The Sun.

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INDUSTRIAL LIBERTY.

Senator Sherman's Own Construction of the Anti-Trust Act.

From the Congressional Record, March 21, 1890.

Mr. SHERMAN—Mr. President, the object of this bill, as shown by the title, is "to declare unlawful trusts and combinations in restraint of trade and production." It declares that certain contracts are against public policy, null and void. It does not announce a new principle of law, but applies old and well recognized principles of the common law to the complicated jurisdiction of our State and Federal Government. Similar contracts in any State in the Union are now, by common or statute law, null and void. Each State can and does prevent and control combinations within the limits of the State. This we do not propose to interfere with. The power of the State courts has been repeatedly exercised to set aside such combinations, as I shall hereafter show; but these courts are limited in their jurisdiction to the State and in our complex system of government are admitted to be unable to deal with the great evil that now threatens us.

This bill, as I would have it, has for its single object to invoke the aid of the courts of the United States to deal with the combinations described in the first section when they affect injuriously our foreign and interstate commerce and our revenue laws, and in this way to supplement the enforcement of the established rules of the common and statute law by the courts of the several States in dealing with combinations that affect injuriously the industrial liberty of the citizens of these States.

It is the right of every man to work, labor and produce in any lawful vocation and to transport his production on equal terms and under like circumstances. This is industrial liberty and lies at the foundation of the equality of all rights and privileges.

This bill does not seek to cripple combinations of capital and labor, the formation of partnerships or of corporations, but only to prevent and control combinations made with a view to prevent competition, or for the restraint of trade, or to increase the profits of the producer at the expense of the consumer. It is the unlawful combination, tested by the rules of common law and human experience, that is aimed at by this bill, and not the useful and lawful combination. Unlawful combinations made by individuals are declared by the several States to be against public policy and void, and in proper cases they may be punished as criminals. If their business is lawful they can combine in any way and enjoy the advantage of their united skill and capital, provided they do not combine to prevent competition.

I admit that it is difficult to define in legal language the precise line between lawful and unlawful combinations. This must be left for the courts to determine in each particular case.

All that we as lawmakers can do is to declare general principles, and we may be assured that the courts will apply them so as to carry out the meaning of the law, as the courts of England and the United States have done for centuries.

Now, Mr. President, what is this bill? A remedial statute to enforce by civil process in the courts of the United States the common law against monopolies.

New York's Most Momentous Problem.

In one of the offices of a lofty building on the Battery a body of earnest scientists and practical engineers have labored for years to solve a problem, the most momentous that may confront a city.

Although not within the knowledge of many, it is a painful fact that among the great cities of the world New York stands practically alone in its failure to provide an orderly arrangement for the disposal of its sewage. There is no plan for rendering inoffensive or harmless the dangerous constituents of the sewage of this metropolis.

To place the empire city abreast of less important centres, like Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, to say nothing of Paris, London and Berlin, the Metropolitan Sewerage Commission was appointed by the Legislature. It consists of five eminent engineers and a physician, assisted by eighteen consultants of the highest repute. These men are about to complete investigations, which are unprecedented in magnitude, of the problem and details of execution. The sewage of more than six million persons and a large number of animals is discharged into the waterways surrounding New York, and it is estimated that this enormous mass will be doubled in 1940. A conception of the volume of this effete and menacing material may be formed from the calculation that it would fill Broadway to Grace Church to a depth of one hundred feet.

The reports issued from time to time by the commission fill five hundred quarto pages, containing ingenious and painstaking experiments of river and harbor currents, thousands of analyses of the river waters, of the mud beneath them and of the gases produced by them during all hours of the day and night and at all seasons. When the experiments are completed in the near future the commission will recommend a definite programme calling for the construction of sewers running parallel to the waterfront to collect all the discharged matter at their inlets instead of permitting it to mingle with the river, as is now the case; these sewers will be supplemented with appliances for conveying the offensive material to distant points for final disposal.

The definition once pronounced of Manhattan Island that "it is a body of land surrounded by sewage" will then become a jest instead of a sad reality.

The wisdom of the commission is evidenced by its proposal of a programme that may be carried out in a gradual and progressive manner, distributing the great outlay over a period including a generation or more. Provision has been made also for preventing needless waste on unnecessary works by the advice that the work should be done by a commission like those in charge of former important engineering undertakings, the rapid transit subway and Catskill water supply, without interruption of the present system or interference with the functions of present officials.

The Metropolitan Sewerage Commission expects to submit its final report next May and to ask to be relieved when its plans and all its projects have been presented in a matured, coordinated form, as a guide for its successors.

That the future prosperity and development of this city depend upon the safeguarding of the health of its people needs no demonstration. That the expenditure of money for the disposal of the sewage that threatens in twenty-five years to convert the Hudson, Harlem and East rivers into open sewers, with all this implies, has been proved by the commission's detailed report. The usual protest of already overburdened taxpayers, whose horizon is limited by their lack of foresight, will stir the air; the familiar objections against carrying the burdens of succeeding generations will be heard. Wise counsels must prevail in the solution of this menacing problem, which may be accomplished, as others have been, by judicious distribution over long periods as suggested by the commission.

This body of men who, prompted by civic pride and interest, have planned wisely and discreetly must receive the grateful recognition of their fellow citizens not only in words but by the prompt execution of the work they have planned for the maintenance of New York's eminence.

Is the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1913 Constitutional?

We invite attention to the interesting question raised by an esteemed correspondent as to the constitutionality of the workmen's compensation law which Governor GLYNN put through the Legislature of 1913 with such promptness, energy and appreciation of public requirements.

The law was enacted before the enabling amendment of the Constitution went into effect. It looks as if this most desirable and, on the whole, satisfactory legislation will have to be passed again by the Legislature of 1914.

Does It Pay?

Does it pay for 5,000 Delaware and Hudson employees to strike for the sake of two whose reinstatement they insist upon? These two are "blameless" in the opinion of the strikers or their leaders; but can a railroad or any other corporation afford to give up to its employees the power of discharging for cause? If the cause was indeed groundless and the company mistaken, is it not better to sacrifice the two than to throw the 5,000 out of work and gravely inconvenience or injure the public that uses the road?

The leaders of the strike say that they should be "sorry to place dollars and cents ahead of principle." But is any principle really involved? The road is highly unionized. It cannot be seriously maintained that its officials have any thought of attacking the federation of employees. If, on the other hand, the "principle" at stake is that the unions be the absolute judges of the merit as well as of the wages and hours of the employees, it seems injudicious to force such an issue at a time when railways are between the employees and the Interstate Commerce Commission.

To the unbiassed outsider it looks as if it would be better policy for the unions to support the two employees than to support a strike; but perhaps they know their own business best, and especially their power.

Another Child's Welfare.

There is no lack of care for the welfare of the children of the poor in these days, and varied are the benevolences looking to the improvement of their condition. Nor was there ever a time when it was possible to do so much for children, since it has been revealed by the energy of investigators during the later years that there is so much which may be done for them that has never been done in the past. Not only in the way of education which seeks to prepare them for the problems of life, but in the physical and social phases of their existence, is there constant solicitude for the children of the poor to-day.

It is interesting to hear, therefore, that it has been found necessary to organize an association which shall look after the well being of the children of prosperous parents. Yet this is the purpose of a meeting to be held here to-night. Parents are organizing to look after the too excessive pleasures of their children. The movement, which is said to have begun in Boston, had its first test in this city during the Christmas holidays. It was brought into existence by the cry of the teachers, protesting and beseeching that their charges should not be returned at the close of the vacation exhausted by too much pleasure, injured in health by loss of sleep or imprudences in eating and maybe more or less in revolt at the standards prevailing in their schools by the plays seen in their hours of freedom.

The association which is to meet tonight therefore has decided to perform its services for the children of the rich not only during the Christmas holidays but at other times. The reasonableness of the organization's aim has met with success. Parents have united zealously with the preceptors. Their advice is to be deferred to; so in the future it will not be alone the poor child whose welfare is to be guarded.

Resuscitating the Aldermanic Police Report.

When the Board of Aldermen rejected the report of its committee on the condition of the Police Department, a rejection made necessary in the interest of fairness and sound administration by the recommendation affecting the then Commissioner, THE SUN pointed out that this action in no way invalidated the valuable suggestions included in that document. That there were a number of these which might profitably be followed by the executive of the city was apparent to all familiar with the police.

Mayor MITCHEL has consulted with Commissioner MCKAY as to the details of this report, and yesterday he announced that one of his first acts would be to put into effect generally its constructive proposals, in his effort to improve the morale of the force. The Board of Estimate which went out of office with 1913 did raise the salaries of new appointees. Commissioner MCKAY has established certain special squads approved by the committee. Thus it appears that the city may, after all, reap some benefit from an expensive and long drawn out quest which seemed at one time to be made fruitless by the non-essentials of politics injected into it.

Not all the contentions of the committee will be found practicable or desirable of application, but some of them are obviously good and worthy of heed.

Mr. A. E. Beardsley of Summerdale.

The statement made by A. E. BEARDSLEY of Summerdale, reciting his version of the dispute which resulted in his shooting of the Overseer of the Poor and the subsequent besieging of the Beardsley home by a Sheriff's posse, supports the notion of the incident formed in the minds of many men from the acounts of it which have been sent to the newspapers from Jamestown. The difficulty arose from the attempt of the authorities to take BEARDSLEY'S children from him on the theory that they were not receiving proper care.

The embattled farmer contends that the documents were not in legal form and conferred no authority on those bearing them to take his children away. The father defended his home and in so doing shot the Overseer of the Poor, who, in BEARDSLEY'S opinion, was an intruder attempting to do an unlawful act. He then protected himself from capture by threatening to shoot any person who approached his home and using the members of his family to guard himself from attacks with firearms.

All this is very primitive and of course very wrong. BEARDSLEY should have recognized the authority of the officers who came for his children, surrendered them and at once retained a lawyer to regain possession of them on the ground that they had been illegally taken from their natural guardian. The clerical error he detected in the process served on him cannot justify his assault with a deadly weapon any more than his affection for his children can justify his defiance of the Sheriff sent to arrest him. The fact that the officers did their work in a slipshod, careless and slovenly manner does not relieve him from blame for his subsequent conduct.

Since the siege of his home began BEARDSLEY has shown intelligence and resourcefulness. He has offered to surrender if his children are committed to the care of his family, but has refused to give them up to public charity. He has talked reasonably with those whom he has permitted to approach his door and has given every evidence of independence, fearlessness and a clear understanding of the situation in which he is placed. Those who have pictured him as a mere ruffian wantonly assailing an officer should read again his letter "To the people of Chautauqua county and the State of New York" and see whether they are not compelled to revise their estimate of the man who is standing off a Sheriff in what he conceives to be a struggle to preserve his home and his family.

In the last number to hand of the *Congressional Record* we find that Senator BRISTOW uttered this heresy:

"I am not in sympathy with the spirit of the discussion that has been had here this afternoon, because it has proceeded to a certain extent, it seems to me, upon the hypothesis that the farmer is an ignorant man, who knows little about his business, and that it is necessary to send people around to show him things he ought to know in regard to his daily vocation. That has been the general tone of the debate. My observation has been that the farmer is just as intelligent and just as well informed as to his own business as is the merchant or any other man in any other vocation, and many farmers are really better informed in regard to the business of farming than are the demonstrators who go around to teach them."

Does Senator BRISTOW appreciate what havoc would be wrought were his theory about the buoyant "servants of the seasons" to take root? What right has Senator BRISTOW to infer that because his observation may have included here and there a farmer seated with his spouse in the tonneau of a motor car that Kansas farmers are typical? Anyway, how can even his exceptional pillars of humility "be well informed as to their own business" when they spend so many of their waking hours flying behind a windshield? The hired men are at home to listen to the demonstrators.

This Government of ours is expecting a little too much if it supposes farmers have time to hang around waiting to see demonstrators.

M. JULES VEDRINES seems to be a tremendous fellow. Flying on Sunday from the Pyramids to the Heliopolis track, he alighted to mount a horse and beat DIGBY, an English jockey, "by a neck" in a half mile race; then the aviator, returning to his monoplane, soared back to the Pyramids. A man of such address would have caught the fancy of the elder DUMAS. And upon the return of M. VEDRINES to Paris he will have a duel on his hands! He will no doubt demean himself after the fashion of D'ARTAGNAN.

There seems to be one clear way of ending the present trouble in Mexico. It would be costly, but infinitely less costly than intervention and wholly humane. The idea is suggested by the eagerness with which the inhabitants of Ojinaga have taken advantage of the hospitality accorded to refugees by this country and have crossed the Rio Grande in their thousands for the sake of a square meal at the expense of Uncle SAM. All that is required is an extension of this plan. On the United States side of the Mexican border erect huge out of door kitchens prepared to cook a New England boiled dinner on a gigantic scale. Then wait for a favoring breeze before starting up the fires. The delicate aroma of the cooking wafted over the border to the nostrils of the starving combatants will prove irresistible. They will abandon their blood lust, rush for the Rio Grande and unite in a love feast as the guests of Uncle SAM. This pacific nostrum is offered gratis to the consideration of the Secretary of State, with the added suggestion that Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE be prevailed upon to finance the boiled dinner.

It is reported that the troops of ESSAD Pasha, formerly Minister of Finance of Albania, who decamped with all the funds and is now leading a rebellion, have captured Elbassan and Podgradetz.—*Belgrade despatch.*

The Kaiser, who has failed to convince Prince WILLIAM of Wied that uneasy will lie the head that wears the crown of Albania, had better send him the series of ESSAD Pasha's bulletins as they come out.

In the Senate Friday Senator OLIVER of Pennsylvania presented a petition of Pride of Welcome Council, No. 33, Daughters of Liberty, of Pittsburg, for legislation to restrict immigration. Pride of Welcome seems a whimsical name in this case, whereas a memorial, likewise presented by Mr. OLIVER, against an appropriation for the celebration of the 100 years of peace among English speaking peoples comes with a seductive grace from the Vinegar Hill Club of Philadelphia.

A SOCIOLOGICAL CENTRE.

Thoroughbreds and Mongrels Seen in the Russet Light of Cider.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The description of the sociologizers by Mr. Albert R. Gallatin shows unbiassed but not exhaustive observation. Living on the battlefield where New England cider still holds the fort against the assaults of the prohibition sociologizers, I have thus far learned to distinguish readily four types of humanity, and immediately recognized Mr. Gallatin's "loudest mouthed, physical and moral weakling" as a well developed specimen of a subdivision of one of my four types.

We have the thoroughbred abstainer as a fixed type from generation unto generation. Also the thoroughbred "boozer" as a fixed type that can boast an eminent lineage of "boozers." Thirdly, we have the thoroughbred that occupies the vast space between the first two classes and knows how much of a good thing is good and that too much of a good thing is bad. He also had ancestors.

These three classes are fixed types, thoroughbreds.

Lastly, we have the unfixed type or mongrel, that in three generations will furnish so good a counterfeit of each of the three thoroughbred classes that its members will often be mistaken for genuine thoroughbreds.

Should Mr. Gallatin be one of those numerous New Yorkers who journey by auto to the Berkshires past my humble dwelling, he would find this a favored spot in which to perfect his study, and I have no doubt that with the aid of a moderately dissipating russet cider I could soon teach so apt a pupil to distinguish readily the mongrel "boozer" from the thoroughbred, and the mongrel, loud mouthed sociologizer from the thoroughbred abstainer. NICHOLAS GLENNON.

NEW MILFORD, Conn., January 17.

A "Sun" Reader for Nearly Fifty Years.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUNDAY SUN of January 4 Addison Keyes Bishop gave an account of long and constant readers of THE SUN.

In 1866 or 1867 I subscribed to the weekly SUN and continued until I changed to THE SUNDAY SUN, and have been a constant reader of same and am at present still a subscriber. Your subscription books will show that from 1866 or 1867 I have been a constant subscriber, missing not a single year. I cannot do without it.

I think this record will entitle me to a membership in the great family of constant readers. J. D. CHADWICK.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., January 17.

Rural Adventures on Broadway.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* We countrymen will lift our hats to Mayor Mitchel if he succeeds in making the Great White Way safer for us by freeing it of the Messrs. Smooth. Your eat shops, florists, theatre ticket ghouls and tango magnets annex our alfalfa earnings speedily enough without subjecting us to the wiles of pickpockets and those who would make us rich via wireless wire tapping. FELIX FILKINS.

FORT PLAIN, January 19.

"Civil War" in Ulster.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Whether or not there is to be civil war in Ireland rests entirely with England. If England says to the Orangemen: "We will see to it that you are protected in your rights, but if you engage in a selfish, sectarian opposition you need expect no sympathy!"—if England says that, there will be no civil war. AMICUS.

NEW YORK, January 19.

Reading the Answer Into the Flashlight.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Early this morning, while it was still black dark, I saw an electric flashlight shining in a window over on the other side of the court of our flat house. Burglars, I wondered, and ought we to call up the janitor? But on a second look it was simple enough. Somebody living over there was throwing the beam from a pocket flashlight on his outdoor thermometer to see how cold it was.

NEW YORK, January 17. ECHO.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

New Legislation Needed for Removal of Doubt on Recent Act.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Suppose a workman in a hazardous employment in this State, injured after July 1 next, contests an offer of payment of compensation under the terms of Chapter 816 of the laws of 1913, known as the "workmen's compensation law," and sues for damages under the employers' liability law, alleging that the Legislature of 1913, under the decision of the Court of Appeals in the Ives case, was without authority to enact a law for compulsory compensation, applicable to hazardous employments, and that not until section 19 of Article I. became a part of the Constitution could an enactment for workmen's compensation on the compulsory plan be upheld as constitutional; or suppose an employer contests, on similar grounds, a claim for compensation. Is the workmen's compensation enactment of 1913 likely to be upheld by the Court of Appeals? Opinions vary on the subject.

The amendment to the Constitution reads: "Nothing contained in this Constitution shall be construed to limit the power of the Legislature to enact laws for the protection of the lives, health or safety of employees," &c. Under the terms of section 1 of Article XIV. of the Constitution the amendment became a part of the Constitution "from and after the first day of January next after" approval by the people at the general election in November last.

The "workmen's compensation law," to be in effect on January 1 and July 1 this year, was enacted on December 16, when the Governor signed it, or fifteen days before the date set on which the Constitution, as amended, declared effectively that nothing in it "shall be construed to limit the power of the Legislature to enact laws for the protection of the lives, health or safety of employees," &c.

Instead of waiting for a court decision on the compensation act of 1913 the Legislature of 1914 can meet the situation with a new act. With amendments to have the plan cover all employments except farm labor and domestic service, and to get rid of double liability for some employers, a new act will remove doubt. Some mistakes in the proposition can be corrected too. The provision for the custody of the State insurance fund is faulty. I understand that a new act is to be passed. The Governor and the leaders in the Senate have been enlightened.

A law for workmen's compensation is desirable from many points of view, the bulk of arguments sustaining the principle. Able lawyers on the Wainwright commission believed that the compulsory plan could be established in 1910, but the decision in the Ives case sustained the contentions of doubters. The experience of the act of 1910 in the courts ought not to be repeated by the act of 1913. HENRY W. ODION.

BROOKLYN, January 19.

WAGES AND WORKERS.

Another Criticism of a Famous Plan of Profit Sharing.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Is it of benefit to workers generally that the Ford employees get at least $5 a day? Without doubt all who usually profess to speak for labor will say that the workers generally will benefit, because there will be a tendency to increase wages in other factories. If wages were increased generally there would be no benefit to the Ford workers. As each additional factory advances wages the Ford employees lose so much of the benefit of the increase in their pay. The Ford workers are benefited because they receive relatively more than others.

But out of whom must the increase come? Out of those workers who do not get the increase. And if all got the increase there would in reality be no increase; for it is not on the amount of wages that men live, but on the quantity of commodities that their wages buy. There is a certain amount of commodities produced annually for general consumption. If the Ford employees get $10,000,000 worth more this year than they got last year, there will be $10,000,000 worth less for the others. No one can question that. Now if it were so that "the others" must be or might be the capitalists, perhaps even the capitalists would be satisfied, but "the others" can be none other than the workers themselves.

Take the Ford factories, for example. The 20,000 or more workers are employed in plants the cost of construction and equipment of which we will assume is $20,000,000. Assume that Ford is satisfied with 10 per cent. profit on the cost of his plant and other capital employed. That would be $2,000,000. If the wages of the building mechanics and machinery builders were increased in the Ford manner the cost of such a plant would be approximately $40,000,000. And if he was gracious enough to cut his rate of profit to 5 per cent. he would still expect $2,000,000 a year.

But another thing, if at the new rate the cost of reproducing a similar plant and running it came to $40,000,000, then the value of the existing plant would be $40,000,000, in which event Mr. Ford would be gainer by $20,000,000, for absolutely nothing, without considering a reasonable rate of profit on the value of the plant. Of course if Ford gains by the general increase of wages other capitalists would also gain. If capitalists generally gain it means that their share of the annual production is greater. If their share is greater the share of the workers must be less.

If high wages insures a greater share of the annual product to the capitalists why is it that the efforts of capitalists generally are to keep wages down? That is another question. The answer may be indicated this way: Capital is interested in getting the greatest annual product possible. It would rather have 5 per cent. on 1,000,000 units than 10 per cent. on 100,000 units. It is also better for the workers that capital get a small rate on a large quantity than a large rate on a small quantity. In other words, if wages were excessively high opportunity for doing business would be lessened. M. P. C.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., January 19.

The Moral Mandate of a Name.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The City Judge of St. Augustine is handicapped with the name of O. B. Goode. W. E. GORE.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., January 16.

In the *Century Magazine* for February J. Forbes-Robertson writes on the theatre, while R. Le Gallienne appreciates Mr. Forbes-Robertson. W. Morgan Shuster discusses Mexico, E. F. Benson Benares, E. A. Ross immigration, and there are articles on the Mona Lisa, on youthful criminals, on the treatment of convicts, on Lincoln's social ideas, on Creole women and on the verse of D. H. Holmes. A masque in verse by P. Mackaye, four poems and seven short stories form the contribution to plain literature, and the number of pictures with and without text is unusually large.

A TEXAS LEATHERSTOCKING.

Deaf Smith, Who Gave His Name to the Paradise of the Panhandle.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Great Cæsar's ghost! Can there be a man with red American blood in his veins so ignorant of the history and heroics of his country that he never heard of Deaf Smith? Out on this Carter, name odorous of wheels and mules!

Deaf Smith was one of the most picturesque and heroic figures of the Texas war of independence, a scout and tracker, a Leatherstocking of the Southwest, a hunter and rifleman of keen vision and fatal accuracy. He was deaf as an adder; but had a nose as keen as a coyote's. He could see a man a league off and smell him further, even though critics of the Greaser say he is smellable ten leagues away.

Deaf Smith was chief scout for Sam Houston and at the affair at San Jacinto he and a friend or two strolled out ahead of the anxious, waiting patriots, backed up against the bridgeless, boatless river, and silenced the artillery of Santa Anna by deftly shooting his Mexican gunners when they stepped to their guns. His rifle was deadly and when the artillerymen of the Mexican Napoleon fled their guns in a panic the Texans under Houston went at the army of the dictator with bowies and rifle butts and gave Texas the most glorious day in its history and Mexico one of its most bloody and disastrous.

Deaf Smith is a plain Smith raised to the nth degree, a man and a hero. Ajax had nothing on D. S. He was a brother in spirit to Finn McCool and the Berserkers. He deserves to have counties named for him, and the jails of the counties should be reserved for the Carters who ask such foolish questions as "Who was Deaf Smith?" ANOTHER SMITH.

BOSTON, January 17.

Gazetteer of the Realm of Erastus the Surd.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Deaf Smith county is located in the Panhandle of Texas bordering New Mexico. It was created in 1876 from Bexar county, which at one time took in practically all of western Texas. It was organized in 1890 and named for Erastus Smith, popularly known as Deaf Smith. Area is 1,477 square miles; population, census 1910, was 3,942, as against 843 in 1900. Hereford, the county seat and chief city, had a population of 1,750 in census report 1910. The county is served by the Pecos and Northern Texas Railroad (Santa Fe), which is known to most people up North as the Atchison system.

Deaf Smith county is a level plateau, between 3,500 and 4,000 feet altitude. There is no timber except such as has been set out by citizens. Two small rivers drain the county, known as the Tierra Blanca and Paloduro; some 1,500 acres are irrigated from the Tierra Blanca. The soils consist largely of red and gray sandy loam, with black loam in the bottoms. Live stock raising is the chief occupation, cattle, sheep and hogs being the leading lines, named in order of prominence. Some sugar beets, melons, truck, apples, cherries and grapes are grown. Wheat, milo maize, kaffir corn and millet are the staple crops and are produced largely by dry farming methods. Improved lands are generally quoted at $15 to $20 an acre; unimproved lands at various prices. Although cattle raising is the chief indusry there is a large acreage available for settlement. E. R. LORENTS.

NEW YORK, January 18.

More Light Upon an Extraordinary Man.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Deaf Smith was one of the most extraordinary characters ever known in the Southwest. He made his advent in Texas at an early period, and although he made many warm friends no one ever learned where he was born or any particulars of his previous history. When questioned on the subject he laid his finger on his lip. His eye was as keen and farseeing as an eagle's and his nose as keen as a raven's. The savages used to say he could catch the scent of a Mexican or an Indian at as great a distance as a buzzard his dinner. He could never be persuaded to sleep under the roof of a house or even a tent cloth.

Deaf Smith's name stands in the records of a dozen battles and at least half as many bloody duels. He was a bosom friend of Sam Houston's and his favorite emissary on dangerous missions. When Houston was President of the Texan Republic, on one occasion he ordered the removal of the State archives from Austin, the capital, on account of the depredations of the Comanches near that place. There was great opposition, led by Colonel Morton, who had distinguished himself in the war for independence, and who wrote to Houston that he would hunt him down like a wolf. Houston, who was then in Washington, sent a message to the citizens of Austin, giving them three days in which to deliver the archives.

Deaf Smith delivered this message to a select committee which was in permanent session in the City Hall. He did not knock at the door, but climbing a small live oak tree which grew beside the wall, jumped in the window. This led to a duel between Deaf Smith and Colonel Morton that evening, with rifles, at a hundred yards distance. The two rifles exploded at the same instant. Morton sprang into the air and dropped dead. Smith quietly reloaded his rifle and walked away into the forest. Three days afterward General Houston, accompanied by Deaf Smith and ten other men, appeared in Austin and removed the State papers.

Deaf Smith was tall, straight as an arrow, active as a panther. He had a dark complexion, luxuriant jetty hair and piercing black eyes. He is said to have died in Texas in 1850.

This short account of one of the forgotten worthies of the great drama enacted in the Southwest in the '30s and '40s of the last century is abridged from a story of Deaf Smith's duel with Colonel Morton. G. F. K.

NEW YORK, January 19.

Hogged Vessels and Men.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* When a vessel is hogged you have to let her stay hogged. She may run a long time after that, but you can't straighten her; to do that you would have to rebuild her, for if you should try to straighten up some of her sagged beams or timbers you would only leave those adjoining still further out of place, relatively, and it might be cheaper to build a new vessel than, throughout, to reconstruct this one. She has formed what you might call a physical habit which you can't change; you have got to take her as she is.

As we grow older we are likely to sag here and there and then settle down with fixed habits of life. We may have in us years of good steady carrying, but you must take us as you find us. You can't change a hogged man any more than you can a hogged vessel. SLIGHTLY HOGGED.

NEW YORK, January 18.

Professor Squeers and Professor Fagin.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In "J. P. D.'s" letter reference is made to Dotheboys Hall and Oliver Twist in a way which would indicate that the writer believed that little Oliver had been a pupil at the hall.

I haven't read Dickens in many years and cannot say positively that little Oliver did not attend an institution such as Squeers presided over. I remember only one Dotheboys Hall, and that appears in "Nicholas Nickleby." Oliver and Nicholas never had the pleasure of meeting in the same book. The former was a pupil of Fagin in the work entitled "Oliver Twist." J. H. H.

NEW YORK, January 18.

The Square Jaw in Fiction and Fact.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Does a square jaw necessarily indicate power? We read of the usual hero in the story that his "firm, square jaw betokened mastery." Is it not rather the solid, firm, strong chin that carries this mark? And I have known men whose jaws were not boxlike and whose chins were almost receding who were nevertheless men of great ability and great power. A NOVEL READER.

BOSTON, January 19.

CHURCHMEN HONOR FORBES-ROBERTSON

Nine Denominations Represented at Luncheon Given for the English Actor.

HAILED AS A NEW MOSES

Fellowship of Pulpit and Stage Is Theme of Clergymen and Their Guest.

Church unity and the fellowship of pulpit and the stage became inextricably mingled yesterday when a group of prominent clergymen, workers in the Church Federation movement, gave a luncheon to Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson at the Fifth Avenue Restaurant.

The Rev. Nehemiah Boynton, of the Clinton Avenue Congregational Church, Brooklyn, went so far as to suggest that when the longed for unity was found it might be that preachers would find themselves under the leadership of "some actor who, like Sir Johnston, sees the ideal and longs for its installation in life.

"If the time comes when we are ready for such leadership," said Dr. Boynton, "I think all will agree that a man of your high purpose, Sir Johnston, should be our Moses to lead us into green pastures."

Representatives of nine denominations and of two creeds were present. Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of the Free Synagogue is said to have been the originator of the plan. The Very Rev. Dean William M. Grosvenor of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine presided. Rabbi Joseph Silverman of the Temple Emanu-El was among those at the guest table, and about the room were clergymen of the Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, Reformed, Universalist, Lutheran, Congregational and Unitarian churches.

Buried Beneath Praise.

Rabbi Wise began the speechmaking with compliments to the art and personal life of the actor, which the others added to until the guest of honor sat with bowed head, buried beneath verbal bouquets. Dean Grosvenor, alluding to the unusual circumstance of the stage being the guest of the pulpit, said:

"This is a remarkable gathering, one that, as Sir Johnston said a moment ago to me, could not possibly have taken place twenty years ago. We are all men who are dedicated to the moral uplift of our city, our nation and the world. We have learned that in the spiritual uplift of the people we must go to the great dramatic profession. Every day the people are being educated by the theatre."

The Rev. Dr. Edward S. Young of the Bedford Presbyterian Church declared that not only had Sir Johnston "brought about on this occasion a unity of denominations, but he has done more than any one else to bring about a union between the pulpit and stage." And the Rev. Dr. J. Lewis Harstock of the Union Methodist Church was sure that "even the most hidebound Methodist must find a place for Sir Johnston somewhere between the Beast of Holy Writ and the Archangel." For himself he was certain that the place would be near the Archangel.

Braved Wrath to See Actor.

The Rev. Dr. Harold Pattison of the Washington Heights Baptist Church told how twenty years ago he braved the wrath of the head of a great seminary to see Sir Johnston. Then he said:

"When I saw Dr. Boynton just now with his arm around Rabbi Wise, I thought: 'Does Dr. Boynton really think that Dr. Wise is going to hell?'"

When it came to Sir Johnston's turn to speak he said that whereas he had come to meet the clergy he had discovered that they were "all brilliant comedians."

"I have always felt," he said, "that there was much in common between the clergyman and the actor. And now, finding this high vein of comedy running through all the delightful things you have said—that vein of comedy that is so helpful to humanity—I am more sure of it than ever."

George Bernard Shaw had been referred to by several of the speakers, always to point a jest, and Sir Johnston paused in his talk to say this of the dramatist:

"No more religious being ever walked the earth than Bernard Shaw. Few even in England realize this, but they will in time to come. I speak from an intimate knowledge of the man."

Reverting to his topic of the stage he continued:

"I honestly believe that my calling can have a great influence and be a great educational force. I can remember the time when people could put aside the ideas presented by some of us that we were useful in uplifting the world. Now no one in the English speaking world says that the stage is not an educational force."

Denounces Prurient Plays.

Several of the clergymen had spoken of the unsavory nature of some plays of the season. Sir Johnston had this to say:

"It is true that dramas have been presented here and in London that never should have seen the light of day. But I do not think that they have had a measurably great influence on the public. A long experience has taught me that the public may be trusted to choose for itself. There are momentary fashions of prurience, but they pass, and so far as I can recall not one of the plays of such character has ever been revived."

Sir Johnston said that from a personal knowledge of many of the great actors of England, the United States, France and Germany he was able to say that their "personal lives" were clean.

He spoke of the momentary character of the actor's work, but said:

"The spoken word has more influence than the written; there the actor and the clergyman have the advantage."

In conclusion Sir Johnston told how much the appreciation of American audiences had meant to him and how it had kept him upon the stage. He added:

"One point I would like to touch upon. I mean the great question of the importance of an understanding between Great Britain and America. And when I say America I mean America. I mean the Stars and Stripes. I don't refer to the United States; it's a feeble expression to picture this great continent. The Americans and these Britons must stand together and thoroughly understand one another. I thank God I see a better understanding than when I first came here twenty-seven years ago."

MORE MEN ENTERING MINISTRY

Decided Increase in Last Few Years, Statistics Show.

AUBURN, Jan. 19.—Prof. R. [illegible] Nichols of Auburn Theological Seminary said to-day that the number of students for the Christian ministry is increasing. In 1913 there were more students in the theological seminaries of the Presbyterian Church in the United States than in any other year since 1900.

The low water mark was reached in 1902. Since then the movement, with some slight fluctuations, has been upward. In the years 1908 to 1913 the number grew 16 per cent., a rate of increase more rapid than that of the population of the country.