

## THE SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

Morning—Evening—Sunday.

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Morning Edition.

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APRIL 21, 1920.

## BETTER DIVORCE LAWS.

The attention of millions of people will be turned to the proposed effort of the attorney general of Nevada to have the divorce decree recently granted to Mary Pickford declared null.

Mary Pickford is beloved by a host of moving picture fans and not one of them, familiar with the little "Queen of the Movies" in a thousand girlish and innocent parts, will wish for her anything but speedy release from an embarrassing situation, and complete clearing of her record. But the case by its publicity calls attention to the need of more uniform and drastic laws covering divorce and remarriage.

If the laws governing divorce were alike in all the states and founded on sound principles of justice and good faith, no divorce could be obtained which could be questioned later in any state. If the laws of all the states agreed in forbidding the remarriage of any divorced person until at least a year had passed, no persons, however impetuous or misguided, could find themselves in the situation which now confronts two popular moving picture stars.

The many admirers of Miss Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks will prefer to believe them guilty only of a lack of good taste and discretion, but all the same their case is a pointed illustration of the much-needed revision and unification of laws for the protection of the honorable estate of matrimony.

## MEXICO'S DISTURBED STATE.

Revolution is even more deplorable in Mexico than in a nation in which law and order are more firmly established. Uprisings may be promptly suppressed by well-established governments, but even more disturbances may cause prolonged suffering in states as loosely knit as the federation over which Carranza has presided. Whether Americans like the administration at Mexico City or not, they must admit that a stable executive at the capital is essential to any progress or betterment. Revolt, unless promptly suppressed, serves to rob the government of whatever permanency it may possess.

The present attempt at revolution in Mexico is especially deplorable because it does not seek merely to establish a new government at Mexico City, but to disrupt the nation. It is not merely revolution; it is secession. Above everything Americans desire supremacy of law and order in Mexico. They will find little assurance of stability in anything short of prompt and emphatic settlement of the disturbance.

## WHAT LABOR WANTS.

The Federation of Labor, in response to inquiries submitted by the Republican national committee, has furnished a statement of what it wants, and what it expects to demand of both parties this year as the price of its political support. The chief items are as follows:

Acceptance of the eight hour day and the six day week with Saturday half holidays.

Recognition of American wage earners' right to organize in accordance with their own judgment.

Continued exemption of labor organizations from anti-trust laws.

Acceptance of the right of employees to choose their own representatives from within or without the plant.

Recognition of the right of employees to strike.

Abandonment of the use of the injunction in labor disputes.

Establishment of free federal employment agencies in the administration of which labor would have a voice.

Payment of such wages as to render old age and retirement pensions unnecessary.

Equal pay for equal work.

Minimum age of 16 years for employment of children.

Extension of the federal workman's compensation act to all wage earners not protected by state compensation acts.

Elimination of company welfare and uplift organizations and substitution of welfare work as conducted by labor organizations.

The secondary strike or boycott and the right of government employees to strike are declared justifiable at last resort.

Some of these claims will hardly be conceded in full by either of the big parties. It is not likely that the use of the injunction will be, or can be, abolished—the public itself, as a whole, must preserve some safeguards against unjust action on the part of any minority. The payment of such wages as to render old age and retirement pensions unnecessary may win approval, but its fulfillment is a different matter. The reference to "company welfare and uplift organizations" sounds rather ungracious, however sensible and human it may be at bottom. For the most part, however, the list is one that may readily be agreed to. It does not sound half so radical as it would have sounded a few years ago.

And now that organized labor has told what it expects of the public, the public may be expected to announce what it expects of organized labor. That is another story.

## HOMES FOR HARVEST ARMIES.

Better housing conditions for the great tempo-

rary populations which inhabit the berry, fruit and cannery regions in harvest and canning time are one of the reforms toward which the Interchurch World movement is bending its efforts. A commission is now investigating along these lines, and data is being gathered to be laid before the protestant churches of America, together with some sort of practical plan for creating a better state of affairs in these camps.

There is a big field for improvement in barracks for the great food armies which pick and help to can the fruits and vegetables for a hungry nation. Much work already has been done in many regions in building comfortable bunk houses or camping places. But all too often, because the proposition is a temporary one, little attention is paid to living conditions, and extra workers by hundreds or thousands are herded together in quarters which are insanitary, uncomfortable, lacking even in provision for decent privacy. Such places as these are breeders of disease and vice. Their evil influence is not confined to any district, but goes abroad through the land in germ-laden canned goods and germ-laden bodies and minds of this ever-shifting host.

Some section of almost every state has this problem of housing a wandering workers' army at some season of the year, and the great Interchurch movement is performing a valuable service in setting the machinery in motion to clean up such pest spots as need cleaning. Every community which has the condition to meet, and every employer who relies upon these temporary helpers should try to see that the workers, however briefly employed, shall be housed in ways which make for decency, health and morality.

## THE CULEBRA CUT AGAIN.

It is so long since the Culebra Cut in the Panama Canal has acted up that we had almost forgotten its frequent slides and slips, its embarrassing habit of closing the canal until the earth was scooped out of the channel. For two years there had been no earth slides and we had come to believe that the danger had at last been overcome.

And then, on the very day that the whole personnel along the Isthmus was on dress parade, rigged out in company regalia to escort His Majesty's warship the Renown, bearing the prince of Wales to Australia, Old Culebra Cut got tired of standing at attention and on good behavior. He decided to shift his weight from one foot to the other, or to salute with the left instead of the right hand, or to execute an especially difficult bow, intended, no doubt, for the delectation of the prince and his company, or something equally meritorious. At any rate, he did something that was not in the Order of the Day, and in consequence the whole canal was tied up, and the Renown had to anchor while the army of engineers and workers doffed the glad attire, got down into the water and scooped away the mud.

It was all very embarrassing—to the American army officers. But there is no record that the prince did anything but smile and take it all very good-naturedly. Perhaps he even chuckled to himself at catching Americans, for once, with their welcoming plans awry and their company manners off.

Italy and Jugoslavia have decided to go ahead and straighten out the Flume problem amicably between themselves. Now if all the other quarreling nations would do the same thing, the United States could take it easier for a while.

Testimony before the congressional investigating committee indicates that the navy was miserably unprepared and wonderfully well prepared. The truth, as usual, will probably be found about midway between these two extremes.

Canada's supreme court has held that newsprint paper is not a "necessary of life." Possibly the Canadian newspapers have not been quite diplomatic in their treatment of the "judges."

Guatemala is now engaged in one of the chief Central American industries in staging its periodical revolution.

That Mexican state with a name like a talking machine seems to be well wound up.

If we could only get in politics and industry by resolution!

It looks a bit like all the Mexican states might secede.

## Other Editors Than Ours

NO COAL EXTORTION.  
(Cleveland Plain Dealer.)

Atty. Gen. Palmer is doing well to keep an eye on the coal situation. The troublous episode through which the industry has passed in the recent months is not ended with the settlement of the miners' wage dispute and the relinquishment of federal control since April 1. The miners are content with what seems, on the whole, a reasonable raise in pay, which meets their present cost of living or does a little better. The operators, who if they had any grievance have carefully concealed it hitherto, are now engaged in a bold effort to "get theirs."

The passing on of wage increases to the consumer is an old story. It used to be expected. But the thing has been so shamefully overdone, and the public has become so fully aware of the imposition, and so resentful of it, that the present attitude of the coal operators seems hard to account for.

It is generally admitted that the operators have been making plenty of money. It was expected that they would pay the 14 percent wage-raise given last December out of their own pockets. That would leave no more than 13 percent of the total 27 percent raise for the public to pay in higher prices for coal. Yet since the first of this month there have been announcements from many operators of increases in the price of coal at the mine ranging from \$1 to \$2 a ton.

The attorney general says that the total increase in wages will be about \$200,000,000 a year, representing about 40 cents added to the cost of mining every ton of coal. The annual production is about 500,000,000 tons. The amount the public might reasonably have been expected to contribute, then, toward the miners' pay, is about \$100,000,000 a year, or at the most \$200,000,000. If the operators succeed in their present attempt at price-boosting, with the new wage-scale as a pretext, it will add \$500,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 a year to the nation's present coal bill. And the coal bill, it should be understood, is something that no family can possibly evade, whether it burns coal or not. It enters into the cost of every commodity that depends in any way on coal for its manufacture or transportation.

Any such profiteering as is indicated would be intolerable. The government should be able to prevent it, and will be expected to do so.

Better housing conditions for the great tempo-

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## The Tower of Babel

By BILL ARMSTRONG

PA PERKINS

SEZ.

If congress pays the ex-soldiers a bonus, a lot of overall clubs will probably be bust up suddenly.

who worked at the self-same bench, "Let me tell you this," and for emphasis he flourished a Stillson wrench, "Don't talk to me of the bourgeoisie, open your mouth to speak. Of your socialists or your anarchists, don't mention the Bolsheviks. For I've had enough of this foreign stuff."

I'm sick as a man can be of the speech of hate, and I'm telling you straight that this is the land for me.

Gene Miller has sent us a circular from an out-of-town undertaker, who offers a fine, first class, A-1 funeral all complete for \$75, and the funeral director pays the luxury tax. We don't know whether Gene figures we need a funeral, or whether he called it to our attention because of the attractive price.

## THE DAILY POEM.

Spring has come. The birds have all come back, The snow has melted from the ground, And we've lost the rabbit track.

We saw some people yesterday riding a penny weighing machine of a peck of coppers. Wonder why they wouldn't be first class folks to interest in a game of penny ante.

BILL HART PLEASE WRITE.

In days of old The battler bold Was wont to main and kill 'em.

But all he says These modern days Is half a mile of filum.

WHEN AN HOUR IS LONGER THAN SIXTY MINUTES.

Ralph Hutchinson and Bob Belter in a pool game at the University club.

Said Dan McGann to a foreign man

## LOCAL BRIEFS.

L. W. Hammond, popular attorney and pedestrian, was observed walking on a local street car. When questioned as to the reason for such action, "You see I have my father with me today, he is 84 years old and—I was afraid I couldn't keep up with him" said the resourceful Mr. Hammond.

The name suffered a temporary eclipse in England in the early 17th century, but was revived in an ornamental fashion by Miss Evelyn's "Evelyn." Since then the name has been uncontested, but it would be difficult to say what affected influence brought about the change in spelling to Evelyn. Etymologists insist that it should only be spelled with a "y" if it is meant to imitate the old French form of the Latin avelina, meaning "a girl." Evelyn is really a man's name and few women have used it, form, preferring to employ Evelina or Evelyn.

Cats eye is Evelyn's jewel. Its mysterious translucent depths shot with green, indicates a vigilant charm against evil spirits and promises its wearer immunity from all harm. Thursday is her lucky day and six her lucky number. (Copyright, 1920.)

CUTTING OUT THE COMEDY.

No longer the look in the movies Giving vent to her anger and grief At the butler's embrace raps him over the face.

With an underride filet of beef, No longer when kissed by the foot-man.

(In her rather irascible way) She scorches his bean with smoky tureen.

No more does the comedy waltz.

A flip of humor supply.

By passing the vest of a corpulent guest.

With a segment of blackberry pie;

Or siam, with a Long Island duckling.

The cube with the wicker work

Who bolts for the door when he's settled the score.

And doesn't kick in with the tip.

No more does the photoplay housewife.

Whose husband comes home after two.

Lie in wait on the stair and bend over his hair.

A kettle containing beef stew.

Ner does she, to further upbraid him.

Come down like a battering ram (Like they formerly did) on the erring one's lid.

With seven pound leg of boiled ham.

These movie productions are costly.

The actors, although they don't speak.

When hits they have made are quite frequently paid.

Some thousands of dollars a week.

And when you have added the monkey.

For scenery, fillums and such.

You will see that real food must be strictly tabooed.

It costs altogether too much.

(Copyright, 1920.)

FACTS about your name; its history; its meaning; whence it was derived; its significance; your lucky day and lucky jewel.

BY MILDRED MARSHALL

EVELYN.

Like so many feminine names, Evelyn comes from Aofite, whose more modern names are Eva, Eleanore, Aedin or Elin. Evelyn was occasionally found in the House of Kennedy, but Evelyn is by far the most common form of both names in Ireland.

Aveline or Eveline made their appearance among the Normans long before the marriage of the Earl of Pembroke. Aveline was the name of the sister of Gunnar, the great grandmother of William and Con-

These flowers in the garden will add materially to its beauty. A row of poppies or others which bloom along about the time the vines start to brighten up the brown spots considerably.

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