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WANTED-CAPABLE MEN.

MAYOR LANE'S INTERPRETATION of the civil service provisions of the city of likely to strike the average citizen

practical common sense, however it may be criticised by the peanut politicians and their organs. In the mayor's annual message to the council his views on the subject are set forth as follows:

"It seems to me that there should be a common sense method of examining applicants for positions in the public service. Capacity and fitness are the real question to be determined and it is impossible to determine this by a purely academic standard. It is my belief ion to be determined and it is impossible to determine his by a purely academic standard. It is my belief that if applicants for the public service are selected on count of their experience and practical capacity, without reference to their religious or political beliefs, the pirit as well as the letter of the law has been complied with. In my opinion, if the civil service commissioners or not adopt the best method of selecting employes or the public service, they have failed in the performance of the duties of the position to which they were appointed and have failed to carry out the spirit as well as the letter of the law. With an eye single to the etterment of the public service, I shall continue constently to targe this policy, so far as I am advised that is within my power under the charter to do so, be necessary to the consequences what they may. 'If this be treason take the most of it.'"

Those eminent civil service reformers, the members the city council who are sitting in judgment on the type and his methods, profess to regard these utterces as revolutionary. But while the mayor's policy endeavoring to get the best men possible for the alic service may be an innovation, it will not cause widespread alarm except in the ranks of the pro-

Kelliher, the state land fraud artist, gets five years in defiance of the warm protest of his attorneys, who thought two should be the maximum. This was a piece of work expeditiously, intelligently and beautifully performed. If there is more to follow so much the better, for the state knows nothing so rank as the administration of the state land laws. Meanwhile there are two conspicuous and aching voids in the state penitentiary which Puter and McKinley would fill to the perfect satisfaction of all the people. Are the sleuths getting any closer to this precious pair?

THE PRIDE AND THE FALL.

HE PROPLE OF MISSOURI are trying to find out why they should permit themselves to re-main helplessly bound to the Standard Oil mo-They are endeavoring to proceed in a per-orderly and legal way, giving the corporation prortunity to prove the justness of its cause if and to make clear that it is a matter of public and not wanton persecution which is the actuat-

motive in the case.

In this endeavor the attorney-general of the state, resenting the dignity of the commonwealth, is taking timony in New York. From the very outset he has t with the most supercilious treatment. At the open-of the investigation it was proposed that all the timony be taken in longhand, an interminable proding calculated to drive everybody to distraction and make a farce of the proceedings. Among the witness agamined on Saturday was Henry H. Rogers, e-president and executive man of the Standard Oil apany. His bearing on the stand was calculated to phasize the impression which prevails that in the emphasize the impression which prevails that in the estimation of the Standard's votaries it rises superior to the administration, the government and the people themselves; that it is a matter of perfect indifference what anybody thinks or says or what legal steps are

what anybody thinks or says or what legal steps are taken to loose the tentacles which it has stretched throughout the country.

Mr. Rogers himself was in a delightful humor. The proceedings seemed to him a huge joke and the effort of the attorney-general to elicit information a bit of childish presumption which he barely tolerated. His lawyers acted as though the legal representative of Missouri was the veriest scalawag picked up at the nearest corner, some one to be insulted, annoyed, browbeaten and scoffed at. They objected to every question, took answers out of the mouth of the witness and peremptorily ordered what was to be done. The witness flippantly declined to answer any question that was of the least consequence.

A few months ago there was an aggregation of great life insurance magnates, not so great as Mr. Rogers, to be sure, but still very great indeed, who had an awe-some influence upon the populace as they condescended to ride by. Few men in the country seemed more securely placed upon their pedestals. And yet, see where and who they are today. Utterly repudiated, the penitentiary stares them in the face if they are to get their just due. At the beginning of the investigation they, too, were high and mighty. They would barely condescend to sit up and take notice and their point of view was as far away as Mars from what constituted the rule and guide of ordinary people.

\$500 a year. Ambassadors, ministers, consuls, congressmen and other public servants are constantly complaining about the inadequacy of their salaries, and perhaps in some cases with good reason, but if there is to be better pay for these classes of people the postal employees should not be overlooked.

If there was only some way to Oslerize Bob Fitz-simmons and his beautiful and bounteous bride, to do it effectively and copiously yet with a delicate and proper appreciation of the demands of the law and the regulations of society, this gay old world would be all the better for it and there would be much rejoicing in sections we wot of.

Herein somewhere may be found a lesson for every man, however great he may be. For years the people elusive. He has mysteriously disappeared from the may stand imposition; they have done it in this country until one could scarcely make up his mind whether they lost or in hiding.

were fatally indifferent to all but their immediate con-erns or actually lacked the moral stamins to make a light for their rights. But this one thing is always cer-ain in the ultimate—that when the people are once roused it is wise for all offenders, no matter who re, to stand from under and hunt cover. Men in ork are less qualified than any other American rauge these things. The warm blood, the gen earty, self-respecting, man to man Americanism, est of the Wall street pie belt. It is too early yet in history and civilization for any man or set of too persistently impress upon the public that he sey consider themselves far beyond the public rea ways there, alive and active. Carried out it means that the majority not only can but at times will rule. When this time comes it is the man who stands in the way, no matter who he is, who will regret it, and of this fact it might be wise even for the mighty potentates of frenzied finance to note and heed.

Ye gods and little fishes, the Morning Silurian, one of the last papers in the state, has actually come out in favor of electing United States senators by the direct primaries. It gives its proclamation somewhat the air of an original discovery in politics. Things are moving swiftly in the state and doubtless in its alow and cumbersome way it has just caught on. It is not unlikely that next week or the week after it will oppose the very plan it now favors. No newspaper has ever been more consistent in its inconsistency and all it needs is time to complete the circle of views on every kind, class and description entertained on any public question. The people, however, have settled this question for themselves. They voted it into the statute book and they are not only going to keep it there, but they are determined to make it vitally effective at the very first opportunity. first opportunity.

WHY NOT MEET THE DEMAND?

ORTLAND is the livestock center of the state and packers from all over the coast come here to buy. The inauguration of beef canning has increased the demand for livestock and with the case. Practically three fourths of the hogs used by the packers of the Pacific coast are brought here from as far east as Chicago, from Kansas City, though the main supply comes from Nebraska points. Buyers here are willing to pay eastern prices with freight added. Many Oregon and Idaho shippers nevertheless send their product east in the hope of getting higher prices. Sometimes these hogs are reshipped here, thus adding double freight bills to the cost, which the consumer eventually page.

eventually pays.

There should be a good field here for the raising of hogs; there is a good opportunity. It is time it was seized. Oregon can be as nearly self-supporting as any other state in the union, providing its people desire to be. Here is one respect in which it falls short. Why should not the deficiency be supplied?

A veracious correspondent telegraphs The Journal from Idaho that two men got into a fight in our neighboring state. One man bit an ear off his opponent. Infuriated over this indignity the shorn one sailed in and pounded his antagonist into a pulp. Temporarily at leisure then, he hunted up the missing ear, salted and peppered it, and forced his erstwhile antagonist to set it in his presence. No one can full to exercise eat it in his presence. No one can fail to appreciate the delicacy of the attention thus bestowed, but what we are puzzled to understand is, is this a case of justice or equity or is it merely cannibalism under pressure?

UNDERPAID POSTAL EMPLOYES.

HE PLEA made for larger pay for postal ployes—carriers in both city and country, is a just and reasonable one, and worthy of an affirmative response on the part of the congress. These affirmative response on the part of the congress. These men do very useful and important work; it has to be done promptly, steadily and intelligently, in all kinds of weather. Promotion is slow, and after many years of faithful service the salary is yet very moderate. We do not believe it is just or reasonable to pay a man like Engineer Shonts a salary of \$150,000 a year, however capable he may be, and realizing the importance of the work placed upon his shoulders, and pay a faithful hardworking mail carrier only \$700 or \$800 a year, or even less. Some, it is reported, can earn only about \$500 a year. Ambassadors, ministers, consuls, congressmen and other public servants are constantly complaining about the inadequacy of their salaries, and perhaps in some cases with good reason, but if there is to be better pay for these classes of people the postal em-

E. H. Harriman's Record Trip. The work went on all right for about Although no attempts were made to naintain a record-breaking speed on the ocean and railway journey made at October by E. H. Harriman and his arty from the orient and across the

maintain a record-breaking speed on the ocean and railway journey made ast October by E. H. Harriman and his arty from the orient and across the ontinent to New York, the continuous rip of this party is the fustest that as ever been accomplished over the oute.

rate the average speed for the il trip of 5,520 miles was 44.3 hour, which is a record for an distance.

stopped every press in the room and sent cold chills running up and down 300 spines with the thought that some ac-cident had happened and some one was

printed and these were duly burned, and the fact fully established by affidavits that are now snugly on file in the arch-ives of the treasury department.

From the New York American. The Pennsylvania limited express ween New York and Pittsburg made entire trip on Christmas day carrying one passenger through 1,000-mile run. The

The John Day Valley.

From the Prairie City Miner.

Prairie City will within a few short years become one of Oregon's most prosperous little inland towns. Located at a central point in the John Day valley makes it the natural townsite for a district which is rich beyond computation. The valley itself is not extended by any means, containing in its area only about 160,000 acres of tillable land. But what it may lack in sea is compensated for by the fertility of its soil. Add to this advantage of climate and the sum total of its agricultural possi-

SMALL CHANGE

Candidates will be thick soon

It is nearly time for that put in an appearance, if

Well, how do you like the Orego

You, wo'll all stand and pull for fre

Ex-Governor Geer is said to be only Oregonian, at least in mod times, who was sent for to stump earn states. But, after all, what of the

Only what is used-

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Newberg improved much during the past year, and reasonably expects to do even better this year.

An icemaking and cold-storage plant will be put in at Rainier in connection with the creamery there. New saloon and lively revival meet-ings in Beaverton.

Heppner is properly proud of its new ub organisation and prospective build-

Ontario is making a notable growth Grass Valley Journal: Those have not got a cold are not in far

Stock doing well on the

North Yamhill Record: The strong wind last Sunday blew down a hop house of Jasper Smith in West Chahalem and destroyed a hack and wagon which were stored in it. The building was a new structure and had never been used.

Willamina Correspondence McMinn-ille News-Reporter: Victoria Wilson ook dinner with Mrs. Ivan Yocom. Rather lively, all-around, early-year

REALM FEMININE

. . .

Physical Culture. The

THE PLAY

"Innocent Maids" Please.

"Innocent Maids Fleete.

While it is doubtful if the Salva!
Army has ever committed an not I would entitle it to being buriesque the manner in which it was at Baker yesterday, it must be admitted the "Innocent Maids" a week's run found in it an excuse hilarity. They found also a which, as a whole, will be remembly those who follow the wheel.

AND CLARK

John Barleycorn's Punch

drinkers.

A business man may go on for years drinking steadily, and if the punch in the stomach in the shape of unforcesen difficulties does not come he may pull through. But who can say when it will came or that it will not come at all?

Is it possible that the business man has a better chance to survive the punch than the pugilists.