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A BAD MEASURE

The bill introduced in the assembly making Saturday afternoon a half-holiday for all state and county officers is bad in all its features. Why an officer should be given a half-holiday each week and the miner, the mercantile, postoffice and drygoods clerks, mechanics, and, in fact, all branches of trade, work Saturday afternoons? Why not make Wednesday another Sunday?

The great trouble with the American nation is that it has too many holidays sandwiched in between the working days, which is retarding the wheels of progress. This measure, introduced in the assembly, bears the earmarks of emanating from the state capital officials or some of them. The bill should be slain.

THIS BILL SHOULD PASS

The bill introduced by Assemblyman Louis Speller of Washoe county for a state bond issue of \$10,000 to make possible the completion and completion of the mining experiment station of the government at the state university is a worthy one, and there should not be a dissenting vote when it comes up for passage. The appropriation of \$30,000 in 1919 for this work, made by the legislature of 1919, was insufficient to complete it. Let us point with pride to our mining experiment station and explain to the world it is the finest ever. If the appropriation is not forthcoming, the bureau cannot be located in Nevada. The University of Nevada has the honor of graduating the most noted mining engineers of today. Let us keep up that grand record by adding to our state institution of learning any equipment that will advance its fame. The bill should pass.

LET THE PEOPLE HAVE THEIR LIKES

The people living in a mining camp, especially the miner who gets his nature's underground storehouse and who brings forth the precious metals—have but little amusement. The man who talks in the mines is entitled to a good four-finger drachm after coming off shift. It puts new life into him and makes his days worth living. He is not a society man, and when the evening arrives, he lives to indulge in a game of Forty-five, Solo, Draw or Stud Poker. The first is already engaged him, and they are making an effort in the legislature to put a crimp in the last by enacting a law in Nevada that would make card playing, etc., a felony. Think of it! A felony to look at a deck of cards or punch a number on a punchboard or drop a nickel in a slot machine? The author of this drastic measure is an attorney from Washoe or Humboldt or some Mormon town near the Utah line. It looks to the editor of the Bonanza as though he has introduced the anti-gambling measure for the benefit of his brother attorneys, so they might rattle on the fees received from a miner for defending him if he were caught in the act of having dropped a 50-cent stack of whites in a stud poker game.

Let the taxpayers hope that Mr. Scott's measure is tabled when it comes before both branches of the state legislature. If this measure became a law and was enforced, there would not be a county in the state but would be soon upon a scrip basis. And in these times, who is hell wants scrip?

Mr. Scott, the father of the bill, comes from a county that repudiated its indebtedness, and maybe is preparing to do it again.

THE WASTRELS

The thirtieth session of the Nevada legislature is nearing its close, and up to the present time but little has been accomplished in the way of making laws that are actually required for the good and welfare of our commonwealth. Too much time has been wasted by the members listening to women, all of whom have some personal or civic feud they want framed into law. They want this moral measure put through or that nuisance abated, when in fact, the moral or nuisance hobbles they are lobbying for are not injuring anyone to any extent, and the legislature is using its valuable time, which is paid for by the tax-

payers of the counties they represent. If the women will keep away from Carson this state will continue to prosper just the same in the future as it has in the past, and it can be truthfully said that it did prosper in the past and there was much revenue derived from all sources to carry on the state and county governments. Today that revenue is not available, through the crazy legislation of moralists who want Nevada to become a Sunday school state—no good old bourbon to strengthen the tired body after a day of toil, no seeing the blind and going to better this is the real status as we see it as present. All this has brought unrest and made criminals of nine-tenths of the population of the great Silver State today and it is a safe prediction that it will make criminals of the other one-tenth in the next year or two. Think for a moment of a lawmaking body enacting laws that never will be respected and under which no jury will ever vote for conviction for the violation of these drastic measures. People will drink for they like the beverages, and people will gamble for it is nature. A few much needed laws should be placed upon the statutes of this state, and at once. If the members of this session will through the prohibition and gambling measures into the garbage can allow drug stores to sell alcohol on physicians' prescriptions, and stop this unrest, they will be called blessed by Nevada's people.

When this is out of the way, they repeal the primary law, make every foreign automobile remaining in this state take out a Nevada license the same as owners of foreign machines just do in California, let the divorce law stand as it is, and dump all of the government's pet measures in the sewer, then this legislature will have accomplished more good than any of its predecessors. Otherwise, half of the members will be ashamed to return and face their constituents.

U. S. FOREIGN SERVICE REFORM

An English ambassador receives \$40,000 a year and his house and all expenses paid. An American ambassador receives \$17,500 and pays his own rent and expenses. The British foreign officer may retire at the end of 30 years' service, on a full-sized pension. The American goes out with nothing, no matter how long he has served his country. What applies to ambassadors applies also to the lower commissions in the foreign service—the British official is better paid and better provided for than the American. Even the French limited as are the means of their nation, pay their foreign officers better than we do, and make generous provision for their old age.

What does this mean to America? It is difficult to estimate it in dollars and cents. But that it takes a man of large means to accept a position in the diplomatic corps of the United States is well established. If he has made his money he is apt to be a tolerably practical man in diplomacy, but not the type to stick to the job for very long. He merely wants the honor. If he has inherited his money, he is more apt to be a dilettant diplomat, with papa or some other friends at home to take care of him if he spills the diplomatic beans. He should worry. Brains and training are not at a premium in the American diplomatic service, though they ought to be, as we have many acute problems to meet henceforth. But however well a man may have been trained to represent his country abroad—whatever may be his ability in the great boss game—he is out of luck if he has not the wherewithal to carry on.

There is a way to remedy all this, and while it may mean an initial expenditure of a considerable sum, it means a good investment in the end. Our foreign officers ought to receive better pay, if not as much as European diplomats receive, at least more than we pay our officials now. They ought to be housed in official residences owned by the United States government. The rentals we pay represents a 5 per cent interest on a sum which would build such residences. They ought to be assured of retirement pay after long service, in order that they may make diplomacy a career, and not be worried by the fear of

poverty in declining years. A first-class diplomat averts war, but we forget all about that. We provide our army and navy officers with retirement pay which will support them after they have reached 64 years of age, and a military officer is chiefly an ornament unless a war is going on. If there were no wars there would be no need of military officers, but we should need diplomats and consuls. There are some people who would be willing to see the United States contribute a billion annually to belong to the league of nations, yet those same people would probably balk at giving our foreign officers a decent living status.

Fifteen millions of dollars would supply us with residences for our foreign officers. Less than five millions annually would raise their salaries, give them decent local allowances, and provide retirement pay after they had served 30 years. A foreign service reorganized along practical lines would be the means of reimbursing the United States by many times twenty millions of dollars through foreign trade development alone, to say nothing of the effect in fostering our friendly relations with the nations of the earth. The fees turned in by our consular service this fiscal year will probably exceed by more than five millions the total cost of upkeep of the service, but that money must be covered back into the United States treasury.

Isn't it high time that we came to appreciate what an A-1 foreign service could accomplish for us, and to take steps to insure such a service?

EVERYBODY WORKS IN STATE OF FINLAND

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 25.—There is no unemployment in Finland, says M. Viljanen, chief of the trade and industry department of the Finnish government, who is visiting here. He attributed Finland's good fortune in this respect, as compared to most other countries, to the prohibition of imports. This had the effect of

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MUST RESTORE GOLD STANDARD TO HOLD CREDIT

(By Associated Press) LONDON, Feb. 25.—Need of restoration of gold standard in Great Britain was emphasized at a meeting of the Sound Currency association recently held here.

Sir George Paish, financial expert who visited the United States about a year ago, said the financial position of the country would not be sound until the gold standard was restored. "We could then be able to pay for things we require from other countries in goods or services without needing credit operations and without fearing the gold drain from this country," he said. "The gold standard of Europe must also be re-established. We will not be able to resume the gold standard here until we are able to put out new capital to the extent of 400,000,000 pounds."

D. M. Mason, who presided, said the chancellor of the exchequer had estimated that he would have at the end of the fiscal year a surplus of 234,000,000 pounds which he proposed to use for the reduction of the public debt.

Mr. Mason suggested that if 50,000,000 or 100,000,000 pounds were set aside for the purpose of gradually redeeming the redundant currency, in a comparatively short time there would be parity of exchange between Great Britain and the United States and other gold standard countries.

making the country's industrial production greater than at the beginning of the war. Finland is now considering the advisability of gradually discontinuing the embargo on imports, he said. This country has begun to tranship goods for Russia and has established a free port at Hango.



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