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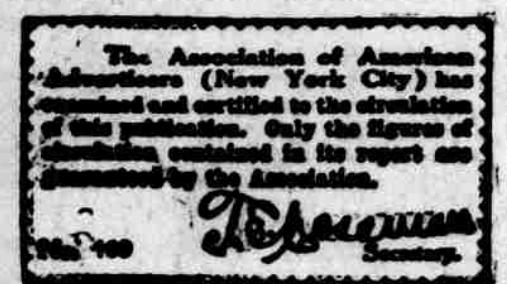
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## THE LAW'S DELAY

Taft hit a very strong note in his Chicago speech yesterday when he laid insistence on the reformation of legal processes. And what will appeal to the ordinary citizen is his criticism of the delay of the courts.

But reform in our criminal procedure is not the only reform that we ought to have in our courts. On the civil side of the courts there is undue delay and this always works for the benefit of the man with the longest purse. The employment of lawyers and the payment of costs all become more expensive as the litigation is extended.

It used to be thought that a system by which cases involving small amounts could be carried to the supreme court through two or three courts of intermediate appeal was a perfect system, because it gave the poor man the same right to go to the supreme court as a rich man.

Nothing is further from the truth. What the poor man needs is a prompt decision of his case and by limiting the appeals in cases involving small amounts of money so that there shall be a final decision in the lower court, an opportunity is given to the poor litigant to secure a judgment in time to enjoy it and not after he has exhausted all his resources in litigation to the supreme court.

I am a lawyer and admire my profession, but I must admit that we have had too many lawyers in legislating on legal procedure, and they have been prone to think that litigants were made for the purpose of furnishing business to courts and lawyers, and not courts and lawyers for the benefit of the people and litigants."

There is nothing more disheartening to the poor man than when engaged in litigation for damages under laws which are designed for his protection, to have the case appealed from court to court until the final judgment which he receives is swallowed up in attorneys' fees, court costs, and in addition may easily be far in debt as a consequence of his litigation.

No wonder such a man gains the idea that the courts are the property of the corporate interests and that the law is of no force.

Common law has classed life and limb as among the most precious and irrecompensable assets of human existence. But the usual practice of the courts has destroyed the confidence of ordinary men in the hope of obtaining their inalienable rights.

When judicial procedure comes in to deny the poor man equal justice with the rich man, not only is the institution of courts made a farce, but it does much to weaken the confidence in them which may lead to anarchy.

It is doubtful if Taft can secure any vital change in all the abuses of justice which he mentions—but if he can do away with the delay of justice in the federal courts he will set a good precedent for state legislatures to follow.

That one thing will do more to restore the confidence of the laboring man in the courts than any other one thing. It makes no difference how perfect the laws and how fair the judges, if the process of getting damages under the employer's liability act and kindred measures, is defeated by procedure subversive of justice to the man the laws and the courts are supposed to protect.

The turning of courts of justice into places which only a rich man may enter without fear, has caused more sordid views of a violent nature than any other one thing in American life.

Culinary.

"What caused the family broil?"

"Father came home stewed."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

## Altogether Optimistic

Richmond at the present time is in a curious phase of development. The town is coming to; it is beginning to realize that it has unconsciously done something which is unique. It has done these things without a preliminary plan—a natural growth of a unique sort.

Richmond has come to find herself the most optimistic home of boosters acting conservatively in an altogether new field. That field is the development of her own resources with the fundamental principle of helping her surrounding country first.

The Fall Festival is only a part of this general plan which has worked itself out of a desire to grow. The main features are well enough known. The actual progress of the whole community can scarcely be judged by those who have little means of seeing the whole in action.

So it is that the contemplated expenditures of the Executive Committee point out some things which they themselves are scarcely aware of and the town and surrounding country hardly at all.

The table of expenditures is in itself the most satisfactory guarantee of the Fall Festival's success that could be brought forward. It points to conservatism and good judgment together with progressive-ness and optimism at the same time.

It guarantees that Richmond will award better premiums in a more judicious manner even than last year—which guarantees good exhibits and a good effect on the surrounding country.

It guarantees that the town is going to give an event of the highest order—not a second rate affair.

It encourages the idea which has been gaining ground, that Richmond is determined to have better exhibits, better decorations, better attractions, than last year.

Yet that all this has been done in a spirit of careful consideration is the fact that the contracts for service performed or goods required are far lower than last year. It means giving the people greater service for less money expended pro rata. This, we take it, has noticeably been what Richmond has been striving for—A Progressive Panic Proof City.

Every detail has been considered over and over again, both with a view to making the most out of the money and at the same time guaranteeing that the Fall Festival shall be better this year than last.

Yet with this conservatism, there has been optimism of the best sort.

The evident attitude of the committees has been optimistic. We have planned for the best Fall Festival which we could get for the money; we have been conservative in our contracts and in the getting of attractions, we have not done headlong acts. We have done this because we have had the idea that we occupy a position of great trust in the welfare of Richmond.

And we have done this because it is under these conditions of mutual trust that we must act together. You have given us the trust of caring for your interests and we believe that therefore you have given us the right to trust you. We believe that as citizens of Richmond you will not fail us and will back up our work as you did last year.

For it is this spirit of mutual trust which must be present in the execution of enterprises of the magnitude of the Fall Festival. Magnitude, because viewed as an investment the Fall Festival (and the Fall Festival must be looked at as an investment) is just beginning to make a new era for the City of Richmond. This mutual trust is the highest expression of conservative optimism.

Items Gathered in  
From Far and Near

Mr. Taft's Trip.

From the New York Times.

The long tour of the United States upon which President Taft starts today is no mere junketing trip. He will experience the harsh extremes of climate, the strain of fifty dinners and the vicissitudes of 12,759 miles' travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the northernmost to and across the southernmost borders of the United States. He travels as President and as leader of a party, not now united, that elected him President. For the first time in American history a President of the United States is set to foot in foreign territory during the period of his incumbency. Mr. Taft may violate this precedent cheerfully and with impunity. The immediate effect of his accepting President Diaz's hospitality in Mexico City will be to strengthen our friendly relations with the Mexican republic. Its remote effects can by no stretch of the imagination be considered harmful. In this departure, and in the more important purposes of his journey, we wish the President Godspeed.

Money and Progress.

From the Kansas City Star.

While there are money rewards for all the achievements that are making this period, and especially this year, so great, that reward is not the chief one, nor is it the most powerful incentive to exertion. This reflection is timely, because nearly everything that is crass and harmful in modern economics and industry finds its apologists ready with the plea that the world would not get along at all unless with the motive of a free scramble for riches. Consider what notable things have marked the times—aviation in heavier-than-air machines, the use of the air by these aeroplanes and by dirigible balloons, the northwest passage found and traversed, the north pole discovered, the automobile increased in efficiency to the "Nth" power. These may serve to merely indicate the vast prospect opening up to mankind.

Many New Stamps.

From the Boston Transcript.

This is a great year for the philatelists. Since it opened there has been an average of a new stamp at least every two months.

Schoolroom Space.

From the Baltimore American.

Baltimore is not alone among American cities in the matter of being short of the demand for schoolroom space. In fact, the pressure upon the classroom capacity of the public schools has increased so rapidly in recent years that several other cities besides Baltimore are being put to make-shift expediences for tiding over the period of inadequate housing. Philadelphia has about 15,000 part-time pupils at the opening of the new school year, and about 1,500 for whom there is no room at all. But the Philadelphia school situation is nothing like so serious as that which has been indicated by the enrollment for the new school year in New York. Al-

## FRAT PROPOSITION

Superintendent Mott States  
He Expects No Trouble  
This Year.

## SOCIETIES FROWNS ON

According to Superintendent T. A. Mott, it is expected no difficulty will be experienced this year by the school board in regard to the fraternity proposition, which has bothered the authorities considerably in former years. So far as is known, there is no intention among the pupils of the public schools to organize any secret societies, and it is believed the matter has been dropped by them, who apparently realize the futility of such an attempt now. The school board placed the ban on secret organizations of any kind several years ago and nipped the fraternity spirit in the bud. Since that time there have been several feeble attempts on the part of the scholars to organize such societies, but their efforts have not met with any great success.

The school boards in several other cities in the state, however, are not so fortunate and are at present wrestling with the proposition, which is beginning to assume rather serious proportions.

## TWINKLES

(By Philander Johnson.)

His Place in the Program.  
"Your boy Josh says he is going to be a wizard of Wall street."

"Yes," answered Farmer Cortosel.

"He thinks so. But the chances are that the regular wizards will use him as the subject of their mysterious disappearance acts."

The Climate Chaser.

"Who is that man who is afraid to sit in a draft?"

"I don't know," answered Miss Cayenne. "He is probably one of those people who think nothing of traveling a thousand miles to get where there is a breeze."

Why Worry?

Why worry over the brown tail moth? Why worry over the weevil bring damage. When sawmills chew the venture up By countless acres every day?

Their Own Victims.

"Why is it," said the discouraged housewife, "that all our cooks become so discontented and irritable?"

"That's easily explained," answered Mr. Groucher. "They have to eat their own dinners, and get dyspepsia."

The Arctic Night.

Up in the Arctic regions where the nights are six months long, Amid the icy caverns where the north wind bears its song.

There is fond ambitious dreaming in the silence of the snow—

Mysterious fancies such as most of us may never know.

And so it comes that phrases strange are vehemently hurled

Across the frosty waste to thrill this busy, plodding world:

"I've got the north pole in my grasp, a grasp that can not slip,

I've sawed it into sections to be carried in my grip!

I've nailed the banner to it! I have rigged it up with wire

To send Marconigrams and call the public to admire

I've painted it with splendid stripes of red and white to show

That transients can be shaved by an accomplished Eskimo.

I've greased it with some blubber

that by luck we had to spare

And challenged other aspirants to climb it if they dare."

For that customary diet of that rather cheerless spot

Is sure to cause disquiet, which explains why such a lot

Of strange impressions gather in a mind however strong

Up in the Arctic regions where the nights are six months long.

Night On Bald Mountain.

On a lonely night Alex. Benton of

Fort Edward, N. Y., climbed Bald

Mountain to the home of a neighbor,

tortured by Asthma, bent on curing

him with Dr. King's New Discovery,

that had cured himself of asthma.

This wonderful medicine soon relieved

and quickly cured his neighbor. Later

it cured his son's wife of a severe lung

trouble. Millions believe it the greatest

Throat and Lung cure on Earth.

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