president of the state organization, presided over the sessions, which were held in the Odd Fellows' building. Members who attended declared the meeting had been the most helpful of any in the state association's history.

The Sangamon County Poultry association was praised for its entertainment and for its work of last year. The general reception committee included W. J. Cordier, G. Ingles, W. B. Kieft and Phillip Rupp, Jr. The executive committee, which was active in the plans for the meeting, includes G. F. Gray, Theodore S. McCoy, J. M. Turner, Jerome A. Leland and W. J. Greenworth. The special committee in charge of special features of entertainment included J. B. Perkins and Mesdames T. S. McCoy and George F. Gray.

Jerome Leland entertained the executive committee and officers of the poultry association at a dinner last evening at the Illinois Country club. Covers were laid for ten.

Illinois Had 440 May Fires. Illinois in May suffered 440 fires, according to the report issued by Acting State Fire Marshal F. R. Morgaridge. Of this number, 222 occurred down state and 218 in Chicago.

Classifications of the fires is made as follows: Outside Chicago—Value of buildings, \$821,039; damage to buildings, \$192,875; insurance on buildings, \$497,335; value of contents, \$434,843; damage to contents, \$86,718; insurance on contents, \$290,247.

In Chicago—Value of buildings, \$2,696,175; damage to buildings, \$187,875; insurance on buildings, \$1,715,185; value of contents, \$1,585,410; damage to contents, \$313,095; insurance on contents, \$1,207,025.

Of the fires outside of Chicago, fifty-two, the greatest number, were from "unknown" causes. Sixteen were incendiary. From "carelessness" there were nineteen, sparks were responsible for thirty-six and lightning for eighteen. The greatest number of buildings burned were dwellings.

In Chicago, matches caused thirty-six fires, the greatest number. Eight is suspected were of incendiary origin. As outside that city, the greatest number of buildings burned were dwellings, 111.

Gov. Deneen Signs Three Measures. Three bills passed by the special session of the state legislature were signed by Governor Deneen and are now laws.

The new laws are: Appropriating \$130,000 for the agricultural department of the state university. The act legalizing the election of trustees of Wilmette park and validating a \$40,000 bond issue for park purposes. The bill making an appropriation of \$35,000 for the state factory inspection department; \$15,000 for the insurance department; \$30,000 for the grain inspection department, and \$35,000 for the automobile department of the secretary of state.

Articles of Incorporation. Secretary of State Doyle issued certificates of incorporation to the following: G. S. Wheaton company, Chicago; capital, \$20,000; general painting, paper hanging and decorating business. Incorporators—Walter F. Jones, George S. Wheaton and Donald McEachern.

The Gerber company, Chicago; capital, \$50,000; general merchandise business. Incorporators—Edward R. Newmann, George S. Pines and Julius M. Kahn.

The Eldred Development company, Peoria; capital, \$50,000; construction of tracks, bridges, houses and other structures. Incorporators—O. G. Leach, C. C. Orange and R. D. Clarke.

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SIX RULE ALL BANKS

MEN GUIDING SPIRITS OF NATION'S WEALTH, SAYS WITNESS.

Subcommittee Hears Evidence of Manager of Gotham's Clearing House at "Money Trust" Probe.

New York, June 8.—The policies of nearly 100 of the biggest banks and other financial institutions in New York are directed outright by six men. They are Frank A. Vanderlip, president of the National City bank; James G. Cannon, president of the Fourth National bank; Walter E. Frew, president of the Corn Exchange bank; Richard DeLafeld, president of the National Park bank; Otto T. Barnard, president of the New York Trust company; A. Barton Hepburn, president of the New York clearing house and chairman of the board of the Chase National bank.

The five first named constitute the membership of the clearing house committee, that all powerful organization, the New York Clearing House association. It is the controlling body of the clearing house. Mr. Hepburn is a member of the committee ex-officio by reason of his being president of the clearing house association.

This committee directs only in name. Behind its members stand the small group of financial giants who constitute the money trust, now under investigation by the committee on banking and currency of the national house of representatives.

Under examination by Chief Counsel Samuel Untermyer, William Sherer, for 20 years manager of the clearing house, made admissions upon which the foregoing assertions are based, in New York on Thursday before the congressional subcommittee. E. H. Farrar, associate counsel, sat between Chairman Arsen Julo of Louisiana and Mr. Untermyer.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRE

Vienna, June 10.—An attempt was made here Friday to assassinate Premier Tisza in the chamber of deputies and failed.

Raleigh, N. C., June 9.—The state Democratic convention elected eight delegates-at-large on Friday to the Baltimore convention and by a vote of 503 to 396 endorsed Governor Woodrow Wilson's candidacy.

Sloux City, Ia., June 10.—Sloux City and the nation Friday afternoon paid final honor to Congressman Elbert H. Hubbard, deceased. National respect for the late congressman was extended by a delegation from the United States senate and house.

Boston, June 9.—Several hundred employees of the Boston elevated railway went on strike Friday because the company refused to recognize the union, recently formed. Violence marked the beginning of the strike. Sloux Falls, S. D., June 7.—From returns received Wednesday Theodore Roosevelt has won the South Dakota primaries. Newspapers computing the final result on the basis of these returns figured the plurality of the former president at 12,000.

Toledo, O., June 7.—Congressman James M. Cox of Dayton was chosen Wednesday the nominee for governor by acclamation. Hugh H. Nichols of Montgomery county was renominated for lieutenant governor.

Washington, June 8.—Attended by President Taft, Vice-President Sherman, senators, congressmen and officials and dignitaries high in the service of the United States, obsequies for Senator George E. Nixon of Nevada were held at his residence in Woodley Lane Thursday afternoon.

Washington, June 8.—In the presence of a number of western congressmen, President Taft signed the three-year homestead bill Thursday. This law decreases the time for proving claims from five to three years.

Bloomington, Ill., June 8.—Joseph West received fatal injuries and Walter Price will probably die, their automobile being struck by a Chicago & Alton train near here.

U. S. VOTERS ARE INCREASED

On November 5, 28,440,000 May Cast Their Ballots—Gain of 8,000,000 Since 1908.

Washington, June 10.—According to estimates issued by the census bureau, 28,440,000 persons in the United States will be of sufficient age to cast votes in the election on November 5. This is a gain of about 8,000,000 since the last presidential election. The estimates are made on age alone and do not provide for the exclusions caused by educational and other qualifications imposed by the national and state governments.

The last census shows 29.4 per cent of the population to be males over twenty-one years old, and this is based on a proposition estimate of 96,000,000 people, or a gain of 4,000,000 in two years, which is the same ratio of increase as took place in the years between 1900 and 1910.

Sell Chinese Women as Slaves. Shanghai, June 11.—Thousands of young Chinese women have been seized by brigands and muttonous sold in the interior and sold into slavery. The victims are from middle-class families.

Alaska Volcano Menaces People. Seward, Alaska, June 11.—Katmai volcano, in the Alaska peninsula, is in violent eruption, and grave fears are entertained for the safety of the inhabitants of Kodiak and neighboring islands.

Duchess of Connaught Recovering. Montreal, June 8.—The duchess of Connaught, who was taken ill very suddenly of peritonitis in Quebec, and brought to this city, is making rapid and satisfactory progress toward recovery.

Orocco to Borrow \$2,500,000. Ottawa, Ont., June 8.—"The state congress," says a Chihuahua Mexican message of Thursday to the Montreal Star, "has authorized General Orocco to negotiate a loan of \$2,500,000 gold in Canada."

NEWS OF ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD—LEVI M. HERROD OF EDINBURG, A RETIRED FARMER, GAVE HIS LIFE TO SAVE A DOG.

Springfield.—Levi M. Herrod of Edinburg, a retired farmer, gave his life to save a dog. While driving his automobile over a country road four miles east of Edinburg a dog ran from a farmhouse to bark at his machine. Herrod slowed down, but the dog persisted in running in front of the automobile, and to avoid hitting the animal, he attempted to turn the machine aside. In doing so he ran into a ditch and his car was overturned. Herrod was thrown upon his head and lay in the ditch several hours before a passing farmer found him.

Lawrenceville.—E. C. Wolcott lost his life in an attempt to save George Brown, a fellow-workman. Both men were employed at Indian refinery in this city. Brown was a cleaner of tank cars and Wolcott on the loading rack. Brown had gone into a tank car and was overcome by gas fumes. Wolcott had started to another part of the plant, but hearing a cry for help hurried back to the car and succeeded in getting the unconscious form of Brown nearly to the top, when he too was overcome and fell to the bottom.

Paxton.—Dr. S. M. Wylie of this city has presented to Paxton post, No. 387, G. A. R., a collection of Civil war relics, which he has spent years in gathering. The collection has been placed in the cases in the corridor of the courthouse and has received great interest. The collection consists of fourteen guns, swords, caps, canteens, cartridge belts, gun cleaners, revolvers, holsters, sabers, trench tools and other apparatus. A number of the swords are in the same condition as when left on the battle field.

Danville.—Uriah McArdle, aged seventy-eight, died from a broken back received while attempting to save a grandchild from injury when his yoke of oxen ran away at his home near Grape Creek. He had resided in one place for seventy-six years and clung to the old ox team in preference to modern tractive methods.

Duquoin.—Mrs. George Engel, who was stabbed by her husband as a result of domestic troubles a week ago, died at her home here. Miss Anna Yost, sister of Mrs. Engel, was killed by Engel while interceding in behalf of the wife. Mrs. Engel was soon to have become a mother again, so that Engel has three lives to answer for.

Decatur.—James M. Gray, lawyer, leading down-state Democrat and member of the Illinois legislature from 1898 to 1906, died at his home here of typhoid fever. Illness followed his strenuous campaign to be elected state committeeman of the Nineteenth congressional district.

Taylorville.—Declaring that life was not worth living, William Stark of May township, forty-five years old, and reputed to be worth \$50,000, drank two ounces of carbolic acid in the presence of his wife and two daughters and died before a physician arrived.

Quincy.—The bodies of Edward Dover, aged twenty-one, and Miss Theodora Keck, aged sixteen, were found in the Mississippi river, near Quincy. The two young people were betrothed. They went for a ride in a skiff on the river and did not return. The recovery of the skiff floating near Hannibal, Mo., caused a search to be made which resulted in the discovery of the bodies.

Carlyle.—Relatives of the late Olive Bloomberg Clews and George Key, a deputy United States marshal of East St. Louis, are contesting in the circuit court here over property valued at \$15,000 left by the dead woman. The woman, who lived in East St. Louis and St. Louis for several years, died in St. Louis hospital last October. Later two wills were filed in the county court here. In the first will her mother, Mrs. Thomas Louby of Huey, is made the principal beneficiary. In a later instrument signed a few days before her death, practically all of the estate was left to Key, a friend.

Bloomington.—Marion Lawrence, international secretary at the annual convention of the Illinois Sunday school convention at Elgin, made the assertion that automobiles were responsible largely for the marked decline in contributions for religious work. His statement was made during his appeal for funds to cover last year's deficit of the state association.

Eldorado.—Harry Davis of Eldorado was run over by a train on the Louisville & Nashville railroad near Evansville and killed.

Bloomington.—One hundred and thirty-seven students were granted diplomas at the commencement exercises of the State Normal university. The class is the largest in the fifty-three years of the institution's history. Peleg R. Walker of Rockford, president of the state board of education, delivered the address.

Elgin.—After buying a graduating outfit and presents for his son, Earl Midgety, his parents discovered he had not been in high school for more than a year.

Cairo.—The fight Cairo put up against the flood in April cost the city over \$50,000. Most of the money was spent for labor and sand bags. The expense of the committee to Washington and Memphis are included.

Bloomington.—Elias Bowden, member of the Marca city council and board of education, died suddenly, aged seventy-two. One son, Edwin, and one sister, Mrs. Mattie Walls, both of Chicago, survive.

MINE RATS SWARM OUT AFTER FOOD

Suspension of Work in the Anthracite Region Leaves Them Without Kind Friends

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—The suspension of mining in the anthracite region the past several weeks has brought about a plague of rats in most of the mining towns. Rats are to be seen everywhere. They have overrun the cellars and outbuildings in the towns of Warrior Run and Sugar Notch, when the mines are working the rats, which are of great size, make their home in the underground workings. The miners make pets of them and feed them from their pails.

The average miner is superstitious enough to believe that if the rats re-



They Devoured Everything in the Larders.

main in the workings there is no danger of an accident. Instinct seems to tell the rat when a fall of roof is threatened, and he takes his departure. When the collieries were shut down and the miners no longer brought their dinner pails into the workings, the rodents were left without food. Hunger compelled them to make their way to the surface. Reaching the top of the earth, they made their way into cellars and outhouses. Their coming was unexpected, and they devoured everything in the larders the first night. Then they invaded chicken coops, and did not hesitate to attack the biggest chickens in the flock. In a hennery at Warrior Run the rats killed a 12-pound rooster. There was a hard battle, as the rooster put up a good fight. Nearly all the feathers were torn from his body. The fatal wound was in the neck, where one of the rats bit him and sucked the life blood.

Owners of henneries now stand guard over their properties, and rats are being killed by wholesale.

BOYS PLAY INDIAN; ONE SHOT

"Big Chief" Meets With Defeat at the Hands of "Wild Westerners" in New York.

New York.—The mother of seven-year-old William Farno of 526 Morris avenue, Bronx, went to awake him for school the other day, and found him covered with blood. She ran to his father, who summoned Policeman Cramb. The policeman found the boy was suffering from a gunshot wound in the groin. At Lincoln hospital it was said he is in a serious condition.

Young Farno was shot the other evening, but concealed it from his parents, going to bed early. In a vacant lot near One Hundred and Forty-ninth street, small boys of the