

THE ARIZONA REPUBLICAN

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FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 14, 1916

Dost thou intend a kindness to thy loved one? Do it straightway before the future comes, destroying thy opportunity.
Thomas Carlyle.

Two Proposed Legislative System Changes

Two amendments to the state constitution for the reorganization of the legislative system will be submitted to the people next November. One of them proposes the unicameral or one house system. It is of socialistic origin and was advocated as long as four years ago by certain democratic papers at a time when the party seemed to be irrevocably committed to radicalism.

The unicameral system has been proposed at one time or another in various state legislatures, the latest proposal being, as we believe, in Wisconsin, but the bill was promptly and indefinitely postponed.

The system has not been tried anywhere in the United States though it is in use in some of the Canadian provinces where it operates in conjunction with an executive commission of seven members. The system was discussed in the conference of governors at Denver but there, as wherever a body of representative Americans meet, there was a preponderance of opinion that to change to the single house system would be to remove a check upon bad or unwise legislation. It frequently happens, of course, that good legislation which has been passed in one house has been defeated in the other. It more frequently happens though, that bad bills are so defeated. Anyhow it is better that a good bill should fall than that a bad one should succeed.

The other proposal for a change in our legislative system, we believe, is well advised and is in line with progress which has been made in many northern states. It would leave at the beginning the total membership of each house as it is now, but would reorganize it on the basis of the voting population instead of the arbitrary and unreasonable apportionment fixed by law. It would substitute for the per diem of \$7, an annual salary of \$400 and would make the term of the legislator four years instead of two years. Many other new features are proposed, all we believe good ones, but of only one of them will we speak at this time—the proposal to divide the counties into assembly districts and to elect a representative from each by a segregated vote. That practice now generally prevails throughout the north.

The chief advantage of such a system is found in the fact that the candidate for any district would be well-known to all the people who could vote for him. They would know of his capabilities and would not have to guess at them after having caught a fleeting glimpse of him in a campaign. Also many excellent men might be animated by public spirit to stand for office if they only had to appeal to those who know them but who in no case would enter upon a contest for an office, involving a long campaign of a whole county.

Under the present system as under the old convention system legislative candidates are so nominated as to represent pretty well the different parts of the county but hardly any candidates are known to any considerable number of voters. The voters support those whom they happen to know well, regardless of party lines, but as to those whom they do not know, they vote for them only because they happen to be on the party ticket. Thus our legislatures are always made up of men who have been elected largely by the votes of people who know nothing about them. It is therefore, no wonder that we revile our state legislatures.

It has been observed that a candidate for any office if he is at all worthy, receives a heavier vote in the neighborhood where he lives. There he always runs ahead of his ticket. Under a legislative districting system, every successful candidate would have run a head of his ticket and the legislature as a whole would be the creation of an intelligent majority rather than an aggregation of "pigs in pokes," members elected by blind, partisan majorities.

When this amendment was first proposed, the Republican realized the importance of it and made it the subject of correspondence with men who have made a study of such matters. An outline of the proposed amendment was sent to the Wisconsin Library Commission. We have received in return from Mr. C. B. Lester of the Commission a general endorsement of the proposed change. Of the district feature he writes:

I think it is the consensus of opinion that the election of legislators from single member districts is decidedly the best plan. Of course, there should be the most careful guarding against gerrymandering in the apportionment of these districts and they should be compact in form, consisting of contiguous territory, and be as nearly equal in population as may be. You can find some discussion of the actual systems in vogue in Reinsch, "American Legislatures and Legislative Methods" in the chapter on legislative apportionments. In the northern and western states it is almost a universal system.

It should be stated that the proposed amendment carefully guards against gerrymandering by requiring that the legislative districts shall consist of contiguous territory and shall be as compact as they can be formed.

"Registration Patriots"

We fear that we have not made our objections to the fraudulent registration of voters clear to our neighbor the Bisbee Review which thus observes:

Brother Spear, of the Arizona Republican, who but a short time since preached redemption from a Bull Moose litany and now exhorts the halt and the blind to seek salvation in the healing waters of Republican exclusivity, becomes appopitic as he shouts, "perjurers perjurers" at the registration patriots.

Brother Jaynes of the Tucson Citizen, contents himself with rubber stamping these perjurer sentiments, thereby exercising his usual caution.

Equally beside the point is the reference of the Review to the primary law which it makes the scapegoat for the sins of those "registration patriots" who violate their registration, is this:

The primary law defines clearly that the voter must cast his or her ballot in accordance with the voter's registration but it neither makes mandatory nor even suggests what party the voter desires to endorse for primary purposes. Freedom of selection is unreserved. The voter who surrenders this freedom of selection is indeed a "perjurer" and conscience is the accuser. Voters who are intimidated by partisanship whip-hands and therefore fail to exercise their established prerogatives at the primaries are, indeed, "committing an offense against public morality."

The Republican for four years has denounced the evil of blind partisanship and in all that time it has practiced what it preached. It has upheld the principles of progressivism but it has not urged the support of a candidate merely because he happened to be on the progressive ticket. It now urges the overthrow of the democratic government in Arizona because for five years that government has been a failure in both its executive and its legislative branches.

The Review and other democratic newspapers are seeking the overthrow of only the executive branch, and to accomplish that they are inviting republicans not to become democrats but to pretend to become democrats and swear solemnly that they are democrats that they may assist in cutting off only the executive branch.

The Republican has not the slightest objection to a republican or a progressive becoming a democrat, not a pretended, primary democrat, but an out and out democrat, if he thinks that by that course he can best contribute to an improvement of the state government. "If that sort of a thing suits him that is the sort of thing he likes." It would be very wrong for him to remain in the republican party just because he happens to have been a republican, or because his father was a republican, if he now believes that the democratic party can be so miraculously purified at the primaries as to give the states a better government than it has been able to give it during the last five years. If the Republican believed that, it would advise all its republican readers to turn democrats, vote at the democratic primaries, and vote the democratic ticket at the general election in November.

The primary law as it has been amended by the last democratic legislature is indeed, an outrageous law as it was intended to be. It was framed to perpetuate the rule of democracy in Arizona. It was not contemplated by the framers, however, that such a use would be made of it by republicans as is now asked to be made. It was intended to keep the republicans on their side of the fence and to keep the democratic majority intact. It was intended to prevent republicans from assisting in the nomination of weak democratic candidates in whose case easy defeat the same republicans would assist at the polls.

In order therefore to get over the fence, the primary law was so amended as to make the republicans swear to a lie. The democrats, it was not contemplated would be affected by the amended law because it was not then conceived by the framers of the law that democrats would want to take part in republican primaries.

But now one faction of the democratic party wants republicans on the democratic side of the fence—only at the primaries. After that they can go back. In the opinion of the evil advisers, these republicans will not be needed by them at the polls. We think, though this is somewhat irrelevant, that they are mistaken there, and that the democratic ticket, whichever faction may nominate it, will need more votes in November than it will get.

We hope now that we have made it plain that the Republican has not touched the partisan whip-handle and has no intention of doing so. We recognize the right of every man to go from one party to another honestly. But nobody can recognize the right of any man to pretend to be something when he is something else.

A Profitless Seed Distribution

The pending agricultural bill will not be weakened by the elimination of the old-time provision for free seeds.

People seriously interested in farming and gardening are not looking to the government for packages of seeds, and it is doubtful if any candidate for congress owes his election to his activity in sending these to his constituents.

The department of agriculture is convinced that nothing is gained by sending out seeds, and apparently the only advocates in Washington of the practice are the members of Congress, who think that the customary distribution adds to their individual popularity.

The convincing argument against the "free seed graft" is its expense. During the present administration the cost to the government has been more than a million dollars, and this does not include the wages of postal employes and other expenses. The experiment of getting along without free seeds is worth trying. The million dollars wasted in this kind of "pork" can be profitably employed in legitimate government work.

The senate amendment for doing away with the seed distribution should be permitted to stand.

The Democrats have selected a "publicity manager." This might appear more important if it were not for the fact that under the present democratic administration the promise of publicity—"pitiless publicity"—has amounted to so little. One trouble with the new publicity manager will be that if he tells the whole truth about his party record of the last three years there will be some pitiful as well as "pitiless" publicity.

A Wisconsin woman claims to have worked out a scheme for training husbands, but the masculine element may still console itself with the reflection that a husband must first be caught before he can be trained.

LONGBOAT IN AMERICAN LEGION

Tom Longboat, the Indian professional long distance runner, dog trotted the seventy miles from his home up north to Toronto to enlist.

Longboat was assigned to the Two Hundred and Thirtieth Battalion (an all-American regiment of the American Legion) by virtue of the time he has lived in the "States" and his acquaintance with Americans, but when he learned that the Ninety-seventh (also all-American) was about to sail for France he smuggled himself into that battalion and got as far as Halifax, when he was arrested for his excessive patriotism and returned to the Two Hundred and Thirtieth.—Gregory Mason in the Outlook.

"They say you can't square the circle."

"Well, you can do it after a fashion," said the mathematician, "just as when you go out for a walk you circle the square."—Pittsburg Post.

"For the sake of peace I often keep still even when I know I'm right."

"Same here. I'm married, too."—Detroit Free Press.

South Side News

TEMPE OFFICE
Casa Loma Hotel Bldg.
Phone 53
H. B. GRIFFEN, JR.
Correspondent

MESA OFFICE
Everybody's Drug Co.
Phone 6 or 500
V. D. JOHNSON
Correspondent

Mesa News Notes

MESA REPUBLICANS FULLY MOBILIZED

Fully mobilized, sleeves rolled up and eager for the fray, is the newly organized Mesa Republican club. The town hall was well filled Wednesday night with voters, among them being a fair number of women, or to state it with equal truth, a number of fair women. A good many visitors were over from Phoenix, and while attending strictly to business, the meeting frequently bubbled over with good humored enthusiasm. Among others present were Tom Campbell, candidate for governor; H. L. Eads, who aspires to congress and Ex-Governor Sloan, who likes to see the good work go on. The Phoenix crowd brought with them some colored musicians and the various selections rendered lent variety to the program.

A committee, consisting of Drs. R. F. Palmer and J. B. Nelson and Mr. Eligh Allen, brought in the following names for officers and they were chosen by acclamation: President—Isaac Dana, Vice presidents—First, C. Fred Brackett; second, Mr. J. W. Stillwell; third Mrs. L. E. Irwin; fourth, Sigel Davis.

Secretary—C. A. Baldwin. Treasurer—W. M. Newell. Executive committee—Isaac Dana, C. A. Baldwin, W. M. Beach, Mrs. J. G. Spangler, Mrs. Chas. Dana, Mrs. Lewis Rogers, Wiley Simpkins and Ed Lewis.

Following the business session, addresses were made by Judge Sloan, Harry Eads, Tom Campbell and Ed Lewis. Ex-Governor Kibbey was unable to be present.

The club will meet again next Wednesday night, when a careful canvass of names will be made and arrangements perfected to see that all voters are reported.

REPORT FROM DOUGLAS

Mrs. Dr. J. M. Greer has returned from a three weeks' visit with her husband, who is in camp near Douglas. Dr. Greer is first lieutenant in the medical corps of the Arizona national guard. Mrs. Greer was domiciled at the Hotel Gadsden while in Douglas, and reports that she enjoyed greatly her visits to the camp where the guardsmen were stationed. She says that Douglas seems much less excited and interested in immediate developments than the interior towns. So many soldiers have been there for so long, that their presence is taken as a matter of course, except that it gives a sort of comfortable feeling to know that so large a number of Uncle Sam's boys are between Douglas and possible danger. Mrs. Greer states that since the summer rains have started, the altitude of nearly 4000 feet is making the climate a delightful one. The doctor was wearing a sweater over his flannel army shirt one morning recently and told her it felt very comfortable. The regular army doctors speak in very enthusiastic terms of the condition of health of the First Arizona regiment, saying that they have never seen militia set up to the standard of physical health. They attributed it partly to the natural, beautiful climate of Arizona and the consequent physical health of its residents, but spoke in very complimentary terms of the sanitary conditions in which the regiment's camp had been kept, and to the watchfulness of the camp physicians from the start.

Dr. Greer himself has the enviable record of having vaccinated every member three times for typhoid and once for smallpox, and yet being able to report to headquarters that there was not an infected arm, despite the necessarily soiled garments and dust and high winds.

The soldiers have no idea as to the length of their stay. Inactivity is wearing on some of them, but they have no reason to hope that the homecoming is very near at hand.

HOW MANY CAN YOU TAKE

The committee on the trip to Granite reef, which will be made next Tuesday night, will begin a canvass of the members of the Commercial club today in order to ascertain how many extras the various car owners can take. It is desired that every member of the club and his wife, with the children if possible, go on this trip and the club hospitality is going to be called on in the shape of offering room to those without autos.

LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

There will be an important meeting of the Library board in the club rooms Saturday afternoon at three o'clock. Mrs. W. R. Stewart, with the help of some young ladies has catalogued the titles and authors of every book and will be able to make a report to the board.

SPLENDID SEEDLING PEACHES

In addition to some very fine specimens of regular seeded peaches, R. Van Meter brought to the Republican office yesterday some seedlings, which appeared to be of the Lemon Cling variety. They were slightly different in shape, but very large and luscious. Mr. Van Meter says that since these seedlings are ripening at a time when other clings are so scarce, they should perhaps be propagated and brought to a distinct variety.

HURT BY FALLING BRICK

Richard Amos who has been at work removing the building on the corner of Main and Macdonald, had his head badly cut yesterday by a falling stone. The missile weighed about twelve pounds, and falling from the top of the one-story building, hit him on top of the head. He was knocked down, but after a few minutes was able to walk across the street to Dr. Drane's office, where

MESA OPERA HOUSE TONIGHT

The Celebrated HAWAIIAN Troubadours
Six Clever Singers, Dancers and Players
Two Hours of Music and Fun
Prices 25-35-50c

WORLD FILM CORPORATION

Presents at Airdome, Tempe "LOVE'S CRUCIBLE"
The story of a beautiful girl's struggle for "A Career." The Beautiful Young Broadway Star FRANCES NELSON
Also Mary Page Serial and Comedy
10 & 15c

LITTLE MEENA'S ROMANCE

Dorothy Gish, Triangle star, and Owen Moore, will be seen tonight at the Majestic in the five reel Fine Arts play, "Little Meena's Romance." A two reel comedy will be shown in addition.

A RARE TREAT

Those who enjoy Hawaiian music by real natives of the islands, have a rare treat in store for tonight when the celebrated Hawaiian Troubadours will appear at the Mesa opera house.

Every member of the company is a thorough musician, the melodious voices blending perfectly with the soft tones of the native instruments in a sweet harmony delightful to all music lovers.

A well arranged program of American and Hawaiian melodies, both vocal and instrumental, bits of native comedy and native dances by the little dancing girl, make a pleasing two-hour entertainment.

ON THE COAST

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Devore left yesterday for San Diego, Los Angeles and other California points. They are making the trip by car and will tour the coast.

SURPRISE

Mrs. Wilbur Fish was delightfully surprised when thirty of her friends visited the parsonage Wednesday afternoon. It was a social call through the fall afternoon and the event proved to be one of the most enjoyable that any of the women have participated in this summer.

BETTS IS QUALIFIED

Tempe's efficient body of home guards, after nearly a month's practice, has postponed further regular drills and will assemble the next time

GUARDS SUSPEND DRILLS' ARE READY

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Where the People May Have Hearing

RED CROSS WORK
To the Arizona Republican: Last Saturday, while distributing the receipts for the Red Cross funds for which the Daughters of the American Revolution of Phoenix are especially campaigning this week, I was asked why our government could not step in and do this work. The gentleman who asked me this question was so courteous in his inquiry and in his earnestness, prefacing his remarks by the statement that he was wholly and entirely in sympathy with the Red Cross and its work, that the more I have since thought of our short conversation, the more it has interested me, and I feel that my reply was anything but illuminating, as I was some days newer in the work than I am today, and I feel that it may be a question that many more are asking themselves.

Briefly, I should like to say that the Red Cross while an international organization, is in reality a part of our government, unhampered by the legislative machinery, which seems to work so slowly. The president of the United States is the chief of the American Red Cross organization, as each governor of each state is the chief in his state. Congress has passed a law protecting the badge so that like the American flag, it cannot be used for advertising purposes, and never for any purpose without authority.

The Red Cross is absolutely neutral, politically and religiously and maintains depots of supplies so distributed that no catastrophe can occur that it is not in a position to put the wheels of relief at work at once. No calamity threatens, such as war, that the Red Cross does not take cognizance of it and prepare, hence its almost perfect grade of efficiency.

Many persons confuse the work of the Red Cross with wars. While it is true that the Red Cross is more in evidence during war times, the careful scrutiny of the records of relief work, such as that of the San Francisco disaster, will reveal the Red Cross organization.

Thinking you for the space, I am very truly, HELEN G. SHAW.

TORREY HERE

Walter C. Torrey, formerly manager of the Lodge Inn at Roosevelt, was in Phoenix yesterday. He expects to open an up-to-date soda shop at Glendale at an early date.

OUR SALE OPENS TODAY

OUR BIG REDUCTION sale opens today in full blast, Hyder Bros. (Adv.)

AIRDOME TONIGHT

In "Love's Crucible," the new World film, five part feature, starring Frances Nelson, the pitfalls and temptations that lie in the way for the young girl who seeks a career in a great city, are revealed in a startling series of dramatic episodes. The picture is superbly embellished scenically and a big cast of film favorites supports the popular young star. In addition to this feature, the Airdome will show tonight an episode of "The Strange Case of Mary Page," "Love's Seven Daughters," a comedy, completing the eight reel program.

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Hyder's Great Mid-Season Clearance SALE Starts Today Friday, July 15th
As has been customary with Hyder Bros. for the past fifteen years, we will include practically everything in our big and carefully selected stock in this midsummer clearance sale.
You should avail yourselves of the opportunity offered to buy clothing, hats, shoes, underwear, shirts, hosiery, etc., etc., at wonderfully low prices. Reductions are from 25% to 50%.
The early comer gets the best choice.
Hyder Brothers Arizona Tempe