

POLITICS BLAMED FOR OUSTING OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

(Continued From Page One)

tain Edmondstone," he said, "hoping that there would be a satisfactory explanation of the various things that had come to my attention. Then after a few days and a great deal of consideration, I asked Captain Edmondstone to resign. He said he would not."

"I then said the only thing I could do was to ask for an investigation of the charges. I have had no funds and very little time to go into it. I have depended upon men and women who would voluntarily say what they knew in the interest of the school district and the public. I believe that the department has broken down entirely and a change must be made if we are to justify ourselves before the fathers and mothers of the children we represent."

Shull further stated he had information that men have been employed on mechanical work outside the school work on school time that they have engaged in political work at the expense of the school district, and that competent employees had been discharged without cause.

WORKED ON SCHOOL TIME
D. J. Phillips, for 16 years an electrician for the school board, was the first witness. Phillips stated that on August 9 Edmondstone asked him if he could install a motion picture machine in the Knights of Pythias hall. Phillips agreed to do it. Edmondstone told him to get a man who knew how to operate it, to help him. Phillips estimated that on August 9 and 10 he spent about 10 hours altogether, and his assistant, Kincaid, five hours, all on school time, and charged on the time card.

Phillips stated that Edmondstone had told him there would be nothing in it for him.

His time card, showing his time spent at various schools, actually spent installing the motion picture machine, was approved by Matthew Odell, chief assistant to Edmondstone.

Collier asked Phillips if he knew what Edmondstone meant when he said there would be nothing in it for him. Phillips replied that it meant he was to do it on school time.

QUERIED ABOUT ESTIMATES
Phillips produced a letter to Fire Marshal Grenfell, substantiating the motion picture machine. This he left with the stenographer, but he would not leave it with George B. Thomas.

Phillips then testified that about October 20 he was discharged. He had previously asked to reduce his force to save expense by laying off three men, which he did. These men were all married men, he stated. Odell's son, who was a single man, was retained. All the married men left off had been employed from seven to 12 years.

Phillips then testified that he had made an estimate of \$900 on the James John school electrical work, which included the usual 10 per cent overhead; that the figure was raised \$1000 to \$900 after it left his hands, and that the bid of NePage-McKinley company was \$929.7.

He stated that in making estimates on surfacing wires on the Maryville school, he made an error due to the placing of the poles differently than he had been informed; that NePage-McKinley company had access to the shops and that on this occasion Edmondstone called him in to explain why his estimates were lower than the NePage-McKinley's.

LAD TO POLITICS
James Stanyon, janitor and engineer at Washington high school, who was discharged September 19, was the second witness. Stanyon produced a petition signed by more than 50 teachers of Washington high school, testifying to his efficiency, also letters from several graduation classes of commendatory nature, and several certificates from Oregon Agricultural college, the University of Oregon and other institutions, indicating

PRESIDES OVER HEARING ON AFFAIRS OF SCHOOL



Director George B. Thomas, chairman of the committee on properties of Portland school district, who presides over hearing on charges preferred against the department of properties which is subject to his committee.

engineering and janitorial examinations he had passed.

Stanyon stated that the only reason Edmondstone gave in his letter to him was for the good of the service; that when he went to Edmondstone the latter said it was because of a complaint made by E. F. Stuart, supervisor of operation, of a boiler explosion. Stanyon denied having had a boiler explosion. When he saw Stuart he asked him about it. Stuart denied ever having reported a boiler explosion, and, according to Stanyon, said:

"It is politics. G. B. said you had to go."

At this point of the testimony, Director Thomas broke in and asked Stanyon why he had not "come to G. B."

DENIED HEARING
Stanyon said that he did not think it would do any good. Presided by Thomas as to the reason, Stanyon said it was because of Thomas' well known antagonism to Stanyon's religion, although he stated, Stanyon was trying to keep religion entirely out of the question. Stanyon said he had repeatedly asked for a hearing, but he had been denied it.

F. E. Harrigan of the general science department, W. D. Green of the chemistry department, Winifred Hays of the English department, Miss Darling, Kathleen Newlin and Miss Lanfield, all of Washington high school; Robert Krohn, supervisor of physical training, Florence Hollaway, secretary to the principal at Washington high, all testified to their acquaintance with Stanyon, during which time they had noted he was an excellent janitor, kept the building and grounds in a cleanly condition, had a high character and that they had never had any complaints to make of his work.

"NO REASON GIVEN"
Harrigan stated that he was the only janitor who had ever kept his room clean. He stated that he had been told by Miss Fannie Porter of Failing school were to have testified, but the former was out of town and the latter in the hospital.

Mrs. Dora Kimball, a mother of five children, whose husband was out of work last year and is at all times irregularly employed, testified that she was discharged from the Lincoln high school for the reason, she stated, that she was a long acquaintance with Stanyon, during which time they had noted he was an excellent janitor, kept the building and grounds in a cleanly condition, had a high character and that they had never had any complaints to make of his work.

WAPPER JURY DISAGREES
Montesano, Wash., Nov. 24.—A jury in the Dick Wapper criminal syndicalism case disagreed. Wapper will be tried again at the next term of court.

BRINGING UP FATHER
EVERYBODY THINKS I OUGHT TO GET EVEN WITH MAGGIE. I'LL GO SEE PROF. PHIL. QUOPHER. HE'S THE WISEST GUY IN TOWN.

Mrs. Kimball said she had worked all last year at the cafeteria and that no one had ever complained of her service. CALLED "MEAN TRICK"

Miss Mary Baird, manager of the cafeteria, explained it thusly: "On October 31, George Spencer, new supervisor of cafeterias, asked particularly about Mrs. Kimball's work. He then said, 'You have to get rid of her.' I told him her work was satisfactory, and asked him what reason he had. He said, 'For no reason except for the good of the service. That is the only reason I am permitted to give you.'"

"I said, 'It cannot be for the good of the service.' It was then 3 p. m., October 31, and he said the discharge was to take effect that day."

"I told him he would have to find someone who could fill her place. He asked me if I had a friend I wanted to put in, and I told him I would not ask any of my friends to take a place where they would be subjected to any such treatment as that," Spencer said. "It is a mean thing." He then went away, but came back later and said there was no mistake, that Mrs. Kimball had to go. When I asked the reason, he said that I might sometime know the reason."

NEAT ORDER CHANGED
Miss Baird stated that when she asked Spencer the name and address of Mrs. Kimball's successor she learned the woman lived over beyond Jefferson high school.

"As long as we have to take care of this woman, I am sorry we need not have to go so far," Miss Baird said that Spencer told her.

Miss Baird stated that Mrs. Kimball was an efficient helper in every way, and that while her successor was willing to learn she would never be as efficient, since the position required skill, initiative, invention and originality.

Miss Baird stated that Spencer ordered her to change her meat market. "Two weeks ago he told me that beginning Monday, November 7, I was to buy my meat at the Sawyer market, and I was to buy wieners and frankfurters at another market, and the proprietors of these markets would come next day and take their orders. I was notified yesterday that beginning next Monday, I am to buy my meat again at the Adler market, where I bought it heretofore, that the purpose is now accomplished."

Miss Baird said there was no saving in price because of the change, except in the wieners, which were 1 cent a pound less, and the frankfurters which were 2 cents lower, but that there was a great change in the quality, and that she had to send back meat two days out of three. She stated that she has been paying \$1.19 a gallon for ice cream, but the change she has been instructed to make, will cost \$1.20 a gallon.

Miss Baird stated that the September statement showed a gain of \$16.71, not including the student help, which was being it higher. That since the employment of Spencer, the October statement showed a loss of \$181.55.

Spencer was the supervisor of cafeterias, employed by Edmondstone without authority from the board. He is at

present on probation at a salary of \$150 a month.

Ed C. Malone, a married man and taxpayer, employed nine years and nine months for the schools, who was discharged about October 11, was the next witness. He was one of the four discharged by Phillips to reduce expenses, on orders from Edmondstone. He stated Odell had told him he wanted to keep his own son on because he had been in the service and had come home broke and couldn't get a position. Malone had asked why others, not on the force so long, were not first discharged.

MORE POLITICS ALLEGED

J. C. Satterlee, employed eight and one half years, who was discharged January 8, 1921, three days after Odell entered the shops and 10 days after Edmondstone's appointment, stated that the reason given him for his discharge by Odell was that "I cannot expect you to be loyal to me and therefore I have decided to dismiss you."

Satterlee said that Edmondstone introduced Odell at the shop and said he was to be general foreman. Edmondstone asked Odell whose desk he wanted, and Odell looked around the room and selected that of Satterlee. Three days later Satterlee received his discharge.

J. O. Gibson, in charge of plumbing, sheet metal and roofing for five years, who was discharged January 12, 1921, said Odell told him his work was perfectly satisfactory. He said, "Other powers are in and you know politics. They want their own people in." He asked for a recommendation which was promised him, but never given, and when he persisted, he was told that if he felt that way, they could always trump up charges for firing him.

ACCUSES HIGHER-UPS

D. C. Arnold, a married man with five children, who was employed 11 years and four months, and who was discharged October 11 from the electrical department, by Phillips at Odell's request, said the only reason given him was that it was to cut down the force.

Dan Shea, employed two years driving a supply car, was discharged December 30 of last year, just at the time when he was planning to take a vacation. Shea said he had worked overtime without charge, and had put off until the cafeteria was supplied, but that when the time came, he was discharged instead of given his earned vacation.

Edmondstone, asked about the vacation, said he was entitled to it, but Shea says he never got it. When asked the reason for discharging him, Edmondstone, according to Shea, said, "It ain't me. It's the higher ups."

"Those are the very words the gentleman used," added Shea.

Shull expects to produce more testimony Friday night, after which an evening will be given over to the defense.

Logging Camp Cook Suffers Fractured Skull in Encounter

Thomas Timmons, cook at a Reliance logging camp near Timber, is at Sellwood hospital, slowly recovering from the effects of a night encounter he had with an unidentified prowler several days ago. Although Timmons' skull is fractured, nurses said he has better than a fair chance.

Timmons said he was attacked in his room at night. He was later found by Dr. Schnap, camp physician, wandering about in a daze. No trace of the assailant has been found.

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BURGESS' BEDTIME STORIES

The Hunter Gives Up

By Thornton W. Burgess

What seems but chance, in truth may be a well wrought plan you do not see.

—Farmer Brown's Boy.

BLACKY THE CROW didn't know what to think. He couldn't make himself believe that Farmer Brown's boy had really turned hunter, yet what else could he believe? Hadn't he with his own eyes seen Farmer Brown's boy with a terrible gun hide in the rushes along the Big River and wait for Dusky the Black Duck and his flock to come in? And hadn't he with his own ears heard the "bang, bang" of that very gun?

The very first thing the next morning Blacky dashed over to the place where Farmer Brown's boy had hidden in the rushes. With sharp eyes he looked for feathers that would tell the tale of a duck killed.

"Hello!" said he. "Are you the one who was shooting here last night and the night before?"

Farmer Brown's boy grinned. "Yes," said he.

"What luck did you have?" asked the hunter.

"Fine," replied Farmer Brown's boy. "How many Ducks did you get?" asked the hunter.

Farmer Brown's boy grinned more broadly than before. "None," said he. "I guess I'm not a very good shot."

"Then what did you mean by saying you had fine luck?" demanded the hunter.

"Oh," replied Farmer Brown's boy, "I had the luck to see those Ducks and the fun of shooting," and he grinned again.

The hunter lost patience. He tried to order Farmer Brown's boy away. But the latter said he had as much right there as the hunter had and the hunter knew that this was so. Finally, he gave up and, muttering angrily, went back to his blind. Again the gun of Farmer Brown's boy frightened away the Ducks just as they were coming in.

The next afternoon there was no hunter, nor the next, though Farmer Brown's boy was there. The hunter had decided that it was a waste of time to hunt there while Farmer Brown's boy was about.

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The next story: "Blacky Talks With Dusky the Black Duck."

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CUT

Vancouver, Wash., Nov. 24.—Attendance at the Orchard school fell off 50 per cent during the stormy weather. Some of the pupils live a distance from the schoolhouse and the heavy rain made the footpaths almost impassable.

Estacada, Nov. 24.—Professor R. H. Dearborn, head of the department of electrical engineering of O. A. C., was in Estacada, Tuesday, accompanied by 20 O. A. C. students of the electrical engineering department. They had been at Casadero to inspect the Portland Railway, Light & Power company's power plant and after lunch left for River Mill to look over that plant.

Funeral Is Delayed By Storm Condition

Sandy, Nov. 24.—The funeral of Harvey Waybill, which was announced for Monday at the Pleasant Home Methodist church, had been postponed, as the caretaker of the Douglas cemetery could not get the grave ready because of the heavy coating of ice. This cemetery is about a mile south of Troutdale. Waybill was past 80 years of age and had lived in the Pleasant Home district many years.

Auto Party Injured As Car Turns Over

Medford, Nov. 24.—Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Nelson and L. Gaskill of Spokane, Wash., narrowly escaped serious injury Tuesday morning when their touring car overturned as it turned out of the road to pass a herd of cattle. Mrs. Nelson managed to get out from under the car, but the men were held prisoners until Mrs. Nelson obtained help. Nelson suffered a broken nose and a severe cut in the lower lip, in addition to bruises about the face and head. Mrs. Nelson and Gaskill escaped with minor injuries.

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Playing Officers Proves Costly Game

Claud Dudley, Oscar Lund and H. Barton, arrested early Wednesday morning, after they were alleged to have represented themselves as officers for the purpose of searching the home of Simon Cohen for liquor, waived preliminary hearings in municipal court Wednesday. They were bound over to the grand jury on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon. Cohen claimed they threatened him with guns and displayed stars before he allowed them to enter the place. Isidore Drecheny and E. Anderson, arrested with the others, are being held as witnesses. Bail was fixed on the first three at \$1500 each and \$500 for the others.

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Away With Poppuns And Tin Soldiers, Student Meet Aim

Pacific University, Forest Grove, Nov. 24.—The "disarmament conference" now in session at Pacific university has under consideration a proposal to abolish the use of slingshots, popguns, toy pistols and tin soldiers. Or, rather, one of the university's peace conferences is now engaged, for two are in session on the campus, both being conducted by classes of the public speaking department, under the direction of Professor Harold H. Story. The classes have been divided into representatives of the different nationalities and they have set to work with a will to reorganize the earth.

The miniature conferences are not, according to Professor Story, imitations of the Washington affair, but the students are introducing their own ideas regarding international relations.

One of the conferences already has limited the standing armies of all European nations to 200,000 men and now is tackling the problem of restricting the navies. The other conference has deemed it wise to settle the Far Eastern question before the consummation of the map of Asia. The French delegation offered to return Kiang Chow to China two days before its counterpart at Washington made a similar proposal.

Professor Story boasts that his British representatives are still ahead of the Washington delegates from England, however, in their offer to restore Hong Kong to Chinese rule. The Japanese delegation at Pacific is the conservative factor, just as at the national capital, thus far flatly refusing any agreement to surrender Shantung or Port Arthur.

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THANKSGIVING

BY GORDON WATSON

"HELLO!" T. Paer cooed into the telephone, "this Polly Tician?"

"Yes," a thin voice floated back over the wire, "what do you want?"

"I want to wish you a gorgeous Thanksgiving," T. Paer answered. "This the day they give turkeys away, ain't it?"