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County Attorneys—George H. Warden, C. Gregg and S. V. Shields.
County Surveyor—Roy S. Braden.
County Superintendent—J. O. Carson.

Regular Terms of Court.

Fourth Monday of February.
 Third Monday of May.
 Fourth Monday of September.
 Third Monday of November.
 Regular Meetings of County Commissioners 1st and 3d Tuesdays of month.

Church and Sabbath School.

Presbyterian Sabbath School at 9:45 a.m.; M. E. Sabbath School at 10:00 a.m. Preaching in M. E. Church every Sabbath morning by Rev. W. S. Burton. Preaching in the E. M. Church every Sabbath evening at the usual hour, Rev. G. A. Garrett, Pastor. Preaching in the Presbyterian church every Sabbath at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Rev. H. A. Bailey, Pastor. The regular meetings of the W. C. T. U. are held at the headquarters on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

TIONESTA LODGE, No. 369, I. O. O. F. Meets every Tuesday evening, in Odd Fellows Hall, Partridge building.

CAPT. GEORGE STOW POST, No. 274 G. A. R. Meets 1st Tuesday afternoon of each month at 8 o'clock.

CAPT. GEORGE STOW CORPS, No. 127, W. R. C. meets first and third Wednesday evening of each month.

T. F. RITCHIEY, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Tionesta, Pa.

M. A. CARRINGER, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW, Office over Post at County National Bank Building, TIONESTA, PA.

CURTIS M. SHAWKEY, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Warren, Pa. Practice in Forest Co.

A. C. BROWN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Office in Arner Building, Cor. Elm and Bridge Sts., Tionesta, Pa.

FRANK S. HUNTER, D. D. S. Rooms over Citizens Nat. Bank, TIONESTA, PA.

DR. F. J. BOVARD, Physician & Surgeon, TIONESTA, PA. Eyes Tested and Glasses Fitted.

DR. J. B. SIGGINS, Physician and Surgeon, OIL CITY, PA.

DR. M. W. EASTON, OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN, of Oil City. Please visit Tionesta every Wednesday. See him at the Central House. Setting bones and treatment of nervous and chronic diseases a specialty. Greatest success in all kinds of chronic diseases.

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TAFT SENDS IN FINAL MESSAGE

President Starts With Discussion of Foreign Relations.

WORK DONE BY DIPLOMATS.

Recognition of Merit System Has Been Beneficial — Suggestions Regarding Changes in the Tariff Laws Designed to Aid Commerce—Turkish War and Troubles in China.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The foreign relations of the United States actually and potentially affect the state of the Union to a degree not widely realized and hardly surpassed by any other factor in the welfare of the whole nation. The position of the United States in the moral, intellectual and material relations of the family of nations should be a matter of vital interest to every patriotic citizen. The national prosperity and power impose upon us duties which we cannot shirk if we are to be true to our ideals.

The tremendous growth of the export trade of the United States has already made that trade a very real factor in the industrial and commercial prosperity of the country. With the development of our industries the foreign commerce of the United States must rapidly become a still more essential factor in its economic welfare.

The relations of the United States with all foreign powers remain upon a sound basis of peace, harmony and friendship. A greater insistence upon justice to American citizens or interests wherever it may have been denied and a stronger emphasis of the need of mutuality in commercial and other relations have only served to strengthen our friendship with foreign countries by placing those friendships upon a firm foundation of realities as well as aspirations.

Reorganization of State Department.

At the beginning of the present administration the United States, having fully entered upon its position as a world power, with the responsibilities thrust upon it by the results of the Spanish-American war and already engaged in laying the groundwork of a vast foreign trade upon which it should one day become more and more dependent, found itself without the machinery for giving thorough attention to and taking effective action upon a mass of intricate business vital to American interests in every country in the world.

The department of state was an archaic and inadequate machine, lacking most of the attributes of the foreign office of any great modern power. With an appropriation made upon my recommendation by the congress of Aug. 5, 1909, the department of state was completely reorganized. There were created divisions of Latin-American affairs and of far eastern, near eastern and western European affairs.

The law offices of the department were greatly strengthened. There were added foreign trade advisers to co-operate with the diplomatic and consular bureaus and the politico-geographical divisions in the innumerable matters where commercial diplomacy or consular work calls for such special knowledge. The same officers, together with the rest of the new organization, are able at all times to give to American citizens accurate information as to conditions in foreign countries with which they have business and likewise to co-operate more effectively with the congress and also with the other executive departments.

Merit System in Consular and Diplomatic Corps.

Expert knowledge and professional training must evidently be the essence of this reorganization. Without a trained foreign service there would not be men available for the work in the reorganized department of state. President Cleveland had taken the first step toward introducing the merit system in the foreign service. That had been followed by the application of the merit principle, with excellent results to the entire consular branch. Almost nothing, however, had been done in this direction with regard to the diplomatic service. In this age of commercial diplomacy it was evident of the first importance to train an adequate personnel in that branch of the service.

Therefore, on Nov. 26, 1909, by an executive order I placed the diplomatic service up to the grade of secretary of embassy, inclusive, upon exactly the same strict nonpartisan basis of the merit system, rigid examination for appointment and promotion only for efficiency, as had been maintained without exception in the consular service.

Merit and Nonpartisan Character of Appointments.

How faithful to the merit system and how nonpartisan has been the conduct of the diplomatic and consular services in the last four years may be judged from the following: Three ambassadors now serving held their present rank at the beginning of my administration. Of the ten ambassadors whom I have appointed five were by promotion from the rank of minister. Nine ministers now serving held their present rank at the beginning of the administration. Of the thirty ministers whom I have appointed, eleven were

promoted from the lower grades of the foreign service or from the department of state. Of the nineteen missions in Latin America, where our relations are close and our interest is great, fifteen chiefs of mission are service men, three having entered the service during this administration.

The thirty-seven secretaries of embassy or legation who have received their initial appointments after passing successfully the required examination were chosen for ascertained fitness, without regard to political affiliations.

A dearth of candidates from southern and western states has alone made it impossible thus far completely to equalize all the states' representations in the foreign service. In the effort to equalize the representation of the various states in the consular service I have made sixteen of the twenty-nine new appointments as consul which have occurred during my administration.

The same policy of promoting international accord among the powers having similar treaty rights as ourselves in the matter of reform is being pursued by the department of state in the administration of the loan desired by China for the reform of its currency. The principle of international co-operation in matters of common interest upon which our policy had already been based in all of the above instances has admittedly been a great factor in that concert of the powers which has been so happily conspicuous during the perilous period of transition through which the great Chinese nation has been passing.

Central America Needs Our Help in Debt Adjustment.

In Central America the aim has been to help such countries as Nicaragua and Honduras to help themselves. They are the immediate beneficiaries. The national benefit to the United States is twofold.

First, it is obvious that the Monroe doctrine is more vital in the neighborhood of the Panama canal and the zone of the Caribbean than anywhere else. There, too, the maintenance of that doctrine fails most heavily upon the United States. It is therefore apparent that the countries within that sphere shall be removed from the jeopardy involved by heavy foreign debt and chaotic national finances and from the ever present danger of international complications due to disorder at home.

Hence the United States has been glad to encourage and support American bankers who were willing to lend a helping hand to the financial rehabilitation of such countries because this financial rehabilitation and the protection of their custom houses from being the prey of would be dictators would remove at one stroke the menace of foreign creditors and the menace of revolutionary disorder.

I wish to call your especial attention to the recent occurrences in Nicaragua, for I believe the terrible events recorded there during the revolution of the past summer—the useless loss of life, the devastation of property, the bombardment of defenseless cities, the killing and wounding of women and children, the torturing of noncombatants to exact contributions and the suffering of thousands of human beings—might have been averted had the department of state, through the adjustment of the tariff law, been fully justified by the success achieved in removing previously existing undue discriminations against American products, yet experience has shown that this feature of the law should be amended in such way as to provide a fully effective means of meeting the varying degrees of discriminatory treatment of American commerce in foreign countries still encountered, as well as to protect against injurious treatment on the part of foreign governments through either legislative or administrative measures the financial interests abroad of American citizens whose enterprises enlarge the market for American commodities.

I am too strongly recommend to the congress the passage of some such enabling measure as the bill which was recommended by the secretary of state in his letter of Dec. 13, 1911. The object of the proposed legislation is, briefly, to enable the executive to apply, as the case may require, to any or all commodities, whether or not on the free list from a country which discriminates against the United States, a graduated scale of duties of up to the maximum of 25 per cent ad valorem in the present law.

For two years revolution and counter revolution have distraught the neighboring republic of Mexico. Brigandage has involved a great deal of depreciation upon foreign interests. There have constantly recurred questions of extreme delicacy. On several occasions very difficult situations have arisen on our frontier. Throughout this trying period the policy of the United States has been one of patient noninterference, steadfast recognition of constitutional authority in the neighboring nation and the exertion of every effort to care for American interests. I profoundly hope that the Mexican nation may soon resume the path of order, prosperity and progress. To that nation in its sore troubles the sympathetic friendship of the United States has been demonstrated to a high degree.

There were in Mexico at the beginning of the revolution some 30,000 or 40,000 American citizens engaged in enterprises contributing greatly to the prosperity of that republic and also benefiting the important trade between the two countries. The investments of the Argentine Republic, Brazil, and the United States between Peru and Ecuador, the bringing of the boundary dispute between Panama and Costa Rica to peaceful arbitration; the staying of warlike preparations when Haiti and the Dominican Republic were on the verge of hostilities; the stopping of a war in Nicaragua; the halting of internecine strife in Honduras.

The government of the United States was thanked for its influence toward the restoration of amicable relations between the Argentine Republic and Bolivia. The diplomacy of the United States is active in seeking to assuage the remaining ill feeling between this country and the republic of Colombia. In the recent civil war in China the United States successfully joined with the other interested powers in urging an early cessation of hostilities. An agreement has been reached between the governments of Chile and Peru whereby the celebrated Tacna-Arica dispute, which has so long embittered international relations on the west coast of South America, has at last been adjusted. Simultaneously came the news that the boundary dispute between Peru and Ecuador had entered upon a stage of amicable settlement.

China is the policy of encouraging financial investment to enable that country to help itself has had the result of giving new life and practical application to the open door policy. The consistent purpose of the present administration has been to encourage the use of American capital in the development of China by the promotion of those essential reforms to which China is pledged by treaties with the United States and other powers.

The hypothesis to foreign bankers

concern of vital importance to this nation.

No evidence of prosperity among well established farmers should blind us to the fact that lack of capital is preventing a development of the nation's agricultural resources and an adequate increase of the land under cultivation; that agricultural production is fast falling behind the increase in population and that, in fact, although these well established farmers are maintained in increasing prosperity because of the natural increase in population, we are not developing the industry of agriculture.

Advantage of Maximum and Minimum Tariff Provision.

The importance which our manufacturers have assumed in the commerce of the world in competition with the manufacturers of other countries again draws attention to the duty of this government to use its utmost endeavors to secure impartial treatment for American products in all markets. Healthy commercial rivalry in international intercourse is best assured by the possession of proper means protecting and promoting our foreign trade. It is natural that competitive countries should view with some concern this steady expansion of our commerce. If some instances the measures taken by them to meet it are not entirely equitable a remedy should be found.

In former messages I have described the negotiations of the department of state with foreign governments for the adjustment of the maximum and minimum provision of the tariff law as provided in section 2 of the tariff law of 1909. The advantages secured by the adjustment of our trade relations under this law have continued during the last year, and some additional cases of discriminatory treatment of which we had reason to complain have been removed. The department of state has for the first time in the history of this country obtained substantial most-favored-nation treatment from all the countries of the world.

There are, however, other instances which, while apparently not constituting undue discrimination in the sense of section 2, are nevertheless exceptions to the complete equity of tariff treatment for American products that the department of state consistently has sought to obtain for American commerce abroad.

Necessity For Supplementary Legislation.

These developments confirm the opinion conveyed to you in my annual message of 1911, that while the maximum and minimum provision of the tariff law of 1909 has been fully justified by the success achieved in removing previously existing undue discriminations against American products, yet experience has shown that this feature of the law should be amended in such way as to provide a fully effective means of meeting the varying degrees of discriminatory treatment of American commerce in foreign countries still encountered, as well as to protect against injurious treatment on the part of foreign governments through either legislative or administrative measures the financial interests abroad of American citizens whose enterprises enlarge the market for American commodities.

I wish to congratulate the officers and men of the United States navy and marine corps who took part in re-establishing order in Nicaragua upon their splendid conduct and to record with sorrow the death of seven American marines and bluejackets. Since the success achieved in removing previously existing undue discriminations against American products, yet experience has shown that this feature of the law should be amended in such way as to provide a fully effective means of meeting the varying degrees of discriminatory treatment of American commerce in foreign countries still encountered, as well as to protect against injurious treatment on the part of foreign governments through either legislative or administrative measures the financial interests abroad of American citizens whose enterprises enlarge the market for American commodities.

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Flat tariffs are out of date. Nations no longer accord equal tariff treatment to all other nations irrespective of the treatment from them received. Such a flexible power at the command of the executive would serve to moderate any unfavorable tendencies on the part of those countries from which the imports into the United States are substantially confined to articles on the free list as well as of the countries which find a lucrative market in the United States for their products under existing custom rates. It is very necessary that the American government should be equipped with weapons of negotiation adopted to modern economic conditions in order that we may at all times be in a position to gain not only technically just but actually equitable treatment for our trade and also for American enterprises and vested interests abroad.

There were in Mexico at the beginning of the revolution some 30,000 or 40,000 American citizens engaged in enterprises contributing greatly to the prosperity of that republic and also benefiting the important trade between the two countries. The investments of the Argentine Republic, Brazil, and the United States between Peru and Ecuador have been successfully concluded, and is anticipated that the payment of the old loan and the issuance of the bonds of the 1912 loan for the rehabilitation of the finances of Liberia will follow at an early date, when the new receivership will go into active operation. The new receivership will consist of a general receiver of customs designated by the government of the United States and three receivers of customs designated by the governments of Germany, France and Great Britain, which countries natural those temporary expedients to a people to whom domestic affairs are the sole concern.

In the past our diplomacy has often consisted, in normal times, in a mere assertion of the right to international existence. We are now in a larger relation with broader rights of our own and obligations to others than ourselves. A number of great guiding principles have been laid down early in the history of this government. The recent task of our diplomacy has been to adjust those principles to the conditions of today, to develop our corollaries, to find practical applications of