

# The Democratic Banner.

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## SAY CODIFIERS JUGGLED LAWS

### Legislators Find Fault With Work Of Commission

Believe That Omission Of Redundant Words And Changes  
In Phraseology Will Result In Endless Litigation—  
Former Governor Campbell Defends Himself And  
Colleagues And Says Task That Required Years To  
Complete Should Not Be Hastily Judged

Columbus, O., Jan. 6.—Preliminary consideration given by legislative committees to the report of the state codifying commission resulted in the arousing of a sentiment that may result in the entire report being thrown out, unless the codifiers make satisfactory explanations.

Members of the seven subcommittees say they found thousands of phrases had been changed by the omission of words, said to be redundant, and that hundreds of sections had been rearranged. Among house members, where the most dissatisfaction over the report seemed to be, the sentiment was that the codifiers had not only exceeded their powers by actually legislating, but had also been too keen in drawing fine distinctions and had "split hairs" too fine.

On the other hand, reports were circulated that the law book agents, whose business would be seriously injured by the proposed printing of the code by the state, had stirred up some of the agitation against it.

Other Cases Recalled.  
Some legislators recalled the expensive litigation that has resulted over improper punctuation of statutes and the difficulties judges have encountered to ascertain the meaning of new sections changed by the mere rearrangements of words and omission of them.

Ex-Governor James E. Campbell of the codifying commission just as strongly declared that the report did not change the meaning of a single statute. He declared representatives jumped at conclusions too quickly.

"I have spent more than three years, with my colleagues, compiling the code report, and I am positive that the meaning of a single statute has not been changed," said Governor Campbell. "It was a big task for us in three years, and it is a monumental one for the legislators to intelligently review in three weeks."

"Instead of jumping at conclusions, after a three hours' consideration of the report, legislators should ask the codifiers to explain changes and rearrangements. The services of members of the commission are always at the disposal of the subcommittees, and I am sure we can satisfactorily explain away all alleged discrepancies that arise."

#### STATE PROBERS NAMED

Senator Beatty Will Direct Work of Investigation.

Columbus, O., Jan. 6.—Following are the members of the general assembly who will conduct the inquiry into the manner in which the public business of the state has been conducted:

Senators—Beatty of Wood county (D.) and Deaton of Urbana (R.).  
Representatives—Winters of Sandusky (D.) and Riddle of Bellefontaine (R.).

The appointments were announced by Lieutenant Governor Treadway and Speaker Mooney. Senator Beatty, who is chairman of the committee, indicated that the first work of the committee will be investigation of the offices of W. H. Phipps, state oil inspector, and John L. Sullivan, public printer. Both are Republicans, permitted to hold over by Governor Harmon. The governor has publicly commended Sullivan's official work. Both Sullivan and Phipps are candidates for the Republican nomination for secretary of state, and the charge that will be investigated im-

mediately is that they have used their offices and expense accounts for campaign purposes. For the present no investigation of the offices of the state treasurer and fire marshal will be undertaken by the probers, that work being left to Attorney General Denman. The first meeting of the committee was held today.

Beatty Well Qualified.

Senator Beatty, a banker and oil operator, is an expert accountant and well qualified to cross-examine an official regarding what his books show or don't show. Senator Deaton and Representative Winters and Riddle have served as prosecuting attorneys of their counties, and hence are familiar with grand jury investigations. Both Deaton and Riddle, while county legal officers, made records for investigations of local graft charges.

The anxious legislators are planning for something that will appeal to the people at home. The increased cost of living they all know to be a live issue. The national government has just recognized it.

At least a score of legislators are figuring on some way of snowing interest in this popular trouble. It is known that Governor Harmon has considered the situation, which he attributes mainly to the high tariff and the trusts and combines.

The house has an object lesson in increased cost of living. The heads of state institutions are appearing before the house finance committee this week. All want increased appropriations for their institutions. The reason they give is the increased cost of living. This expense of feeding and clothing the wards of the state has doubled per head in 10 years, they say, but they don't know why prices are higher.

Enforcement of the Valentine law against combines is one remedy proposed. Another is a legislative inquiry into conditions and causes, to be followed by full publicity.

## ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING

Stempenville, O., Jan. 6.—John Hurlock of Ekeyville accidentally shot and fatally wounded his wife while cleaning a revolver and snapping it. His wife who is 18 years old, exonerates her husband.

## KILLED IN RUNAWAY

Chillicothe, O., Jan. 5.—The death of John Schlegel, aged 27 years, a prominent young farmer of Twin township, occurred as a result of an accident. Schlegel was on his road home when his team became frightened at a passing object and the driver was thrown to the ground with such force that he was rendered unconscious.



RICHARD A. BALLINGER, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

The forthcoming investigation of the department of the interior is contemplated at Washington with much apprehension on the part of adherents of both sides of the controversy. Those who follow events closely and are on the inside, or, rather, are familiar with official affairs, believe that a sensation will result before the senate committee gets far into the inquiry. Whether discredit will fall upon the Ballinger or the Pinchot forces no one seems inclined to say, but the common talk is that somebody is bound to "get hurt." Mr. Ballinger declares he courts the fullest investigation possible.

## HUMBERT'S ASSASSINATION PLANNED BY ANARCHISTS

Berlin, Jan. 6.—A convict who has been released from the Sienna (Italy) prison has made sensational revelations to the police about the assassination of King Humbert in July, 1900, at Monza. He told a detailed story of the organization of the plot, the drawing of lots among the anarchists of Paterson, N. J., to decide who was to commit the crime, and other particulars relating to Gaetano Bresci, the assassin, which he claims he heard from a fellow convict, a noted anarchist hailing from Paterson.

The police are endeavoring to obtain a confirmation of the story, which likely will lead to the arrest of Bresci's accomplices.

Switchmen Agree to Arbitrate.  
Chicago, Jan. 6.—Switchmen, in conference here since Dec. 15 with representatives of the western roads over wage demands made by the union, decided to submit the whole question of advanced pay and changes in working conditions to federal arbitration. The conference closed with the best of feeling expressed by both sides.

## KILLED IN COLLISION

New York, Jan. 6.—Guard Henry Girkens was killed when a Brooklyn Rapid Transit train ran down the Williamsburg bridge incline at full speed and collided with the rear end of an empty train waiting at the station.

## WILL NOT OPPOSE COLE

Bellefontaine, O., Jan. 6.—Attorney Jay Miller announced that he would not again contest with Congressman Ralph Cole for the Republican nomination in the Eighth district. It was Miller who tossed the coin with Cole and lost two years ago.

## TRAVELING SALESMAN SUICIDES IN HOTEL

Canton, O., Jan. 6.—Killed by the woman he loved, Joseph H. Sharer, 25, traveling salesman of Hagerstown, Md., shot himself in the head in his room at the Courtland hotel. He lies at the point of death at the Ingleside hospital. "I did it because I love her. But she wouldn't have me. I love her. Wire Gladys and tell her about this."

Brokenly, in a period of consciousness, Sharer told this much of his troubles to Lieutenant Wielandt. Then he continued muttering incoherent sentences about Gladys. On a bureau in the room stood the photograph of a handsome girl, which he said was Gladys M. Shindle of Cedar Rapids, Mich. Letters for which Sharer had been waiting many days are at the Buechel hotel in Akron, awaiting a claimant.

## FOUR BURN IN FIRE

Peoria, Ill., Jan. 6.—Four persons. Mrs. Linton-Davison, her two small children and Joseph Pacey, were burned to death in a fire in the Hooven livery stable.

Three Killed in Explosion.  
Marquette, Mich., Jan. 6.—As the result of an explosion of gas at the Chocolate furnace of the Lake Superior Iron and Chemical company, three men are dead and one is in a serious condition from partial asphyxiation.

## POSTOFFICE ROBBED

Chillicothe, O., Jan. 6.—Burglars robbed the postoffice at Hallsville, this county. They blew open the safe and secured \$100 in stamps and from \$65 to \$70 in money.

## OPPOSES INCOME TAX

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 6.—The most important question awaiting legislative consideration received its death knell at the outset when Governor Hughes sent a special message to the legislature opposing the Taft income tax proposition. No act of Governor Hughes was ever received with such satisfaction in legislative circles as his income tax message.

## RUNAWAY BOY CAPTURED

Canton, O., Jan. 7.—Ralph Cook, 15, ran away from his home in Amsterdam, Jefferson county, and was locked up in the county jail charged with being a horse thief. He was caught here with a horse which he is accused of taking from the Minerva plant of the Metropolitan Brick company.

## LOSES JOB DRINKS ACID

Akron, O., Jan. 6.—Despondent because he was out of work and his wife was ill, Harry A. Nettie, 32, came home and drank carbonic acid in a room adjoining that of Mrs. Nettie. "Goodby, my sweetheart. I'm done for," he said after taking the drug.

## SNOW, RAIN AND SLEET PREVAIL

Western and Central States  
Swept By Blizzard.

TRAINS HOURS BEHIND TIME

At Many Points Mercury In Thermometers Seeks to Hide In Bulb, Recording Lowest Temperature Known in Years—Telephone and Telegraph Wires Break Under Load of Ice and Make Communication Difficult—Fishermen Lost.

Chicago, Jan. 6.—Extreme cold weather prevails throughout the central states, snow storms and blizzards continuing to rage in all directions, this city being no exception to the general rule. Serious interference to train service has resulted, and here the streetcars were seriously impeded by the heavy fall of sleet.

From Milwaukee it is reported that the blizzard was followed by considerably lower temperature. The storm caused local street railway and interurban lines much trouble, and some of the latter were tied up by huge drifts. Damage to telegraph and telephone wires throughout the state is also reported.

Extreme cold prevails in Nebraska. At Omaha the thermometer registered 10 degrees below zero and at Lincoln 14. Clear weather prevailed throughout the state. In Kansas, Missouri and other southwestern states rain, which fell during the night, froze and prostrated telephone and telegraph communication. Railroad trains were from one to ten hours late.

Fishermen Adrift In Blizzard.  
Halifax, N. S., Jan. 6.—Forty fishermen of the Dover and Whitehead fleet in the Canso district are missing in eight boats, which have been adrift since Tuesday. The seas have been high and the thermometer has been below zero most of the time.

Texans Shiver In Blizzard.  
Dallas, Tex., Jan. 6.—The worst blizzard of the winter is raging over north Texas. The mercury is 2 degrees below zero at Amarillo and down to 8 degrees above in the country tributary to Dallas, Herman, Fort Worth and Gainesville.

Avert the Grouch!  
We are on earth so brief a time,  
When all is said and done,  
I wonder that we ever fret.  
Our frowns spoil our fun.  
—Detroit Free Press.

## STATUS QUO TO BE PRESERVED

### President Explains Recent Decision As To Patronage

In Interview With National Committeeman Rosewater, Chief Executive Denies Intention To Use Big Stick In Attempt To Discipline Insurgents, But Says They Must Vote For His Measures If They Expect To Land Jobs For Their Friends

Washington, Jan. 6.—During the course of an interview with Victor Rosewater, national committeeman from Nebraska, President Taft remarked to his caller:

"I want you to help correct the reports that are being circulated to the effect that I am using the patronage club to whip so-called insurgents into line. There is a well-founded custom that has become almost a rule that in making certain appointments, such as postoffices, the president should act on the recommendation of the members of congress in whose district they lie, if represented by a member of the same political party. This obligation resting on the president is reciprocal. The Republican congressman is under a similar obligation to support the administration measures recommended by the president to carry out platform pledges on which both of us were elected. I have not turned down recommendations of insurgent congressmen, but am simply preserving the status quo to impress them with their obligations.

This statement of the president was provoked by the publication of reports that he contemplated withholding patronage from those Republicans who withheld their support from the regular organization of the house. The president makes it clear that the club may be used on insurgents who oppose administration policies, but nothing is said relative to the proposition that patronage may be denied insurgents who are not supporting the Cannon organization.

#### ASSERT THEIR LOYALTY

Insurgents Say Cannon Crowd In Need of Disciplining.

Washington, Jan. 6.—If President Taft is really sincere in his expressed desire to follow out the policies of Theodore Roosevelt and to bring about the reforms which his predecessor sought, he will have to make his appeal for support to such men as Senator Aldrich and Speaker Cannon, for the insurgents in congress are already pledged to the Roosevelt principles and no coercion is necessary; if the big stick is to be used by the president, he would better use it on the reactionaries and standpaters than on the so-called "rebels."

This was the declaration made by the insurgents, whose recommendations for appointments are being held up, especially in the postoffice department, presided over by Frank H. Hitchcock, in an effort to bring them into line for the president's so-called legislative program.

Senators Want Investigation.  
Washington, Jan. 6.—The senate followed the example set by the

house and, stirred to action in response to the high prices of food supplies which have been agitating the consuming public for several weeks, two resolutions were introduced directing an investigation into the alleged increased prices of the necessities of life, one by Senator Elkins of West Virginia and the other by Senator Crawford of South Dakota.

Resolution to Probe Ballinger.

Washington, Jan. 6.—A congressional investigation of the general land office and the forest service of the government growing out of the so-called Pinchot-Ballinger controversy is provided for in a joint resolution introduced in the house. Senator Jones offered the resolution in the senate simultaneously with its presentation to the house by Representative Humphrey of Washington.

## HOUNDED BY CONSCIENCE

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 6.—Saying he was tired of being hounded by his guilty conscience and having fear of arrest ever before him, Roy Edwards, 21, confessed in police court that he was a fugitive from justice and was wanted for embezzling money order funds at Harrisburg, Pa.

## ARRESTED FOR THEFT

East Liverpool, O., Jan. 6.—Charged with numerous thefts and robberies, six boys of prominent families, Frank Ruple, Howard Riley, George Burchart and Harry Hanley of this city and Earl Black and Charles Johnson of Wellsville, were arrested at a dance hall. They were taken to Chester, W. Va., to answer the charge of holding up the agent of the Chester Pennsylvania railway station and stealing liquid gold worth \$200.

True Enough.  
"This is a harsh, rough world," complained the tramp with the weak chin.  
"Yes, it is rather crusty," admitted the geologist.—Boston Herald.

## PENNSYLVANIA TRAINMEN DON'T FAVOR STRIKE

Pittsburg, Jan. 6.—Trainmen on the Pennsylvania system have as a body failed to vote to join other railroads east of the Mississippi river in demands for better wages. This is admitted here by C. A. Green of the Pennsylvania employees' grievance

committee. There is an intimation that another vote on the Pennsylvania system may be asked, as the unanimous consent of the big system, with 185,000 employees, will be necessary to the success of any such venture.