HEADS OF BIG RAILWAYS CONFER WITH PRESIDENT

As a Consequence Taft Will Split His Special Message Dealing With Inter-State Commerce and Anti-Trust Law Amendments Into Two Parts

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—After a forenoon conference with the presidents of six of the great railroad systems of the country, President Taft announced a change of programme in the sending to Congress of his Message dealing with inter-State commerce and anti-trust law amendments. The Message will be split into two parts. The section dealing with the trusts will be sent to Congress at Noon Thursday. The section dealing with the inter-State commerce law, in which the railroads are interested, will be sent on Friday.

The President's special Message on the conservation of natural resources is expected to be ready next Monday.

It had been the President's original intention to treat together the two subjects of inter-State commerce and anti-trust amendments, but it was explained late-to-day that the Message would probably receive greater attention if divided into two parts, neither more than 4000 words long.

As a result of the two hours call of the railroad presidents, it was said that only a few verbal changes would be made in the draft of the Message dealing with the inter-State commerce law, and that these would be such only as to clarify the meaning of the recommendations.

President Taft found the railroad men most considerate in presenting their views. While they deprecated any legislation at all now, when, they declared, conditions in the railroad and industrial worlds are righting themselves after two years of more or less depression, they did not seek to deter the President from sending in his Message. They devoted themselves to more or less specific objections to the bill prepared by Attorney-General Wickersham, which forms the text for the Message. The President, it is declared, will not attempt to force the Wickersham or any other bill upon Congress.

The railroad presidents admitted that their objections to the amendments to the inter-State Commerce Act were applied, generally speaking, to all of the amendments.

The President, however, had made his position clear to J. Pierpont Morgan in a brief interview before breakfast last Friday morning.

Mr. Morgan afterwards arranged for to-day's conference, and advised the railroad men to confine themselves to suggestions of changes in the amendments rather than to an attempt to influence the President as to his general course. Mr. Taft has let it be known that he will not only recommend changes in the law, but that he expects Congress to adopt the suggestions at this session, and thus carry out the promises of the Republican party as written in the Chicago platform.

DR. COOK STILL IGNORANT OF COPENHAGEN'S VERDICT

His Secretary Receives a Letter—Brother Says Detractors Will Have a Pretty Bill to Pay

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 3 — Walter Lonsdelle, Dr. Frederick A. Cook's Secretary, announced today that he had received a letter from Dr. Cook, but he declined to give the explorer's address. Mr. Longsdelle said that he would inform Dr. Cook of the University's decision, of which he was convinced, Dr. Cook is still ignorant.

HAS JOINED COOK.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3—William L. Cook, brother of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, declared today that Mrs. Cook had joined her husband and that he was in communication with them. Mrs. Cook is believed to have the explorer's original records of his North Pole quest in her possession.

"Dr. Cook has by no means abandoned his intention to prove conclusively, despite the verdict of the Copenhagen University, that he reached the North Pole," said his brother, "and his detractors will have a pretty bill to pay.

"The talk that Mrs. Cook is estranged from the Doctor and that she contemplates a suit for separation with large alimony, is unwarranted. Mrs. Cook is standing by her husband and will continue to do so until death separates them. Just now she is of immeasurable comfort to him and together they are planning and working for the future.

"I have positive information that Dr. Cook and his wife will publicly appear together and that then there will be a great change in feelings."

"Is Dr. Cook in this country or abroad?" he was asked.

"I do not care to say, except that I know where he and his wife are, that they are in perfect accord and are in communication with me. It may be only a few weeks and it may be months before they appear publicly again. That all depends on how long it requires Dr. Cook to fully substantiate his claims.'

HERE'S A MYSTERY OF AN EMPTY CARRIAGE

Woman's Mutilated Body Found on the Railway Line—Finger Prints on Curtain

LONDON, Jan. 3.—What is supposed to be a brutal murder was discovered on the arrival at the Gare du Lyon, Paris, of a train from Montargeis.

When the train steamed in a porter noticed that the door of a first-class compartment was hanging by one hinge, and the glass was shivered. More ominous still, there were marks of blood on the footboard, and further investigation revealed similar sinister stains on the carriage cushions, where were also found a lorgnette, a lady's comb, and the return half of a first-class ticket from Paris to Fontainebleau. The further discovery of strands of grey hair and clots of blood on a third-class carriage behind convinced the officials that a tragedy had occurred, and the telegraph was set to work.

Whilst awaiting communications from down the line a coachman, who had been stationed with his carriage in front of the station, entered and said that he was expecting Mme. Gouin, widow of the late regent of France, and he wondered why she had not arrived. The things found in the train were shown to him, and he at once recognised them as belinging to his mistress.

She had gone in the morning to visit a lady friend at Fontainebleau who was ill, and was to return by the evening train. He further explained that she was freuently subject to slight hemorrhages and vertigo, and that, perhaps, she had an attack in the train, when, in moving about, she may have opened the wrong door and been killed.

In a little while came the news that the body of a woman had been found on the line near Brunoy, and it was soon identified as that of Mme. Gouin.

At first there was a disposition to accept the coachman's version of the tragedy, but circumstances were soon noticed that pointed strongly to a brutal murder. The body was found 300 yards from Brunoy station, Mme. Gouin's earlings had been torn from her ears. Twenty yards away one of her hands was found, and from this the rings had been wrenched. Six hundred yards further along the line of the carriage curtains was found bearing the imprints of bloodstained fingers. The supposition is that the assassin, after killing Mme. Gouin wiped his hands on the curtain, then tore it from the window and threw it out of the carriage. The victim's handbag was also found on the line empty and with the handle cut in two.

It is presumed that the murderer went on in the train to Paris, and then made his escape.

ALL OTHERS CLOSED.

"Hello, Jones. Where are you going this time of night?"

"Where should I be going?"

"I dont' know."

"Well, I am going home."

"Well, why are you going home?"

"Where else can I go?"

LIKELY REVEALS FATE OF ANDREE

Priest Reaches Prince Albert With Convincing Story

Eskimos at Reindeer Tell of Landing of White Men in Balloon

Declare They Died Natural Deaths, but Belief is They Were Murdered

Danish Consul at Montreal to Send Expedition to Far North

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask., Jan. 3.—News has reached here of the finding by Eskimo Indians of a balloon 900 miles north of this city near Reindeer Lake, in the Arctic circle. Many persons are of the opinion that the "Large white house covered with ropes, which fell from the heavens," as described by the Indians, is the balloon in which Andree, accompanied by his companions, Dr. S. T. Strindberg and Herr Fraenckel, sailed in quest of the pole over twelve years ago.

The Rev. Father Turquetil, the missionary in charge of the missions in Northern Saskatchewan and the Mackenzie River district, brought in news of the discovery.

Father Turquetil is stationed at Reindeer Lake, a settlement which is almost entirely inhabited by Indians. He understands their language well. He carried a small revolver. The natives were greatly interested in it. Father Turquetil handed it to one of them for examination.

"That looks like the thing that white man had," said one of the Eskimo Indians in his own language to his companion.

"What white man?" inquired Father Turquetil. The Indian said that a "white house" had fallen from the skies; that it was covered with ropes, and that three men were in it, who were very hungry, and died shortly after their arrival. The natives said they had used the ropes and were still using them, in padding their canoes and fixing their tents.

Father Turquetil in relating his story here, said that he was of the opinion that the white men had shot some deer and other animals after arriving and the Indians, becoming angry, killed them. The Indians claim all animals in their reserves. The Danish consul at Montreal has been notified of the discovery, and will probably send an expedition to the place this winter.

FIGHT AT MIDNIGHT WITH BOLD BRIGANDS

BRAILA, Roumania, Jan. 3 — Two nights ago a band of brigands attacked the railway station of Rosetti, on this line. Choosing the hour of midnight, they approached the station, which is desolately situated and commenced their attack on the dwelling of the telegraph clerk, which stands some 200 yards from the station itself.

This official possesses a terrible savage watch dog but the brigands silenced it by throwing to it dead fowls stolen from the adjacent shed. Then they proceeded to force an entrance by a back window, thinking they had an easy task, the only inhabitants being the clerk and his wife.

They reckoned, however, without their host, for hardly had they began to force the window when a door was thrown open and a shot from a Martini rifle stretched one bandit dead. This threw the others into disorder.

The rushed from the yard, the clerk following, but seeing he did not fire again (having recklessly advanced without loading) they turned on him with the knives and axes with which they were armed, and for a moment his death seemed certain, when his courageous young wife ran forward and fired with a shotgun with which she had armed herself, and another brigand fell wounded. Picking up their companion, they, fairly cowed, now took to their heels. The clerk and his wife, loading, followed them, but unfortunately both fell in the dark, the band making their escape.

The gendarmerie have already arrested some members of the band, known criminals, lately come into the district. They have confessed their complicity and say that being burdened with the wounded man and afraid if they left him of his denouncing them, they threw him, still living, into a deep well, where his body has been since recovered.

DUBLIN, Jaan. 3.—There is much interest in the announcement of the removal of the ban against the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Scotland. Hitherto Catholics in Scotland were forbidden to join the order. The effect of the removal of the ban will be to strengthen the order in Ireland.

EUSAPIA PALADINO.

The wonderful little Italian woman who has startled New York with her spiritualistic seances. Eusapia is a plain little woman below medium height, and suggests nothing of the spirit world. Her face, however, would arrest attention anywhere. It is a very strong face. Her eyes are keen and of a tragic cast.

Victory for Local Option in Ontario

Measure Carries in Majority of Places--Returns Not Complete

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 3.—Municipal elections held throughout Ontario today were rendered interesting by the number of local option contests. The measure carried in 60 to 75 per cent. of the places in which it was submitted. 161 municipalities voted on the question.

Returns are not complete yet.

Following is a list of Mayors elected in principal places so far as received:—

Webbwood, S. G. Ghant; Galt, T. E. McLellan; Lindsay, James B. Begg; Dundas, J. M. Lawrason; Brockville, A. M. Patterson; Welland, W. H. Crowther; Sarnia, A. J. Johnston; Napanee, Dr. Simpson; Midland, H. J. Craig; Thornbury, S. McAllan; Meaford, Dr. J. G. Clarke; Clinton, Jacob Taylor; Powasson, James McArthur; Strathroy, H. C. Pope; Cobalt, Lang; Parry Sound, Charles Gillespie; Mount Forest, J. J. Cook; Paris, G. H. Armstrong; Orillia, W. C. Goffatt; St. Mary's, John Millard; Tilbury, W. C. Crawford; Ridgetown, P. J. Henry; Walkerville, Chilvers; Aylmer, G. R. Christie; St. Catherine's, James McBride; Woodstock, J. S. Scarff; Uxbham, Chas. Austin; Stratford, W. S. Dingman; Oakville, George Helmer; Huntsville, A. E. Callahan; Thorold, A. McCulloch; Stayner, Dener; Newmarket, Pearson; Uxbridge, W. R. Beal; Parkhill, J. G. Kanapton; Campbellford, W. J. Doxsee; Bothwell, Haller; Hespeler, G. D. Forbes; Tilbury, W. C. Crawford; Trenton, Dr. Edward Kidd; Hanover, D. Knechtel; Tillsonburg, E. C. Jackson; Gravenhurst, J. D. Vanstone; Milton, J. S. Deacon; Goderich, M. G. Cameron; Brampton, T. Thauburn; Dunnville, Robert Bennett; Kincadine, A. Malcolm; Forest, Ed. Rumford; North Bay, R. Rankin; Barrie, Thomas Beacroft; Alliston, R. J. Wallace; Waterloo, L. Graybill; Prescott, F. S. Evancon; Cornwall, Dr. Maloney; Picton, J. H. Porte; Penetang, J. B. Jennings; Listowell, J. N. Hay; Simcoe, C. A. Austin; Sault Ste Marie, T. E. Simpson; Walkerton, S. A Rife; Collingwood, H. A. Currie; Clinton, Jacob Taylor; Cobourg, Harry Field; Port Hope, R. A. Mulholland; Durham, William Laidlaw.

HOBOKEN ASTROLOGER HAS VISION OF 1910 CALAMITIES

Dire Forebodings for Taft and the United States, Including Deaths, Panics, Earthquakes and War.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3—Gustave Meyer, the Hoboken astrologer, having cast a few horoscopes, sized up the stars, inspected the moon and dallied with planetary configurations, is now prepared to tell just what will happen in 1910. Which he does in the manner following:

"I find that 1910 will prove to be quite an eventful, if not very dramatic, period for the United States and all of Europe.

"Here in America much trouble is indicated to occur to our government, our President and his cabinet. The life of President Taft will be in jeopardy and anything but pleasant, and our good President should guard against secret enemies and assassins, and should be more cautious than usual, otherwise he will have much to regret. I fear that he will experience a bereavement in his immdiate family, and his wife should look to her health.

"President Taft will come in for a good share of slander, dishonor and discredit, business will be practically at a standstill, some of the greatest failures in history will occur in the commercial world and in the stock market.

"Financial panics will be much in evidence as well as a run on the banks and bank robberies. Fires in banks will also occur.

"The heads of large corporations will come to dishonor and grief and justice will prevail.

"Agriculture will thrive and farmers will be more fortunate and prosperous than usual.

"Very hard times will prevail from January until August, and we will have no prosperity until next fall, and any one having a position should be careful to hold it.

"Uncle Sam will spend considerable money for munitions of war and he will experience considerable revenue trouble.

"A war is indicated for the United States, yet we will have mostly internal troubles and much trouble with our island possessions or in the Philippines, as I look for serious uprisings to occur there, and we will also experience considerble trouble in Nicaragua. Much trouble is indicated for Uncle Sam in the Panama canal zone.

"1910 will prove to be a very trying and hard year for everybody, both rich and poor, strikes and riots will be much in evidence, our militia will be called out and much bloodshed will result.

"Actors and theatrical managers will experience a more prosperous and successful season than in many years, and theatrical attendance will be unusually large, yet there will be a decrease in church attendance.

"Great scandals will occur among members of the bar, press and clergy, 'affinity' cases will be on the increase and the divorce courts will be overcrowded, and great scandals will occur among the fair sex.

"The fair sex will be very successful in speculation, but the opposite sex will not. This will be a very fortunate year for children.

"Suicides, especially among wealthy people, will be quite shocking, mostly as the outcome of scandals, swindling affairs and public exposures.

"Wages will greaty decrease, but prices of provisions, etc., will be increased, the minds of the people will be in a turbulent warlike state, and much trouble will occur on the floor of Congress.

"During 1910 the birth rate will greatly increase, and most of the children then born will be girls.

"England and Germany will be on the verge of war, if not come to a serious clash or disagreement, and international troubles all over the world will be much in evidence.

"Uprisings and sedition will occur in India, and England will need to guard against such.

"During January we will experience a severe cold wave, great snowstorms and blizzard weather, but February and March will prove to be open.

"The most severe earthquakes will occur in the western part of the United States, also in China, Japan, England, Italy, India, Germany and France ,especially during the forepart of 1910, spring and early summer.

"Places in the United States that will experience earthquakes will be New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, St. Louis, Ohio, Chicago, California and Oregon.

"Ireland will come under evil planetary influences in June, and I fear that such will last until March, 1913, and during this period the Emerald Isle will experience severe poverty, outrages and grief, if not uprisings or war, and the health authorities in Ireland should guard against a serious epidemic, if not typhoid fever among the people; otherwise the death rate will be enormous.

"During the early part of 1910 the Emperor of Germany will experience much grief and vexation, if not a bereavement, and I fear that his life will be in jeopardy."

HIGHEST FOOD-VALUE.

Epps's Cocoa is a treat to Children.
A Sustenant to the Worker.
A Boon to the Thrifty Housewife.

EPPS'S COCOA

BREAKFAST SUPPER

In strength delicacy of flavour, nutritiousness and economy in use "Epps's" is unsurpassed.

Children thrive on "Epps's."

FREE—HANDSOME GOLD WATCH OR RIFLE—FREE

A Lady's or Gent's Solid Gold Filled Watch or one of the Celebrated Daisy Rifles for selling only 10 boxes of Dr. Marcil's Famous Compound Pills at 25c a box. These are for the cure of :—Indigestion, Constipation, Impure Blood, Female Weaknesses, Liver and Kidney Diseases, send us your name and address and we will send you the pills post paid. We also send 10 articles of jewelry to give away with the Pills which helps you to sell. When sold send us the money, $2.50, and we will send you a Lady's or Gent's Gold Filled Watch, stem set and stem wind or one of the celebrated Daisy Rifles. We are giving these valuable premiums to advertise our remedies. Say what premium you want. Do not miss this opportunity. Write today.

Dept. J. The Dr. Marcil Medicine Co., Toronto, Ont

DRESS CRUSADE HAS STARTED IN BERLIN

BERLIN, Jan. 3.—Berlin is to start the new year with an effort to inaugurate an era of evening dress on the model of London, Paris and New York. The newspapers are beseeching ladies no longer to appear at theatres, the opera and restaurant in high necked dresses, while men are implored to abandon the present use of dress suits for funerals, midday weddings, afternoon teas and launches of battleships and instead to wear them at evening functions. The men are also urged to subdue their partiality for dinner jackets on occasions when full dress is demanded.

This sumptuary agitation is not new. Previous stages were the Kaiser's order some years ago decreeing evening dress for gala performances of opera, which led to the foyer being converted into a dressmaking room to improvise decollete dresses on ladies who had disregarded the decree. A new hotel attempted two years ago to serve only those who came attired in evening dress with dinners in the restaurant, but the rule was abandoned after a scene with a tweed clad guest,who insisted on dining and was allowed to do so after he had been identified as Prince Hartzfeldt.

Children's Chest Troubles

NURSE CARRINGTON SAYS HER LONG EXPERIENCE PROVES THE SAFEST REMEDY IS TO

RUB ON NERVILINE

Every mother knows how difficult it is to get a young child to take a cough mixture. Seldom will one help, unless given in large doses, and the result is to completely upset the stomach and make the child sick.

Speaking of the promptest cure for chest troubles and children's colds, Nurse Carrington says—"In all my experience in nursing I haven't met any preparation so dependable as Nerviline. It is the ideal liniment. Every drop you rub on is absorbed quickly, sinks through the pores to the congested muscles, eases, relieves, and cures quickly. Especially for chest colds, pain in the side, stiff neck, earache, toothache, I have found Nerviline invaluable. In treating the minor ills of children Nerviline has no equal. I think Nerviline should be in every home."

A million bottles of Nerviline used every year—this is itself a burden of proof that it is the ideal liniment for the home. Refuse anything your dealer may offer instead of Nerviline. Large bottles 50c., trial size 25c. Sold everywhere, and by the Catarrhozone Company, Kingston, Ont.

TO INCREASE PRICE OF COTTON PRODUCTS

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Jan. 3.—To consider the question of how to increase the selling price of cotton products, cotton manufacturers and commission men from all over the country to the number, it is expected, of 150 will meet here tomorrow. Cotton manufacturers claim that under present conditions they are making no money, that cotton goods and yarns have not advanced in proportion to the advance in the price of raw cotton, and that something must be done to relieve the strained situation.

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

TAKES PICTURES FROM AN AIRSHIP IN FLIGHT

PARIS, Jan. 3—M. Latham ascended at Mourmelonle-Grand yesterday in his monoplane, accompanied by a cinematograph operator, who took the front seat, with M. Latham behind. The lenses of this instrument were pointed toward the ground between the two wings. The monoplane flew over a small wood, across the Roman road, and round Chalon's camp, the operator working the cinematograph machine all the time.

The flight, which was made at an average height of 80 feet, lasted seven minutes, and the operator told me he experienced no vibration whatever and had no difficulty in taking pictures. The weight of the cinematograph instrument was 200 pounds, and the operator's weight 140 pounds.

M. Legagneux afterward went up for thirty-five minutes in a Voisin machine, taking with him nearly forty gallons of petrol, his object being to ascertain whether he could ascend with enough fuel to permit him to remain in the air for five hours and so beat M. Farnam's record, which he hopes to do before the end of the year.

M. Paulhan then went up in a "half size" Farnum machine, and before descending gave a wonderful "switchback" performance and did some remarkable "trick flying."

ALL GERMANY WANTS IS PEACE, HE ASSERTS

BERLIN, Jan. 3—General Keim, the deposed leader of the Navy League, and one of the lights of the Pan-German War Party, writing in today's Tag, takes Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new chancellor, to task for painting the international sky in such rosy hues in his recent speech in the Reichstag.

"The truth about the foreign situation," says General Keim, "is as follows: Germany's—and Austria's—love of peace is genuine. Their linen is faultlessly clean. Of France, Russia, England, and even of Italy, the same can, unfortunately, not be said. And for the simple reason that they all want something. France, if possible, wants Alsace-Lorraine, Russia wants Balkan influence; England wants world's supremacy at sea, and Italy a piece of Austria. We want nothing but our repose, except also absolutely to maintain that place in the world which by rights belongs to us."

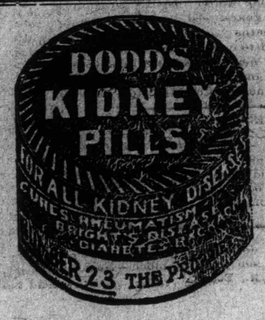
General Keim, earlier in his article, expresses the view that peace—"say, in two or three years"—will not be so easy to preserve as during the Morocco and Balkan crises, because of the "increasing military strength of the Franco-Russian dual alliance."

FOUR FIREMEN BURIED UNDER FALLING WALLS

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 3.—Fire in the Milwaukee plant of the American Bridge Company tonight caused the death of four firemen who were buried under a falling wall, and $250,000 property damage. The firemen killed were Captain John Hennessey, Lieut. Dominick O'Donnell, and two truckmen.

Several others were injured and several suffered frost bites while fighting the flames.

PROBING WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC

NEW YORK, Jan. 3—The District Attorney of New York, and the son of the richest man in the world, took up today, one directly, the other indirectly, an investigation of the so-called white slave traffic.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., is foreman of a grand jury sworn in today, charged especially with the task of inquiring into the traffic in women with a view either to rigid prosecution or an end to sensation slanders against New York. Charles S. Whitman, the new district attorney, began a similar line of enquiry on this, his first official day in office.