

Palatka Daily News

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LAWYERS AND COURTS ARRAIGNED.

Phrases like "there is no justice for the poor" and "one law for the poor and another for the rich" we would all like to think nothing more than the wild sayings of irresponsible agitators and the preachers of discontent. Lawyers and judges are wont to deny with vehemence and indignation the truth of such phrases, and they are able to support the same with arguments and statements that for the layman to refute. Yet it is unquestionable that everywhere and in all times there has been widespread complaint about the delays of the law that amount to refusals of justice, about the complexities of procedure that make necessary the employment of lawyers in matters seemingly simple, and about the redundancies and technicalities of legal language that make it incomprehensible—and therefore irritating—to people not trained in its use.

The result is a general fear of litigation as something in which success is only a little less disastrous than failure, and lawyers as a class are always more or less on the defensive. That much of this feeling of antagonism to lawyers and the law comes from ignorance is demonstrable easily enough by the experts, but the mere fact that the feeling exists and always has existed proves that there is some basis for it, and that it has more than excuse to be gathered from the remarkable report on "Justice and the Poor," prepared under the auspices of the Carnegie Foundation by Reginald Heber Smith of the Boston bar and now published with an acquiescent and commendatory foreword by Elihu Root.

According to this document, prepared after a long investigation covering the whole country, the administration of justice in the United States is not impartial, rich and poor do not stand on an equality before the law, and legal methods are such as to make it impossible for a large fraction of the population to get redress in court for wrongs suffered. No "agitator" ever said much more than this, and if the situation is described correctly it demands the reforms for which there have been so many clamorings.

Serious as are the charges against our administration of justice made in this report, they do not include that of corruption in the courts, nor is it asserted that in the courts there is anything like a deliberate and intentional discrimination between the rich and the poor in favor of the former. That is the effect, but it is not the purpose.

It is far from being a defense of the law, however, to say, as the report does, that the real discrimination is between the honest and the dishonest, with the latter having in their power by delays and the imposition of intolerable expense to keep their victims in many cases without redress. If that is so, then the root of the evil is in the dishonesty of lawyers, for it is nothing else to attain dishonest ends for dishonest clients. That puts the case too harshly, perhaps, but while lawyers interpret as so many of them do the rule that any lawyer can take and cause and make of it the best the law permits, scandals will abound and the laity's distrust of their class and of the courts will continue.

Legislatures as well as lawyers and courts deserve criticism. If laws were better drawn—and if there were fewer of them—litigation would not be the fearsome thing it is now to most people.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE BORERS.

There was nothing novel about the testimony of the radical attorney Margolis before the Senate committee as to his social and industrial ideas as an out-and-out I. W. W. extremist. It was the same old sing-song that the I. W. W. exhorters tell their deluded followers as they prophesy how Utopia will arrive with the overthrow of all existing forms of industrial relationship, and that, once the industrial factor is changed, the need of government passes away like facts. A boy of twelve could answer this argument, since there is nothing mysterious or menacing in government and, except to twisted mentalities, it is obvious to every one that the status of labor is only one factor in any civilization. So far as government goes, if the lawlessness in industrial matters which the I. W. W. propose to set up were a fact, the I. W. W. would have to invent an elaborate social governmental organization to control their own Utopia. As a matter of fact, Bolshevism Russia has developed government to an extreme of centralization unknown anywhere else.

But the crude and puerile sociological views of this Pittsburgh lawyer are of small importance, except that they are exposed to the whole United States by reason of his appearance before the Senate committee, by which inquisitorial method, indeed—on the principle of the microphone by which the footsteps of a fly sound like the tread of elephants—many obscure if dangerous nonentities parade for the moment as historical characters. While much of what Attorney Margolis said was inconsequential, the one cat that he did let out of the bag justified the committee in putting him on a pedestal, if not a pillory. That was his statement as to what radicals like Foster propose doing in the trade unions through which they are now exploiting their extreme and revolutionary ideas. The picture of Foster and other radicals "boring" into trade unionism in order to inoculate it with the virus of radicalism is not a pleasant picture. But, though long known and though Mr. Gompers has been struggling with the issue, the brutal frankness of the attorney for the I. W. W., unwittingly doubtless, has done the public a real service. The evil conspiracy is exposed, and it is now the province of the leaders of trade unions in America on

their part to tell the public what they are going to do about it. They cannot afford to let the "borers" win.

MOLLIE STEIMER.

As the "Reds" fill the newspapers, every once in a while some one of the group who is thrown to the top presents all the characteristics of the type. And such is Mollie Steimer. Mollie is again in jail, a willful, hysterical, irresponsible young East Side New York Russian woman, scarcely out of her teens. She was under \$10,000 bail for interfering with the draft and, having appealed from a sentence of fifteen years, kept up her "Red" activities. Of course, Mollie is not the first young person to be willful and headstrong, and many families have to deal with sons and daughters of this type, whose willfulness concerns itself usually only about social or family matters. But Mollie represents the up-to-date Soviet woman. So her willfulness and caprice is aimed at society and at government. She is dangerous not because she knows anything about public matters or governments, but because, wholly irresponsible and ignorant, she is like a blind baby playing with dynamite. The type is common enough among the young men and women of the Radicals over here, and the most unfortunate part about it is the stupid logic of Americans who ought to know better who, having encouraged the Mollie Steimers to "express themselves," without restraint or reticence, then, when the Mollies parade and threaten revolution, cry out that they exist because "the United States has done nothing for them." As a matter of fact, this is a glittering untruth that might be called by a shorter and uglier word. Is the boon of asylum which was given them freely worth nothing?

WANTED—SOBER THINKERS.

Five hundred years before the coming of the Christ, Polybius, the Greek political economist, wrote that democracies were beautiful in theory and temporary practice, but never permanent. They eventually suffered dissolution from the center, liberties tending to create anarchy. Has this hour struck in America?

Flaming across the pages of every newspaper in this fair land today is the scarlet shadow cast before. Classes and masses are sharply drawn into groups. Employee and employer are at cross purposes. Strikes impend. The industrial and commercial fabric is threatened.

With factories idle, business at a standstill the gaunt spectre of the wolf can be seen in the shadows.

Then what? It is the hour for sober thinking. It is the hour for curbing passions, for weighing words, if they must be spoken.

Anarchy springs like a serpent from its coil, striking blindly. In the far east the natives have learned the innocuous effect of soothing music upon the cobra. We might well chant pacifying hymns now in this hour.

REFUGE FOR LEPEERS.

Dispatches from Washington indicate that the visit of Governor Catts and his entourage will have no particular weight in determining the government to locate a refuge for lepers in this state. Surgeon Blue made it plain in the first instance that unless some good reason were advanced why a leprosarium should not be established in Florida the government would not change its plans.

Protestants in Florida have proceeded under the assumption that the location of such an institution here would deter visitors from the state. Such an idea is the veriest rot. Scientists have long ago determined that the disease is not nearly as communicative as tuberculosis of the lungs.

The old Biblical story of requiring lepers to cry "Unclean" as they proceeded through the streets has magnified the danger of the disease in the minds of many. Physicians and surgeons tell us the disease described in the Bible has no being now, so far as they have ever been able to discover.

We still believe that if no excitement had been created about this institution no one would have suffered or been the wiser by its location in Florida.

The cow has not yet descended from her tour over the moon.

Weeding out is a process which we not only need in our social and business life, but also along our streets and vacant lots.

A Putnam County Fair is hardly feasible this year, but it is not too early to begin planning one for next year.

Brother Adrian Jordan has given up the newspaper business to begin counting noses for Uncle Sam. He will have regular meal hours now.

The crisis in British governmental affairs is not altogether unexpected. The disgruntled element in the Empire is similar to the one we have over here. Ebulition in governments will follow for some time to come, and we may just as well face it.

As it seems to us the capitalist group wants collective bargaining where the collection is its side. It is not willing that labor shall also bargain collectively. They might as well face it as it seems to be the only way labor has to deal, since all other methods have failed.

Armistice Day in Palatka should be made not only a credit to the town and county, but expressive of the appreciation our people feel of the service rendered by our soldiers.

The race is not always to the swift, as is shown in the possibility that the Sky Pilot may not be acclaimed winner of the trans-continental derby.

Evidently the administration considers the industrial crisis grave. If half a million miners walk out on November 1, it is not difficult to foresee what a disaster it will be to every enterprise. It is to be hoped that some solution will be evolved at today's session of the cabinet.

Florida is fortunate in being one of the few states that will need a minimum amount of coal this winter. In case of a strike wood can be used for fuel in an emergency.

Tampa has an anti-spitting ordinance but The Tribune calls attention to the fact that no one has been fined recently for violating it. A man in Tampa cannot raise a good spit these days.

AIR LINE FROM TAMPA TO JAX IS PLANNED

INTER-CITY COMPANY HAS ALREADY BROUGHT MACHINES DOWN.

Will Be Able to Go From Tampa to Jacksonville in About Two Hours.

PLANT CITY, Oct. 25—An air line between Tampa and Jacksonville, taking in Lakeland, Plant City and other towns, is now assured.

"Six minutes to Lakeland." "Tampa to Jacksonville in one hour and a half."

We're living in a "going some" age, but that is what representatives of the Inter-City Air Line told members of the Plant City Board of Trade Tuesday night, when the question of securing a site for a landing field and endorsement of the aviator's project was under discussion.

Lieut. Roger Q. Williams and Sergeant John Duffer, who, until recently, were connected with the Government aviation field at Arcadia, visited Plant City Tuesday afternoon in the "Imp," the machine of the Inter-City Air Line, and did some loop-the-loop acts while looking over the community. They were here again in the evening, with George Haldeman, an officer of the company, and talked interestingly of what that corporation expects to do the coming months.

Mr. Haldeman sought the co-operation of the Board of Trade in securing a landing field in Plant City, with the promise that if a field can be had here, the machines of the Inter-City Air Line will make regular visits, and bring and carry passengers, the trips at first, to be at intervals of a week or be used by other aviators, and would, in time, be of great value to the community, inasmuch as flying machines will, within a few years, be almost as common as automobiles are now. Mr. Haldeman also asked endorsement of the corporation's purpose, which was accorded. He stated that the stock in the company is owned by South Florida men, mostly in Lakeland, but he expects to offer a small amount of the stock here. Bartow business men, and business men in Dade City and Zephyrhills, also are interested in the project, said Mr. Haldeman, who declared that it is the purpose of the company to inaugurate regular passenger service between Tampa and Jacksonville. The journey between these cities to consume about one and a half hours, and the fly between Plant City and Lakeland to consume about six minutes.

ALBERT IN QUAKER TOWN.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25—King Albert and Queen Elizabeth of Belgium will arrive in this city Monday and will remain here five hours. Mayor Smith, who has been in Atlantic City, came to Philadelphia yesterday and telephoned to the State Department in Washington.

TAMPA KICKING ON MILK

Milkmen Propose a Price Advance of Twenty-five Per Cent.

TAMPA, Oct. 25.—Milk consumers in Tampa are up in arms over the proposal of the dairymen to increase their price on milk 20 per cent. or to 25 cents per quart, as against the present price of twenty cents. The matter is in tentative form as yet, the dairymen not having announced their fixed intention, but sort of feeling out public sentiment, with the C. d. purpose general understanding that twenty-five cents is to be the price this winter.

The dairymen admit that the price of foodstuffs is lower now than it was a month ago, but show what most of the basic feeds are costing 10 to 20 per cent. more now than a year ago. They also claim that labor is higher, and that twenty-cent milk has not yielded a fair profit.

Look Neat

For Clothes oft proclaimeth the man
We Press Them Neat
With Two Steam Presses
GEM CITY PRESSING CLUB
308 Lemon Street Phone 268

Sands Bros.

Dealers, Contractors and
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES
Electrical Repair Work Done Anywhere in State.
GASOLINE ENGINES, LAUNCH AND AUTO SUPPLIES.
MARINE HARDWARE
Palatka - - Florida

LADIES!

Look Young!

FRESHEN UP YOUR SKIN.
TOUCH UP YOUR HAIR.
LET ME HELP YOU.
COBBINGS MADE UP
TERMS REASONABLE

Susie Durham

409 Lemon St. Phone 130

Sugar! Sugar! Sugar! IS SCARCE

But the Economy Grocery gets a fresh shipment of POUND MARBLE RAISIN and LAYER CAKES each week, and four shipments of STONE CAKES each week which are fresh and sweet.

They also carry a full line of all High Class JELLIES, JAMS, PRESERVES and MARMA-LADES.

So if it is something sweet that you want

Phone 35 or 36 and you can get it
Service Their Motto

The Economy Grocery

The Putnam National Bank of Palatka, Florida

Capital, Surplus and Profit Account
\$140,000.00
Total Liability to Depositors
\$800,000.00
"Our Strength" is Our Guarantee We Solicit Your Account
Safe deposit boxes for rent \$3.00 per year.

Transfer?

LET US DO IT FOR YOU
All kinds of hauling. Prompt service.

PHILLIPS Transfer Co.

TELEPHONES
Office 358 Night 134

Machine Shop

THE MOST COMPLETE AND BEST EQUIPPED IN THIS SECTION.

We make all kinds of Brass Castings and Bearings. Perfect workmanship, reasonable prices.

AUTO ACCESSORIES LAMPS BATTERIES

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C. A. AMES
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Have You Got BATTERY TROUBLES?

We carry a full line of PREST-O-LITE BATTERIES
In sizes for every car.
FREE INSPECTION AND DISTILLED WATER SUPPLIED.
All kinds of repairing on batteries, generators and magnetos.

PUTNAM ELECTRIC GARAGE

In Howell Hotel Building.

"SEEDS THAT SATISFY."

OUR SEEDS EVERYWHERE EMBRACE DESERVED SUCCESS

HODGE & SONS
THE SEEDSMEN
Phone 210. 117 Lemon St. PALATKA, FLA.
THE NEW SEED STORE

WE WISH TO ANNOUNCE that our new Fall Goods are arriving now. We have just received some NEW CROP CEREALS, including

Prepared Buckwheat, Pancake, Graham Flours, Oatmeal, Farina and other breakfast foods.

To go with the above we have a great variety of

Syrup in Cans and a splendid line of Jams and Jellies ALSO NEW DRIED FRUITS

"The Quality and Quantity Store."

L. C. STEPHENS
Cor. Kirby and Morris Phone 84

WANTED—To buy crop on the trees from small orange grove. See Florida Grocery Co. 10-11-19.

DR. E. W. WARREN.
Res. Phone 37 Office Phone 74

FOR SALE—Ford car, 1916 Model, imperfect order, and as good as the day it was bought. It has new tires, one extra front tire, and extra equipment. It is a sissy inch tread. Price, \$500. For particulars write Capt. H. E. Anderson, Interlachen, Florida.

FOR SALE—Oakland 40, Truck in good condition. Very cheap. H. C. Cates, Lake Como, Fla. dw. 11.