

THE LEON REPORTER
O. E. HULL, Editor.
LEON, IOWA

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One year\$1.50
Six months75
Three months40
Canadian and foreign countries,
\$2.00 per year.
Entered as second-class matter at
the Leon, Iowa, Postoffice.

EXTENDING THE COSSON LAW.

The house Saturday extended the Cosson law to every official in the state of Iowa from state officers down to township constables. It included appointive officials along with those elective. The bill as it passed the house made a clean sweep. In the house Saturday but four votes were cast against the bill. The action of the legislature illustrates the mighty change that has come to Iowa and for that matter to the entire country within the past few years. As applied to officials the Cosson removal law is a recall proposition which works automatically. The question is of facts. If an official has been guilty of certain derelictions, if he is incompetent, if his failure is such that it is necessary to remove him from office. The law has been effective in its effect upon those who have come under its provisions. In no instance has it been successfully invoked against any but officials who were manifestly unfit for the positions they held. Some cases there have been of removal under the Cosson law and in every case the law has justified itself. There have been some resignations under fire and these resignations are only further corroboration of the utility and justice of the statute. It has proved itself. How well the opinion of the house of representatives expresses with its eighty-one votes to extend its provisions as against the four votes in dissent.

The effect of this law upon prosecuting and executive officials has been extremely salutary. The removal of a few mayors and a chief of police or two have had a most excellent effect upon others, who holding such offices were inclined to suspend the statutes to the benefit of certain interests and classes and to give small attention themselves to moral laws, not that it held others to a choice between their inclinations and their job. It has been an argument in refutation of the assertion that "laws can not make men better" for it has held men to their duty where that duty was the reverse of desire.

No man who seeks office with an understanding of its duties and sincere desire to fulfill his oath need fear the Cosson law. And it is much to the advantage of law and law abiding citizenship that others should walk in the fear of it.—Marshalltown Times-Republican.

DEMOCRACY MADE AN END OF IT

The people knew what they wanted at the last national election—and they got it. They made a record along progressive democratic lines. The record shows that Iowa went for Wilson by 22,000 majority, but Kenyon, who had made a record along the lines of legislation that the people wanted, was elected senator, although he was a republican. The same thing occurred in Nebraska. Wilson carried the state by 37,000 plurality, and then Norris, a republican, was elected to the United States senate. In California the First congressional district gave Wilson about 8,000 majority and then returned Congressman Kent, a republican—or he had been a republican up to that time—by a majority of 1,850.

The continued assertion made by the standpat republican papers that Wilson is a minority president, which rests on the fact that the Taft and Roosevelt vote when added together is greater than that cast for Wilson, has no foundation in the real condition in the United States. The "policies" for which Wilson stands have a greater majority behind them than were ever behind any president since the days of Washington, and it is with policies that the people are concerned. The people were so dissatisfied with the policies of the republican party that the members of that party revolted and the vote showed that even in that party there were more men who were opposed to them than were who supported them.

The truth is that the people are more nearly a unit for the policies of the democratic party and with Wilson as the leader, than they have ever been since this government was organized. While there was a unanimous vote for Washington for president, there was no such agreement among the people as to the policies that ought to be followed as there is today. "The interests" would do well to make a note of that fact. They have ruled this country just as long as they will be permitted to rule it.—St. Joe Observer.

THE CASH REGISTER SENTENCES.

The prison sentences imposed on officials of the National Cash Register company will shock those gentlemen who believe prostration created nations for the purpose of exploit. John H. Patterson, president of the company, is ordered to prison for one year. Other officials of the company receive the same sentence; and the mildest penalty imposed calls for three months in jail.

This is different from being fined a trifling percentage of the profits on an illegal transaction, as Mr. Jas. A. Patten, could testify. Fines are trifles. They can be added to costs and passed on to customers. But a term in prison—ah! that is another story.

Between now and 1916 why can't Theodore run down to Mexico and straighten things out. There's a job for a strenuous person.

WHAT IT MEANS.

It is a pity that those who talk so glibly about intervention in Mexico can not be made to understand what intervention means.

It means hard work for two years for an army of 200,000 men. Most military authorities say that 250,000 men will be needed.

It means the cost of from 10,000 to 20,000 lives, even if there should be no severe fighting after the first few months.

It means the expenditure of at least \$600,000,000. Under peace conditions, our army costs nearly \$1,500 per year per man; and the expense would increase with war.

It means that for two years the best energies of the nation must be devoted, not to peace and progress, but to war and conquest.

It means that for an unknown period this army of 200,000 men must stay in Mexico, suppressing brigandage, quelling insurrection, preserving order.

It means a riot of expenditures, followed by a season of hard times; a bonanza for contractors and a slough of despond for taxpayers.

It means that every Spanish-speaking country in the western hemisphere will hate and fear this nation, and do everything possible to injure it.

Intervention in Mexico would be nothing less than a calamity for the United States. That calamity may be unavoidable. This country may be compelled to end the anarchy south of the Rio Grande; and if that duty falls to our lot, no expense of money or life should stop our action.

But to talk of marching through Mexico as a holiday affair is folly; and to urge intervention except as a last resort is a crime.—Chicago Journal.

THIRTY-SIX ELOQUENT CONVICTIONS.

Following the conviction at Cincinnati of twenty-five responsible individuals for violating the Sherman law in the Cash Register Trust case, comes the conviction at Detroit of eleven responsible individuals for violating the Sherman law in the Bath Tub cases.

Here are thirty-six responsible men found guilty within two days of violating the criminal clause of the anti-trust act.

Yet for years we have been told that this clause could not be enforced; that juries would not convict reputable business men of conspiracy to monopolize trade. When Mr. Roosevelt was carrying on his campaign against the Sherman law he used to send hysterical messages to congress explaining that business could not be carried on if the act was enforced, and that it was "well nigh impossible to get at the head of a corporation, at the man who is really most guilty."

But when a capable attorney-general really undertakes to enforce a law he has no great difficulty in procuring convictions. It is merely a matter of evidence, as it is in all other criminal cases. And business does not cease with the enforcement of the law. On the contrary, business is much better than it was when Mr. Roosevelt was screaming to the country that business would be destroyed if the Sherman act were enforced.—New York World.

"STAND-PAT" CIVIL SERVICE.

Charles W. Eliot, former president of Harvard University, criticized the republican administration for having placed fourth-class postmasters under civil service rule. Dr. Eliot says:

"Fourth-class postmasters were patronage appointees. They are to be continued in office now simply because of the application of the spoils system. The blow has been struck from the capital at true civil service."

Dr. Eliot has given a valuable hint to those who imagine that the republican administration means civil service in the arrangement of public office. That administration is something like the partisan republican, who later in life was found supporting an independent ticket in a municipal election. He was expected to deliver a "non-partisan" address. When the hour for the meeting arrived the hall was crowded. The orator took his place upon the platform and beating his chest proudly, began: "I don't care what a man's politics is,"—and then the old time spirit returning to him, he made haste to add—"just so he's a republican."—The Commoner.

THE CROWNING WORK.

Governor Wilson last week signed seven anti-trust bills, which form the crowning work of his administration. The bills passed practically as introduced.

These measures illustrate the political methods of our president-elect. When he first took office as governor of New Jersey, Mr. Wilson recommended reforms precisely like those embodied in the bills just signed. The legislature, one house of which was republican, ignored the governor's advice.

Without wasting time or effort, Gov. Wilson turned to reforms which could be passed. He secured a public utility board, a corrupt practices act, a series of laws improving conditions of labor. Then as soon as he had behind him a legislature elected on his own platform, he brought forward antitrust legislation which puts New Jersey in the forefront of progressive commonwealths. Here is no raving, ranting, nor calling of names. Here is high principle, clear vision, and marvelous efficiency in getting the right things done.

The republican party has decided to hold a national convention this year. It is hoped a vote of thanks to Utah and Vermont will be spread upon the minutes.

The largest pension bill ever reported to congress passed the house the other day aggregating \$180,200,000. The vote stood 219 to 49.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

(By Clyde H. Tavenner, special Washington Correspondent to The Reporter.)

Washington, Feb. 22.—For a change the same kind of justice that is meted out to poor men, was meted out to the rich, when Federal Judge Hollister of Ohio recently sentenced twenty-nine officials of the Cash Register trust to jail, sustaining the view long taken by democrats that "guilt is personal," and making the first official response to the will of the people that was expressed in the election of Woodrow Wilson.

Now that sufficient time has elapsed for members of congress to consider the effect of the judgment of the Ohio court, the consensus of opinion among lawmakers at the national capital is that the jail sentences will do more to cause millionaire trust magnates to respect the Sherman anti-trust law, than anything that has occurred since trusts and monopolies have come into existence.

It has been demonstrated that jail sentences is the only thing trust magnates have any respect for. They are willing to build up giant monopolies in the necessities of life if their only punishment, in the remote event of their prosecution and conviction, is to be "dissolution," the details of which the Supreme court will allow their attorneys to attend, to the end that their stock will double in value. Trust magnates care nothing about fines. Fines are considered simply on a business basis. The trust heads have no objections to occasionally paying a \$5,000 or \$10,000 fine, having made millions in cornered markets and in monopolies of the necessities of life.

But trust magnates are afraid of a cell, and if they can be convinced that if they violate the anti-trust law they will go to jail, like the poor go to jail when they violate the law, no one doubts that the Sherman law would be obeyed and the problem of illegal trusts, solved.

The Sherman law provides for jail sentences for trust magnates, just as other laws provide for jail sentences for other kinds of robbery, but for twenty years and more the Federal courts have not been impressed by the fact. This is why so many persons have come to be suspicious of the courts, and to sincerely believe that the poor do not receive the same kind of justice that is meted out to the rich; it explains too, the recent remarkable growth of socialism, and the agitation for the recall of judges.

In this connection it is important to note that although the twenty-nine cash register heads were found guilty and were sentenced to jail, they are not in jail, and are not likely to be for two years, or perhaps even longer. The case will be fought through the Supreme Court, and as a general thing two years is consumed. It is said that the men under sentence expect to escape jail, and will pour out their millions in an effort to find some loophole of technicality by which to escape the ignominy of being branded a convict.

If the judgment of the court is actually carried out, it is obvious that it will do more toward causing illegal trust magnates to respect the law, and at the same time more to strengthen the waning confidence of the masses in the federal courts, than anything that has happened in years.

As fast as they can do so the legislatures of the several states now in session are ratifying the proposed amendment to the federal constitution, providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote. There never was in the history of the government a more popular proposition.

A bill has been introduced in the lower house of congress providing for the appointment of three legislative counselors whose duties, it may be judged, will be to draft bills for the honorable members who don't know enough to draft them themselves.

A New Discovery.

One of the sensations of the twentieth century is Meritol Rheumatism Powders. A boon to every sufferer. The best known remedy for rheumatism in all its forms. Ask those who have tried it. Stempel & Cherrington.

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Nature didn't intend that we should wear corsets, tight collars or shoes, nor live in badly ventilated and draughty houses, nor eat and drink some of the things that we do, nor ride in street cars when we should walk.

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