

The Commission announces as an objective "to build into the permanent structure and operation of the civil service the values and lessons of the war." It will seek to foster a career service embracing all positions not of a high policy-making nature, and will strive to attract and retain in the federal service persons who are among the most competent in the country. Among its major activities, the Commission lists the placement of veterans who qualify in civil service examinations.

Families enjoying incomes of \$2,500 or more will total more than 15 million this year, twice the number with that much buying power in any preceding peacetime year, says Northwestern National Life Insurance Co. This firm also figures that for a family of four the \$2,500 is equal in purchasing power to \$1,300 in 1913 and is about the minimum sum which will provide such a family with necessities and basic comforts.

State Retirement System

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quarters at 210 Governor Building, Portland. The system belongs to the membership, and the more each member knows about the workings of the system the more smoothly it will function.

THE VAGABOND

*To tread the path of glory needs a
braver soul than I,
A man who will not stop to watch the
white clouds drifting by,
A man who will not pause to throw a
pebble in a stream
Or stretch full length upon its bank,
the captive of a dream.*

*A braver soul than I must tread the
rugged way and long,
A man who will not stop to catch the
wild canary's song,
A man who'll pass a thousand charms
and never turn to see
The beauty of the petaled dress upon
an apple tree.*

*To tread the path of glory needs a
stronger soul than mine,
A man that isn't tempted when the
air is sharp as wine,
A man that has no vision save the
golden goal he seeks,
And doesn't bear the language which
the voice of nature speaks.*

*But I am prey to woods and fields, to
sunny hills and streams,
And I've a soul which likes to drift
and tease itself with dreams,
And weak am I that should be strong
—a sunbeam on a pond
Has but to wink out an eye at me,
and I'm a vagabond.*

—Edgar A. Guest

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