GOV. FOLK DEFINES MISSOURI IDEA

(Continued from Page Six.)

pear before legislative committees and present reasons for or against the passage of any bill; they likewise should be accorded the privilege of addressing the individual legislator in a proper way; but the maintenance of a professional lobby produces corruption which should not be permitted. When professional lobbyists are excluded from legislative affairs one of the greatest causes of graft will be removed.

Grafter and Boodler Defined.

"I have spoken of corruption, bribery and grafting, using the terms, as they are commonly used, synonymously. While the effect on the public may be as injurious in grafting as from boodling, there is a distinction between them. The boodler sells his vote and prostitutes his trust for bribe money contrary to law; the grafter in the strict sense stands on this side of the law, but uses his position to make an immoral profit. If a large corporation were to pay an official so much a year to do nothing except to use his influence with a political party to protect the company, there would be a graft; when those on the inside of any great concern use the money held in trust for the people to their own profit, that is a graft; when a class of men have special privileges whereby they can prey upon the rest of the people, that is a graft. The remedy for corruption, bribery, for grafting of any kind, is to enforce the law. If the system is working an illegal game, instead of trying to beat the game, the better way is to stop the game. If the things that are done that amount to graft are not contrary to law now they should be made so, and that law enforced to the letter.

"One of the impediments in the reign of law is the idea some have that it hurts a state to have exposures. There can be no greater mistake. Such would be the logic of a woman who would never have her house swept lest some one might think it needed it. No state can be injured by the enforcement of the law. It is more honorable to correct civic evils than it is to bear them in ignoble silence. The disgrace is the toleration, not the correction. So far from the enforcement of the law having hurt Missouri, for instance, in the last three years it has enabled every Missourian to hold his head higher as the citizen of a state that has taken the lead in the fight for good government now being made all over the land.

Exposures Helped Missouri.

"In the last three years of the law's reign in Missouri immigration has increased 25 per cent more than in any other three years of the state's history, and lands have advanced 15 per cent more than in any other three years. Every city, town and county in the state is increasing in population and prosperity is on every hand. Although the taxes of the state are lower than that of any other, by reason of this increase of population and in the value of property, the revenues are such that there will soon be an additional decrease in the rate of taxation. It is said that the enforcement of the Sunday dramshop law, the gambling law, the wine-room law, would have an injurious effect upon the large cities of the state. Since the wine rooms have been closed, gambling stopped and dramshops shut up on Sunday all over Missouri; St. Louis has prospered as never before; real estate in Kansas City have increased more in value in the past three months than in as many years before; St. Joseph is rapidly coming to the forefront of American municipalities. I mention these things to show that the enforcement of law is not only right, but, even from a sordid standpoint, is good business.

"We do not need new laws so much as the enforcement of the laws we have. There has been too much tampering with the laws in an effort to correct wrongs that do not arise from the infirmity of the laws, but rather from the feebleness of their execution. The law is merely a weapon in the hands of officials, for without officials laws would be as useless as cannon in war without men. Good government depends more upon the men behind the law than upon the law itself. No official has the right to violate the oath that he takes to enforce the laws simply because some people do not want them enforced. He cannot excuse nonenforcement on the ground that public sentiment is against it. He does not swear to support public sentiment. He does take an oath to support the laws. The only correct way, after all, to determine public sentiment is by the decrees of the majority of the people through the lawmaking body. The indifference of good citizens permitted bribery for a long time, but the public conscience was at last aroused to the necessity of stamping it out. This civic indifference has permitted officials to take a solemn oath to carry out the laws on the statute books and then to deliberately violate that oath. But the time is coming when an active public sentiment will demand that every public official keep his oath inviolate.

The Unfaithful Steward.

"There is no greater evil than the easy nullification of laws by executive officials who are sworn to enforce them. He should not ask, is it popular, is it good politics, but is it the law. The trouble has been that a privileged class has violated the statutes with impunity and escaped the consequences through political influences. It is not hard to pursue with all the terrors of the law the wretch who picks a pocket or steals a loaf of bread, but it is quite another matter when the law is sought to be put against those who have millions behind them, with political influence enough to affect an entire community. When the prosecuting officer is seeking to enforce the law against those of high degree he may often find himself besieged on every side; close friends may plead; inducements and hopes may be held out for lessening activity; political annihilation may be threatened if he proceeds. Pursuing steadily the course that he has mapped out, with the good of the public alone in view, he may find himself hedged in at times by a wall of hostile influences; but now and then looking beyond to the great public he is serving, a friendly glance or a cordial clasp of an outstretched hand will cheer and encourage him to further effort. He cannot expect the good opinion of those against whom he enforces the law. Their ill will is the best evidence of his sincerity. It may be far easier for him to allow some offenses to go unnoticed, but he should rather have the approval of his conscience than the plaudits of those who would profit by his neglect of duty. He should prefer to retire to private life, conscious of having done his best, than by failing to do so receive the encomiums of lawbreakers. If he halts he will be applauded by those he should prosecute; if he goes ahead he will encounter calumnies and attacks. But if he perseveres and remains steadfast, though the way may sometimes seem dark and the task hard, he will be sustained by the hearts and conscience of the people. Corrupt men support a man for office and expect in return the privilege of licensed lawbreaking. Officials are elected to enforce the law impartially, and have no more right to permit lawlessness to repay personal obligations than they would have to use a public fund to pay a private debt. When all executive officials are ruled by law no man will be above or below the law, but the law will reign over all.

Cut Down the Weeds.

"There is a constant conflict between law and lawlessness, right and wrong, the true and the false, the evil and the good, in every sphere of life. Lawlessness, the false, the wrong, must always be fought against. The ideal and the good must be fought for. The bad thrives of its own greed and feeds on its own wickedness. The useful grain must be sown and cared for, else the weeds will choke it out, while the thistle, scattered by chance and cared for by accident, will flourish anywhere. So the good in government does not exist by accident, but must be nurtured by good citizens. We must likewise contend actively against the evils that creep into government. It is one thing to be against wrong; it is quite another thing to fight wrong. One is a noncombatant that never won a cause, and the other a soldier in the fight. Plenty of men can be honest inactively, but what we need is men who can be honest in action. Go where you will, when you find in any county laws are observed you will find that good citizens are active. Where the laws are not observed, you will see good citizens are inactive. The worst county in this state is where rottenness is most active and patriotism most inactive. I received a letter a few days ago inclosing a petition from a number of citizens of one of the counties of Missouri, saying that the law was not being enforced in their township and requesting that I direct the sheriff to execute the law there. I wrote to the sheriff, telling him of the petition I had received and asking him to see that the laws were upheld in that township as well as in every other part of the county. He wrote in reply, requesting me to send him the list of names on the petition in order that he might have their aid in enforcing the law. I did not know whether he was in good faith or not, but the petition was sent him. In a few days a letter came from the man whose name was first on the petition, severely criticising me for giving out the names, and asking by what principle of ethics I sent the sheriff the names of citizens who signed to me urging the enforcement of the law in their township. I replied that I had sent the sheriff the list of names because any man who is afraid to show his colors is of no benefit to good government.

Stand in the Open.

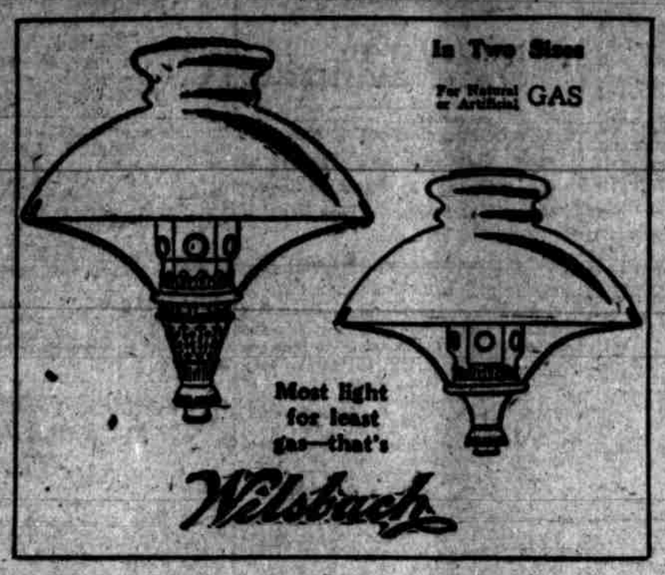
"The citizen wrote me in a few days, apologizing for his former letter, and saying he had never considered the question in that light; that he had consulted with others who had signed the petition and they had determined that in the future they would stand in the open and be as bold and aggressive as the other side. It is needless to say that since then there has been no trouble about the law being enforced in that township. What was done there can be done everywhere by good citizens, if they will only be aggressive enough. This may be ideal, but ideas and ideals are the life of a free people. We are made and governed by the things we cherish. Without moral vigor wealth counts for nothing, resources nothing. Rome built great highways and founded splendid cities while her civilization was declining. She erected barriers against the barbarous hordes who surged against her from without, while the strength of Roman character ebbed away, and that gone there was nothing to defend and nothing to conquer. There is an old story of an eastern king who caused a great palace to be erected as the abode of majesty. Stone by stone the structure grew and the heart of the king swelled with pride. One morning the palace was in ruins, not one stone stood upon another. 'What great treason has been accomplished here?' the king exclaimed, and a price was set upon the head of the traitor who had destroyed the abode of majesty. But a wise man of the court thus admonished the king: 'Great master, there has been no treason here; thy house that was great and mighty has fallen down because the builders used mortar without sand, hence their work come to ruin.' So with a state. External grandeur accounts for nothing. We may count our wealth as the sands of the sea; the domes of our capitals and the spires of our churches may pierce the clouds and glitter amongst the stars; all must fall and crumble away unless it be welded together and strengthened by those principles of law and morality that form the groundwork of enlightened citizenship. Monroe proclaimed the doctrine of America for Americans. The Missouri doctrine inverts the phrase and applies it both ways. Unless Americans are actively and aggressively for America, America will become for boodlers and grafters.

Watch Enemies at Home.

"Our ascendancy upon this hemisphere is assured. No nation would dare seriously to dispute it. America for Americans is an accomplished fact. Here between the two great oceans on the soil consecrated to the principles of liberty and self-government we are the dominant power. Among the nations none are so great that we need fear them and none so mighty that we need cower at their feet. But as related by Epictetus, Eurystheus being what he was was not really king of Argos nor of Mycenae, for he could not even rule himself, while Hercules purged lawlessness and introduced justice though he was both naked and alone. Little will it profit a nation to look abroad for new lands to govern while failing properly to govern itself; useless, worse than useless indeed, is it to fortify against enemies abroad while failing to provide against the enemies at home. We have founded a nation beyond the dreams of any conqueror of old, but the greatness of a nation does not consist of acreage of territory nor in the strength of its battleships, but in the purity of its ideas and in the intensity of its devotion to those principles that make for justice and right throughout the world. So long as the American people cling to the ideas of the revolutionary fathers and the principles that have made us great we shall be the most powerful nation on the pages of the earth. But forsaking these our deadliest military engines will be little better than toys in our hands and our proudest naval armaments will be as impotent as the armies and navies of Russia, whose national life was weakened by civic vices, against the victorious Japanese. In vain do we build ships of war, fortify our coasts and man our guns if we bring not into every rampart and turret the ideas and ideals that make the men behind the guns. This is the Missouri idea."

WELSBACH AND LINDSAY GAS LIGHT 75c

(THIS INCLUDES INSTALLING)



The former price of these well-known lights was $1.00. With the reduction of gas on Nov. 1st to $1.15 per 1000 cubic feet makes the cost of lighting by gas by far the cheapest light on the market.

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RUSSIAN UNIVERSITIES ORDERED OPENED TODAY

(Journal Special Service.)

St. Petersburg, Sept. 14.—In accordance with the imperial order of April 29, the ministry of education has today opened the various universities and other institutions of learning which were closed in February on account of the strike of the students who demanded political reforms and a thorough modification of the administration of the universities.

Although several thousand students have made application for admission, it is feared that the opening of the universities will lead to outbreaks among the radical students, and extraordinary precautions have been taken to suppress such outbreaks. The radical and socialistic students are much embittered over the fact that the government has made no changes in the administration of the universities.

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Reunion of the Bassett Family.

(Journal Special Service.)

New Haven, Conn., Sept. 14.—Several hundred members of the Bassett family of America are assembled at the Pequot house today to attend the opening of their annual reunion. Most of the members of the family come from Connecticut and Massachusetts, but there is a fair scattering from the states of the middle west, the northwest and the south.

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PANAMA CANAL TO HAVE LOCKS

Consulting Engineers Practically Agreed That Sea-Level Ditch Is Not Practical.

BOARD TO VISIT ISTHMUS BEFORE FORMAL DECISION

Hold That Ships Can Pass Through Properly Constructed Lock Canal Quicker Than Through Any Other and With Less Danger.

(Journal Special Service.)

Washington, Sept. 14.—It is practically settled that the Panama canal will have locks and will not be a sea level canal. Members of the board of consulting engineers have not come to a formal decision on this important matter, and are not likely to do so until a visit to the isthmus. But members privately say there is no doubt of the final conclusion.

One member of the board said that the report of the engineers of the commission would strongly favor a lock canal, and he added: "One great argument in favor of a sea level canal is that it would make a better canal because ships could go through more expeditiously with less danger. Upon careful examination, most of us have come to the conclusion that the argument is not well founded."

In point of fact, ships pass through a properly constructed lock canal quicker than through a sea level canal. It is not the locks that consume time, because the big ships go through a modern lock in 25 minutes. If the locks are placed at the terminal of the canal, the locking will practically consume no time, as all the ships always tie up for an hour or two on arriving at a canal port, and do the same before leaving at the other end.

FEWER GUNS WILL PROTECT COASTS OF AMERICA

Board of Army Officers Finds That It Is Feasible to Scale Down Guns in Batteries.

(Journal Special Service.)

Washington, Sept. 14.—The board of army officers appointed to devise a plan for the defense of the seacoast of the United States has proceeded far enough in its inquiry to determine a number of important points. The chief of these is the fact that there will be fewer guns required in the proper protection of the seacoast than when the present scheme for defense was adopted 20 years ago.

Fortifications on the Atlantic and Gulf coast were visited by the board, the members of which are now examining the defenses of the Pacific. Owing to great developments in the power of the modern rifle it has been found feasible to scale down the number of guns in each battery. One gun will now cover the field it formerly required two or three guns to cover. This is made possible by the greater range and higher power of modern weapons.

While the total number of guns required in the general scheme of defense is thus reduced, there is little difference in the aggregate cost. Modern guns are more expensive than those of 15 or 20 years ago. The board will also make sweeping changes in the [illegible] method of harbor defense by the use of torpedoes and mines.

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MEXICO REJECTS TERMS OF PEACE WITH YAQUIS

(Journal Special Service.)

Mexico City, Sept. 14.—The peace negotiations with the Yaqui Indians instituted a few weeks ago have fallen through. The government has refused to accept the terms submitted by the chiefs of the Yaqui tribe, which involved a restoration to them of a large body of land in the valley of the Yaqui river, now owned by an irrigation company and several landholders. [illegible] reached the hands of fighting men. [illegible] reports of raids and depredations committed by the Indians are being received daily by the war department. [illegible] Mexicans have been killed by the Indians in the vicinity of La Colorada the last few days.