

POSTOFFICE POLICY IRKS REPUBLICANS

Candidates for Postmaster
See Jobs Slipping Away.

OLYMPIA OFFICE IS CITED

Appointment of Men With Years
of Experience Over Partisan
Aspirants Causes Worry.

PUGET SOUND BUREAU, Seattle, Aug. 19.—Frank S. Clem's appointment as postmaster at Olympia gives another shock to a large number of watchfully waiting republicans of the state of Washington.

So that these republicans have anything against Mr. Clem, but because the postoffice of the state and nation have been so long and reasonably well managed as to have been designed by the founders of the American government for the special use of political parties. Mr. Clem had been assistant postmaster at Olympia for the last eight years. His appointment results from experience and a demonstration of technical knowledge of the job.

Big Offices Not Partisan.
The same thing happened in Spokane, in Portland and in many of the larger cities of the country. Lower-class postoffices in the smaller towns and villages, have been distributed generously among the republican party workers during the last year or so. But the big city offices, with the big salaries attached, are not being generally delivered in accordance with the recommendations of senators, representatives in congress, state or county committee chairmen.

The situation in this respect is without precedent. Party leaders and hopeful party candidates are much disturbed. Mr. Clem's appointment has added nothing to their peace of mind.

Assistant Run Business.
Assistant postmasters or employees of the postal service have never before figured as possible candidates for the higher places. The Seattle postoffice, for example, was "run" for more than 30 years by William J. Collett, as assistant postmaster, serving under a succession of postmasters, with a new one on every change of the national administration.

Mr. Collett retired a few years ago at an advanced age. The present assistant postmaster of Seattle is C. M. Perkins and, in view of what has happened elsewhere, it seems good reason to rate Mr. Perkins as one of the men most likely to be made Seattle's next postmaster.

Seattle Situation Develops.
Edgar Battle, the present postmaster, appointed by President Wilson, will round out his second four-year term in October. The national administration has shown no disposition to hasten Mr. Battle's separation from the office, but with the occasion for a national change so near at hand, the question of who shall succeed to the office is just now a matter of considerable speculation and gossip.

Immediately following the election of 1920 a number of Seattle republicans let it be known in a quiet way that they would offer the government their services as postmaster. As time went on credentials and endorsements were assembled on behalf of each, and their names have long ago been put in reach of President Harding.

Some Candidates Are Listed.
Those who may be called "civilian" candidates to distinguish them from men already in the postal service, are Claude C. Ramsey, John K. Witherspoon, Samuel F. Rathbun and Harry Gilman.

Mr. Ramsey is chairman of the board of King county commissioners and a large owner of property. Mr. Witherspoon is a business man and ex-national commander of the Spanish-American war veterans. Mr. Rathbun is an ex-city treasurer and retired banker, who led in the organization of Harding-Hart clubs in this state in the 1920 campaign. Harry Gilman is an ex-member of the state board of control and is now with the company promoting the Wenatchee Southern railway project.

A few weeks ago it was announced that Senator Poindexter's campaign for re-election would be managed by Frank F. Hull, king county assessor, and several newspapers hostile to Poindexter at once proclaimed that Hull was to be rewarded with the Seattle postoffice. But Hull is not managing the Poindexter campaign, nor has he announced himself a candidate for postmaster.

Mr. Gilman Has Backing.
It has been understood for more than a year that, so far as congressional influence was concerned, the Seattle postoffice would be left to the disposal of John F. Miller, representative of this district. It is known that Harry Gilman is Mr. Miller's choice, and he is expected to have the favor of Senator Jones. This fact has done nothing to weaken the efforts of the other civilian candidates.

Assistant Postmaster Perkins has been in the service many years, previously as postoffice inspector and as superintendent of mails. He is not alone as an official or ex-official candidate for the postmaster'ship. Others who are looking toward the high place are R. F. Matthews, now cashier in the postoffice, and Charles Lynch, ex-superintendent of carriers and prominent as an executive of the American postoffice in France during the war.

The fact that civil service examinations of some kind are to be held to test the qualifications of all candidates for postmaster, and the further fact that so many men are nowhere best promoted in the service, gives much encouragement to the "official" candidates.

But the party men will keep up their efforts until the matter is settled by appointment.

PARENTS TO SEE DRILL

Citizens' Military Camp to Appear
in Review Wednesday.

TACOMA, Wash., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—That "dad" and "mother" may see what sons have accomplished at the Citizens' Military Training camp, at Camp Lewis, next Wednesday has been designated as "visitors' day," and students have been urged to invite their parents and relatives to camp for the day. Invitations have also been forwarded to the governors of Oregon and Washington, to the chambers of

commerce of the various cities of the northwest, and numerous business men's clubs.
The morning of visitors' day will be devoted to the regular schedule of drills. In the afternoon the medals won by the various teams will be awarded, a parade and review of the entire camp regiment by the commanding general of Camp Lewis will be held, and a demonstration given by the air service.

BANK DIRECTORS SUE

Receiver Seeks Recovery of Big
Sum in Pocatello Crash.

BOISE, Idaho, Aug. 19.—(Special.)—R. L. Curtis, receiver of the Bank National bank of Pocatello, which closed its doors some months ago, has brought suit for the recovery of amounts of money ranging from \$7000 to \$700,000 from members of the board of directors of that institution. The defendants are S. L. Reece, Xavier Servel, E. W. Pearce, A. J. Pearce, N. G. Franklin, L. D. Franklin, D. W. Church, E. C. White, Lyman Fargo and W. W. Armstrong.

When the bank closed its doors the complaint stated by \$1,838,846.21. It is claimed by the receiver that the board of directors should have exercised more enterprise in seeing

TWO OF PRINCIPALS IN OREGON CITY'S RECENT HISTORICAL PAGEANT.



Miss Betty Forbes. Mrs. Eva Emery Dye. OREGON CITY, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—Among those taking an active part in the recent historical pageant in Oregon City were Mrs. Eva Emery Dye, who assisted in giving the affair and appearing in old-fashioned costume, and Miss Betty Forbes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter D. Forbes of this city, who was queen.

Mrs. Dye, writer and historian, was among those who wore old-fashioned clothes.

BASIN PROJECT PRAISED

Assistant Secretary of Interior
Reiterates His Approval.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—Following a conference with Daniel A. Scott, director of the state department of conservation and development, F. M. Goodwin, assistant secretary of the interior, who for three weeks has been going over the Columbia basin project, today reiterated and further strengthened his previous statements that the more he saw of the project the more favorably impressed he was.

Mr. Goodwin, as a representative of Secretary Fall, has been making a preliminary investigation for the department of the interior that the federal officials may be prepared to handle the matter intelligently when congress makes an appropriation for the project.

FRUIT CROPS DWINDLING

Serious Falling From Trees Has
Injured Idaho Production.

BOISE, Idaho, Aug. 19.—(Special.)—A serious falling of fruit, due to the exceptionally warm weather, is damaging the crop in this section of the state. The cause, others believe that the dropping is due to the extreme cold weather of last winter, which damaged the trees.

SALMON PACK IS LARGER

British Columbia Canneries Show
Gain of 25 Per Cent.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—With about 82 per cent of the salmon canning plants of the British Columbia domain, the pack for 1932 is now about 25 per cent over last year and about 25 per cent under the last cycle year four years ago.

The total pack of sockeye salmon in 1921 for all canneries of this province amounted to 163,941 cases, while this year counting only 82 per cent of the canneries reported, and this only to August 13, the figures show a pack of 210,387 cases.

Vacant Pythian Office Filled.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—Announcement was made today by George M. Thompson of Tacoma, grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias of Washington, of the appointment of Fred Cook, chief clerk in the state land department, to be grand keeper of records and seal of the order for the Washington domain, to complete the unexpired term of Harry M. Love of Colfax, who was elected supreme keeper of records and seal at the recent biennial convention of the supreme lodge at San Francisco.

Cowitts Equalization Board Meets.

KELSO, Wash., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—The Cowitts county equalization board was in session again this week, and adjourned until Friday, August 25. The following citizens of Castle Rock were instructed to show cause by that time why the valuation of certain property should be increased. Dr. Black, E. A. Blackwell, T. E. Becker, G. L. Buland, C. W. Dahlman, Otto Hejtle, Grant Dykeman, P. S. Dykeman, C. E. Parker and D. J. Hille.

Special Chicken Dinner

Campbell Hotel | Campbell Hill

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Phone Atwater 0881 Main 7584

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\$1.15 PER PLATE

Phone your want ads to The Oregonian, Main-2070.

REDUCE EXPENSES. PLEADS EXECUTIVE

Expansions for Biennium to
Be Cut to Minimum.

ESTIMATES NOW SOUGHT

Governor Olcott Urges Retrenchment
in Expenditures at
State Institutions.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—Elimination of any extensive state improvements during the next biennium starting January 1, 1933, unless already provided for by appropriation, probably will be demanded.

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