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**FEDERAL OR STATE LAWS
 FINALLY REGULATED**

**IMPORTANT WATER MATTERS
 TO COME UP BEFORE THE
 SPOKANE MEETING.**

SPOKANE, Wash. Feb. 19.—"Either co-operative state laws or federal law will eventually regulate the water supply, not by the riparian rights nor by the priority right but by the equitable distribution of water in the irrigated districts."

F. W. Blackman of Lawrence, regent of the University of Kansas, lays emphasis upon the foregoing in a letter to R. Insinger, chairman of the board of control of the 17th National Irrigation Congress, of which George E. Bastow of Barstow, Texas, is president. He suggests that the congress, which will meet in Spokane August 9 to 14, as well as future gatherings, should be scientific associations for the solution of specific problems.

"The earlier congresses," he writes, "were largely modes of agitation and propaganda. Past congresses have served a useful purpose in discussing wide ranges of subjects, but sufficient progress has been made that the future congresses may be more scientific and less popular."

"Among these specific problems demanding immediate attention I think that an irrigation law should occupy a prominent place. The relation of riparian rights to priority rights is now and will be one of the most troublesome questions that the people have to settle."

"It was unfortunate that the government at its foundation did not understand something about the future

cultivation of arid lands and put the land and water together making them one and inseparable, and then to divide the land into irrigation districts determined by drainage basins and thus insure each acre within a given drainage basin its proportionate amount of water. This would have saved millions of dollars worth of property and millions of dollars of expense in legislation.

"As it is, I believe we are slowly trending toward this result; and either co-operative state laws or federal law will eventually regulate the water supply, not by the riparian rights nor by the priority right but by the equitable distribution of water in the irrigated districts."

"Another very important problem is the power of the streams in the arid region. Great companies are reaching everywhere to monopolize this water power and put a perpetual tax for its use on future generations. If there is a natural resource that ought to belong to the people at large it is the water in streams and lakes.

"For domestic use, for irrigation, for transportation and for power the states in the west ought to see to it at once that laws are passed to give the state absolute and perpetual control and ownership of the water power of our streams. For, while we are now looking to water for irrigation, in another ten years we will be looking with as much eagerness to water for mechanical power."

"I am not a socialist, but I am positive that the future prosperity of communities and estates of this great nation depends upon the use of land, water, forests, mines and other national resources and these must be conserved for the general good rather than squandered through private selfishness."

"There is another question that it appeared to me was needed for the benefit of the farmer himself; namely, 'how to irrigate.' I believe the

congress ought to be more of an agency for the propaganda of practical instruction concerning the tilling of the soil under irrigation; this on account of the large number of immigrants and settlers coming from the east to settle in irrigated districts who know nothing about farming in arid regions under irrigation.

"If there could be prepared a series of short papers, dealing with different subjects, such as preparation of the land, amount of water needed, how to be applied, method of cultivation or tillage and other matters, and if, subsequently, these could be printed in small leaflets and spread throughout the irrigated districts they would be a vast deal more service than the annual report."

POPULAR MECHANICS.

Never before has the span of a single month included a trio of such remarkable disasters as were the Italian earthquake, the Chicago crib fire and the wreck of the steamship "Republic." In each instance there were features which no other era in the world's history could possibly have given a precedent, because these features depended on mechanical development. In treating the three events it is this phase that the March number of Popular Mechanics brings out, and one reading the articles and viewing the illustrations obtains vivid mental pictures of warships speeding on errands of mercy, as H. H. Windsor points out in one of his editorials; of reconstruction work begun by the United States ere other nations had recovered entirely from the stupefaction following calamity. In the crib disaster, comment is of a different character, for the incongruity of an engineering feat involving features that have attracted worldwide interest and the deplorable lack of protection for the workmen engaged thereon cannot but force itself upon the mind. And when before has an ocean collision thrilled the world and argued breathless interest—not because lives were lost—but because a mysterious voice called "wireless telegraph" spoke through space in no uncertain tones, and lives were saved?

Among the most interesting features of the March magazine is H. H. Windsor's suggestion for humane methods in slaughter yards. How the United States government will take the biggest census in its history with less (in proportion) expenditure of money and labor is well told. How snakes are skinned alive in Sumatra to supply the trade will curdle the blood as well as arouse interest, for the pictures are especially graphic. A motor iceboat, with a speed of 70 miles an hour is described. How the Wright airship is kept aloft is carefully explained. Gas companies in large cities now maintain a corps of woman experts who are sent out to explain gas ranges and meters, and teach economy to housewives. Splendid illustrations accompany this article. These are but a few of many in the March number, which contains 196 articles and 203 illustrations. Every article is descriptive rather than technical and written so the average person can understand and enjoy it. Fiction has never reached the height attained by these true stories of achievement, and there is no easier or surer method of keeping abreast the times than to read Popular Mechanics.

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NEW YORK CITY'S DEAD LINE RE-ESTABLISHED

LIQUOR AT BOTTOM OF 99 PER CENT OF CRIME IN NEW YORK CITY.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The famous deadline, established by Inspector Byrnes at Fulton Street more than two decades ago, is steadily moving north. If it keeps on traveling at its present rate, the street below which any law breaker may be arrested at sight even if the cause for his presence in the forbidden zone be entirely harmless, will shortly mark its northern limit of the city. The latest addition to the city's criminal geography is the establishment of the "hold up zone" in the fashionable Riverside Drive district around one hundredth street. So frequent have hold-ups become of late in this part of the town, which when Byrnes made his famous edict was practically unsettled, that the police force has been doubled in the zone with orders to arrest on sight any suspicious persons. In other words, these characters will not have to show what business they have there, thus shifting the burden of proof from the shoulders of the police. It is not unlikely that the same condition may shortly prevail over the whole city as far as the Harlem River. While such a condition of affairs would be hailed with joy by all respectable residents of the city a very large proportion of the 244,822 persons arrested last year take a very different view of the matter and are preparing to fight the proposal with all the means in their power. The strength of this opposition is already indicated by the statement which has come from a prominent source that 80,000, or one-third of the arrests made last year were illegal. Bills have already been introduced at Albany to curtail police power and the northward march of the deadline promises to meet a surprising opposition.

While the idea that Broadway will ever become "dry" may be looked upon as an empty dream, since it is about the last place in the world where such a reform would be looked for, it is not impossible that the subject may receive official consideration on the part of the city fathers at some future date. If Father Knickerbocker ever does take up the subject it will be not because of his virtue, however, but because of his poverty. Costing annually for its running one-third of the whole expense of the national government, New York finds each year a more and more difficult task to raise the needed money. Various means of retrenchment have been suggested, the most surprising of which has to do with the liquor situation. An article to appear in Appleton's magazine shows the relation between these two subjects, its figures indicating that drink is responsible in one way or another for the existence of about 90 per cent of the machinery now maintained for the protection of the public. In the Glasgow prison in Scotland out of 15,649 commitments during one year, according to the Appleton article, more than 14,000 were due to intemperance, while for the 21,400 prisoners committed to the Holloway jail the proportion was even greater. Similar figures are cited for other cities. What is true of them, it is pointed out here, is equally true of New York, necessitating an expenditure in anticrime machinery of nearly \$100,000,000 annually. Even for New York, a saving of \$90,000,000 a year is not to be sneered at, and when Father Knickerbocker really gets to the fast approaching limit of his expenditures it may be that even a dry Broadway will not be considered an impossibility after all.

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State Will Build Railroads

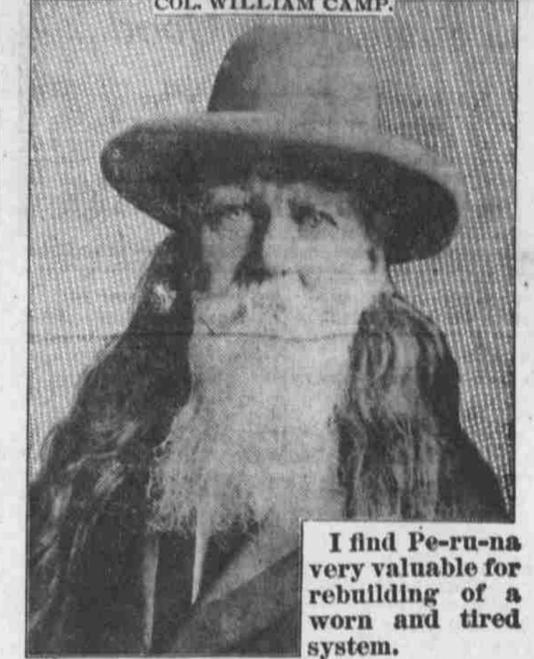
(Continued from page 1)

Bill No. 220, relating to fishing on the Columbia River. McCue fought hard against this bill, which is the one decided on for both Oregon and Washington in joint conference of legislative committees from Salem and Olympia. He wanted the sections abrogating the initiative fish laws and estopping the use of purse seines eliminated, but after a heated debate the bill was passed unamended by 35 to 20, with five members absent. Senator Beach's theatrical bill, permitting children to appear in plays under certain restrictions, passed the House today, and now goes to the Governor. This bill was drafted at the 11th hour, being the last introduced in the Senate at this session, because of the attitude assumed by Mrs. Millie Trumbull, the Commissioner of Child

riding to hounds, and most of all golf, almost any day in the year. On Long Island it is very much the exception when its many famous golf courses are not in use, even in mid-winter. Perhaps the best known are the two at Garden City, the home of Walter J. Travis, and the new public course, which Mr. Travis has described as being in a class with the older one, has seen visiting players every day this winter with only one exception. Indeed Garden City is rapidly becoming a winter golfers' mecca, affording as many playing days as the famous southern courses, and it is seldom that the visitor in New York who cares for golf does not make the Long Island town his headquarters. Bob sledding, too, is another sport which has sprung into popularity in Westchester county particularly. At the recent bobbed tournament held on the hill at Lawrence Park, another nearby suburb, under the auspices of the Hotel Gramatan, record of fifty-five seconds for a mile was established. Auto-mobiling of course remains a principal winter pastime. Altogether New York is getting suburbanized in its winter pastime, so far as its visitors are concerned, and even society is showing a marked preference for the out-of-town hotel instead of opening up its city houses for a short season. With the out-of-door life strongly in the ascendancy it is probable that next year will witness a real winter carnival, not only of the sports peculiar to the season but of those supposed to be peculiar to summer as well.

The trials of a public service commission, receiverships and public hostility, are nothing in comparison to the latest difficulty of one of the local traction companies which promises to give rise to one of the knottiest legal problems ever brought before a local court. As a result of a recent collision in which the passengers on both electric cars were more or less disarranged, the street car company is now called upon to establish the identity of three children, or else to pay a large fine for depriving them of it, and as a result of citizenship. The three children in question are triplets, and like the twins in Mark Twain's story, nobody could tell them apart. Even their mother could not distinguish them, it appears except by pinning a different colored ribbon on each. It was while taking the triplets to a friend's house that the ribbons were so disarranged in a street car accident that as a result not even the mother can now tell which is which. As all three had been baptized there is now much confusion as to which name belongs to which child. The more serious legal difficulties, however, arise from the fact that one of the children having been named after his grandfather was made his heir. As the grandparent is now unable to determine which of the three was the beneficiary under his old will he has made a new one in which none of them are remembered. As a result of this the parents of the children have brought suit against the street car company for a sum equal to the inheritance, claiming that it is up to the traction people to reimburse the child for its loss. Altogether the matter, if it comes to trial, promises to develop into one of the most complicated proceedings in the history of this city.

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MR. CHAS. BROWN, Rogersville, Tenn., writes: "I feel it my duty to write you a few words in praise of your Peruna. I have tried many different remedies, but have found that Peruna is the greatest tonic on earth, and a perfect system builder. A friend advised me to take Peruna for indigestion, and it cured me in a short time. I was very weak and nervous, could sleep but little at night, but Peruna cured that tired, all-gone feeling, and made me feel like a new man, so I heartily recommend it to all who are weak and run down. It will give new life and energy. I cannot speak too highly of Peruna, and will not forget to recommend it." Peruna is manufactured by the Peruna Drug Mfg. Co., Columbus, Ohio.

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