

cated the chapel at Fort Sam Houston near San Antonio on the 17th. On the 18th he reached the ranch of his brother, Charles P. Taft, at Gregory, Texas, where it was planned that he should rest four days.

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The Municipal Campaign in New York.

Justice William J. Gaynor, Tammany nominee for Mayor (p. 994), filed at Albany on the 14th his resignation as a member of the Appellate division of the Supreme Court of New York, thereby freeing himself from the Republican charge that he was dragging the judiciary into politics.

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Cleveland Traction Settlement.

Apparently the last bar to traction peace in Cleveland (p. 996) was removed on the 13th, when the City Council committee of the whole agreed to refer to Judge Tayler for arbitration questions in relation to the operation of the inter-urban cars, upon which the City and the Cleveland Railway company cannot come to an agreement. The City Solicitor, Newton D. Baker, was instructed on the 16th to have ready the new traction ordinance, incorporating all provisions excepting those to be determined by Judge Tayler. Hearings on the valuation, maximum fare, and other points in dispute, are under way before Judge Tayler this week. All hearings are open to the public.

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Polar Controversy.

The Peary Arctic Club gave out on the 12th a detailed account of an examination of the two Eskimos who accompanied Dr. F. A. Cook on his expedition when he claims to have reached the North Pole (p. 950). The account is signed by R. E. Peary, U. S. A., Robert A. Bartlett, Master S. S. Roosevelt, D. B. McMillan, George Borup, and Matthew A. Henson. According to this account the two Eskimos told Commander Peary and the members of his party that when journeying with Dr. Cook they had not gone "two sleeps" from land, and they indicated on the maps shown them a different route for the journey they acknowledged, than was reported by Dr. Cook. To this testimony Dr. Cook replied in interviews, saying that he had instructed his Eskimo companions not to tell Mr. Peary or any of his party, of their trip over the Polar Sea. Dr. Cook asserted that the Eskimos would be brought down next spring at his own expense, to be impartially questioned upon their journey with him.

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A previous experience of Dr. Cook's in which his veracity has been impugned, has been dragged into the present controversy as having bearing upon his trustworthiness. In the spring of 1906 Dr. Cook headed a party for the ascent of Mt. Mc-

Kinley in Alaska. The party encountered difficulties and delays, and finally separated, Dr. Cook and one guide going off apparently on some geological quest. Upon meeting again with members of the party Dr. Cook claimed to have achieved the summit of the mountain, showing photographs and data, and he later wrote a book entitled "To the Top of the Continent." Whether he could have made the ascent in the time given, and other points, were questioned at the time by members of the party and others. And on the 11th of this month an affidavit of the guide who accompanied him—Edwin N. Barrill—was published in New York, to the effect that they never got nearer the summit of Mt. McKinley than fourteen miles. To this statement Dr. Cook has replied by expressing great surprise at its coming from the source it did, and by insisting that he will, as soon as possible, arrange for an expedition to Mt. McKinley, to be accompanied by unbiased and reliable men, who shall verify his story by finding the records he placed upon the summit of the mountain.

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British Politics.

The House of Lords, according to the Associated Press dispatches, on the 14th (p. 993)—gave a favorable reception to and unanimously passed the second reading of the development and roads improvement bill, which provides for the utilization of the funds obtained by taxing motors, etc., for the development of the agricultural districts and the building and improvement of roads. This, although a separate bill, is really an integral part of the Budget scheme, and could only come into operation if the Budget is adopted. Its acceptance by the House of Lords, therefore, is regarded as a sign that they will not, after all, reject the Budget.

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Land Values for October, in noting further changes of heart on the Budget (p. 896), says that "the virulent Spectator, which attacked the Times for commending a cautious policy to the Lords, is now extravagantly meek."

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A St. Petersburg dispatch of the 16th, to the Chicago Tribune, states the Russian censor had taken the unusual step of suppressing the telegraphic reports of Lloyd George's Newcastle speech because of the British Chancellor's declaration that it was time the laboring masses shook off the tyranny of the dukes and landlords. This sounded too much like a Russian revolutionary propaganda, to the censor.

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Memorial Services for Louis Prang.

Memorial services for Louis Prang, who died June 14 in Los Angeles (pp. 604, 613, 782), were held at Jordan hall in Boston on the 10th. Ad-