

STATE JETAOIN SHRDLUU WALKER SPENCER OF NEW ORLEANS OUTLINES HIS IDEA OF DEFECTS IN JUDICIARY.

Here are the defects of the judiciary system of Louisiana, as sketched from Attorney Walker Spencer's address Thursday to the members council of the Association of Commerce:

Some courts are years behind in their work, others have nothing to do—because of the distribution of the districts.

Justice of the peace courts have become an "instrument of the poor man's oppression."

The political system under which judges are chosen develops "sycophancy and subservience . . . rather than those qualities of candor, sincerity, firm adherence to principles of justice regardless of persons, and aloofness that puts litigants on an equality."

As a result we have "a mediocre judiciary, poorly paid, inefficiently organized, hampered by archaic procedure."

Here is how Mr. Spencer, endorsing the plan being developed by the Bar Association of Louisiana, would have the constitutional convention change the system:

Selecting Judges.

"A Supreme Judicial Council, which is a body composed of 12 judges longest in the service, and occupying the highest judicial positions in the state namely: The chief justice and three associate justices of the supreme court the four presiding judges of the four courts of appeal, and the four presiding judges of the four district courts—would nominate to the governor five men, from which number he may select one. The name of the one selected by the governor shall then be submitted to the senate for confirmation or rejection. If the nominee is confirmed by the senate then at the next general election at which a governor is to be voted for this question is to be submitted to the electors of the territorial jurisdiction of such nominee. If a majority of the electors shall vote in the negative, then the incumbency of such nominee shall cease within 30 days after the promulgation of such election, and the governor

shall appoint a successor, otherwise such judge shall continue in office.

"At every subsequent general election all judges who have served more than four years again come before the electorate. If a majority shall vote in the negative, the judge is retired from office. Thus every judge is subject to retirement by direct vote of the people if his judicial conduct has been such as not to meet with the approval of a majority of the electors."

Organization of Courts.

"First we divide the state into four judicial districts instead of 21. We then set up four grades of courts, namely: The supreme court of seven justices, which is the final arbiter, of the law, and which has direct appellate jurisdiction in important matters and supervisory jurisdiction over all other courts, and see that the law is kept uniform in all courts; four intermediate appellate courts, called courts of appeal—one for each judicial district, and composed of three judges, each having an appellate jurisdiction covering all cases not appealable to the supreme court and thus relieving the supreme court of a large amount of unnecessary work; four district courts—one for each judicial district, and composed of from five to ten judges, according to the size and necessities of the districts which courts have original jurisdiction such as is now employed by our present district courts; and one parish court for each parish, composed of one or more judges, as necessity may dictate, and which shall exercise the jurisdiction now vested in the justices of the peace and the other inferior criminal and civil courts.

"The creation of these courts will increase the appellate judges by five and will reduce, after 1924, the district judges by 12, and the inferior judges by about 150. It will enable the state to have trained lawyers on the bench in every court, and pay larger salaries without unduly increasing the total cost of the judiciary.

"The judges of these court are interchangeable, so that no court need be without the necessary number of judges to promptly per-



EARLE WILLIAMS

"Don't change your company," is the advice Earle Williams gives to young screen players, and then he adds, "providing you are with the right company." Earle Williams is one of the few film players who has never changed his habitation from one studio to another. He commenced his career 12 years ago with the Vitagraph star family and has never strayed from the fold. "The Wolf," visualized from Eugene Walters' famous stage play, and "The Fortune Hunter," from Winchell Smith's play, have been the means of emphasizing Mr. Williams' ability and popular attraction recently.

form its labors, and no judge need be required to do more than his share of the work, and no judge permitted to escape performing his full share. In this way we obtain an elastic and co-ordinating judiciary."

HIS FINANCIAL BACKING.

First Class Scout to Tenderfoot—John, have you \$100 to lend me?

Tenderfoot—No. P. C. S.—Why, you said ten minutes ago you had \$5000 back of you. Tenderfoot—Yes, but I was leaning against the bank at the time.—San Francisco Chronicle.

To Cure a Cold in One Day
Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE (Tablets). It stops the Cough and Headache and works off the Cold. E. W. GROVE'S signature on each box. 30c.

MEDIATION IN ARMENIA.

The course of events is shaping itself so that President Wilson will have a real job of mediation in Armenia. Since he volunteered for the task, Russian troops are reported to have taken possession of Erivan, Armenia's capital, part of the Armenian troops have joined the Soviet forces, and the rest have been driven outside of Armenia by the Turkish Nationalists, some of the Armenians have declared a Soviet republic and the Russians and Turks are preparing to fight over the question as to who shall have the "mandate." While the League of Nations has been deliberating as to the best method of relieving Armenia, the Russians have been shipping in provisions. Mediation will therefore become rather complicated.

COULDN'T CHANGE.

A negro applied to a cotton plantation manager for work.

"All right," said the manager. "Come around in the morning and I'll put you to work and pay you what you are worth."

"No, suh, I can't do that," replied the negro. "I'se gettin' mo' dan dat now."—Cartoons Magazine.

THERE ISN'T ANY?

A prospective buyer walked into the garage and said to the proprietor: "I would like to see a first-class second-hand car."

The proprietor looked at him and smiled as he replied: "So would I, brother."



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