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EDITORIAL

tornado that corporate-owned journals will invoke.

Senator Trammell is now catching the first blow of this tempest, but confidence in the storm-proof character of justice surrounding the measure he has introduced will prevent him relaxing his effort to secure enactment of a franchise tax law in this State.

It is not new with him, either, as denouncers of the bill state, for the records show that he supported a similar measure when a member of the House four years ago.

The "don't frighten Capital cry" is being hung out in Florida with the ticket that the State is not thickly settled and Capital must be coaxed to come in.

In New York, where a public utilities bill for the benefit of the people, is before the Legislature, the ticket on the scarecrow is altered to read: "If the bill passes Capital will stop improvements."

It makes no difference whether a State is old or new, or what the industrial conditions may be, the people are kept out of Capital's ill-gotten harvest fields through fear of the ever-present scarecrow.

It's time the people should knock the stuffing out of this scarecrow.

DON'T TAKE DIGNITY TOO SERIOUSLY.

I understand that Senatorial dignity has been shocked.

Some of its possessors consider that it has been ruffled, bedraggled, and what-not because of the pleasantries in caricature that have appeared in THE SUN.

Little confabs of denunciation have occurred and THE SUN has been censured on account of its failing to realize the panoply of dignity with which a Senator is supposed to be covered.

Merè thoughtlessness of THE SUN. It had not occurred to me that the Senatorial dignity was endangered, because I had not considered its existence.

Therefore the feeling that THE SUN has erred is distressing to me.

Perhaps, though, both the dignity and the damage has been exaggerated.

Maybe these Senators have a wrong idea about this thing. Greater things than mere dignity are to be considered during this session of the Legislature, and therefore, I suggest that the Senatorial mind cease to worry at caricatures when statecraft is possible.

It is THE SUN'S purpose to print Legislative happenings as they occur.

If this sort of publication does not please, it will be the fault of the Legislature, because the members thereof will be responsible.

It will be their doing that will be printed; their record that will be held up to public gaze, and if anything appears in THE SUN they do not like, let them remember that it is of their own making.

They have the opportunity to shape the columns of THE SUN to suit themselves, because it is what they do that will be published.

It is the worth of that doing which will invest the doer with dignity—a dignity that cannot be withheld from him—that caricature, though it amuse, cannot divest.

In perhaps no other State of the United States is a message from the Governor treated with the contempt that prevails in the Legislature of Florida. During the present session but one message has been read in full, the procedure being "to spread on the Journal." Whether this is done with the intent to belittle Governor Broward, or because of indolence, is not clear. Such disposition of a message cannot always be put on the ground of lack of time, because soon after the disposal of a message yesterday the House adjourned, after having been in session but one hour and fifteen minutes.

Protesting against division of Hillsborough County the Tampa Tribune heads its rebuke to the "lotus eaters" with, "Save Hillsborough County from Vandals." Those who keep up with the politics of that county will doubtless say that deportation is the only remedy.

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