MAYOR AGAINST CIVIL SERVICE IN POLITICS

City Jobs Not to Be Boodle, Says Baker to Employes.

GAUNTLET THROWN DOWN

Action Said to Be Aimed at Commission Control Draws Heated Opposition.

Mayor Baker threw down the gauntlet to civil service employes last night, when, in an address to city workers, he charged an effort on their part to "put the civil service commission back into politics." The charge came as a bombshell at the first fall meeting of the Civil Service association, which had asked the mayor to tell its members "how best to serve the people."

There could be no mistaking his language when he deplored a plan offered by city employes that they, as an association, choose one member of the civil service commission, another to be chosen by popular vote and the third member be appointed by the mayor.

Mayor Opposes Employes' Clique.

"You are seeking to place the civil service commission back into politics; to dictate to the commission what it shall do; to control the commission so its action would be guided by your wishes. I am unalterably opposed to the scheme, and as long as I am mayor of Portland I will oppose it with my whole power," he stated.

Continuing, the mayor said:

"I have nine months yet to serve as mayor of this city and I am up for re-election. I am not here to bid for your votes. When I am finished I may have fewer friends among your membership than when I came here.

"I want the employes of the city to realize that they are the servants of the people. It has come to my notice that some of the employes feel they are bigger than the people whom they are serving. It is not necessary for you to get down on your knees; but it is necessary that you show a marked courtesy.

Living Wage Approved.

"I believe in a living wage and you will always find me working with might and main to get such a wage for city workers. The complaint of taxpayers against high wages is a mistake. We have no room for inefficient workers, for, as any efficient corporation or private individual, we pay a high wage for proper service.

"You may want control of the civil service commission, but you aren't going to get it. You may think you have a certain backing in your plans, but you'll find that backing will fail you.

"I will never stand, among other things, for the unionization of the police department, even if, as a result of that stand, I couldn't stay in office ten minutes. The civil service commission gives you all the protection you need and all you can expect. The time has not arrived when the civil service employe can tell the people what to do.

"I am responsible, as mayor, for each individual employe of the city, and I don't want, in my position, to be a figurehead and take orders from one or all of those employes. If you expect me to be a party in destroying good government, I'm not with you.

Old Order Opposed.

"The civil service commission was taken out of politics solely to destroy the cheap political trick of enabling one in power to bestow jobs in return for political support. It would be a crime to restore such a condition. The era when cheap politics could be played has passed. You can't pad the payrolls with inefficient help for what support they would give. The people won't stand for it. You may not like the commission, you may disagree with its decisions, but you must abide by them. You can't select your own commission and, above all, you can't dictate its policy."

The mayor's arraignment of the association's plan came as a complete and admitted surprise to the employes. They recently proposed that a charter amendment be placed before the voters providing that the commission be selected as outlined, to supplant the present prerogative of the mayor, who appoints all three members.

The association passed a resolution seeking adoption by the council of a plan providing benefits during enforced absence of an employe or during illness. The plan would be temporary, as the council has passed a measure calling for the appointment of a committee to work out some such plan as a permanent fixture. The committee has not yet been named.

At the Theaters.

Pantages.

THE MAIN attraction on Pantages' new bill is the motion picture closeups of several hundred Portland citizens, men prominent in every walk of business life. They are shown in groups, in duos, trios and singly. As each is recognized applause rings out. Among the many are animated views of Manager John Johnson of Pantages theater, and another of his son, Ray Johnson, assistant. The series is called "Who's Who in Portland," and everyone of importance has been snapped.

Of the show proper a girly-girly aggregation, the first musical revue in weeks, offers plenty of excitement. It is called "A Little Cafe," and is billed as "a 20-minute display of love, laughs and lingerie." The lingerie is shown on a plump chorus and the laughter is occasioned by the antics of a diminutive comedian, Martin Lee, who poses as a cab driver.

Wilbur Cushman, as a city rounder, caches and exchanges repartee with Lee, and an interesting girl, Carrie Hawley, sings prettily. A wee baby girl, unprogrammed, sings a jazz specialty with real dance ginger in every movement.

The scenic settings are handsome and show the exterior and interior of a unique cafe supposedly in Greenwich village.

The Ward brothers, Bob and Al, are a clever pair who travesty the English of the doncher-know type, monocles and drawl n'everything. They exchange pointless jokes and one tries to tell the other one about the American game of baseball. They sing, too, exceptionally well, and are amazingly good dancers, lithe and agile and rapid. As a finale they yodel first in regulation style and then they jazz it up merrily and are applauded vigorously.

A pair of capital funmakers are Morgan Davis and Lulu McCoy. They argue and come to grief over a song which Morgan insists is too high for him and keep their audience in continual mirth at their nonsensicalities.

All of the Davis-McCoy material is new and keen and has the excellent value of spontaneity.

Jose Termini plays a violin while his partner, Charles Klass, wields an accordion with splendid musical results. Their act is snappy and sparkies with melody and good taste. Klass plays the piano, too, in fine style and the act went big yesterday.

Kremka brothers have a capital opening act. They are novelty eccentric gymnasts whose balances and leaps through the air astonish and thrill.

Barney Williams, with four accomplices, put over an act called "Hunting," in which the best feature is the singing.

MOODY ENJOINS STATE

HIGHWAY COMMISSION ATTORNEY TO FIGHT CASE.

Fall Bridge Owner Says Legal Right to Condemn Property Does Not Apply.

THE DALLES, Or., Sept. 13.—(Special.)—M. A. Moody has filed an injunction suit against Simon Benson, chairman of the state highway commission, to prevent that body from condemning a strip of land to be used for highway purposes from the Moody toll bridge to the new Deschutes river bridge. He alleges that the highway commission has no legal right to lay out a temporary detour route, and that as the county court has refused to condemn this land, the highway commission cannot do so.

Judge Fred Wilson of the circuit court has issued a temporary restraining order against the commission until tomorrow, when the case will be presented for a hearing.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 13.—(Special.)—J. M. Devers, attorney for the state highway commission, left here tonight for The Dalles, where he will appear for the state in the proceedings filed in Wasco county recently by Malcolm Moody to restrain the state highway commission from proceeding with the construction of a road across his property. This road, if constructed, will connect up the present Columbia river highway with the new state bridge over the Deschutes river.

The state highway commission two weeks ago offered Mr. Moody $250 for the land necessary for these rights of way, but the proposal was refused. The state then filed suit in Wasco county looking toward the condemnation of the land. Saturday Mr. Moody instituted an action, in which he asked that the state be enjoined from proceeding with construction of the highway, with the result that the court granted a temporary restraining order. Hearing of the application for a permanent injunction was originally set for September 16, but Mr. Devers succeeded in having it set ahead on the docket for tomorrow.

ISLAND FORESTER HERE

NEW SOUTH WALES HAS BIG PROBLEM, SAYS A. HELMS.

Various Species of Trees and Seeds Suitable for Planting to Be Obtained.

New South Wales has its problems of reforestation as well as the United States, says A. Helms, who has come to Oregon as a representative of the New South Wales forestry commission to obtain various species of trees and seeds suitable for planting in his country.

The area in which he is particularly interested at this time is a part of the country called in Australia the southern table land, about 100 miles from the coast toward the Victorian border. It is the only tract on the mainland, he says, which is at all cold in winter. Mr. Helms expects that Douglas fir and other species will be suitable.

"Australia is a country in which nearly all the timber is eucalyptus," he said yesterday. "We depend for our soft woods on the outside world. With the future in view we are planning for conifers."

In Australia the forestry service is in an experimental stage. Each state maintains its own separate commission to care for the interests of the forests. Forest fires are frequent, says Mr. Helms, and the damaged trees are attacked by white ants, so that in many of the forests 80 per cent of the trees are useless.

Mr. Helms has come to Oregon from California, where he spent two months in the Sierras. He will leae in about two weeks for the south and before returning to Australia will visit central Europe and London.

RELIGION HELD NO BAR

Department Rules on Admission of One-Time Pacifist.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—No discrimination should be made on account of religious belief against any alien attempting to enter the United States, the department of justice has ruled in passing on an appeal raised by George H. Biddle from the attempt of immigration authorities to bar him from entrance. Biddle is secretary of the "standfast" section of the International Bible Students' association, which group came into conflict with the government during the war because of its insistence upon pacifism.

Biddle's case was brought up when he desired to cross the Canadian border to attend a convention of the organization in the United States.

Gompers Unable to Attend.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 13.—Word was received from Samuel Gompers that he will not be able to attend the convention of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders, which opened today. Fifteen hundred delegates attended.

5 HURT, 30 CRASHES DUE TO WET STREETS

Autos Skid When Stopping or Avoiding Other Cars.

OFFICER BLAMES SPEED

Investigation Says Drivers Don't Make Allowances for Slippery Pavements and Go Limit.

Wet, slippery streets drew an abnormally large toll of automobile accidents yesterday, in the process of which at least five persons were injured, many cars were damaged and at least one was completely wrecked. Up to 6 o'clock last night 30 accidents as a result of skidding had been reported to the accident department of the traffic bureau at the police station.

In the majority of the reports the causes of the accidents were assigned to the fact that cars skidded while attempting to round a corner, or attempting to round a corner, attempting to stop, or while trying to avoid another car. One man claimed that he had the right of way over a streetcar, and that while attempting to turn in front of the car his automobile skidded, resulting in damage to both streetcar and automobile.

"It's Speed," Says Investigator.

"The trouble is in these skidding accidents while the streets are wet that the drivers try to round the corners at the same speed as if the pavement were perfectly dry," said Traffic Investigator Freiberg yesterday. "They never learn to make allowances for slippery pavements. If they did there would be far less work for the traffic department. They try to go at the limit of the speed prescribed by law, not realizing that normal speed is not right for abnormal conditions."

Traffic Investigators Freiberg and Yost were kept busy yesterday investigating the more serious accidents. No fatalities for the day were reported, although a total of five persons were badly bruised as a result of the slippery pavements.

H. P. Nunn of 662½ Halsey street and Max Fleming of 690 Weidler street sustained severe bruises as a result of a skidding accident which occurred at the corner of Eleventh and Halsey streets, when the car driven by Nunn was struck by a heavy car driven by K. O. Kinsey, 505 East Couch street, and knocked over the curb and turned completely over.

Car Wrecked, Occupants Bruised.

According to Investigator Freiberg's report, Nunn's car was proceeding east on Halsey street, and had the right of way over Kinsey's car, which was going south on Eleventh street. Neither driver was exceeding the speed limit, but when Kinsey applied the brakes the car skidded to the intersection and the accident resulted. Nunn's car was completely wrecked and both occupants were badly bruised.

A. Langley of 666 East Irvine street, was treated at the Emergency hospital at the police station for a badly-wrenched side yesterday morning as a result of a collision with a Sellwood street car at the corner of East Seventh and Hawthorne streets. Langley said that he was going west on Hawthorne avenue at a speed of 8 miles per hour and turned south on East Seventh street when the street car struck the rear wheel of his machine. The car traveled 30 feet after the impact, he said.

Truck Bumps Street Car.

C. V. Bechman was driving a delivery truck south on Milwaukie avenue yesterday morning at 7:10, according to his report, and was driving on the car track in the middle of the street, as the pavement on each side was in a poor condition. Upon the approach of a Sellwood car, which was going north on Milwaukie avenue, he attempted to turn out, but the wheels skidded along the car track, he said. Both the street car fender and the rear wheel of the truck were damaged.

A motorcycle and an automobile skidded to a crash on the corner of Burnside and Eleventh street yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. John Rankin, the driver of the motorcycle, was brought to the emergency hospital, suffering from bruises and a cut on the head, by the driver of the automobile, Joseph A. Dawson of 543 East Forty-ninth street north. Both tried to avoid a collision at the intersection, according to the report, but the slippery pavement caused the machines to skid together.

AIR PATROL IS TO QUIT

Rains Make Unnecessary Further Use of Aeroplanes.

The forest service air patrol will be discontinued for the rest of this season, beginning today, if weather conditions remain the same as yesterday, states C. W. Boyce, who has been in charge of the patrol base at Eugene and who was in Portland yesterday.

One division of the patrol will go to Camp Lewis to direct artillery fire and the rest of the airplanes will be sent to San Francisco. Early rains have made possible the discontinuing of the patrol at this date.

The patrol has sighted 525 fires in the western part of the state during the two months the planes have been engaged in this work. Of this number 125 were first discoveries. Seventy-five per cent of the fires were reported to the bases by wireless.

3 CHINESE DRUG SUSPECTS

Trio Held to Grand Jury for Alleged Violations.

Wong Ping, Wong Duck and Sid Long, Chinese, were held for the October grand jury by United States Commissioner Drake yesterday, charged with violating the Harrison drug act. Ping was released under bond of $1000 while the other defendents gained their release under bonds of $500 each.

Ping is alleged to have sold opium to employes of the Kwong Wong Yuen cannery at Nakmek, Alaska. He is said to have had an agreement with the cannery owners whereby sales were made and the cost deducted from wages of cannery employes. Buck and Long were charged with having opium in their possession when they arrived from Alaska.

SCHOOL HEAD APPOINTED

Clackamas Superintendent to Supervise Boys' Fair Camp.

OREGON CITY, Or., Sept. 13.—(Special.)—Brenton Vedder, county school superintendent, of this city, has been appointed superintendent of the boys' camp at the State Fair and is to serve his fourth year.

Mr. Vedder, who is working with Miss Romney Snedeker, club organizer of Clackamas county, in the interest of the county and state fairs, feels much encouraged over the prospect of the exhibits in the juvenile department at the fairs this year, and is looking forward to having one of the largest exhibits this year in that department.

SCHOOL HERD IMPROVES

Willamina to Make Instruction Practical This Year.

WILLAMINA, Or., Sept. 23.—(Special.)—In order that the schools may keep pace with the rapid growth and development of the coast counties, the development of the practical phase of student life in the schools of this vicinity will not be entirely neglected.

The dairy herd will be improved by the boys and girls, who receive efficient training along that line in the public schools.

Mitchell Exhibition Success.

FOSSIL, Or., Sept. 13.—(Special.)—Although the weather was far from favorable for the "Fan-'em-all" held at Mitchell September 9, 10 and 11, there was a good attendance. The entertainment, which was successful in every way, was under the management of Billy Ray of Prineville, who will give a similar exhibition later in the month at Antelope. The events included bucking horse contests, steer bulldogging contests, bareback riding and wild steer riding. There was a dance each evening and picture shows also.

Eight Sue for Divorce.

Divorce suits filed in the circuit court yesterday included: Myrtle against Hugh Witzel, Jack F. against Mona Johnson, Olive against Edward H. Hanson, Ida M. against Jesse Lee Morris, Marlon M. against Robert F. Tucker, Mira against William C. Coons, Lydia against Henry Oscar Parker and Grace D. against Bert E. Aldridge.

Millman Fatally Hurt.

J. E. Ball, 50 years of age, a laborer employed at the Connell Lumber company mill at Burlington, was caught in a log carrier yesterday afternoon and suffered a fracture of the skull. He died about 5 P. M. and the body was brought to the morgue. He is survived by his widow and nine children.