

EDITORIAL PAGE---Let the Truth Prevail!

Frank Pierce's Constitutional Amendment Will Not Get Very Far

Puzzled by a highly legal circular that came to our desk some days ago we referred it to Homer T. Bone, a good lawyer friend of ours, and asked him to write us a little expository editorial about what he found. Here is his answer:

"Frank Pierce, of Harper, Wash., compiler of Pierce's Code of Washington, is circularizing the state with a form of petition addressed to the 1917 legislature, asking them to submit to the voters a proposed amendment to the state constitution. This amendment, if adopted, would reduce the legislature to one body of 27 members, meeting once every four years. It would result in wiping out all the present legislative districts and creating 12 legislative districts, from each of which one member would be elected. At the same election, 15 members would be elected from the state at large.

Regular sessions of this smaller body could not exceed 180 days duration. Special sessions could be called by the governor at any time. This proposed amendment does not refer to Article 22 of the constitution, but this article would have to be repealed as it creates the present legislative districts. The initiative and referendum features of Article 2, would be retained intact. The term of office would have to be at least four years, although this is not indicated in the proposed amendment.

"Just what improvement over the present system with its dual house and large body of legisla-

tors, might flow from the creation of single legislative body of 27 members, meeting once in four years, is doubtful. By way of argument it may be said that it would expedite the handling of the initiative and referendum, would enable the people to enact any legislation between sessions, that might be deemed expedient or necessary. With only one house to wrestle with legislation, we would be spared the spectacle of two houses—each elected to represent the people—wrangling over bills and tossing them back and forth between the two houses like a shuttcock in a loom—a dual house whose chief function, at times, appears to be the suffocation of welfare legislation in an endless round of circumlocution and red tape.

"On the other hand it may be said that a small house could be more easily controlled by crooked interests and that the long time between sessions is just what the special interests want. Anyway, there's lot of time to think it over between now and the 1918 election, at which time it will be submitted if Mr. Pierce has his way."

We are much obliged to Mr. Bone for translating this technical document into plain English for us, and we are sure our readers who have been receiving the circulars also will be grateful to him.

If that is what they mean there will be few of us who will be very anxious to sign them.

Daniels in the Lions Den!



There won't be much left of our naval preparedness program, folks, if the munitions trust and the armor plate trust and the ordnance trust and the shipbuilding trust have their way.

And these fellows loom up pretty big in Washington—a whole lot bigger than we common people who send our servants to represent us.

They're after Daniels, the secretary of the navy, with their threats of what will happen if the plan for government manufacture of government munitions goes through.

It's up to us to back up Daniels in this lions' den.

The beasts would cover before a demonstration of public strength and impending public wrath.

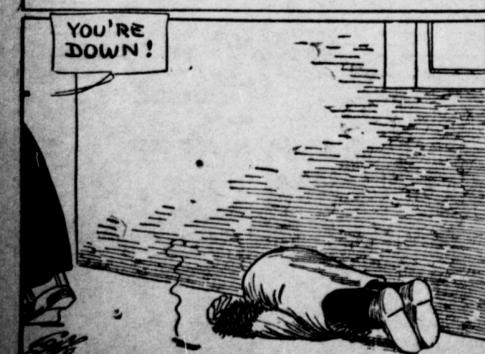
It's about time we sent the preparedness profitters scotting to their kennels.

How Does This One Strike You?

How's this for a vagary of the law? In Texas the county judge appoints a lawyer to defend a defendant on trial for lunacy.

If the defendant is adjudged insane, the attorney gets a five-dollar fee from the state. If the defendant is acquitted, the lawyer gets nothing. And the newspapers of Texas are howling about the asylums and jails being overcrowded.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE



THE TACOMA TIMES

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CHINA BOY'S XMAS HINTS



Mrs. Phillip Lydis, the beautiful New York social leader, once asked a young man who attended one of her fancy dress balls at Newport why he didn't wear fancy. She noticed that he smoked a cigarette in a long holder.

"I'm in fancy dress," he said blandly. "I'm here as a cigarette holder!"

HA! HA! HA!

"He laughs best who laughs last."

"Nix. He laughs best whose laugh lasts."

Dr. Hack is the leading surgeon of Proctor, Vt.

While the soldiers in France and Belgium are entrenching, the folks at home in London are re-trenching. What?

LIFE WAS JUST ONE DRY GOODS BOX AFTER ANOTHER (From the Oklahoma City, Okla. ho-man.)

Jud Wilkins, one of our oldest and most respected citizens, departed this life last Friday. He left behind him five dogs, two children and the whole earth. For many years his business has been that of transferring himself from one dry goods box to another.

HER DECORATION

Blinks—Helen has taken up nursing.

Jinks—You don't say.

Blinks—Yes, they have given her the red cross for bravery.

ENCOURAGING

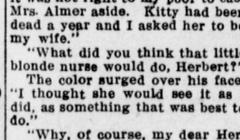
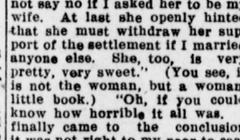
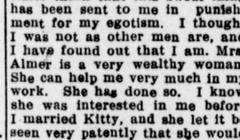
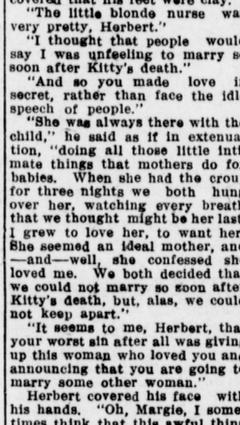
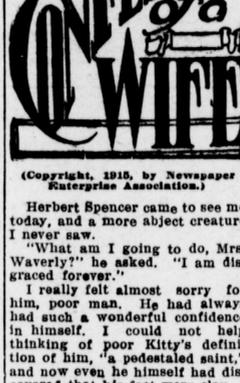
"Before I met you I had no thought but to make sordid money."

"Keep right on—Pop isn't so rich as he looks!"

Hebb says that KA-RU is a blunder, but that KA-RU is the greatest wonder in the world, for RHEUMATISM and Nervous Debility. "Adv."

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

(GUESS FRECKLES HAS GOT SLIM STUMPED NOW!)



Herbert Spencer came to see me today, and a more abject creature I never saw.

"What am I going to do, Mrs. Waverly?" he asked. "I am disgraced forever."

I really felt almost sorry for him, poor man. He had always had such a wonderful confidence in himself. I could not help thinking of poor Kitty's definition of him, "a pedestaled saint," and now even he himself had discovered that his feet were clay.

"The little blonde nurse was very pretty."

"I thought that people would say I was unfeeling to marry so soon after Kitty's death."

"And so you made love in secret, rather than face the idiotic speech of people."

"She was always there with the child," he said as if in extenuation, "doing all those little intimate things that mothers do for babies. When she had the croup for three nights we both hung over her, watching every breath that we thought might be her last. I grew to love her, to want her. She seemed an ideal mother, and—and—well, she confessed she loved me. We both decided that we could not marry so soon after Kitty's death, but, alas, we could not keep our secret."

"It seems to me, Herbert, that your worst sin after all was giving up this woman who loved you and announcing that you are going to marry some other woman."

Herbert cared his face with his hands. "Oh, Margie, I sometimes think that this awful thing has been sent to me in punishment for my egotism. I thought I was not as other men are, and I have found out that I am. Mrs. Almer is a very wealthy woman. She can help me very much in my work. She has done so. I know she was interested in me before I married Kitty, and she let it be seen very patently that she would not say no if I asked her to be my wife. At last she openly hinted that she must withdraw her support of the settlement if I married anyone else. She, too, is very pretty, very sweet." (You see, it is not the woman, but a woman, little book.)

"Oh, if you could know how horrible it all was! I finally came to the conclusion it was not right to my poor to cast Mrs. Almer aside. Kitty had been dead a year and I asked her to be my wife."

"What did you think that little blonde nurse had?"

The color surged over his face.

"I thought she would see it as I did, as something that was best to do."

"Why, of course, my dear Herbert, it was best for you—but what of her? Was it best for her to give up the child that she had cared for since its birth, and had probably grown to love with the same intensity as its mother might have done?"

"Was it best for her to try to strangle in her breast the thought that she had never loved her?"

"Was it best for her to lose some of her self-respect, for I believe it is only when a man leaves a woman who has given herself to him through overpowering love that remorse rears its ugly, terrifying head?"

"Was it best for her to know that in the future there would be lonely nights when sleep would never come to mercifully shut out the picture of another woman longing for you and your child? Was it—"

"Stop, Margie—I can't bear it. Can't you see that my decision was based on my duty to my poor people?"

"Herbert Spencer, it were better that every person—man, woman and child—in your settlement should live in want until they died than that you should have thrown aside and crucified the soul of a woman who loved you. Besides, it was not for your poor but for yourself you did it. I am glad Kitty is dead. I would not have had her ever know your hypocrisy. Goodbye."

(Continued Tomorrow.)

The ladies of the First Christian church will hold a Christmas sale Wednesday at 910 Broadway. The sale will begin at 10 o'clock.

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PERSONAL AND SOCIAL

The New England society of Pierce county will celebrate Forefathers' day tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock in the First Congregational church with a basket lunch.

Members of the Tacoma club of the University of Washington and the Tacoma high school club will hold a dancing party Tuesday evening in the Commercial club.

Sunshine Homestead, No. 3801, will give a card party Tuesday night in the east side Odd Fellows' hall. The first, second and third degrees will be exemplified tonight by Chinook tribe, No. 10.

Puget Sound Homestead, No. 529, will meet Tuesday night in Eagles' hall.

Mrs. W. E. Bradley, 642 No. Fifth st., will entertain the Seventh Ward W. C. T. U. tomorrow afternoon.

The auxiliary to Tacoma temple, No. 59, Pythian Sisters, will meet tomorrow afternoon in the Pythian temple.

Virginia Dare chapter, D. A. R., will meet this afternoon at the home of Mrs. W. H. Pringle, 720 No. J st.

The Monday Civic club has postponed all meetings for this year. Meetings will begin again after Jan. 1.

The Little Four social club of Ruston gave a dance last Tuesday night in Woodman's hall.

Miss Maude Williamson, 8215 Pacific avenue, entertained members of the Crochet club Thursday.

ANSWERS....

By Cynthia Grey

Q.—What is the correct style for a man's visiting card?
T. T.

A.—The card is smaller than a woman's and should be of the finest quality and plainest design. It should be engraved. Unless the name is followed by "jr.," the title "Mr." should not be omitted. If desired, the home address can be given in the right hand corner.

Q.—My boy of 15 reads all the time. All he cares about is books and reading. He is now reading the novels of Alexander Dumas. Do you think they are proper for a boy? Can you tell me what to do with him?
A MOTHER.

A.—Be thankful that your boy is reading instead of running the streets. Of course he should not be permitted to neglect his health or his school work in order to read. Our greatest inventors, statesmen and writers have come from the ranks of readers.

The greater part of the works of Dumas are suitable for a boy of 15 to read, especially "The Guardsman," "The Count of Monte Cristo" and "The Three Musketeers."

Economically it is a serious mistake, morally it is a crime to have prohibited the manufacture of beer. Of all beverages, alcoholic or non-alcoholic, beer is by far the best. The three to four per cent of alcohol which it contains, together with the natural carbonic acid gas, are the elements needed for easy digestion and general good health.

After January 1st,

Tacoma Bottling Co.
San Francisco
WILL SUPPLY PACIFIC BEER

SEATTLE ROUTE

Steamers Tacoma and Indianapolis for Seattle
Leave Municipal Dock, Tacoma
Ma 7:15, 9:00, 11:00 a. m.; 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 p. m.
Leave Colman Dock, Seattle
1:00, 3:00, 5:00 a. m.; 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 p. m.
Fastest and Finest Steamers
Single Fare 35c; Round Trip 60c.
Night Round Trip Daily.
S. S. JONES Agent,
office Municipal Dock, N. 34th