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PUBLIC ECONOMY.

Salaries of State Officials.

It is the battler of politicians that "a public office is a public trust." It is an unwritten maxim that one should conduct public business along the economic lines on which he conducts his own, and also, that a man who is not a successful business man is not one with which to entrust public affairs. And further, we may go on and say that knowing the compensation, it is a crime for a man to accept a public position of any kind and then seek ways that are dark and tricks that are vain—"hook or crook," and generally both, to increase that compensation, far beyond what was even contemplated by the makers of our state constitution. The people were in the dark about the matter of official incomes, because until recently no leading organ has said: "Let there be light," but at last one has stepped to the front, and its showing, founded upon an actual investigation of affairs at headquarters, is quite sufficient to paralyze the man who pays the taxes, no matter what his profession or politics.

Now, please don't let any man think the question of official salaries a matter of partisan politics. In its highest and best sense, it would be good politics for all parties to correct flagrant wrongs, and paralyze, exceeding "bad politics" not to do so; and this can only be a political matter, in that it affects both parties and all the people. It is a question for every taxpayer, and are calling loudly for reform.

The Capital Journal is the paper which has turned loose many startling facts regarding the incomes of sundry state officials and newspapers of all political shades are taking up the cry and are urging it upon the attention of the people with the demand that all political platforms take cognizance of the matter. It is now for the people to decree that no man shall have a seat in the legislature, unless pledged to this salary reform.

That we may better see "where we stand," we quote from the state constitution the section regulating the salaries of state officials:

ARTICLE XIII, SEC. 1.

"The Governor shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars. The Secretary of State shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars. The State Treasurer shall receive an annual salary of eighteen hundred dollars. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall each receive an annual salary of two thousand dollars. They shall receive no fees or perquisites whatever for the performance of any duties connected with their respective offices; and the compensation of officers, if not fixed by this constitution shall be provided by law."

Now, in the "face and eyes" of this organic law, we take the following statement from the Weekly Capital Journal of January 16th as drawing the present annual salaries, fees and perquisites of four leading state officials, to-wit:

Governor	\$6,950
State Treasurer	8,212
Supt. of Schools	7,827
Secretary of State	22,358
State Printer	45,950

The salary of Superintendent of Schools—not mentioned in the constitution—is \$2500 and the figures given for State Printer are supposed to cover the entire expenses of that department. The other three partitions have constitutional salaries, but organic law does not appear to prevent them from being multiplied many times.

The average state revenue for the past seven years—as shown by the Journal—is \$640,175, while that required for 1902 is \$1,100,718—being an increase of \$460,543. The same paper then goes on to show how by proper salaries and a fair allowance for all exigencies, there is a difference of \$429,089 in favor of correct business methods.

What will the taxpayer do about it? We are not an advocate of low salaries. We think the present constitutional salary of the Governor ridiculous. Yet there is another equally low, and until recently, another great state which only paid its chief executive \$1000 a year without fee or perquisite. At present there is only one other state that pays such a measly salary; but for heaven's sake let us have the matter fixed, not only that a larger salary be paid, but that the Governor will not have to charge up salaries to half a dozen boards, in order to have it look respectable.

The following are the salaries paid Governors in each of the several states among which three and four and five thousand dollars seem

to be the popular figures: New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, \$10,000. Massachusetts and Ohio, \$8000. Kentucky, \$6500. Illinois and California, \$6000. Colorado, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Virginia and Wisconsin, \$5000. Maryland, \$4500. Connecticut, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Washington, \$4000. Florida and Mississippi, \$3500. Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and North Dakota, \$3000. West Virginia, \$2700. Maine, Nebraska and Wyoming, \$2500. Delaware, New Hampshire and Utah, \$2000. Vermont and Oregon, \$1500. Of our six territories, in one of them—Hawaii—the Governor receives \$5,000 salary, and in the other four, to-wit: Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico Oklahoma and Porto Rico, \$3000.

All territorial governors are appointed by the president. Now, from the above it will be seen that there's only one other state in the Union, paying its Governor the beggarly salary of \$1500, but we have no means of knowing that by any means, that executive is able to swell it to \$6950.

One other state (Michigan) for forty years paid its Governor the munificent salary of \$1000 a year, but they got ashamed of it and changed it a few years ago, and we want our readers to know that there was not a fee or perquisite of any kind connected with office to swell that salary one dollar. It was just a clean thousand dollars and out, at the end of two years or four, if the people found him not avocative(?) and worthy of a second term.

We do not wish to be considered as criticising our present Governor, or any of the state officials who are only doing as their predecessors did. It is the system we condemn, though it is hard to see how such things could even have become a kind of common law, when the constitution expressly says: "They shall receive no fees or perquisites, whatever, for the performance of any duties connected with their respective offices." Plainly it means every one of them. There is no escape from that conclusion, and we ask our readers to refer back and note how fees and perquisites are "piled up magnificently high." Then read again, the constitutional provision on salaries for state officials and then—just do a little thinking for yourself.

We shall have more to say on this subject. A public office is not a private snip.

E. G. D. HOLDEN.

The Postoffice Department has forbidden Mr. Bryan to send his paper free to members of Congress. Because, the officials of the department say, he is in the freely advertising a "theory or doctrine." Here is silliness gone to seed. This ruling will simply boom Mr. Bryan's paper in some three-hundred Postmaster-General afraid of Mr. Bryan's "theories" or "doctrines." As to Bryan's "editors" being "advertisements," the idea is absurd. The department might as well forbid The Telegram to send a copy of this issue, containing today's editorials, to one of our Senators or Representatives. If Mr. Bryan's "theories" and "doctrines" are wrong as some of them undoubtedly are, they will be rejected, as indeed they have been, by the American people. But the American people desire and demand fair play for everybody, even one who publishes "theories" and "doctrines," or some of them, have been rejected; but that is no reason why he can not or should not publish a paper advocating what he believes to be right, and send it to whomever he pleases.

If he wants to give it away that is nobody's business but his own. He has quite as much right to give the Commoner to members of Congress as Mr. Carnegie has to give a few of his many millions to found a National University. The Postoffice Department has simply made laughing stock of itself.—Evening Telegram.

Wireless telegraph is in use to a far greater extent than is generally known. In his recent summary of the progress of his invention, given before an impressive assembly of scientists, inventors and financiers, in New York, Marconi stated that one of the trans-Atlantic lines was equipped with 200 miles of wire, and that the other was equipped with 200 miles of wire. Thirty-seven ships of the British Navy and twelve of the Indian Navy are fitted with wireless installations, while twenty-one merchant vessels are using the system.

In the opinion of Dr. Pappin, of Columbia University, who has achieved much distinction as a scientific investigator, "wireless telegraphy is as definite a problem as was the cable in 1851." That it will be worked by a like satisfactory solution there can be no reasonable doubt.

That glucose and starch trust will be a pretty stiff concern with its capital of \$70,000,000.

Numerous Presidents have started out to boss Congress, but none of them ever made a thorough job of it.

The truth about sugar will be found by congress somewhere between what the Cubans ask and the claims of Mr. Oxnard.

Petition for National Park.

The following is the wording of a petition being circulated in this state, and should be signed by every person eligible to sign the same:

To the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled:

Your petitioners, residents of the state of Oregon, respectfully set forth the following facts, and ask your consideration thereof: Crater Lake is located on the summit of the Cascade range of mountains, in Klamath County, Oregon, and is one of the greatest natural wonders of the world. It is a portion of the unappropriated vacant domain of the Government, and in the opinion of your petitioners should be set apart and maintained as a National Park. To this end Hon. Thomas H. Tongue has introduced in your honorable body H. R. 4393, for which we respectfully request your support.

The surface of the lake is 6,230 feet above sea level, it is nearly six miles in diameter and is completely surrounded by nearly perpendicular walls from 1,000 to 2,000 feet high. It contains a circular island, or cinder cone, 845 feet high, in the top of which is an extinct crater 30 feet deep. The water is clear as crystal, 2,000 feet deep and of the richest possible blue. Adjoining the lake and guarding its approaches the mountains are rugged, of great altitude and of no value for agriculture or mining. In spite of laws to the contrary, wild game in the Pacific Northwest is rapidly disappearing, and unless steps are taken in the near future to provide a refuge for it, many varieties will become extinct.

Therefore, your petitioners ask your favorable consideration of H. R. 4393.

Victoria (B. C.), January 28.—No longer can there be any doubt that the British war ship Condor sent down in that fierce gale off the Cape which sent the collier Matewan to the bottom nearly two months ago.

Captain Townsend, master of the steamer Queen City, which arrived here today from Cape Scott and way ports, positively identifies as the Condor's the small boat which was picked up on the Alousett rocks by the Indians of the reservation on January 6th.

Washington, January 26.—The question of Government ownership of telegraph lines is soon to be taken up by the Senate Committee on Postoffices and Postroads, and if Senator Mason, chairman of this committee, reaches Washington in time, the committee will meet Tuesday for an informal discussion of the matter.

If the plan for Government ownership is considered feasible by the committee a bill will be drawn up and referred by the committee to the Senate. The reduction in tolls is the principal object in adding the telegraph systems of the country to the postal service, and the committee will endeavor to ascertain what reduction can be made in the tolls and at the same time make the service self-sustaining.

Washington, Jan. 30.—The Oregon Senator and Representatives have united in signing a letter, which they will file before the Secretary of the Interior, with the appeal of Governor Geer, the Chief Justice, and two Associate Justices of the state, besides other officials and prominent citizens of Oregon. Vigorously protesting against the displacement of Oregon men who have shown by their work that they are efficient as forest rangers, and further protesting against the displacement of Oregon men as forestry officers in the reserves of that state, and the substitution of Eastern men in their stead.

"We are of the opinion," says the delegation, "that there are many men residing in Oregon who, by both education and long experience of forest life, are as fully capable of filling these positions as are men from the East, who are mere theorists and who have never had any practical experience in connection with this important subject. We trust, in the selection of forest-keepers in the future, these statements will have careful consideration."

A Colonel, on his tour of inspection, unexpectedly entered the dining room, when he came across a couple of soldiers, one of them reading a letter about while the other was listening, and at the same time putting up his ears to the ceiling.

"What are you doing there?" a puzzled officer inquired of the listener.

"You see, Colonel, I'm reading a letter which can't read myself, a letter which has arrived by this afternoon's post from my sweet heart."

"And you, Atkins, what in all the world are you doing?"

"Please Colonel, I am stopping my Marry's ears with both hands, because I don't mind his reading my sweetheart's letter, but I don't want him to hear a single word of what she has written.—London Tidbits."

No, we don't believe that the U. S. government will station a brass band on every Indian reservation to play "Johny Get Your Hair Cut" continuously.

THE WOODMEN.

(Sings.)
If you hear 'em say 'em saying,
An' there ain't no use in trying,
To preserve the dear old order, it is sure
To pass away.

Do not stand on to evening,
Tell that fellow he's a lying,
And that Woodmen, by the thousands,
Are existing every day.

If they tell you we are lying,
And to pay we can't be trusted,
And our rates are way down lower than
anybody ought to be,
You can tell them just to ponder,
On some happy home just yonder,
Where the mortgage has been lifted and
the home is a joy and free.

If they say that we'll diminish,
And that we can't be trusted,
And that shortly our order will be known
Among the past,
You can tell them that old story
Has grown old and gray and hoary,
And that they ought to know it as they
see us growin' fast.

If these old-time fellows meet you,
With some new and startling story 'bout
the Woodmen's going down,
Tell them out and kindly show them,
As your friends and neighbors know them,
That our ranks are daily growing from
the best here are in town.

If they say we've spent our forces,
Take them from your own sources,
And our neighbors are not counted on
for a long time,
Then tell them of our shining fairies,
Pride of Illinois wood prairies,
Our Woodmen, wives and daughters, best
and truest of the land.

Then, when all your foes are banished,
And the last foe has vanished,
And you can't be trusted, in which
you and I delight,
Turn to him who rules above us,
And who loves us and who loves us,
And thank the God who made you, you're
a Woodman now to-night.

Key Impaled on Antlers of Giant Elk.

Oskoda, January 26.—"Dixie," the giant elk in Piedmont Springs Park, impaled Frank Fortado on his antlers this afternoon, carried him writhing on the sharp prongs for nearly two minutes and then tossed him high in the air and out of the enclosure. The boy tried long enough to answer his brother's question: "Are you badly hurt?"

"Yes, the elk has killed me," then he died. It was just after the noon hour that Frank Fortado with a friend two years younger, Leslie Spencer, entered the elk's paddock to feed the captive animals, although employed at the park it is not a part of young Fortado's duty to feed the elk, but he had cared for them up to about a month ago and had made pets of all in the enclosure and cared for them whenever given an opportunity. "Dixie," the one that killed him, although looked upon by the other park employees as a treacherous brute, was the one Fortado thought the most of, and he had assured his boy companion just a few minutes before he breathed his last that "Dixie" while he looked ugly enough was not dangerous.

The boys had given the elk their hay and grain and stood for a short time watching them. Then they turned and walked and talked toward the gate at the east side of the enclosure. They had gone about eighty feet when "Dixie" with head lowered, turned and charged them. Neither Fortado nor Spencer saw the animal until he was within a few feet of them. Spencer saw the brute first and cried out to his companion "Look out!" But the warning came too late. Before Fortado could take a step the animal struck him and the force of the blow was so great that the sharp prongs of the antlers entered his body near the right groin. The boy screamed with pain, but he was fast on the antlers and as he annual charged about the enclosure Leslie Spencer fled in terror and cleared the high board fence. He had hardly reached the ground on the outside when the elk with a toss of his head buried the body of young Fortado high in the air and he fell at the other boy's feet.

Joseph Fortado, a brother of the injured boy saw him fall. He did not see the elk gore his brother, but he realized in an instant what had happened and hastened toward him. As he came up Frank, although he had received his death wound arose to his feet and lived long enough to say that it was all up with him. Then he fell back and died in his brother's arms.

Guessing at It.
One of the good deacons in a certain church is also the superintendent of the Sunday school, and although he is not an artist he frequently illustrates points in the lesson by the use of the blackboard. These exercises are for the special benefit of the younger portion of the school, and the superintendent has a habit of arousing the children's interest by asking questions about what he has drawn.

Having drawn the representation of a crown one Sunday, much after the stereotyped style of all such royal appointments, he said, "Now, what one of the little folks can tell me what this is?" Several raised their hands, but the superintendent's eye was caught by a little fellow on the front seat.

"Well, Johnny, you may tell."

Proud of his distinction above his fellows, the boy rose smilingly and shouted "A pincushion!"—Boston Journal.

It is a silly insult to injury to charge, as the Turks are doing that Miss Stone purposely got herself kidnapped.

The ex-Queen seems to have a good deal. She is a washer in prime minister, is to be made Governor of Hawaii.

The present state London weekly aggregated \$1,750,000 in value. Several mortgages might be pulled off in this locality if a guarantee could be secured of presents to the same value.

A Good Answer.
I am by profession a schoolmaster, and one of my duties is to make a round of the classrooms about 1000 which to see that all lights are out. One night I found a boy sitting on his bed, with a lighted candle beside him, reading a book in his hands. "Come," I said, "you know that it is not allowed at this time of night. You must give it to me." "Oh, please don't," he said, "don't take it away. It's never too late to read."—London Answers.

Not Necessary.
"You are an ardent angler, I hear?"
"Yes, I am fond of fishing."
"Come, now, don't you tell a lie occasionally about the size and number of the fish you catch?"
"Certainly not. I always catch a large number and of such extraordinary size that I don't need to lie."—New York Press.



Barber (going to his club)—Good morning, Miss Smithers. On your way to the office?
Miss Smithers—Yes. And you are too, I suppose?
Barber (embarrassed)—Oh, well, I'm traveling in opposite directions—Miss Smithers' Bureau.

A Wide Gait.
"Can't you pay me that bill for borrowed work before lunch? You promised to return it the next day."
"Ah, but you see I was an optimist then. I am now a pessimist."—Boston Transcript.

If that Senatorial Philistine investigation really investigates it will be welcomed by the people.

Hon. Grover Cleveland is again well enough to do a little shooting and writing. But there are still lots of men who think he shoots better than he writes.

The exposure of the stealing of a trusted employee always makes a stir in some quarters, where it seems to be forgotten how many thousand honest trusted employees there are in the world.

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