

MAJOR MAY MAKE HOLDEN FIRE CHIEF

Political Scheme Seen Behind Plan to Re-instate Close Friend of Rushlight.

DEPARTMENT RUIN FEARED

Veteran Members of City Service Say Scheme to Induct Outsider Is Menace—Examination Papers Wait—Decision Due Soon.

Behind the plan to make certain changes in the fire department regulations, governing the employment of municipal firemen, is seen a move on the part of Mayor Rushlight to organize the fire department as a political machine in the political scheme he is forming. If the regulations are amended as proposed, it will make room for reinstating Lee G. Holden as chief of the fire department, and his possible appointment as chief.

Members of the civil service commission have under consideration a resolution, offered by P. L. Willis, one of its members, providing for an amendment of the regulations to provide for the reinstatement of former members of the department who have not been in the service for an extended period.

Holden, Rushlight Favorite.

The real purpose of the change of regulations, according to those familiar with the situation, is to insure the reinstatement into the department of Holden, a former battalion chief, who, it is commonly reported, is the man Rushlight wants for chief, regardless of the length of service and efficiency of present officials in the department who are in line for promotion.

But the civil service regulations must be changed if Holden can give Holden the desired recognition. When Holden took office as chief of the fire department, he made his headquarters at the late Chief Campbell, and at the same time reorganized the department. At the same time it was known that Holden was the man Rushlight had in mind for chief, and that he would be satisfied with none other. Holden, however, quit the fire department about three years ago, when he was battalion chief, and there is no provision in the existing civil service regulations for the reinstatement of a man who has been out of the service for so long a time.

Plan in Department Menace.

However, when an examination was arranged for two months ago for applicants for appointment as chief, Assistant Chief Lundquist having announced that he would not consider a promotion, Rushlight's friends sought to arrange so that Holden might take the examination. This brought vigorous protests from the Board of Fire Underwriters and citizens generally, who maintained that any such programme would tend seriously to disorganize the department and reduce its efficiency, since it would have the effect of denying to the men in the ranks any chance for the promotion, of which all are desirous.

Accordingly, nothing was done, but at a subsequent meeting Holden submitted a written application for reinstatement. This, also, was passed up and at a later meeting Holden appeared personally before the commission and urged favorable action on his request, which, however, was taken under advisement by the commission. It was proposed that Mr. Willis introduce the change in regulations which would make possible the reinstatement of Holden as per his request and the desire of the Mayor.

Holden Petitions Out.

Holden, through friends, last Monday began the circulation among members of the department of petitions requesting the civil service commission to provide for his reinstatement. The circulation of this petition did not meet with flattering success. He is reported to have obtained only about 80 signatures out of a total of 300 members of the department. At some of the engine-houses he was ordered out of the building without obtaining a signature.

This was the result of Holden's efforts to obtain the indorsement of the men in the department, notwithstanding coercion was practiced to force recalcitrant members into signing the petition. "Holden is going to get the job anyway," argued some of the signers to their objecting comrades, "and you might just as well sign the petition. Otherwise you will be in the line and may expect the worst of it when Holden does take charge."

On the following day a committee of captains in the department called on the individual members of the Civil Service Commission and protested vigorously against the proposed change in the regulations designed for Holden's reinstatement. But they did not receive much satisfaction.

Political Move Seen.

Members of the commission were divided in opinion as to whether Holden, if reinstated, should be returned to the department as a battalion chief, the rank he held when he tendered his resignation, or be reduced to the rank of fireman. Although Holden's application for reinstatement does not specify his former position, there is a well-grounded belief, in view of the Mayor's activities in the matter, that Holden will be taken back as a battalion chief.

That the maneuvers of the Civil Service Commission and the members of the fire committee of the Executive Board during the last two months regarding the appointment of a fire chief has political significance is supported by statements made by Mayor Rushlight recently when a friend of one of the three battalion chiefs, who took the examination for chief, called on the Mayor and interceded for one of the three ranking chiefs now in the department.

"I know it is a good man," Mayor Rushlight is reported to have said, "but I am not satisfied he is the man for the place. It seems that it has been impossible to handle the fire department. This branch of the city government consists of about 300 men and I would like to have them and their friends with me."

Holden Close to Rushlight. Mayor Rushlight and Holden are known to be intimate friends of long years standing. Holden recently retired from the partnership of a Mount Hood tavern in which he was interested and is looking for a job. Rushlight wants to give him employment. Further evidence that Holden is desired for the job, it is possible to land him, is supplied in the fact that he is known to have attended a recent unannounced night meeting of the fire

committee when plans for the new fire boat were under consideration. This is taken as conclusive proof that Holden has some assurance that he is to be provided with a berth in the department and already is beginning to acquaint himself with important details connected with the administration of the office.

Members of the fire department confess that it is ill-advised for them to be quoted, but do not hesitate to say that the Mayor expects that Holden is to be returned to the department. They aver that the game contemplates either one of two things: To restore Holden to his former place as battalion chief and then call another examination for fire chief, or Mayor Rushlight will appoint as chief one of the men who took the recent examination. This appointee, under the scheme said to be contemplated, will be chief in name only, while the real directing responsibility will be delegated to Holden in his subordinate capacity.

Firmen Against Scheme.

Firmen object to any change in the present regulations governing the fire department, because the proposed change will permit politics to be injected into the department, and will establish a precedent which will dispense with competitive examinations among men in the ranks to fill vacancies and eventually tend seriously to disorganize the department. Although the members of the department are averse to discussing the matter for publication, they do not hesitate to express their opposition to the evident intention of Mayor Rushlight to turn the executive direction of the department over to a man who is not now a member of the department, and especially when it is necessary to amend the civil service regulations to do so.

Examination for Appointments.

The examination for appointments as chief was taken September 18 by John E. Young, Frank Dowell and Jay W. Stevens, battalion chiefs. The grading of the papers has not been completed, and the results of the test will be ready for announcement at the regular meeting of the Civil Service Commission next week.

TAFT TO OPEN FETE

PRESIDENT TO BE GUEST OF KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

Nation's Chief Accepts Invitation to Start Celebration in Honor of Discoverer and Address Order.

The biggest celebration ever attempted by the Fortland Knights of Columbus will be opened officially by President Taft at the Knights of Columbus Hall, at West Park and Taylor streets, the evening of October 11. The President telegraphed the Knights yesterday that he would accept their invitation extended two weeks ago to attend the celebration and deliver a short address. He also consented to take part in the reception to follow the formal programme. The celebration will be the annual event in honor of Christopher Columbus.

The President will speak early in the evening at the Armory and later will go to the Knights of Columbus Hall to open the celebration. The hall will be decorated in the National colors with a myriad of electric bulbs arranged picturesquely in bunting and flags. The speaker's stand will be particularly attractive. The exterior of the building will be decorated with electric lights in such a way as to make the structure appear as a ball of fire. At the reception a band or orchestra and several prominent Portland singers will take part in an elaborate musical programme.

The following day the celebration in honor of Columbus will be continued at the evening at Masonic Hall in the city. At the evening at which a number of speakers will be heard. C. W. Fulton will speak on "The Life of Columbus" and Archbishop Christie will deliver an address on the meaning of Columbus day. A number of musical numbers will complete the programme, which will be followed by a banquet and a dance.

The committee in charge of the reception in honor of the President and the Columbus day celebration is composed of Dr. A. C. Smith, James Flynn, Frank Lenergan, David M. Dunna, Henry E. Reed, T. J. Patterson, John W. Kelly, J. F. Daly, J. J. Harty, H. A. Moore, John E. Wiley and J. G. Shane.

SALEM PLANS TAFT RECEPTION

President Will Be Given Breakfast of Oregon Delicacies.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 28.—(Special.)—With a morning meal of Oregon oysters, crabs and trout, as well as some of Oregon's finest fruits, President Taft, on October 12, will taste the first part of his welcome to the City of Salem. After breakfast the party, including members of the Salem reception committee, will take an automobile drive about the streets of the city, the drive being along State street, Court street and Commercial street.

The exercises of the morning will be held at the east door of the Courthouse and the President will be greeted by a chorus of 300 school children singing "America." It is probable that Mayor Lachmond will extend the address of welcome and that the President will be introduced by Governor West. The President will then deliver a speech which will close in time for everyone to be given an opportunity to take part in the reception. The President will arrive at 1:30 o'clock in the morning and leave shortly after 10 o'clock the same morning.

TRUSTY IS FALSE BLOND

Chief Slover Espies Sham of Youth Held on Statutory Charge.

Ability to distinguish peroxide bleaches from the real article is a faculty that Acting Chief of Police Slover has acquired from long experience, and which he put to good use yesterday when he caught Roy Barker, a trusty prisoner, going about with false and fraudulent locks.

Barker, in all the glory of a flaming red aureole, was in the jail door yesterday morning, splitting wood, while the Chief stood behind him. Several days' incarceration had added growth to Barker's hair, and on the neck the sharp eyes of the Chief noted a fringe of black, thrusting out through the red.

"Young man, you're a fraud," said Slover. "Huh? Who, me?" replied Barker. "Oh, I just done that to kill the dandruff."

Unconvinced, the Chief telephoned to Captain Baty, who escorted Barker to detective headquarters and questioned him closely. The prisoner stuck to his assertion that he had used peroxide of hydrogen to kill dandruff and had been much dismayed to find that his locks black turned to a sunset gold.

Barker was arrested by Patrolman Evans, on complaint of Lola G. Baldwin, for a statutory offense, and is awaiting trial. With the view that his dyed hair may be an indication of other activities not at yet divulged, he has been removed from the list of trusties.

WEST LAUDS REIGN

Governor Extols His Parole System as Salutory.

NO COIN SUGGESTS PLAN

Executive Says Failure of Legislature to Give Ample Prison Fund Prompted Him—Speaker Denies Politics Plays Part.

Governor West, in a speech before the Progressors' Business Men's Club at the Portland Hotel yesterday noon, said that the reason he commended the parole system was because the Legislature failed to appropriate sufficient money to care for the prisoners. Funds for the care of only 425 were provided, he said, while the number detained in the state penal institution was between 75 and 80 in excess of that. As it cost \$13 a month to care for these prisoners, said the Governor, he felt that something must be done, and hit upon the plan of paroling the most deserving of the convicts. They are working at other state institutions, he said, clearing land and cultivating it and putting up new buildings. There are about 100 men now working in this manner.

Governor West said he considers it wise to give all prisoners sentenced to serve indeterminate periods their liberty at the end of the minimum sentence, provided they have been "good prisoners."

"Then, until the maximum of the term is reached, you have the right to send them summarily to jail if they violate the terms of their parole," he said. "This results in separating the sheep from the goats."

System Called Right.

"The prisoners are not competing with free labor. They are at work at the Asylum Farm and Tuberculosis Sanitarium doing work which would not be done if they were not sent there. This is growing into a system which has come to stay. As far as I am personally concerned, I expect things will happen which will work a hardship upon me, and eventually result in my crucifixion. But we are going right ahead with it because the system is right. Where men are true to their trusts, and do good work around the institutions, making the grounds beautiful with good crops for the poor unfortunate."

The Governor then told how the superintendent of the mute school sent 15 convicts out at night in the rain to hunt a little boy who escaped from the mute school, and started off through the woods because he was homesick.

"There is nothing in this for me personally," he continued, "I am only borrowing trouble for it anything wrong I get the roasting. There is not a night when I go to sleep but I think of the hundreds of men out under this system, and wonder if they will do something to bring the system into disrepute. But I have started out to play strong on it, and shall play it to the end. It must succeed, because it is right."

Office Ambition Denied.

"I have no political ambition. No one on God's green earth could make me run for office unless I was so abused I was compelled to take it, or there was some unfinished work to do. I was asked if I would be a candidate for Senator. I shall not. I don't flatter myself that I could be elected, and don't think I would make a good Senator. Further, I wouldn't be a Senator, for I want to stay right here in Oregon where there is work I can do in my humble way. I don't fancy putting on a Prince Albert coat, a top hat and merely playing poker with fellow Senators."

Governor West Invited the Club to Visit Salem, and the Invitation was Accepted.

The Governor spoke of the work of the Land Board under the Carey act, saying the act was not drawn carefully and permitted irresponsible companies to tie up land without irrigating it. He said the Board is trying to eliminate these. Only 35,000 or 30,000 acres are irrigated whereas there should be 350,000 acres, he said. He remarked that it costs at least \$25 an acre to advertise this land in the East, and that this made the sale price of the land too high, as purchasers have to pay for the advertising.

Meeting to Boost Road Bonds.

GOLD HILL, Or., Sept. 28.—(Special.)—Medford good roads boosters will hold a "rooming party" here this evening, for the purpose of offsetting any opposition that may have arisen to the proposed road bond issue since the meeting held here a week ago. The bond issue of \$1,500,000, which will be voted on Saturday, is the principal topic of conversation throughout Jackson County. It is thought that the cities and towns will roll up a big majority for the bonds, while the attitude of the farmers seems to indicate a majority against the proposal in the rural districts.

SOLVED

The High Cost of Living—NO. 2

During the past four years millions have been invested in city lots. In many cases the investments have netted big profits. For instance: Take Rose City Park, which we placed on the market only four years ago. Ask any of the original investors what they paid. Ask them what they'll sell for now. Then figure what a handsome profit they've made in only 48 months.

Yet, the cost of living for you and I has increased steadily—yes, alarmingly. Today it's a problem. It's seriously affecting all of us. It has resulted in people wanting to go countryward. This idea has occurred to many of us as the happy solution of the higher cost of living. Getting to and from work, however, has been the stumbling-block.

At last the opportunity has arrived.

In our announcement yesterday we briefly told of the offer we will make which will enable you to enjoy all the glorious advantages of the country and yet will only mean 10 minutes more in the morning and evening.

Seems almost incredible, doesn't it? Yet it's a downright fact.

Up to 11 o'clock last night it looked as though we would be able to give you more of the details. But it's a big proposition. It entails the expenditure of upwards of a million dollars. It's backed by 55 of the leading business men of the city. And while we are working night and day so as to present it to you at the earliest moment, we must beg your indulgence for another day.

Yesterday we decided on the name. It's PARK-ROSE ACRES. It's a fitting name for these beautiful half-acre and acre tracts, because they are located just beyond Rose City Park.

This tract commences at the junction of the Sandy Road and Columbia Boulevard—the two greatest arteries of travel on the East Side—only a half mile from the city limit.

The Rose City Park car will be extended to the

property. You'll have electric lights, water, telephones, and in fact, all the advantages of the city combined with the unequalled advantages of country life.

Soil experts pronounce this land among the finest in the Northwest. It'll grow fruit, grain and vegetables abundantly. You can maintain a cow, chickens, bees, etc., profitably. You can cut your living expenses squarely in two and on top of this enjoy a happy, most healthful, profitable life.

We're sorry we can't give you more details today. It will pay you to read our announcement tomorrow. We think it will be possible by that time to give you all the facts and figures. And talking about figures, wait until you see the ridiculously low prices for which you will be able to secure one of these desirable acre tracts. You probably know that \$1500 is asked for lots only a little closer in from this property. \$1200 is the price now of lots sold three years ago for \$400. Yet, you are going to be able to get PARKROSE ACRES for actually less than that. Think of it, a whole acre—a plot of ground larger than a whole city block for less than the price for a good city lot.

Exasperating, isn't it, to just tell you so much and no more?

But it's worse for us than it is for you for the delay is costing us money.

But we can't afford to go ahead recklessly. We must know positively that we can fulfill every promise made to purchasers.

For instance, we're plating PARKROSE ACRES so that in a few years—when the city has grown—you can cut up your acre into city lots. We're planning this so you can dispose of them at a handsome profit.

You see, therefore, we have good reasons for asking your indulgence.

Tomorrow we hope to be able to give you all the details. Watch for the announcement.

HARTMAN & THOMPSON

Ground Floor Chamber of Commerce
Fourth and Stark Streets

PAWN LISTS ASKED

Curb on Money Lenders Is Aim of Police Committee.

STOLEN ARTICLES TRACED

Waldemar Seton on Sleuthing Tour of His Own Finds His Missing Cuff Links in Loan Store.

155 Establishments in City.

To compel all pawnshops in Portland to submit to the Chief of Police before 10 o'clock every morning a complete list of all articles which have come into their shops or been sold on the preceding day with an accurate and detailed description of same, is the recommendation of the police committee of the Executive Board. At its meeting yesterday afternoon it decided to ask the board to recommend to the City Council the passage of an ordinance to this effect, providing a penalty for failure to send in an accurate and complete list.

The reason for this move is that Waldemar Seton, a member of the police committee, succeeded in finding a pair of cuff links stolen from his home last summer while he was away on his vacation, and a suit of clothing stolen from the residence of Judge Gantenbenn. Commissioner Seton found the stolen articles by doing detective work on his own account. Then came the question why the Police Department had not traced the plunder long before and caught the thief.

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R. H. McCraddock, a member of the force having charge of the pawnshops, submitted to Acting Chief Slover a report showing that there are 155 pawnshops in the city, scattered from Killingsworth avenue to Marquam Gulch, and from Twenty-third and Thurman streets to Grand avenue and East Clay.

They ought to be visited every day, he says, but as he is the only man to look after this work it is impossible for him to do it. Last month he had 184 reports on stolen articles, and in some instances the reports covered a large number of articles stolen from one person.

These, of course, might be found at various pawnshops, one article here and another there.

Streeter Company Sued.

Teresa M. Lowe and Fred M. Lowe, her husband, are demanding \$50,000 from the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company in an action filed in Circuit Court yesterday. They allege that, owing to the negligence of the company's servants, they suffered permanent injuries while alighting from a Russell-Shaver car.

Edefesen delivers fuel ties. C 2802.

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