GOVERNOR FERRIS TO THE LEGISLATURE

SECOND INAUGURAL MESSAGE MAKES SOME IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS.

MORE CARE IN FRAMING LAWS

The Primary Law and Short Ballot Cited for Attention—Budget System and Other Matters of Special Interest.

Gentlemen of the Legislature:

In addressing the Michigan Legislature of 1913, I assumed that the best interests of the State could be conserved through active cooperation between the three departments of government, the executive, the legislative and the judicial are distinct, they are not independent; their duties and powers are interrelated that unity of purpose must be observed. At the same time each department has its own imperative duties, its own responsibilities. Possibly there have been occasions in the past when members of the State Legislatures have, against their own best judgment, yielded to the wishes of their constituency, expecting that the Governor would correct through his veto power, errors they might be persuaded to make. That precedent, if it ever was a precedent, is unsound and militates against efficiency in legislative action.

In the 1913 session of the Michigan Legislature, I used the veto power sparingly. The Executive Office was always open to every member of the Legislature and to every committee for conference, in order that the best interests of the State could be conserved. In the present session of 1915 I shall pursue the same plan, believing that the citizenship of the State will hold the Legislative, together with the Governor, responsible for the sacred performance of their duties. These duties are so clearly defined that no public official can be excused for going wide of the mark. The tendency of the age is to expect altogether too much of every legislative body, and underestimate the performance of the homely every day duties of citizenship. As a result of this tendency, too many laws are put upon our statute books. The all-important ideal is quality not quantity. If by some process of sifting this Legislature could concentrate its forces upon a few important measures, a legislative step would be taken in the right direction. By careful and consistent cooperation of the Legislative and Executive Departments, the frequency of the Governor's veto can be reduced to the minimum.

System of Enacting Laws.

I have already mailed to every member of the present Legislature a copy of a plan for proposed changes in our system of enacting laws. By adopting the essentials of this plan, this Legislature will reduce the quantity, and greatly improve the quality of our statutory laws.

This proposal will not require additional legislation in order to become operative. It can be accomplished by the adoption of a rule in the Senate and House of Representatives. It has, however, the advantage of not creating any new offices or requiring additional appropriations. You will all agree that in the making of laws a system should be devised which will accomplish the following results, accuracy of statement; simplicity of language; consistency; not contradictory; brevity; exclusive and inclusive sentences; orderly arrangements; constitutionality. These ends are not attained in our present system.

The maker of this plan suggests that the Legislature amend its rule so as to create a joint committee of arrangement, phraseology and conformity. Every bill as it passes the committee of the whole in each house should be referred to this committee and examined as to its validity, accuracy, consistency, simplicity, brevity, orderly arrangement, phraseology, et cetera. This committee should have the power to propose amendments or even a substitute in case they found any of the foregoing imperfections. They have no power to alter the general purpose of the bill. Every bill would pass through the hands of this committee before it is placed upon its final passage.

The primary value of this plan lies in the fact that we have here a committee of experts through whose hands every bill must pass before it becomes a law. This committee whose sole attention is directed to the discovery and the correction of the defects indicated.

I hope that you have examined this proposed plan with the utmost care. Some of the very ablest lawyers and judges, without reference to their political affiliations, have pronounced this plan worthy of adoption.

I urge upon you at this time the very great importance of giving this plan a trial at this session.

Primary Election Law.

The present Primary Election Law is the best one that Michigan has yet had on the statute books. This is proven by the fact that last August more citizens of Michigan voted at the primaries than ever before in the history of the State. Like all human laws it has its limitations. Some of these can be remedied by further legislation.

The principal complaint against the primary is that in a large field of candidates for a given office a majority candidate is sometimes chosen. This can be remedied largely by having a preferential ballot with columns for first and second choice. The chief objection to this plan lies in the fact that the voter must exercise his intelligence, the one absolutely essential thing for a voter to do.

In recent political conferences it has been suggested that the primary should include the remainder of the elective State Officials. My recommendation of two years ago and repeated this year for the adoption of the Short Ballot, meets this demand admirably.

Several other debatable suggestions have been given publicity. Because a good workable primary law is of the greatest concern, it might be well to make a most searching investigation through a competent commission before making radical changes in our present law.

Ballot Reform.

If the people are to rule through the agency of the ballot at the election primary, they must simplify our election primary laws. Possibly we are under the delusion that we have had the Australian Ballot system for many years, but as a matter of fact such is not the case. It is claimed that the present party column ballot is easy for the ignorant voter to vote the straight party ticket, but it is difficult for the intelligent voter to split the party ticket. The double system of marking the ballot with a circle on the top and squares at the sides gives rise to endless confusion. Many voters mark the squares to the side of the first name on the ticket, believing that this mark votes the whole ticket. Election inspectors tell me that one voter in ten fails to mark his ballot properly, indicating that 50,000 Michigan voters are annually disfranchised in whole or in part, by the present contested ballot. Let the ballots should be changed to the genuine Australian Ballot similar to that provided by the Massachusetts law. The advantage in this ballot, my friends, is that every way to mark it. No complicated instructions are necessary. In voting each candidate's name comes under the eyes of the voter, and he places a cross in front of the name of every man he wishes to vote for.

Short Ballot.

Many citizens think that the people are galled to elect too many officials. An examination of our election returns for many years will disclose the fact that the people exercise much independence in voting for Governor, some in selecting a Lieutenant Governor, but below that office the candidates for the state offices receive practically the same support regardless of their individual merits. If, for example, anything goes wrong in the State Treasurer's office, the blame is promptly laid on the Governor, although he has no control over that office.

In the interest of better government and a shorter ballot, why would it not be a wise step to submit a constitutional amendment providing for the election of Governor and Lieutenant Governor and that the remainder of the executive officials be appointed by the Governor and to act as his cabinet and advisors in State affairs. The ballot could also be shortened, by abolishing the offices of Circuit Court Commissioners and Coroners, and providing that Justices of the Peace may perform the duties of these officials.

Publicity for Candidates.

It is necessary that each candidate should get his name and ideas on public questions before the public. Newspaper advertising is very expensive. In this form of publicity the rich man has an advantage over his poorer brother. Small fortunes are frequently spent to gain a single office that does not pay pecuniarily the amount in return salary. I suggest that the Oregon system of publicity be carefully considered. In that State an election pamphlet is published by the State. Each candidate of every party paying a nominal sum can have a certain amount of space, give his biography and views on public questions and if some proposition or enactment is submitted, it is printed in full in this pamphlet, and an argument for and against by its most active advocate or opponent is also printed. This pamphlet is mailed at the State's expense to every registered voter ninety days before election. As a result of this publicity pamphlet Oregon has become a great school for the study of political questions.

The Budget System.

Several states in making appropriations have tried what is called the Budget System. This system requires the various departments and institutions to file their estimates in advance of the session and also provides for examination of these estimates by a competent authority which shall have both the time and the facilities to check the estimates down to rock-bottom necessity; that it will then carry the estimates and the recommendations of the surveyors to the Legislature; and that it will require the Legislature to frame one single budget appropriation bill to cover the entire needs of the State. This system has from time to time been advocated in Michigan. The information from the states that have tried the system are not uniformly favorable, it might be well for this Legislature to give this proposed plan consideration. If in this session you haven't the time to perfect an adequate system, I suggest that the finance committee meet after the adjournment of the present session and sit as a special commission to recommend a suitable plan to a subsequent legislature.

Taxation.

The taxation system of Michigan, except as to property specifically taxed, is based upon a general property tax. Its operations for the most part are archaic and in many of its aspects most admirable. It is the only system of taxation with which the taxpayers of Michigan are familiar. Recommendations are radical departures from this system, such as separation of State and local taxation, transfer of the taxes paid by public service corporations from the primary school fund of the State, substitution of a progressive income tax for intangible personal property taxes, should only be made after the most careful study of the constitutional, legislative and administrative changes that would be involved. I, therefore, suggest only such changes in, or additions to existing laws as will tend to produce equality of burden under the present system and promote cash value assessments and better administration of the general property tax.

Repeal the present mortgage tax law and in computing assessed debts from all taxation on making a single fixed payment; substitute a tax providing for an annual fixed payment upon the mortgage and unsecured credits, bank deposits and intangible property represented by certificates other than the stocks of domestic corporations; accomplish this through a specific tax or, preferably by amending the constitution so as to allow classification of property for taxation purposes.

Require all corporations doing business in the State and not now required to make reports and statements to the State Board of Assessors or the board of State Tax Commissioners to make full and complete sworn statements in writing to the Board of State Tax Commissioners, the second Monday in April of each year, upon forms to be furnished by said Board, giving in detail such information as the Board of State Tax Commissioners may deem necessary for properly determining the true valuation of the property of such corporation. Similar statements to be required of any individual, firm or association when engaged in operating as to property like the business property of such individual, firm or association. A copy of such statement to be furnished to the assessing officer as soon as practicable after the second Monday in April each year.

Provide for the assessment by the State Board of Assessors of interurban railroads, light and power companies and all corporations whose property extends through more than one assessing district, and the equitable apportionment of the aggregate of several assessing districts in which located.

Repeal the law exempting from taxation credits that can be offset by debits.

Enact a law providing for raise of taxation for State, county, municipal and school purposes, designating and reach a limit beyond which taxing officers cannot go without special authorization in each case.

Require that no man on being promoted to the rank of examiner to take the constitutional oath of office, the same as is required of supervisors and other assessing officers.

Farm Forestry.

Amend Act No. 135, Public Acts of 1911, for the encouragement of farm forestry, by removing the restrictions limiting the number of acres of land in the State which taxing officers cannot go without special authorization in each case.

Require that no man on being promoted to the rank of examiner to take the constitutional oath of office, the same as is required of supervisors and other assessing officers.

The examiners of the State Tax Commission have not reported a single instance where advantage has been taken of this Act, and on inquiry as to the reasons for failure to do so have invariably been told that the requirements of the Act in many ways were such that they could not be complied with.

The farm wood lot is as much a part of the farm as the barn or the pasture and much can be drawn upon many times a year, and the use of its products for strictly farm purposes should be as free and unrestrained as is the use of other parts of the farm, as long as the requirements as to the number of trees, or original or second growth, are not violated. The restrictions as they now exist made it impossible to so use it.

Restrictions upon the cutting of such farm forests for commercial purposes should be continued but restrictions upon the use of its products for general farm purposes must be done away with if any general use of the act is ever made.

Conservation of Our Natural Resources.

One of the great duties of this generation is to see that the natural resources of our country are conserved and passed on to future generations as little impaired as possible.

Conservation means the proper use of things, and whenever the disuse of a natural resource permits of a use then such disuse is not true conservation. The people of this generation are entitled to the use of the natural resources of the country, but no man should be allowed to destroy the soil which is to produce the harvest for the generations to follow us.

The Public Domain Commission, has charge of matters pertaining to conservation in this State, is doing a great work along the line of reforestation of the cut-over lands and the protection of growing timber from fire, and I would advise that some settled policy be adopted in regard to its work, and that a continuous and active campaign of education be made so that the results of the work now being done may be protected and perpetuated.

Blue Sky Law.

The last Legislature passed a law to regulate the sale of securities in this State and created the Michigan Securities Commission. Soon after the law went into effect its validity was assailed in both the Federal and State courts. The Federal court held it invalid by reason of certain of its provisions, and the State court upheld it in all particulars, although an appeal was taken from the latter decision. Pending a final decision, the Commission has enforced the law except as modified by the Federal court. It has passed upon securities aggregating $45,000,000 and has collected in fees nearly $14,000. It has prevented the sale of millions of dollars of worthless securities and has carried out the purpose of the act. At the meeting of the Attorneys General held in Washington in October a committee, consisting of the Attorney General of Michigan, Iowa and Arkansas was appointed to prepare and submit to the legislatures of the various states of the nation a blue sky bill, which will, so far as possible, meet the objections to the validity of the present act. This bill will be submitted to you and I earnestly recommend its enactment into law.

In this connection I call your attention to the corporation laws of the State and suggest their amendment as one of the means of preventing fraud in the sale of stocks. Under the present corporation laws only 10 per cent of the authorized capital of the corporation is required to be paid in. Parties turning in property to a corporation fix their own values in their articles of association. I recommend that no corporation be permitted to organize unless at least 50 per cent of its authorized capital be paid in, and that when property makes up any part of such payment that an appraisal of such property be had by some officer of the State.

Public Utilities Commission.

We now have a Railroad Commission which would be given the power to fix rates and regulate the practices of railroads, telephones and power companies. I would recommend the enlargement of the powers of this commission to cover all public utility corporations of the State. Furthermore, as there can be no intelligent fixing of charges without a knowledge of the fixed value of the properties, I would recommend that the Commission be authorized to make physical valuation of all such properties that they may deem advisable, that the rates fixed may return reasonable dividends on actual cash investment.

Industrial Disputes.

In magnitude and duration, the Michigan Copper Strike of 1913-14 was one of the greatest that has occurred in modern times. The cost to the State, the cost to one of its greatest industries, the cost to labor, was enormous. The duty of the Governor was simple and clearly defined. Not a single life was sacrificed through any action of the Governor or Militia. Not a single member of the Guard suffered at the hands of the strikers. The laws of Michigan for the protection of life and property were entirely adequate. Under that inflexible rule upon the entire State, capital and labor, however, are mutually dependent. The fact that the federal government up to the present hour has not been able to enact a mediation law satisfactory to either capital or labor, indicates the gravity of the problem. Somewhere the principle of cooperation must be accepted and adopted. To the end that the best interests of all may be conserved I suggest the creation of a court of industry composed of the Circuit Judge of the circuit where the industrial disputes arises, the Governor and Attorney General of the State, and one or more labor men, chosen by the organization of the parties involved; or a board composed in some other manner, which shall investigate the matter in dispute, and the public find ing thereof, with such recommendations as they believe are warranted to secure justice for both parties. It is generally admitted that compulsory arbitration is impractical. In the light of legislative experience little more can be accomplished than to focus public opinion upon industrial disputes.

The Workmen's Compensation Law.

This law has been in operation a little more than two years; it has, therefore, had a practical test. On the whole, the results have been highly satisfactory. I make the following suggestions with reference to amendments:

First: There should be a provision added to the law covering under proper restrictions portions of work which are let or sublet on contract by manufacturers and builders, so as to reasonably insure the protection of the Compensation law to all of the men engaged in such work, whether they are working directly for the principal or doing his work through some contractor or subcontractor.

Second: Our Supreme Court has recently decided that the Michigan Compensation Law does not cover that class of cases known as occupational diseases, such for instance as lead poisoning, but is limited strictly to injuries received by accident. There can be no reasonable ground for denying the same measure of compensation to the workman or his dependents in case of the loss of life or limb suffered through an occupational disease, as is given in case where such loss is sustained by accident. Both arise out of the employment and result from the hazards of the industry, and both are justly entitled to the same measure of compensation.

Third: The provision of the compensation law requiring the employer to furnish the injured employe with medical and hospital service and medicine for a period of three weeks following the injury is wholly inadequate. There is the greatest need of the workman in case of injury is medical attention and care, and the amount of medical attention and care furnished should in each case be proportionate to the injury, the same as the money compensation provided for.

Fourth: The provision of Section 11 part 2 of the compensation law fixing the rate of compensation in reasonable occupations, should be amended so that the earnings of the injured workman in other like employments may be taken into consideration in computing the rate of compensation. The real test should be the earning capacity of the man in the general class of work in which he was employed at the time of the injury.

Beyond a reasonable doubt other amendments will occur to members of the Legislature. My attention has been called to several other minor points, but I have not deemed them of sufficient importance to make special mention of them in this message.

Banking Regulation.

Experience proves that the welfare of the people in their relation to banking institutions cannot be too carefully guarded. State banks and trust companies are subject to state and national supervision there is a feeling that further steps should be taken to secure depositors. While I would not recommend extreme legislation for the further protection of the depositor, I do believe that this subject should receive careful consideration at the hands of the Legislature.

I can see no reason why private banks should not have the state supervision and be required on call to file statements. Under no circumstances should legislate so as to imperil the progress and development of small banks. There are communities where the needs of the people make the small banks a necessity. The interests of the people in these villages, however, should be as carefully guarded as are the interests of the people in the larger cities.

Good Roads.

During the past two years public enthusiasm for good roads has rapidly increased throughout the United States. This enthusiasm will continue to grow. Michigan has kept pace with most of the States in the Union. I believe that our system is excellent. By this I do not mean that we have solved all the problems connected with this work.

Two years ago I suggested that the fees arising from automobile licenses should be turned into the highway fund. I still believe that this was a wise suggestion.

Market Commission.

The state of Michigan, through its Agricultural College, the Farmer's Institutes and various private organizations, is engaged in the great educational work of teaching the farmer how to double his productions. Already the effects of this teaching are manifested.

If it is the business of the State to educate the farmer to double his production, it is also the business of the State to see that increased production shall bring increased profits, for it does not become a disaster instead of a blessing. There is no sense in raising two blades of grass where one grew before, if no one else gets more for it. Under the present system of commission business the producer is at the mercy of unscrupulous middlemen. The establishment of a State Market commission might be created or the scope of the Dairy and Food Department might be enlarged along these lines.

Public Health.

According to the report of the Secretary of the State Board of Health, the total expenditures of this department have only been $13,000 for the last year. Comparing Michigan with other states, the quality and quantity of health service rendered, this amount is exceedingly low. I am convinced that increased appropriations for this department would bring richer returns, measured in money, than could be realized through any other department of the State. I wish that careful consideration be given to the importance of legislation whereby the State will be divided into districts, each in charge of a health officer presided over each district. These health officers should be paid out of the general fund of the State.

At the State Sanatorium at Howell, provisions should be made for a children's pavilion. It ought not to be necessary for the Governor or any official to appeal to the people for the care of children. I feel confident that ample provisions will be made for the tubercular children who should be taken care of at Howell.

The State should also establish in the Upper Peninsula, a branch laboratory under the immediate direction of the State Board of Health. I further suggest that the State Board of Health receive sufficient additional appropriation to enable this board to provide a dental surgeon, whose duty it would be to visit each and every school in this State during the school term, and by lectures, lantern slides and other methods, teach the children the importance of dental hygiene.

Habit Forming Drugs.

Since the last Legislature met it has developed that we practically have a new habit forming drug, viz: morphine and its derivatives. Our special law for cocaine with a few additions could be made very effective. The Legislature should pass a law, based on our present Cocaine Law embracing Cocaine, Morphine, Heroin and all other habit forming drugs which should as near as possible be uniform in the Federal laws. Such a law should prevent the sale and use of all these drugs at retail except on the prescription of a reputable physician.

Housing Reform.

The housing problem is the problem of enabling the greatmass of the people to get out into the open surroundings and bring up their children under proper conditions to have such opportunities. It is also to a very large extent the problem of preventing other people who either do not care for decent conditions or are unable to achieve them from maintaining conditions which are a menace to their neighbors, to the community and civilization."

The larger cities of Michigan are especially interested in the solution of this problem. The states of California, Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin have housing laws. I suggest that this Legislature enact a housing law of state wide application. A Model Housing Law," by Lawrence Veiller, Secretary National Housing Association, furnishes a scientific basis for this much needed law.

Sanitary School Buildings.

For more than a quarter of a century I have made a careful study of the school houses in Michigan. The majority of them are unsanitary and unfit for "live stock." They rarely furnish adequate light, never furnish a proper supply of pure air, and are not comfortably heated, and on the whole are destructive to the health of the children. Attend to state

It should be remembered that the ordinary school room, unlike the ordinary dwelling room, is frequently occupied by a very large number of children. Probably no one reforms would exert a greater influence in reducing the death rate of children than, would the construction of sanitary school houses. Ordinary school officers know very little about modern sanitation. It is largely a question of how large a "pen" is required to protect the boys and girls from the inclement weather.

A law should be enacted whereby all plans for school houses should be submitted to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Secretary of the State Board of Health. These officials would approve of the heating, ventilating, lighting, etc., of all of these necessities before the contracts could be entered into for construction. In states where this plan has been pursued satisfactory results have been realized.

School Boards.

So far as possible, our educational interests should be divorced entirely from partisan politics. In Michigan we have not succeeded in doing this. I suggest an enactment of a mandatory law providing for city boards of education of not to exceed seven members, elected by the people at large. Such boards should be supervisory and legislative in their function and should have the appointing of two salaried executives, a superintendent and a business manager, each of which shall be responsible for his particular work.

Use Educational Equipment.

Michigan cities whose population is 3000 and upwards are not using their school equipment more than 50 per cent of the actual time during the vacations, long and short, during Saturdays and six nights of every week educational training should be offered to those who are not of school age." Many men and women who work during the day are eager for an opportunity to acquire more knowledge and skill along their occupational lines. The citizenship of every city that uses its school equipment all of the available time invests a little more money only to realize fourfold per cent dividends. Every Legislature can see its way clear to encourage this extension of our public school work.

A Woman's Reformatory.

A careful study of social conditions in Michigan as revealed through the industrial schools, the prisons, the asylums and the homes of epileptics and feebleminded, is most disheartening. Its temperature is just enough lower than the body's to carry off the surplus heat without producing a cooling effect.

Warm Baths for Your Nerves.

A bath at a temperature of 92 to 96 degrees will quiet the nerves in a magical way, even in cases in which drugs of all sorts utterly fail. Such a bath is called a neutral bath, because no action is produced by it and no disturbance results from overheating. Its temperature is just enough lower than the body's to carry off the surplus heat without producing a cooling effect.

OVERWORK and KIDNEY TROUBLE

Mr. James McDaniel, Oakley, Ky., writes: "I overworked and strained myself, which brought on Kidney and Bladder Disease. My symptoms were Backache and burning in the stem of the Bladder, which was sore and had a scalding and burning all the time—broken sleep, tired feeling, nervousness, puffed and swollen eyes, shortness of breath and rheumatic pains. I suffered ten months. I employed the best physician, but found no relief until I started to use **Dodd's Kidney Pills**, I now feel that I am permanently cured by the use of **Dodd's Kidney Pills.**"

Dodd's Kidney Pills, 50c. per box at your dealer or Dodd's Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y. Wife for Homeland Hints, also music of National Anthem (English and German words) and recipes for dainty dishes. All 3 sent free.—Adv.

Just the Boy He Wanted.

The aim of golfers is, of course, to go round the course with as few strokes as possible, and the man with the least strokes wins the game. A player realized this once, and decided to engage a caddy who would help him.

"Caddie," he said to the boy who came up to him, "can you count?"

"Yes, sir," said the boy.

"Can you add up?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, what's five and seven and four?"

"Twelve, sir."

"Come along," said the golfer, "you'll do." And he engaged the boy on the spot.

Soldiers in Silk.

There is a serious proposal to clothe the British army in silk, and an order has been given for cloth for a battalion of the Yorkshire regiment.

It is homely looking material, made from tussah yarn, wool and worsted, which the silk trade wants the army authorities to adopt.

It is said to have the great advantages of lightness and durability, the strain it will bear being nearly double that of the material now used.

Reverse Irish.

Mrs. Maloney—Phwat yez think thot ay'll min' me deceivin'?

Mrs. Casey—Oi do. They are a most contrary lot. Look at my Mollie. Before we were married he was always kissin' me on the beam, an' since thin he's been beanin' me on the kisser.—Puck.

STICK TO IT

Until Coffee Hits You Hard.

It is about as well to advise people to stick to coffee until they get hit hard enough so that they will never forget their experiences.

A woman writes and her letter is condensed to give the facts in a short space:

"I was a coffee slave and stuck to it like a toper to his cups, notwithstanding I frequently had severe attacks of sick headache; but I would keep right up to relieve the headache, and this was well enough until the coffee effect wore off.

"Finally attacks of rheumatism began to appear, and ultimately the whole nervous system began to break down and I was fast becoming a wreck.

"After a time I was induced to quit coffee and take up Postum. This was half a year ago. The result has been most satisfactory.

"The rheumatism is gone entirely, nerves practically well and steady, digestion almost perfect, never have any more sick headaches and am gaining steadily in weight and strength."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

Postum comes in two forms:

Regular Postum — must be well boiled. 15c and 25c packages.

Instant Postum — is a soluble powder. A teaspoonful dissolves quickly in a cup of hot water and, with cream and sugar, makes a delicious beverage instantly. 50c and 50c tins.

The cost per cup of both kinds is about the same.

"There's a Reason" for Postum.

—sold by Grocers.

"CASCARETS" ACT ON LIVER, BOWELS

No sick headache, biliousness, bad taste or constipation by morning.

Get a 10-cent box.

Are you keeping your bowels, liver, and stomach clean, pure and free with Cascarets, or merely forcing a passageway every few days with Salts, Cathartic Pills, Castor Oil or Purgative Waters?

Stop having a bowel wash-day. Let Cascarets thoroughly cleanse and regulate the stomach, remove the sour and fermenting food and foul gases, take the excess bile from the liver and carry out of the system all the constipated waste matter and poisons in the bowels.

A Cascaret to-night will make you feel great by morning. They work while you sleep—never gripe, sicken or cause any inconvenience, and cost only 10 cents a box from your store. Millions of men and women take a Cascaret now and then and never have Headache, Biliousness, Coated Tongue, Indigestion, Sour Stomach or Constipation. Adv.

Frank H. Presley, of Lansing, has been appointed bookkeeper and financial clerk of the state board of health.

Nearly 12,000 persons were awarded compensation under the workmen's compensation law during 1914, according to the report of the state industrial accident board. Over 33,000 accidents were reported to the board, but in 20,000 of these the disability did not continue for two weeks, the waiting period under the law. The number of accidents which resulted fatally was 390.

Auditor General Fuller has received a ruling from the collector of international revenue that the bonds of county officers must bear a 50-cent stamp. Not all of the county officers understand this apparently, as 28 bonds have been filed with the auditor general that are unstamped.

Henry Ritzma, of Muskegon, 25 years old, died at Hackley hospital Tuesday, a victim of a wound from a gun in the hands of his brother, Edward, who fired at a rabbit and by mistake hit Henry.

Russell Albertson of Pittsfield, whose motor car was wrecked and himself injured by a head-on collision with a car driven by Travis Boyd of Ann Arbor, east of Ypsilanti, last fall, young Boyd having 10 members of John Bunny's comedy company aboard, has commenced suit at Ypsilanti against Boyd for $1,000 damages.

The Capitol hotel at Centerville was burned to the ground Saturday morning. The loss is about $9,000, partially covered by insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Secretary Burkart of the state board of health has compiled figures showing that 1,995 cases of smallpox were reported in Michigan during 1914. Only three deaths resulted from smallpox. Of that number 1,681 cases had never been vaccinated.

Claude E. Cady, manager of a Lansing theatre, has been fined $15 and $30 costs for refusing John Allen, colored, admission to his "movie" show.

Two big Cadillac plants which manufacture products used in the making of smokeless powder have made contracts with the British government, by which the latter takes the entire output of the factories for two years, at a price double the usual figure. The plants are to run night and day under the contract.

Board of Health. These officials would approve of the heating, ventilating, lighting, etc., of all of these necessities before the contracts could be entered into for construction. In states where this plan has been pursued satisfactory results have been realized.

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OVERWORK and KIDNEY TROUBLE

Mr. James McDaniel, Oakley, Ky., writes: "I overworked and strained myself, which brought on Kidney and Bladder Disease. My symptoms were Backache and burning in the stem of the Bladder, which was sore and had a scalding and burning all the time—broken sleep, tired feeling, nervousness, puffed and swollen eyes, shortness of breath and rheumatic pains. I suffered ten months. I employed the best physician, but found no relief until I started to use **Dodd's Kidney Pills**, I now feel that I am permanently cured by the use of **Dodd's Kidney Pills.**"

Dodd's Kidney Pills, 50c. per box at your dealer or Dodd's Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y. Wife for Homeland Hints, also music of National Anthem (English and German words) and recipes for dainty dishes. All 3 sent free.—Adv.

Just the Boy He Wanted.

The aim of golfers is, of course, to go round the course with as few strokes as possible, and the man with the least strokes wins the game. A player realized this once, and decided to engage a caddy who would help him.

"Caddie," he said to the boy who came up to him, "can you count?"

"Yes, sir," said the boy.

"Can you add up?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, what's five and seven and four?"

"Twelve, sir."

"Come along," said the golfer, "you'll do." And he engaged the boy on the spot.

Soldiers in Silk.

There is a serious proposal to clothe the British army in silk, and an order has been given for cloth for a battalion of the Yorkshire regiment.

It is homely looking material, made from tussah yarn, wool and worsted, which the silk trade wants the army authorities to adopt.

It is said to have the great advantages of lightness and durability, the strain it will bear being nearly double that of the material now used.

Reverse Irish.

Mrs. Maloney—Phwat yez think thot ay'll min' me deceivin'?

Mrs. Casey—Oi do. They are a most contrary lot. Look at my Mollie. Before we were married he was always kissin' me on the beam, an' since thin he's been beanin' me on the kisser.—Puck.

STICK TO IT

Until Coffee Hits You Hard.

It is about as well to advise people to stick to coffee until they get hit hard enough so that they will never forget their experiences.

A woman writes and her letter is condensed to give the facts in a short space:

"I was a coffee slave and stuck to it like a toper to his cups, notwithstanding I frequently had severe attacks of sick headache; but I would keep right up to relieve the headache, and this was well enough until the coffee effect wore off.

"Finally attacks of rheumatism began to appear, and ultimately the whole nervous system began to break down and I was fast becoming a wreck.

"After a time I was induced to quit coffee and take up Postum. This was half a year ago. The result has been most satisfactory.

"The rheumatism is gone entirely, nerves practically well and steady, digestion almost perfect, never have any more sick headaches and am gaining steadily in weight and strength."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

Postum comes in two forms:

Regular Postum — must be well boiled. 15c and 25c packages.

Instant Postum — is a soluble powder. A teaspoonful dissolves quickly in a cup of hot water and, with cream and sugar, makes a delicious beverage instantly. 50c and 50c tins.

The cost per cup of both kinds is about the same.

"There's a Reason" for Postum.

—sold by Grocers.