# HOURS IS CHRONIC

Habit Growing on High Officials, Increasingly Hard to Find at Desks.

Western Member of Congress Has Typical Experience on Bootless Search - Road Director Holds Absentee Record.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash ington, Jan, 17 .- Absenteeism has become chronic in the Government departmental service in Washington, as Senators and Representatives are learning to their serrow. The Gov-ernment clerks, holding comparatively unimportant positions, are at the desks right along from 9 until 4:30 every day, but the higher-ups, Cabinet offi-care, assistant secretaries and bureau chlefs are notorious for the amount of time they spend away from their desks.

Whether the epidemic of absenteeism is the direct result of the example set by Secretary Bryan when he began deserting his office every other day to make a little money outside, or whether it is the result of a laxity of discipline permeating most of the de-partments it would be hard to say. The condition exists, however, and few of the higher Government officials now running the departments are to be found at their desks during office A Western representative set aside

one afternoon recently to transact business affecting his district that was then pending before the Department of Labor and the Navy Department. He called to see the Secretary of Labor. "The Secretary has gone for the day." rhe Secretary has gone for the day," explained the messenger at the Secretary's office. It was then 2 o'clock. The member went down to the office of the chief clerk, thinking he could not for the Secretary. "The chief clerk is out of town for a couple of days," was the explanation of his assistant. So the member gave up in

Going over to the Navy Department, he went to the office of Secretary Daniels. When he inquired for the Secretary, the messenger said: "The Secretary did not come down today; he is preparing a speech at home." Going then to see Assistant Secretary Roosevelt the Engreeout the velt, the Representative again met with failure. "Mr. Roosevelt is taking a few days' holiday," explained his secretary. The Navy Department was thus left without a head.

condition prevails in the Department of Agriculture, though it is to be said of Secretary Houston that he is seldom absent save when called away by public business.

The record for absenteelsm in the Federal Service is held by Logan W. Page, director of the Bureau of Public Roads in the Department of Agriculture, Page is a wealthy fellow and a popular clubman, and his fad is good roads, but while he is nominally the head of that bureau, drawing a salary of \$4000 a year, which he does not need, his work is done by subordinates. Page is such a chronic offender at absenteeism that two Western members having considerable business at the Department of Agriculture, have a standing bet that they will

ernmental service in Washington, and the public is beginning to wonder what these officials expect to give in return for their salaries.

A permanent committee was added to the list of club committees, that on the Payette-Boise project and its problems. return for their salaries.

## HOOSIER DEAL MAY FAIL

SALE OF INDIANAPOLIS CLUB DE-PENDS ON FEDERALS.

McGill and Smith May Forfeit \$10,000 Option Put Up for Purchase of American Association Club.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 17. - On action INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 17.—On action taken by the Federal League magnates in Chicago today will depend to a great extent whether the sale of the Indianapolis American Association Club to J. C. McGill, the Denver Western League magnate, and W. C. Smith, of New York, is consummated or falls through. McGill is in Chicago watching the Federal League meeting, while Smith and Jack Hendricks, who will be manager of the Indianapolis club if the manager of the Indianapolis club if the

deal goes through, were here awaiting word from McGill.

McGill and Smith have until midnight to make the final payment to Sol Meyer, principal owner of the local club. The two purchasers have paid \$10,000 on the purchase price, which is said to have been in the neighborhood. said to have been in the neighborhood of \$165,080, and stand to lose that sum of they do not make the final payment by midnight.

#### FIVE DIVORCES GRANTED

Saturday Cleanup Results in Default Decrees.

Five default divorces were granted by the Circuit Judges yesterday in their regular Saturday cleanup, Judge Kavanaugh signing two of the decrees, Judge Davis two and Judge Gatens one. Judge Kavalaugh divorced Mrs. Jes-sie Anderson from Walter Anderson, who she married in Denver in Decem-ber 1912 and restored Mrs. Anderson. ber, 1912, and restored Mrs. Anderson's maiden name, Jessie Greenfield. Cruei-ty was the grounds. Mrs. Goldie Burge was granted a decree from Peter Burge, on grounds of gross cruelty and Burge, on grounds of gross crueity and non-support, the couple having been married in Oregon City in August, 1906, Judge Davis granted decrees to Mrs, Lorena A. Gilbert from Clarence E. @libert and Mrs. Matilia Cameron from Daniel Cameron. Both decrees were granted on grounds of crueity. Judge Gatens granted a decree to Gladys Goldbiatt from Samuel Goldbiatt on grounds of crueity.

#### PICTURESQUE PIONEER DIES

Powles W. Blackert, of Jackson County Succumbs at 76.

GOLD HILL, Or., Jan. 17.—(Special.)
-With the death of Powles William

Blackert, a prominent rancher of the fertile little valley of Galls Creek, near this city, Jackson County and Southern Oregon lose one of its picturesque pioneers. Mr. Blackert, who was 76 years old, was stricken with heart failure at his home Saturday morning.

P. W. Blackert was born in Berlin, Germany. Near the close of the Crimean War he enlisted in the British army at Aldershot, England, but was discharged without having left English shores.

In the Spring of 1852 Mr. Blackert came to America, with the intention of locating in Maine, but after a few months in that state the lure of the West induced him to take passage around the Horn for San Francisco Arriving in San Francisco he enlisted in the Begular Army, and saw much acthe Regular Army, and saw much ac-tive duty against the Indians in Ore-gon and at the Walla Walla uprising. At the close of his enlistment Mr. SECRETARIES SET EXAMPLE

At the close of his enistment in the lacker came to Jacksonville, then in its heyday as a mining camp. Here he married Miss Sarah Shoemaker. Two years later he became interested in the same interested in once famous Alder Gulch placer mines, and located on Galls Creek, where his life had since been passed.

COMMERCIAL BODY TO CONTINUE DEVELOPMENT POLICY.

Organization to Try to Obtain Extension of Time on Payments of Settlers on Payette-Boise Project.

CALDWELL, Idaho, Jan. 17.—(Spelargely attended meetings in the his-tory of the Caldwell Commercial Club was held Wednesday, when officers



M. H. Gibbons, Re-Elected Secretary of Caldwell Commercial

Absenceism in the State Department has been so well advertised that no further statement is necessary. Secretary Bryan is away from his office fully one-fourth of the time, and often in his absence his assistants cannot be in his absence his assistants cannot be try tributary thereto, and its funds found during office hours. The same condition prevails in the Department than to efforts to bring in new set-

ness at the Department of Agriculture, have a standing bet that they will never find Mr. Page in his office when they call. They have called upwards of 20 times, and Mr. Page has never yet been in his office.

This condition of affairs is true quite generally throughout the Governmental service in Washington, and the public is beginning to wonder what these officials expect to give in

Sheriffs to Meet in Spokane.

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 17.—At the closing session of the semi-annual meeting of the Washington State Sheriffs' Association, Spokane was chosen today as the next meeting place.

WOMAN WITH 94 LIVING DESCENDANTS DIES.



Mrs. Elizabeth Morgan. FLORENCE, Or., Jan. 17.— (Special.)—Mrs. Elizabeth Morgan, one of the pioneer settlers of the Siusiaw Valley, died on

January 11 at the home of her son, Marion Morris, in Florence. She has been ill for some time, having suffered a stroke of paralysis several months ago.
Elizabeth Holverstott was born in Ohio May 4, 1836, and was married in Iowa in 1852 to Joseph W. Months and Market and

married in lowa in 1852 to Joseph E. Morris, a native of Kentucky. The following Spring they crossed the plains to California. In 1880 they moved to Oregon, locating on a homestead on the north Fork of the Siuslaw, about eight miles from Florence. About five years later Mrs. Morris moved to Florence. Mrs. Morris moved to Florence and engaged in the hotel busi-ness and has since lived in this vicinity. Twenty-one years ago she was married to C. B. Morgan. Mrs. Morgan was an excellent, kind-hearted woman, always ready to help anyone in trouble or nurse anyone in sick-

Mr. and Mrs. Morris had nine children, all of whom are living. She is also survived by 56 grand-children, 27 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grand-chil-

Mr. Crawford Reveals Fuller History of Watson Fee.

PAYMENT IS HELD LEGAL

Attorney-General Says George Chamberlain When Govenor Was Responsible for Employment

ROSEBURG, Or., Jan. 17.—(Special.)
—That United States Senator Chamber-lain, while Governor of Oregon, was re-sponsible for the employment of Judge Watson to assist in recovering state funds from the Title Guarantee & Trust Company, following its failure in Portland, was the statement of Attorney-General Crawford when told of Gover-nor West's charges that he had paid Attorney Watson \$500 in fees without

authority.

"The facts relative to the employment of Judge Watson at the time of the Title Guarantee & Trust Company failure are not quoted by Governor West, although he could easily ascertain them by consulting the records at the Capital the Capitol.

Chamberlain's Idea Fellowed.

"At the time of the failure Treasurer Steel had on deposit in the Title Guarantee & Trust Company Bank about \$400,000 of state money, and having explicit faith in the solvency of the institution he neglected to demand security for the same. As soon as the failure was known Governor Chamberlain. Secretary of State Benson and lain, Secretary of State Benson and myself held a conference. On account of the large amount involved, and there being a question as to whether the Treasurer's official bonds were sufficient to secure the deposit, Governor Cham-berlain said he thought the Attorney-General should have assistance. Judge Watson, who was later called into the case, was proposed among others, and was satisfactory to Chamberlain.

"The American Surety Company, in which concern Treasurer Steel was bonded, at first denied liability on losses to exceed \$113,000

losses to exceed \$112,000. Judge Wat-son and myself insisted that the American Surety Company was liable, how-ever, and after many conferences with their New York attorney and local rep-resentatives we secured a settlement resentatives we secured a settlement by which the surety company guaran-teed to repay the whole sum with 5 per cent interest. The settlement was made in the offices of Governor Cham-berlain, and in his presence. The money was all repaid as agreed, and Mr. Cham-berlain said he considered Attorney Watson's fee of \$500 reasonable.

Mr. Crawford Has No Doubt. "There is no doubt but what the Governor has a legal right to employ spe-cial counsel in cases of emergency, and such counsel is entitled to just comsuch counsel is entitled to just com-pensation. Should the state funds again be placed in jeopardy during my term of office I would request the present Governor to employ special counsel, and believe he would have the good judg-ment to grant the request.

"How Governor West can charge the state officers with paying Attorney Watson with more than he deserved is more than I can determine."

posed district is nearly 11,500 acres, and the plan is to provide a hard-surface roadway through the distict, which would be c link in the north and south state highway.

JUDGE GALLOWAY SPEAKS Oddfellows' Lodge at Carlton in

CARLTON, Or., Jan. 17.—(Special.)— Judge William Galloway, deputy grand master of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, addressed a joint meeting of the Oddfellows and Rebekah Lodges here last night. There were 112 members and invited guests present. Refreshments were served.

Both orders are in a flourishing con-

Flourishing Condition.

dition and gaining in membership rapidly. The Rebekahs number 51, and the Oddfellows have a membership of 75. Plans are being made for a build-

Kelso Loses Prominent Resident. KELSO, Wash., Jan. 17 .- (Special.)-The death of Robert Miller Thursday has removed one who had been active in Christian effort here the past three or four years. Mr. Miller was born in New York City in 1847, passed his earlier life in Ontario, Canada, and afterwards moved to Kelso. Besides his wife he leaves several children, grand-children, and one great mandeliden.

children and one great-grandchild. Among the children are Mrs. J. A. Audinet and Miss Ellen Miller, of this place, and Mrs. F. P. Kunkle and George Miller, of Portland. An only sister, rs. J. C. Walker, of Oakland, Cal., was with him the last few days.

White Salmon Paper Sold.

WHITE SALMON, Wash., Jan. 17 .-(Special.)—The White Salmon Enter-prise, the largest newspaper in the west end of Klickitat County, has changed hands, and the new editor as-sumes control this week. George H. Buxter, who has owned the paper for the past year, will remove with his family to the Coos Bay country, there o enter the mercantile business. editor, A. Meresse, is from Forest Grove, Or., a graduate of Pacific University, and has done considerable newspaper work there and at Oregon

Gold Saving Machine Invented. LEWISTON, Idaho, Jan. 17.—(Spe-ial.)—Richard Williams, who is identiffed with a new gold-saving machine, has acquired land on the Upper Snake River and will establish one of the big machines there this Spring. It is said for this invention that the problem of catching the flour gold carried in the black sand of the Snake River has black sand of the Snake River has lack sand of the Snake River has

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This Store Maintains Its Prestige in Furniture & Real Worth



Material Reductions Prevail During the

## January Sale

There is an interesting history attaching itself to every style of furniture. In the purchase of furniture if the design is pure then the piece, if made only yesterday, faithfully portrays all the history and the sentiment associated with the original. When purchasing here the customer is assured of the purity of the design, is protected in the solidity of the construction and the honesty of the workmanship and excellence of finish. True is this of the productions of the famous shops of Berkey & Gay, of Grand Rapids, and Cowan, of Chicago, shown in Portland on the floors of this store exclusively. And bear in mind this fact: that ours is a complete new gathering of "Furniture of Real Worth," representing every acknowledged worthy style of furniture — Hepplewhite, Sheraton, Adam, Chippendale, Queen Anne, Elizabethan, Jacobean, Charles I., and Charles II., James I. and James II., Stuart, Tudor, Colonial and others. Such reproductions recommend their intrinsic merit to those seeking Furniture of character. Every piece and suite in this complete new stock, selected last Fall, shows a material reduction during the January Sale. .

#### For Special Sizes and Special Designs in

#### Rugs

We suggest the Ginzkey (Austrian) and the Kildare (Irish) Hand-tufted Seamless Rugs and the Imported and Domestic Chenille, These can be produced in any size and combination of colors or design to conform to any interior decorative scheme, Original color sketches, showing the effect when completed, prepared and submitted by us.

#### A Word or Two Regarding Interior

## Decoration

The Decorative Department of this store rightfully prides itself for its origination and execution of the correct interior decoration and furnishing, of a great many of the finest homes as well as many of modest character in Portland and throughout the Northwest. A complete new showing of fabrics, both from at home and abroad, together with greatly increased facilities for caring for all interior decorative and drapery work, places at your disposal a service that is unsurpassed. Original color that is unsurpassed. sketches submitted.



This Solid Mahogany Colonial Library Table, special \$38.75

That this is a splendid value in a Library Table is conceded when these facts are taken into consideration. It is of solid mahogany, even to the inter-ior; workmanship and finish are the best; design purely Colonial; proportions excellent. Top measures 30x50 inches.

Fifth and Stark J. G. Mack & Co. Fifth and Stark

#### LEWIS GAINS SEEN

1914 Promises to Be Banner Year for Progress.

NEW RAILROADS PLANNED

Chehalis and Centralia to Spend Many Thousands on Water Systems and County and State to Join in Road-Building Work.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Jan. 11.—The year 1914 promises to be one of the most active in the history of Lewis County, from the standpoint of industrial development. More big projects will be carried out than in any previous year. Already active construction work is under way on the branch lines of the Milwaukee road, which will give the cities of Chehalis and Centralia concities of Chehalls and Centralia con-nection with a fourth great transcon-tinental railroad. The Milwaukee is spending thousands of dollars already on its work, and from Chehalls west to the county line will be obliged to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars more, as this will call for some heavy construction, and the mileage is greater than from the north at Maytown to this than from the north at Maytown to this

In addition to the Milwaukee branch In addition to the Allivature States to Willapa Harbor through this section, the announcement recently was made, although unofficially, that the same company plans this year to extend its company plans this year to extend its Tacoma Eastern branch to the Big Bottom country in Eastern Lewis Coun-ty, and to build a line down Tilton River, which will connect with an extension of the local railroad line out of the City of Chehalis and give the people of that section rail connection with the cities of their county. An ex-tension of this would put the Milwau-kee into Portland. Completion of such a line would lead to immediate develop-ment of timber resources and other in-dustrial propositions would be put on

Water Systems Planned. Locally the cities of Chehalis and Centralia each have let contracts to build gravity water systems from the headwaters of the Newaukum River into the twin cities of Lewis County. The Chehalis Commission plans to build also a local new distributing system, and its contract calls for an expendi-ture of \$147,000. Centralia will ex-pend almost as much, but the city there

owns the local system.

The City Commission of Chehalis also has its plans laid for the further exhabits of the street paving of the tension of the street paving of the city. A municipally-owned plant has city. A municipally-owned plant has reduced the cost of paving to a minimum. It is estimated that \$100,000 worth of paving will be done in 1914.

Plans are in shape for two or three new brick blocks and others are contemplated. Numerous residences are also being planned by some of the citizers.

black sand of the Snake River has been solved.

"Bob" Hodge Fulls Again.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 17.—Robert Hodge, Progressive candidate for Governor, in 1912, failed to pass the bar examination today, this being his third unsuccessful attempt. He announced before returning to Seattle that he would try again next May.

Sens.

In addition to these improvements, an important item industrially in Lewis County will be the road work. The State of Washington will spend about \$27,000 on the Pacific Highway in this county, one big contract for extensive work on the worst portion of that road in this county having been let recently and dollars is to be spent between Morton and Mineral in the eastern part

of the county on the National Park date and Dallas for the Vice-Presidential candidate, the old ballot has proved of unusual interest to county folk and

this bridge and extensive road improvement leading to it will result in automobile state lines being put into operation daily from Chehalis to Randle and the Big Bottom country, 65 miles distant. On the National Park Highway, west of Ceres and connecting with the Pacific County road, the state has plans to spend several thousand dollars. the immediate section about Che In the immediate section about Che-halis plans are laid for the connection

Pacific Highway.

George Stroud, of Polk County, Possesses Early-Day Document.

RICKREALL, Or., Jan. 17 .- (Special.) A Democratic ballot of 1844, with James K. Polk and George M. Dallas heading it for President and Vice-President, respectively, is in the possession (Special.)—Mrs. Mary E. Morris, mother of George Stroud, a well-known farmer of Mrs. A. L. Zacharizs, died Monday night at the home of her daughter after an illness of about a month. Mrs. Morris was 65 years old. The body will arm and hammer. Since Polk County was named for the Presidential candi-

At Nesika nearly \$30,000 is being spent building a bridge across the Cowlitz River, the county and state sharing the expense. Completion of this bridge and extensive road improve-

pany Similar to One in Portland.

PENDLETON, Or., Jan. 17 .- (Special.) of the main public road, which is also a part of the Pacific Highway, between alry troop, similar to the one recently Chehalls and Centralia. About \$30,000 organized in Portland, is receiving faworable consideration by Pendleton people. The matter was brought to the is also to be built this Summer lead- ple. The matter was brought to the ng from Toledo toward Chehalis on the attention of Sheriff Taylor, president of the Round-Up Association, by the Army officer who organized the Port-BALLOT OF '44 INTERESTS he will be unable to take the lead in the movement, he has already discovered enough interest to make the pro-

The troop would require a minimum of 75 men. The Government will furnish all equipment except horses,

posal appear practical.

Cottage Grave Resident Dies. COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Jan. 17 .-

# A RARE

For the next 30 days we will make a special reduction to purchasers of tracts in our BEAVERTON - REEDVILLE ACREAGE who contemplate substantial improvements thereon.

Electric Steel Trains as fine as those anywhere are now running through our lands. A delightful ride of 30 minutes and you are there. Four stations on tract. Fine Homes, Graded Streets, Sidewalks, Piped-in Water under pressure, Wells at small cost, Mail, Telephone, Electric Lights, Stores, Graded Schools, Etc.

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Also a special assortment of Suits and Coats, mostly plain tailored; formerly \$7.50 \$22.50 to \$35.00. Final Clearance

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# Sore Throat

Omega Oil; then soak a piece of flan-nel with the Oil and put it around the neck or throat, and cover with a piece of dry flannel. This simple treatment usually gives relief. Trial bottle roc.



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