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IN A DOWN POUR OF RAIN PRESIDENT MCKINLEY TOOK OATH.

Inaugural Ceremonies Yesterday Were Brilliant and Were Viewed by Thousands—Parade and Ball Were Features—Rain Came at the Most Important Part.

Washington, March 4.—William McKinley a second time is president of the United States. He was ushered into that office today in a city ablaze with more and finer decorations than ever have graced the holiday-loving national capital, whose streets today resounded to the tread of more marching soldiers and sailors than ever have participated in a like function and had as witnesses to the ceremonies a vast multitude which cheered frequently whenever he or his vice-presidential colleague was visible.

A Great Multitude. Only a comparatively insignificant portion of the vast multitude saw anything of the actual inauguration ceremonies at the capitol. The great unnumbered thousands were content to wait in the avenue below to see the two men on whom the mental attention of the world was fixed today, and the great procession which followed them. The brilliant and impressive scenes in the senate when the vice-president-elect was inducted into office was reserved for a few hundreds. The public had no part in it.

While the distinguished audience was gathering in the senate chamber, the president, in a little side room, was signing the bills which the dying congress was sending to him. The galleries were already filled, tier on tier, with handsomely gowned women and men conspicuous in every profession of life. The diplomatic corps, headed by the ambassadors, marched in, glittering with gold and adorned with ribbons. The admiral of the navy and the general of the army, stiff in gold braid, had taken their places.

Watching for Roosevelt. The judges of the supreme court in their stately gowns, the speaker and members of the house, the governors of the states were all there, when the brilliant assemblage felt an electric thrill as the vice-president-elect was announced. His eagerness to see this man who has been so much in the public eye during recent years and instantly all eyes were turned toward him.

He halted a moment at the entrance, drew himself up until he seemed a foot taller, and marched down the aisle erect and with the bearing of a soldier. He acknowledged a round of applause that greeted him and smiled up at the gallery, where his wife and children sat. The president, who was last to enter, got an even more enthusiastic reception. He was greeted better and never seemed more graceful and at ease. When the ceremony in the senate was over, the floor and galleries emptied into the rotunda, where the people jostled and squeezed into the rotunda and out onto the great platform erected from the east portico of the capitol building.

Below, the multitudes filled the plaza and beyond, down the diverging avenues. Patches of color and myriads of points of steel indicated the assembled soldiery far as the eye could reach. As the first of the marching men began to file, the crowd changed quickly into a pelting rain. Soon it was a veritable downpour. The forbidding aspect drove some back into the rotunda, but many, handily gowned women, most of the senators and representatives, every member of the supreme court and the entire bespangled diplomatic corps braved the elements. They stood on the platform in bundled groups, most of them without umbrellas, with the rain trickling down their backs.

The president and vice-president, Mrs. McKinley, the justice and several others in the railed and covered enclosure jutting out into the crowd were protected from the storm. There, in the presence of 20,000 and in the sight of twice that number of people standing in a soaking rain, the president took the oath of office and delivered his second inaugural speech. The bundled multitude waited breathlessly to see him kiss the Bible and then, despite the rain, they awakened the echoes of Arlington, across the Potomac, with their applause. Hardly had the inaugural been finished, when the rain abated, turning into a drizzling mist again, and later ceased altogether.

After the Ceremony. When the president and vice-president had quitted the scene to take their places at the head of the procession, the soldiers marched across the plaza where the multitude had been, their bright uniforms, gay standards and accoutrements of brass and steel showing they had received no effects from the wetting they had received. The procession wound down the hill and up the broad rain-drenched avenue through a living lane of people. The crowds had waited patiently through the rain rather than lose their places and, when the parade appeared, their ardent seemed undampened.

clatter of horses' hoofs, the flashing of sabres, the nodding plumes, the rumble of artillery and the blare of trumpets. Over all was the continuous roar of voices greeting the presidential party. In advance rode a platoon of mounted police, followed by the famous Governor's Island band playing "Hail to the Chief." Behind these forces broke upon the spectators' view the grand marshal, General Francis V. Greene, and his dazzling staff.

The Parade. The president and his party went from the room of the senate committee on military affairs to carriages waiting under the archway on the east side of the senate wing. Both Mr. McKinley and Mr. Roosevelt were kept constantly busy acknowledging the salutations which met them at every step. Senators Hanna and Jones, of Arkansas, and Representative Cannon, entered the carriage with the president. The vice-president was accompanied by Senator Spooner and Representatives Dalzell and McLean.

At the Reviewing Stand. The enthusiasm which had greeted the president and vice-president along the avenue on their return from the capitol to the reviewing stand reached a climax when the carriages, preceded by troop A of Cleveland were seen turning into the

court of honor from Fifteenth street. At that moment the thousands seated in the stands stretching from a fifteenth to Seventeenth streets rose in their places and amidst a wilderness of fluttering handkerchiefs and waving hats, cheered again and again.

A few minutes after 6 o'clock the president left the stand, appearing remarkably buoyant and cheerful considering the long hours of exposure, for the most part, with bare head. He retired immediately to the White House to dinner and much needed rest before attending the inaugural ball.

The Inaugural Ball. The culminating event of the inaugural festivities was the ball, held tonight in the vast auditorium of the pension office, with the president and Mrs. McKinley leaving in the grand march and with men and women distinguished in every walk of life, touching elbows, dancing and mingling with the plain American citizen. As a spectacular event it was unparalleled in the history of inaugural balls.

The brilliant pyrotechnic display scheduled for the night was postponed on account of the weather, but, at the beautiful decorated pension building, four women and their escorts danced and passed the hours until the early hours of the morning.

HON. MR. BLAIR ON THE RAILWAY COMMISSION.

Reviewed in Detail the Phases of the Subject in the House--Makes Definite Announcement That There Will Be No Bill for Commission This Session.

Ottawa, March 4 (Special).—There were very little preliminaries in the house today. A couple of bills received a second reading and then questions were put by members. Replying to Mr. Preontaine, the minister of finance stated it was not the intention of the government at present to amend the banking act with a view to preventing the use by any one of any name or description calculated to lead the public to believe such person was authorized to carry on a banking business, receive deposits, etc. The existing legislation was considered as effective as it could possibly be made. A similar answer was given to a question as to whether the government contemplated enactment of legislation designed to provide for a more complete and effective inspection of the financial institutions of the country.

In reply to Mr. Ganong, Mr. Tarte said the tenders for the construction of the Hopeville Cape wharf, Albert, N. B., were Warren Downey and Ernest W. Lynde, of Hopeville, N. B., \$25,000; Reid and Archibald, Halifax, \$27,807; Shannon, Burpee, Gibson, N. B., \$28,950, and Henry & Smith, Ottawa, \$29,945.

Mr. Lancaster was informed by Hon. Mr. Tarte that the successful tenders for the harbor and other works at P. C. Colborne were Hogan & Macdonald, of Montreal, for \$305,000. This is under the public works.

Hon. Mr. Blair said that the same firm gets work to be done under the railways and canal department. The amount for this is \$806,519. The tender of N. and M. Connelly for the railways and canal part was \$115,546.

Mr. Richardson gave some startling figures as to what the Canadian railways cost the people. In dominion and municipal grants of all kinds, the people had paid \$405,000,000 to railway corporations; this was more than the whole system was worth, and of it Canada had only the fractional, worth about \$25,000,000.

Mr. Richardson believed that a railway commission might afford some relief in regard to discriminating freight rates and therefore he was prepared to vote for Mr. Davis' resolution.

Col. Tisdale. Lieut. Col. Tisdale began by saying that he had no interests in railways either one way or another. What the country wanted was railway facilities. For years he was endeavoring to get railways built because that was what the people required. The money invested in railways never turned over 10 per cent to those who put it up. He then went into the position of the Grand Trunk, showing how unprofitable it was to those who had invested in it. His own opinion was that the principle thing was to get the railway and not to bother about bonding it. The condition of things were not what some pointed out; for instance, a farmer from the furthest part of Ontario could land his produce in Liverpool and send that farmer in Wales could ship his produce to London. Members talked of the price of land, but he would like to know what the land would be worth if there was no Pacific railway.

Mr. Davis (Saskatchewan).—Would land not be as valuable if the government built it? Why should it be more valuable because the C. P. R. built it?

Mr. Tisdale agreed that the land would be just as valuable but it was the opinion of both political parties in these days that the government should not build it. He did not believe that Mr. Davis, if he were in parliament then, would approve of the government building it. Public men of that time would not saddle the country with the burden of a commission with the railway committee of the privy council. He did not want this work transferred to other shoulders. There would also be very much difficulty in getting the railway commission to do the work which was assigned to it.

Hon. A. G. Blair. Mr. Blair said: "I should be very much inclined myself to despair if the facts were as stated by the last speaker and I conclude as he does from those facts. He suggested that if the time ever does arrive, as he imagines it is likely to arrive some remote day, when the two great railway corporations, the C. P. R. and G. T. R. shall unite their interests in a single company, that the government will have such controlling power over the parliament of this country that we will be absolutely at their mercy. I feel constrained to dissent from that view. I do not believe that time will come and I am not so sure that the time has not already arrived, with all practical intents and purposes, the C. P. R. and G. T. R. are united in their own railway policy and I should be very loath indeed to acknowledge that the people of this country are unable to defend themselves and to take good care of their own interests. I think that the railway companies will be sorry to find themselves in antagonism to the people of this country. I think they will not find it to their interest to carry out any such conflict and I believe, sir, that the managers of these railways are in their hearts convinced that in such a conflict they are bound to succumb. (Applause.)

People Are Masters. The people of the country are not in their hands. A new individual is here and he may be already subject to their influence, but the great body of the people are able, if the time arrives, and they are called upon to go to the polls and record their votes irrespective of what the two great combined railway corporations may demand at their hands. This is my conviction and I believe that to be the conviction of the majority of the members of this house and if that were not my conviction I would despair of the future of this country.

I have followed with all possible interest the discussion that has so far taken place and I believe that the time has come from time to time and particularly within the last two months in the newspaper columns, that the question of a railway commission and, if one is justified in forming any judgment as to what the state and trend of public opinion is upon this question, you would be justified in concluding that the people of Canada are rapidly coming to the opinion that a railway commission would be a very important advance and that they think its working would be

GENERAL THREAT. MILITARY SYSTEM OF BRITAIN ATTACKED BY LORD WOLSELEY.

Bad for China If She Accepts Russia's Dictation. POWERS APPEALED TO. Russia Demands Ratification of Manchurian Agreement, and the Chinese Government Has Asked Its Ministers to Secure Interposition.

Complaint of Civilian Rule in the War Office—Says Soldiers Do Not Like It—The Marquis of Lansdowne Said Wolseley Did Not Understand His Duties.

London, March 5.—"Russia having demanded a promise of the ratification of the Manchurian agreement by Emperor Kwang Su, the Chinese government wired its ministers asking for interposition," says the Pekin correspondent of the Morning Post. "Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Austria-Hungary, and Japan have threatened to take action against China if she permits Russia's dictation."

The Washington government, which is most friendly to Russia, has endeavored to forge a protectorate over Manchuria as a preventive of encroachments by other powers leading to the disintegration of China. Lord Wolseley (the former commander-in-chief of the forces) for two or three years has been working hard and has found wanting, and which entails many great dangers not realized by the people of this realm."

London, March 4.—The Duke of Bedford in the House of Lords today started a discussion of army matters by asking for information on the military administration and the war office. Lord Wolseley (the former commander-in-chief of the forces) for two or three years has been working hard and has found wanting, and which entails many great dangers not realized by the people of this realm."

Sydney, N. S., March 4.—(Special).—Dan Sloan, of Westville, was shot and seriously wounded at Donnybrook by a Chinaman on Saturday night. Sloan and a chum had been molesting the Chinaman. When the windows of his laundry had been smashed in the Chinaman became enraged and fired two shots, one of which entered Sloan's thigh and came out at the groin, making a dangerous wound. The Chinaman has not yet been arrested.

attended with good results. I believe that to be the state of public opinion. I am not in a position to say whether that opinion is founded upon good reason, or whether it is founded upon a sufficient ground or not.

About the Commission. I am inclined to think that a great many of the most earnest and active and vigorous advocates of a railway commission are led to conclude that it will be a guarantee for all of the evils upon which which are not sufficient. I have heard during this discussion, gentlemen, specifying their grievances, the grievances that are complained of in different sections of the dominion and the grievances which they have mentioned which are not sufficient. I have heard during this discussion, gentlemen, specifying their grievances, the grievances that are complained of in different sections of the dominion and the grievances which they have mentioned which are not sufficient.

South Africa. System, Rather Than Commanders, Blamed for De Wet's Escape. London, March 4.—A dispatch from General Kitchener, dated Pretoria, March 4, says: "De Wet was moving on Philippolis (Orange River Colony), was headed by our troops and is now marching on Fauresmith (about 40 miles north of Philippolis)."

Edward Wheary Dead. Dorchester Convict Who Murdered His Brother's Wife. Fredericton, March 4 (Special).—Word has been received here of the death of Edward M. Wheary at Dorchester penitentiary. Wheary was the murderer of his brother's wife eight years ago, and was sentenced to Dorchester for life. (Edward M. Wheary was a colored man and was tried eight years ago by Justice Barker. He killed his first-in-law with an axe during the absence of the husband. The late Wesley Vanwert defended the prisoner. Fredericton, March 4.—(Special).—The Valentine Stock Company opened a four nights' engagement this evening, playing Capt. Letterblair. They drew a crowded house.