

PRESIDENT LAYS THIRD TERM GHOST

Makes Definitive Declaration Under No Circumstances Will He Accept Nomination.

HE STANDS BY WASHINGTON.

"The Wise Custom Which Limits the President to Two Terms Regards the Substance and Not Form."

Washington, Dec. 11.—President Roosevelt will not be a candidate for a third term. All doubt on this point was tonight dispelled by the authoritative statement from the White House that Mr. Roosevelt still adheres to the declaration of renunciation made on the night of the election three years ago. In the statement issued tonight, President Roosevelt says he has not changed and shall not change the decision delivered to the American people in 1894.

It appears that President Roosevelt had been awaiting the call of the Republican national convention to afford the proper opportunity for making his position clear and unmistakable, thus leaving the field clear for Fairbanks, Taft, Cannon, Knox, Foraker and other declared or receptive candidates for the Republican nomination.

In view of the issuance of the call of the Republican national committee for the convention, the president makes the following statement:

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT.

"On the night after election I made the following announcement: 'I am deeply sensible of the honor done me by the American people in thus expressing their confidence in what I have done. I have tried to do. I appreciate to the full the solemn responsibility this confidence imposes upon me, and I shall do all that in my power lies not to forfeit it. On the 4th of March next I shall serve three and a half years and this three and a half years constitute my first term. The wise custom which limits the president to two terms regards the substance and no the form, and under no circumstances will I be a candidate for or accept another nomination.'

"I have not changed and shall not change the decision thus announced."

CLEAR'S SITUATION.

The announcement that the president would not accept the Republican nomination, if tendered, came at too late an hour to become generally known in political circles, but among those who were in touch with the Republicans alike, the feeling was general that it left no element of doubt in the presidential situation so far as relates to the third term talk, and that it definitely eliminated Mr. Roosevelt from the contest now being waged. Some Democrats, however, express a belief that a Roosevelt stampede in the Democratic ranks will make him resolute and that he would prove no exception to the historic precedent that no American citizen ever refused a presidential nomination.

Administration Republicans declare that the announcement gives a great impetus to the Taft boom, while the Democrats, many of the leaders of whom are here, are here to attend the meeting of their national committee tomorrow, are shouting that it means "Bryan in a walk."

REPUBLICAN COMMENTS.

Speaker Cannon, when shown the president's statement said:

"The president speaks for himself. It would be useless and inappropriate for me to attempt to interpret the press-

dent's statement."

Senator Foraker, the only other declared candidate who could be seen tonight, said:

"That has been his position all the while, I suppose, but I don't care to discuss the matter, thank you."

Senator LaFollette said:

"While such an announcement could be expected, it was not expected to come so soon. I have no other comment to make at this time."

Senator Hansbrough said:

"There is no question at all about the president's sincerity at this time and before. If conditions should demand his nomination the convention would nominate him and I do not see now it would be possible for him to decline however earnest he might be."

Senator Long of Kansas:

"The Taft boom will be the only one worth considering after this announcement."

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BURNED TO DEATH.

Three Little Children While Parents Were Milking Cows.

Durango, Colo., Dec. 12.—Three small children of Antonio Montoya, were burned to death in their home near Grado, yesterday. The fire resulted from a defective chimney, while the parents were milking cows. When they returned they were unable to enter the house which was a mass of flames.

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