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Editorial Page of The Tacoma Times

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The Freedom of California

The action of the people of California on 23 constitutional amendments submitted to them on Oct. 10 is the most significant and important expression of public opinion in America for many a day.

It used to be said of California that it was "the rich man's paradise and the poor man's hell." That was in the day of vast landed estates, of unrestricted Chinese immigration, and of absolute railroad domination in business and in politics.

These conditions have gradually changed, but there was left a residuum in the form of hard-and-fast political tyranny on the part of big business, headed by the Southern Pacific railroad. This tyranny extended to every branch of the government, legislative, executive and judicial. It was used to oppress and exploit the people in the matter of franchises, railroad rates, cost of living, and the relations of capital and labor.

The condition became intolerable. The people, without distinction of party, decided to unite in a supreme effort to overthrow it.

Their first move was to take away from big business the power to nominate candidates for office. This was accomplished by bludgeoning out of a railroad legislature and governor a direct primary law—a clumsy device, but one that the people managed to use for good ends.

They elected Hiram Johnson governor with a reform legislature behind him. In riding rough-shod over the old machine gang they undoubtedly crushed some well-meaning men and did some acts of individual injustice, but they carried their point. They ended the regime of misrepresentative government and inaugurated the day of a government responsive to the needs and desires of the vast majority.

Then they proceeded to lay the ax at the root—they submitted a long list of constitutional amendments for the direct action of the people. There were included many things ordinarily done by the legislature. California would take no chances. She put them into her constitution.

Most important of all, she voted by tremendous majorities for the initiative, referendum and recall, including recall of judges. The judges are henceforth the servants of the people.

Doubtless mistakes will be made, but the right to make mistakes is one of the most valuable rights of democracy. It is the right to live and grow—the right to be free!

And that is what California is to day for the first time in her history—FREE!

JUDGE HANFORD stood with the shippers against the railroads on the appeal of the lemon shippers from the ruling of the commerce court. And stood alone, at that. Seems to have seen a great light, doesn't he?

A Manly Man on Divorce

In the perennial stream of talk about divorce, nothing finer has been said than the remarks of Justice John Ford of New York. The attorney for a husband who thought he had been injured asked the judge:

"If you were in my client's place, would you be willing to take this woman back and support her?"

Justice Ford was surprised by the question, but replied: "To answer your question as a man and not as a judge, I will say that if my wife brought an action for separation or divorce, no matter what the circumstances were, I would not defend it. Even if, as it is claimed in this case, my wife had acted improperly, still I would not hinder her suit in any way. When it came to a question of a financial settlement I would give her all of my salary I could afford and let it go at that."

He added: "A man should never forget that his wife gave herself to him in the high noon of her youth and beauty, and that if unhappiness comes afterward, as our civilization is ordered today, it is always she who gets the worst of it."

TURKEY is on the run, too scared to gobble. As a matter of fact, Italy is doing the gobbling.

Some Views on Taft Trip

The Heavenly Type.

Kansas City Star—President Taft says: "I love judges and I love courts. They are my ideals on earth that typify what we shall meet afterward in heaven." But when the president dies, does he expect to "go" to Chief Justice White, who holds to one opinion, or to Mr. Justice Brandeis, who holds to a different opinion?

Taft on Tour.

The (St. Louis) Mirror—The president is a piteous spectacle on the stump. His fingers are all thumbs and his feet are full of shoes and it is doubtful if any political chicken as sick as he is ever got well. Without a Roosevelt to do his fighting he is lost. The people he harangues are respectful, but unconvinced. He sews himself up hopelessly, for in one breath he talks Free trade in defense of his Reciprocity measure, and in the next he talks Protection to which Free trade is the unpardonable sin. His present tour is worse than a mistake; it is a disaster. If he should continue his present course much longer he will nominate Robert Marion LaFollette for president.

CALIFORNIA welcomes President Taft, hero of the Arizona veto, with a tremendous majority in favor of judicial recall. Oh, say, if Taft had been running for president, that day, in California!

"Let Us Alone!"

N. Y. Sun has started a "let-us-alone" campaign, backed by business men who want the anti-trust law repealed, railroad regulation dropped, and all agitation in favor of more democratic forms of government summarily squelched. The cry is for a great man like Mark Hanna. Well, 1912 is presidential year and perhaps the prayer will be answered; also, perhaps not!

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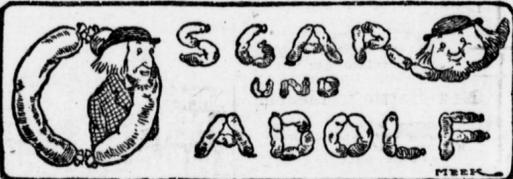
OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

NOW SEE HERE - I WANT YOU TO CUT OUT THIS 'SHOP' GAB!! WHENEVER I MEET YOU THE ONLY THING YOU TALK ABOUT IS BUSINESS AND I'M TIRED OF IT!!



TWO-MINUTE VAUDEVILLE

SLAP: Here's a question: Suppose the ark had struck a rock and all the animals had escaped—what would Noah have done?
THUD: He'd have stopped and re-paired it.
SLAP: Correct. Now, here's one: If a cop were a vegetarian, would he pull a turnip?
THUD: Not if he had to leave his beet.
SLAP: Again correct. Now I'll ask you this: If an amateur in a home-made aeroplane were to launch it from a roof, what would you call that?
THUD: A housefly.
SLAP: Nope, you're wrong—it would be eavesdropping.



"Adolf, I haf a funny choke to make mit you—ha-ha-ha! Listen: Iss a Chunebug on a string an insectide?"
"No, Osgar, dot iss cruelty to der Chunebug. Besites, der string—vot hass id to do mit der question of der answer?"
"Dot iss der choke! Donnerwetter, for string iss der whole choke! Insect tied—insectide. See?"
"I can see only der tear-stained face of der por Chunebug. I guess, however, I haf no sense of humor."
"No, Adolf, dot's right—you haf no sense."

A Gynics Sneeze

BY BERTON BRALEY
These beggars: why don't someone lock 'em up? The blind man with his organ and his cup. The legless freak that pipes his dreary wail. The ancient crone with chewing gum for sale?
I see no reason why they need stand Or sit and whine with outstretched begging hand, Offensive to the hearing and the sight. They should be put in custody, by right.

I never listen to their false appeal— What's that? You wish I'd stake you to a meal? You're cold and hungry? Well, that's pretty hard; Here's fifty cents, go get your dinner, pard.

In Little Old New York

n. y. friday—I wonder did you read about mr. flag and his skindicate that got pinched? it was a grate bisniss till the police spiled it
mr. flag he has a sistem of playing the stock exchange so that he can make 52 per cent a yere on all the deals he puts over
now you mite think mr. flag would keep his sistem to hisself and play the market in a cuppel of years he would be ritcher than jondee rockefeller and pearp morgen and john jakup aster all together.
well, of course, there is a sucker born every minnit, but then there is sutch a lot of sucker traps in n. y. that there aint hardly enough suckers to go around, even with the high berth rate, and mr. flag and his gang had to do sumthing more than send out circklers, to get in all the money they wanted
so they had widders
the widders was very fine looking ladsy all drest up like a chrismas tree and they ust to go out and gather in the old booba with douch just like an installment colcketer going through a bunch of harlem flats saterdy nite
and then they had dinner partys, o my sutch lovely partys, with all kinds of wine and mixed up drinks, and all the widders throwing the bull con into the guys that was being invited to invest.
and for the wimmen that ust to

OUR DAILY BIRTH-DAY PARTY.

Romeo, Mich., may have no Juliet, but the dear little Wolverine village had an E. Dana Durand to give the nation in an hour of want. Romeo thoughtfully provided for the 1910 census, by annexing E. Dana 40 years ago today, otherwise who would have gotten the latest census taken so neatly? Echo answers not. Durand is a professional statistician; one who fairly revels in figures—mathematical, of course. He is the government's figure sharp.

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MOST ANYTHING

Time flies, but nobody swats him.

A New York man refused to speak to his wife for six years and now he has to pay her \$40 a month alimony. Probably she'd rather hear the money talk.

Fashion and Fringe.
The South I street Philosopher intently did peruse a magazine devoted to the latest fashion news. "Ha, ha," he said, "just read this paragraph; at last they've found a fad that has some sense to it, that suits me to the ground."
"A social queen must take to fringe—it's Fashion's stern decree. She'll hang it 'round her bosom and festoon it 'round her knees. She will fringe her walking costume and she'll fringe her party dress and she'll also fringe her nightgown if she's right in style, I guess."
"If men would only take to fringe how cheerfully I'd smile, for the fringe that's on my trousers would put me in the style."

Many Japanese factory hands work 16 hours a day for seven days a week. Banzai for the U. S. A.

Messenger Boy Broke the four-mile running record at the Louisville track last week. What a name for a winning horse!

John D. Rockefeller says he admires that disputed hymn, "The Beautiful Isle." Only he probably spells it "Oisle."

Alfred M. Collins and Marshall Scull, Philadelphia millionaires, have left for Africa to hunt big game. Think of leaving Philadelphia just when the big game was about to start.

An American company will install moving stairways in the subway stations of London.

Max Freling struck a match on the seat of his pants as he was leaving Savannah, Ga. He was standing on a car platform at the time.

No.
He didn't set fire to himself, but he fell off the platform and was fatally hurt.

The song, "Brown October Aie," has been put under the ban by the W. C. T. U. of an Ohio town. Will somebody please write a jovial, inspiring song about root beer?—Pittsburg Gazette-Times.

Rainbow in the morning, sailors take warning; rainbow at night sailors' delight; rainbow at noon rain very soon.

I'd rather have a busted bank Than a busted heart, by jing! For money can be got again, But when Joy once takes wing It's mighty hard to lure her back And teach her how to sing.

On a referendum vote, how many kids would stay in school?

DREAMSTICKS

IT HAPPENED AT MIDNIGHT



WE HAD JUST PASSED THE HARBOR LIGHTS AND EVERY MAN WAS AT HIS POST. I REMEMBER VERY WELL OF SEEING THE OCEAN WAVE AS THE GUN-BOAT GAVE THE SALUTE.

THAT'S ENOUGH BOYS, REMEMBER HE HAS A MOTHER TO SUPPORT

Some children are born, others grow up and some are raised, according to Edward Bok.

John D. paid \$35 for an overcoat—and some of the folks who helped to pay for it have pawned theirs.

Little fishy in the brook, Papa catch him with a hook; Mamma bake him on the stones, And baby choke upon the bones.

Seventy per cent of water is contained in the composition of a potato.

Sing a song of sixpence—even if it is a bluff.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Oct. 18, 1863, Gen. U. S. Grant at Louisville wired Gen. Geo. H. Thomas: "Hold Chattanooga at all hazards. I will be there as soon as possible." Gen. Thomas wired back: "We will hold the town till we starve."

Becky Fisher, In Jail 39 Times in 11 Weeks Is Ready to Go 39 More for Labor Cause

Becky Fisher has been arrested 39 times in 11 weeks. Huddled into a patrol wagon as often as four times in one day, roughly handled by policemen and private guards, bullied by a police judge who threatened to send her to the workhouse—Becky has nevertheless kept the even tenor of her way.

Becky Fisher is a very desperate character, perhaps? O very! Becky has been guilty of the heinous crime of talking to the girls who have taken the places left vacant by Becky and her fellow workmen when 6,000 members of the International Ladies Garment Workers' union struck in Cleveland some 16 weeks ago.

No sooner is she out of the police station after one arrest than she is on the picket line again doing the same outrageous thing that she has already been arrested for—talking to strikebreakers. And so they arrest her again.

But 17-year-old Becky doesn't care. She has the approval of her own conscience and the backing of an official bulletin from the American Federation of Labor calling attention to her almost unexampled fortitude in the cause of labor, so she is willing to be arrested 39 times more if it will do that cause any good.

"Being arrested 39 times in eleven weeks has made me so much at home at police headquarters, I almost feel as if I belonged there," said Becky. "I don't care though. I am willing to go through all of it again if it will help the strikers."



BECKY FISHER.

"Being blacklisted all over the country hasn't any terrors for me, either. I would live on a dollar a week to help win the strike."

"There was a policeman every few feet, to say nothing of the guards the bosses had hired to run us down. The guards tried several times to cut off my hair, the policemen beat and pulled me until my body was black and blue. "But I took it all for the sake of the union and only wish I could do more."

"If we had been drunks we couldn't have been handled any worse when we were arrested. Why, I have seen thieves at the police station treated with far more politeness than we were."

"One day I was arrested four times. The judge told me if I came back any more he would send me to the workhouse. I told him I would rather go there than back to the factory under the old conditions."

"None of us got what we earned, so that's why we're fighting. It's going to take nerve to hold out, but we mean to do it, if it takes all the next year."

WHY COOKS LEAVE HOME

"Where is the cook?"
"She's in the kitchen preparing supper for the doctor's wife, dinner for the doctor and breakfast for the students."—Fliegende Blaetter.

TODAY'S BEST STORY

Tom—Did you ever see such a pretty girl? How on earth can we meet her?
Dick—I've an idea. You push her off the pier and I'll dive in and save her life.

sale of dining tables—

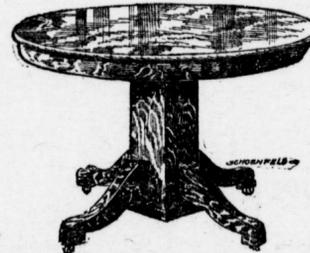
—here are a few of the extreme values from the several hundred tables offered:



extra special 7.95

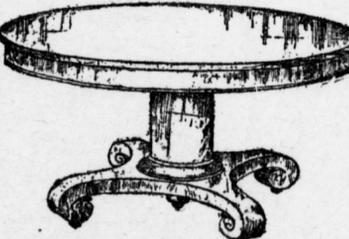
\$7.95 regular price \$12.50

—an extra good dining table is the one pictured here; has heavy pedestal base; six feet extension; finished in golden oak, quartered effect; regular price \$12.50; special price \$7.95



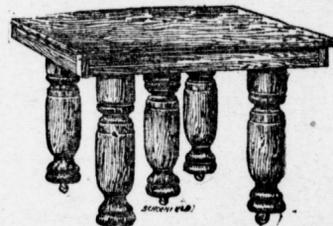
\$13.95 regular price \$19.50

—well made and serviceable dining table, like picture; quarter-sawn oak throughout; 6-foot extension; finished golden-oak, or Early English; 42-inch top; regular price \$19.50; special price \$13.95



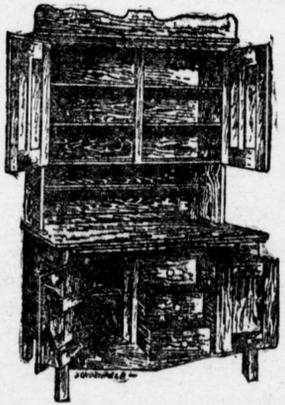
\$19.60 regular price \$28.50

—heavy Colonial dining table, round pedestal, scroll feet, in selected quarter-sawn oak; 45-inch top, extends to 6 feet; finished golden wax; regular price \$28.50; special price \$19.60



\$4.95 regular price \$9.50

—this is one of the greatest dining table values ever offered to the home furnishers; exactly like picture, strongly made throughout; top is 42 inches square, furnished in golden, with quartered oak effect in golden oak; regular price of this excellent table is \$9.50; priced extra special for the week at a saving of \$4.55, for \$4.95



save \$5.35 on this kitchen cabinet—

—large, practical kitchen cabinet, glass doors in upper part with convenient shelf arrangement; base measures 28x44 inches, having nicked top, nicely finished in golden; quarter-sawn effect; priced regular \$20.00; special for the week \$14.65

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