BALTIMORE'S BUSINESS MEN PRAISE PRESIDENT TAFT

TAFT HAILED FOR HIGH OFFICE AT M. & M. FEAST

He Speaks of Value of Panama Canal to Baltimore's Interests

NOTED ORATORS SPEAK AT GREAT BANQUET

President Receives Tremendous Ovation at the Rennert, and Is Urged to Remain in Public Life—Governor Goldsborough's Warm Tribute—Mayor Preston on Fat Men. Other Speakers.

GREAT GREETING TO PRESIDENT TAFT

President Taft was the guest of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association at its annual banquet at the Hotel Rennert last night.

It was the most successful dinner in the history of the association.

It was attended by the most representative business men of Baltimore.

The guests included, in addition to the President, Attorney General Wickersham, Congressman Martin W. Littfeton, Governor Goldsborough, Mayor Preston; Mayor Donnelly, of Trenton; John Kirby, Jr., president of National Association of Manufacturers, and Congressmen Talbott, Linthicum and Parran.

The speakers were: President Taft; President Baker, of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association; Governor Goldsborough, Mayor Preston, Attorney General Wickersham, Congressman Littleton, Mr. Kirby and Mayor Donnelly, the last named making an eloquent plea for the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway as a national project.

In his speech President Taft declared his willingness to submit the question of Panama Canal tolls to impartial international arbitration.

He admonished Baltimore of the value of the canal to the shipping interests of this city.

He pleaded for fair play for coastwise shipping and a subsidy if necessary.

He justified a subsidy on the same ground that large land grants had been made to transcontinental railroads.

He relied upon the common sense of the American people to decide between Constitutional restraint and the breaking down of the Constitution.

He pleaded for adherence to restraint upon the President and Congress imposed by the Constitution.

President Taft was highly lauded by Governor Goldsborough and was pointed to for future usefulness, as a member of the United States Supreme Court or as president.

Attorney General Wickersham said that the great question that looms up before Americans today is whether or not the opportunities we have offered to our sons and daughters and to the sons and daughters of other lands shall be so hemmed in and circumscribed that equality of opportunity for all shall become a mere tradition of the past—a hollow mockery for the present.

He also said that the abuse of corporate organization, the perversion of its machinery in the hands of able and unscrupulous men, has made possible the most effective and far-reaching interference with individual effort.

Governor Goldsborough and Mayor Preston evoked great applause by their speeches.

As toastmaster, Col. W. A. Boykin was unexcelled.

President Baker, of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, made an eloquent plea for the moral, civic and industrial uplifting of Baltimore.

SOME OF THE PROMINENT MEN WHO SPOKE AT THE M. & M. BANQUET LAST NIGHT

Twice, thrice, half a dozen times was President Taft greeted, applauded, handclapped in Baltimore last night.

He was the honored and hurrahed guest of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association at its annual banquet at the Hotel Rennert.

It was the first banquet of the association at which a President of the United States was a guest. President-elect Woodrow Wilson had been invited to attend, but as he relegated all invitations to the waste basket after the November election his acceptance was impossible, despite strenuous and influential efforts to secure it. It had been hoped the present President and the next President would meet at the Merchants and Manufacturers' banquet for the first time.

Parenthetically it may be stated that the banquet of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association was the most successful in its history.

Col. W. A. Boykin, the toastmaster, said so, and he ought to know, for he and President Baker, who indorsed Colonel Boykin's views, are the mainsprings of the association. Colonel Boykin said that some people said that the large attendance was due to increased membership of the association.

"Not so," said Colonel Boykin, "You see the gentleman here (pointing to President Taft). "We may not all agree with him politically, but we love him and we honor him." [Great applause, waving of napkins, and hurrahs].

PRESIDENT DIDN'T DISAPPOINT.

Presidents of the United States never disappoint. This is particularly true of President Taft, who has never neglected an obligation or forgotten a promise.

When the date of the banquet was first arranged by President Baker, of the M. and M. Association, the date conflicted with a date already occupied by the President's calendar. The date was changed and in this change other invitations had to be declined because of previous engagements. Among the unfortunates were Senators John Walter Smith, William P. Jackson, Congressmen Covington, Konig and Lewis.

President Taft arrived at Camden Station shortly before 7 o'clock under escort of a committee of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, which went to Washington early in the afternoon to accompany him to Baltimore. Gen. W. P. Gill, who is as portly and equally as magnanimous and physically as magnificent as is President Taft, headed this committee.

At Camden Station Troop A, which is Maryland's boasted cavalry company, was in waiting to escort President Taft to the Hotel Rennert. The escort was without a flaw. With the clank of swords and with hoofbeats of their horses the troop preceded the automobile in which were seated President Taft, General Gill and the irrepressible Secret Service men, to the hotel. At the railroad station, all along the route and at the hotel, men and women had gathered to greet the President and for each greeting there was a bland smile.

Reserved rooms at the Rennert awaited the President, and after a brief rest, which was interrupted by hand-shaking of callers, he repaired to the main dining-room, which was the banquet hall.

CONTINUOUS OVATION.

There was a continuous ovation for the President from the moment of his arrival in Baltimore until his departure. This ovation was most acute during the banquet, and was prominent whenever his name was mentioned and whenever his presence was observable. The fact was demonstrated beyond consideration that, however much the men at the banquet, and they were the men who are today making Baltimore possible, may differ with him politically, they love him, they honor him, they esteem him. In the speeches during the evening there ran a vein of hope, of expectation, that he will again be called to serve his country.

The mere mention of this suggestion evoked the wildest enthusiasm.

The fire was first lighted by Colonel Boykin, the toastmaster, who referred with great praise to President Taft. This reference, accompanied with an eloquent gesture, aroused a great demonstration.

"He's all right," said a hundred voices in chorus.

Then came President Baker of the Mer

Then came President Baker, of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, whose bare reference to the president provoked applause, more handclapping, more hurrahing, and an energetic waving of napkins.

"We represent an investment of $250,000,000," said Mr. Baker. "However much some of us may differ with our Chief Magistrate, he has the love, the esteem and the affection of us all." (Great applause.)

Great was the demonstration which greeted Mr. Baker. A greater demonstration was in store when Governor Goldsborough took up President Taft as a subject when President Baker stopped.

GOLDSBOROUGH'S TRIBUTE.

Governor Goldsborough was generously and enthusiastically applauded, when he was introduced when he recounted the triumphs of Marylanders in the legal and medical professions and its achievements in the industrial world. The climax, however, to the oration for the Governor came when pausing for a minute in his speech, he proposed a toast to President Taft. Instantly and intuitively 500 or more men arose to their feet as one man and responded to the toast. The orchestra played Maryland, My Maryland. There was more frantic hurrahing, more energetic handclapping and the whole assemblage joined in singing the familiar air.

But the Governor had not completed his speech and more applause was in store.

"The future, sir," said Governor Goldsborough, dramatically pointing to President Taft, "will tell. You encountered great problems, great obstacles, for which he was not responsible. [Applause.] How well you have encountered those obstacles, how you have overcome them, we who know can testify."

It was at this juncture that Governor Goldsborough proposed the toast to the President.

"We wish him," said the Governor, "a long life, a happy life, a successful life. We wish that he may wear the ermine of the United States Supreme Court."

Mayor Preston followed Governor Goldsborough—and, by the way, the Mayor made the best speech and created the most favorable impression on the many occasions in which he has faced a Baltimore audience. His speech was humorous, timely and to the point.

Incidentally, the Mayor's speech was significant, because it carried the impression that he will be a candidate for the United States Senate.

In his few remarks Mayor Preston expressed the hope that President Taft and himself will again meet in Washington. This reference was accepted as the basis of a belief that President Taft may again be president.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S SPEECH.

President Taft was greeted with a demonstration that was boisterous and sincere when he was introduced. The orchestra played the national anthem with the diners singing the patriotic words. Every banqueter was on his feet when the President arose. There was handclapping and enthusiastic shouting.

After extending his greeting to Governor Goldsborough, Mayor Preston and President Baker, of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, President Taft said:

"To me, just retiring, these professions are greatly gratifying. It is surprising to me with only 40 miles separating Washington from Baltimore that I have come here so seldom. Life in Washington, however, is so strenuous and so exacting that we cannot give the same attention to the delights of life which you people here enjoy.

The Mayor has said something about the touch of the people. Well, I have had that touch (laughter). He is apparently about to feel the touch of the people (laughter and applause). I am bound to say that considering his politics, I can arrange to remain permanently in New Haven if my return to Washington is dependent upon his going to Washington. (laughter.)

"I could not resist the temptation to be your guest tonight. Mr. Baker, General Gill and my other good friends in Baltimore were so insistent that I could not stay away. [More applause.]

"You have a great history, great traditions of which you ought to be proud. Those traditions teach you to be patriotic and to take an interest in your government. You are on the border between the North and South. You are enough Southern to be hospitable. You are sufficiently Northern to be energetic and to look to your own advantages. You are not a people who blow your horns too much. You are here effectively. You have a great city, a great port, a great harbor. You are interested in the Panama Canal. This canal is a great and enterprising institution. It will revolutionize the transportation of the world. It will bring the Pacific and Atlantic states closer together. I have urged upon Congress that the cost of transportation should be made as cheap as possible.

COASTWISE SHIPPING.

"We should encourage our coastwise trade. It is claimed that we are urging a subsidy. Well, anybody can engage in this coastwise trade. It is therefore no monopoly. We give large grants of land to make possible our transcontinental railroads. I shall not quarrel with those who disagree with me on the question whether we shall similarly own coastwise shipping.

"One question is whether, under our international obligation, we shall charge the same tolls to foreign ships as to coastwise ships. I am willing to submit this question to arbitration. We cannot discriminate against coastwise shipping. Then arises the question of this so-called subsidy to coastwise shipping. We have made no arrangements which are not honorable. We are not ignoring the honor of the American nation when we are willing to submit those ideas to impartial arbitration.

"We are now in a state of expectancy. We do not know what will happen. We all hope that American prosperity will continue. However heretical the views that are exploited, the question is, Shall we give up the constitutional restraint which has made us the greatest representative nation in the world? I am sure that those views are not making headway. I am satisfied that the foundations of our government have not been sapped. If these foundations are impaired I fear the whole structure may tumble. I believe in the common sense of the American people, which is equal to any emergency which may arise.

"And so, Mr. Mayor, that though we may tread the pavements of Washington as visitors, each of us may make respectively Baltimore and New Haven delightful places of residence."

Great applause greeted the President upon the conclusion of his speech. He was warmly congratulated for the breadth and statemanship displayed in his speech.

The President returned to Washington at a late hour. He privately expressed delight at the warmth of the reception tendered to him while he was here.

GOV. GOLDSBOROUGH

Quotes Oliver Wendell Holmes In Addressing President.

Governor Goldsborough said:

Oliver Wendell Holmes once said of Robert C. Winthrop, then president of the Harvard Alumni Association:

"He so graces every assembly which he visits by his presence, his dignity, his suavity, his art of ruling, whether it be the council of a nation, the legislature of a state or the lively democracy of a dinner table, that when he entered a meeting like this it seems as if the chairs stood back of their own will and let him pass to the head of the board, and the table itself, that most intelligent of quadrupeds, the half reasoning mahogany, tipped him a spontaneous welcome to its highest seat and of itself rapped the assembly to order."

And thus it is, Mr. President, that Marylanders think of you, and to my lot has fallen the pleasurable duty of welcoming you to this state.

I am astonished, as I glance around the table and at the menu card, that we have most distinguished guests with us tonight and in goodly numbers, and that I must not do violence to that established reputation of Marylanders for gallantry and consideration of the rights of others.

Indeed, I recall that my good friends, Mr. Henry F. Baker and Gen. William D. Gill, cautioned me not once, but twice, with the full knowledge of, and really at the instigation of your toastmaster, Colonel Boykin, that there was a limit of time placed upon my address, and under no circumstances, even though I have the honor of occupying an office of some importance in this state, should I go beyond that limit. My word was given and it shall not be broken.

But now, in the few minutes that are mine, am I to speak of the glory of this state and portray the most admirable characteristics and accomplishments of her citizens? I cannot do it; I will not try. Suffice it to say that she has furnished a galaxy of men who helped to build this nation and who are now aiding in her civic, professional, commercial and industrial expansion. Look at this body of men of commerce and industry. Modest as they are, I say to them that they are leaders in commercial and industrial activities and that the members of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association blaze the way in all acts and measures which make for the upbuilding of the nation, this state and this city. To an army such as this failure and defeat cannot come. They are enlisted for the war of commercial and industrial progress and advancement, and conquer they will.

It must not be forgotten—it will not be—that in medical science Maryland, through her men of that profession in the state and Baltimore city, has attained a pre-eminence—shall I say that arouses the envy?—no, rather let it be commands the admiration not alone of this nation but of the world, for great have been the researches made and the deeds done for suffering humanity by that splendid band of men who have been, and are now, associated with the medical universities of this city. They have done more, and will continue to do it, for preventive medicine—and there is no greater work in all the world than this—than any body of men in any other city or state of the nation.

I need not speak of the legal profession, for I am of that body, and for some unfortunate reason members of that profession, so far as they may seek to enter public life, have not of late been receiving high encomiums at the hands of some people of the state, and particularly one of the newspapers of this city. However, it is enough to know that jurists of this state have achieved, and will continue to so do, that quality of fame which has left, and will leave, its impress in the manner most enduring.

Again, I ask, how may I, in the limited time at my command, welcome to this state with that measure of cordiality for which she is proverbial the President of the United States, and tell him fittingly of the high regard and esteem in which he is held by all of us? I cannot do it without trespassing upon his time and that of others, and discourteous I must not be—indeed, you would not permit me to be. But this I must say: We thank you, sir, for your presence here tonight, for by it you have signally honored all Marylanders and brought us a limitless measure of pleasure and delight.

MAYOR PRESTON

Praises History and Development of the City.

Mayor Preston said:

As the Mayor and therefore the official representative of the city of Baltimore, I desire to express on behalf of the city and on behalf of our people our high appreciation of the honor you pay us by attending this meeting of representative business men of Baltimore. Praising Baltimore comes so near to praising ourselves that it might seem in bad taste for me to do so, but the scripture says "that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." We are so proud of Baltimore that I must beg your indulgence to say a word about our city, its history, its present progress and its future greatness.

In the history of our country Baltimore is famous in war and in peace. The battle of North Point, fought by Baltimore boys on the outskirts of the city; the Star-spangled Banner, written by a Marylander in the harbor of our city; the deeds of gallantry of Baltimore boys in all our wars; the fact that the first monument ever erected to George Washington was erected in Baltimore, and the other monuments erected in our city to commemorate the wars with England and the Civil War sufficiently indicate the patriotic spirit that has ever animated our people; while the fact that the first railroad ever constructed in our country was constructed by a Baltimore corporation, and that this railroad has now grown to be one of the giant trunk lines of our country, is an indication that our people have been alive to industrial development.

Baltimore has not grown in population as rapidly as some of the other cities, but this has been due in large part to the fact that the area of our city is very small as compared with other cities in its class, and that, roughly speaking, 100,000 people live just over the city line whose business or employment is in the city and who, to all intents and purposes, are a part of the city, but for whom the city does not get credit in the census reports because of their residence outside of the city's boundaries.

It was the Hon. William Jennings Bryan, I believe, who originated the definition showing the distinction between a farmer and an agriculturist—a farmer being one who makes his money in the country and spends it in town, and an agriculturist being a man who makes his money in the city and spends it in the country.

Baltimore has many thousands of people who make their money in this city but who pay their taxes out in the county, where the taxes heretofore have been less than in the city. So that in reality our city is growing in population much faster than the census reports indicate, and in the spirit of progress which now dominates our people. I believe we are keeping pace with the most progressive of our American cities. Especially since the great fire in 1904, which devastated about a square mile of the heart of our city, our people have shown an energy and a spirit of progress truly admirable. They have not only rebuilt the destroyed portion of the city but they have entered upon a scheme of public improvements of greater magnitude than ever attempted at one time by any city of its size.

We have built a complete modern system of docks and piers at very large cost, and otherwise improved our harbor until we have a harbor that is not surpassed.

We have spent since that time immense sums in new school buildings, and have just concluded a Polytechnic building at a cost of a million dollars, in round figures; we have entered upon and are nearing completion a twenty million dollar sewerage system; we have entered and are rapidly executing a complete system of modern improved pavements throughout the city; we have built in all the central part of the city, and are extending a system of conduits to remove all the poles and wires from the streets; in all the business district we have completed a high-pressure pipe line system as a protection from fire, and we are at work upon an extensive system for enlarging and improving the water supply of our city; we are constantly extending and improving our park system, which is one of the finest of any city in the world.

MAYOR F. W. DONNELLY

Trenton Executive on Value of Inland Waterway.

The value of an inland waterway to Baltimore and the rest of the Eastern part of the nation was dwelt upon by Mayor Frederick W. Donnelly, of Trenton, when he responded to the toast "The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway as a National Project." In beginning his speech Mayor Donnelly told of Baltimore's importance to the country and that a committee of men from Trenton had visited the city to particularly inquire into our methods of street paving. He said that Trenton took Baltimore ideas and aspirations. He also talked about Trenton's commission government. "Baltimore's municipal dock system is being emulated by other cities," he said. Baltimore's progressiveness in waterways he attributed as the reason for cheapness of living in the city. He asked the question whether or not Baltimore was interested in the great intracostal waterways. He said that by the construction of the New Jersey ship canal the distance from Baltimore to New York can be cut down by 187 miles, and that this canal, when linked with the New York State Barge Canal, will connect Baltimore with the Great Lakes. "Baltimore should buck up and go after the world's commerce," he said.

Continuing, Mayor Donnelly said:

Business is being deflected to the West on long hauls. Baltimore should go after the handicapped business of the South. The New Jersey Ship Canal and Chesapeake and Delaware Canal open up opportunities of greater business and possibilities with the South. Southern business can only be developed by transportation connections with the East. Outside passage increases freight rates by reason of heavier marine insurance and the additional cost of ocean-going ship construction and maintenance. Now the cost of coal to the western manufacturers by the closing of the canals. It costs $75,000,000 to move $100,000,000 worth of coal from mines to market. Tidewater rate on coal at New York 40 years ago was $3 per ton, today the rate is $5.50 per ton. Labor costs have increased, but labor-saving devices have offset this. Used then a 5 or 10 ton car, today the 50-ton car is used. The rate on crockery from Liverpool to Baltimore is 8 cents per 100. Crockery by rail from Trenton to Baltimore is 18 cents per 100. Do not blame the government; it is the system. Let us fight the system. Transportation is the main issue before the American people. Next to transportation is the question of finance. The American government is the oldest and continuously existing form of government in the civilized world. We have plenty of laws and rights of justice. We only need enforcement of laws by a proper system of control and by a proper system in the selection of men.

There is a marked tendency toward an extension of governmental functions into fresh fields. Great as is the question of transportation, the problem of an adequate financial system is one that em-

MARTIN W. LITTLETON

New York Congressman Scores Radical Policies.

In his address Congressman Martin Littleton, of New York, one of the nation's most convincing orators, attacked the initiative, referendum and recall, pleaded for the conservation of the nation's Constitution and praised the policies of President Taft. Congressman Littleton had spoken at public gatherings in this city before, but never before was he so earnest as last night, when he gave his opinion on some of the important questions confronting the American nation.

In part, he said:

Naturally I am happy to be here. I have come to your association the second time and feel at home among its members. There has been some expressions tonight in reference to outgoing and incoming public officials. Of late we have had injected into American politics a new phase. This phase is progressives, as distinguished from conservatives.

The new phrase broke out suddenly in both political parties of the nation. It came in a night as a dream. It broke out about the same time and in the same neighborhood. Up until that time we ourselves thought that we were the progressives. It seems to me that up to this time the word progressive had taken no part in our conversation. I had supposed that when a fellow who had struggled all his life to know what his country's constitution meant and who was willing to serve his country in any capacity was progressive, but I have found out that the difference was a difference between progressive principles and progressive prejudices.

In our country when a public official is succeeded by another he is immediately cast aside. In other countries they do not cast away their best men. A most extraordinary thing in this contry is that when you put a good man out of office you almost make him afraid to say that he was ever in that office. Now, my friends, we are all confronted in this country with the problem of democracy. In other words, the sovereign right to rule in this country rests with the people. Every nation is confronted with the same problem. We have inserted in the middle of our democracy representative government. This is the finest feature of any government. The representative government is the only thing that will insure you against the minimum of democracy. The trend of events seems to be against representative government. If you take representative government out of our democracy you destroy that for which our government stands.

ATTRACTIVE MENU CARD

On Which Was Printed a Tempting Series of Courses.

The menu card was a beautiful specimen of the printers' art. It consisted of several sheets of the finest cardboard about 12 inches by 8, bound together with white satin ribbon. The cover bore an elaborate symbolical color design representing the world offering her trade to Lord Baltimore. Lord Baltimore is represented standing at the top of a flight of several steps, on one of which a woman, representing the world, kneels and offers him a wreath representing the commerce of the world.

On Lord Baltimore's left is the Battle Monument, with a scroll bearing the letters M. & M., while behind him in the distance looms the bulk of a huge ship, from the mast of which floats a pennant bearing the words Panama Steamship Company, indicating the possibilities of Baltimore's merchant marine. To the right of the kneeling figure is a locomotive drawing a train of cars, back of which and vanishing in the distance is a representation of Baltimore's skyline, showing some of the city's more important buildings. A scroll across the top of the engraving bears the words Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, below which are the words Baltimore Invites the World. A scroll at the bottom of the cut bears the words Thirty-second Annual Banquet, January Twenty-fifth, 1913.

Following is the menu:

Lynnhavens
Cocktail
Haute Sauterne
Amontillado
Clear Green Turtle
Celery Salted Nuts Olives
Terrapin a la Rennert
Pol Roger (Brut Special 1904)
Canvas-back Duck
Mumm's Selected Brut
Hominy Chafing Dish Currant Jelly
Smithfield Ham
Hearts of Lettuce French Dressing
White Rock
Ices Fancy Form
Assorted Cake
Camembert and Roquefort Cheese
Toasted Crackers
Cafe Noir
Liqueurs
Perfectos and Cigarettes

HALL A BOWER OF BEAUTY

Banquet Decorations on a Magnificent Scale.

The banquet hall was a veritable bower of beauty, the color scheme of the floral decorations being pink and white, to produce the effect of early spring. In the center of the main table, directly in front of the President, was a large centerpiece of pink Rubrum lilies and miniature white Dutch hyacinths, flanked on each side throughout the entire length of the table by centerpieces of pink and white roses on one side and red and white roses on the other.

On the wall directly behind the President's chair was a large United States shield, with an American flag on each side, entirely surrounded by banked palms and ferns. Besides the centerpieces on the main table there were a number of potted primroses, tulips and white gladiolus, distributed at intervals throughout its entire length, and around the edges of the table a garland of ferns and smilax was draped. In the center of each of the other tables was a magnificent centerpiece of yellow narcissus, with two vases, one at each end, containing yellow narcissus and pink roses. These tables were also draped with ferns and smilax.

The four walls of the hall were almost completely hidden by pink azaleas, polypolium ferns and banked palms. In each of the windows were bushes of pink azaleas, while about the frieze of the room was a border of smilax and ferns, which was also tastefully draped around the massive columns in the center. The four corners of the room were banked with palms and polypolium ferns, and each of the several doorways were flanked by palms and pink azaleas. The two large mirrors at the north end of the room were covered with ferns and smilax, as were the chandeliers. At the south end of the hall was an embankment of palms and ferns, behind which the orchestra was stationed. The corridors leading to the hall were also lined on both sides by huge palms.

NEW ERA FOR THE M. AND M.

Great Strides for Baltimore Are Reported.

ENTERPRISE AND ENERGY

PROGRESS DWELT UPON AT ANNUAL BANQUET.

Greatest Event in the History of the Association of the Merchants and Manufacturers—Long List of Distinguished Men Present—Speeches, Speakers and Toasts—President Taft Is Most Distinguished Guest—Model Maryland Dinner: Terrapin, Oysters and Canvasback Duck.

The annual banquet of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association has passed into history as the most elaborate, the most edifying, the most gratifying and most all-around successful function ever held by the association.

The great success of the affair was made possible by the presence of President Taft, Attorney General Wickersham, Governor Goldsborough, Mayor Preston, Congressman Linthicum, Mayor Donnelly, of Trenton; John Kinley, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, all of whom made affective speeches which were generously applauded.

Equally important factors, which contributed to the unprecedented success of the banquet were the untiring efforts of President Henry F. Baker, of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association; Col. W. A. Boykin, who was toastmaster, and who had charge of all the details of the magnificent affair; Secretary Robert J. Beacham, Gen. W. D. Gill, W. W. Cator, Key Compton, Joseph C. Whitney and other members of the association, who contributed their time and energies to make the banquet a huge success.

During the evening there was only one chorus of noes. It was when President Baker, of the association, said during his formal speech that this was the last occasion on which he would address the association as the presiding officer.

NOT A COG SLIPPED.

"No, no, no, no," shouted the banqueters in chorus. The tribute by this chorus was a compliment to Mr. Baker.

So smoothly did the program of the evening move that not a single cog slipped. Every detail of the dinner had been mapped out in advance and every detail was carried out.

Enthusiastic as were the members of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association over the success of their annual gathering, they realized that its success was due largely to the increase in membership of the association, to larger and wider interest in its aims, and to greater enthusiasm in its objects.

"Significant as was this display of interest in the achievements and triumphs of the association and its present aims, equally significant and more important was the look to the forward, that hope, that inspiration, which guids men to greater deeds. Since its last dinner the association has effected a combination with another association, which was actuated by similar motives and objects. With this combination an accomplished fact and further broadening is expected. President Baker awakened sincere enthusiasm when, in his speech, he expressed the hope that his fellow-members will take a more active interest in the civic, moral and political uplifting of the city and state.

The spirit that permeated the gathering was that a new era awaits the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association and that with this spirit animating the association it means a new era for Baltimore, for through the veins of the association courses the industrial life of Baltimore. A new era for the association is, therefore, a new era for Baltimore.

CENTER OF INTEREST.

President Taft was the center of interest of the banqueters, as, indeed, he was of hundreds of Baltimoreans who gathered at Camden Station, on his route from the station to the Hotel Rennert, where the banquet was held, and at the hotel. Rapt attention was paid to every word which he uttered. A glorious future was outlined for him by Governor Goldsborough, Mayor Preston and other speakers. He was the idol of the evening. The fact was demonstrated that politics and policies aside, he is today personally the most beloved and the most highly esteemed American citizen. The hope was dwelt upon that he will again be called upon to serve the American people.

The tables were arranged like a gridiron, President Taft and other guests and officers of the association sat at the main prong. President Taft sat at the immediate right of President Baker, of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association. Next to the President was Governor Goldsborough. Other near neighbors were: Gen. Felix Agnus, Gen. Lloyd L. Jackson, William B. Hurst, Congressman Littleton, Frank N. Hoen, Mayor Donnelly, of Trenton; Congressman J. Charles Linthicum, S. Davies Warfield, W. A. House, Mayor Preston, E. Stanley Gary, Congressman J. Fred. C. Talbott, Gen. A. C. Trippe, Major Roades, Speaker Trippe, of the House of Delegates; Congressman Thomas Parran, Joseph C. Whitney, president of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association; T. Rowland Thomas, president of the National Bank of Baltimore, and Col. H. B. Wilcox, president of the First National Bank of Baltimore.

The dinner was a la Maryland. This means it was appetizing. It also means that it was devoured with great gusto. There were oysters, terrapin, canvasback duck and Maryland ham cured according to the Smithfield recipe.

The music was furnished by a concert orchestra, which was modern and up-to-date. It played popular airs, and in doing so gave impetus to choral singing which was of the grade of a grand opera chorus, but it was spontaneous and instantaneous.

The decorations were smilax and Virginia creeper, with an abundance of American flags.

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