
CITIZENS' BUREAU OBJECT IS DEFINED

Chamber of Commerce Secretary Says Check Will Insure More Efficiency.

RESULT ELSEWHERE CITED

While One Man Has Offered to Stand Expense of Department, Mr. Hardy Thinks It Should He Borne by Taxpayers.

BY GEORGE E. HARDY.

Efficiency and co-operation are words that have been much in use and conalderably misused furing the past six or eight years. However, such things are a reality and not a dream. Their worth whileness depends very much on the human element used in connection

Portland is a well-governed city-Portland is a well-governed city—
Multnomah County is a well-governed
county—as city and county governments go. We would not ears to think
they were otherwise. But are we all
satisfied that no progress—no improvement and no economy of opera-

prevenent and no economy of opera-tion—can be effected?

It is likely that our self-natisfaction in conting the tanpayers considerable memey. Not that "jobs" are common or corruption the practice, but there is a waste of public money due to ineffi-ciency or to the failure on the part of employes to deliver as much service in exchange for salaries or wages as they would were ther on the payrolls of firms or corporations engaged in husiness.

"Playing Politics" Found Harmful.

"Playing Pullties" Found Harmfal.
True it is that nearly all men in the higher public offices are earnest, sincers, homest and desirous of rendering a service that will give maximum results and general satisfaction. And it just as true that efficiency is reduced, or perhaps destroyed, when as efficial is inneculated with political ambition to the extent that he "plays politics" at every lurn.

litics" at every turn.

Before he makes any move he must
sk himself: "Will this cost me popu-rity (votes) or will I gain popularity

bureau of efficiency and economy In charge of an expert—a man of proven ability—supported by a board of directors consisting of 12 or 15 pubof directors consisting of 12 or 15 pub-ife-spirited citizens, all too big to be selfish or play politics, in two or three years' time would bring about a much better return for every dollar of the taxpayers' money expended and at the same time develop a better interest in, a better understanding of, public mat-ters and on the whole a far better standard of citizenship.

Good Profit Predicted.

Can you think of any activity that will pay bigger dividends? What will it cost? Perhaps \$10,000 the first year and \$15,000 a year thereafter. Who should pay for it? Why, those deriving the benefit! And they ought to pay in proportion to their taxes. (But they probably will not do so at least not until others receiving less financial benefit prove what can be

The cost of maintaining a bureau during a period of three years, would be returned to taxpayers many times over, if the experience in other cities

repeated. In New York, in the first or second year of the work of the Bureau of Mu-nicipal Research a saving of \$2,000,000 was made in the operation of the water works department.

water works department.

In Cincinnati, a "sleeper" was taken out of a paving specification after a right of two years. How much that meant to the citizens can hardly be calculated. It prevented many paving jobs being "skinned" as had been a practice quite general in that city.

In Los Angeles it was found that \$100,000 a year was spent for a certain part of street cleaning. A survey or check on the work being made, showed

part of street cleaning. A survey or check on the work being made, showed clearly a waste of 12 per cent. Nearly all of that waste has been eliminated. But the Los Angeles bureau is a part of the municipal government. Its di-rector is regarded as a part of the of-ficial family and is made to feel the pressure of the crowd in office.

Citicens' Agency Favored.

How much better results could be abtained if the bureau were a citizens' agency, free and clear of all City Hall and Courthouse influence? A bureau in charge of a director, an expert, from out of the city, independent of all po-litical financial or friendly ties. A di-rector of experience, making him an authority in matters of government and in matters concerning the expendi-ture of public money. There would be much less complaint about taxes, if the taxpayers were better satisfied with the returns for money expended.

Work of Bureau Analyzed. Again, what is a bureau of public

efficiency and economy?

It is a taxpayers or citizens service or agency to study and to promote efficient and scientific management of municipal affairs. The purpose is two-

First, to get things done for the community, through co-operation with persons who are in office, by increasing efficiency and eliminating waste.

Second, to serve as an independent and non-partisan agency for keeping citizens informed about the city's and the county's business.

It is a co-operative service, not a muckraking affair. And the kind of co-operation to be offered will be gladly accepted by all public officials who want to obtain the best results and give maximum satisfaction.

Should we have, in Portland, a

Bureau of Public Efficiency and Economy? We should! The board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce has indorsed the idea and referred the matter to its bureau of taxation and legislation with the request that a plan be worked out.

Having faith in our men and women of Portland we feel confident that means will be provided to guarantee the financial support of a bureau for three years. A number have, voluntered to support, and one of our most public-spirited men, who has already done much for the city and county, stands ready to furnish all the money needed.

Would it not be better for 25 or 125 citizens to provide the means and to have a keen interest in the work of the

Money and energy are expended by at least two agencies in Portland which aim to get more efficiency and more

THEATER STARS TO APPEAR IN NEW YEAR'S MIDNIGHT MATINEE.



Ed B. Hanson,

Vaudeville acts from the Pan-tages and Empress theaters, a special act by the Baker Players and a musical comedy in a nut-shall from the Lyric will be but a few of the diversified attractions at the ninth annual mid-night mailnee on New Year's eve, under the auspices of the The-atrical Mechanics' Association,

The Emmett Children will take part, and a new figure, Ed B. Hanson, a clever interpreter of Swedish roles, is also scheduled

on December 28 tickets will be on sale at the theatgrs and at Huntley's drug store. All the funds collected will be devoted to the needy stage folk.

The great need of the day is more husiness efficiency in public office and less political inefficiency. But we are the customs long established and deep rooted, regardless of the change from time to time in forms of government.

Is it not mostly a question of men?

Is it not mostly a question of men?

pears. The chances are that he proceeds to mark his ballot without a very clear understanding of a majority of the propositions he is to vote upon. What is the answer? Better citizenship! How?

A bureau of public efficiency and economy, the function of which in graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and contract for the purchase are graphic chart form and in clear, understandable statements the facts and contract for the purchase of the little clear purchase of the little purchase of NATIONAL CAPITOL SNOWBOUND FOR FIRST TIME THIS WINTER.

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Union Seeks to Eliminate Objectionable Features by Revoking Licenses of Offenders.

The Portland Jithey Drivers' Union will seek to force reckless litney driv-ers out of business. A. A. Thickie, president of the union, had a conference yesterday with Mayor Albee and asked his support in the movement, which, as proposed, will involve recommendations of Portland officials to Secretary of State Olcott that the licenses of drivers convicted of reckless driving be revoked. Mayor Albee promised support in the movement.

Whose conduct with young girls is not above reproach. Mrs. Lola G. Baldwin, superintendent of the Municipal Bureau for Protection of Women, will address a meeting of the Chauffeurs' Union, and the Local No. 163, at the Labor Temple to-morrow night.

Mrs. Baldwin has been extended the invitation to speak by A. A. Thielke.

best political inefficiency. But we are the commy in public affairs and expendence of country country

SCENE AFTER SNOWSTORM OF DEC. 13.

This picturesque photograph of the Capitol at Washington, D. C. was taken after the snowstorm, December 13. Official and other folk of Washington were surprised to find the city under a blanket of snow when they awoke in the morning. This view was taken at the Capitol grounds and shows the Capitol in the distance.

Umatiila County over which there has seen much controversy. First Furnas prought suit against Mr. Skinner which MAYOR INVITED TO HELP OUST RECKLESS DRIVERS.

Was thrown out on account of the property being in the name of Mrs. Skinner. Another suit is pending. The land is in the west end of the county near Echo.

\$15.00 and up

\$14.00 and up

811.50 and up

MORALS TALK SCHEDULED

Mrs. Baldwin Is Invited to Work With Jitney Union.

To secure the support of the jitney drivers in weeding out the members whose conduct with young girls is not

-Photograph . Buck.

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but a few of the thou

sand uses for Thermos

OREGON DELEGATION TO LEAVE FOR SEATTLE TOMORROW.

Launch Ride to Navy-Yard and Banquet Are to Be Provided for Guests Who Are Returning Call.

will take them on a launch ride on Puget Sound to the Bremerton Navy-Puget Sound to the Bremerton Navy-yard, serving lunch on board the vessel. The party that will leave Portland on the O.-W. R. & N. on Monday night, re-turning over the same road the follow-ing night, will be as follows: Ray O. Yates, president of the Multnomah Hotel Company and president of the Oregon Hotel Men's Association: R. H. Veatch, assistant manager of the Ben-son; N. K. Clark, manager of the Ore-gon; Phil Metschan, Jr., manager of the Imperial: J. J. Page, assistant mangon; Phil Metschan, Jr., manager of the Imperial; J. J. Page, assistant man-ager of the Oregon; Mark Woodruff, of the Chamber of Commerce; George C. Ober, manager of the Portland; Dr. C. W. Cornelius, proprietor of the Cor-nelius; L. Q. Swetland, manager of the Perkins; F. W. Beach, secretary of the Hotel Men's Association; J. B. Stein-bach, manager of the Eaton; Victor Brandt, manager of the Cariton; M. J. Schlatki, assistant manager of the Nor-Schlatki, assistant manager of the Nortonia; G. C. Howarth, manager of the Mallory; E. D. Jorgensen, manager of the Lenox; W. N. Whitman, of Astoria; Jacob George, of St. Helena; Henry Seer, of Dalias; Charles L. Baker, of Corvallis; T. A. White, of McMinnville; B. R. Westbrook, of Albany; T. G. Bligh, of Salem; W. C. Gifford, of Hillsboro; J. L. Wilkins, of Heppner; T. J. Warrell, of Tillamook; N. L. S. Lowry, of Estacada, and Pat Folsy, of La Grande.

California Worm Proves Undoing of Oregon Fruit.

Tiny Nibbler That Favored Best Apple Is Blamed for Loss of Prize at Fair.

THE news has finally leaked out. The A acute discernment of a California worm wrested from Oregon growers the highest award at the late Panama-Pacific Exposition for superiority in

When the awards were being made at the exposition the Oregon display was seven points ahead of all other growers. "Let's take as a final proof of the excellence of the Oregon apple a single fruit, chosen at random," said one of the judges. So—and Rev. G. L. Tufts vouched for this—the judge pleked one apple at random, but took it from the bottom layer of the bottom box.

And in the apple was a worm! No inquisition was called to endeavor to explain away the presence of the Oregon apples were relegated to

Oregon apples were relegated to second place.

But now what could be more patent than to believe, as Rev. Mr. Tufts has teld us, that a California worm, seeking the best sustenance it could find, had nibbled its way into the heast of the Oregon apple, and there lay in reposeful bliss when discovered by the hawk-like eye of the fruit judge!

Let us prefer not to think that the worm crawled into the apple to aid in the prize-crowning of the California apples! Let us rather believe that the worm had an uncanny discernment for apples: Let us rather believe that the worm had an uncanny discernment for the best fruit that could be found. But to think that it was a Califor-nia worm!

Rationalists Meet Tonight.

"Schopenhauer's Life and Philosophy" will be discussed before the Portland



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Rational Society by H. C. Uthoff to- |cial.)-Mr. and Mrs. Seavers, of Rich-8 o'clock in room A. Central The meeting is public.

Women Instructors to Play Ball.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, the girl's age was given as 20 years, Women Instructors to Play Ball. Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Women members of the Oregon faculty are planning to have a basketball team and hope to compete with the various co-ed classes. During the holidays the faculty players are going to put in some strengous



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