

TAFT THE BUILDER

His Directing Hand Has Insured Success of the Mammoth Project.

Raised Wages of Isthmian Laborers by Longevity Order While War Secretary.

The Panama Canal is one of the greatest achievements of any Republican administration.

As Secretary of War, Hon. William H. Taft personally assumed the responsibility of inaugurating the work and systematically shaping up the practical operations until a degree of efficiency has been reached that may well astonish the nations of the earth.

Mr. Taft has applied to this world project and history making enterprise those same qualities of careful, thoughtful investigation, penetrating judgment and absolutely fair dealing, which have made him so signally successful in the performance of all those duties of state which have brought him to the high eminence he now occupies as one of our greatest living Americans.

Must Know Personally.

Like the Philippine project and other great work laid upon him, he has studied the situation at Panama at close range and trusted to no second hand information with which to insure his success. There has been about ninety million dollars expended on the work to date and Mr. Taft has had to approve every dollar of this expenditure. He has not been satisfied with a single visit to the isthmus, but has made the long journey every year so that he might direct the work more economically. The result is that he has changed the situation there from an inhospitable region to a locality where Americans can live in healthful security without the fear of plagues or dread of contagious diseases. The rate of mortality on the isthmus is about the same as it is in our American cities.

Stages of the Work.

Work on the canal has passed through two stages, those of planning and preparation. It is now in the third and final stage, that of construction. Both of the earlier stages required the presence of a large working force, necessarily quartered in temporary and make shift accommodations. Because of these conditions, inevitable at the outset, early critics of the enterprise mistook the initial and temporary outfit for permanent equipment.

Thoroughfare About Labor.

Mr. Taft's chief concern has been the proper care of the laboring man on the isthmus. Under his patient and approved methods the terrible scourge of yellow fever, against which the French struggled in vain, the filthy and pest breeding state of the principal Panamanian towns, the rough labor camps, and other pioneer hardships of the two first years, have been eliminated. He has accomplished these things through the activity of the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Municipal Engineering and the Building Department. To-day we find yellow fever driven from the isthmus, the deadly stegomyia mosquito thus rendered innocuous, malaria and pneumonia greatly reduced and a high average of health prevailing.

Mammoth Construction Project.

President Roosevelt appointed a special commission to examine the Isthmian situation last spring, and it reported Aug. 6, 1908. According to this special report there were at work at the Isthmus April 30, 1908, 26,118 men for the Isthmian Canal Commission and 7,075 at work for the Panama railroad, a total of 33,193 men all told. Housing this industrial army in quick time, with due attention to sanitation and hygiene, was a problem which would have been beyond most men. But Mr. Taft did it successfully.

To keep the machinery and tools in condition, three large machine and repair shops, two shipyards and numerous warehouses are maintained. When we recall that this enormous plant is operated at a distance of 1,382 miles from its nearest base of supply, New Orleans, and 1,975 miles from its main base of supply, New York, we can estimate with more justice and accuracy the magnitude and complications of the undertaking Mr. Taft has conducted so well.

Workingmen Appreciate Taft.

He has succeeded in impressing labor on the isthmus with his kindly interest in its behalf. On this point the special commission's report says: "From the outset we were strongly impressed by the spirit of good will and loyalty of the employees. . . . The general sentiment of the workers was expressed in the words of a mechanic, in one of the conferences which we held with representatives of different trades. Said he: 'We want it understood that we are American citizens and that we are proud to have a share in this great work. We believe the government is treating us right, and we are as much interested to see this thing a success as anyone.' This spirit of loyalty and interest in the work was evidenced on many occasions and should be accounted as an asset of the highest value to the government in the accomplishment of its colossal task."

Taft Raises Wages.

On May 1, 1907, as Secretary of War, Mr. Taft issued a longevity order mak-

ing liberal and appreciable increase in the wages of various classes of workmen, as follows:

"All employes not native to the tropics who occupy the positions herein designated shall be granted the following increases in pay for length of continuous service on the Isthmus: Five per cent of the basic or class rate for the second year, with accumulative addition of three per cent of the basic rate for each subsequent year; provided, however, that such cumulative increase shall not exceed a total of 25c of the basic rate."

In other words, Mr. Taft made it possible for every American laborer on the Isthmus, by remaining there and working, to increase his wages 25 per cent and at the same time have a permanent position. These men also get four weeks' vacation with pay, every year and Mr. Taft favors making the vacation six weeks with pay.

Change Would Be Disastrous.

In the performance of this work the United States is under the scrutiny of the entire world, especially of our neighbors in Central and South America, before whom we must make good our profession of high social and industrial ideals. It would be a national calamity to jeopardize the present liberal progressive policy that is so successfully constructing the Panama Canal. Mr. Taft is the one man to continue this great work to the end.

COUNTRY NEEDS A REPUBLICAN CONGRESS.

President Roosevelt Points Out Importance of Electing Legislators to Support Taft.

President Roosevelt, in a letter to William B. McKinley, chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee, appeals to disinterested citizens to join with the National Republican Committee and the Congressional Committee in a movement to elect William H. Taft as President and a Republican Congress to support him, saying, in part:

"It is urgently necessary, from the standpoint of the public interest, to elect Mr. Taft, and a Republican Congress which will support him; and they seek election on a platform which specifically pledges the party, alike in its executive and legislative branches, to continue and develop the policies which have been not merely introduced, but acted upon during these seven years. These policies can be successfully carried through only by the hearty co-operation of the President and the Congress in both its branches, and it is therefore peculiarly important that there should obtain such harmony between them. To fail to elect Mr. Taft would be a calamity to the country; and it would be folly, while electing him, yet at the same time to elect a Congress hostile to him, a Congress which under the influence of partisan leadership would be certain to thwart and baffle him on every possible occasion. To elect Mr. Taft, and at the same time to elect a Congress pledged to support him, is the only way in which to perpetuate the policy of the government as now carried on. I feel that all the aid that can be given to this policy by every good citizen should be given; for this is far more than a merely partisan matter."

APPEAL TO LOYAL REPUBLICANS

To Middle West and Rocky Mountain States Republicans.

You want Mr. Taft and Mr. Sherman elected and they cannot be elected unless the Republican National Committee has sufficient money to pay the legitimate expenses of the campaign. It costs money to perfect an organization. It requires money to pay for printing, postage, salaries of stenographers and clerks at headquarters, traveling expenses of speakers and numerous other details that go to make the campaign end successfully. Congress, as you know, has passed a law making it unlawful for us to solicit money from corporations. We must depend upon the contributions of individual voters. If every Republican in this Western Division would contribute one dollar to the campaign fund, we will be able to do all the things that the voters want done; we will be able to elect Taft and Sherman. Will you help? If so, please send one dollar to the chairman of your State Finance Committee, whose name appears in the list following, or send it direct to me and you will receive the official receipt of the Republican National Committee.

FRED W. UPHAM, Assistant Treasurer.

Contributions may be sent by check or money order to any of the following named chairmen of the various State finance committees:

Colorado, Whitney Newton, Denver. Idaho, Frank F. Johnson, Wallace. Illinois, Col. Frederick H. Smith, Peoria. Iowa, Hon. Lafayette Smith, Des Moines. Kansas, Frank E. Grimes, Topeka. Michigan, John N. Bagley, Detroit. Missouri, O. L. Whitelaw, 490 North Second street, St. Louis. Montana, Thomas A. Marlow, Helena. Nebraska, John C. Wharton, New York Life building, Omaha. New Mexico, J. W. Reynolds, Santa Fe. North Dakota, James A. Buchanan, Bismarck. Oregon, Dr. H. W. Coe, Portland. South Dakota, O. W. Thompson, Vermillion. Washington, James D. Hoge, Seattle. Or to Fred W. Upham, Assistant Treasurer, 234 Michigan avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

SPEAKING OF ISSUES.

UNCLE SAM'S POLITICAL STORAGE



—From the Philadelphia Press.

TRUE PROPHETS AND FALSE.

HOW TO TEST THEM.

"I will not deny that there may be prophets to-day, but the trouble is to tell the true prophets from the false ones. The Bible says that false prophets will rise. It tells us how to distinguish the false from the true. It says: 'By their fruits ye shall know them.'—William J. Bryan's Speech at Baltimore, Jan. 20, 1900.

BRYAN PROPHECIES.

THE ANSWERS.

"TARIFF WILL CRUSH THE FARMER."

1892, Free Trade.

"Thus in every State, so far as these statistics have been collected, the proportion of home-owning farmers is decreasing and that of tenant farmers is increasing. This means but one thing: It means a land of landlords and tenants, and, backed by the history of every nation that has gone down, I say to you that no people can continue a free people under a free government when the great majority of its citizens are tenants of a small minority."—William J. Bryan; speech on the protective tariff in the National House of Representatives, March 16, 1892.

The Answer in 1908.

The answer is found in the prevailing good prices for grain, corn, hogs, cattle, hay and all the products of the farm, together with the fact that since the date of Candidate Bryan's "crushing" speech, Western farm lands have doubled in value, and thousands of "tenant" farmers of that date have become prosperous home-owners, tilling their own land in peace, happiness and plenty. Under the National Irrigation Act, and the Republican conservation movement, the West is soon to be the intense agricultural and horticultural producing area of the United States.

"GOLD STANDARD WILL DESTROY HOMES."

1890, Free Coinage—16 to 1.

"I reply that, if protection has slain its thousands, the gold standard has slain its tens of thousands."—William J. Bryan; speech at Democratic National Convention, July, 1896.

"The Democratic party has begun a war of extermination against the gold standard. We ask no quarter; we give no quarter. We shall prosecute our warfare until there is not an American citizen who dares to advocate the gold standard. You ask why? We reply that the gold standard is a conspiracy against the human race, and that we should no more join in it than we would an army to destroy our homes and to destroy our families."—William J. Bryan; speech at Albany, N. Y., August, 1896.

The gold standard has "slain" no one, nor did it write the "future in blood," nor did it destroy our homes nor foreclose the farm mortgage, nor did it close the district school; on the contrary, it has proved the sound and solid foundation of widespread prosperity, leading to individual progress and happiness, aided in paying off the farm mortgage and expanding the country's educational facilities.

It has brought such prosperity to our country as was never known before. Americans are the happiest and most prosperous people on earth to-day.

"NO MORE FOURTH OF JULY."

1900, Imperialism!

"The fight this year will be to carry out the sentiment of that song we have so often repeated: 'My Country, 'tis of Thee.' If we lose, our children and our children's children will not succeed to the spirit of that song, and celebrations of the Fourth of July will pass away, for the spirit of Empire will be upon us."—William J. Bryan; speech to the Bryan Home Guards, Lincoln, Neb., July, 1900.

The Answer in 1908. Answer this for yourself. Do you know of any spot in the United States where the spirit of 1776 is dead and forgotten? and the Fourth of July a meaningless date on the calendar?

On the other hand the humblest citizen is growing prouder of his American citizenship and the spirit of 1776 is permeating the entire body politic.

"ROOSEVELT THE SPIRIT OF WAR."

1904, Anti-Roosevelt.

"I would rather go down to eternal oblivion than be instrumental in the election of Roosevelt."—William J. Bryan, Oct. 17, 1904, while touring Indiana.

"The surrender of the present President (Roosevelt) to corporate influences furnishes an excellent proof of the wisdom of Judge Parker in making the statement he has. But President Roosevelt stands for militarism. . . . The present occupant of the White House (Roosevelt) represents in an aggravated form the warlike spirit, as contrasted with the pacific policy that has heretofore characterized our nation."—William J. Bryan, in a speech at Springfield, Mo., Sept. 1, 1904, where he accused President Roosevelt of surrendering to the corporations and holding "bloody, brutal and barbarous" sentiments.

The Answer in 1908. President Roosevelt, instead of representing the "spirit of war," stands before the world the greatest exemplar of international peace in his generation. History will in full season award him the titles he has justly won, and the greatest of these will be "The Peacemaker." In spite of Candidate Bryan's assault upon him in 1904. Under President Roosevelt's policies the United States has taken its place in the front rank of world powers. Taft is committed to continuing these policies.

"GOVERNMENT MUST OWN RAILWAYS."

1906, Government Ownership of Railways.

"I have already reached the conclusion that railroads partake so much of the nature of a monopoly that they must ultimately become public property, and be managed by public officials in the interest of the whole community."—William J. Bryan; Home-coming speech at New York City, August, 1906.

The Answer in 1908. The broad meaning of Candidate Bryan's remarks on this subject is that railway regulation by statute law is impossible, and that "government ownership" is the only remedy for transportation abuses. The enactment of the Federal Rate Law has totally disproved the claims of Candidate Bryan and vividly displayed his unsound reasoning on great public questions.

WINS HONORS

Henry O. Tanner Captures Paris Art Lovers

Work of American Artist Eagerly Sought in French Capitol

In Paris, domiciled in a pleasant mansion on the street of Notre Dame des Champs, lives and works distinguished American artist, less known and honored in his own country than in the centers of European art, says William R. Lester, in the Philadelphia North American. He is Henry O. Tanner, once an art student at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and later a pupil of Benjamin Constant and Jean Paul Durand. Mr. Tanner began his studies at the French capital in 1891. Within a few years his paintings were accepted for exhibition at the Paris Salon.

His artistic treatment of a Biblical subject—"Daniel in the Lion's Den"—elicited much favorable comment; and in 1896 he painted the dramatic and powerful "Resurrection of Lazarus," which attracted popular and critical attention in the Salon of 1897, and was afterwards purchased by the French government for the Luxembourg gallery.

To this fascinating field of artistic effort Mr. Tanner has resolutely adhered, gaining much material profit and large increase of reputation throughout cultured Europe. Everywhere in art world his name and fame were known—save only in America, the land of his birth.

In 1906 he sent to the Salon a new picture, "The Disciples at Emmaus." In this work the mingled joy and bewilderment of the two disciples, the supernatural personality and divine authority of their Master are depicted with wonderful power. This painting, too, was bought by the French government for the Luxembourg museum. The Salon jury awarded the painter a gold medal, and the art loving French public eagerly bought up all the pictures from his easel that were in the market.

Mr. Tanner had arrived in the French art world. His pictures were eagerly sought on every hand. He found it difficult to reserve one annually, as had Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

HIS MASTERPIECE.

Of all the important canvases Mr. Tanner has painted during ten years past there remains in his possession but one—his Salon picture of the current year, "The Wise and Foolish Virgins." For its permanent possessions Paris art dealers and rich cognoscenti are now contending, vying with each other in liberal offers.

In this picture the painter's power in composure, vigorous technique and refined, artistic sympathies are strongly denoted. Kari Pilotti's conception of the same subject, owned by the New York Metropolitan Museum, strongly accentuates the difference in feminine types—virtue and vice in conventional opposition. But Mr. Tanner's foolish virgins are of one sisterhood with the others, although overwhelmed with misfortune. One of the wise quints is shown helping a luckless sister to trim her falling lamp. The artist's appeal is to divine charity, not to the rigors of the law.

If it should be asked why this American artist, whom critical Europe acclaims as among the great ones of earth, is virtually unknown in his native country outside of a limited art circle, the answer is ready to hand.

Mr. Tanner has had to make a difficult choice between the expatriation and surrender of artistic ideals. He is a son of Bishop Benjamin T. Tanner of the Afro-American Methodist Episcopal church in the United States. Racial prejudice is unknown in France; so Mr. Tanner went to Paris, and stayed there.

NO TRACE OF NEGRO BLOOD.

It is a singular mixed strain of blood that flows in the artist's veins; for in his personality there is little or no trace nor suggestion of African ancestry. His clear gray eyes are of the Aryan type; his complexion is a clear white, bronzed by the sun in an active outdoor life. His features are of classic Roman mold, his carriage, attire and

manner that of the modern Persian. His thick, dark curly hair, brushed carefully back from a fair, broad brow, suggest the Southern Latin races rather than types of tropical origin.

Commanding in stature, easy yet dignified in manner, genial and affable in conversation, fortunate in his chosen career and happy in his home life. Mr. Tanner is a notable exemplar of the genius of American art, a brilliant product of the New World's creative and heterogeneous civilization.

Yet the art world of his own country has but scant knowledge of him or of his art creations, so highly regarded and appreciated in critical Europe. The Chicago art Institute has of his paintings, "The Return of the Holy Women" and "The Two Disciples at the Tomb"—the rest are adornments of Old World public and private galleries.

Mr. Tanner was predestined to an artistic career. While a mere boy he dreamed of being a sculptor. In the quaint house on Diamond street, the home of Bishop Tanner for more than thirty years the youth's enthusiasm found vent in modeling figures of animals from sketches made at the Zoological Garden.

Then, late in the '80's followed a two years' course of instruction at the Academy of Fine Arts. In 1891 Tanner determined to go to Paris to study. He collected a large number of his paintings and sent them to an auction sale.

Prices were absurdly, ridiculously low; but when all was over Tanner had in clean cash something over \$300. And with this and his talent as sole capital, he made his adventure Parisward. There he found a new art world—and conquered it.

STUDIES UNDER MASTERS.

Mr. Tanner became in 1891, a pupil of Benjamin Constant, who had studied under Cabanel, head of the Ecole des Beaux Arts at Paris, and one of the greatest figure painters of his time. Constant, a genius in portraiture, also painted Oriental subjects with much sensuousness of feeling and regal splendor of color. His captivating style fired Tanner's imagination and roused his dejected spirit. Master and pupil were soon on terms of personal intimacy—a friendship unbroken until Constant's death in 1902.

Another French artist of distinction who contributed notably to Tanner's artistic advancement was Jean Paul Durand, a master of composition and technique, who vied with Constant in developing the rare qualities disclosed by the young American student.

Upon the golden sea of fortune Mr. Tanner has drifted serenely ever since his "Lazarus" went to the Luxembourg. People talked of him—the Salon is a principle factor in the social microcosm of Paris—and influential art critics hailed him the pioneer of original American art.

For some years past Mr. Tanner has devoted himself earnestly to studio work, intent upon carrying out his scheme of Biblical scenes. He has painted, among other important works "Peter After the Denial," "Job and his Three Friends," "The Disciples at Emmaus," "Christ Washing the Disciples' Feet," "The Return of the Holy Women," "The Two Disciples at the Tomb," "Nicomachus" and "The Wise and Foolish Virgins"—the latter his salon picture for the current year, and the only one of his paintings now in his possession.

Mr. Tanner has found it impossible to give any private exhibition of his paintings, much as the idea pleases him. His canvases are sold as soon as finished—sometimes before.

ORIENTAL ATMOSPHERE.

A generous Philadelphia art-lover who saw Mr. Tanner's "Resurrection of Lazarus," at the Salon exhibition made it possible for him to take his first trip to the Holy Land, where he was enabled to study Oriental atmosphere and surrounding at first hand.

"There is Orientalism in the 'Lazarus,'" he said, but it was a fortunate accident. In the Orient the light, both interior and exterior, the mannerisms of the people, the costumes and habits of living, all are vastly different from anything that could be imagined in the west. One should go there every two or three years, at least, to keep in touch with the true Oriental spirit."

Not only is there a distinctively Oriental spirit and sentiment in Mr. Tanner's works, but also a glow of reverent devotion and an intensity of spiritual expression that is tremendously effective and alluring.

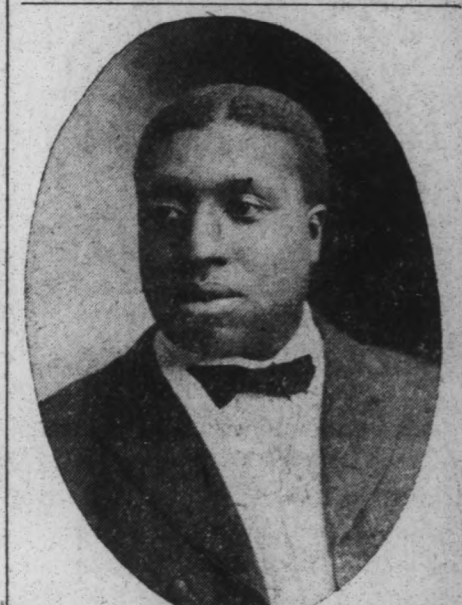
BIG MEETING

5,000 Colored Citizens Will Greet Speakers

Arrangements for Grant and Vernon Meeting Completed—Big Parade

The committee to complete arrangements for the big republican rally at Tomlison Hall next Tuesday night, met Sunday afternoon, and the various sub-committees to arrange the details were selected by Chairman Chas. W. Brown. Hon. W. T. Vernon, who will be the principal speaker, and Bishop Abram Grant will be met by the reception committee at the depot. An informal reception will be held in honor of these distinguished guests.

Fully 5,000 persons are expected to be present at Tomlison Hall, and from present indications an overflow meeting will have to be arranged for to accommodate the people. The stage will be occupied by the business and professional men of the Race



HON. W. T. VERNON

and leading citizens, while the 1st balcony will be reserved especially for the ladies.

Mr. Vernon is the registrar of the United States Treasury and his signature appears upon every bank note issued by this government, including the money that is paid to Senator Tillman, and by the way he has never been known to refuse his pay as United States Senator because it was signed by a black man. Mr. Vernon is one of the best orators and strongest speakers of the race and has been heard by Indianapolis citizens on former occasions.

Bishop Grant needs no eulogy within the confines of Indiana, where he is honored and loved by all people and Races.

The monster street parade before speaking will eclipse any political demonstration held this year by party or people. The thirty colored republican clubs of Marion county, as well as hundreds of citizens will participate. Four colored bands and two drum corps will furnish music to enliven the occasion. Plenty of red fire and fireworks will be used to rout General Apathy and the Democrats.

The parade will start from Indiana Ave. and West street at 8 o'clock sharp, and the following line of march will be followed: South east on Indiana Avenue to Ohio street, east on Ohio to Meridian, south on Meridian to the circle, around west side of circle to Meridian street and south to Washington, thence east on Washington street to Delaware and north on Delaware to the hall.

Gen. John J. Buckner will be the chief marshal, and will form the parade into three divisions as follows: First division will form on West street, with right resting on Indiana Ave., extending south. Second division will form on West street with right resting on Indiana Ave., extending north. Third division will form on North street, with right resting on West street, extending west.

The following clubs will participate, and the position of honor will be awarded:

Martin K. Delaney Post, G. A. R.; Tous, sant club, 150; Harlan club, 100; Hogue club, 100; Norwood club, 75; Harry New club, 150; 3rd Ward club, 250; 5th Ward club, 200; Wm. E. English club, 300; North Indianapolis club, 100; Oak Hill club, 75; Haughville Taft club, 100; East End Taft club, 200; 1st Voters club, 150; Jno L. Griff club, 100; Overstreet club, 300; Blaine club, 500; Summer League, 200; Hinton club, 50; Iron League, 200; West Side club 50; 6th Ward club, 300.

Voting Starts Off

Standing In The Most Popular Minister Contest.

Rev. R. D. Lenard, Union Tabernacle Baptist Church, 593
Rev. Lemuel Stokes, city, 527
Rev. Chas. Hunter, Presiding Elder, 443
Rev. G. C. Sampson, Allen Chapel Church, 250
Rev. H. J. Callis, Jones Tabernacle, 175
Rev. G. W. Ward, Mt. Zion Bap. church 155
Rev. G. H. Shaffer, Bethel A. M. E. Church, 150
Rev. Chas. Johnson, city, 100
Rev. K. Warren, Olivet Baptist church 100
Rev. J. S. Bailey, Simpson Chapel ch'rch 50
Rev. White, Witherspoon Presbyterian 50
Rev. J. C. Campbell, City, 50
Rev. G. A. Martin, Corinthian Baptist church, 25
Rev. Mitchell, Metropolitan Baptist church, 25
Rev. Morris Lewis, Presiding Elder A. M. E. Church, 25

THE MOST POPULAR MINISTER CONTEST

ONE Vote REGULAR BALLOT. OCT. 24

Name of Minister.....

" of Church.....

City or Town.....

Name of Subscriber.....

Address.....

Date.....1908

The Indianapolis RECORDER is conducting a voting contest to decide who is the most popular minister of the race in Indiana. Ballots will appear weekly and are good for one vote, if received at the Recorder Office before the first of next month.

SPECIAL BALLOTS will be given with all subscriptions as follows: 1 year, 100 votes 6 months, 50 votes; 3 months, 25 votes. A \$50.00 suit of clothes will be presented to the successful minister by the Recorder. Watch the vote each week.