

Arizona Republican's Editorial Page

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 23, 1914.

We see that there is no such thing as a Christian nation, and that we are living in a rather barbarous world. —Charles Fletcher Dole.

Tying Up the Legislature

It has been said that there are only seven original jokes in the world. Some writers have claimed that there are not so many; that there are only three, and that the other four are merely variations or elaborations of the trio of originals. But it is agreed by the experts that no joke has been discovered within the last 2000 years.

This is preliminary to an observation that the field of legislation is much narrower than we are apt to imagine from the great mass of laws being constantly turned out by the national and state legislatures. The most of this, except certain kinds of special legislation, may be included in one or another of a number of small groups, the members of each group being more or less closely related to each other. Except certain special legislation, about the only really new legislation which may be enacted is in the shape of appropriation bills. These are new in each session. Practically all other legislation consists of the repeal or amendment of existing legislation.

Our constitutional amendment prohibiting the legislature from repealing or amending laws which have been enacted by the initiative or the referendum, places a restriction upon the legislature which will become more and more binding every two years, so that, unless the flood of popular legislation is checked, there will in time be nothing for the legislature to do but pass the appropriation bills and go home.

At the last election seven bills, two referred and five initiated, were adopted by the people, and seven subjects were thereby removed from the domain of the legislature. Each of these bills, except the three-cent fare bill, covers a more or less wide range into which a legislature is apt to intrude. There is hardly a session in which a legislature would not touch upon one or more of these subjects at some point. But, it may not do so now. It can modify none of these laws in any manner. It cannot even pass separate bills which are in any way inconsistent with any of these initiated or referred laws. They can be repealed or amended only by the people if they are held by the courts not to be invalid.

And this is only the beginning. Two years hence, doubtless, there will be other initiated and referred legislation, and, in time, the entire field will be so covered with such legislation that there will be nothing that the legislature can do except to act upon the appropriation bills, and even that small field may be seized upon in time to come.

There is in this situation food for consideration by thoughtful people. If our popular legislation system is to be successful, it must be guarded by those who are competent to guard it. It must be taken out of the hands of the comparatively few who would use it to give force to fanciful and ill-considered theories, and it must be turned to practical use. It is said that the system "makes every man his own lawmaker." It should be so used as to make all voters lawmakers, so that the wisest and the most practical should prevail.

One objection to the popular system is that the bills are apt to be placed before the people in crude form, and that, therefore, there is no opportunity for their amendment. We have found by experience that that is true. There is but one way by which this evil may be avoided and that is by a legislative reference bureau composed of competent persons, who duty it should be, without altering the general object of them, to put the bills into proper shape and language that would not conceal their purposes, so that the voters might readily understand the character and the probable effect of them.

The Unlifted Veil of the War

According to yesterday morning's war dispatches the French had recovered several trenches which they had lost a few days before. That was the first we had heard of that reverse, after it had been repaired. Paris and London reports had neglected to record such losses, so much were they filled with stories of advancing and repulsing the attacks of the Germans. These war bulletins from both sides are very confusing to the observer who tries to follow them. It is not unusual for the German and the French reports to state that on the same day, they had made some progress and that the enemy's attacks had been repulsed. One is inclined to believe that these official advices are false. In interpreting them it is well to remember that a belligerent generally has nothing to say about the enemy's small successes, and that the word "repulse" is an elastic one.

Occasionally a French or a German dispatch unintentionally lifts the veil by saying that a point considerably behind the lines, held several days before, had been attacked or defended. This is really belated news of the battle-front being driven backward by the enemy. But, as the line was not pierced,

it was possible to report, without stretching the truth to the breaking point, that the attack had been "repulsed." As the fighting line in France and Belgium is a long one, it is likely that such encounters are continually taking place. The "slight advances" are always mentioned, but the accompanying "slight retreats" are not chronicled.

The Berlin reports do not misrepresent; they simply fail to report bad news. The Austrian bulletins seem, for the most part, unreliable and given to exaggeration. So were the Russian bulletins in the beginning of the war, but lately they have been more conservative.

The London reports relate almost exclusively to the advices from Petrograd and Paris. Evidently, London does not always credit them, but passes them along, and to that extent only becomes a participant in the exaggeration or misrepresentation.

Farm Marketing

John J. Dillon, publisher of the Rural New Yorker, has been appointed to be the head of the New York State Bureau of Food and Markets. This appointment was made because Mr. Dillon, for several years, has taken a deep interest in the economic problems of farm life and will bring to his responsible position much valuable study and experience.

It is the object of the Bureau of Food and Markets to find a profitable market for the products of the farms of New York and, at the same time, to devise such an economic system of distribution of farm food products that, through the saving thus brought about, the farmer may receive more and the consumer pay less. In short, the business of Mr. Dillon and his bureau will be to reduce in some manner the "middle charges" between the producer and the consumer.

The Outlook, commenting upon the appointment of Mr. Dillon and his task, says: "With present conditions in mind, it has been shown by careful statistics that if the producer can receive from the consumer 75 per cent. of what the consumer pays to the retailer, the man on the farm will receive 50 per cent. more than at present."

It is obvious that a disproportionate charge is added to the produce of the farm after it leaves the hands of the farmer, somewhere along the route to the home of the consumer in the city. If Mr. Dillon can reduce this middle charge and can divide the amount thus saved equitably between the producer and the consumer the problem of supply and demand will be near a solution. The experiment of Mr. Dillon will be watched with great interest throughout the country.

The first applicant for a mother's pension asserts that she is a widow and a mother with dependent children. That was enough. It was a waste of ink, time and paper to inform the state authorities that she was unable to work and had no visible means of support. The law does not make such a disability a prerequisite to the receipt of a pension.

The Nobel peace prize will not be awarded this year. And, yet, such strenuous efforts to win as Mr. Bryan has made had never been put forth.

THE STANDARD-BEARER

(Sir Edward Verney of Croydon)

I.
"How can I tell," Sir Edward said,
Who has the right or the wrong of this thing?
Cromwell stands for the people's cause,
Charles is crowned by the ancient laws;
English meadows are sopping red,
Englishmen striking each other dead—
Times are black as a raven's wing.
Out of the rack and the mirk I see
Only one thing!
The King has trusted his banner to me,
And I must fight for the King!"

II.
Into the thick of the Edgell fight
Sir Edward rode with a shout, and the ring
Of grim-faced, hard-hitting Parliament men
Swallowed him up—it was one against ten!
He fought for the standard with all his might,
Never again did he come to sight—
Victor, hid by the raven's wing!
After the battle had passed we found
Only one thing—
The hand of Sir Edward gripping around
The banner staff of his King.
—Henry Van Dyke.

NINE FROM FIFTY

Only nine of the fifty largest cities in this country now retain the two-chamber form of government. They are Philadelphia, Baltimore, Kansas City, Providence, Louisville, Atlanta, Worcester, Richmond and Cambridge. Clinton R. Woodruff, the secretary of the National Municipal League, predicts that five years hence "not one of the larger cities will be risking its business and its future through a form of government that affords such abundant opportunities for inefficiency, waste and mismanagement."—Youth's Companion.

CENSOR NEEDED

Leading Actor—Your play, dear Don Cemon, did not please the audience. It is too long. It should be cut somewhat.

Author—Do you think that by taking off some scenes—

Leading Actor—Doubtless! Especially if all the acts are suppressed!—Madrid Blanco y Negro.

A GENTLE HINT

"But she says she has never given you any encouragement."

"Did she say that?"

"She told me that her uncle was going to leave her a fortune and that he had one foot in the grave. If that is not encouragement, I'd like to know what you call it."—Houston Post.

BEERITIS

Patient—I thought of enlisting, doctor, but I seem to come over all swimmy-like in my eyes at times. Do you think it's me liver wot's wrong?

Doctor—Well, when do you especially notice this?

Patient—Well, I d'know—I fancy it seems to come on mostly on an evenin' after I've 'ad 'arf a dozen drinks or so.—London Opinion.

RESEMBLANCE

One day there was fish for dinner and little Margie said: "Mamma, do you know what a shad reminds me of?"

"No, dear," was the reply.

"Well," said Margie, "it reminds me of a porcupine turned outside in."—Chicago News.

FINANCES AND MARKETS

(ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH)

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—That the supply of securities continues in excess of the demand was again demonstrated by the heavy course of today's dull movement on the Stock Exchange. Many of the better known and scarcer issues of less importance, including low priced coppers were quoted at bottom figures. The weakness of the metal group appeared to have its basis in another severe cut in the price of the metal due to a lack of demand.

United States Steel resumed its old position as leader, falling in the early dealings to 48 3/4, from which it rose fractionally, only to decline again in the final hour. The support of this stock was rather indifferent throughout the session. The general closing was correspondingly weak. That the Steel Corporation is hopeful of improved trade conditions is shown by the official statement to the effect that a general reduction of the wage schedule will be made at this time, because of "some evidence of a change for the better."

Reading and Lehigh Valley were conspicuous for their relative strength in the early stock trading, each gaining a point on the decision of the Federal court, that the Lehigh Valley had not evaded the anti-trust laws in its relations with some of its subsidiaries. Bethlehem Steel, preferred, was another isolated instance of strength, partially the result of a rumor that the company had secured more large orders from abroad.

Among minor specialties, Central Leather rose on the increase of its dividend from two to three per cent. Bonds were irregular with few selling of the active group. Total sales, par value, \$1,575,000.

United States government coupon three advanced three-fourths per cent on call.

Metals

Electrolytic, 12.25 and 12.50. Silver, 48 1/8.

Boston Copper Market

Adventure	Bid	Ask
Arizona Comm'l.	34 1/2	35 1/2
Altonex	35	36
Columbian and Ariz.	54 1/2	55 1/2
Columbian and Hecla	360	370
Copper Range	32 1/2	33 1/2
Italy West	21 1/2	22 1/2
Italy Consolidated	15 1/2	16 1/2
Gibson	24 1/2	25 1/2
Greenwich	24 1/2	25 1/2
Isle Royale	17 1/2	18 1/2
Lake Copper	15 1/2	16 1/2
Mammoth	18	19
Mohawk	46	47
Mass Copper	35 1/2	36 1/2
North Ryde	22 1/2	23 1/2
Nevada Cons.	11 1/2	12 1/2
Oswego	68	70
Old Dominion	44	45
Quincy	52	53
Shannon	4	5
Superior Copper	23	24
Tamarack	25 1/2	26 1/2
Utah Cons.	19	20
Victoria	19 1/2	20 1/2
Winnipeg	2	3
Wolverine	34 1/2	35 1/2
North Lake	14 1/2	15 1/2
Chino	32 1/2	33 1/2
Utah Copper	47 1/2	48 1/2
Inspiration	14 1/2	15 1/2
Shattuck	19 1/2	20 1/2

AMUSEMENTS

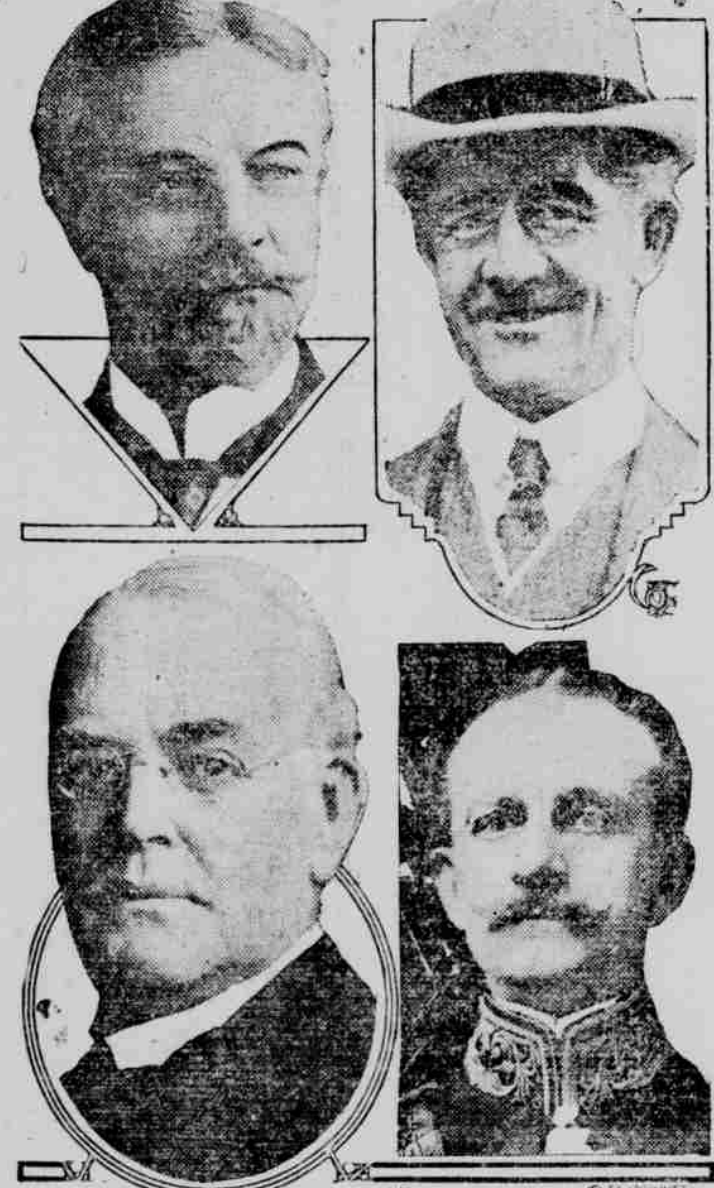
Burning Daylight.

Robert Bosworth is continuing his series of superb impersonations of Jack London's heroes by a dashing and vivid creation of the title role in "Burning Daylight," the latest London release from the Bosworth studio. No actor on the stage or screen is better fitted to interpret the big, virile men in London's book and in the roles of "Burning Daylight," "The Sea Wolf," "Nana," and other plays, Mr. Bosworth is adding a succession of the most striking characters in the screen drama, which will be shown again tonight at the Arizona theatre.

Besides natural genius of a very high order, trained under the direction of such men as Austin Daly and Harrison Grey Fiske, Robert Bosworth brought to his work as an actor a superb physique, enthusiasm, and the vitality and resourcefulness which a varied career on sea and prairie fostered. He was born in Marietta, Ohio, and ran away to sea when he was eleven. Three years at sea were followed by various experiences as a semi-professional wrestler, ranchman and super in the theatre, until at eighteen he was fairly embarked on the stage career in which he has won so much honor.

He first went on the stage in the hope of earning money by "cupping" at night, on which he could live

GROUP IN CONGRESS AIDS BERNSTORFF IN FIGHT TO STOP EXPORT OF ARMS



Top, Representative Bartholdt and Senator Hitchcock; bottom, Senator Works and Ambassador von Bernstorff.

Count von Bernstorff, ambassador from Germany to the United States, urges the American government not to permit the shipment from this country of arms and ammunition for the allies. He says this is unfair, as Austria and Germany are blockaded by the allied fleets and cannot buy arms from America. Representatives Bartholdt and Vollmer and Senators Hitchcock and Works have introduced bills in congress, the effect of which would be to stop the sale of arms and ammunition by private persons to England, Russia and France.

while painting, his first ambition to follow the career of an artist. This love of painting he still cherishes, and his landscapes have won wide praise and are eagerly sought by collectors. But the stage early claimed him. Ten years in Augustin Daly's stock company were followed by leading engagements with Julia Marlowe, Henrietta Crossman, Mrs. Fiske and others, and by starring engagements under the management of Harrison Grey Fiske. Then the necessity of life in the open air turned his attention to moving pictures. He was engaged as leading man with the Pacific coast branch of the Selig company, and for four years wrote, acted in and directed some of the most important productions of that company. His success as a producer of feature films at the head of his own company is a matter of recent history and too well known to need further comment.

The Fifth Man.

Manager O'Grady of the Empress theatre will today offer for the edification and amusement of his patrons at that popular theatre the great multiple reel "Selig release," "The Fifth Man," in which a story made famous by James Oliver Curwood some time recently is reduced to pictures. The story is set in the Philippines and as a whole is true to type. In addition there will be the views of the Salt river valley.

The Perfect Woman.

No more wonderful picture has ever been shown here than the picture in which Miss Annette Kellerman stars, as Neptune's daughter, which is now playing at the Lamora theatre. Some of the photography in the seven reels that tell a sensational fairy tale, is almost beyond human ken. There is one picture in the last reel where Annette is engaged in a struggle with her foster brother under the water. A great diving bell was used to place the camera man in to take this picture while Miss Kellerman and her companion struggled under water before the bell. The fishes swim all around the struggling pair during the tense.

Another picture shown the octopus "the devil fish" going into the water and it is a big one at that. Still another

scene shows the transformation of Annette from a mermaid to a human. This is exceptionally good. Prior to the transformation the mermaid, half fish, and half very beautiful woman crawls out on the sands and rubbing the sacred shell the proper way slowly loses her fishlike half and finds herself amazed to see ten pink little toes winking at her on top of the sand. It is unnecessary to say that Miss Kellerman's garment here is wholly an immense shock of hair which covers her nearly from crown to knee. The swimming exhibitions are also marvellous. The picture will be shown again today.

Lion Theater

Those who have seen the "Bill, The Office Boy" comedies previously shown at the Lion theater will welcome the announcement of another of this funny series for showing today. This one is called "Bill Manages a Prize Fighter." Fay Tincher, the gum chewing stenographer is seen to advantage in these comedies and has made a big hit by her impersonation. A splendid two reel drama by the Reliance players called "The Blotched Page" Francis Ballington and Sam LaGrasse play the leads in this picture which is well acted and produced. "Environment" is the name of another good drama in which there is splendid character study. Christie Cabanna is the producer and his work deserves much credit.

"Alias, Jimmy Valentine."

Old Jupe seems to have it in for the Columbia, so says the preening boogie of that amusement emporium. Every night just as the ticket seller opens the ticket the old boy turns on the wet stuff and the gate suffers in consequence. Despite this handicap which has prevailed for the past week the Redmond stock is drawing better than anything that has been housed at the Columbia in several moons and when the sun comes out again and the suburbanite can get down town without a boot there is every reason to believe that a new attendance record will demand the first S. R. O. sign of the year. Candidly the stock is just a bit the best thing Phoenix has had for so long that the "first white child born in the valley" don't recall the date of better. The cast is well balanced and the offerings of such a class as the ticket holder if he has not them busy praying last summer.

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Owl Drug Co.

First Ave. and Adams

been a regular patron comes away from his first visit with the impression that he has gotten the best thirty-five cents worth spendable in an amusement way in Phoenix. With matinee today and a performance tonight the passing of Jimmy Valentine will see one of the most popular plays to the repertoire to go. A word to those who wait until arriving at the theatre to secure seats might obviate that standing in line. Elvey and Huette have a man who will take your order and lay away your seats to be held at the window until 8 p. m. If you do not use them you will not have to settle and you will help the ticket seller. The phone will do the trick.

The Cubs will train at Tampa, beginning March 1. Coming north they will play at Savannah, Birmingham, Nashville, Chattanooga and Memphis.

Billy Sunday, the evangelist, himself a former White Sox player, is blamed for poor baseball attendance in Ohio. His revival campaign had them busy praying last summer.

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of a holiday gift lies not in its cost, but in the spirit in which it is given. In the interchange of useless articles there is an element of extravagance, but if the gift be useful and appropriate it should provide a full measure of satisfaction and pleasure to both the giver and the recipient.

The Phoenix National Bank