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PROSPECTIVE LEGISLATION.

FORECASTS made by Lieutenant Governor Anderson and by Speaker Fisk of the prospective legislation of the session are encouraging.

They give promise of a genuine activity that will be fruitful of good. While all that is promised may not be achieved there is every reason for being sanguine in estimating the probable outcome.

The Assembly, the Senate and the Governor are in harmony, and consequently there will be little or no factitious opposition to measures of real importance.

In their forecasts both the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker include reform of the ballot law, legislation affecting irrigation and water rights, more effective provision for hydraulic mining and restraining dams, the improvement of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley waterways and appropriations for the State University and other institutions.

In addition to these subjects named by both, the Lieutenant Governor announced an expectation that there would be a bill looking to the improvement of the San Francisco water front with respect to wharfare, and added: "There is no question that the present accommodations are entirely inadequate to the needs of the seaport. While it is true that a bill having the same object in view failed at the last session, I do not doubt that it would be successful at this time."

We have here a programme of work worthy of the magnitude of the State and there can be no doubt a great majority of the people would like to see it carried out in its entirety. It is true the taxpayers desire an economical administration, but they know how to distinguish between economy and parsimony. The ardor of the young men and women of the State has, for example, put upon the university such a demand for higher education that the faculty cannot meet it with the present equipment and income. It would be mere parsimony to deny the university, under such conditions, the appropriations it requires for its work. Equally strong are the arguments for the improvement of the San Francisco water front and the rivers of the great interior valleys. Measures of that kind tend to the truest economy, for they will result in benefits that will more than compensate for all the cost they entail.

Reform of the ballot law is imperative. The present law is so complex that even the courts cannot agree upon its interpretation, and we are thus confronted with a situation in which certain classes of ballots rejected by one court are counted by another. The whole matter is in confusion. No citizen can tell whether he is voting legally or not unless he votes an absolutely straight ticket. In some of the recounts fully 25 per cent of the votes counted by the election officers have been thrown out as invalid by the courts. The rejected ballots change the legal result of the vote only with respect to the office in dispute, and yet if a ballot be illegally cast with respect to one office it is illegal for all offices. Thus we have the absurdity of a large number of ballots declared illegal for one office and yet counted as perfectly valid for another. Clearly it is the duty of the Legislature to simplify the law. The ballot act should be so plain that ordinary citizens can readily understand it and even the courts cannot confuse it.

Concerning the requirements of the various State institutions Speaker Fisk says: "It is too early to predict just what policy the Assembly will adopt as to final legislation, but it is safe to say the members will be in favor of appropriations large enough for the needs of the State and will also keep in mind the necessity of aiding the Governor in maintaining an economical administration."

Such a policy will commend itself to the people. We have a big State and we must live and act up to its possibilities and its requirements. Liberality and economy are not contradictory terms. The truest economy is that which tends to progress and from this Legislature the people expect the kind of legislation that will help all sections of the commonwealth to move forward in the path of prosperity.

It is stated that up to Christmas day the bachelor Governor of Kansas had received 111 offers of marriage from women in various States, but not a single one of them from a Kansas woman, so it is evident the Kansas girls are posted and know what the Governor's salary amounts to.

Now that the Legislatures are in session the vaudeville performances might as well ring down the curtain. When it comes to doing a freak stunt the con-artist is not in it with the Solon.

PASSING OF THE BOSS.

THE organization of the Legislature by the election of the Speaker and Speaker pro tem. and the President pro tem. of the Senate and by the appointment of the standing committees by the head of each house marks a new departure in the politics of California and will stand as the day of emancipation of the Republican party. Bossism in the party budded and bloomed under the administration that is passing away. It went to lengths that would have been considered incredible when that administration went into power. The bosses reigned in public institutions and swarmed like flies over carrion on every piece of patronage, no matter how small. They ruled and raked off salaries from the great State commissions down to the charwoman who swept up their cigar stumps and scrubbed their tobacco stains from the floor of public offices. They dreamed of grasping primacy of courts and taking charge of the administration of justice at its very fountain that they might make profit out of the power over crime, to bind or loose as they pleased and were paid. They boldly knocked at the door of the Federal Senate and sought to invade that great chamber in order that their grip on Federal offices might be strengthened by partnership with a Senator who could control appointments and dictate removals. They obstructed public work in the Federal offices by their demands. They forced Federal officers to violate the spirit of the civil service by promoting political workers over the heads of old and worthy officers who had won the right to go higher by their public service, but were denied it in the interest of their juniors, the private servants of the bosses.

All this, and more and worse, is passed, like a troubled dream. King Slum and Crown Prince Swipes have been thrown over the fence on the dump. The Republican people of the State took charge of their own affairs, and each man, on his own initiative, fought his way to victory over the combined bosses. Hence exit the bloated and blotched dynasty of corruption and intrigue and enter the people into their fair estate. The Call has worked for this end and has led the long battle that is so well won. We have sought in the public affairs of this State and in the domestic discipline of the Republican party only things right, things reasonable and of good report. It was a battle and could not be carried on in whispers and with puff balls. If we used fixed ammunition it was because the emergency required that grim resort. We have nothing to regret except the sometimes misunderstanding of good men who belong on the side where we stood and fought and won. Let the new administration of the State's affairs review the four years' history of this battle against the bosses and, getting strength of grace and dependence on the plain and clean people, keep the disowned and dethroned dynasty in the ditch where it has been thrown. The party and the people rejoice and we are content. Our task is accomplished.

While riding in an automobile the other day Dr. Lorenz found the machinery out of order and as he could not mend it his companions on the trip are saying that he isn't equal to a good blacksmith.

PROSPERITY AND SUICIDE.

ONCE upon a time men believed suicide to be the result of a morose disposition, but when statistics were carefully gathered and it was learned that among the gay and cheerful French there are more suicides in proportion to population than among the British races, the theory had to be abandoned. Then a belief arose that gloomy surroundings tend to prompt men to self-destruction, but the count revealed the fact that there are more suicides in the brightness of summer than in the gloom of winter. Lately it has been regarded as certain that hard times and disaster cause suicide, but that doctrine will have to be given up like the others, for the number of suicides in this country during the last few years has increased with the ratio of the increase of prosperity.

The Chicago Tribune for a long series of years has kept count of suicides recorded in the press and the figures may be taken as reliable. It gives the record for the last four years as follows: 1899, 5340 suicides; 1900, 6755; 1901, 7245; 1902, 8291.

Of the dreadful list it is noted that only in sixty-seven cases was the suicide attributable to monetary losses or disasters in business. Of the other causes it is said despondency ranks first; about one-tenth are traced to domestic infelicity, 433 to ill health and 375 to "disappointed love." Fully one-third left no clew to the cause for self-murder, while "liquor" accounts for 136.

A notable feature of the list of the last year is the large number of women. Previous to that year the ratio of the sexes in suicide was five men to one woman, but in 1902 for some unknown reason the women took to suicide in such large numbers that the ratio stands three women for every five men. In other words, about three times as many women committed suicide last year as in the previous year.

Dr. Arthur Macdonald of the United States Bureau of Education, who has made a careful study of the increase of crime and other abnormalities in American life, attributes the evil to the growth of luxury among the people. Statistics indicate that those States of the Union which have the greatest wealth, social ambition, education and intelligence have also the greatest amount of suicide, crime, insanity, nervous diseases, juvenile criminals and almshouse paupers. He is reported as saying: "The haste of civilization, involving many transition periods, puts an abnormal strain on the nervous system, as compared with the muscular system. Thus the electric car, automobile and the telephone make people exercise less and think more. A reaction has set in already through the development of systems of physical culture. The increase of wealth, with the luxuries of the table, has tended to overeating, which, in connection with lack of exercise, has its evil effects, and doubtless produces an additional reaction on the nervous system."

Some of the details of the statistics collected by Dr. Macdonald are interesting. The Philadelphia Record says: "They show that the deaths from alcoholism, per million of population, are far more numerous in New York, San Francisco and Boston, in the order named, than in Philadelphia. The rate for New York is 219 and here 92. In suicides per million San Francisco is far ahead of any other city, with 297, followed in order by St. Louis, Chicago, New York, Boston and this city, where the rate is 93. Deaths from alcoholism and suicide are far more common in Philadelphia and New York than in their respective States, and the rate for alcoholism is far higher in the rural districts of the country than in the cities, but in suicides there is not much difference; the rate in cities is 9.29 per million, and in the rural districts 8."

It is a grewsome subject, but it seems inevitable

that as civilization advances and becomes more intense the number of those who are incapable of sustaining it increases. Thus the rush of prosperity hurries to ruin many who could well have borne the disasters of hard times. In the end, of course, men will learn how to live more wisely, but until that time comes we must expect to pay the penalty of trying to crowd a lifetime into a year.

An item is going the rounds of the press to the effect that some high authority has said that the climate of New England is not conducive to love making or matrimony; so we may now expect the girls to come West.

CHILD LABOR LAWS.

ONLY a short time ago when the use of child labor in the Southern States was under consideration the press of the large manufacturing States in the East threw stones at the South with a degree of zeal which implied a conviction that they did not live in glass houses. Over and over again they said to the South, in effect, "Shame on you for overworking children. Look at us and see how children should be treated."

Unfortunately for the preachers the time came when some one did look at them and look closely. The result is a discovery that in nearly every State in the East the child labor laws are evaded as easily and as frequently as the prohibition laws in Maine. The investigations in Pennsylvania have disclosed a state of affairs so shocking that the factory inspectors have been stirred to an unwonted activity, and it is said that over one hundred Aldermen and Justices of the Peace are to be prosecuted for violating the law in certifying that children could read and write and were therefore eligible to work in the factories. Many hundred parents have been fined for making equally false statements concerning the age of their children. The violation of the child labor law in that State appears to have been so gross as to virtually amount to nullification.

A condition of affairs almost as bad is found in other large manufacturing States. The Philadelphia Ledger, in discussing the subject, says: "Pennsylvania is not the only, though it is apparently the worst, offender in this slow but sure torture or slaughter of the innocents. In the mills of enlightened Massachusetts there are upward of 9000 children under 14 years employed; in New York, 16,000; in Illinois, 20,000; in this State, not including the children at work in and about the mines, there are 35,000. This is not a creditable showing for this great and wealthy old commonwealth. It is the only one of the four States mentioned which fixes the age of capability at 13 years; the others fix it at 14 years."

It is to be conceded that it is difficult to enforce laws of this kind in localities where factories are numerous, the demand for labor large and the competitive system working with full force. The factory operators, the parents and the children, in most cases, are all eager to evade the law. There is little hesitation in committing perjury concerning the age of children for the purpose of enabling them to enter the factories, and the foremen seemingly wink at the perjury and ask no questions even when it is apparent to the most casual observer that the child applying for work is under the age required by the statute.

Evidently the South is not so far behind the rest of the country as at first appeared. The campaign of education on this subject has to be waged again in the North as well as in the South. It is gratifying to note that the work of arousing public sentiment on the subject is going briskly on. In the end the right of every American child to an education will be enforced and no one of them will be put to work before having had a chance to learn at least how to read, write and cipher.

Just now our Eastern contemporaries are bragging of the beautiful snow and the tinkling of the merry sleigh bells, but in a few days they will be swearing at the slush and complaining of cold feet.

A STRANGE FISH.

ROVER CLEVELAND is reported to have said on one occasion that there are but two states of human felicity. The higher of the two is that which a man attains when he goes fishing and catches something. The other is that which comes to him when he goes fishing and catches nothing. Accepting that statement as correct, some distinguished gentlemen of the Mississippi Valley have attained both states of felicity at once, for they have gone fishing in the Gulf of Mexico and have caught something, but as they do not know what it is they are as decidedly out of it as if they had caught nothing.

The spoil of the fishers was hooked by accident. He did not bite at the bait offered him, and indeed it seems that had he done so he could easily have bitten the hook along with the bait and swallowed it with impunity. From the vague but lurid descriptions that come to us we learn that the "monster" caught by the gentle fishermen has a black body with wings like a bat; the head is shaped like a turtle; the tail is like that of a stingaree, but the sting is as long and sharp as a Sicilian dagger. The upper lip of the mouth protrudes in a pronounced pout; the tongue is three inches long, is as hard as a flint, and is fitted against a similar hard substance in the upper part of the mouth. When caught the demon of the deep had a number of small fish spitted on his sting and it is presumed he intended to eat them, but the hardness of his mouth has led his captors to conclude that his staple dish must have been oysters in the shell, since it is evident he could grind oyster shells to powder and swallow them with ease.

The new fish has been named from its head and wings, and is called a "turtle bat." That name, however, doesn't do justice to its tail and its tongue, which appear to be the more important features of its make-up. Clearly the wings are of no use, for it cannot fly; for is the head any good, for by the head it was caught. The tail, on the other hand, is useful, for with that it can spear and preserve little fish, while with the finny tongue it can grind up oyster shells. Evidently the curio should be known as the "flint-tongued stingaree," and classified as a demagogue of the deep.

There have been a great many Bryanites and Populists driven up Salt River of recent years, and it is quite likely some of them have found their way into the sea where the strange capture was made. Just how such a Salt River wanderer could have developed bat's wings and a turtle head is not clear, but we have Shakespeare's word for it that a "sea change" brings about "something rich and strange"; so the possible relation of the deep sea freak to the lost freaks of politics is worth investigating.

A Milwaukee girl helped an old man to get on a car three years ago. This Christmas she received from him a check for \$40,000. Step up, girls, and help the old men along.

CARD TOURNAMENT FOR CHARITY PROVES A BRILLIANT SUCCESS

THE card tournament given for charity at Golden Gate Hall last evening was a brilliant success. The building fund of the Infants' Shelter will be aided materially by the affair, as several hundred tickets were sold. The arrangements were in charge of Mrs. George F. Richardson, Mrs. W. W. Grissim and Mrs. Steven D. Ives. The simple decorations consisted of



FOUR POPULAR AND CHARMING SOCIETY GIRLS WHO HELPED KEEP THE SCORES AT THE CARD TOURNAMENT GIVEN IN GOLDEN GATE HALL LAST NIGHT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BUILDING FUND OF THE INFANTS' SHELTER.

blue and white bunting festooned gracefully about the walls. One room was devoted to music and another to whist, with a score of handsomely attired young ladies to assist in keeping the scores. A number of charming young matrons presided over the various sections. Five hundred guests in elaborate evening dress worked zealously for the prizes, and the scene was a merry one. Generous merchants of San Francisco donated the handsome and effective prizes, which won no end of admiration. Punch, cake and lemonade comprised the dainty refreshments offered to the guests. The ladies in charge of the sections were:

Mrs. L. H. Bryan, Miss Katharine MacGowan, Mrs. C. Gross Jr., Mrs. R. W. McChesney, Mrs. C. B. Stevens, Mrs. G. E. Hall, Mrs. M. J. Young, Mrs. John G. Parker, Mrs. John T. Dare, Mrs. James Stewart, Mrs. Robert Topitz, Mrs. John P. Young.

Those in charge of score cards were: Miss Beesie Taylor, Miss Tibbie Taylor, Miss Loreto F. McGowan, Miss Virginia Dare, Miss Amy Gunn, Miss Ruth Gedney, Miss Morgan, Miss Lucille Levy, Miss Nettie Sexton, Miss Ella Wenzelburger, Miss Susie McNab, Miss Alice Christensen, Miss Lottie Farnsworth, Miss Aime Wainwright, Miss Daisy Burns, Miss Alice Hussey, Miss Lillian Brune, Miss Newhouse, Miss Belle Lipp, Miss Ethel Wallace, Miss Callahan, Miss Wolff, Miss Dollie Fred and Miss Catherine Flower.

The prize winners were: First section—First prize, Miss Elliott; second prize, Miss Ayer; third prize, W. H. Mills. Second section—First prize, Mrs. Freeman; second prize, Mrs. Burns; third prize, Mrs. Hammond. Third section—First prize, Mrs. Freer; second prize, Miss Ayer; third prize, A. W. Jackson. Fourth section—First prize, Mrs. Lally; second prize, Mrs. Gonzalez; third prize, Dr. Gordon. Fifth section—First prize, Miss Hoyt; second prize, Mr. Sexton; third prize, H. L. Morrison. Sixth section—First prize, Mrs. Marcus; second prize, Mrs. Asa Wells; third prize, Miss Kufert. Seventh section—First prize, Mr. Haskell; second prize, Mrs. Wenzelburger; third prize, Mrs. Farnsworth.

In a bower of pink roses and foliage Mrs. Frances Loughborough became the bride of Allan Wallace last evening at 5:30 o'clock. The wedding occurred in the presence of about one hundred invited guests at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. A. H. Loughborough, 1190 O'Farrell street. Archbishop Riordan officiated. The rooms were made artistic Company many people have, poinsettias, Christmas berries and pink roses. The bride wore a handsome gown of white panne crepe de chine, with garniture of

PARENTS WANT HALF FARE FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

ALAMEDA, Jan. 6.—In compliance with numerous requests from parents, the City Trustees and Board of Education will confer with the management of the Oakland Transit Company and the Southern Pacific Company with a view to having these corporations establish 25-cent fare for the benefit of school children. Since the suspension of free travel on both of the local lines of the Southern Pacific Company many parents have complained to walk long distances to school or to reach their destination by more expensive ways. The students attending the High School are affected more particularly by the fact that the successful mission of Herpelde, sold by leading druggists, sends 10 cents in stamps for sample to The Herpelde Co., Detroit, Mich.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE GOOD OLD FASHIONED DAYS.

Powdered Wigs Formed an Important Adjunct to a Gentleman's Apparel.

It is safe to say that the majority of bald men of to-day would gladly revive the old, dignified custom if they could. But they can do the next best thing to it—that is, to revive the growth of the hair. In cases where the hair root or hair bulb has not been completely destroyed by parasites that infect it Newbro's Herpelde will do wonders in the way of stimulating the growth of lifeless and falling hair. Destroy the cause, you remove the effect. That is the successful mission of Herpelde. Sold by leading druggists, sends 10 cents in stamps for sample to The Herpelde Co., Detroit, Mich.

lace and transparent yoke of the same, completed by a long veil of misty tulle. Miss Josephine Loughborough, the bride's only attendant, wore white panne chiffon over silk, elaborately shirred and trimmed with lace. Mrs. Loughborough was handsomely attired in black silk and lace. A. D. Keyes gave the bride into the keeping of the groom, and Emile Bruguiere acted as best man. The ribbon bearers comprised Truxton Beale, George Hall, Cyrus Miller, U. S. N.; Henri Graue and Thomas Barbour. After the ceremony a supper was served, during which the bridal couple departed. After several weeks in Southern California Mr. and Mrs. Wallace will reside in New York. Many beautiful presents were received. Those seated at the brides table were:

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Keyes, Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Postley, Dr. and Mrs. A. E. Spalding (nee Polhemus), Miss Josephine Loughborough, Miss Leslie Zane, Miss Vesta Shortridge, Miss Leontine Blakeman, Miss Carroll, Miss Charlotte Ellinwood, Miss Marie McKenna, Dr. and Mrs. Charles Kenney, Emile Bruguiere, Joseph Howell, George Hall, Cyrus Miller, Henri Graue, Truxton Beale and Thomas Barbour.

One of the most charming events of yesterday was Mrs. Pond's tea given at her artistic home on California street, where Mrs. Edward and Mrs. Samuel Pond also acted as hostesses. The hours were 4 to 6 o'clock, during which time several hundred exquisitely gowned callers were pleasantly entertained. The drawing-rooms were elaborately decorated with palms, American Beauties,

poinsettias and hyacinth. Those who assisted in receiving were:

Miss Marie Voorhies, Miss Leontine Blakeman, Mrs. Pond, Mrs. Worden, Mrs. Byrne, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Horace Davis, Miss Grant, Miss Charlotte Ellinwood, Mrs. Henry Breedon, Mrs. Fred Tallant, Mrs. Cyrus Walker, Miss Wakefield Baker, Mrs. Samuel Buckbee, Mrs. Harrington, Mrs. Alexander Baldwin and Mrs. Daniel C. Perkins.

Prunes stuffed with apricots. Townsend's

Useful presents. Look out for St. Fourth: front of harbor and grocery; best eye-glasses, specs, 25c to 50c.

Townsend's California grape fruit and candies, 50c a pound, in artistic fire-etched boxes. A nice present for Eastern friends. 639 Market st., Palace Hotel building.

Special information supplied daily to business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 229 California street. Telephone Main 1942.

Fountain Pens.

We are selling agents for several fountain pens, including the "Waterman," the "Swan" and the "Marshall," the best \$1.00 fountain pen ever made. Sanborn, Vall & Co., 741 Market street.

To conquer a disposition to dwell on the sorrows of the past, cultivate a hopeful attitude toward the future.

Gullett's New Year extra nice ones, ice cream and cake. 905 Larkin st.; tel. East 1987

Greatest Love Story of the Age See Next Sunday Call

A CLEVER woman epigrammatist once said: "Love is either a dark lantern or a searchlight."

In the modern up-to-date "romantic" novel it is both or the dear fun-loving public who buys its books for its thrills—a thrill to every page—will have none of it. And yet it is a strange circumstance, that, with almost the single exception of Charles Major, all the best novelists of the day have gone far afield in the realm of fiction for pulse-stirring adventures, when historical truth would have given them far better material to weave around real characters, like Charles Brandon and Mary Tudor, for instance, who fought and schemed and plotted and loved through such a period of storm and stress that has never been outdone in even the wildest fiction, and rarely equaled in fact.

Charles Brandon was a real soldier of fortune in the reign of King Henry VIII of England. He had the temerity to fall head over heels in love with the King's sister, just at the time that notorious monarch wanted to marry her to the doddering old King of France, whom she hated, with a healthy girl's hatred of anything so licentious and antiquated.

Mary Tudor was King Henry's sister. She was more. She was the most beautiful girl in Europe. Moreover, she had glorious auburn hair, and she was only nineteen. She fell in love with Charles Brandon before he fell in love with her, and to get his kisses she went to such extremes of recklessness that Charles' head was in constant danger of being lopped off on the block. More than once he went to prison for her, and more than once she saved him and repaid him and again jeopardized him at one and the same time with more kisses. Eventually she married the old French King and Brandon, too, all of which, though more than passing strange, is set forth at delightful length in "WHEN KNIGHTHOOD WAS IN FLOWER," WHICH YOU GET FREE—ABSOLUTELY FREE—IN THREE NUMBERS OF THE SUNDAY CALL BEGINNING JANUARY 11.

Best of all you get Julia Marlowe's great play as well, in a series of full page photographs, made especially to illustrate that a \$1.50 novel—FREE.

But that is not all. Besides a long list of special magazine features there is the SUNDAY CALL'S NEW EDITORIAL SECTION COMPILED BY PROMINENT SAN FRANCISCO NOTABLES.

For instance—how is "THE MEOWS OF A KITTY," by Kate Thyson Marr; "HOW TO MAKE SAN FRANCISCO BEAUTIFUL," by James D. Phelan; "THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF CLUB LIFE FOR WOMEN," by Mrs. I. Lowenberg, President of the Philomath Club; "BENEFITS OF THE HAWAIIAN CABLE," by George A. Newhall, President Chamber of Commerce, and "ADVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE," by General William Booth, Salvation Army.