

THE SEATTLE STAR

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Contempt of Law and of Congress

In 1890 congress adopted the Sherman anti-trust law, and provided: "SECTION 1. EVERY CONTRACT, COMBINATION IN THE FORM OF TRUST OR OTHERWISE, OR CONSPIRACY, IN RESTRAINT OF TRADE OR COMMERCE... IS HERE BY DECLARED TO BE ILLEGAL."

Observe that the word "unreasonable" does not appear. An effort was made to have congress insert that word in the law and such efforts have been renewed at nearly every session of congress in the twenty years since.

In the trans-Missouri Freight association case, some judges of the lower courts held that the law was limited to "unreasonable" restraints of interstate and international commerce, and decided against the government and in favor of the railroads. On appeal to the United States supreme court the case was argued for the railroads by the most able and eminent lawyers in the United States, and the supreme court, by a five to four decision, held for the government and reversed the lower courts.

The majority held what would seem to the layman to be obvious, that the words of congress were plain and that the court had no right to amend the statute by inserting the word "unreasonable."

Now, in the Standard Oil case, a majority of the court reverses the trans-Missouri case and inserts the word "unreasonable," so that the statute will now read: "Every unreasonable contract, combination, etc., and every person who shall unreasonably monopolize," etc.

President Taft was appealed to to recommend the amendment of the law by inserting the word "unreasonable." He declined to do so and said:

"It has been proposed that the word 'reasonable' shall be made a part of the statute, and then that it should be left to the court to say what is unreasonable restraint of trade, what is a reasonable suppression of competition, what is a reasonable monopoly."

"I venture to think that this is to put into the hands of the court a power impossible to exercise on any consistent principle which will insure the uniformity of decision essential to just judgment. It is to thrust upon the courts a burden that they have no precedents to enable them to carry, and to give them a power approaching the arbitrary, the abuse of which might involve our whole judicial system in disaster."

In the trans-Missouri case, the supreme court said: "IF THE ACT OUGHT TO BE READ AS CONTENDED FOR (by the railroads), CONGRESS IS THE BODY TO AMEND IT AND NOT THIS COURT, BY A PROCESS OF JUDICIAL LEGISLATION WHOLLY UNJUSTIFIABLE."

Yet that court now does amend the act; and we submit that the great mass of the people will say that the court did it by a process of judicial legislation that is wholly unjustifiable. No wonder that the venerable Justice Harlan said that this action of the court "may well alarm thoughtful men!"

If congress truly represents the American people it will resent the usurpation of its power by the courts. Do not the facts set out above show that the people should, by the recall of judges or some other effective method, put an end to such usurpations?

He's Hit the King Pin

"The most alarming tendency of this day, so far as the safety and integrity of our institutions are concerned, is the tendency to judicial legislation; so that, when men having vast interests are concerned, and they cannot get the law making power of the country to pass the legislation they desire, the next thing they can do is to raise the question in some court, and get the court to construe the constitution or the statutes as to mean what they desire them to mean."

Observations

A. PETIT, judge, seems to be bigger than the Illinois legislature. THE Helm committee reports that Lorimer was elected by bribery. News? GADSKI has sciatic rheumatism in her leg, but, unlike Mary Garden, it won't interfere with her stinging.

WHY NOT SMILE AWHILE?

Illustration with three panels: CORRECTED, THE REAL ANSWER, GOOD ADVICE TO FOLLOW. Includes dialogue about a playbill and a dinner invitation.

Lame Duck Club

How Reactionaries Who Were Retired by the People Have Been Given Soft Places.

One of the sins with which President Taft is charged by the progressives of his party is the use of federal patronage to reward reactionary public servants who have been repudiated by the people.

THE OBVIOUS UTILITY.

Lady (to tramp who had been commissioned to find lost poodle)—The poor little darling; where did you find him?

A RUSTIC QUIP.

"Don't you think that new congressman will be a popular idol?" "I dunno about his bein' popular," replied Farmer Coratassel, "but he's idle, all right."

REALLY COULDN'T.

Park Superintendent—Here, you loafer, why haven't you been cutting the grass as I ordered an hour ago?

THE FAVORED ONE.

Ted—How did you come to buy flowers for Dolly when you said you had no money?

NO SECRETS FROM HER.

"Mrs. Chucklesley, is your husband a member of any secret society?" "He thinks he is—but he talks in his sleep."

AT THE OLD PIKE PLACE PUBLIC MARKET MEET THE PRODUCER. HERE FOODS ARE CHEAPER; FRESHER, TOO.

Manning's Coffee. A WORD TO THE WISE. Manning's Coffee Store 1919 PIKE PLACE.

Wednesday Special SAVE THIS ADV.—IT WILL SAVE YOU MONEY. Meadowbrook Milk, large cans, 5¢, with each 10¢ purchase, if you bring this adv. with you.

Low Round Trip Rates To All Eastern Points via Canadian Pacific Railway. Six hundred miles unsurpassed scenery through the Canadian Rocky Mountains and National Park.

Here's a Chap Who Writes a Western Melodrama Without a Single Danged Soul Being Hanged

Harold Holland, English Actor at the Seattle, Has a Blinger Under His Hat Which He'll Bring Out Next Year. Did you ever see a Western play without a revolver shot and "blood and thunder"?



HAROLD HOLLAND.

But you may soon, for an Englishman—an English actor playing in Seattle—has taken it upon himself "to do the right thing" by the West. He has written a Western melodrama—not a Western melodrama—and listen to its name—"The Webb." Some blood and thunder name—NOT.

known only as Silent, who over-hears confessions of the hunted man, gathers facts as to who is 'rustling' cattle and throwing suspicion on the Easterner, an innocuous man, and finally breaks his silence by disclosing the guilty man just in time to save the innocent one from being hanged.

Intimate Correspondence BY RATH. HAS NO SUBSTITUTE ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure.

Washington, D. C., May 18, 1911. Dear Dad: Mr. Knox's "dollar diplomacy" is causing some changes in the diplomatic personnel. Mr. Straus is one of the latest victims.

That enterprising and belligerent publication called "The Appeal to Reason" recently took up the case of Frank Lane, a railroad man who was injured in the performance of his duty.

Seattle Business Directory Get in Touch With the Ads Which Appear Below. They Contain Many Items for Your Interest, and Are Placed Here for Your Guidance

Table with columns: ATTORNEYS, Dyeing and Cleaning, MONUMENTS, Physicians and Surgeons, Baggage and Transfer, ELECTRICIANS, NATUROPATHS, SEWING MACHINES, The Eagle Transfer Co., RALPH KROW'S ELECTRIC COMPANY, EYE SPECIALISTS, OPTICIANS, EYES, CHIROPRACTORS, GROCERS, V. LYDELL & CO., OSTEOPATHS, DAIRIES, LAUNDRIES, LIVERY STABLES, DETECTIVES, BUNGALOWS, NOTICE, GROGERS, V. LYDELL & CO., OSTRICH PLUMES, Paint and Wall Paper, WE KILL THE GERMS, WATCH REPAIRING.

The Golden Eagle Everything Slaughtered CLOSING OUT ALL LINES BUT MILLINERY. 40c Stockings for 10 c a Pair 45c Stockings for 12 1/2 c a Pair HANKERCHIEFS 50c Lace Edge for 15c 35c Kind for 11c 10c Kind for 5c