

sequently will not vote, in spite of the fact that anti-suffragists have declared that suffrage will compel unwilling women to assume the duty of voting.

S. D.



Making Bad Matters Worse.

In the midst of a business depression, Congress actually inflicts additional unnecessary burdens on industry in the form of emergency taxes amounting to the enormous sum of over \$100,000,000. If that is statesmanship, then statesmanship is not a good quality for a Congressman to possess.

S. D.



Obstreperous Governors.

The much abused and little understood question of State rights has taken one phase of late that ought to be speedily settled. At an earlier stage of the Mexican trouble the Governor of Texas came to the conclusion that the President of the United States was incompetent to handle the question, and threatened to do it himself. Some means was found to pacify him, and Mr. Wilson was given another trial. Doubtless had this second effort failed, the Governor of Texas would have read the rest of the States out of the Union. But the poor, impotent President flounders from one blunder into another. The Governor of Arizona does not approve of the manner in which the Administration is managing affairs, and threatens to mobilize the State militia and settle our international trouble. Whether it was Mr. Wilson's admonition that too many cooks might spoil the chili con carne, or the promise of the Federal officer in command that he would keep the militia out of the forbidden zone the same as any civilian, that restrained the Governor, is not known; but at last accounts he was keeping the peace, and Arizona was still in the Union.



It is submitted in all fairness that these men are not living up to the rules of the game. If they really must send their names thundering down the ages, let them employ a licensed press agent, and pay for their notices at regular advertising rates. This attempt to short-circuit fame by breaking into the news columns is unworthy of State dignity. Texas owes it to the memory of her brief but brilliant independent career before she merged her one star with the Union galaxy, to take no unfair advantages of her sisters States. Besides, there is a serious side to the matter. The example set by these Governors might seduce

other Governors from the straight and narrow space-rate road to fame. This nation is still comparatively young, and most of the States are still younger. There has not been sufficient time in which to learn the full possibilities of gubernatorial dogberryism. It may seem a light matter for cheap politicians or supersensitive chauvinists, clothed with a little brief authority, to flout Japan, or to bullyrag Mexico, but if such impudence provoked invasion, the rest of the country would be expected to save them from their folly. While it is possible that our border-state Governors could manage affairs at Washington better than Mr. Wilson does, the fact is not generally known; and until it has been demonstrated, or until the Governors are called to the higher office, it will be far more becoming in them to confine their attention to State matters, and leave to the Washington Administration the management of international affairs.

S. C.



Porto Rico's Labor Troubles.

A timely and reasonable request was presented to Governor Yager of Porto Rico on September 20 by the Free Federation of Workingmen, the local branch of the American Federation of Labor. For the relief of unemployment and distress on the island the Federation asked that the public lands, estimated to be sufficient to enable 10,000 families to support themselves, be opened to the unemployed. Furthermore the Federation called attention to the large amount of privately-owned lands withheld from use and urged that action be taken to turn these into farms. It further urged Government aid for the workers during the first stage of these proceedings until they should become self-supporting. While some details of the Federation's suggestions may be fairly criticized, the proposition to open unused land to labor is sound.



It is to be regretted that in his reply Governor Yager offered little encouragement. He promised to consider the suggestions and investigate thoroughly. At the same time he displayed lamentable lack of economic knowledge, which an official in his position ought to have, in saying: "Nobody on earth can restore normal conditions at a time like this when four-fifths of the population of Europe are engaged in a great and terrible war." Why should a war 3,000 miles away interfere with the ability of people to support themselves in a place so rich in unused natural resources as Porto Rico? The war undoubtedly prevents the