CIVIL SERVICE URGED FOR STATE EMPLOYES

Salary Adjustments Advised in Report of Investigators.

MERIT, NOT POLITICS, BASIS

Consolidation of Commissions Would Prohibit Nepotism by Law and Equalize Pay of Employes.

Nepotism should be prohibited by law; salaries should be equalized, and there should be civil service for state employes and supervision of civil service regulations in Portland by a state civil service commission, are some of the suggestions contained in the report of the commission on consolidation appointed to make a report at the coming session of the Legislature.

"With regard to the relation between the proposed state civil service commission and the city civil service commission of Portland," says the report, "the supervision of the latter by the state commission, or consolidation of the two commissions, and the direct administration of the city civil service regulations by the state commission would not only lead to greater harmony in the operation of the civil service laws, but would also reduce the influence of local factors opposed to the vigorous enforcement of the merit system, and thus lead to greater economy and efficiency in the local service."

State employes are given considerable attention in the report and there are recommendations which are likely to cause opposition to the adoption of the report from employes who would be hit if the recommendations were enacted into laws.

Civil Service Is Proposed.

"A cursory examination of the state departments," says the report, "at present shows that a few departments have insufficient help, but in a majority of cases the number of employes on the payroll is larger than necessary."

This condition is to be remedied, according to the report, by having the proposed civil service commission make a biennial examination and determine whether the work devolving upon each department is so great as to require the service of additional employes, but the consolidation commission considers that it will be more important to determine whether the work is insufficient to occupy the full time of all employes. When the employes are discovered to have too little to occupy them the commission should recommend an appropriate reduction in the working staff and later report to the Governor or the Legislature whether the recommendation had been carried out.

This state civil service commission is to be appointed by the Governor and to consist of three eminent citizens, who will serve without compensation. Their terms are to overlap so that at no time will the commission be under the complete control of any one administration. The appointments are to run for six years.

Merit, Not Politics, Basis.

Civil service should apply, argues the consolidation commission, to the employes of the state with the exception of the chief deputy of a department. The chief deputies would be subject to control of the political party to which they belong. As the rest of a department's staff performs merely clerical service, there is no special reason why they should be selected because of their political affiliation. Merit, argues the consolidation commission, should be the basis of appointments under state civil service. The proposed civil service commission should also, according to the report, set the number of hours to constitute a day and the report recommends that eight hours is generally recognized as the proper length for the working day.

Equalization of compensation forms a part of the report. The consolidation commission cannot understand why, if the examiners of the board of optometry receive $5 a day, the examiners for the chiropractic should have a compensation of $10 a day. The State Dairy and Food Commissioner is paid $2000 a year and the secretary of the state fair board draws down $3000. And the consolidation commission arises to ask why.

YANKS OBSERVE HOLIDAY

CHRISTMAS AT HOME IN 1919 IS HOPE OF TROOPS.

Doughboys Have Regulation Trees and Plenty of Gifts, but Something Seems to Be Lacking.

BY CYRIL BROWN.

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COBLENZ, Dec. 25.—(Special cable.)—Americans at home may well thrill with patriotic pride over the first Christmas of American soldiers in enemy land. The world never saw more modest visitors or more human conquerors than the American doughboys, who are making the best they can of their armistice Christmas, and getting all the fun out of it possible.

Yet the common thought of the boys is to finish the job in hand and get home. "Next Christmas home," is the universal sentiment of the American Army of occupation, from the doughboy to the General.

In the frowning fortress of Coblenz and throughout the trans-Rhine bridgehead district, the Christmas spirit is exhuberant. The Third Army boasts of 500 large and ingeniously decorated trees and thousands of individual treelets, many of them donated by the municipality in gratitude for the good treatment from the Army. There are gifts for everyone, with plenty of chocolates, cigarettes and cigars.

Without neglecting their military duties, the boys are having real holiday pleasures. The bands are playing home tunes, and amateur theatricals and other entertainments have been arranged for the day. For the benefit of troops in transit, the largest Christmas tree obtainable in Coblenz has been set up in the biggest hall in the place, and it has been hung with 3000 gifts for the boys who blow in. The entertainers include a full-blooded Indian Princess. Unfortunately, the day is turkeyless, but the boys are cheerfully eating ersatz (substitute food).

Welfare Operations Expand.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The Jewish Welfare Board today issued a Nationwide appeal for men and women welfare workers, teachers and entertainers to serve American troops not only at camps here and abroad, but on the transports and trains bringing them home. The workers will undergo a brief period of training here.

Phone your want ads to The Oregonian. Phone Main 7070, A 6095.

SOCIETY NEWS

BY GERTRUDE P. CORBETT

MISS ELIZABETH MURPHY surprised her friends and relatives yesterday by announcing the fact that she and Gerald Sooysmith were to be married in the afternoon. The wedding was solemnized at 3:30 o'clock at the home of the bride's brother-in-law and sister, Major and Mrs. Percy A. Smith, in Sellwood, Rev. John H. Boyd, officiating. The plans were so hastily made that all details were of the utmost simplicity. The Smith residence was bedecked in celebration of Christmas with quantities of holly, flaming poinsettias and garlands of greenery, and following the ceremony the various members of the family assembled for a big Christmas dinner.

The bride wore a handsome dark brown velour suit, with small black hat and a corsage of orchids. The couple were unattended. They will go to South Bend, Wash., to make their home. Mr. Sooysmith is still in the Spruce Division of the U. S. A. and is stationed at South Bend, expecting to receive his discharge within a few weeks, when he and his bride will take up their residence in Portland.

The bride is one of the most attractive and popular young women in Portland, and since the outbreak of the war has been a first-class yeoman in the U. S. Navy recruiting office at Portland. She is a daughter of a prominent New York family, and has many relatives in the East, who are active in the financial affairs in New York and surrounding country.

Her brother, Rex Murphy, has been in service overseas, and is now in one of the Eastern camps. Mr. Sooysmith is a prominent Portland man, a member of the leading clubs, and an uncle of Harold Sooysmith, also a well-known young business and clubman of this city. The engagement of this charming couple was announced last June.

* * *

Mrs. James G. Gauld and daughter Isabella have leased the W. H. Nunn residence on Twenty-first street for the rest of the Winter. Later they will go to California to join Mr. Gauld, who is convalescing in the warmer climate. They recently have been house guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Alvord, while preparing the Nunn residence for their occupancy.

* * *

Miss Louise Allen is spending Christmas at the home of her parents in Eugene. Ora P. Willis also is a guest at the Allen home over Christmas day.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Max H. Houser and children are spending the holidays at Coronado, Mr. Houser joining his family early in the week.

* * *

G. Walter Gates is with his mother and brother in Los Angeles for the holidays.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Alex McEachern, of Portland, made a recent trip to Los Angeles, and while there, registered at the Hotel Lankershim.

* * *

Georgia S. Benson, this city, has been visiting Long Beach. While at the Southern resort, Miss Benson registered at the popular Hotel Virginia.

* * *

Lieutenant H. B. McGuire, of this city, has been sojourning in San Diego during the past week. He registered at the U. S. Grant Hotel.

* * *

Mrs. A. B. Slauson, who has been in Seattle for some time nursing her daughter Ruth through a severe attack of influenza, returned home Tuesday with her daughter and the family reunion yesterday was a happy one. Miss Slauson expects to return to the Univeristy of Washington after the holidays.

* * *

Elks' wives, daughters and sisters are invited to attend the Lady Elks' Bridge Club which meets in Elks' Temple Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, with Mrs. Joseph Stafford as hostess.

At the last meeting of the 500 Club, high scores fell to Mrs. W. G. Hogge and Mrs. J. L. Stafford.

* * *

Sons and Daughters of Norway will give a Christmas programme this evening at the Masonic Temple. It will be an elaborate affair and all members of the lodge are invited to attend.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin S. Allen, J. G. Richardson and L. J. Barber, of Portland, are registered at the Bellevue Hotel, San Francisco.

☆ WOMEN'S ☆ PATRIOTIC SERVICE

MULTNOMAH Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will meet Friday afternoon at the home of Miss Laura Northrup, 599 Elizabeth street. The assisting hostesses will be Miss Nora Green, Miss Meta Allen and Miss Mary C. Armistead. The programme will include an address by Miss Leida Mills and a group of Revolutionary anecdotes by Miss Lena Ayers. Miss Medora Whitfield will give an illustrated talk on the Colonial flag.

WOMEN'S CLUBS

The united auxiliaries reception committee will meet Friday evening at 8 o'clock in room 201 of the Courthouse. A report will be read by the committee on arrangements for the dance to be held January 15.

* * *

The Portland Woman's Research Club will hold its regular monthly luncheon at the Benson Hotel Monday at noon. Judge John H. Stevenson will give the New Year's greeting, and Miss Mary McMillan, of the Reed College reconstruction clinic, will speak on reconstruction work for the wounded soldiers. Captain Jack Hamilton will give "Recollections of a Soldier's Life." Mrs. Marmaduke Wyville is chairman of the arrangements. For reservations call Tabor 1395 or Tabor 791.

* * *

The Portland Woman's Club will give its annual Christmas programme at the Multnomah Hotel Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The feature of the afternoon will be a series of plantation folk songs and tales by Miss Elsie Mae Gordon, a dramatic reader of note, who is visiting relatives in Portland for the holidays. Mrs. Fred Krihs will contribute a group of Christmas songs. Following the programme the social hour of pre-war days will be resumed and tea will be served.

MARINES STAY IN BERLIN

DETAILS OF CLASH WITH GOVERNMENT TROOPS LEARNED.

Military Headquarters Occupied and Soldiers Attacked With Machine Guns.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—(Havas.)—Details of the clash between sailors and government troops in Berlin on the night of December 23-24 are given in a Berlin dispatch received by way of Berne. Efforts were made in vain to induce the marines to leave Berlin, and especially the castle where they have established themselves from the beginning of the revolution. They were informed that they would not receive their pay if they did not leave the castle.

The marines eventually occupied military headquarters, after sending a delegation to the military commander of Berlin demanding that 80,000 marks be paid to them. At the same time a detachment of marines attacked the soldiers occupying the university buildings. In an exchange of machine gun fire three marines were killed and four wounded.

Later a delegation was sent to the Chancellors' palace to discuss the situation with Chancellor Ebert, Richard Barth, Secretary of the Independent Social Democratic party, and Herr Lansberg, Socialist member of the Reichstag. The marines put these men under arrest, but later released them. The Berlin commander also was arrested and the amount of money alleged to be due the marines was seized.

SOLDIERS' PARTY IS TREAT

FIGHTING MEN ENTERTAINED AT B'NAI B'RITH CLUB.

Dancing, Music, Games and Other Features Serve to Delight Khaki-Clad Guests.

A merry party was that given last night to 250 soldiers at the B'nai B'rith Club, now devoted to War Camp Community Service purposes, by the entertainment division of this organization, headed by "Major" Naomi Swett. Both gymnasium and ballroom were beautifully decorated and were spacious enough that all could participate in the dance at one time.

Before the dancing began there were games and a general frolic. Presents and souvenirs, with greeting in original verse, were given each enlisted man. Cider and doughnuts in abundance constituted the refreshments. The "captains" serving under Miss Swett in arranging and staging the event were the Misses Gussie Weiser, Hannah Lebow, Tillie Spellman, Fannie Perlham, Dorothy Weiser, Rachel Swett, Deborah Swett, Betty Michael, Molly Segal and Pearl Leibo.

FEAST IS GIVEN SAILORS

West Zada Crew Dinner Guests of Julius L. Meier.

Sixty hearty, robust sailor lads, members of the crew of the U. S. S. West Zada, under Captain Robert Willowden, were the guests last night of Julius L. Meier at a Christmas dinner in the Arcadian gardens at the Multnomah Hotel.

Besides Captain Willowden, Lieutenant C. H. Wolfe, Lieutenant G. E. Youngen and Ensign F. E. Sennons, all United States Navy officers, were among those present.

A short talk of appreciation was given by Martin Seligman, one of the sailors. Practically every state in the Union was represented in the crew.

More than 1000 dinners were furnished visiting soldiers and sailors in homes and hotels of Portland yesterday through efforts of the special committee of the War Camp Community Service. This was the report last night of Mrs. J. Sherman O'Gorman, chairman of the committee, who expressed appreciation of the response the call for entertainment of these guests elicited.

"We sent three big bunches of invitations to Vancouver," said Mrs. O'Gorman, "where we had intended sending only one. The late requests had to be handled hurriedly, but I trust there were no errors or disappointments. Portland people certainly did handsomely in the matter of opening their homes to the boys."

BODY FOUND IN MINE SHAFT

Alex T. McKenzie, Indicted for Manslaughter, Plunges to Death.

TONOPAH, Nev., Dec. 25.—Searchers found today at the bottom of the 1200-foot shaft of the Tonopah-Buckeye mine, near here, the body of Alex T. McKenzie, chairman of the Nye County Republican central committee, who had been missing since Saturday morning, when he failed to appear in court for arraignment on a charge of manslaughter, preferred after the shooting on November 8 of James Curlock, superintendent of the Halifax Mining Company. McKenzie had been at liberty under bonds of $20,000. An envelope addressed by McKenzie to his son was found to contain liberty bonds, negotiable paper and a note advising that the son be prudent in his habits.

TREE SET UP IN CAPITOL

Children of Soldiers Given Unique Christmas Entertainment.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Children of Washington whose fathers are serving in the Nation's fighting forces were guests of the War Camp Community service today at what was said to have been the first Christmas celebration of its kind ever held in the rotunda of the Capitol.

A large tree from Mount Vernon was set up in the rotunda and Secretary of War Baker distributed the gifts and made an address to the little guests.

Germans Returning Loot.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—(Havas.)—The Germans have returned stocks taken from the banks in Northern France amounting approximately to 6,000,000,000 francs.

Several safes, weighing from five to seven tons each, which the Germans did not open and are now in Brussels, will be brought back shortly to Valenciennes.

ANSWER IS DECLINED BY GENERAL DISQUE

Charges Against Loyal Legion Declared Trivial.

I. W. W. DOCTRINE SHUT OUT

Attack by Washington State Labor Leader Laid to Move for New Organization of Lumber Workers.

That charges made against him are too absurd to merit discussion, and arise from the desire of the American Federation of Labor to bring about dissension in the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen, is the reply of Brigadier-General Brice P. Disque, commander of the spruce division and organizer of the Loyal Legion, in response to attacks from W. M. Short, president of the Washington State Federation of Labor.

In recent public addresses Mr. Short asserted that the Loyal Legion is a menace to organized labor and General Disque is allied with capital. In addition, the labor leader charged General Disque with mismanagement of the spruce production campaign and the wasting of millions of dollars.

General Disque Declines Reply.

"I do not know a thing about Short or his charges," said General Disque, "nor do I care. Both are too trivial for attention. I shall not answer them. If I heard him talking I would not trouble to pay attention to him.

"The sum of the attack is this—that there is hostility against the Loyal Legion, and that labor agitators will leave nothing undone to discredit and disrupt it. They are now striking at the Legion through me."

E. J. Stack, secretary of the Oregon State Federation of Labor, said yesterday that organized labor in this state is attempting the organization of lumber workers. It is the conviction of the American Federation of Labor, said Mr. Stack, that the Loyal Legion, while admirable as a wartime institution, has outlived its usefulness with the close of the war.

I. W. W. Backing Denied.

"The Loyal Legion has no place in industry now," said Mr. Stack. "We consider that General Disque and the employers are together, and even the I. W. W. Men who were former members of the I. W. W. sat in the recent Loyal Legion convention. Delegates who attempted to speak for organized labor were ordered from the hall.

"The employers do not want any real labor organization in their camps, because the American Federation of Labor cannot be discredited. Nor do the I. W. W. want organized labor in the camps, for obvious reasons. Both are striving for the perpetuation of the Loyal Legion."

The Loyal Legion originally was organized to put down the I. W. W. bickerings and disorder in the camps and to permit the spruce programme to proceed without interruption. Its members at all times have been loyally hostile to the I. W. W. and have not suffered that doctrine to be uttered or practiced in the spruce camps, according to the reports of both the Loyal Legion chairmen and the officers of the spruce division.

General Disque's attitude toward the Loyal Legion, as outlined in his address before the recent Portland convention, was that its promotion of harmony and common welfare between employe and employer, during the war period, ought to be insured permanency. Proper safeguards, through the central council representing both employes and employers, are provided for the interests of each.

The convention went on record almost unanimously for the continuance of the legion. Though General Disque had announced his retirement as chief of the Loyal Legion, the assembled delegates, by a rising vote, decreed that he continue to serve until called from Oregon, or until such time as the legion chooses to elect one of its own members.

SPOKANE TO PROVIDE WORK

CITY IMPROVEMENTS TOTALING $350,000 WILL BE MADE.

Commissioners Favor Going to Limit if Taxpayers Will Acquiesce in Plans.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 25.—More than $350,000 will be spent in construction of city improvements in Spokane to afford work for returning soldiers if the taxpayers approve plans suggested by the City Commissioners.

There is a constant appeal made to the city government to start projects on which the returning service men, both sailors and soldiers, may be put to work immediately upon discharge. The commissioners have expressed themselves as favoring any reasonable plans for improvements and are expected to take steps soon to open considerable work.

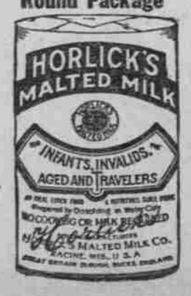
The Department of Public Works is the one branch of the city government which has numerous improvements in contemplation for the immediate future if possible.

"It all depends on what the taxpayers want and what the individual commissioners desire," said Commissioner Leonard Funk. "I favor the city acting at once."

By a unanimous decision of the recent general conference women have been placed on an equality with men in all that affects their relations as laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

The DIET During and After INFLUENZA

The Old Reliable Round Package



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PATHÉ NEWS

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It is a motion picture. It has educated more persons to a fondness for the Silent Drama than everything else put together. Eight years ago when the word "movies" was used in contempt the great men of the nation were wont to visit the theatres where it was showing. Through it the uneducated were taught the personalities of the great men of the world; visited the great cities of the earth; by it were broadened, educated; ceased to be provincial and came to know the people of other lands.

Twenty Million Persons See Every Issue

It is shown twice a week in the best motion picture theatres everywhere. Just as it was the *first* of all motion picture news weeklies, so it always has been, and now is, the *best*. Twenty-two years of successful picture making are behind it.

Now it promises and *will attain* an even wider usefulness.

You should not miss a single issue. Ask the manager of your favorite theatre the days on which he shows it!

PATHÉ EXCHANGE, Inc.
New York, N. Y.

SEMINOFF GIVES TERMS

ANTI-RADICAL LEADER AGREES TO RECOGNITION OF KOLCHAK.

Telegram Demands Japanese to Say Whether They Are Supporting Semenoff in Present Crisis.

VLADIVOSTOK, Saturday, Dec. 21.—(By the Associated Press.)—General Semenoff, the anti-Bolshevik leader, who refused to recognize Admiral Kolchak as dictator in the Omsk government and whom efforts have been made to reconcile, has finally agreed to give Admiral Kolchak his recognition, provided Admiral Kolchak agrees to retire in favor of General Denikene, hetman of the Don Cossacks, immediately a junction is effected of the forces east and west, and also withdraw his order branding General Semenoff as a traitor, besides leaving General Semenoff in charge of his army.

This is the latest phase of the difficulty created by General Semenoff's attitude, the outcome of which is not yet apparent. General Oba, the Japanese officer in the local command, protests his neutrality in the dispute, but declares that he had recommended the recognition of Admiral Kolchak.

Economic conditions at Chita are very unfavorable. There is barely one train a day between Manchuria and Irkutsk, and during the last ten days only two freight trains have come through from Manchuria because of the lack of locomotives.

General Semenoff denies the charge that he had been stopping the running of trains. He says the trouble is attributable to the faulty railway administration and the lack of funds. A dispatch from Omsk, dated December 5, says the Russian government there has asked the Japanese to say in writing whether they are supporting General Semenoff and to what extent.

On December 10 word came from Omsk that if the situation did not improve the government would request an American commission to proceed to Chita for an investigation. It is asserted in this connection that the French commissioner stated there would be an investigation of this complaint to the allies regarding the action of one ally.

A private letter from Semipaltinsk, on the Irtish in Western Siberia, reported that the entire population was dying of starvation. The dead were said to be lying on the streets with none to bury them. The town had been for months, it was added, without lamps or candles.

MEXICO SEEKING IMPORTS

President Given Power to Remove Tariff Duties.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 25.—The Chamber of Deputies today approved the extension of extraordinary powers in financial matters asked by the President. It is understood that under this authority the President soon will issue decrees removing until June 30 import duties on foodstuffs, agricultural implements and irrigation machinery.

It is expected the duties on automobiles will be removed for a period of three months.

BOOKS FOR SOLDIERS NEED

First Provisional Regiment to Begin Long Journey Saturday.

An urgent appeal for 200 late magazines and books of late fiction for the soldiers of the First Provisional Regiment, which leaves Vancouver Barracks at 3 P. M., Saturday, was issued last night through the National League for Woman's Service.

The men of the regiment have a long trip ahead of them and the officers hope that the soldiers will have something to read to occupy their minds. Anyone wishing to contribute to the collection is urged to leave the books, either with Captain Dabney at the Vancouver station in Vancouver, or at league headquarters on the sixth floor of the Meier & Frank store, before Saturday noon.

T. R. PLAYS SANTA CLAUS

"I'm Delighted," Snaps Colonel, Who Returns From Hospital.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Theodore Roosevelt celebrated Christmas day by leaving Roosevelt Hospital, where for two months he had been undergoing treatment for rheumatism. After distributing gifts to hospital employes and patients the Colonel and Mrs. Roosevelt went by automobile to their home in Oyster Bay, where he played Santa Claus for his grandchildren.

"Bully!" he snapped, in reply to questions as to how he felt. "I am delighted with the treatment I received."

The Colonel is to resume his normal duties within two months.

CAPTURED FRENCH RETURN

Germans Repatriate 275,000 Poilus Taken Prisoner.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—Two hundred and seventy-five thousand French prisoners have returned from Germany. There still remain in Germany 200,000 Frenchmen, a large number of whom are already homeward bound.

Princeton Educator Dies.

PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 25.—William Addison Harvey, 60 years old, professor of German at Columbia University, died on the platform at Princeton Junction while waiting for a train tonight. He had been spending the day visiting in Princeton.

DON'T STARVE THE KIDDIES

The growing bodies of children need food that builds muscle, bone and brain and is easily digested. Don't allow your food-saving zeal to deprive the kiddies of needed nourishment. When you give them wheat food be sure it is the whole wheat

Shredded Wheat

is the whole wheat prepared in a digestible form. It is ready-cooked, ready-to-serve and requires no sugar. Serve it with hot milk and a dash of salt