

EDITORIAL

dicament, so liquor is not sold in the National Capitol, much to the inconvenience of the "dipsos."

The Senate of the State of Florida has a chance to prove its usefulness in the mortuary line by killing off a bill which the House passed yesterday. It is one of those foolish bills that wise men will sometimes allow to pass, without themselves being able to give any explanation for it.

It is a bill against tipping. It provides that any person who tips a waiter or a sleeping-car porter or any other man engaged as an employee in a public place shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and liable to a fine of two hundred dollars or an imprisonment.

As a piece of freak legislation, this bill is the limit—the farthest limit. There is no sense in it at all. It would be impossible to enforce it.

How are you going to prevent an American citizen from giving away his money? You just simply can't help it, and there is no use to try.

I have traveled around some, and I have not been bothered much with people who expect tips or demand them. I give tips when I choose, and I do not give them when I don't feel like it.

I see no reason why a man should not give a tip when he wants to.

If a waiter takes special pains to bring the batter cakes hot, and otherwise bestirs himself to please you, it is a good thing all around to give him a tip. It makes both the tipper and the tippee feel good. It establishes a cordial feeling in the heart of both. It dispenses happiness.

So it is in the case of a Pullman car porter, who hustles around to wait on your good when you travel of a journey long or short.

He reaches for your handbag when you are about to get on the car. He finds a seat for you. He pulls down the curtain to keep the sun out of your eyes.

When you go to the smoking room, he grabs the box of safety matches and holds a light for your cigar. When you wash your hands, he hands you a clean towel. If you look like you feel tired and loll in your seat, he immediately gets busy with a pillow.

As you approach your destination, he hunts up the whisk broom and brushes you off. Then he grabs your bag again, trots out with it, helps you off, puts your baggage in your hand and wishes you goodbye.

All of this service CAN NOT BE PAID FOR by the money of the corporation he serves.

A large part of it is gratuitous. He is entitled to his tip if you can afford it, and if you CAN NOT AFFORD IT YOU NEED NOT GIVE IT TO HIM.

There is a good deal of nonsense about the tipping evil. It is more imaginary than real.

A law against it should not encumber the statute books of Florida.

One sudden, sharp, swift, sure stroke with the Senate butcher knife is the proper treatment for this bill.

LET THE HOUSE ACT TO-DAY.

Two very important bills may come up in the House to-day.

As both these bills are Senate bills; as both are general bills; as both are bills that the people of Florida need; as both can be made laws if the House acts promptly as well as wisely, I will amend my declaration and say:

Two very important bills SHOULD COME UP in the House to-day.

One is the pure food bill. The other is the geological survey bill.

Dr. Crill is the author of both bills, and if he had done nothing else than to get them through the Senate, he could go back home and face his constituents with the consciousness of having a good piece of legislation to his credit—and theirs.

One of these bills is self explanatory. Its object is to insure the people of Florida PURE FOOD.

This is enough comment to pass it.

The object of the other is to give the people of Florida EXACT INFORMATION about the subterranean resources of the State.

No one knows what wealth may be hidden below the surface of this State, which has been so richly endowed by nature.

We do know that it supplies the world with pebble phosphate, and furnishes the highest grade of hard-rock phosphate.

Numerous traces of iron in Levy County may point to deposits of ore that will place Florida among the mining States.

Coal and iron made Alabama a second Pennsylvania, and as the power of the world depends on the fuel supply, Florida may have enough peat to make it a second Alabama.

Granted, then, that the pure food bill and the geological survey bill are both good, both needed and both timely—

They should pass the House as they passed the Senate—with a good affirmative vote.

As the time is short, and even moments are precious—They should pass to-day.

PUT ON IMMIGRATION NOW.

After all the clamor for good roads, and after all the clamor for immigration, which has been heard for a year or more, it would be strange if this Legislature should adjourn without enacting a well-thought-out law for either.

Yet this is about to happen just this way.

Good roads as a State proposition is a proposition that lasts.

There is yet time to pass an immigration law.

Barely time enough, but still time if the thing is done quickly.

It cannot be done quick ENOUGH, unless there is an agreement between the two houses.

They must act in concert, so that the bill may be put through both houses under waiver of the rules.

If some one would call it a "purely local bill," this might be done.

I pass this suggestion along to some member of the House, where immigration bills are resting on the calendar.

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