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PHOENIX, ARIZ., DEC. 31, 1906.

THE END OF THE SMOOT CASE.

The gentlemen who foretell what is going to happen in congress intimate that the Smoot case has probably been officially heard of for the last time, though no doubt much will be heard of it throughout the official life of Mr. Smoot, especially in those circles where he had already been convicted and ordered discharged long before the matter was submitted to his colleagues in the senate.

In spite of the enthusiasm with which the prosecutors of Mr. Smoot went after him and in spite of the apparent willingness and even cheerfulness with which the senate took up the complaints with the purpose apparently of ratifying all the adverse findings of the self-constituted tribunals where Mr. Smoot had been tried and convicted, we were of the opinion that he would be permitted to complete his term.

The senate has a gracious and polite way of conducting itself where ladies are involved as so many thousands of them all over the land were in this Smoot case. But after all there seemed no reason why Mr. Smoot was not eligible to a seat in the senate.

The only thing after all that could be urged against him was that he was a Mormon and loved his church. There was no evidence that he had engaged in the practice of polygamy or had encouraged the practice which even the church was supposed to have abandoned. The evidence did show, however, that he was a very clean gentleman much superior in morals to a predecessor who was lately shot to death by a woman in a Washington hotel and who by the way was not a Mormon.

Among other things brought out by the investigation was the remarkable absence of any fault or weakness of Mr. Smoot.

We do not like to speak of matters of which we know nothing, but we may say that it is doubtful if the raking over of the private and public lives of the colleagues of Mr. Smoot would reveal in all of them so much of goodness and so little of badness.

If as has been surmised, the senate intends to let the matter rest where it lies, that will not be quite respectful to those who instituted the question of Mr. Smoot's eligibility nor will it be quite in justice to Mr. Smoot. It may be the easiest way out of it but it can not be the most satisfactory way. A vindication even of the Utah senator would show to his prosecutors outside the senate that that body had taken them with at least apparent seriousness.

The Minnesota teachers seem to have precipitated themselves into the simplified spelling affair after it had ceased to be a controversy. Their support of the president comes after he has abandoned his position. However, if congress had been informed how the Minnesota teachers felt about it, we do not suppose the result would have been different. Let the teachers thrash it out with Mr. Tawney, who helped stab simplified spelling to death.

A threat of inefficiency in the postal service in consequence of meager salaries will be the same as a strike if it can be made to impress congress. A service in which practically every citizen is interested cannot be permitted to become noticeably inefficient without responsibility resting heavily on somebody. The people would naturally look to congress first.

The most interesting thing in the forthcoming senate debate on the Brownsville incident will be not the result of it but the reply, whatever it may be, to Senator Foraker's constitutional objections to the punishment of soldiers who have not been tried by court martial.

One of the first New Year's resolutions which many people will form will be to be more conservative in their gift making another Christmas. Such a resolution can be kept, too, for the next eleven months.

It would be embarrassing if the Chinese should establish a boycott against the supplies collected in this country for the relief of their starving countrymen.

THE OKLAHOMA CONVENTION.

When the Oklahoma constitutional convention resumes its labors after the holidays it will find that the people have discovered that it has been exceeding its powers by sitting as a gerrymandering convention. The two territories have been fearfully mutilated in the changing of county boundaries, generally for political purposes. The convention is so nearly democratic that the republican members may disclaim the slightest responsibility for anything that may be done or may be left undone. Overwhelmingly democratic as Oklahoma proved itself to be in the election of constitutional delegates, there are few parts of the new state satisfied with the new county scheme, which it is generally asserted, was not properly the business of the convention but should have been left to the legislature.

The delegates have made the mistake of supposing that people as a mass are more interested in the political complexion of the counties in which they live than they are in the conditions which make for convenience and material benefit.

The work of the Oklahoma convention is destined to undergo a great deal of revision. It is certain that much that has been done will not meet the approval of the president and it is equally certain that the proposed county arrangement will not live through the first legislature.

The year is closing red with railroad wrecks which are unusually disastrous in point of the dead and maimed. It has curiously happened, beginning with the wreck on the Southern railway in which President Spencer lost his life on Thanksgiving day, that all these accidents have occurred within the supposed protection of the block system, supplemented by such other precautions as railway managements would naturally throw about their own property and their patrons. The trouble seems to be not so much in the carelessness of the employees of the roads as in the great growth of business in the country which is overtaxing all railroad lines and especially those of the east. It may be reasonably surmised that the train of "empties" which crashed into a passenger train near Washington yesterday was not running sixty miles an hour without the necessity of arriving at its destination at the earliest possible moment. If the death list of the coming year should be reduced it will probably not be because greater precautions shall be applied but because the roads will have discovered a way to meet the growing demand which the public is making on them.

It is possible that Mr. Carnegie will have to purchase the whole state of New Jersey in order to preserve the lake he gave Princeton University from being drained off by the state authorities.

President Roosevelt is the author of an article in the January Century on the Irish sagas. Members of the W. C. T. U. need not become indignant, however. An Irish saga is not good to drink.

We suppose, by this time all New Year resolutions have been framed and otherwise been made ready for adoption.

Judging from eulogies on the late Bishop Charles C. McCabe, he was an old-fashioned religious minister.

What a lot of fine bargains people could pick now for next Christmas if they had any money left.

The usual annual overloading of the water wagon will occur tonight.

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

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Take the "Golden Medical Discovery" in time and it is not likely to disappoint you for a reasonable length of time to get its full benefits. The ingredients of which Dr. Pierce's medicines are composed have the unqualified endorsement of scores of medical leaders—better than any amount of lay or non-professional testimonials. They are not given away to be experimented with but are sold by all dealers in medicines at reasonable prices.

FATAL GERMAN COLLISION.

Hamburg, Dec. 30.—An express train on the Hamburg and Cologne railroad collided with a freight at Ottersburg today. Five trainmen were killed and four dangerously wounded. No passengers were hurt but they had a narrow escape.

OUT ON THE ROAD WITHOUT SALARY.

The author of "The Pettison Twins"—Marion Hill—publishes in The American Magazine for January a story of Christmas with "barnstormers." It is a wonderful picture of second or third rate theatrical life. Out on the road doing that pitiless, nerve racking treadmill known as "one-night stands," the Herschel Comedy Company was playing to empty houses and empty treasuries for seventeen weeks without salaries. There was Herschel, the manager and leading man, and Mrs. Herschel—"Let-tice Jerome" on the bills—and their poor neglected three-year-old girl baby. Then there was "Dede Devere," who with big, honest eyes played ingenues, and "Candida Ransome," "old timer," comely and fat, who could go on for fourteen-year-old Juliet, or the age-stricken nurse, and do either or both equally well—or badly. Johnny Banks was the sturdiest stage carpenter, also property man, sometimes advance agent. He was "cries without" and "howls of the populace." Belle Martin, billed as "The Martin," barely twenty, had gone the untraceable road that leads nowhere but to remorse. Finally there was Will Millikin, cast for the God-bless-you parts, after whom the story is named.

These are the characters in a tale as real and interesting as any the author of "The Pettison Twins" ever wrote.

It is understood Mrs. Hill is to write a whole series of theatrical stories for The American Magazine.

CURE CATARRH NOW.

Do Not Wait Until Winter or Disease Will Become Chronic.

Many people in Phoenix are beginning to cough and hack with the fall symptoms of disagreeable and offensive catarrh. The tonsils are coated in the morning, and they do not sleep well at night on account of disagreeable tickling and dropping at the back of the throat as a result of catarrh. Before the disease becomes chronic they should use Hyomei and get complete freedom from their catarrhal troubles. If you neglect to treat catarrh when it first comes on, the chances are that it will become so firmly rooted and deep-seated that it will bother you all winter and may become chronic and almost incurable.

The first day's use of Hyomei will show a decided improvement in health, and in a short time there will be no further trouble, and you will be free from catarrh, and coughs and colds will not bother you during the winter.

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