

MR. TAFT BELIEVES WILSON "EMINENTLY PROPER" IN HIS STAND ON ITALIAN PROBLEM

Ex-President Taft said to a representative of The Ardmoreite this afternoon that he considers the course which President Wilson is taking in regard to the Italian problems before the peace conference "eminently proper."

Mr. Taft said that Italy appears to be expecting more than her share. It is his belief that Italy cannot afford to disrupt peace proceedings, inasmuch as she is in debt to the United States and also is dependent upon this country for food supplies and for coal.

Former President William Howard Taft has no political bees in his bonnet now, if his expression upon that subject at the Lions' Club luncheon this noon can be relied upon. When J. E. Hamilton, president of the club, introduced the former president as "our next president," Mr. Taft rose and said that such a suggestion coming from Oklahoma did not cause him to lose any sleep in vain dreamings.

Mr. Taft arrived in Ardmore on the Santa Fe at 11:55 this morning and his party to which at Overbrook there had been added seven Lions, was whisked away immediately to the Dornick Hills Country Club. There the former president was met by nearly 150 Ardmore citizens who chatted and ate with him.

"No," the former president said after the luncheon in answer to Mr. Hamilton's introduction, "I tackled the dear people and they tackled me; and there it now stands. I once canvassed the South and I was there introduced as I have been today. There may have been then some rosy hues in those southern skies for me, but—," and Mr. Taft broke into one of those intimitable and spontaneous chuckles for which he is famous—"but I have lived a long life and I know the difference between your post-prandial expressions and the work you do in the booth."

When Mr. Taft alighted from his car at the steps of the clubhouse, Perry Maxwell, president of the Country Club, stepped up with a bundle of golf sticks and asked the former president to try out the club's golf grounds.

Mr. Taft selected an iron-bound driver that suited him and stepped down to the tee. Mr. Maxwell, one of Ardmore's golf enthusiasts, remarked to Mr. Taft as he stepped up into position and measured his stick against the little white ball:

"I'll give ten dollars to the Red Cross every time you drive it over that hill."

Mr. Taft looked aghast at the hillock 180 yards away, but tried. Three times he missed, and the Red Cross lost.

In his talk Mr. Taft spoke of golf and its benefits. Among the benefits



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W. H. TAFT.

of the game and among necessities he saw for it in the future was the exhilaration to which the people of the nation would be driven when they began to feel the effects of the Eighteenth Amendment.

Before his talk this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock Mr. Taft retired to his room at the club and rested from his journey. Then he spoke on the "League of Nations" at Convention Hall.

The men who met Mr. Taft at Overbrook and accompanied him to Ardmore on the Santa Fe are Wirt Franklin, J. E. Hamilton, Rev. R. E. L. Morgan, Graves Leeper, G. A. Ramsay, J. R. Pennington and George Poulter.

Taft for Good Roads

Ex-President William Howard Taft while at luncheon at the Dornick Hills Country Club was asked by Senator F. E. Tucker what he thought of the advisability of the various states voting bonds for the construction of hard-surfaced roads. His reply was that since he knew of no other way to raise the money he thought it good business, and that since each state had a popular form of government that he thought the people should have sufficient confidence in the government of the state to entrust their officers with the ex-