

One of the many things that is contributing to our present unstable condition is the multiplicity of laws. We are too hampered, too restricted and too bound down to certain lines of conduct. There is but little left, after all the restrictions and limitations are examined, too little in the nature of a field of conduct. Apparently the purpose of our many laws is to protect one against his own ignorance, lack of thrift and judgment. This very condition engenders atrophy, it weakens. Left to one's own responsibility, resource and judgment brings stability and sturdiness of character. Character cannot be legislated into one, morals either. Left to one's own self protection and resource, he becomes strong by meeting adversity and overcoming it; by relying upon his own judgment and resource one is made better and stronger or else he falls because of his weakness. The hedgerow of laws is levelling, bringing the strong character down to the level of the ordinary character. It cannot raise up the weakling because he is deficient. It is like the systemization of the newspapers of the country- it has destroyed the possibility of great leaders in that field- it is a mechanical something. So it is with the law- there are no great lawyers now days because that profession has dwindled into a lot of precedent hunters, rather than logical thinkers. Any system that puts the weakling on the same basis as the strong man takes away from the strong man the incentive and by doing so puts him in the same class as the weakling. The same possibility to accomplish things or to avoid things given to two people, one of strong mentality and character, the other of weak mind and feeble judgment, makes for progress and accomplishment in the man of judgment. But where he must conform to certain restrictions and limitations that are promulgated for the protection of the weakling, then he is weakened and rendered helpless to use the abilities that are naturally his. We have gone to seed on gambling laws, and yet we allow the greatest gambling agency to operative with governmental approval, the Stock Exchange. A lottery is taboo, but the golf courses of the land run wide open. We pronounce the making of whiskey or beer a crime when it is in no sense a crime. We say that it is unlawful and crime for one ~~xxxx~~ man to make a beverage and sell it to another, and thereby destroy the incentive for one to make ~~xx~~ a better vintage than his neighbors. We must get the consent of some agency to establish a cotton gin or an ice house and thereby take a fall out of competition. In every phase of effort we meet a government regulation or restriction. It is disheartening; destructive of original thought or constructive ingenuity. Take the American Indian- he has shrunk into infirmity because he has been pampered and protected by the government. There are no strong men among them, except as they had escaped the so called protection of the government- they are non-thinkers, non-workers and worthless. Their initiative has been taken away by the removal of necessity to accomplish. And so it is, to a great extent with our citizenship, the strong and the sturdy are kept in check so that the weak may have an unnatural advantage. A government, itself, needs but few laws and those are mostly of a penal nature to keep the citizenship within certain bounds. Prevent the commission of certain fundamental crimes- and it takes no written law to pronounce them crimes- they are crimes ~~per se~~ se, on their face. But by written law we pronounce and make the maintenance of a punch board, a simple game of chance, a crime. Or a marble shooting device, or a lottery or even a raffle. These are not crimes, no one is forced to indulge, but by a simple piece of writing they are made a crime, a disreputable thing. And the result has been so many foolish regulations that the entire citizenship has become immune to and disrespectful of all law. It has become furtive, secretive and unstable. The same thing is true of our civil laws, they are but restrictions placed upon business by business itself seeking some advantage. There is but little ^{of the} natural left to the American citizenship. Moral responsibility receives no impetus by these restrictions but is dissipated and disturbed.

If the congress of the United States, now in session, would repeal all the laws on the statutes, except the fundamentals and if the legislatures of the states would meet and repeal to the same effect in each state there would be a great revival of endeavor and of effort. There would be a readjustment of standards and ideals, better ones, too. But it is hopeless, this emotional, sentimental people must have their laws.

The M.H.

There was a young man named Poloma
Who lived in this state, Oklahoma;
In the years that are past
He made money fast
But spent it, now he's out of mazuma.

Now as a matter of fact the young man just thought he was making money, what he was doing was going into debt and spending without reckoning on the future. The whole world is in debt, big and little alike, those other times did that for them. Many invested in sound properties and were conservative, but their distress is just as real as that of the speculator because they have hard sledding to retain that which they put their money into. Theirs was not bad judgment, but they are victims of the times, of the argre of spending and credit. Their business is sound under just normal conditions, but the unusual present conditions will break them if the payment of their debts at this time is forced. The whole business world is in this condition. What has stagnated things is the stopping of credit. What will restore it is the opening of a reasonable, conservative and practical credit. It will take time for honest men to pay the debts they incurred when the mind was enflamed with the ease of getting credit a few years ago. Those who were so ready to extend credit then are now eager to collect, where collection means ruin. Some means should be found to stay the hands of those who would collect a good debt at the expense of loss of property. The payment of interest on borrowed money these days should be sufficient until a recovery of

financial courage is had. Other wise the whole business world will go into bankruptcy and every one suffers. A moratorium would be of no avail, perhaps, because at the end of the period, the same condition would obtain. But a system should be evoked whereby the debts will be extended over a period of time, upon the payment of the interest thereon, and at certain stated periods a small portion of the principal even if but a few dollars, and thereby allow a reasonable recovery from the times. Unless some such system is worked out the whole business fabric will collapse. The old debts must and should be, and if given time will be paid, but if forced, they will not be paid. It is not right to leave this to chance, for the creditor is just as badly scared and confused as the debtor, and really it is the creditor who is in danger of loss. He should be protected by a forced extension of time. Give the world a chance to catch its breath in some such manner, and business will pick up, debts will be paid and a smile return that has been absent for a couple of years. Time! Time is what is needed. The American people will, recover if given time, but push the matter now and a collapse will be the result. Some such scheme would have been better than trying by a two billion dollar corporation to finance a hundred billion of indebtedness. Let the individual borrowers and debtors right themselves, give them time and thereby save the creditor. Until the present indebtedness is paid or the people go into voluntary bankruptcy there is no chance of a recovery. Bankruptcy is unthinkable, but that will be the answer unless steps are taken to protect. Since we have become a nation of laws, why not have enacted a law that will extend the present debts for a time under certain reasonable conditions? Every man who is in debt, (and who is not?) can pay out, if given time, but if forced must perish. We have too many fool laws, but since business has demanded them, let it demand one more that will be in keeping with the times, that will protect the business world. Properties of all kinds are being foreclosed which means a complete loss, both to debtor and to creditor. Some relief should be had.

The M. H.

The American Home is the thing that counts,
Whether in city or out on the farm;
And a thing that endangers them, strikes at the base
Of our government; and results in great harm.

And our system of tax on the farm and the home,
Means destruction of both, at this time;
And unless we wake up and provide against this
Our chances are 'nt worth a thin dime.

And the people can't speak on July the Fifth
And save the old farm and the home
By voting to limit the tax that is fixed
On each; or remain in the class that must roam.

What we mean is that there is a measure submitted to the people on the 5th of Next July that will place a constitutional limitation on the amount of ad valorem tax that can be placed on your farm and on your home. It limits the same to fifteen mills on real estate and twenty three mills on personal property. Every man, woman and child in the state that can vote and ever expects to have and keep a home or a farm, should vote "yes" on this measure. It limits the clique we have come to recognize as government from confiscating your property to pay high salaries and other useless expenses. If this limitation is placed in the constitution other means will be found to raise the extra amount of taxes that has heretofore been paid by the farm owner and the home owner, but you will be insured a reasonable certainty of retaining your home or your farm. This measure places the power to reduce taxes, that has been so greatly talked about and nothing done about, in the hands of the people, themselves. If the people do not take advantage and vote this limitation, then they are just delivering themselves into the hands of an extravagant official family. Your first duty is to the home, it is the first united of Government. When it is happy and contented, the nation is happy and contented. Government is not worth what we are being forced to pay for it. There is just one sure way to cut that expense down, constitutional limitation. If the officials of the government are limited in this manner they will find a way to live within the limitation, otherwise your taxes will continue to soar. This your opportunity, Mr. Commonpeople. Better take it now. If taxes in other ways are raised, at least the home and farm owner will be protected. If the taxes along the other lines get too high then the organizations of the state that are in much better position to look after such thing than the farmer or the small home owner, will look after that contingency. Under our present system a person can work for a life time to acquire a home or a farm and if some misfortune comes the state will confiscate that home. This happens to old people who have lost the greater portion of their earning power and are living on the exploits of their younger years. It makes aged beggars and poor farm tenants. It is all wrong. Two thirds of the taxes of the state are paid by the farms and the home owners, this is an unjust burden. But it is your own fault if you fail to remedy the condition because a "yes" vote on that measure July the 5th, will curtail the expenditures of the profligate official spenders. That is their business, yours is to protect your own property. The big papers of the state would have you believe that such limitation will limit the public schools; under the present system two years more will see your public schools closed down. Don't allow those papers to fool you against your own good.

The M.H.

When credit was good and money was free
We spent it with lavish grace;
But now both are gone and we're left in a rut
And we have a time saving our face.

And our congressman bland and senators, too
Got use to this free spending spree;
And now they are useless in serving up there
So we should "ditch them", just take it from me.

Out of touch with the problems the people confront
They only care for the Wall Street lament;
They have lost touch with things, they're contact is bad
And back to their homes should be sent.

We need a new deal, a new set of men;
Experienced, and in touch with the times;
Who will give to the people a share of their thoughts
Instead of the East, and its whines.

The Lobby has got them; they cease to contact
The folks in the forks of the Creek;
Their service has ended, their ideas lack sense
And they can't see ahead of their beak.

The above is not meant as a gibe. It is a fact, a natural, human result of the service of our so called statesmen in the Capitol during the bumptious times that have just passed. Those congressmen and senators are simply out of step, out of contact and touch with the problems and conditions of the mass of the people. Washington is a city of salaried people, mostly government employes; their pay has been going on just the same during these arduous times as former. Even the "Boy wonder" in the White house just lately realized that a real panic was on, that people were starving, that there were millions of unemployed. And the same is true with the servitors of the people. In reality those senators and congressmen have not been in touch with THEIR people, but they have been listening to the carpings of the East. All the problems that are in fact presented to them are those of the Eastern bankers and manufacturers. Out over their United States generally their knowledge of matters is nil because those great outlying sections have not been present to press their needs upon them. The result has been a veritable striving to please the East, or rather a small section of the East represented by New York City. Having served through these very good times their senses have become dull and they are unable to grasp the changed conditions or suggest any remedies--so they listen with bated breath to those who come to them--and New York City comes. Every member of Congress and the Senate should be displaced and a man sent there with fresh ideas and an intimate knowledge of the problems and conditions in every section of the land. More wholesome legislation will be the result; every problem of the different sections will be represented, because the new men will have lived in the midst of these problems and given to them earnest thought based upon their own financial stress and that of their neighbors and friends. Those who are attempting to serve us now up there think only in terms of a Lobby. Their usefulness has ceased, their senses dulled; their perception one sided. What the country needs most is a new deal all round.

The Mental Hazard.

The republicans met in convention bland
And chortled with ghastly lust;
We'll straddle that prohibition thing
For Herbert says we must.

So they wrote a plank with many words
That were practically meaningless;
They dealt a blow to the wets and dries
But soothed them with a gentle caress.

Since we have satisfied each with this master stroke
They chortled, with an impish grin;
In a place that is dry we can water give
While in a place that is wet, we give gin.

But the people are wiser, much more, than this;
They'll find, when they try this trick
And instead of the applause they expect, when they speak
They'll get slammed in the head with a brick.

When Pat came over from Ireland and first saw the ugly toad he called it a "straddling bug." He should have glimpsed the Republican party in its latest maneuver. These old tricks are all right in those times when the people are happy and contented but in these times when they are analyzing a great many things it just won't work. The jumble of words used is absolutely meaningless, binds the party to exactly nothing. Both sides of the question should, and probably will be dissatisfied. The most unsatisfactory mortal in this life is the one that never takes a definite stand upon any question; such a person forfeits the respect of every one. The same is true of a party or any other organization. That is the purpose of an organization is to stand for certain principles and certain ideals, especially a political organization. Without definite principles a party should not exist. Not only on the prohibition question but toward the veterans bonus a gentle slap and a kindly word were administered; the tariff plank is just about as meaningless as that of 1928 when it declared for a "revision" and then revised it upward when the time came. If palaver of this kind is permitted to hoodwink the voting public there is no hope for this republic and political parties have lost their usefulness. A political party should represent a host of people believing in a given principle or principles and not an assemblage around a "pie-counter."

We have attended some of the political rallies of county candidates the last week or two. There can be no doubt that the next two years will see such a savings in county expense as the world never saw before. Each and every one, successful and unsuccessful have made it clear that ~~sure~~ no doubt can be had as to this great savings. And work, too, there is going to be a very tempest of labor by the officeholders the next two years. Taxes are going to be cut to practically nothing, government is not going to be an expense, under the many promises, we are led to believe it will pay a dividend. But, irregardless of all of this, the voters had better write into the constitution on July 5th, the fifteen mills limitation on ad valorem taxes on real property and three mills on personal property. Of course it will not be necessary with the fine officials we are going to get, but just as a precautionary matter.

Exceedingly good times are just ahead of us, there can be no doubt about this; otherwise why this great fight on the income measure. It won't hurt any body now.

The Mental Hazard.
Gene Armet.

(This paper does not approve or disapprove the expressions of thought found in this column. It is the individual expression of the writer and does not represent the policy or opinion of this publication.)

The average householder is trying to balance his budget by cutting out some or one less essential things about the home and office, but the congress tries to keep up the expensive fanfare and raise more money, where the money is not to be had. The essentials of government are comparatively few and the gewgaws we have accumulated recently by thinking we were the richest nation on earth should now be dispensed with. Let us maintain only those things we can afford and the budget will balance itself.

There was a young father named Brackens
Who often gave his children dire whackens
Now the children are grown
And their wild oats have sown
But have never disgraced the name Brackens.

Seventy five per cent of the crime of these United States are committed by children between the ages of seventeen and twenty two. The parents are chargable with forty per cent and prohibition with thirty five.

Dave Hostetter allows that the bootleggers are quitting the preachers in their fight for prohibition because corn liquor is getting so cheap they can't make a living out of it.

With forty five million women in the United States drawing wages and salaries why shouldent the Congress put a big tax on cosmetics. It is the only way to get a contribution to government from such as these and the dear things will do without food rather than forego their face powder and clothes.

There is no telling how many quaint souls have been uplifted and ennobled by the double column photographs and black headlines of the metropolitan dailies about grewsome murders and bold robberies. Such contributions to the times take their place along side the bootlegger and the racketeer. But old man pepuli, vexing around, adds to the circulation and gives the advertising manager an additional argument.

The Mental Hazard.
Gene Arnot.

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The man with the hoe has been slandered, 'tis true-
But now he comes into his own;
For we find as we study his lot in the fields
That he furnishes the cubbard a bone.

His lot is not bad as he tills the fair land
When compared to the man on the road;
For his larder is full and his children assist
In lessening the toil and the load.

His table has plenty and dependable, too,
This man with a hoe in his hand;
And he don't give a whoop when depressions come on
For he gets what he needs from his land.

All of which reminds us that there is but one occupation at which we may all work and make a living and not overdo it. The wage earner is a hired slave. His family lends no assistance. While on the farm all cooperate and lend a hand. How much better it would have been if the countless millions squandered in trying to furnish artificial employment had been employed in stabilizing a family on a small tract of land. It is more than irritating to hear the plaint of those who demand employment and the shifting aside of those employed to make room for these out of employment because their families are starving. The sky is genial and the earth generous, every man can find employment tilling the soil- independence, too, and at the end of a few years making a living one finds he has accumulated something. Who ever heard of a laborer in the towns and cities having any thing ahead when the job is imperally taken away? The movement back to the farm is the only salvation of this not too sensible land of ours. Charity does more harm than good- it makes beggars and indulges laziness. Governments are erected for protection and security and should not be used to extort questionable charity funds. If a few by their thrift and their industry must contribute by extortion to the thriftless and sorry why not establish a social government and let it go at that?

Most of our big Universities are maintained more as a social playground than a place where practical information may be had. A test examination that means something applied to the five thousand seeking social contact will eliminate about half and thereby lessen the load of the burdened taxpayer to the same extent.

'Tis a sad spectacle in these days of stress when a big newspaper that should have a constructive policy uses its columns to exploit its little minded prejudice on public officials whom it does not like.

Same Heading.

The Senator with austere mein
Votes dry and dry and dry
But asked to have a secret drink
Yells aye and aye and aye.

He prats of good that surely flows
From prohi's arid plains
Then grabs a bottle from his desk
And drains and drains and drains.

This for the poor we always vote
Against the demon rum
But for the rich the law in punk
And surely on the bum.

If the old time sisters and wrinkled necked men would devote more of
of their time to teaching the youth of the land to appreciate temperance
and not waste so much time trying to maintain a foolish law our
civilization would be greatly benefited.

One who cannot distinguish the difference between a subject for
education and one of legislation should be denied the right to
influence the laws of the nation.

Which reminds us that government itself needs but few laws. The
great number of laws on our statutes comes from the insistence of
business- something to protect or enlarge- perchance a privilege.
Business left alone, dependent upon moral responsibility, would do
much better as a whole. But where business depends upon a law to
regulate its business or more likely, the other fellow's business,
then business and the other fellows uses the same law to combat. Where
if moral responsibility were depended upon alone the standard would
rise to reach the demand. What we mean is: a good moral risk is
always much better than a secured claim, if backed by a reasonable
earning power and proper conception of one's capacity.

Dave Hostetter remarks that if public officials would devote as much
time trying to save the people's money while in office as they do
seeking a place to spend it the balancing of the budget would be
self executing.

Watching the divorce courts one is reminded that if the same precaution
were used and the same care displayed as in choosing a freck or a new
tie domestic litigation would diminish in time.

Same Heading

I long to drift out where the Mission Bells ring
Where the birds may be heard from afar
Where the air is so clear and the skies are so blue
And within reaching distance lingers a star.

I long to be there where the desert's wide space
Brings a surcease to sorrow and strife
Where the cares of the city, of business and trade
Are forgotten in living a life.

Where the juniper trees and the far distant hills
Lead that charm and that calm of repose;
Where the stillness brings peace and solitude's rest
In the land where the Rio Grande flows.

Down the quaint, crooked streets of old Santa Fe rare
I would loiter and linger along;
Or in Albuquerque brisk or on Acoma's heights-
Tis for such places as this that I long.

No where in the world is the mornings so still and reposeful as out in New Mexico. Just a day's journey away one enters into a different land. There is something so appealing about the desert and the quaint cities and towns of New Mexico that the spring and summer always brings a desire to load up the old bus with the family and throw a few odds and ends of bedding and cooking utensils in the back end of the car and just drive off. Just linger along and let the night come down and see the stars almost within reaching distance and the distant mountains, and the juniper trees standing like sentinels with now and then a giant cactus on guard. To feel the solitude and the peace and repose. For a time removed from the racket and roar of humanities busy life. To see the silvery Rio Grande wind its way to the ocean through the hills and desert. See the quaint, old fashioned villages and pueblas and have the natives offer the wares of blankets and pottery and apricots and apples and pears. Visit the thousand places of interest, for there one finds everything, except the ocean. Historic, pre-historic, natural history, the oldest civilization of the west. Magnificent drives, wonderful forests, quaint peoples. Coming upon fine lakes with startling suddenness in the desert or an oasis blooming with flowers and rare vegetation, plentifully watered and with cooling shade. Or taking a run into the mountains where the great pines grow or the spruce or the pine tree. Or through the Bad Land Lands or over to Acoma where a civilization reposes upon its dizzy heights that existed there in its present state when the pyramids were built. Or into the dusky stillness of Carlsbad's mammoth caves. And journey on into the slumbering White Sands between Alamogordo and Los Cruces and then back up the Rio Grande to the Elephant Butte dam, the largest artificial body of water in the world. Or visit the healing springs of New Mexico's Hot Springs- the Inscription Rock- the Cliff dwellings- Taos- San Ildefonso or Chimayo, where the excellent blankets are. On and on, and veritable paradise of wanderings with the cool, fresh air upon your cheek with its exhilarating influences. And it's all within such ready reach, inexpensive, educational. Let us recommend New Mexico for your vacation.

Same heading--

There was a young man sent to Congress
Who considered his knowledge quite boundless
But his votes brought such harm
To the man on the farm
That now his big voice is quite soundless.

And a few more Hawley-Smoot tariffs will make it unanimous

Every one agrees that the country is quite devoid of leadership, both in congress and high offices, but the rank and file would rather starve that choose a leader from among the Catholics. Al Smith is the only man eminent in public life who possesses the courage to offer a constructive program or even a program. But he is brushed aside because he got his religion on wrong when a baby.

What we need is a man who is stalwart and brave
To fight for the needs of the people;
And keep him in there till the tint in his hair
Has grown white and his hands are quite feeble.

The Daily Oklahoman takes a childish delight in lampooning Governor Murray on every occasion, whether he be right or wrong, because it doesn't like him personally. This is too bad because it is a home owned paper and should maintain a stable and constructive policy toward the state and the people. The ravings of the Oklahoma News don't make so much difference because it is a kind of a chain store affair at the best. But we should expect and get a better example from the Oklahoman. What it needs is a complete change of personell, the old ones have outworn themselves.

Nothing better could be expected of the Tulsa World because a paper that would stoop to change its politics because of personal ranker against the chief executive of the nation should not command the respect of the people.

The newspaper men of the country continue to bemoan the lack of leadership in national life but they should look to themselves more carefully. If there be a leader in the newspaper field anywhere the reading public fails to find them. If the dearly beloved dailies wouldn't get their consistency on straight and keep it that way, they would be in better position to view with alarm and be justified in pointing with some degree of pride.
