

The 1921 State Legislature

REYNOLDS:
 ... a Way, Cut a Way.
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... men quite live up to their
 ... or down.

Some men would get along faster
 they traveled slower.

We know a young fellow who never
 falls in love. He just tumbles.

The richest man in this world is the
 most contented with his lot.

Germany continues to fill the Al-
 lied eyes, but not the Allied pocket.

Now that silk shirts are within the
 reach of all, the rest of us prefer
 cotton.

The time is now opportune for
 gardening and fishing. The wise man
 will do both.

Self-made men are not always able
 to cover their defects with tailor-
 made clothes.

Some people are so contrary they
 are always looking for the worst and
 getting the best.

Important! Congress is at it again.
 But congress has been at it before
 and we survived.

Now that we are short on booze
 there is no reason why we can't be
 long on snooze.

The fact that a fellow is married
 is not proof conclusive that he is the
 head of a family.

Any one can afford to eat eggs
 now, but the hen finds it just as much
 work to produce them.

The fellow who put jazz into music
 is in a class by himself. He created
 nothing out of something.

The fellow who speaks of the bet-
 ter days he has seen generally for-
 gets to mention the nights.

Hard times have hit Egypt, and if
 that doesn't quite satisfy them they
 are welcome to some of ours.

Some of the modern gowns for wo-
 men should not be expensive. There
 isn't much to them except the price
 tag.

Dear old congress having resur-
 rected itself, it now proceed to do
 a little something and a lot of noth-
 ing.

Speaking of high brow parties and
 low neck gowns, a local oracle arises
 to whisper that often there is no neck
 at all.

Occasionally we run across a sport
 who truthfully admits that he knows
 everything except what he doesn't
 know.

The little Jap still clings to little
 Yap, and personally we don't
 snap. And yet the Jap may find
 no snap.

If congress is unable to stir up
 anything exciting we might turn to
 professional base ball for a thriller
 and a smeller.

Of course, it's a little early yet to
 decide whether it is to be a season of
 professional base ball or unprof-
 fessional grafting.

If people who advocate war were
 required to do the actual fighting the
 world over, there would be fewer
 wars and no wars at all.

We spend \$1,300,000,000 on cigars
 and cigarettes. When the good ladies
 that the world there will be a tidy sum
 for the good powder and hair

... an eighteen hour session, extending from noon Saturday un-
 til 9 a. m., Sunday morning, the biggest farce that ever convened
 at the state capital at Albany, calling itself a legislature, closed.
 Quit. Died and went out of business. Much to the delight of every-
 body, and to the best interest of the taxpayer's pocketbook.

The echoes from the howl of Republican voices, because Presi-
 dent Wilson asked a little action from the Republican Congress of the
 United States, at a time when this country was in the most dire need
 of action on their part, had hardly subsided before there came into
 the political horizon the form of a real knifer in state politics, in the
 person of Governor Miller. Do we now hear those same voices
 raised in protest against the "arrogant use of his high position!" to
 dictate absolutely to the state legislature what laws they should and
 should not pass?

Not much, Miranda Jones!
 Mr. Miller, while proving a great disappointment to them, is still
 the big noise in the state G. O. P., and has in his hands the giving out
 of the state pap. They would not dare offend him — even tho he had
 "skinned 'em alive" in many instances.

If you have followed the press dispatches during the closing days
 of this 1921 legislature, you will notice that nearly every time they
 speak of new laws being passed, they prefaced it by the announce-
 ment, "under an emergency message from Governor Miller" the law
 was enacted.

Many laws have been written upon our statute books this spring
 which one branch of the legislature had previously determined was
 not for the best interest of the state, just because the big boss in the
 executive mansion had told them that it must be done.

If it was a case of real true economy that the governor was
 working for, it would have been better to have done away with the
 Assemblymen and Senators altogether. So long as they do not dare
 do anything but his bidding, why not let him be the whole cheese?
 Not only execute the laws, which is his duty, but enact them as well,
 as he has virtually been doing the past session, thru his orders to the
 legislature.

Let us look into this "economy" business, he has been feeding us
 during the past few months:

Complaints are being made daily at Albany on account of the
 use of state automobiles for private purposes and joy-riding. One
 department uses an expensive car for nothing more than the conven-
 ience and pleasure of its employees. Its maintenance and operation
 are paid for out of barge canal funds — bond issue money which cov-
 ers a multitude of abuses. In another department state machines
 are used by members of official families as if they were privately
 owned cars. Why did not the legislature prohibit this needless waste?

The Lusk bill to make it a misdemeanor to use a state car for
 other than official business was killed in the Senate, and a similar bill
 died in the Assembly.

ECONOMY!
 Wait till the final figures are given out for the amount of money
 spent and appropriated by the legislature that has just closed. Then
 judge of its economy.

What can people think of the "economy" of an administration
 that enacts laws and then refuses to publish the laws so enacted so
 that the people may read for themselves what laws they are to ob-
 serve — even contrary to the constitution of the state. Yet passes a
 bill giving to the Albany Evening Journal, owned by Wm. Barnes (the
 whom the late Theodore Roosevelt made smell like a last year's bird's
 nest at the celebrated libel suit) a deposited state boss, the right of
 publishing, at state expense, all notices of the state departments re-
 lating to matters all over the state?

The country newspaper publishers of the state, who for years
 have been publishing the session laws at about half price, were refer-
 red to in this legislature by the use of the loving epithet, "cheap
 grafters." Has the country Republican press enough gumption left
 in it to get up and fight for themselves? To deny this charge of be-
 ing "cheap grafters?"

We predict not, for they have no ears, but for "the voice of their
 master."

The purpose of the present Republican state administration is
 to retain control of the dominant party. Governor Miller has said he
 was a one term man; we fully agree with him in that statement. But
 he will go to the next Republican state convention with the Republi-
 can party eating out of his hand, and he can do with it as he pleases.
 He is making provisions now to name his heir.

The Jamestown Morning Post gives the following editorial ut-
 terances regarding the passing of the law abolishing the publication
 of the session laws:

Under an emergency message from Governor Miller both the
 Senate and Assembly on Wednesday passed the Betts bill abolish-
 ing the publication of the session laws in two papers representing
 the principal parties in each county of the state. It will take effect
 December 1st, permitting the designations for the present year to
 stand. The vote in the Senate was 32 to 10 and in the Assembly,
 104 to 27. The Assembly had once defeated the bill by a vote of
 60 yeas to 48 nays. Such a change, when a message came from
 the Governor, is a significant indication of the way the Legislature
 is dominated by his strong personality.

It is a matter of no financial consequence to The Morning Post
 whether the session laws are printed or not, because with the in-
 creased costs following the war, the price paid by the state for this
 printing is too low to give any profit to a city daily for doing the
 work. But we dislike to see any bill of this importance put thru
 by false pretenses and the editors and publishers of the rural
 weeklies, who protested vigorously against this legislation, have
 good cause to be angry. They have been pilloried as "grafters,"
 even by Charles H. Betts, of Wayne, the introducer of this bill,
 himself a newspaper publisher, who once compiled a Highway Man-
 ual and induced Senator Raines to pass a bill that compelled every
 township in the state to purchase it. Instead of being "grafters,"
 the great majority of these rural publishers are men of high char-
 acter who render a useful public service to their communities for
 very small financial returns by publishing newspapers in villages too
 small for dailies. The Republican party should be the last to
 aim a blow at these worthy citizens.

The law under which the session laws have been published dates
 back to 1845. It should have been amended long ago to give pub-
 licity only to the important laws for a reasonable consideration.
 But the newspapers are not responsible for the law, nor for the
 fact that a Secretary of State who was a candidate for Governor
 abused its provisions, if indeed he did not violate them. Last year's
 printing expenses exceeded any in the history of the state and can-
 not be defended.

Yet what can we think of the consistency of an economy pro-
 gram that takes from the people all opportunity to read the new
 laws because of the expense and then passes a bill to confer on the
 state paper, the Albany Evening Journal, owned by William
 Barnes, the deposed state boss, the right to publish all notices of
 the state departments relating to matters all over the state. "Only
 one Republican, Carroll, of Kings, joined the Democrats in oppos-
 ing that outrageous grab bill in the Assembly on Tuesday, it hav-
 ing passed the Senate some time ago. If Governor Miller wants to
 economize on printing, it is his duty to veto this bill to turn over
 such additional printing to a single paper at the state capital, and
 not the one with the largest circulation at that."

Work Clothes Specials!

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