

of public utilities, conservation of public resources, and similar matters vital to the people.

All laws pertaining to such problems must eventually go to the supreme court, so that this body has become actually the supreme legislative authority of the country.

It is more than a court. It overrules congress, and exercises the veto power on all legislation. All the other departments of our government put together are of less real power and importance than the supreme court.

The court divides along progressive and conservative lines. Its progressive thought is represented by Brandeis, and its reactionary, backward-looking thought, by such men as Chief Justice White. Taft would be a vote on the reactionary side.

What the people need most is to have more judges of the Brandeis and Clarke variety.

In voting for presidential candidates this fall the people should therefore bear in mind that they are voting on many other things than the mere choice of a president—among them the future complexion of the supreme court, the most powerful body in our scheme of government.

NOTHING SERIOUS

Nothing goes so fast as time except money.

"Aren't those U. S. prizefights uncivilized affairs!" exclaims the Mexican toreador.

So many successes have been claimed in this war that the word has become almost meaningless.

It is reported T. R. has taken the stump in Maine. But the report does not say what kind of a stump. Bet a nickel it was chestnut.

The household that's balancing the summer's ice bill against next winter's coal bill and wondering where the difference is going to come from will be interested in knowing that U. S. imports of precious stones are breaking all records.

THE PUBLIC FORUM

BLAKE'S MODESTY.—I noticed an article in The Forum signed by Charles G. Blake, wherein he calls attention to these facts:

First—That millions of the people's money was being wasted and many hundreds of lives lost each year because the drainage canal was not finished as it should be.

Second—That this dilatoriness was due to the fact that the majority of the trustees have been bosses' slate candidates and so they have kept the job going. The bosses want jobs to give out.

Third—That if the canal is completed the taxes and the greater part of the typhoid stops.

He is right on these points, but his modesty apparently prevented his going farther and telling The Forum readers that he is a candidate for trustee of the sanitary district and that he has pledged to complete the canal without regard to bosses or politics.

He should also have told the fact that his firm, Charles G. Blake & Co., was the first in Chicago to establish a closed shop in the granite manufacturing business.

Further, that he was the man who last spring obtained and sent to congress the mammoth petition against reducing the flow of water through the canal and that congress heeded the protest and voted as petitioned.

I say he should have told all this, because I know it will be to the people's interest to elect him, for he served on the Morgan Park village board for seventeen years when I was president, before annexation, and I know he was a hard worker and a veritable watchdog in financial and practical affairs of the municipality, giving freely of his time and money, for it cost more than its salary, which was the great sum of \$36 a year.

Judge Nes said of him: "I am for him because he shows the greatest