

There's a Screw Loose Somewhere

What's wrong with the world? Today Uncle Sam reports that this has been the banner year of all history on American farms, with a total production of \$10,000,000,000 in crops. That is \$100 worth for every man, woman and child in the country. Gluttons indeed would we be if we each ate

\$100 worth of foodstuffs in a year. But that produce was raised and more too, for Uncle Sam never does get a complete record of all the production—a magnificent crop of \$500 to a family in the whole United States just on the farms alone. But simultaneously with this message from Washington the wires are ticking out the news that 1500 men, hungry in San Francisco, have applied to the city to work for a couple of hours to buy bread. Los Angeles reports thousands hungry and jobless. Governor Lister looked at 500 sleeping men who went to bed hungry in Seattle and there are said to be over 1500 in that city. Tacoma, Portland, every great city in the country is face to face with hordes of hungry

men. Yet the farms produced \$10,000,000,000 in foodstuffs in 1913. There was nothing wrong with the farms of the United States. They did their part magnificently toward feeding the hungry. But somehow the \$10,000,000,000 of foodstuffs and the 100,000,000 of people in this land of the free failed to connect—are failing to connect now. And it isn't because the 100,000,000 people do not want the foodstuffs. It is not because they are not willing to work for them. They are practically all eager to labor and produce things the farmer needs to exchange for the things the farmer produces that

they need. But there is a screw loose somewhere. Our civilization is failing to run smoothly. The farm granaries are bursting and overflowing and hungry hordes march across the land begging, aye, demanding food in charity. The farmer longs for more clothes, more shoes, a cider press or an automobile, and the hungry hordes are willing to make them but in the adjustment of things they get no chance. It is time for some mighty statesmanship in the United States. There is something wrong when the nation produces \$100 worth of food for every mortal and yet millions tramp the streets and starve.

For Tacoma and vicinity: Rain tonight and Thursday.

**WORLD' NEWS
ALL CONDENSED
IN THE TIMES**

The Tacoma Times

THE ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN TACOMA

30c A MONTH

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HOME EDITION

**WE HAVE THE
BEST FEATURES
BEST PICTURES**



ALAS AND ALACK!

IF IT HAD NOT been for a "lack" we would have won.

BUT, ANYWAY, REN Dow is satisfied.

IF HE IS, we are.

WE WERE NOT "bond" by the result of the election, you know.

A NEWS DISPATCH informs us that a woman called a judge a liar.

THERE ARE a few women who still tell the truth.

THE PAPERS STATE that Huerta's soldiers are dying gamely.

WE SAID HUERTA'S soldiers—not Huerta.

THAT BRAVE SHERIFF is going into the mine to look for Ralph Lopez Friday night.

THE FELLAH THAT makes Mother's Bread hopes they kill each other.

IT LOOKS TO us as if they are both in the grave already.

LOPEZ PROBABLY DIED in the mine, while the sheriff always has been a dead one.

WE ARE GLAD to see our old friend, Al Sommers, earned his first dollar.

WE DON'T BELIEVE he has earned any since.

HERB HEARD GOT his first dollar selling papers.

HE MADE a lot of noise and he was heard.

IF HE'LL SEND us a check for \$25, he can use this for an advertisement.

JIMMY O'BRIEN STEPPED out of his auto in a hurry last night.

AS USUAL, THE night was dark.

AFTER A BIT Jimmy came back to his machine, but he couldn't start it.

HE CLIMBED UP in the seat and fussed and fumed around.

UNTIL HE was just on the verge of kicking the daylight out of the engine with a monkey wrench.

THEN A MAN SUDDENLY hove to in the office, and shouted in tones of anger:

"HEY, YOU! WHADDYA mean by monkeying around in my car?"

GIL PETERSON is entering the ranks of the gallant attorneys.

THE OTHER DAY he saw a young lady with a long hat plume sitting by an open car window.

IT WAS REAL drafty.

WITH A GALLANTRY that rivalled Wayne Keyes, Gil closed the window.

TWO BLOCKS LATER the fair maiden screamed suddenly.

SHE HAD JUMPED up to get off.

AND HER LONG plume had been caught in the window.

SO SHE LEFT behind hat, plume and about \$33 worth of nice boughten hair.

READY FOR LAW

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Supreme court is ready to hand down a decision saying whether it is criminal for a postmaster to boost the sale of stamps to swell his salary.

Editor Tacoma Times: Tacoma, Washington.

Dear Sir: As one citizen deeply interested in the progress and welfare of Tacoma and her people, I wish to express to you my appreciation of the fearless fight put up by The Times in support of the tideflat street car bonds. It was a fight for the people and their best interest. Your pithy presentation of the facts undoubtedly helped to mould a solid and substantial public opinion in the matter.

I am sure all good citizens join me in extending to you thanks for your fearless and consistent stand on the issue.

Wishing you success, I am,
Yours sincerely,
RAY FREELAND,
Commissioner of Finance.

EIGHT PERISH IN BIG FIRE

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Eight persons, three women and five men, perished early today in a fire of incendiary origin which destroyed a five-story brick tenement on the East Side. Seven others were seriously burned and injured. The lives of a score of persons were endangered as the stairways burned and fire escapes were all blocked when firemen arrived on the scene. Only heroic work of fire-fighters saved the lives of the survivors.

WALDO OUSTED FROM HIS JOB

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Following the refusal of Police Commissioner Rhinelander Waldo to reappoint Douglas McKay deputy commissioner and his demand

NINE SEEK PENSIONS

Nine widows—some young and pretty, some old and haggard—applied for mothers' pensions in Judge Clifford's court today. Each

ASK MORE FOR JOBLESS

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 31.—Acting Mayor Whiddan said today that he would ask the city council for an additional fund of

QUOTES SHAKESPEARE; HE ASKS FOR CHIMES

Humane Officer Van Voris in a strong plea in which he quotes Shakespeare and waxes eloquent over the mellowing effects of music in general and the city hall chimes in particular today

ALFONSE VERY SICK MAN

MADRID, Dec. 31.—That King Alfonso is seriously ill is widely rumored here today. It has been an open secret for some time that

SUITS WILL BE URGED HARD

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31.—Pending suits of the government against alleged violators of the Sherman law will be pushed to their conclusion in the courts unless new overtures are made by the corporations. No compromise is pending. This idea is expressed by Attorney General McReynolds in reply to the persistent reports that various suits, notably that against the Sugar trust, would be terminated by agreement out of court.

TOKIO, Dec. 31.—Charged with plotting to overthrow the Japanese rule in Formosa, 13 men were publicly executed today at Taihoku.

WHITE HOUSE ROMANCE ENDS IN DIVORCE



MRS. HILDEGARDE MCKENNA PULTZ. NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The divorce of Hildegarde McKenna Pultz, daughter of Justice McKenna, justice of the United States supreme court, from John Leggett Pultz, ends a "white house romance." Mrs. Pultz before her marriage, was a great friend of Miss Alice Roosevelt, and her marriage followed that of the president's daughter.

JUDGE REAL BUSY WITH CHICK SHOW

With Judge James A. Tucker of Concord, Mich., working as fast as a poultry judge can conscientiously work, it was predicted today that he could not complete his judging of fowls at the Tacoma Poultry show, in the Armory, before the end of the week. There are 2,000 birds on exhibition, and practically all of them are of the highest grade. So many of the hens and roosters are evenly matched, it has become a most difficult feat for the skillful judge to decide which ones deserve the ribbons.

FEARS RIOTS AT INQUEST

RED JACKET, Mich., Dec. 31.—Coroner Fisher was so afraid of violence at the inquest over victims of the panic that he transferred the hearing to his own offices today. He said that he would admit no one but witnesses, jurors and lawyers. Thousands had previously tried to force their way into the hall where the proceedings have been held.

ALARMED BY HEAVY VOTE CITY COUNCIL WILL BUILD LINE!

The tideflat bonds lost but municipal ownership won.

That 1115 majority for municipal ownership and operation Tuesday out of a total vote of 7581 put the fear of the people into the hearts of the tricky trio and after a barred door conference in the mayor's office this morning it was decided to proceed with preparations for a municipal line.

Mills at once introduced an ordinance to create a street railway fund No. 1 and to issue municipal street railway warrants for \$35,000 to construct the tideflat line, the warrants to draw six per cent interest and be paid out of the proceeds of the line.

The ordinance was given its first reading.

The program is to buy the warrants with the money that will come into the sinking fund in the coming tax collection in February. After the line is completed there will probably be another clash.

Commissioner Freeland has come back to the original proposition of The Times and as advocated by the Tideflat Car Line club, to build and provide for the municipal line out of the profits of the light department.

By the time the line is completed an election will have been held and new commissioners will be in who will probably adopt this program. It is likely to carry it out the proposed reduction of light rates will have to be rescinded.

The mayor is undoubtedly in favor of having Stone-Webster operate the line after it is built, but he will be out of office before this time comes.

Mills and Woods do not like the looks of that 1115 majority for municipal ownership and operation. That would be a serious thing in a recall election and they are hastening to cover.

"I am through dickering with Stone-Webster,"

BONDS BEATEN IN CLOSE VOTE

MUNICIPAL STREET RAILWAY BOND VOTE	
Vote for bonds	4,348
Vote against bonds	3,233
Majority for bonds	1,115
Three-fifths vote required	4,548
Bonds lost by	200
Total vote cast	7,581

Giving emphatic approval to the principles of municipal ownership and operation of street railways the voters of Tacoma Tuesday still failed by 203 votes in a total of 7,581 to give the legal three-fifths essential to validate a bond issue for the construction of the tideflat line.

The vote, however, with its majority of 1,115, shows the sentiment of the people of Tacoma is positively for municipal ownership of the tideflat line and against the attempts of the city council to sell out the city in violation of the city charter by dickering with Stone-Webster to get them to build and operate the line.

The vote of 1,535, about 47 per cent of the total registration, is the largest per cent of the registration cast for years at any similar election.

The vote is a very flattering endorsement of the municipal ownership idea, considering the shrewd and studied attempts of the special interests backed by all members of the city commission excepting Freeland to throw dust in the eyes of the people and confuse the issue.

The statement of Mayor Seymour and Mills a few days ago in the open council that they proposed that the city should build the line anyway whether the bonds carried or not, undoubtedly lost the proposition more than the needed 209 votes, as many ardent advocates of the municipal line have believed from the first that the city should build it out of the profits of the light plant and make an adjunct of that municipal department.

The tricky double dealing of Mills, Woods, Seymour and Lawson on the proposition, all four of whom were finally against the bonds and for Stone-Webster, also confused the public somewhat and hundreds refused to vote for the bonds on the grounds that they would not vote any more money for any purpose for this "bunch" to handle. In every ward but the First and Second the bonds received a majority.

The vote in the wards was as follows:
First—For, 339; against, 475.
Second—For, 416; against, 589.
Third—For, 550; against, 341.
Fourth—For, 814; against, 445.
Fifth—For, 1,167; against, 556.
Sixth—For, 384; against, 221.
Seventh—For, 378; against, 368.
Eighth—For, 304; against, 348.

said Mills today. He said the same thing, however, two months ago.

"We are going to build this line for the city now," he continued. "We will find the money somewhere. When the people speak as they did yesterday I have but one boss."

"The city will build the line," said the mayor. "We will get the money from the sinking fund or somewhere and lay the tracks."

Beautiful American Girl Whom Rebel Made "Captive Bride"



SENORA FRANCESCA VILLA. The beautiful cashier of the American Clothing company's store at Torreon, Mexico, who, it is reported, General Francisco Villa, rebel chief, forcibly married in true bandit fashion. When Villa left Torreon on his successful capture of Juarez and Chihuahua he and his wife drove off in the grandest carriage he could obtain and a guard was seated on the box beside the coachman. Those who saw the couple say the bride seemed resigned to her position.

CUPID GOT TO HURRY!

Little old Mr. Dan Cupid will have to hurry if he wants to beat his record for 1912. At noon today he lacked a score of four with which to tie his 1912 record of marriages, and business looked dull during the afternoon.

GOOD FOR JOHN BULL

LONDON, Dec. 31.—With the object of presenting Englishmen an editorial in the supplement says: "They stand on the eve of a great renaissance in commerce and in all arts and industries of civilization, owing to the opening of the Panama canal."

REGISTRATION BOOKS NEAR THE TIMES NOW

Register for the spring election next to the Times office. The new registration books for the big spring election will be opened next Monday. As there are 30,000 voters to register in 61 days to be ready for the big municipal election when a mayor and two commissioners, not counting possible recalls, will be up for election, the city council this morning voted to open big registration offices in the Chamber of Commerce building next to the Times office, 774 Commerce street. Eight registrars will be on hand and it is expected to register the people at from 500 to 2,000 a day.

"THANK YE," SAYS SEATTLE. The Tacoma Commercial club has received a letter from the Seattle club heartily thanking it for its efforts to secure a national bank at Seattle.

TODAY'S CLEARINGS. Clearings \$246,112.00
Balances 26,224.00
Transactions 272,336.00

(Continued on Page Seven.)