

TAFT'S MESSAGE.

(Continued from page 2.)

opened the markets of America to the products of the Philippines and has opened the Philippine markets to American manufactures.

Panama Canal.

At the instance of Colonel Goethals, the army engineer officer in charge of the work on the Panama canal, I have just made a visit to the isthmus to inspect the work done and to consult with him on the ground as to certain problems which are likely to arise in the near future. The progress of the work is most satisfactory. If no unexpected obstacle presents itself the canal will be completed well within the time fixed by Colonel Goethals—to wit, Jan. 1, 1915—and within the estimate of cost, \$375,000,000.

Among questions arising for present solution is the decision whether the canal shall be fortified. I have already stated to the congress that I strongly favor fortification, and I now reiterate this opinion and ask your consideration of the subject in the light of the report already before you made by a competent board.

If in our discretion we believe modern fortifications to be necessary to the adequate protection and policing of the canal, then it is our duty to construct them. We have built the canal. It is our property. By convention we have indicated our desire for and indeed undertaken its universal and equal use. It is also well known that one of the chief objects in the construction of the canal has been to increase the military effectiveness of our navy.

Failure to fortify the canal would leave the attainment of both these aims in the position of rights and obligations which we should be powerless to enforce and which could never in any other way be absolutely safeguarded against a desperate and irresponsible enemy.

In determining what the tolls in the canal should be we certainly ought not to insist that for a good many years to come they should amount to enough to pay the interest on the investment of \$400,000,000 which the United States has made in the construction of the canal. We ought not to do this, first, because the benefits to be derived by the United States from this expenditure are not to be measured solely by a return upon the investment.

My own impression is that the tolls ought not to exceed \$1 per net ton. On Jan. 1, 1911, the tolls in the Suez canal are to be 7 francs and 28 centimes for one net ton by Suez canal measurement, which is a modification of Danube measurement. A dollar a ton will secure under the figures above a gross annual income from the Panama canal of nearly \$7,000,000. The cost of maintenance and operation is estimated to exceed \$3,000,000.

The next question that arises is as to the maintenance, management and general control of the canal after its completion. It should be premised that it is an essential part of our navy establishment to have the coal, oil and other ship supplies, a drydock and repair shops conveniently located with reference to naval vessels passing through the canal. Now, if the government for naval purposes is to undertake to furnish these conveniences to the navy, and they are conveniences equally required by commercial vessels, there would seem to be strong reasons why the government should take over and include in its management the furnishing not only to the navy, but to the public, drydock and repair shop facilities and the sale of coal, oil and other ship supplies.

The maintenance of a lock canal of this enormous size in a sparsely populated country and in the tropics, where the danger from disease is always present, requires a large and complete and well trained organization with full police powers, exercising the utmost care.

I cannot close this reference to the canal without suggesting as a wise amendment to the interstate commerce law a provision prohibiting interstate commerce railroads from owning or controlling ships engaged in the trade through the Panama canal. I believe such a provision may be needed to save to the people of the United States the benefits of the competition in trade between the eastern and western seaboard which this canal was constructed to secure.

Department of Justice.

I am glad to say that under the appropriations made for the department of justice the attorney general has so improved its organization that a vast amount of litigation of a civil and criminal character has been disposed of during the current year. This will explain the necessity for slightly increasing the estimates for the expenses of the department. His report shows the recoveries made on behalf of the government, of duties fraudulently withheld, public lands improperly patented, fines and penalties for trespass, prosecutions and convictions under the anti-trust law and prosecutions under interstate commerce law.

I invite especial attention to the prosecutions under the federal law of the so called "bucket shops" and of those schemes to defraud in which the use of the mail is an essential part of the fraudulent conspiracy, prosecutions which have saved ignorant and weak members of the public and are saving them millions of dollars. The violations of the anti-trust law present perhaps the most important litigation before the department, and the number of cases filed shows the activity of the government in enforcing that statute.

Judicial Procedure.

One great crying need in the United States is cheapening the cost of litigation by simplifying judicial procedure and expediting final judgment. Under present conditions the poor man is at a woeful disadvantage in a legal contest with a corporation or a rich op-

ponent. The necessity for the reform exists both in United States courts and in all state courts. In order to bring it about, however, it naturally falls to the general government by its example to furnish a model to all states. A legislative commission appointed by joint resolution of congress to revise the procedure in the United States courts has as yet made no report.

I am strongly convinced that the best method of improving judicial procedure at law is to empower the supreme court to do it through the medium of the rules of the court, as in equity. This is the way in which it has been done in England.

Relief of Supreme Court From Unnecessary Appeals.

No man ought to have as a matter of right a review of his case by the supreme court. He should be satisfied by one hearing before a court of first instance and one review by a court of appeals. The proper and chief usefulness of the supreme court, and especially the supreme court of the United States, is in the cases which come before it so to expound the law and especially the fundamental law—the constitution—as to furnish precedents for the inferior courts in future litigation and for the executive officers in the construction of statutes and the performance of their legal duties. Therefore any provisions for review of cases by the supreme court that cast upon that court the duty of passing on questions of evidence and the construction of particular forms of instruments, like indentments or wills or contracts, decisions not of general application or importance, merely clog and burden the court and render more difficult its higher function, which makes it so important a part of the framework of our government. The supreme court is now carrying an unnecessary burden of appeals of this kind, and I earnestly urge that it be removed.

Judicial Salaries.

I further recommend to congress the passage of the bill now pending for the increase in the salaries of the federal judges, by which the chief justice of the supreme court shall receive \$17,500 and the associate justices \$17,000, the circuit judges constituting the circuit court of appeals shall receive \$10,000 and the district judges \$9,000. The positions they occupy ought to be filled by men who have shown the greatest ability in their professional work at the bar, and it is the poorest economy possible for the government to pay salaries so low for judicial service as to be able to command the best talent of the legal profession in every part of the country.

Wiping Out of Postal Deficit.

For many years there has been a deficit in the operations of the post-office department which has been met by appropriation from the treasury. The appropriation estimated for last year from the treasury over and above the receipts of the department was \$17,500,000. I am glad to record the fact that of that \$17,500,000 estimated for \$11,500,000 were saved and returned to the treasury. It is gratifying to report that the reduction in the deficit has been accomplished without any curtailment of postal facilities.

Upon the recommendation of the postmaster general I have included in the classified service all assistant postmasters, and I believe that this giving a secure tenure to those who are the most important subordinates of postmasters will add much to the efficiency of their offices and an economical administration.

The Franking Privilege.

The unrestricted manner in which the franking privilege is now being used by the several federal services and by congress has laid it open to serious abuses.

Parcels Post.

With respect to the parcels post, I respectfully recommend its adoption on all rural delivery routes and that eleven pounds, the international limit, be made the limit of carriage in such post. The postoffice department has a great plant and a great organization, reaching into the most remote hamlet of the United States, and with this machinery it is able to do a great many things economically that if a new organization were necessary it would be impossible to do without extravagant expenditure. That is the reason why the postal savings bank can be carried on at a small additional cost and why it is possible to incorporate at a very inconsiderable expense a parcels post in the rural delivery system.

Peary.

I unite with the secretary in the recommendation that an appropriation be made to construct a suitable crypt at Annapolis for the custody of the remains of John Paul Jones.

The unparalleled achievement of Peary in reaching the north pole, April 6, 1909, approved by critical examination of the most expert scientists, has added to the distinction of our navy, to which he belongs, and reflects credit upon his country. His unique success has received generous acknowledgment from scientific bodies and institutions of learning in Europe and America. I recommend fitting recognition by congress of the great achievement of Robert Edwin Peary.

For Eight Hour Day.

It seems to me from the past history that the government has been committed to a policy of encouraging the limitation of the day's work to eight hours in all works of construction initiated by itself, and it seems to me illogical to maintain a difference between government work done on government soil and government work done in a private establishment.

Workmen's Compensation.

In view of the keen, widespread interest now felt in the United States in a system of compensation for industrial accidents to supplant our present thoroughly unsatisfactory system of employers' liability (a subject the im-

portance of which congress has already recognized by the appointment of a commission, I recommend that the international congress on industrial insurance be invited to hold its meeting in 1913 in Washington and that an appropriation of \$10,000 be made to cover the necessary expenses of organizing and carrying on the meeting.

Safety Appliances and Provisions.

The protection of railroad employees from personal injury is a subject of the highest importance and demands continuing attention.

Negro Exposition.

I also renew my recommendation that steps be taken looking to the holding of a negro exposition in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the issuing by Mr. Lincoln of the emancipation proclamation.

Conservation.

Nothing can be more important in the matter of conservation than the treatment of our forest lands. Speaking generally, the government has reserved of the existing forests about 70 per cent of all the timberlands of the government. Within these forests (including 26,000,000 acres in two forests in Alaska) are 192,000,000 acres, of which 160,000,000 acres are in the United States proper and include within their boundaries something like 22,000,000 acres that belong to the states or to private individuals. We have, then, excluding Alaska forests, a total of about 144,000,000 acres of forests belonging to the government which are being treated in accord with the principles of scientific forestry.

The law now prohibits the reservation of any more forest lands in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Colorado and Wyoming except by act of congress. I am informed by the department of agriculture that the government owns other tracts of timberland in these states which should be included in the forest reserves. I recommend to congress that the limitation herein imposed be repealed. In the present forest reserves there are lands which are not properly forest land and which ought to be subject to homestead entry.

Coal Lands.

The next subject, and one most important for your consideration, is the disposition of the coal lands in the United States and in Alaska. At the beginning of this administration there were classified coal lands in the United States amounting to 5,476,000 acres, and there were withdrawn from entry for purposes of classification 17,867,000 acres. Since that time there have been withdrawn by my order from entry for classification 78,977,745 acres, making a total withdrawal of 96,844,745 acres. Meantime of the acres thus withdrawn 10,061,889 have been classified and found not to contain coal and have been restored to agricultural entry and 4,726,001 acres have been classified as coal lands, while 79,903,239 acres remain withdrawn from entry and await classification. In addition 337,000 acres have been classified as coal lands without prior withdrawal, thus increasing the classified coal lands to 10,429,372 acres.

The question as to how great an area ought to be included in a lease to one individual or corporation is not free from difficulty, but in view of the fact that the government retains control as owner I think there might be some liberality in the amount leased and that 2,500 acres would not be too great a maximum. The leases should only be granted after advertisement and public competition.

The secretary of the interior thinks there are difficulties in the way of leasing public coal lands. I entirely approved his stating at length in his report the objections in order that the whole subject may be presented to congress, but after a full consideration I favor a leasing system and recommend it.

The needed oil and gas law is essentially a leasing law. In their natural occurrence oil and gas cannot be measured in terms of acres, like coal, and it follows that exclusive title to these products can normally be secured only after they reach the surface. Oil should be disposed of as a commodity in terms of barrels of transportable product rather than in acres of real estate.

Water Power Rates.

The water power sites subject to one that calls for new legislation. It has been thought that there was danger of combination to obtain possession of all the power sites and to unite them under one control. Whatever the evidence of this or lack of it, at present we have had enough experience to know that combination would be profitable, and the control of a great number of power sites would enable the holders or owners to raise the price of power at will within certain sections, and the temptation would promptly attract investors, and the danger of monopoly and extortion would not be a remote one.

However this may be, it is the plain duty of the government to see to it that in the utilization and development of all this immense amount of water power conditions shall be imposed that will prevent extortionate charges, which are the usual accompaniment of monopoly.

Ends Winter's Troubles.

To many, winter is a season of trouble. The frost bitten toes and fingers, chapped hands and lips, chilblains, cold sores, red and rough skins, prove this. But such troubles fly before Bucklen's Arnica Salve. A trial convinces. Greatest healer of burns, boils, piles, cuts, sores, eczema and sprains. Only 25c at Sibert's Drug Store.

*A substitute is a dangerous makeshift especially in medicine. The genuine Foley's Honey and Tar cures coughs and colds quickly and is in a yellow package. Accept no substitute. W. W. Sibert.

Mill For Fine Cotton Goods.

Columbia, Dec. 7.—The first of its kind in the South will be the great plant for the fabrication of India lawns, linons and other such fine cotton goods, which will be erected near Greenville shortly by the West-cervelt Mills, a million dollar corporation commissioned Wednesday by Secretary of State, with J. I. Westervelt, Frank Hammond, Alester G. Furman, and H. J. Hanysworth, of Greenville and B. Smith of Boston as the incorporators. New England makers of textile machinery are understood to be furnishing about \$650,000 of the capital.

Her Answer.

"McLubberty," began Hogan, "av yez was to do today phwere wud ahl av us go tomorrow?" "That's aisy," returned McLubberty. "Yez wud go to my funeral, av course." "Naw! We wud go gooseberryin.' D'yez see ut?" "O! do. Begorra! O! I'll git the laugh on me wofie wid that."

Arriving home, he attacked the partner of his joy and sorrows, who was industriously chasing soiled linen up and down the washboard, as follows:

"Me der-r-r-rlin,' av yez was to dole today phwere wud O! go tomorrow?"

"Yez wud go broke till yez got anither wofie that wud support yure royal laziness by takin' in washin'; that's phwere yez wud go."—Judge.

*The quicker a cold is gotten rid of the less the danger from pneumonia and other serious diseases. Mr. B. W. L. Hall, of Waverly, Va., says: "I firmly believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be absolutely the best preparation on the market for colds. I have recommended it to my friends and they all agree with me." For sale by all dealers.

*"I had been troubled with constipation for two years and tried all of the best physicians in Bristol, Tenn., and they could do nothing for me," writes Thos. E. Williams, Middleboro, Ky. "Two packages of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets cured me." For sale by all dealers.

Work has been commenced towards putting a covering of wire over the city water tank. The iron beams will be erected over the top of the tank, forming a kind of conical tent over which the galvanized wire will be spread. The covering has been needed for some time to keep the sparrows and swallows out of the water and Sumter is following the example of a number of other cities of South Carolina in having the covering put over the stand pipe.

Get the Genuine Always.

*Every family has need for a good, reliable liniment. For sprains, bruises, soreness of the muscles and rheumatic pains there is none better than Chamberlain's. Sold by all dealers.

*When you have a cold get a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It will soon fix you up all right and will ward off any tendency toward pneumonia. This remedy contains no opium or other narcotic and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult. Sold by all dealers.

To Cure A Cold in One Day.

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25 cents. 10-18-t. t. s.

ROADS MUST HAVE COTTON.

Otherwise Banks will not Handle Bills of Lading.

New York, Dec. 6.—Representatives of eighteen of the largest exchange buying banks in the city, at a meeting today, decided that cotton carrying roads in the South must adhere strictly to the rule, providing that all bills of lading for cotton shall be validated only when the property comes into actual possession of the carrier, otherwise, the banks doing a foreign exchange business may refuse to buy the bills.

The attention of officials of banks had been called to the fact that some of the roads were dilatory in this regard. It is understood the representatives of the banks agreed unanimously that they could not safely buy bills of foreign exchange against bills of lading for export cotton, unless such bills were validated strictly in accordance with the White Sulphur Springs agreement, made between bankers and railroads last July. This stipulates that bills of lading shall not be signed until the cotton is in the possession of the carrier. The attention of the Inter-State commerce commission that it intends to stop the practice of issuing bills of lading for merchandise not actually in the possession of the carrier.

Take Care!

*Remember that when your kidneys are affected, your life is in danger. M. Mayer, Rochester, N. Y., says: "My trouble started with a sharp shooting pain over my back which grew worse daily. I felt sluggish and tired, my kidney action was irregular and infrequent. I started using Foley's Kidney Pills. Each dose seemed to put new life and strength into me, and now I am completely cured and feel better and stronger than for years." W. W. Sibert.

*When your feet are wet and cold and your body chilled through and through from exposure, take a big dose of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, bathe your feet in hot water before going to bed, and you are almost certain to ward off a severe cold. For sale by all dealers.

Court House Floor Made Safe.

Work was commence in the basement under the north lobby of the Court House this morning towards making the floor safe for persons to walk on.

The iron stringers came in several days ago and now the bricks are being laid in the basement so as to form a pillar on the top of which the iron stringers will be placed. The work will probably take several days as there are several of the brick piers to be erected.

A Simple Safeguard for Mothers.

*Mrs. D. Gilkeson, 326 Ingles Ave., Youngstown, Ohio, gained wisdom by experience. "My little girl had a severe cold and coughed almost continuously. My sister recommended Foley's Honey and Tar. The first dose I gave her relieved the inflammation in her throat and after using only one bottle her throat and lungs were entirely free from inflammation. Since then I always keep a bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar in the house. Accept no substitutes. W. W. Sibert.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days.

FAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure any case of itching, blind, bleeding or protruding piles in 6 to 14 days or money refunded. 50 cents. 10-19-mwf.

FIRE NEAR ROCKKY BLUFF.

Barn, Stables, and Cotton House of Mr. N. A. Spann Are Burned to the Ground—Loss Estimated at \$1,500 while Insurance only Amounted to \$500.

Mr. N. A. Spann, who lives in the Rocky Bluff neighborhood, about six miles from town suffered a loss of about \$1,500 when his barn caught fire from some unknown cause Tuesday night and burned to the ground, together with his cotton house and stables which were connected with the barn.

Mr. Spann did not know how the fire originated, for the horses had been fed only a few minutes before and the fire started in the central part of the lower floor of his two-story barn. He thinks that it was caused, for that was the only way he could account for it, by the negro boy who was feeding the horses dropping some matches from his pocket while he was shucking the corn for the horses and rats getting hold of them soon after he had left the barn. He had just eaten his supper when he smelled smoke and his wife discovered the barn to be on fire when she looked from the window.

Mr. Spann at once ran out to the barn and opened the lot gates and stables and after a great deal of trouble, during which he was knocked against the fence and very nearly killed by one of the frightened horses, which he was attempting to lead from the stable, he managed to save all of his stock. His corn and hay, however, which was in the barn was all burned, except a small portion of corn on which they succeeded in pouring water and prevented from burning, although it was all badly scorched. His cotton house which was near his barn, also caught and he lost three gales of cotton which he had ready to send to the gin the next morning, besides which he lost the seed from eight bales of cotton stored in the building. All of his harness was burned. He managed to save all of his vehicles, but his farm implements were all burned.

One of Mr. Spann's horses was badly burned but he at once brought it to town and had it doctored and he hopes it will recover from the burns. Mr. Spann, in speaking of the fire, said that the cost of the building was about \$500, but that they were worth, with their contents, at least \$2,000. The insurance was only \$500.

Wants to Help Some One.

*For thirty years J. F. Boyer, of Fertile, Mo., needed help and couldn't find it. That's why he wants to help some one now. Suffering so long himself he feels for all distress from backache, nervousness, loss of appetite, lassitude and kidney disorder. He shows that Electric Bitters work wonders for such troubles. "Five bottles," he writes, "wholly cured me and now I am well and hearty." It's also positively guaranteed for Liver trouble, dyspepsia, blood disorders, female complaints and malaria. Try them. 50c at Sibert's Drug Store.

You must read this if you want the benefit.

*J. W. Greer, Greenwood, La., suffered with a severe case of lumbago. "The pains were so intense I was forced to hypodermic injections for relief. These attacks started with a pain in the small of my back which gradually became fairly paralyzing. My attention was attracted to Foley's Kidney Remedy and I am glad to say after using this wonderful medicine I am no longer bothered in any way by my old enemy lumbago." W. W. Sibert.

The Value of Location

Location Practically Determines the Value of Land

An acre in the heart of the business section of Sumter recently brought \$60,000. An acre equally as good in other respects, but two miles out, will hardly bring \$60. Farm lands in the thickly home-settled sections of Marlboro County are bringing \$150 an acre. Equally good lands in Northern Williamsburg County scarcely bring \$15 an acre.

Sumter County has the best railroad facilities of any of the fine land counties of the Upper Coastal plain of the section that embraces the best corn, cotton and general crop soils of the State. Lands throughout this territory are going to bring prices in the near future that will be eye openers for the "OLD TIMERS."

The tract of 300 acres, 3 miles from Sumter, which I am offering for sale at \$12,500 gives some man who appreciates the value of good location, the

opportunity to get something that will respond to proper treatment. A year under good farming will add 50% to the selling value of the property; 60% of the tract is in cultivation, and practically all free of stumps. A good six room dwelling, barns and stables, and 6 tenant houses equip the place with all necessary buildings.

If you have \$12,500 or one-third of that amount to invest in a farm, this is your opportunity.

N. B.—Have sold 14 tracts of farm lands in the past 60 days, but have forty or fifty left for sale. See me

CITY, FARM AND TIMBER PROPERTY HANDLED. REAL ESTATE LOANS NEGOTIATED.

R. B. BELSER,

REAL ESTATE ATTORNEY.

MONEY INVESTED IN REAL ESTATE MORTGAGES LET ME INVEST YOUR IDLE MONEY AT 7 AND 8 PER CENT

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