

SPOKANE POLITICAL MEETING OPPOSED

Reapportionment Conference Expected to Be Futile.

SOLON FAVORS OWN PLAN

Senator Palmer Says Legislators First Should Enforce Constitution of State.

PUGET SOUND BUREAU, Seattle, Wash., April 20.—"Nothing can come of such a meeting. It will be attended, if it is held, only by members of former legislatures who ignored their oaths and the solemn mandate of the state constitution."

This is State Senator Palmer's opinion of the conference called to meet in Spokane April 28 to discuss legislative reapportionment with the hope of reaching some plan "more satisfactory" than the Palmer reapportionment bill, which is now before the people as an initiative measure. The call for the conference, as reported in The Oregonian of April 18, was issued by Senator Westfall and Representative Danskin of Spokane county, Senator Myers of Lincoln county, and Representative "Doc" O'Connell of Oregonia county. It suggests various lines of discussion, including substitution of the county unit for the present district unit of representation, the unicameral legislative body, longer legislative sessions, and other possible changes from the existing system.

Reapportionment Bill Up.
Senator Palmer's reapportionment bill, introduced as an initiative measure and petitions for which are now being signed, is based simply on the constitutional requirement of legislative apportionment, according to population after the taking of each federal census. There has been no reapportionment since 1901.

Senator Palmer has been invited to the Spokane conference. He isn't yet sure whether he will attend or not. "To do anything along the lines indicated in the Spokane invitation would require an amendment to the state constitution; yet the state constitution has been deliberately ignored by every legislator and legislature since 1901," said Senator Palmer today.

"The Oregonian's story from Spokane shows that Senator Westfall and others who join in the invitation are not opposed to reapportionment. Why, then, should they refuse to support initiative No. 4, which complies with the mandate of the state constitution, and is as nearly perfect, according to the distribution of population, as it can possibly be drawn?"

Conference Thought Futile.
"This Spokane meeting, in my judgment, is called only to distract attention from the real issue by giving hope of something else possibly to be attained in the dim and distant future, and to avoid compliance with the constitution at this time."

"All opponents to the initiative petition are ex-members of the legislature. They found no fault with one senator's representing several counties, as is the case in several instances throughout the state, but they insist that each county must have a representative."

"I defy any person to point out a single instance wherein the three largest cities of the state have ever obtained passage of a law or ever attempted to pass one to work injury to any section of the state."

"If these legislators are in favor of reapportionment; if they recognize, as they seem to, and every fair-minded man must recognize, the injustice and iniquity of the present plan of representation, let them join in support of initiative No. 4, which complies with the present state constitution, now more than 20 years old."

Amendment Is Favored.
"I will join with them, now or at any time in the future, in the plan to amend the constitution. Let us first respect the constitution as it stands today, and when we do this, others may have some respect for the laws we have passed."

"Violations of the Volstead act, the speed laws, game laws and other laws are common. It is considered smart to violate some of these laws. How can legislators demand of the people a higher degree of respect for law than the legislators themselves show? Respect for the state constitution, the state's organic law, is fundamental to respect for any and all other state laws. Members of the legislature must first set themselves right in the matter of law observance."

"The invitation to the Spokane conference gives ample recognition to the fact that the changes from the existing system are desirable. The first change must be in accord with the constitutional mandate, and consider-

ation of other changes, especially such as require constitutional amendment, should follow and not precede this fundamental requirement. Let us set ourselves right first and then go ahead with such further improvements as experience shows to be necessary."

CONVICT MUST SERVE AGAIN

McNeil Island Prisoner to Be Sent to Walla Walla to Complete Term.

TACOMA, Wash., April 20.—(Special.)—Arrested as he stepped from the McNeil's island penitentiary launch at Stellacom yesterday after serving a year for counterfeiting in Tacoma, Hugh C. Hamilton, 27, an electrician, is in jail here awaiting the arrival of a traveling guard who will return him to Walla Walla to complete a one-to-15-year sentence for grand larceny committed in Seattle, and for which he was on parole. Hamilton was sentenced from Seattle for grand larceny. At the end of one year he was paroled and he left the penitentiary and smuggled out a set of dies for making counterfeit \$20 notes which he had made while a prisoner. He was caught in the act of making notes in a Tacoma hotel a year ago by city detectives and a United States secret service agent. He was sentenced to serve one year for this offense and immediately upon the expiration of his sentence he was rearrested as a parole violator and will be returned to Walla Walla to complete his sentence.

RAIL BONDS IN TANGLE

TACOMA FEARS GOVERNMENT WILL UNLOAD HOLDINGS.

Municipal Line Built During War for Emergency Fleet Body Saddles City With Debt.

TACOMA, Wash., April 20.—(Special.)—City officials, convinced that the government is attempting to unload \$222,000 of Tacoma municipal railway bonds which are held by the emergency fleet corporation on speculation, spent today in conference with City Attorney Dennis. Letters have been arriving in the last few days from New York bond houses at the offices of the mayor, city controller and commissioner of finance, inquiring about the Tacoma municipal railway bonds. This sudden inquiry has alarmed the council, as no word recently has been received from the government regarding the status of the bonds.

The railway was built for the accommodation of the government shipbuilding activities during war times and has been operated at a loss of more than \$500,000 to Tacoma, in addition to what the government paid. In the face of the fact that the government compelled the city to build the railway, city officials feel that Tacoma has no moral obligation to pay the bonds and express the belief that this was a war debt and that the government should cancel it.

Many overtures have been made by Tacoma officials to settle the debt, but the emergency fleet corporation has refused to do so, in spite of the fact that this branch of the government furnished the funds for the railway's construction. City Attorney Dennis advised that all inquirers should be told immediately that the city will contest the bonds and resist payment. It is conceded, however, that if the bonds are in the hands of speculators much trouble for the city might result if the matter were taken into the local courts to secure payment.

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MECHANIC SHOT IN LUNG

Young Man Jailed Following Discharge of Pistol.

ABERDEEN, Wash., April 20.—(Special.)—Vance Hills, 23, automobile mechanic, residing at 1900 West First street, was in a serious condition tonight at the Aberdeen general hospital and John Ziemann, 30, was in the city jail on an open charge following alleged accidental discharge of Ziemann's automatic pistol from his room on the upper floor of the Ziemann home at 103 North Wash-

ington street at about 8 o'clock last night. Hills, who was shot in the lung, today was reported to have an even chance for recovery.

Ziemann told police that he was trying to remove the load from his automatic when the shell in the firing chamber was discharged. Hills, he said, was drawing up to the curb on a bicycle to enter a grocery store at Market and Washington streets, and was struck when about 125 feet from Ziemann's room.

S. & H. green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co., coal and wood, Broadway 6363, 560-21.—Adv.

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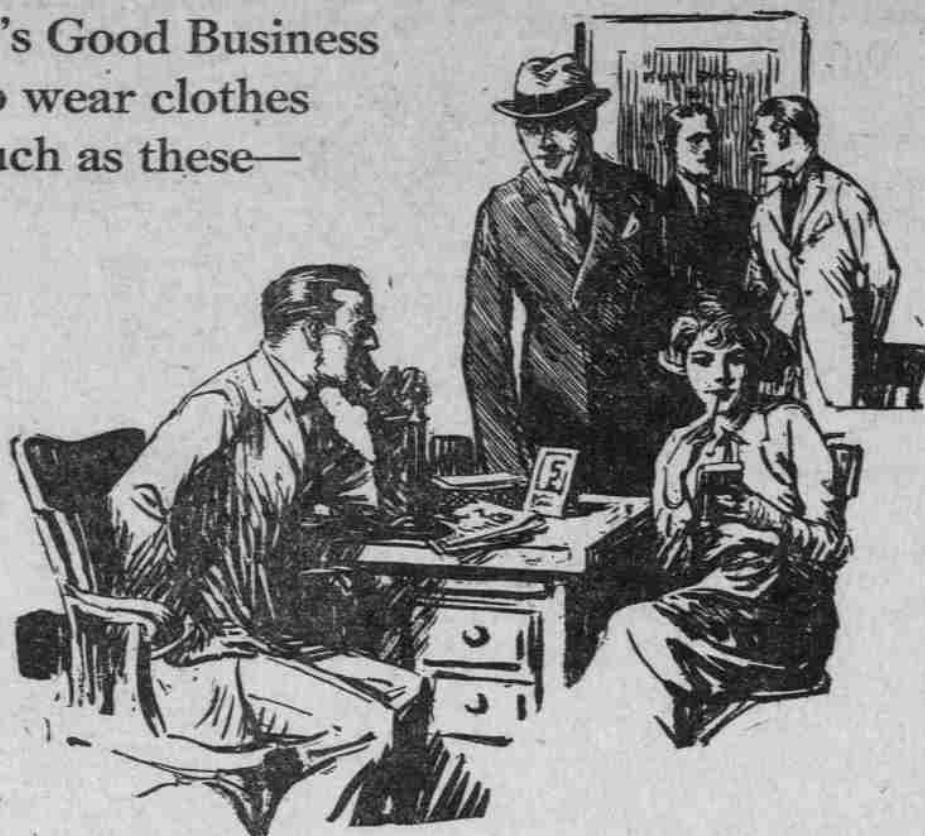
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Portland's Leading Clothier for Over Half a Century

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S. & H. green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co., coal and wood, Broadway 6363, 560-21.—Adv.

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100 new Spring
SPORTS SKIRTS
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Tweeds in the block check homespun and heather mixtures in wool; polo, prunella, crepe eponge and chinchilla—in smart wrap-around and fringed styles; in pleated models, striped or plaid; taken from stock to sell at this remarkably low price—Friday and Saturday only!

Grouped for disposal at a greatly lowered price:

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Tailored and semi-tailored models in mottled and herring-bone tweeds—brown, sage green and French blue; hand tailored, splendidly lined. Spring suits, all of them—each a rare bargain!

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Zemo, the penetrating, satisfying liquid, is all that is needed, for it banishes most skin eruptions, makes the skin soft, smooth and healthy—Adv.

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