AN INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPER

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE, THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A CHAMPION, AND THAT EVIL SHALL NOT THRIVE UNOPPOSED.

F. D. Slater, Editor-in-Chief and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 14 Years; G. A. Martin is News Editor.

EL PASO HERALD

Editorial and Magazine Page

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If Orozco Fails

THERE is good reason to suspect that some, at least, of the financial backers of the Orozco rebellion will welcome an American demonstration if Orozco loses the Chihuahua campaign. One of the most influential and wealthy men of Mexico, now a refugee in the United States, declared not long ago to a United States senator that he would be glad to see Orozco succeed, but that in event of his failure, he would favor American intervention.

Sentiment throughout the United States, and especially at Washington in congress and among the members of the national administration, is dead against any American military demonstration toward Mexico. The president, the state department, the cabinet, and congress are practically unanimous in maintaining that nothing has occurred so far to call for any drastic action. As for the country at large, it is apathetic, and scarcely knows there is any trouble in Mexico. The press, with very few exceptions, is disposed to make light of the Mexican matter when it mentions the trouble at all; and the press does not seem to care one way or the other. In this attitude it of course reflects accurately the apathy of the American people.

With us along the border, it is a "local story" as newspaper men call it; the rebellion, the conduct of the Mexican government, and the safety of American lives and property, are all vital issues with us, intimate and personal. It is hard for some of us to understand that the people of the United States at large are no more interested in these matters at present than they are in the question of what kind of paving shall be put down on Nevada street. All talk of American intervention is utterly idle, under conditions as they now exist, and Mexicans and Americans alike, in the interior and along the border, may safely dismiss the thought from their minds.

There are only four contingencies that might arise to change the sentiment of the United States and cause a general demand for drastic action. The first is the future occurrence of some gross outrage, either the mistreating of a number of foreign women and children, or the wanton murder or mutilation of a number of foreign men; the highest authorities at Washington declare that no amount of property damage or financial loss will cause the American government to take drastic action. The second possibility is the change of the national administration by placing Theodore Roosevelt or some other radical in the white house. The third possibility is a recurrence of the situation of last May involving the bombardment of American cities by Mexicans. The fourth possibility is a lawless raid from the American side.

Even if it should be necessary for the United States with its military force to go to the relief of some foreign colony in Mexico, every effort would be made to keep the movement within the bounds of a single locality, a relief measure for a particular purpose. There would be no war unless Mexico made it necessary by rash resistance to a reasonable measure of necessary relief. If Mexico should resist such a movement, there might be war; if Mexico were to accept in good faith the declaration of American policy that would precede the military movement, there would be no war and the incident would be soon over and forgotten.

Aside from the possibility of a change of national administration which might mean a reversal of foreign policy, what is most to be feared as a possible forerunner of important military movements is a deliberate effort of Mexicans of one faction or the other to bring about American interference. If the Orozco faction should become desperate, it might do something in a spirit of revenge that would necessitate drastic action by the United States for the protection of rights. There is a faint chance that the Maderists might welcome American interference rather than permit a state of anarchy to continue; but if any overt act is deliberately committed, to bring about a change of American policy, it will be by enemies of the Madero government, as intimated by the prominent Mexican refugee to the United States senator.

Arizona has taken a grave responsibility on itself with the new corporation stock sales law just enacted. It provides in effect that no corporation may offer its stock for sale in the state until the state corporation commission has declared in writing that the stock is a safe investment. If any bond or guarantee were posted behind that so that investors might hold somebody responsible, it would make it much easier to get out from under unwise ventures. But the endorsement of the commission is only advisory, it appears, with no come-back.

President Taft is not strengthening his case by his personal attacks on Roosevelt. Taft could well afford to confine himself to stating facts and discussing principles and policies, without trying to vie with Roosevelt in personal assaults. Taft is as poor a campaigner as Roosevelt is a snappy one. Yet it must not be forgotten that Bryan also drew great crowds and much applause.

Net Earnings Decrease

OUT OF 287,000 corporations reporting to the federal government under the corporation income tax law, only 20 percent were found to be subject to taxation by reason of having netted over $5000 profit on the year's business.

The popular idea of a corporation is that it is necessarily rich and profitable, necessarily oppressive, necessarily lawless. But if the whole record of corporation business were available to the public through the reports filed with the government, it would reveal the remarkable fact that 80 percent of corporations earn less than $5000 per year, and that a vast proportion of them virtually only turn over their capital, netting nothing at all.

The net earnings of all corporations reporting, decreased $175,000,000 in 1911 as compared with 1910. A decrease of $175,000,000 a year in profits reflects a mighty serious condition, especially since it was not caused by decreased gross earnings, but by increased cost of labor, material, and general expense of business. The railroads, particularly, show a tremendous increase in labor cost, without corresponding increase in gross earnings; in fact, many railroads show actual decrease of gross earnings, accompanied by heavy increase of operating and maintenance cost.

Illustrating the extent to which demands for increased wages may be carried, is the statement of the publisher of one of the Chicago newspapers to the effect that if all the demands of workingmen on the paper this year had been granted it would have added $128,000 a year to the payroll of that newspaper alone. Another Chicago publisher stated that it would have added $86,000 a year to his payroll if he had granted in full the demands of the workers.

The attitude of the legislative bodies in nearly all the states toward the railroads is to impose new restrictions and new requirements that greatly increase the cost of operation and maintenance as well as the invested capital necessary to employ; yet at the same time the tendency is to force reduced rates for passenger and freight transportation. Meanwhile the pressure for increased wages is heavy and incessant. The readjustment must come, and the increased burdens must ultimately be distributed among the public. But meanwhile new construction of railroads in comparatively undeveloped sections has practically stopped, as capital can easily find more profitable employment.

The status of Ty Cobb and the Detroit club is creating 20 times as much discussion and interest throughout the United States right now as the Mexican revolution is causing. Between presidential politics and baseball, Americans have mighty little time for anything outside their own national boundaries.

One-Sentence Philosophy

QUAKER MEDITATIONS.
(Philadelphia Record.)

Mrs. Dashaway—"How long had you known your husband before you were married?" Mrs. Graggs—"I didn't know him at all. I only thought I did."

Mrs. Muggins—"I hear your husband is quite versatile." Mrs. Buggins—"Why, he can actually stay out late every night in the week and not give the same excuse twice."

Blobbs—"Swelldresser has six smoking jackets." Slobbs—"I always knew he had clothes to burn."

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.
(Chicago News.)

Many a young man's interest in an heiress is the kind that looks like six percent.

As a matter of fact, there isn't any one on earth today who is better than you should be.

A man isn't necessarily crooked because he walks as if he were following the line of a rail fence.

Every time a man sees a fashion plate in a woman's magazine he is glad that his wife doesn't look anything like it.

UNCLE WALT'S DENATURED POEM

The Wailing Place

By Walt Mason.

I look around on this world so gray, and size up its stock of sorrow; there's nothing worth while in sight today, nor promise of good tomorrow. I make a howl that would raise the dead, and weep till the world is wetter, and all of the gallons of tears I shed don't seem to make things much better. This life's an expensive thing, I sigh, free rein to my anguish giving; and when man makes up his mind to die, it costs a lot more than living. And brooding o'er mournful things like these has made me a chronic weeper; but all the gallons of brine I squeeze don't seem to make things much cheaper. I look around on my busy friends who toil with their spades and axes, and weep for them; when their labor ends their bundles will go for taxes. I moisten well with my scalding brine the path of the smith and sower; but all my stunts in the weeping line don't seem to make taxes lower. I stand aghast when the sun's in sight, and groan when the rain is pouring, and have bad dreams both by day and night, and spend all my time deploring; I am chief grouch at the Wailing Place, the boss and the peerless kicker; and all the rivers that streak my face don't seem to make things run slicker.

Saving Life At Sea Requires More Than A Mere Boat Drill

By A. H. DUNNING.

SURELY the terrible disaster of the Titanic will at last focus public attention upon the question of boat accommodation on passenger ships to an extent that will compel some drastic amendment of the present criminal state of affairs.

It is quite true—that very few liners carry enough boats to take off all on board, even should none of the boats be damaged in launching.

But that is by no means all the story. I have made many long voyages, and state without fear of contradiction that half the boats on most ships that have been, say, five years afloat—particularly those including tropical routes—are not only not seaworthy, but they could not be put out in anything like reasonable time.

The Useless Boat Drill.

Everyone who has traveled much is familiar with the "boat drill," and knows it to be an absolute farce. But I want to give you actual observed facts.

Boat drill usually consists of "stations" being sounded, and the roll call being taken of the crew of each boat. Sometimes one boat will be swung out, and often the falls are not touched before she is swung inboard again!

What is the good of that? Who is to know whether the gear is sound and in running order. Only once at drill have I seen a "life" boat actually lowered to the water in mid ocean—and the job was a revelation to many besides myself. Here are the particulars:

We were stopped about an hour, in a calm sea, for an engine overhaul—quite an ordinary thing—and boat drill was undertaken. The order to "lower away" was given quite unexpectedly, and then the fun—or tragedy—began.

First, the ropes were so kinked and dry they had to be forcibly straightened after being laid out on deck. They were also full fer the blocks. Then the sheaves were found to be stuck, and an A. B. was sent to the engine room for grease. After a liberal application of that the boat made a jerky start downwards.

Half way the forward blocks jammed, the rope kinking badly. The after pair went away with a run, and the boat hung by the bow with the two men who were in her clinging to the seats—a position that would have inevitably thrown any passengers out of her into the sea.

Finally she was got afloat just 26 minutes from the time the order was given—and then it was found that her plug was not in. One man kept his foot over the hole while the other hunted for the plug among all the gear which had got shot in a heap astern while she hung by the bow. Even when the plug was in place, she took in water through several seams. Probably she had not been in the water for years!

All this happened on a "well-found" liner—in broad daylight, the sea dead calm, and everything in favor of the crew.

The Scene Created at Night.

Imagine such a scene in an accident at night. Feeble, flickering lamplight, a high sea running, drenching sprays and driving rain, the swinging boat full of terrified passengers, the ship unmanageable, settling down, and every moment precious.

Again on some ships the falls are so skimped that they would only put a boat down properly when the ship was on an even keep. Suppose, for instance, a vessel damaged and with a heavy list to port. What becomes of the starboard boats?

They would absolutely have to be dropped into the water to take their chance.

It is far more than time that the whole question was thoroughly taken in hand. I should like to see at least the following rules made inflexible:

1. That no ship should be allowed to go to sea without ample boat accommodations for every one aboard her.

2. That no ship should be allowed to clear for sea unless her boats had been periodically examined by a qualified inspector and a certificate given by him to that effect.

3. That each certificate should be renewed by the owners at periods not exceeding 12 months. The owners to carry out all requirements of such inspector to his absolute satisfaction—should anything be found defective—before the ship be allowed to clear. The certificate to state, inter alia, that the inspector had personally seen—(a) Each boat lowered into the water and cast off; (b) that each boat was seaworthy; (c) contained all her proper gear; (d) that all falls were amply long enough to serve at any list at which the vessel could float; (e) that all fixed and running gear was in perfect order.

This may sound a drastic list of proposals, but it is the least the British board of trade ought to impose upon shipowners, into whose safe keeping so many thousands of people temporarily give their lives each year.

THE HUSBAND QUESTION

A Strange Mischance Keeps the Widow and Her Would-Be Suitor Apart at a Friend's Dinner.

By VIRGINIA TERHUNE VAN DE WATER.

THE day after Beatrice's call upon Mrs. Robbins she wrote that lady a letter stating that she found it possible to break her previous engagement for the following Wednesday evening, and would be glad to accept Mrs. Robbins's delightful invitation for that night. The epistle brought a note in reply from Helen saying that she was overjoyed at the prospect of seeing Beatrice at her dinner.

"I am glad," she wrote, "that you succeeded in extricating yourself from the other engagement you mentioned. I know, dear, that I vexed you when you were at my house by speaking as I did of Robert Maynard, but I did not understand that you felt as you do. My liking for him must be my excuse for forgetting that you might not like him. Forgive me, and believe that I will try to make matters more pleasant for you the next time you come to my home."

The note puzzled the recipient. What did Helen mean by saying that she did not understand how her friend felt? Did she suspect that Beatrice had resented her match-making propensities? Well, never mind—there was no use in wondering! One thing was certain—Helen was giving a dinner at which she had promised to have Beatrice the guest of honor, and had said that Robert Maynard was to sit next to her. At first Beatrice had, it is true, been a little annoyed. Now she was glad that the arrangement had been made, for she acknowledged to herself that Mr. Maynard was an unusually good looking man and had seemed well worth while. It was a pity he was a widower, and yet, as Helen had said, such often made very good husbands to their second wives.

She checked her thoughts abruptly. Was she considering this man as a possible husband after meeting him only once, and before she had really laid aside her mourning for Tom?

The New Party Dress.

This was, however, one of the occasions upon which she might indulge her love for dress. It was so long since she had been to a regular dinner party that she was quite excited in preparing for it. After looking through her wardrobe and finding nothing that quite suited her, she sent for a little dressmaker who always did her sewing, and between them they made the dainty gown which the young widow had designed.

It was a soft, clinging, pearl-gray satin that shimmered into silvery high lights. It was, of course, decollete, and folds of delicate white lace finished it at the shoulders. The rather [illegible] outlines of the gown were [illegible] emphasize the wearer's [illegible] ure. She was aware that [illegible] flowers to be worn with [illegible] were English violets, and a [illegible] pang of conscience which [illegible] of extravagance when she fa[illegible] large corsage bouquet of t[illegible] soms in place. The effect an[illegible] pensated her for her pains [illegible] surveyed herself in her mir[illegible] children exclaimed with joy, [illegible] elder, admiring "the beautif[illegible] ers," and Jean touching with [illegible] and tiny fingers the shining fr[illegible] babbling about the time wh[illegible] should be "a big lady" and have a dress "jes' like mama's."

Even in her excitement Beatrice waited to see Jack tucked warmly into his crib and Jean in the bed which the little one shared with her mother. Then, kissing each child good night, she hurried from the room and, with a parting order to her maid of all work, went down to the cab that waited for her.

"I will ride to the dinner in a taxi," had been her decision, "as I cannot go alone in a street car in evening dress. Probably Mr. Maynard will bring me home."

Several guests had arrived before Beatrice, and Helen Robbins's greeting was so cordial that the newcomer's heart warmed to her. The two chatted gayly for a minute or two before the arrival of the last guests. Among these was Robert Maynard. By the time he had greeted his hostess and turned for a word with Beatrice, dinner was announced, and Mrs. Robbins said:

The Altered Plans.

"Mr. Maynard, you will please take my husband's niece, Miss Spaulding, out to dinner? And, John," turning to Mr. Robbins, "please give Mrs. Minor your arm and put her at your right hand at table." And, as the party started toward the dining room, she whispered into the astounded woman's ear:

"You see, dear, I am giving you the place of honor by my John, and I shall seat dear uncle Henry the other side of you. He is not much of a talker, but he loves to listen to a bright woman. I meant to put Robert Maynard there, but when I saw how the suggestion annoyed you the other day, and that you did not fancy him, I altered my plans."

With which electrifying statement she swept into the dining room and directed the guests to their various chairs.

Beatrice's face showed no signs of her inward disappointment and resentment. Her thoughts worked rapidly, and Helen Robbins had not exaggerated when she had suggested that she was a clever woman, for her wits did not fail her in this exigency. If her hostess had meant to annoy her, she would find her guest too proud to notice it; if Helen had simply been tactless it would be rude to seem to see her mistake.

Therefore, by the time the company were seated Beatrice Minor, her heart beating heavily with regret and chagrin, was chatting brightly with her host on one hand and with her host[illegible]'s bachelor uncle on the other. And [illegible]n Robbins, watching keenly from [illegible]nd of the table, saw from Robert [illegible]ard's wandering eyes that he [illegible]it the widow seated at the other [illegible] the board more attractive than [illegible]inty little girl assigned to him. [illegible] the time that Beatrice glanced [illegible] direction he had looked away [illegible] listening with apparent in[illegible] what his companion was say[illegible]

[illegible] past went off pleasantly, and [illegible]dies adjourned to the draw[illegible] leaving the men to their [illegible] dining room. Beatrice [illegible]ttle. Miss Spaulding and [illegible] her so charmingly that [illegible]peared upon the scene [illegible]hastened to inform Mr. Maynard of what "a lovely woman" Mrs. Minor was, but, when she turned to draw her into the conversation, she found that Beatrice had slipped away and was already talking again animatedly with the old bachelor who had sat by her during dinner.

Helen, also noting this, remembered "Uncle Henry's" money, and had an uneasy doubt as to whether her move in separating Robert Maynard from Beatrice had been quite as wise as she had thought it when she planned it. She could not know that in her heart Beatrice was still resentful, and that she found "Uncle Henry" very stupid.

Frightened Him Off.

Yet, when relief in the shape of Robert Maynard appeared at her side, her manner was so forbidding that he did not venture to suggest that he accompany her home. In fact, he had talked with her for hardly more than a minute when she asked her hostess's permission to "telephone for a taxi, as it was getting late." She had not intended to do this, but her pride made her forget her purse. As she left the room she heard Robert Maynard ask little Maude Spaulding if he might escort her to her nearby house. The fact that "Uncle Henry" saw Beatrice to her cab and asked if she were not afraid to ride home alone did not compensate the widow for her disappointment.

Perhaps, however, she would have been less depressed if she had known that her hostess, noting the elderly man's unusual attentions to his fair guest, hoped towardly that "Uncle Henry, at his age, was not going to make a fool of himself."

FOREIGNERS HELP COSTA RICA TO GET OUT OF DEBT AND NATIVES LIKE THEM

Banana Trade Is Chief Source of Industry and United Fruit Company Has Undisputed Sway In Business Affairs.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

SAN JOSE DE COSTA RICA, May 20.—No other country in Latin America is so thoroughly controled by foreign interests as Costa Rica. It is often said that the country is a satrapy of the United Fruit company, and in some respects this is not so very far from the truth. That great corporation has developed the banana trade of the country until Costa Rica is as much dependent on the banana market for its prosperity as Porto Rica is dependent on the sugar market. When it is recalled that the annual production of bananas amounts to nearly 10,000,000 bunches; that it is an industry which has been developed entirely by the United Fruit company, and that the industry is maintained almost entirely by it, there seems to be just ground for the designation.

But the domination of the United Fruit company does not stop there. It, with its allied interests, practically built the railroads of the republic, and practically controls them today. Furthermore, Minor C. Keith, president of the United Fruit company and head of the interests which have built the railroads, is practically the treasurer of the republic. Costa Rica for years has carried a heavy foreign debt. Time after time it defaulted in its interest and was put on the blacklist by the British corporation of foreign bondholders. There were not funds enough to be had to meet the interest, much less to keep up a reasonable sinking fund.

Finally it was agreed by the foreign bondholders that if the government of Costa Rica would permit Minor C. Keith to act as banker for the loan, which amounts to approximately $x,000,000, money would be furnished to satisfy the old bonds, new bonds being issued therefor, the new bonds to bear four percent interest for 10 years from January 1, 1911, and five percent interest from January 1, 1921 until redeemed. Money was advanced in addition to the amount necessary to take up the old bonds and all accumulated interest so as to bring the new loan up to a total of approximately $10,000,000, the additional funds being provided for meeting the interest payments of the immediate future and for certain internal improvements.

Borrows Money in France.

In addition Costa Rica negotiated another loan with France bankers in order to secure funds to pay off internal obligations. The internal revenues were pledged to secure the French loan. But the Keith loan is the paramount one, and at least so long as this debt remains unpaid, Keith is a power to be reckoned with. But his connections in Costa Rica are such that he is perhaps more interested in its prosperity than any other man, and this makes it certain that he will do nothing to place the republic on the back track.

The Costa Ricans like foreigners. They regard their stable government as being the product of the foreign commercial invasion. The foreigner with capital is heartily welcome, because, they say, that with combination of foreign capital, foreign brains and native natural wealth, there is no way to prevent prosperity and growth.

No Anti-Foreign Sentiment.

In this attitude the Costa Rican seems to be wiser than his compeers of the other countries of Central America. He admits that the foreigner is getting rich in Costa Rica. "But what if he is?" asks the Costa Rican. "Isn't he likewise making money for us? Is he not bettering the condition of our labor as well as four treasury."

When one goes out on the banana plantations and sees laborers getting $1 a day in good American gold for their work, where once they got 25 cents, he feels that the Costa Rican's conclusion has some degree of reason back of it. The stimulation that the banana industry has given the country is in evidence on every hand, and though the big fruit company's sins may be scarlet, and in some ways they must be if the half of what one hears is even approximately true, it must be credited with a measure of the peace and prosperity that obtains throughout the country.

Not Always Substantial.

The government of Costa Rica has not always enjoyed healthy financial conditions, if indeed its finances are sound today. In the early 70's the government was the victim of that same merciless foreign exploitation that characterized nearly all the Central American republics at that period. In 1871 it borrowed nearly $5,000,000, at least it gave its bonds for that amount, and got about $2,700,000 therefor. The full assets of the nation, even the national domain, were pledged as security for the debt, and the interest charged was seven percent on the face value of the loan.

The next year a loan of nearly $12,000,000 additional was negotiated, the republic getting $2 cents for each dollar borrowed, and obligating itself to pay seven percent interest on the face value. The liquor tax, the coffee tax and the net earnings of the railway were pledged to secure this loan. The government defaulted on both loans in 1874, and it was not until 1885 that things were adjusted again. And then it was Minor C. Keith who put the deal through. He persuaded the bondholders to accept new bonds in lieu of the old ones at the rate of 50 cents on the dollar, the interest on the new bonds to be five and four percent, instead of seven percent as on the old ones.

In spite of this concession, Costa Rica defaulted again in 1895, and again the interest was cut nearly in half. Again in 1901 it defaulted, and continued to default until 1911, when a new foreign loan was negotiated, and to day the interest charges, with Keith as the banker of the pledged funds, are being met promptly, and the foreign bondholders council has expressed the hope that in view of the heavy sacrifices that have been made by the bondholders, Costa Rica will atone for its checkered financial past by promptly fulfilling its obligations in the future.

Comprehensive Railroad Law.

The government has enacted a comprehensive railway law that will at once protect the railroad builder and the nation. It provides that every railroad built under a concession shall become the property of the government in 99 years, and that all disputes between the government and the railroad builder must be settled in the courts of Costa Rica and under its laws. No railroad concession shall constitute a monopoly and the government reserves the right to build or grant concessions for competing roads. All roads may be taken over by the government if its necessities or welfare demands it.

There are many companies of foreigners in Costa Rica who are engaged in exploiting lands and appealing to the small investors to come down here and buy farms. These advertisements are usually about on a par with those of a like nature in the United States. In the first place they overdraw the picture. They give all sorts of data that tend to make it appear that a man can make a fortune in a year or two. For instance, they may picture the profits of banana farming as being from $100 to $200 per acre a year; yet the most experienced banana grower is satisfied if he can show a profit of $50 per acre. And it may be added that the superintendent of a banana farm of the United Fruit company who can show an average profit of that much per acre will get a "well done" message from headquarters.

British Keeps Keen Outlook.

There are no closer students of living conditions to be found anywhere than the men in the consular service of the British goverment. They always have their eyes out for openings for opportunities for British subjects. Their reports to the home government in the case of Costa Rica are that it is not a place for the man looking for a job, either as a laborer, as an artisan, or as a clerk. They declare that about the lowest that a man with a family of four can live on comfortably in Costa Rica, is $100 a month. Prices are even higher here than in the United States. Butter sells for about 60 cents a pound. Beef brings a price that would make the prices in the United States seem reasonable, and the same is true of pork. On the whole, the advice to Britishers is not to come to Costa Rica to look for openings of any kind unless they have money enough to carry them further.

Costa Rica has just reason to be proud of the place it has made for itself in the Central American family of nations. It has peace, its people are prosperous, something of the spirit of the true republican form of government has been caught, and the future seems to be one to which the republic and its people can look forward with pleasant anticipation.

Tomorrow—Prosperous Salvador.

14 Years Ago To-day

From The Herald Of This Date 1898

Z. Cobb is in the city from New Orleans, La.

All engines on the G. H. and S. P. were turned back as soon as they arrived yesterday.

Six carloads of horses came in on the S. P. yesterday for New Orleans. They were brand new cars.

The G. H. has only one engine with a "Mother Hubbard" smokestack running into El Paso now. It is No. 606.

The Mendenhall wagon yard was rellered of about $15 worth of goods last night by a man who crossed into Mexico before the loss was discovered.

E. C. Pew, who is secretary of the school board, reports that a good many applications have been filed with him by parties who wish positions for the coming year.

The street and grading committee has recommended that the city scavenger be allowed an extra salary of $50 a month to keep the alleys of the city clean during the summer.

At a regular meeting of the El Paso fire department it was moved and carried that the position of driver Mitchell, who had enlisted to go to the war, be held open for him until he returns.

For a time this morning it looked as if the S. P. couch shed would be consumed by fire. A spark from the switch engine set fire to the roof and in a short time it was burning in eight different places.

White Oaks engine No. 49 is very unmanageable and has become an eyesore to railroad employes. It jumped the track again Tuesday and dug a hole in the ground that a cow could hide in without any fear of detection.

Abe Martin

A genial feller is allus back on his orders.' Anybuddy that survived th' days o' th' Jersey waist haint gittin' excited o'er tight skirts an' transparent hosiery.

THE VOTE FOR CHINESE WOMAN

By Elsie Mc Elroy

IT PIQUES the women of England and America that Mrs. Yik Yu Ying should go to congress before any of them do and that Chinese women should be given the vote, seats in parliament, trousers, guns and military service if they want it, when in English speaking lands, claiming the highest civilization, it is all a woman can do to have rights in her own children and occasionally get on a school board.

But there is comfort in this backwardness. What has been won has been won slowly, but it is surely. "The thoughts of men are widening with the process of the suns." Women are on school boards to stay, in most states a woman can put up a pretty good fight for her children or her property, and the vote is coming.

The equal suffrage victories in China are fruits ripened too quickly. A revolution is a hot bed. Revolutionists will change anything. In France during their revolution the people were so excited over changing things and so sure that change was the panacea they even changed the calendar, changed the very names and lengths of months. Old January, February, March, April and all the other stately Roman months were relegated to the trash heap. But the months came back. A revolution is always an exaggeration.

Government customs, race ideas and habits are not to be changed in a day. China's gift of equal rights to women is ahead of her day and apparently ahead of ours, else American and English women would have what seems only fair and logical in countries that pride themselves on fair play. There is no real argument against women voting or governing or working at whatever they like to work at, or holding property or having a little more than equal rights to the children. But the prejudice against their voting gives way so slowly it proves itself fundamental.

Government, in spite of the upheavals of spring and fall politics, is one of the slowest of natural growths. Freedom, another name for it, is as slow as time to grow. One generation wears away a little at some prejudices, widens the horizon a little, and another generation comes to take away a little of the wrong, but build up a little towards the right.

The State Of Washington

BY GEORGE FITCH,

Author Of "At Good Old Siwash"

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THE state of Washington, which plays left end on the map for this glorious republic, is a large and vociferous commonwealth, which is rapidly becoming an exforest and a future hot-bed for national banks. It lies between Canada, the Columbia river, Idaho and the Pacific ocean, and is shaped like a magazine page after the baby has finished playing with it.

Thirty years ago Washington had 75,000 people, including indians not washed. Now it has 1,200,000 citizens, and is growing faster than any state, except Oklahoma. It was acquired by the United States in 1803 for about five cents an acre, and was allowed to grow up wild until the late eighties, when enough pine trees were cut out to allow a few settlers to edge in and start real estate offices. Apple land in Washington now sells for $2000 an acre and many a single pine tree has sold for enough to board its owner for a year. The Washington pine grows to a height of 300 feet, but is disappearing as rapidly as the Nebraska buffalo, thus occasioning much hard feeling among the conservationists. Every time a Washington pine comes crashing to the ground, Gifford Pinchot sheds a large tear, and of late years he has had to hire a staff of emotional artists to help him in his rush of business.

Washington clusters around Puget Sound, which is a vast and wandering body of water, too highly seasoned for drinking purposes, but very beautiful when not irritated. Washington is 17 days from Japan by four steamship lines, four days from Chicago by five transcontinental railroads, and a half a century from Vancouver and Victoria, just over the international boundary line. It has a climate which is moist enough to drink in spots, and around Puget Sound the people use fish nets instead of mosquito bar on their windows, but the ring-

tailed blizzards of Montana are unknown there, and its farmers go to Europe regularly for their summer vacations. Washington is one of the few American states which are heated by hot water. Though it is far to the north the Japan stream keeps it warm all winter and mitigates the cold shivers which the Japanese navy gives it every time California messes up the sacred cause of universal peace with another Japanese school law.

Washington was settled by people who left all their old fashioned furniture, business ideas and political machinery on the junk piles back in the old state. For this reason the state is a marvel of enterprise and new ideas, and the arrival from the old and experienced state who has come west to enlighten the natives often has to pocket his pride and ask the hired girl how to vote his first ballot.

Walla Walla and Olympia were once the greatest cities of Washington, but have stood pat for many years, while Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane have grown into greatness and are equipped with every metropolitan convenience, except old families.