

What the Nation Expects of Taft

President Defined In by Prominent Persons In the United States.

WHAT is the most important task before the new administration under President Taft? What one great thing should be achieved by the Taft administration?

Following are some of the letters from prominent Americans received by the Christian Herald of New York in answer to its queries as to the most important task confronting President Taft:

UNITED STATES SENATORS.

Revival of Merchant Marine.
By Hon. WILLIAM P. FRYE, President Pro Tempore, U. S. Senate.

I know of no legislation more important for the consideration of congress during the present administration than that providing for the revival of the American merchant marine.

Many Important Tasks.

By Senator GIDEON C. PERKINS of California.

The most important subjects which are likely to be brought forward are old age pensions, public health and tuberculosis legislation, preservation of forests and conservation of natural resources, legislation to safeguard food preparations, greater sanctity of our courts and extension of rural free delivery.

Attend to Our Own Business.

By Senator A. J. MC LAURIN of Mississippi.

The most important thing for the administration to do is to attend exclusively to executive business and let congress attend to legislating and the courts attend to adjudicating.

Opening Field of Opportunity to All.

By Senator PORTER J. MCCUMBER of North Dakota.

While there are many problems the proper solution of which will advance the material interests of each and every person in his own field of influence, there is one in particular which transcends all others in its scope and importance—the problem of opening and keeping open the field of business opportunity for each and every American citizen.

The work of the Roosevelt administration in protection of industry and against monopoly has been great, the accomplishment great, but the work is not completed. Any cessation of endeavor along this line would lose us all we have gained. This work will not be completed until the rights and duties of great industrial and other corporations have been fixed and determined in such way as to guard every field and avenue of trade and business from the control of monopolies and maintain equal opportunities for the small and the great.

A Federal Incorporation Law.

By Senator JONATHAN BOURNE of Oregon.

The most important tasks before the present administration include everything that will help to bring the controlling forces of society to their legitimate spheres. At present our industrialism is driving us upon the rocks of anarchy or upon the shoals of despotism, through unionism on the one hand and plutocracy on the other. An equitable adjustment between the two forces, which should not need to be believed can be obtained through a federal incorporation law, ought to be the special task of the new administration.

Enforce the Law.

By Senator NORRIS BROWN of Nebraska.

The most important task before the new administration under President Taft is to enforce the law.

Improve Inland Waterways.

By Senator WILLIAM H. MILTON of Florida.

The improvement of the inland waterways is one of the most important tasks before the Taft administration.

CONGRESSMEN.

Develop the Navy.
By Representative RICHMOND PEARSON HOBSON of Alabama.

I believe the development of the American navy to meet the demands of the law of self-preservation and the demands for peace and therefore the opportunity to Christianize the peoples of the earth, particularly those of Asia and more especially the inhabitants of the empire of China, and thereby to avert the conflict toward which the withdrawal of our men from the Orient now points. That is, the conflict between the yellow race and the white race—is a task exceeding in importance any other that the new administration will have to meet.

Work for Peace.

By Representative RICHARD BARTHOLT of Missouri.

President Taft can make himself immune if during his administration he should resort to arbitration, and thereby which differences between nations will be settled by judicial decision instead of by war. A good start has been made, and if present arbitration treaties are still further extended the era of bloody war will soon be past.

Revise the Tariff.

By Representative FRANCIS BURTON HARRISON of New York.

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BUSINESS AND LABOR.

Harmonize Capital and Labor.
By HENRY CLEWS, Banker, New York.

One of the most vital questions that will confront Mr. Taft will be the strained relations of labor and capital. There is no such question as the right of strike that in the unsettled conditions that have existed during the past two years, labor has been tyrannical and uncompromising. The great mass of the American public has been like oil between two millstones, one of which was labor and the other the trusts, and as usual many were ground exceeding fine.

If Mr. Taft can devise some method of procedure that will bring harmony with Justice, between these opposing forces, which will prove to both that the interests of labor and capital are identical, he will solve the greatest problem now perplexing the American people.

Build Good Country Roads.

By AMZI L. BARBER, Capitalist.
I think that one great thing to be achieved by the administration under Mr. Taft should be the construction and carrying out of a new policy upon the part of the national government by mak-

Immediate Results.

Mrs. Hinney—James, what's that noise? James—"The little Paddy Mulligan pokin' a stick into th' ribs o' Casey's goat. Mrs. Hinney—Ah, he's shot down now! James—No, mother; he's goin' yet. I think he won't shot till he strikes th' house.—Exchange.

A Little Slow.

"How's collections at your church, Brudder Shinn?"

"Well, we ain't neber had to stop in de middle ob a collection to go an' empty de box."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Industry keeps the body healthy, the mind clear, the heart whole, the purse full.—Simmons.

Cheaper.
Servant—Please, sir, missus wants you to send for the plumber, 'cos she's dropped her diamond ring down the bath pipe. Mr. Nurliche—Tell your mistress not to be ridiculous. I'll buy her another diamond ring!—London Mail.

Snow fell in Europe for forty days in 1434.

President Taft's Cabinet Officials

Snappy Side Lights Will Help the Chief the Ship of State.

By JAMES A. EDGERTON.

THE cabinet is not provided for by the constitution, but neither is the flag. The constitution could not look after everything. The cabinet is purely an advisory board and sometimes scarcely that. It depends on the president. Some of our chief executives would listen to advice by the yard and then go ahead and do as they pleased. Others would not even listen and still do as they pleased. Yet cabinets are useful institutions. They are handy to have around as foils when the boss is trying to find out what he wants to do and as goats to take the blame if things go wrong. Every president has had at least one cabinet and some of them two or three. Roosevelt has had his official cabinet, his tennis cabinet and General Leonard Wood.

After March 4 the country will have only one living ex-president, but nobody knows how many ex-cabinet officers. Moreover, nobody cares. The average cabinet officer is an important man while on the job, but not before—or after. He is like the Scriptural wind—we hear the sound thereof, but know not whence he cometh nor whither he goeth. And again, we do not care. So far as the national consciousness is concerned, very many of our cabinet members have emerged from oblivion and to oblivion have returned. Of the cabinet, few return, though unofficially, as that to its stability, but be expansive and safeguarded to meet the growing needs of business.

GOVERNORS OF STATES.

To Preserve Highest Ideals of Government.
By J. O. DAVIDSON, Governor of Wisconsin.

The administration under President Taft should bring back the government to the control of the people wherever they have been deprived of it, provide facilities by which the people may express their desires in the government without ever new activities have been assumed and preserved for and hand over to its successor the unblemished ideal of democracy.

Keep Expenditures Within Income.
By ASHTON C. SHALLENBERGER, Governor of Nebraska.

The most important task for Mr. Taft is to keep the national expenditures within the nation's income and to make a reasonable reduction in the tariff which will be a substantial relief to American people and to induce confidence and the executive to realize that big salaries and excessive expenditures do not buy the best quality of public service.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE.

Regulation of Child Labor.
By WILLIAM ORDWAY PARTRIDGE, Sculptor, New York.

The most important objects for the present administration to direct its energies upon are the regulation of child labor, the extension of civil service reform and the preservation of forests and natural resources.

Uniform Divorce Law.
By Mrs. DONALD MCLEAN, New York.

I consider the uniform divorce law as important as any measure liable to come before the new administration.

Cut Out the Spoils System.
By Dr. DAVID STARR JORDAN, President Leland Stanford Junior University.

The most important thing that the new administration can give is to see the executive and the legislative departments cutting out the spoils system and other forms of graft just as far as may be in everything with which the government has to deal.

Federal Appointments According to Sectional Sentiments.
By CLARK HOWELL, Editor Atlanta Constitution.

The greatest work ahead of the present federal administration is the materialization of the pledge of Mr. Taft, as made repeatedly in his recent southern tour, to make in the matter of federal appointments all sections of the country will be treated with due and reasonable consideration by the national administration and that in appointments for office selections will be made with due regard to the sentiment of communities to be served.

Efficient Insurance Against War.
By HUDSON MAXIM, Inventor, Brooklyn.

The most vital concern to the broad interests of the American people is efficient and impartial arbitration machinery which differences between nations will be settled by judicial decision instead of by war. A good start has been made, and if present arbitration treaties are still further extended the era of bloody war will soon be past.

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ing an appropriation of, say, \$20,000,000 for the building of good country roads in the United States. This appropriation should be made annually and distributed among the several states in proportion to population on condition that the several states accepting their share should provide \$3 in addition to every dollar received from the national government.

Restore Peace to Business.

By THURLOW WOOD BARNS, Author and Capitalist.

The most important task before the Taft administration is to lead the people back to sanity. For the past year the public mind has been demoralized, foolish and disturbed. What we need in this country is to return to the straight and safer methods of our forefathers.

Free Press.

By JOHN MITCHELL, Vice President of the Free Press.

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