

THE EVENING STAR, With Sunday Morning Edition. WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, July 16, 1921 THEODORE W. NOYES, Editor

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Court Enlargement Necessary. It is to be hoped that the hearing before the House judiciary committee on the bill to provide additional judges for the District Supreme Court is but preliminary to prompt action on the measure.

The statements made by representatives of the court, the bar and the public showing the need of an enlargement of the bench are so convincing that there should be no question whatever of the action of the committee, followed quickly by the passage of the bill.

It is, indeed, astounding that the District court has maintained its work so well during the recent years of great growth of the capital jurisdiction and population and volume of business. Had it not been for the diligence of the judges the congestion would have been much more serious and the delay of justice would have made this community marked throughout the country as an example of inadequate judicial procedure.

This burden should not be laid upon the court. The government itself needs an enlargement of the bench. Its business is affected greatly. For this court has jurisdiction over all cases relating to departmental work. Some of the most protracted trials in the country are held here in cases involving government interests. While these are on the local calendar is congested and justice is in a large degree denied the people of Washington.

In the course of the hearing, which will be continued, statistics will be given to the House committee which can possibly leave no doubt of the fact that Washington is inadequately served in the matter of court organization as compared with other American cities. If the District had had the determination of this matter it would long since have provided itself with a larger bench. But it must go to Congress for relief. And it is the business of Congress primarily, because the court is federal in character, while serving as a court of local jurisdiction. A bill to enlarge the court has heretofore passed the House. Political reasons have prevented enactment. There is no conceivable political reason now against it.

The hope is that this bill will be passed through both houses and the requisite appointments will be made to the bench in time for opening of the fall term of court, which will permit a redivision of labor on the bench in season to effect a reduction of the calendar during the coming court year.

A Busy Man. These are strenuous times for the President. His callers are numerous, and as a rule their business is urgent. He sees them all, hears them all, and considers what they lay before him.

Then he has Congress on his hands. It was inevitable that the warring factions should seek his advice. They have probably done so none too soon. Differences of opinion on Capitol Hill are sharp just now, and there is work in plenty for a referee.

Then he meets the members of his cabinet for consultation; and the affairs in their hands are always important. His daily card, therefore, is crowded. Questions of all kinds, foreign and domestic, are submitted to him, and decisions are expected promptly.

Fortunately for Mr. Harding, his party, and the country, he is a strong man physically as well as otherwise, and is of a temperament that accommodates itself to the situation that exists. He has patience. He is not easily confused or rattled. He listens well. When he speaks it is to the point.

The pressure is steady. One day is like another in its appeals and anxieties. A President has no understudy. He must puzzle out problems for himself, and tackle them as they come, and when, as at present, they crowd upon each other's heels, so fast they follow, he is the busiest man in the country.

The hope is doubtless entertained by Mr. Thomas Lipton that the world of society will soon forget about prize-fighting and get back to yacht racing.

There must be moments when Mr. James Stillman wishes he had been more disposed to let business interfere with pleasure.

Patronage. Daily nominations and confirmations show that the patronage of the government—such as custom recognizes as due—is gradually passing from the defeated to the victorious party. Republicans are replacing democrats. There is no stir about the change. It is in the usual order of things, and conducted in the usual way.

Local leaders have much to say. Senators and representatives and men of consequence out of office are consulted. Pains are taken to select competent persons of good repute. Satisfactory service is desired. The government's business is so important, all to whom it is entrusted, even in the small details, should be equal to the duties assigned.

When we consider the great volume and complexity of the government's business, and the great number of officials necessary in its transaction, it is remarkable how well upon the whole the work is done. The success achieved is a compliment both to the appoint-

ing power and to the citizenry of the country. Competent and faithful men are easily the rule, and the means taken in the selection bring the desired result.

The places subject to this change—to the mutation of politics—are few as compared with the number formerly affected. The civil service law now has a wide application, and there is a sentiment in favor of even a wider. But that sentiment needs to be strengthened materially before the law is enlarged to cover the places at present under consideration, or soon to be taken up.

In Harness Again. Ambassador Herrick is in harness again, and feeling very comfortable, as he confesses. Paris suits him. The French people like him, and he has returned to them with a lively appreciation of their appreciation. The President has made no better appointment.

Mr. Herrick was in office when the war storm broke. The utmost confusion prevailed throughout Europe. Americans on their travels were tossed about in a most uncomfortable way. This gave to American representatives abroad in both the diplomatic and the consular fields opportunities for service out of the ordinary; and the records made everywhere were good.

In Paris—a great city, popular with world travelers—the situation for foreigners was for the time chaotic. But, fortunately for his countrymen caught in the swirl, the American ambassador was by training a man of business, and particularly well qualified for the duties that had thus been suddenly thrust upon him. He was of great help to everybody, and to many outside of his own sphere of influence, so to say.

Mr. Herrick returns to a situation shorn of all those embarrassments. Peace now prevails, and his duties will have to do with the ties that bind the French and the American people together. That he will again succeed, and add new credits to his record, we may all wish with perfect safety assume.

Watchful Campaigning. Chairman Adams of the republican national committee continues the Hays style of doing business. He keeps in close touch with what is going on. Although prevented at the last moment from attending the Virginia republican convention, he sent a letter expressing his interest in the meeting and best wishes for success.

It was this sort of watchfulness on the part of Mr. Hays when he took the organization reins that inspired his co-workers with confidence. He made himself familiar with the whole field. He kept track of state events as well as of national events. Whenever possible, he appeared on the scene, and, by a speech or otherwise, increased the "pop" of the occasion.

The field is large. There are a good many states. A national chairman needs to spread himself out in order to establish the proper connections with local leaders and local organizations. And such connections should be all means be established.

Campaigning has come to be not only a fine art, but a steady thing. It proceeds without let-up. There is something doing all the time. One campaign is hardly over when another begins.

Mr. Adams will have a busy time next year. The contest for control of the Sixty-eighth Congress will develop both parties in as good form as possible. The republicans need that body in their business, while the democrats will find full use for it if they can manage to bring it into camp.

Prices in dining cars are decreased on a number of railroads. This is a valuable reform, but it does not go far enough to satisfy the commuter, who does not remain on the train for luncheon.

Belgium has made the progress in reconstruction that was to be expected of a country so distinguished for fearlessness and determination.

By disposing of possible differences in advance, the work of reaching a peace arrangement can undoubtedly be facilitated.

In the course of time armament may come to be regarded as no less uncivilized than drunkenness or polygamy.

Graft at Ellis Island. Charges of graft at Ellis Island have been brought to the point of preliminary investigation. In consequence of which the commissioner asserts that incoming aliens have been in the recent past fleeced of at least \$500,000 a year. This condition, however, has not been unsuspected in the past. A number of employees of the government have heretofore been tried on such charges. But they have been acquitted. It would seem to be impossible to get the specific evidence necessary to convict those who prey upon the ignorant incomers. The scattering of the immigrants on admission, their unfamiliarity with our language and customs and a fear to press complaints against government agents which has been bred in their life abroad, all combine to make prosecution difficult. But there is evidence that a combination has heretofore been working at Ellis Island to take toll of the newcomers, in illegal fees and charges for services, in supposed bribes to secure admission in cases when admission has been assured and even, it is indicated, the taking of money to bring about admissions in cases where the immigrants should be rejected. Thus the aliens themselves have not only suffered from these grafts and bribes, but the country has been injured. There is no telling how many people have been allowed to enter who should have been excluded under the old laws, perhaps criminals, possibly radicals of violent views and harmful purposes, doubtless some suffering from dangerous diseases.

Government graft is not widespread in this country. That it exists at all is not surprising. This is an immense organization and dishonest people will occasionally get a foothold in it and use their official positions for illegal

Editorial Digest

Mr. Hays Gets After the Book. The plan proposed by the Postmaster General for the stocking savings bank out of business" by vitalizing and expanding the postal savings bank system is warmly supported by the press. Most editorial writers agree with the Minneapolis Tribune (republican) that so far the postal bank "has not made good," but that, they explain, is due to the low interest rate and other faults of detail which Mr. Hays now proposes to correct, not to anything inherently wrong in the system. With a higher rate of interest and increased facilities, the postal savings bank will go a long way toward releasing hoarded money for general use without in any way intruding on private banking enterprise. Indeed, many writers feel that, properly developed, the postal savings bank will be of great benefit to private concerns by encouraging thrift and in the long run serving as "feeders" for the larger banks.

One of the "surprises and disappointments of recent years," says the Indianapolis Independent (republican) is the extent to which postal savings banks "have failed to get the business that should be their own." The Providence Journal (independent) agrees that the system "is not fulfilling its mission," but the Springfield Union (republican) insists that "it is entitled to a trial before being condemned as a futile experiment." and, in its judgment, the Postmaster General "questionably right" in laying the blame for failure on the 2 per cent interest rate.

How many persons in the Rocky Mountain News (Denver) (independent) are keeping their savings in their "stocking" banks because postal bank facilities "are not present and because the rate is not very attractive." The Boston Transcript (independent) states "is based on that of expert bankers, is that at least one billion dollars is being hoarded, idle and unproductive."

That "a better postal savings system would tend to bring money out and put it into the bank of the Charleston (W. Va.) Mail (independent) is quite certain." The St. Louis Globe-Democrat (republican) feels that the estimated sum is so great as to be "worth the concern of bankers." The Postmaster General and "the labor of reorganizing the system."

The Frontenac (republican) Tribune (republican) accounts for the extent of money hoarding by the fact that some people fear to intrust their savings to the care of others and to the unusual number of recent bank failures, but it adds, "It is rare indeed to find a depositor who does not have confidence in the safety and financial integrity of the United States government. However, as the Cincinnati Enquirer (democratic) expresses it, while "faith in the government's guaranty of security" may succeed in attracting money to the private banks have failed to do so, "simple justice" the Chicago News (independent) believes requires that depositors "should receive a fair rate of interest" from the government for the money brought out of hiding places.

Hoarding, the Cleveland Plain Dealer (independent) democratic) declares, "is a matter of general concern," and "if our savings systems encourage it, our savings systems need looking after." The Brooklyn Eagle (independent) democratic) commends the "courage" with which the Postmaster General has attacked a real scandal in the government treatment of depositors in postal savings banks, through which it has been able to "profit on the low interest rate. The New York Mail (independent) also protests against the "ridiculous" low price "which the government pays on postal savings deposits, which the Mail thinks amounts to an invitation to the 'most ignorant classes.'"

Bankers should, by this time, have overcome the fear of the postal savings bank, the Portland Oregonian (independent) republican) thinks, since "it has not drawn away business from private banks, but has lured from hiding places and ultimately placed in private banks the money that would otherwise have reached any bank," thus proving "a valuable feeder" for the private concern.

At the New York Times (independent) democratic) interprets Mr. Hays' proposal, "the plan is rather to create a general fund to meet the needs of the system has resulted in closing many postal banks, and it holds, 'the habits of the people must be changed before much more than an installment of the good work can be achieved.'"

The very fact of "the estimated billion of hoarded 'idle money'" suggests to the Syracuse Herald (independent) that "the cautious owners prefer no interest at all to the 2 per cent offered by the government savings banks," and the Herald doubts that they will be influenced "by the added inducement of 1 per cent."

Reducing the Army. There promises to be less of the weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth than at first expected in connection with the reduction of the Army to 150,000, as required by the new law. Reports from Washington have it that 20,000 soldiers have asked for discharge in the first ten days of July, following Secretary of War Weeks' instructions to corps area and division commanders to grant all applications during the month as the first step in reducing the land armed forces.

It will be a good thing if the total reduction can be accomplished without compulsion. At the time it was contemplated, objectors made the point that now the Army was on a peace footing the government had made an implied contract in each enlistment blank to provide a means of livelihood for a definite number of years for the man who signed it. There is something in that argument. Doubtless many of those who enlisted after the war did so with the idea they were going to make the Army their permanent field of work. For such men to be thrown out, especially at a time when labor is not too easy to get, would be a hardship. However, the wholesale advantage that has been taken already of Secretary Weeks' order to receive applications for discharge indicates that there are a great many men now in the Army who are anxious to get out. If they eventually prove to be enough such men their problem and that of the man anxious to get out will be settled with complete satisfaction to all concerned.—Philadelphia Public Ledger (independent).

Reports that one of the railroads has cut the wages of its freight clerks shows that extreme our saturnalia of extravagance has carried us. Fancy a freight clerk getting enough to eat and a reduction!—New Orleans Item.

Set you the girl who draws The Cheerful Chubb produced all that stuff last winter.—Oklahoma City Oklahoman.

Put none but Americans on guard. But do not look to their names as the gauge of their Americanism.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Another time she is a raving beauty is when the drug store delivers her complexion next door.—Muskegon Chronicle.

Did you ever stop to consider that the man who is blowing his own horn always remains at the little end?—Jackson Citizen-Patriot.

Five teaspoons removed from a woman's stomach—headline. Yes, but of what?—Baltimore Sun.

When the irresistible reformer meets the immovable resistance the result is generally a parade down Broadway.—Kansas City Star.

These reform preachers who designed the moral gown for women is a good job. Now to design a woman who will wear it.—Houston Chronicle.

Labor and the Crisis.

There is great unrest in labor circles. It may not be greater than the unrest in other circles. Unrest is general, and profound. The army of kickers has grown to very large proportions. But the rank and file of wage-earners have been told so often that the existing public difficulties are being manipulated to their special advantage they have come to put too much faith in the misleading statement.

As a matter of fact, labor is still the object of the friendliest consideration in quarters where public interests are in hand. Take the tariff question. Congress is told that it must shape the revision it is now occupied with to meet conditions prevailing in the outside world. Foreign trade is now a popular cry. We must secure it in abundance if we are to succeed with our calculations.

True enough. But has anybody proposed that in order to do that we should reduce American wage scales and American standards of living to meet those of Europe or Asia? On the contrary, it is not the purpose to keep those scales and standards higher than those existing elsewhere? The lowest of the low tariffs are not asking for the introduction into this country of foreign wage scales and standards of living, while the protectionists rest their case in part on the welfare of the American working-man.

Labor and capital, as at all times, are in the same boat, and if the boat swamps both will go to the bottom together. It is a good time to remember the old injunction: "Don't rock the boat!"

Comment is being made on the fact that Ambassador Harvey played golf in his shirt sleeves. This is at least a change from the costume criticism that the bathing beaches have been monopolizing.

The New York musical producers, having quarreled with their actors, announce that they will put out fewer musical shows. It remains to be seen whether the ultimate consumers will make a pathetic protest.

All that Germany appears to ask of the Hohenzollerns is that they will enjoy themselves as much as they can under the circumstances and refrain from interfering with business.

A large portion of the G. O. P.'s record has to do with reconciliations of differences in its own ranks on tariff questions.

Perhaps the most impressive beauty of Dr. Einstein's theory lies in the fact that it permits no argument.

The latest models of automobiles will be equipped with cribs. The American motorist begins young.

It is being hinted that the so-called mystery ship became slightly intoxicated and lost its way.

The dove of peace has developed the conversational powers of a parrot.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

A Human Necessity. The world must have conventions to discuss such social movement, and then adjourn with plans to hold some more.

For the conversation is what represents the true improvement. Of people here or on a distant shore. In addition to the wonderful invention of places accurate results beyond a doubt.

The world must have its share of intellectual enjoyment. It needs a lot of things to talk about.

So let us have the theories which call for erudition. Which ordinary mortals cannot reach. For each must do the part in life that falls to his position.

If it is only just a part of speech. The purpose of existence is the constant interchanging. Of thoughts which come in vogue and then go out.

So let us not grow weary of the fancies widely ranging. We need a lot of things to talk about.

Lobbying. "What does that lobbyist want to see you about?" "I fancy," replied Senator Sorghum, "that he wants to find out which way I intend to vote. Then if my intentions are favorable to his interests he will represent to his employers that he has exercised the greatest influence."

Jud Tunkins says he never yet bought a suit of clothes that made him look anything like the pictures in the advertisements.

A Midnight Plea. Oh, burglar when you're on the track. A ruthless predator, Although the safe you boldly crack, Spare the refrigerator!

Getting On. "How are you getting on with your new production?" "We're all through with the most important part," replied the musical manager, "we have found a title that suggests all sorts of shocking possibilities."

Professionally Speaking. "Do you think it pays to go through a college?" "Shouldn't be surprised," replied Bill the Burglar. "Some colleges have a lot of money trees."

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Presenting the first arrivals in New Black Satin Hats, \$5.00 Now that every one's thoughts have turned to vacation—smart new millinery modes become one of the most important selections of the vacation outfit. The All-black Satin or the Black Satin Hat with white or flesh facing answers this purpose most admirably. We have just received an exceptional new showing of these very smart hats, some of which are embroidered in white; others have big bows of satin or velvet. One sailor model has a white facing and a pair of white wings perched chically on the side.

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