

## TAFT STUDYING TWO PLATFORMS

When Through Will be An Author  
ity on Those of the Past  
And Present.

WILL SCORE DEMOCRATIC ONE

So Interested in His Studies Finds  
No Time to Dictate Letter  
Of Acceptance.

He is Going Into the Records With the  
Ardor and Thoroughness of a  
Judge on the Bench.

Hot Springs, Va., July 14.—From the present indications Judge William Howard Taft's letter of acceptance will have a judicial scoring of the Democratic platform adopted at Denver. All day yesterday and late into the evening Mr. Taft's time was devoted to a study of the platforms of the two parties. When he has concluded his labor he will not only be an authority on the work of the recent convention but on political platforms of the past.

Mr. Taft became so thoroughly interested in his studies of the records that he did not find time to dictate a line of his speech of acceptance. Today after his usual morning game of golf he again delved into the records. He did not permit complete exclusion, he de-

sired, as there is not a single party leader here to interrupt his work by requests of a conference.

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**LABOR UNIONS CRITICIZED.**

**Correspondent Writes a Letter to Governor Cutler on the Subject.**

A correspondent signing himself "Friend of the American Boy," has written to Governor Cutler an expression of views relative to the att

the number of apprentices to an  
given trade. The writer states that  
the subject is of vital interest "to  
every young man in the states who  
would like to learn a trade and

placed in the way by the action of the trades unions. Every mechanic in the country can not help but see that such

The writer, a New Yorker, enclosed an excerpt from a statement by Admiral George W. Melville concerning the Brazilian naval contract, as follows:

"Because the labor unions will not let a skilled workman teach his trade

ed States lost the \$56,000,000 contract for ships for the Brazilian navy. We have the best steel and iron in the world right here. We have the timber which England must import, but because the labor unions have put their restrictions on the number of apprentices, skilled labor has become so scarce in the United States that

in America than it does in Great Britain or Germany. No greater travesty on American freedom exists than the robbing of the young American of his birthright to work at the trade he chooses. Nothing to my mind is so un-American as to deprive a boy of his right to learn a trade or a man of his right to teach it. Nothing is so dangerous to our manufacturing supremacy.

ing and restricting apprenticeship, I attribute the loss of this great contract. The labor unions want to raise wages by reducing the number of workmen. They have succeeded, but Samuel Gompers and his allies have constructed a boomerang which

a very inopportune time. During this period of financial depression, a \$50,000,000 contract would have been a great boon to American mechanics. I see the future for this country similar to that of Spain and Italy. There the trade guilds in the towns became so strong and domineering that the nobility could

unions will keep the capitalist from investing in railroads, mine or manu

restriction of the number of apprentices. What should the United States do to secure the ship from Chili or Peru or Argentine?"

"Every state should pass a law prohibiting restrictions by trades union of the number of apprentices and the United States government should admit all skilled workmen. Then we will become the ship-building country of the world. We have the steel, the timber, the men of brawn and the men of brains."

## TEMPERATURE FALLS.

It was not so warm yesterday, the maximum thermometer having been at 84 degrees, lower than the record of the previous day.

heated areas, however, are breeding precipitation conditions, so that the prediction for tonight and tomorrow, is local showers, which will certainly be welcome.

The barometric conditions have changed but little since last report. Low barometric pressure continues over the plateau and north Atlantic states. Over the north Pacific, Gulf and south Atlantic states, upper Mississippi and upper Missouri valleys the air pressure is high, showers or thunderstorms are reported over portions of Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Arizona, Texas, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, lake region, Ohio valley and Atlantic states. The temperature changes are generally unimportant.

Record at the local office, United States weather bureau, for 24 hours ending at 8 a. m. today:

Temperature at 8 a. m., 66; maximum 68; minimum, 64. Normal, 73, which is 9 degrees below. Total excess of temperature since the first of the month, 13. Accumulated deficiency of temperature since Jan. 1, 187 degrees.

Precipitation, trace, which is .27 inch below normal. Accumulated excess of precipitation since Jan. 1, 1.195 inch. Relative humidity at 8 a. m., 68 per cent.

Forecast: Showers tonight and Wednesday.