

## U. S. CONGRESS OLD MACHINE IN BAD REPAIR

Great Lawmaking Body Needs  
New Starter and Other  
Equipment.

### LONG WAIT FOR ACTION

WASHINGTON, D. C.—That Congress is an old machine in bad repair, and must be rebuilt and equipped with a new starter, is an opinion which is now being heard from authoritative sources. And the case against the congressional system seems to be a good one.

One of its minor flaws is exhibited right now in the fact that, after electing a new administration, we must wait four months or so before it can go into action against the many difficult problems that confront it. The old administration is naturally going to mark time, as outgoing administrations always do. Little matters like taxation, Haiti, and Mexico, it will leave to embarrass its successors of the other party.

But that is only one of a number of ways in which Congress, as a machine, works poorly because of the way it is designed. It seems to have been intended to work much as the British parliamentary system does, but to have failed. At least, that is the opinion of Woodrow Wilson, whose book on constitutional government in the United States was a standard long before he was President, and still remains so.

"The President of the United States was intended to be a reformed and standardized king," he says, "and Congress was meant to be a reformed and properly regulated parliament."

But the framers of the Constitution did their work poorly. In England the chief executive is the prime minister, who is appointed by the crown, in theory at least. He forms a Cabinet from the members of his own party in Parliament. These men are the heads of the executive branches of the Government, just as our Cabinet members are, but they also retain their seats in Parliament and are made thereby defend their measures and motives.

Further, the chief fault of it, the critics seem to agree, lies in the fact that the men who design the laws have little to do with enforcing them, and those who have to enforce them have little to say in framing them. In other words, the thing works out as an elaborate system for the passing of the buck.

This can best be understood by comparing our congressional system with the British parliamentary system, of which it seems to be a poor imitation. In each there is a chief executive and a legislative body with two branches. There the similarity ends. In England the chief executive is the prime minister, who is appointed by the crown, in theory at least. He forms a Cabinet from the members of his own party in Parliament. These men are the heads of the executive branches of the Government, just as our Cabinet members are, but they also retain their seats in Parliament and are made thereby defend their measures and motives.

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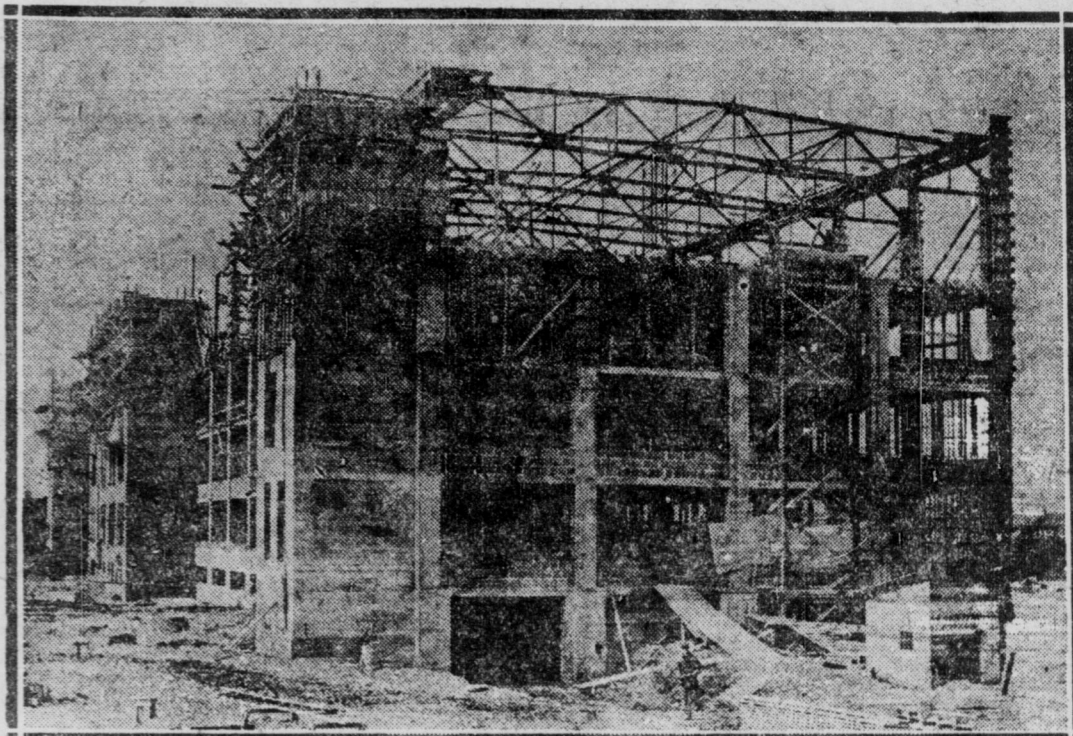
CABINET OFFICERS HAVE NO POWER IN LEGISLATION.

In our Congress the Cabinet members not only have no seats in Congress, but they have no originitive power over legislation—or at least, practically none. There are two chief results of this so far as the Cabinet officers are concerned. In the first place, the President and his Cabinet officers are called upon to execute whatever laws Congress chooses to pass; there is no certainty of harmony between them. In the second place, the Cabinet officers are not subjected to effective criticism. Almost any one can think of a few Cabinet officers who would have had a hard time holding their jobs if they had been forced to defend the administrations of their departments on the floor of the House.

The results of the system, so far as Congress is concerned, are essentially the same in that they also make for irresponsibility. The real originitive source of our laws is in the committees of the House. There are a great many of these committees. Bills introduced are referred to them. They report only what bills they choose to report, and usually these are bills drawn up by the committee itself and bearing the name of the chairman. These bills are debated and fought over on the floor of the House, it is true, but the size of the House, the number who wish to be heard, and the immense amount of business to be transacted, make this debate perfunctory and inadequate. In the Senate the bills get a great deal more real deliberative consideration. But differences between the House and the Senate must be compromised in the conference committee, usually in great haste at the end of a session.

The result of all this is that the typical American Federal law is a child of obscure origin. Many have had a share in its upbringing, and it is finally turned

## Big New Plant Rapidly Taking Form



The big Indianapolis plant of the Westinghouse Lamp Company, one of this city's new industries, has begun to assume a most imposing appearance, with its length of 400 feet on Michigan street and its width of eighty feet.

It is a concrete building, of the latest type of construction and design and will have a total height of about eight feet, four stories and a basement.

The building is on East Michigan street, just west of the Belt railroad, and it will be used for the manufacture of the Westinghouse Mazda lamps.

The company hopes to have the plant in operation in April or May of 1921, and it is expected that, at the start, about 800 or 900 persons will be employed, the majority of them to be women.

Furthermore, these committeemen represent primarily their own constituents. Instead of the nation at large, as do members of the cabinet in England. The chairman of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors is nearly always a man from a constituency where river and harbor improvements are much needed, or at least the money they will bring into the country is much needed. Naturally the chairman of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors will favor liberal appropriations in that line. You might think he would be opposed on the floor by a member from Utah, who is not in the least interested in river and harbor improvement, there being none of either in his State. But he is chairman of the Committee on Public Lands and wants large appropriations for reclamation projects in the desert. So he agrees to vote for the improvement of Mud Creek, and the member from Florida agrees to vote for the building of a dam across Dry Wash, and everybody is happy—except the taxpayer.

In a word, our congressional system not only fails to hold men properly accountable, but it insures that our legislative programs shall lack unity and shall be formed by barrier and compromise between local interests rather than by a consciousness of the needs of the nation as a whole.

## Whisky Smuggled Through Pipe Line

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, Dec. 29.—The very latest tale reaching the Mexican capital about the whisky merchants of the border is like a chapter from a thrilling dime novel.

It is asserted that smugglers of whisky from Mexico into Texas and Arizona have built pipe lines across the border and pump Bourbon, rye and other liquors from "wet" bases on this side to receiving stations on the "dry" side.

The pipe lines do away with the fuss and labor—and also the danger—of getting whisky across the line in bottles and barrels.

Instead of dodging border guards the smuggler now sits at his ease while the pipe line does the work.

It is asserted that this story about pipe lines is true and not fiction.

### SOME COP.

DOWAGIAC, Mich., Dec. 29.—Bandits found William McCoy, night policeman, on guard in a doorway. They carried him back to an automobile. One held him while the other looted the store. They took his gun, gave him a cigar and told him to walk back to town.

### To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Grove's LAXATIVE BROMO-QUININE tablets. The genuine bears the signature of E. W. Grove. 30c.—Advertisement.

## SOVIET PEACE PLAN OUTLINED AT CONFERENCE

Lenine Says \$17,000,000,000  
Will Be Spent in Electrification of Russia.

### TROTSKI GETS OVATION

MOSCOW, by wireless to Berlin, Dec. 29.—Nicolai Lenine, in a two-hour speech before the all-Russian soviet congress today, outlined a great program of reconstruction and presented strong arguments in favor of his policy of granting concessions to foreign capitalists.

Lenine said that seventeen billion dollars would be spent in the next ten years for the erection of a gigantic system of electric power throughout all Russia.

The present session of the all-Russian soviet congress, which opened last Wednesday, is considered the most important gathering of its kind since the birth of the soviet republic, not only because all of Russia is represented, but also because fighting has stopped and Russia is now in a position for the first time in three years to look forward to a period of peace and economic reconstruction.

The soviet republics of Armenia and

Azerbaijan are represented.

The Assembly is composed of workingmen, all plainly dressed, and the delegates number 2,400.

The first address was made by Representative Torgbabinian, delegate from Armenia.

Bela Kun, ex-Communist dictator of Hungary, who is now connected with the Moscow government, reported on conditions in Crimea. He has just returned from Crimea, where he had been during the heavy fighting between the Reds and General Wrangel's army.

The delegate from Azerbaijan spoke on conditions in that newly created country. Leon Troteki, People's commissar for war, got an ovation that lasted for some minutes. This demonstration was repeated when Lenine appeared.

Lenine advanced many suggestions for the rehabilitation of the country.

While speaking of concessions he made the following interesting point regarding the peasants:

"The question of concessions has aroused suspicion in the minds of some people throughout the country, who are prone to consider such action equivalent to selling Russia to foreigners. Peasant representatives came here to Moscow and said they would be willing to suffer another three years rather than see their mother country—Russia—sold."

The feeling shows a high degree of national self-consciousness and is a very good guarantee that we can and will keep ample control of these concessions. But we cannot do without these concessions. We must have machinery."

Speaking of the transportation industry, during which he referred to fuel

as "the bread of industry." Lenine said:

"As we found it necessary to get bread for our soldiers we must also get fuel for our factories." He went on to explain his plan to utilize peat and for the electrification of Russia. The plan and wiring system will cost \$17,000,000,000, which is to be distributed over ten years. Lenine said that Russia could not afford to spend more than \$10,000,000,000, but hoped to get the rest from concessions.

## Cross Produced Between Fruits

BERKELEY, Cal., Dec. 29.—Crosses between a tangerine and a grape fruit and other combinations of citrus hybrids that may be as famous as the hybrid between the King mandarin and a sweet orange that brought phenomenal prices in New York last winter, are being produced in considerable numbers at the citrus experiment station of the University of California. About 5,000 seedlings, mostly from crosses made by H. B. Frost, research associate, are being grown at Riverside, Cal. These include the tangerine and the pomelo or grapefruit, the orange and the pomelo, the lemon and the pomelo, and the Valencia orange and the Mediterranean sweet orange.

In the citrus breeding work at the university flowers are carefully emasculated and pollinated and bagged for protection from accidental pollination. Branches employed and the fruits that result are labeled, the seeds are planted singly and each resulting seedling is separately labeled.

## Sterilized Bottles

An added protection for Polk's Milk

Our bottle washing machine, which helps us to maintain the absolute purity of Polk's Best Milk, is the most modern one obtainable.

The bottles are scrubbed thoroughly inside and out with a caustic solution and then sterilized by live steam.

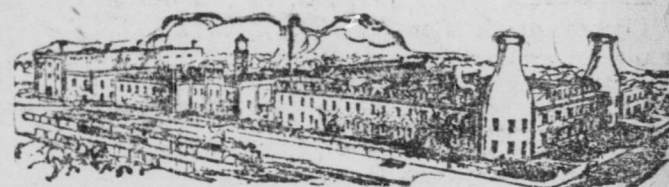
The high standard of Polk's Best Milk is maintained only by constant vigilance and the expenditure of considerable sums of money for new and scientific equipment.



Return your empty milk bottles promptly. Without bottles we can not make deliveries to you.

**POLK'S  
Best MILK**  
ASK YOUR PHYSICIAN

Order by Phone. North 852, Auto. 23-331.



## Gas Rate Question A Case in Point

Cold weather always increases the danger of interruptions in our plant operations at the same time that our consumers greatly increase their demand for gas.

Tuesday morning, about 7 o'clock, when the thermometer was below zero and the morning peak of gas consumption was at its highest, the current of the electrical company which supplies both of our plants was completely cut off for 38 minutes. When electrical service was restored, the current was thrown on with such force and suddenness that the converter of the electrical company at our larger plant was burned out. It cannot be gotten into commission again before Wednesday night. We have only limited equipment of our own to meet such emergencies, and we are not able at the present time to consider increasing our own equipment.

At the same time the drop in temperature threw a heavier demand on our boilers for all plant purposes, while the necessity of generating as much electric current as possible would have overtaxed them even in mild weather. Our larger plant has been under-equipped with boilers since 1917. Several minor mishaps occurred, and, having no reserve boilers, our steam pressure dropped and could not be brought up again until after noon. The plant was barely able to keep the by-product coke oven operation going on a considerably reduced schedule and could not make any water-gas at all until late in the day. Last spring, when it became apparent that our earnings for this year would be good, we ordered additional boilers and undertook extensive boiler-house improvements. These are still far from completion, although we have already spent a great deal of money on them. When completed, they will greatly increase the efficiency of our boiler-house, but a further large investment will be required before we shall consider it entirely adequate. Beyond the boiler-house improvements now in progress we are not able to go with our present resources.

At the same time there was a sudden and great increase in the demand for gas. On the day after Christmas the public did not want much gas. Only 8,000,000 cubic feet were wanted, being 2,000,000 cubic feet under the consumption of the day before and the day after. On Monday morning our holders were full, but the small consumption of Sunday could not enable us to accumulate a good stock to meet the heavier demand of the cold weather which we knew to be coming. We do not have storage holder capacity to permit us to carry a reasonable stock. We have already pointed out that we shall not have any better storage capacity by the winter of 1921-22 unless our financial situation permits us to place an order for this half-million-dollar improvement early in 1921. We are not now able to place such an order.

Up to the time of writing this statement the public had not felt the consequences of our plant deficiencies and difficulties. Up to this hour we have been able to render 100% service in spite of the heavy demand for gas for heating purposes. Perhaps before this statement is published we shall experience a gas shortage which will require us to reduce pressure and thus limit consumption. If the zero weather should continue for a week, this would certainly be the case. Whether the public is inconvenienced at this time or not, it is nevertheless true that at this writing the gas supply of the city is seriously imperiled by our lack of electrical equipment, our lack of boiler equipment and our lack of storage-holder capacity.

It is our desire to cure these deficiencies as speedily as our financial resources permit us to do so, but our financial resources are largely dependent upon the price which our consumers pay for gas.

**Citizens Gas Company**

**KOLDON'S  
CATARRHAL JELLY  
FOR  
Colds**

Get a tube today. Makes your head and nose feel fine.  
**Easy to apply  
Quick to act**

20 treatment tin FREE—Write  
**KOLDON MFG. CO.**  
Minneapolis, Minn.

## Stiff? Sore?

A lame back, a sore muscle or a stiff joint often is considered too lightly by the sufferer. It should be remembered that backache, rheumatic pains, stiffness, soreness, swollen skin and puffiness under the eyes are symptoms of kidney and bladder trouble—and these certainly should not be neglected.

## Foley Kidney Pills

help the kidneys eliminate from the system the poisonous waste and acids that cause these aches and pains. They act promptly and effectively to restore weak, overworked or diseased kidneys and bladder to healthy, normal condition.

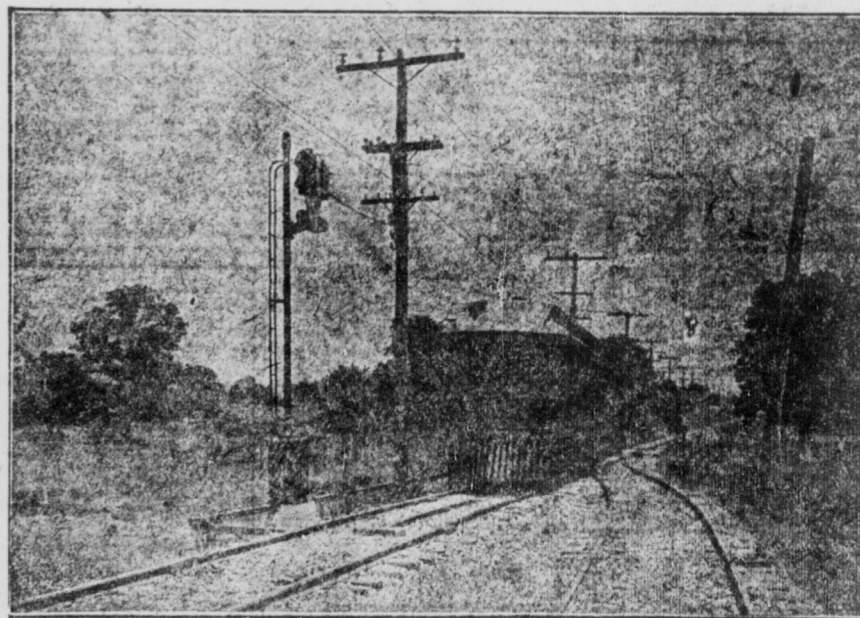
J. E. Simmons, 60 E. 50th St., Portland, Ore., writes: "I was troubled with backache and urinary trouble. I tried Foley Kidney Pills and will say that I highly recommend them to anyone troubled in that way, as they are excellent."

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Better passenger and freight service to points reached by traction lines than given by any other means of transportation.

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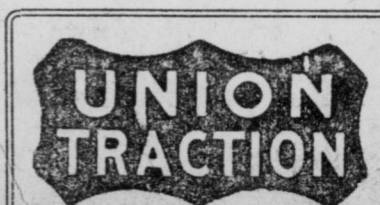
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Convenient Way.  
Hourly Service to  
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Indiana Points

## Announcement to Freight Shippers

"Aeroplane" Freight to Ft. Wayne, seven hours; Toledo, fourteen hours. "Cannon Ball" Freight to South Bend, fourteen hours; St. Joseph, Mich., twenty-four hours.

Local freight to all points daily except Sunday. Express freight on all passenger trains "stack up" our service against anything else.

Talk to the Local Agent or Write to Traffic Department, Anderson, Indiana



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OF INDIANA**

