

# The Centre Reporter

Centre Hall, Pa.

A BLOW TO TIPPING.

The tipping evil has been dealt a crushing blow in the place where above all others, it has flourished rampantly in this country. In New York, where every personal service, no matter how slight and well paid for, calls for a gratuity, the discovery has been made that the real beneficiary is not always the person the gift is intended for, but a kind of small trust which has been formed to rake in this easy money. In many places of public resort in New York, free checkrooms are provided. From the majority of those whom he serves each check boy receives a tip. A concern came to the front not long ago and contracted with the proprietors of many of these places to take charge of the check rooms. The rest was easy, says the Cleveland Leader. The boys were paid two or four dollars a week for their work, and ordered to turn in all their tips. They were provided with pocketless uniforms and were under the eye of other employes, who acted as cashiers and monitors. Each boy was expected to collect at least five dollars a day. Of course, now these checkrooms will have to go. But New York and all the rest of the country has again had its attention drawn to the fact that tipping is a European custom, born of servile conditions and entirely out of harmony with American pride, self-respect and independence.

According to figures prepared by the coroner's office, 185 homicides occurred in this city in 1910. One hundred and eight persons were shot to death and practically all the other killings were due to the tolerance with which the public looks on the vicious habit of carrying concealed weapons, says the New York Tribune. It is a melancholy fact that the restrictions placed on the sale and use of deadly weapons are practically nil in effect. Any purchaser with the price can arm himself with a revolver, the favorite tool of the criminal about to commit a burglary or other crime of violence, and of the paranoiac about to resent an imaginary grievance. Instead of compelling the buyer to show a license, present references of good character and otherwise establish his responsibility, the community permits him to equip himself and roam at large as a potential taker of life.

Reports from the Cooper hospital in Camden give surprisingly gratifying results in the treatment of tetanus. Within the past month, it is said, three patients who had genuine cases of lockjaw had been cured. Two of these were children and the other a man of forty-four. In the latter case the disease had reached the state where the man's jaws were locked and his whole nervous system was temporarily paralyzed, says the Philadelphia Inquirer. The treatment used is an anti-tetanic serum which is said to act very quickly and leave no harmful results. This disease is one that has baffled medical science for centuries and if a specific has been discovered one of the most insidious and most serious menaces of life has been overcome. It has been often said that medical science is not progressing with the same rapidity as its allied branch, surgery, but there seems reason for believing that experimentation will in the next decade or so work wonders in this line.

A legislator in Missouri proposes a fine for the railroad station agent who refuses to answer the questions which the traveling public may fire at him. This increases the probability that the hurried inquirer may promptly learn that the six o'clock train leaves at 5:50.

The Minneapolis woman who got a divorce because her husband darned and mended on the lawn in front of the house, disclosed another advantage of sex. No husband will have the hardihood or disposition to get a divorce because his wife does that.

The latest stunt of aviation is the herding of cattle with an aeroplane. Before long, possibly, we shall be raising a winged-breed of cattle, and with hanging prairies for pastures and aerial cowboys the land will be left to the sharks of finance.

Dame Fashion has decreed that woman in the future must wear nothing but her own hair. Just watch the dear girls arise as one and proclaim loudly unto the world: "Every bit of this hair is my own!" O rats, puffs and switches!

New York to Berlin by rail over the Bering sea route is the latest project. By the time it is completed there will be plenty of aeroplanes flitting ether and yon across the deep.

Perhaps even the Atchison man who says he is so poor that he couldn't buy a round of ammunition for an airgun can tell the make of an automobile as far as he can see it.

# FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

Information and Gossip at Harrisburg.

## DOINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Brief Mention of Matters as They Occur at the State Capital Official and Otherwise.

### Capitol Hill Notes.

The Labor and Industry Committees of the House decided to consider the Dunn employers' liability bill. The House Ways and Means Committee heard Wilmer Crow, of Harrisburg, president of the Pennsylvania Retail Merchants' Association, urge repeal of the mercantile tax law, on the ground that it is burdensome.

The Senate adopted a resolution presented by Mr. Vare, of Philadelphia, some time ago providing for the appointment of a commission of five to investigate the system of recording real estate as carried on in other States, with a view of improving the system in Pennsylvania. The resolution was sent to the House for action.

The National Government is asked to further assist the States in the matter of industrial education in a resolution presented in the Senate by State Senator Ernest L. Tustin, of Philadelphia. The resolution provides that Congress be petitioned to appropriate annually to each State and Territory one dollar per head of the population of each State and Territory for the purpose of establishing, maintaining and extending in the elementary and secondary schools, practical, industrial and vocational training.

The measure known as the Capitol Park bill, providing for the purchase of twenty-eight acres of land east of the Capitol from the Pennsylvania Railroad was passed finally by the Senate by a vote of 34 to 6. The bill provides that the ground shall be purchased for \$2,000,000, not more than \$400,000 to be expended in any one year, unless the condition of the State Treasury shall permit a larger expenditure.

A bill which will require all dealers in cigarettes, cigarette paper and cigarette tobacco to take out licenses was presented in the House by Mr. Matt, Bedford. It also prohibits wholesalers from selling to unlicensed dealers. Violation of the act is made a misdemeanor punishable by fine of not more than \$500.

### \$50,000,000 Bonds For Roads Alone

Governor Tener has served notice that the \$50,000,000 bond issue attached to the Sproul good roads bill will not be available for any other purpose than the construction and maintenance of the new highway system embodied in the bill. It was anticipated that several amendments would be offered which would permit the canals and waterways of the State to share in the bond issue and thereby curtail the power of the Highway Department in carrying out the work suggested by the Sproul bill. The governor has forestalled any such movement by declaring that such amendments would defeat the true purpose and spirit of the bill and leave the roads question in the same position it has been. Any movement, therefore, to secure funds for the improvement of canal and waterways will have to stand on its own feet. The sub-committees of the two Legislative Committees on Public Roads, which have under consideration the suggestions for changes in the routes carried in the Sproul bill, will complete their work this week, and it is the hope to have the bill reported back to the House within ten days. The number of changes suggested has been less than expected.

### Ask \$100,000,000 Of State.

Bills calling for appropriations of more than \$100,000,000 of State money in the next two years are in the hands of the Appropriation Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives and a tremendous cutting will have to be made. The House committee, which has bills aggregating \$87,250,000, has already begun to prune. Hearings will be held almost daily and nightly this week at the Capitol. It is the intention of the Appropriation Committee to hold appropriations within the limits of the prospective revenue.

### BILLS PASSED.

The House passed finally the following bills:

Regulating sale or offering for sale of shares of stock in mining companies.

Prohibiting obstruction of drains by butchers' offal, under penalty of fine of \$100 to \$500.

The bill providing that electrocution shall be the means of inflicting the death penalty, and it will be sent to the Senate. This measure was amended in the Appropriation Committee to carry \$7,000 appropriation for the appliances.

Enlarging powers of constables in serving summonses.

Establishing a system of municipal liens in boroughs.

Requiring Aldermen and Justices to file transcripts of judgments at office of Prothonotaries within ten days of rendition.

## SIGNED BIG POSTAL CONTRACT

Printing of Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers—A Saving of \$297,880.

Washington, D. C.—By affixing his signature to the contract for the manufacture and printing of stamped envelopes and stamped newspaper wrappers Postmaster General Hitchcock put an end for at least four years from July 1 next to a contest that has waged intermittently for more than a quarter of a century.

The contract is made by the Postoffice Department with Myron C. Taylor, president of the Mercantile Corporation, of New York city, and calls for the delivery to the government of such stamped envelopes and stamped newspaper wrappers as it may require during the next four years. The Mercantile Corporation is the present contractor, but the prices to be paid by the government for the supplies during the next four years will effect a saving of \$297,880, based upon the number of envelopes and wrappers used in 1910.

During the last fiscal year 40,000,000 wrappers and 1,500,000,000 envelopes were supplied to the government. The selling value of the stamped envelopes was \$30,287,580, the postage or stamp value was \$28,271,240, leaving for cost of manufacture and distribution \$2,016,340. The contract cost of manufacture was \$1,277,329, leaving the cost of distribution by the government \$739,010. In addition the stamped envelopes are entitled, according to the figures of the Postoffice Department to a credit of nearly \$100,000 a year, which represents the cost of adhesive stamps, which would be used if stamped envelopes were not supplied.

### EXPLOSIONS WRECK VILLAGE

Chicago Thought There Had Been An Earthquake.

Chicago. — An explosion that wrecked the plant of the Laffin-Rand Powder Company, in Pleasant Prairie, Wis., caused the loss of at least one life, destroyed the town in which it was situated and created a vibration that was felt for a radius of 50 miles. The property loss is estimated at \$1,500,000.

Chicago was shaken from its most western suburbs to the shore of Lake Michigan and from North End to South End. Belief that an earthquake had been experienced was almost universal for a time. Windows were shattered and houses shaken throughout the 30 miles of Chicago's length.

Although Pleasant Prairie is six miles west of Kenosha, which is 60 miles due north from Chicago, the concussion was heard and the vibrations felt not only in all parts of this city but at Indian Harbor and other points 20 miles south and southwest of here.

People in the county building in this city felt the huge granite structure shake and many of them ran to the street, fearing either an earthquake or that the building had been shaken by some explosion.

### BALLINGER IS OUT AT LAST

President Taft Accepts His Resignation.

Washington, D. C.—Richard A. Ballinger's resignation as Secretary of the Interior, dated January 19 last, was accepted Tuesday by President Taft, and Walter L. Fisher, a prominent attorney of Chicago, was appointed as his successor, his commission being signed immediately by the President. Mr. Fisher will take office within a few days.

Secretary Ballinger tendered his resignation in a letter on January 19, basing it entirely upon the condition of his health. The President replied at once, expressing his confidence in Secretary Ballinger; his reluctance to accept his resignation, and requested the Secretary to remain in office until the close of the session of Congress.

### WATER IN BUTTER

Officials to Watch for Violations of the Law.

Washington, D. C.—Makers of butter, who "accidentally" work more water into their product than the law allows, will, after May 1, encounter the strong arm of the law. Commissioner Cabell, of the Internal Revenue Bureau, with the approval of Secretary MacVeagh, having instructed all his internal revenue collectors to watch for such violations. Water weighs heavily in a pound of butter, but the law allows 16 per cent.

For several years the Department of Agriculture has superintended the packing of hundreds of thousands of pounds of butter for the Navy where not more than 13 per cent. moisture is allowed.

### Shamed By Harem Skirt.

Rome.—The harem skirt is directly responsible for the death of one of the most prominent men of this city. The victim was Major Rossi, a high municipal functionary, who committed suicide. His friends announce that he ended his life because he was filled with shame and disgust because his two daughters, aged 23 and 19, respectively, adopted the trousers skirt as a part of their everyday costumes.

## NOW THE 17-YEAR LOCUST NIGHTMARE



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## CHAIN GUARD ALONG BORDER

Taft Admits the Real Purpose of the Mobilization.

### U. S. WOULD END REVOLUTION.

Forces Sent to Form a Solid Military Wall Along the Rio Grande to Stop Filibustering and Smuggling.

#### Purpose of America's Warlike Move.

The mobilization of 20,000 troops on the border and the assembling of battleships within firing distance of Mexico, it was announced from President Taft's special train, are movements designed by the Administration to crush the rebellion in Mexico.

United States troops have been sent to form a solid military wall along the Rio Grande to stop filibustering, to see that there is no further smuggling of arms and men and to be in readiness to cross the boundary to secure these results if deemed necessary.

It was said the sudden move was the result either of unofficial representations of foreign governments regarding the situation in Mexico or the intimation that several of the European powers, were sounding each other as to the desirability of making representations to the United States at an early date.

It was said that the matter was put up to America in such a way as to call for the quickest action, if the Monroe doctrine was to be maintained.

It is estimated that the cost of operations on the border will prompt President Taft to ask Congress for an emergency fund at the opening of the special session.

Washington, D. C.—That the Administration has decided to dissemble no longer its reasons for the sudden and unprecedented movement of troops to the Mexican border, is indicated by the following statement:

"All doubt as to the purpose of the government in sending 20,000 troops to the Mexican border has at last been swept away. The United States has determined that the revolution in the republic to the south must end. The American troops have been sent to form a solid military wall along the Rio Grande to stop filibustering and to see that there is no further smuggling of arms and men across the international boundary.

"It is believed that with this source of contraband supplies cut off, the insurrectionary movement, which has disturbed conditions generally for nearly a year without accomplishing anything like the formation of a responsible independent government will speedily come to a close.

"There is a general belief that the rapid movement of troops into Texas and Southern California will so speedily accomplish its purpose that the net results in the end will constitute a valuable lesson in quick mobilization of an effective fighting force that will prove a revelation to the country at large, to the critics of the army in particular and a justification of the diplomatically worded ex-

#### A Place for Tawney.

Washington, D. C.—The international joint commission to define and regulate the boundary waters between the United States and Canada, will be made up of former Representative James A. Tawney, of Minnesota, chairman; former Senator Thomas A. Carter, of Montana, and Frank S. Streeter, Republican national committeeman from New Hampshire. The commission is to exist under a treaty of May 13, 1910. The Canadian members have not yet been named.

planations that have been given out from official sources in Washington.

"The Washington government unexpectedly found itself confronted by the necessity of throwing an army along the border line of Mexico to stop the source of supply to the revolutionists and to be in a position to invade Mexico at a moment's notice in the event of the death of President Diaz or any other untoward circumstance which might precipitate general fighting or rioting.

"It was represented at the State Department that the United States must act and act quickly if the Monroe doctrine was to be maintained. Foreign interests in Mexico naturally look to the United States for protection under that doctrine.

"Just what part the Diaz government has played in recent events has not yet been disclosed. From time to time protests have been made to Washington regarding the violation of the neutrality laws along the border. Such protests, however, would not ordinarily call out such a force as has been rushed toward Texas and the Mexican frontier.

"There is no telling, at this time, how long the big army sent to the Mexican frontier will have to remain there. It will not be withdrawn until the revolution has been crushed out and until conditions in Mexico are much more stable than they now are believed to be.

"The peninsula of Lower California occupies a position of great strategic importance to the United States. That commands Magdalena Bay. If lawlessness and disorder should become the rule there and Mexico should be unable to prevent the formation of a new republic, it is not beyond the range of possibility that the United States would undertake to maintain order, as it has done in the past in Cuba.

"The Administration desires to be ready for this emergency. Hence, the sending of war vessels to San Diego.

"These, in the main, are reasons for the great military movement that has caused the world to wonder. It can be stated, however, with emphasis, that the government has no information to the effect that serious trouble in Mexico is likely to break out at once. If it should, President Taft would not be going off for a vacation. Mr. Dickinson, Secretary of War, would not be planning a trip to Panama, and Mr. Knox, Secretary of State, would be at his desk in the State Department."

## AMERICANS MADE PRISONERS

Thirty-Six Taken in Defeat of Insurrectos—Four Are Killed in Battle.

El Paso, Tex.—A message from Casas Grandes, Mex., gives particulars of the disastrous defeat suffered by the insurrecto force under Provisional President Francisco I. Madero. The battle was fought near Casas Grandes, and resulted, according to the dispatch, in the retreat of the insurrectos, after a loss of 200 killed and wounded, 300 saddle horses, machine guns and 12 wagon loads of supplies and ammunition.

Thirty-six Americans, fighting with the insurrectos, were taken prisoners. The Americans were in the front of the battle, and four of them were found dead in one heap. The insurrectos stood up under a cannonading for 12 hours before they retreated. Col. Samuel Garcia Guellar, of President Diaz's staff, commanded the Federal forces.

To offset this hard blow to the insurrectos the official report of Gen. Luis Torres, military commander of the region around Coral, Sonora, shows a severe defeat of the Federal forces under Gen. Lorenzo Torres at Cumuripa Monday.

#### No Massacre of Jews.

Washington, D. C.—Recent rumors that a number of Jews had been massacred at Kiev are untrue, according to a cablegram received by the State Department from the American Consul at Odessa, Russia. The consul said that there was no foundation for the report and that all was quiet in the vicinity of Kiev. The consul's report was made in reply to a cabled inquiry from the State Department, which was sent at the solicitation of a number of prominent Jews in this country.

## OVER A BILLION CONGRESS SPENT

Tawney Gives Aggregate of Appropriations.

### CREATION OF ONE COMMITTEE

Statement by Chairman of Recent Appropriations Committee and Representative Livingston, Democratic Member.

Washington, D. C.—Appropriations at the last session of Congress aggregated \$1,025,489,662, according to the statements issued by former Representative Tawney, of Minnesota, and Livingston, of Georgia, who were respectively chairman and ranking Democrat of the House Appropriations Committee in the last Congress. Mr. Tawney says this is less than \$1,000,000 in excess of the total estimates of President Taft, on which the appropriations are based, says high tribute to the executive for good faith in scrutinizing estimates and computes that the surplus of revenues next year will be not less than \$26,542,000, which with any part of the Treasury cash balance may be applied to the sinking fund.

Against this Mr. Livingston says the last session's record demonstrated that until the Democratic party comes into complete control of the government "this billion-dollar mark for a session's appropriations, established four years ago at the session of the Sixtieth Congress, cannot substantially be lowered, if lowered at all."

#### Would Have One Committee.

Mr. Tawney renews his recommendation for the consolidation of the appropriating jurisdiction of the House under a single committee of sufficient size to be representative of all sections of the country and of all branches of the public service. Eight committees now consider and report appropriation bills, and Mr. Tawney says no reform is more important. The Committee on Appropriations, which reports more than half of the total appropriations of Congress, reported during the first regular session of the last Congress \$16,393,925 less than the estimates, while the appropriations by all the other appropriating committees, according to Mr. Tawney, were \$27,931,402 in excess of the estimates. Mr. Tawney claims that if this consolidating reform had been effected it would have saved \$62,000,000 at that session alone.

Mr. Tawney says one of the evils incident to this divided appropriation jurisdiction is the practice of making appropriations immediately available, large portions of many appropriation bills being in fact, designed to cover up deficiencies in the preceding year. He points out that the aggregate for the past session, which includes \$4,000,000 for the Appalachian forest reserve, is \$2,500,000 less than the aggregate for the preceding session of Congress and at the aggregate the entire last Congress, which exact aggregate is not given in his statement, is an increase of \$600,000 over the preceding Congress.

#### Six Billion in Six Six Years.

Mr. Tawney says that in the six years of his chairmanship of the Appropriations Committee the estimates have amounted to \$6,061,257,132, of which Congress granted all but \$165,662,264.

Declaring that the Democrats want to save the people of the country from the danger which threatens them because of the rampant expenditure of their money that has been going on for the past 12 years, Mr. Livingston, in his statement, contends that militiamism is a menace and that Democratic accession will prevent national bankruptcy. He says it is a superhuman task to restore expenditures to a normal level, because of the enormous liability fastened upon the Treasury by the statutory increase on the enlisted strength of the Army and Navy fourfold since Mr. Roosevelt was so unhapily called to the executive office of the Republic.

#### Sophie Kritchman insane.

Hartford, Ct.—Sophie Kritchman, the young Union City music teacher confined in state prison for manslaughter, has been adjudged insane, and, on order of Governor Baldwin, has been transferred to the Connecticut Hospital for the Insane, at Middletown. She was tried jointly with Joseph Mitchell for the killing of Bronislaw Fulvinski, near Union City, in September, 1909, and was found guilty of manslaughter, the verdict against Mitchell being second degree murder.

#### \$1,000,000 Storm Damage.

Los Angeles, Cal.—With the exception of the Southern Pacific Coast Line, which will be out of commission for several days from washouts and weakened bridges, the railroads running into Los Angeles have not suffered serious interruption from the recent storm. In Santa Barbara county more than 1,000 acres of rich bottom land was washed into the sea by the Santa Maria River. The damage has been estimated at \$1,000,000.