

MAYOR NAMED TO PICK VERY BEST MEN FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

Says He Believes in Civil Service Reform, as Preferable to Spoils System.

WILLIS SAYS MAYOR ACTED FOR THE BEST

Considerable Merriment is Caused by Testimony that Oregonian Men Called on Dr. Lane With Tales of Corruption in Police Department.

"It is my belief that it is the high duty of every official of the city to pick for the public service the very best men that can be had. That has been my policy and it is the policy I propose to follow as long as I am mayor."

In these emphatic terms Mayor Lane, the chief witness yesterday in the city council's investigation of the civil service commission, declared his views. "I believe in civil service reform," added the mayor, in response to the questions of the attorney for the investigators. "It is much better than the spoils system, for it allows neither politics nor religion nor personal preference to interfere with the good of the public service."

That Mayor Lane consistently and sincerely strove to get the best men possible for the city's service was the repeated testimony of P. L. Willis, one of the two Republican members of the civil service commission, both of whom were appointed under the previous administration.

Best Service Wanted.

"Mayor Lane seemed desirous—and I am satisfied was desirous—of obtaining the best service for the city in every department," said Commissioner Willis. "That was his policy and I was very willing to participate in his efforts. I had confidence in his good intentions, his integrity and his sincere desire to give the city good service. And I still believe this was and is his purpose."

He added with emphasis in answer to an inquiry from D. J. Malarkey, the attorney for the investigators, who asked whether the recent developments had not changed the commission's views in the closing session of the investigation. For three hours Malarkey exerted his utmost ingenuity in the effort to extract from the witnesses some admission which might bolster up the charges against the civil service commission. Finally the members of the investigating committee took a hand, and Mayor Lane was interrogated by them on a number of points.

In the course of the interrogation it was developed that early in the mayor's administration E. B. Piper, managing editor of the Oregonian, and Leslie Scott, a member of the Oregonian staff, came to Mayor Lane with stories that members of the police department were in collusion with criminals, and suggested that he make an investigation. At that time the Oregonian was violently berating the police department, and as it now engaged in patting the police on the back, the mayor's testimony caused much amusement.

Mountains of Scandal.

Quibbling over nothing, making mountains of imaginary infractions of the rules governing the civil service board, straining at gnats and swallowing camels, the investigators have brought forth nothing of real importance to the public save the one salient fact that the mayor and the civil service commission were working hand in hand for the betterment of the public service. The pretense that the civil service rules were altered in order to allow Patrick Bruin to become captain of police has been effectually shattered. At a large expenditure of time, effort and the taxpayers' money the fact has been established clearly that the investigation was wholly unnecessary.

Mayor Lane made a brief statement on taking the witness stand yesterday which explained the circumstances under which some of the civil service rules were changed.

"When I became mayor my office was besieged by applicants for positions in the municipal service," said Mayor Lane. "They did not know, most of them at least, of the civil service regulations and the requirements that con-

ditions for the examinations must have lived in Portland for a year. Many of these persons who applied to me were from the east, and among them were men skilled in their own lines of work—engineers, detectives, park-gardeners, bridge-builders and others. There was one man I remember who was thoroughly skilled in the Bertillon system for the measurement of criminals. These people wished to live here, even at lesser wages than they could earn in the east.

Force Is Criticized.

"But I had nothing to offer them because under the rules of the civil service commission they could not compete for any position in the municipal service. At the same time there was much criticism of the police department. Our detectives were accused of colluding with criminals and of operating through stool pigeons. I was visited by a number of persons that the charges were true."

"I talked with the civil service commissioners about the matter. I told them that it was necessary that we should have some having relied largely on McPherson, the clerk of the board, who, he said, was very diligent and very familiar with the government civil service methods."

When asked how far Mayor Lane participated in changing the rules, Mr. Willis replied: "He offered only general suggestions and left the working out to the members of the commission. He said it would be a good thing if the rules could be so amended as to enable the commission to get on the eligible lists some of the trained and experienced men then in the city, even though they had not resided here a year."

The taking of testimony was concluded yesterday afternoon. The committee which has been conducting the examination will probably not be ready to present its report for a fortnight.

More Bruin Than Bruins.

Malarkey was inclined to dispute the mayor's statement that under the former system of examinations 70 per cent was allowed for bulk and brown and only 30 per cent for brains. The roster had been made up on that style of examinations. As mayor I asked the commission if it could be done without violating the law or the charter to fix the rules so I could get the best men. It was no personal favor to myself that I asked, but only the betterment of the public service. I merely made the general suggestion and then left it to the commission to act on it as they saw fit."

Church Under Rev. O. C. Wright Gained 190 New Members.—Made Improvements.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Eugene, Or., Dec. 29.—The annual business meeting and roll call of the Baptist church of Eugene were held yesterday. At the business meeting the following officers were elected: C. E. Frank, trustee; Professor E. E. De Cou and C. H. Marsh, deacons; Professor W. P. Boynton, treasurer; Philip H. Creitser, clerk; F. H. Needham, Sunday school superintendent; C. W. Converse, assistant superintendent.

Reports from all branches of the church work showed a prosperous condition and a good growth during the year. The net gain in church membership during the year was 84. The membership now numbers 300, a net gain of 190 since the present pastor, Rev. O. C. Wright, began his work here a year and a half ago. During the past year the church has expended the sum of \$5,500, \$3,850 of which was used to remodel the house of worship. The building has been more than doubled in seating capacity and beautified on the interior.

Rev. Mr. Wright is very popular with his congregation and with the Eugene public at large. His audiences have increased from a mere handful at each service to an average of 300 on Sunday forenoons and from 400 to 1,000 Sunday evening.

After the business meeting a large number of members of the church partook of a dinner prepared by ladies in the church annex. At 7:30 o'clock the roll of members was called, a large percentage of the members being present to answer to their names.

S. Shima and Y. Yaehima, two vagrant but semi-prosperous-looking Japs, who have effected a livelihood since their arrival in Portland by borrowing money from fellow countrymen, were given until 2 o'clock this afternoon to leave town.

Their examination in the police court elicited the fact that the two boys associated themselves with one faction of unfriendly Japanese circles, and when unable to get money from their own side went to members of the other and secured small sums through misrepresentations. The complainant was Jap merchant, who said he refused to pay tribute to the two young men.

Corvallis Masons Install Officers.

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Officers installed in the Blue lodge were: W. P., Lafferty, W. M.; A. B. Cordley, E. W.; John Fulton, J. W.; Z. H. Davis, treasurer; John Allen, S. D.; Mike Bauer, J. D.; E. L. Kenyon, J. E. B. Horning; Charles Porter, stewards.

Ferguson chapter No. 5 installed the following officers: J. A. Harper, H. P.; John Rowland, K.; J. B. Irvine, S.; J. B. Horne, secretary; S. N. Wilkins, treasurer; M. M. Davis, P. S.; Z. H. Davis, R. A. C.; S. L. Kilma, C. of H.; E. B. Horning, M. S. Y.; S. N. Lilly, M. P. Y.; John Fulton, S. D.

The installation a supper was served.

To Out Road Through Mountains.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

La Grande, Or., Dec. 29.—The owners of mines on the Grande Ronde river, 55 miles from this city, are making arrangements to have a road through the mountains to Bumpier, which will make a distance only 23 miles from the mines to the Bumpier smelter, where the ores will be taken.

The Aurelia mining company, which is located in that section, will have their mine in shape to send ore to the smelter early in the spring, and are taking an active part in the construction of the proposed road.

Teachers Give Scholars Books.

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Forest Grove, Or., Dec. 29.—The teachers of the public schools of the city have presented the school library with 85 volumes, suitable for the use of the pupils of all grades. This gift was given in the place of the usual Christmas cards.

Deserted Fifteen Years Ago.

Pondleton, Or., Dec. 29.—Nathilda I. Dellagar has commenced divorce proceedings against Bruce G. Dellagar on the ground of desertion. The two were married at La Grande in 1891, and have one child now 15 years of age. The defendant is alleged to have deserted the plaintiff in 1896.

Collage Out of Quarantines.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Milton, Or., Dec. 29.—The students of the Columbia college rejoiced last evening when the yellow diphtheria sign was taken from the building. For 16 days the students were quarantined in

expectation that Patrolman Quinlan would stand higher than Bruin on the examinations, on account of the former's experience on the force and his knowledge of local conditions. "I said to both Captain Nevins and Postmaster Minto, 'Make the examination just as you would if you were picking men for yourselves, and be sure to give the best men.' I believe they carried out these instructions. It is not possible to suspect Captain Nevins or John Minto of being unfair in such a matter."

Commissioner P. Willis, who occupied the stand in the earlier part of the session, was outspoken in his commendation of the mayor's policy. Malarkey asked him whether in his opinion the spirit of the charter had not been violated by the new rules of the commission, especially the provision giving members of a department the preference in appointing to higher positions.

"I do not think so," replied the commissioner. "So long as the members of the department had equal opportunity to compete in the examinations there was no violation of the charter provision. If a man on the police force, for example, had shown himself equally qualified with an outsider, he would have been given the preference. That was the principle on which the commission proceeded."

Investigation Is Closed.

Commissioner Willis said that he had not paid as much attention to the duties of his office as he should have done, having relied largely on McPherson, the clerk of the board, who, he said, was very diligent and very familiar with the government civil service methods.

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CROWDS CAME AND WERE SATISFIED

And Why Shouldn't They Be—They Got the Pick of Any Suit or Overcoat at \$7.50

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\$7.50 ANY SUIT OR OVERCOAT \$7.50

Regular \$35, \$30, \$25, \$20 and \$15 Values—Take your pick

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\$1.31 Boys' Overcoats \$1.31
\$1.31 500 Boys' Overcoats—Come take your pick. \$1.31

BARGAIN NO. 3.

\$7.50 CRAVENETTES \$7.50
\$7.50—748 Genuine Cravenettes, Priestley's, Roxbury's are included in this lot. Come take your pick of any one \$7.50

BARGAIN NO. 4.

79c HATS 79c
79c Hats—Take your pick of any Hat in the house, consisting of Derbys, black Felt, tan and light colors, regularly sold for \$2.80, \$3.50 and \$5.00 79c

BARGAIN NO. 5.

79c Men's Pants 79c
Men's Pants—Divided into two parts. All the Pants regularly sold for \$3.00, \$2.50 and \$2.00 79c
All the Pants regularly sold for \$5, \$4.50 and \$4. for \$1.89

BARGAIN NO. 6.

\$1.58 SHOES \$1.58
Shoes—Any pair of Shoes in the house, worth \$5.00, \$3.50 and \$2.50 for \$1.58
Odd Vests worth \$3.50 and \$2.50. Our price 5c

BARGAIN NO. 7.

\$1.48 BOYS' SUITS \$1.48
Boys' Suits—Divided into two sections, consisting of double and single breasted, reefers, Buster Browns, three pieces, Sailor Suits. They go for \$1.48
Section No. 2—Suits regularly sold for \$10.00, \$8.50, \$7.50 and \$5.00. Your choice for \$1.93

Fleece Lined Underwear, regular 75c garments. Our price 24c
Children's Underwear. Gigantic value 5c
Balbriggan Cotton Hose, regularly sold for 25c. Our price 1c
All Wool Merino Seamless Socks, regular 50c kind. Closing price 10c
Silk Handkerchiefs. Closing price 8c
5,000 Pairs of Men's Suspenders, sold for 50c. Our price 1c
5,000 Dozen Red Bandana Handkerchiefs. Closing price 1c

Fancy Silk Socks, regularly sold for \$1.50 and \$2.00 per pair. Closing price 23c
Gentlemen's Linen Handkerchiefs 2c
Silk Mufflers, regularly sold for \$2.50, \$2.00 and \$1.50. Closing price 21c
Fancy Wool Sweaters, the heavy kind; regularly sold for \$2.50 and \$2. Our price 28c

Come and see the specials for Saturday—Goods have to go—You will not be disappointed at this sale.

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By REX E. BEACH. Illustrated in Color.

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Won't Say What They're Worth.

PLOT HINTED IN COREYS' TROUBLES

Scheme Said to Have Been Laid to Separate Steel Magnate and His Wife.

(Journal Special Service.)
Pittsburg, Dec. 29.—The mystery surrounding the separation of William E. Corey and wife is expected to be explained soon. It is reported that Mrs. Elizabeth Riggs, sister of W. E. Corey, who is on her way here from Europe, will be enabled to clear up the conspiracy of which Mrs. Corey alleges she is the victim. When the Corey story was first sent out from Pittsburg it was known that a photograph of Mabelle Gilman, reclining in her apartments in Paris, with a large picture of President W. E. Corey in the background, caused the break between Mr. and Mrs. Corey.

The wife took umbrage at the brazen publication of her husband's photograph in another woman's apartments, but ever since Mrs. Corey left for Reno, Nevada, it is known that she has been led to believe that her husband and herself were victims of a plot to separate them, and that the publication of the picture was part of the plot.

Mrs. Riggs has been studying music in Europe under the same instructor as Miss Gilman, and she is familiar with the episode of the telltale photograph.

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the dormitory on account of a case of diphtheria, and it was a dull Christmas for them. There is a few days of vacation left before New Year, and they will make up for lost time. Victor Canfield, the young man who was ill with diphtheria, has been placed in a post house and is rapidly recovering.

To Lay New Cable Lines.
(Journal Special Service.)
Valparaiso, Dec. 29.—The cable steamship Parady, belonging to Siemens Bros. & Co., and having on board 1,750 knots of cable for the Central & South American Telegraph company, was sighted today. The cable is to be laid to duplicate the Central & South American Telegraph company's system between Valparaiso-Iquique, Chili, and Callao, Peru.

IN A WEEK

We treat successfully all private nervous and chronic diseases of men; also blood, stomach, heart, liver, kidney and throat troubles. We cure SYPHILIS (without mercury) to stay cured forever. We remove STRICTURE, without operation or pain, in 15 days. We stop—drains, night losses, and spermatorrhea by a new method in a short time. We can restore the sexual vigor of any man under 50 by means of local treatment peculiar to ourselves.

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The doctors of this institute are all regular graduates, have had many years' experience, have been known in Portland for 15 years, have a reputation to maintain, and will undertake no case unless certain cure can be effected. We guarantee a cure in every case, we undertake or charge no fee. Consultation free. Letters confidential. Instructive BOOK FOR MEN mailed free in plain wrapper.

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If you cannot call at office, write for question blank. Home treatment successful.

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A NEW YEAR'S NECESSITY

In good teeth, and one that cannot be neglected, as your health and happiness depends on them. A visit to Wise Bros. will convince you that their methods are not only painless, but thoroughly scientific and durable. Their crown and bridge work is marvelous.

Wise Bros. Dentists

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