

TAFT WOULD AMEND PANAMA CANAL BILL

Suggested That the Question of Free
Tolls Be Referred to U. S.

Courts

President Taft has decided to take the initiative in an effort to bring about Panama Canal legislation at this session without entailing international complications.

The president proposes that legislation be put through congress in some form or other providing that the Panama Canal bill now pending shall not supersede any of the treaty rights of the Hay-Pauncefote convention and conferring upon United States courts jurisdiction to entertain suits for damages filed by aliens on account of the free tolls provision of the bill. The president believes such legislation would go far toward removing objections that have been raised to the present Panama Canal bill.

NOT A VIOLATION.

Mr. Taft believes himself that the granting of free tolls to American vessels in the coastwise trade will not constitute a violation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, but he acknowledges that the question is open to debate. Since it is debatable, he is anxious to have this government avoid putting itself in a position where it may be accused, however, unjustly, of bad faith and the violation of a treaty obligation. The mere raising of this question, in the president's opinion, ought to be avoided if possible.

The president has told members of congress who have conferred with him that he believes this embarrassment can be removed if action is taken along the lines indicated by him. A statute like the Panama Canal bill will supersede a treaty when the two conflict, but this can be met, the president suggested, by a specific reservation on this point. The opening of the United States courts to damage suits by aliens on

account of the free toll provision would quickly lead to the supreme court of the United States construing the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. If that high tribunal held that the United States had a right under the treaty to grant free tolls to American vessels in the coastwise trade Great Britain, according to the administration's view, probably would be inclined to accept the opinion without attempting to carry the question to The Hague.

Just how the president is to bring about this legislation, or whether he will be able to bring it about, is uncertain. The house passed the bill as it came from conference and the measure is now before Mr. Taft. A day or two will be devoted by the president to ascertaining the likelihood of the senate and the house accepting an amendment of the character indicated.

SEED IT BACK.

If he feels that such an amendment will be adopted he may veto the bill and send it back with the suggestion that it be returned to him with this modification. There is a possibility, too that the president may seek to have the subject matter of the amendment proposed by him put in the form of a concurrent resolution and passed by the house and senate without necessitating the return of the Panama bill.

If the president does decide to veto the Panama measure, however, it will be on the ground of this free toll provision and not on the ground of the anti-railroad legislation contained in the bill. While there are some features of the bill against the railroads that do not appeal to the president, he is in favor of the policy of prohibiting railroad-owned vessels passing through the canal when the railroads and the vessels are competing.

HOW TO TREAT YOUR HUSBAND

When he Has Been on a Bat
or Feels Cross and Kicks
the Furniture

Irishmen have not always been credited with being peacemakers. Down in St. Louis, Missouri, however, a judge, who has many cases of domestic bickerings to settle, has appointed Patrick J. Egan, a patrolman, to act as peacemaker in family jars and smooth out domestic affairs which have become snarled. Some of Egan's precepts are quite sound and recognize no nationality.

"Don't remonstrate with your husband when he has been drinking. Wait until next morning. Then give him a cup of coffee for his headache. Afterwards lead him into the parlor, put your arms about him and give him a lecture. It will have more weight with him than any number of quarrels.

"If he has to drink let him have it at home.

"There is nothing like children to bind a husband and wife together. The moral is evident.

"Don't annoy a man by talking to him in the mornings or when he feels bad.

"Avoid mother-in-laws. Don't let them live with you or interfere in your affairs.

"If you must have your own way, do not let your husband know you are trying to boss him. Have your own way by letting him think he is having his.

"Dress to suit your husband's taste and income. Husbands usually don't like their wives to wear tight dresses. Consult him on these matters.

"Don't be jealous or give your husband cause for jealousy.

"When your husband is in a bad humor be in a good humor. It may be difficult, but it will pay.

"Try to think your husband is still your sweetheart, and love him as much as before your marriage."

Englishman—When s first came to China I couldn't tell one Chinaman from another. You all looked as like as two peas.

Mandarin—Two pjs? Why not say two queues?

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ARE TO HAVE A MINISTER OF MINES

Government To Accede To Wishes
of the Mining Interests
of Canada

It is reported from Ottawa that the Dominion Government will accede to the wishes of the mining interests of Canada and establish a separate portfolio of mines in the Dominion Cabinet, a step that is understood to be advocated by the Hon. Robert Rogers who at present has charge of the department of mines. It has long been felt that the growth in importance of the mining industry of Canada during the past few years warrants a separate representation of that industry in the cabinet and that the interests of mining would suffer if they were allowed to remain, as they are at present, under the control of the minister of the Interior who has too many different departments of the government to supervise to be enabled to give the mining industry the attention to which it is entitled.

Mining men in Ontario have little to complain of in the way in which the Ontario Department of Mines has looked after the interest of the industry and the fine work that has been done by the department in fostering the development of the mineral resources of the province but in common with the representatives of the industry throughout the Dominion they feel that there are special matters relating to the mining industry that could be handled in Ottawa in a much more efficient manner were there a minister who has this department in his sole charge.

EMBARRASSING.

Little Mary—Mother, when I die will I go to Heaven?

Mother—I think so; you've 'most always been a good little girl.

L.M.—And you, mamma, will you go, too?

Mother—I hope so.

L.M. (fervently)—Oh, I do, too; for it would be terribly awkward to be terribly awkward to be pointed out in heaven as the little girl whose mamma was in hell!—Harper's Magazine.

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