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MUNICIPAL SINECURES

Of all units of government the municipal government costs the most. The government of American cities is a reproach to the citizenship of the country. The extravagance and inefficiency run from New York down to Caldwell and in an equitable ratio to wealth and population. There is this great satisfaction that none is much worse, nor much better than all others.

As a concrete example of sinecures in municipal government we would direct attention to the superintendent of the city water works of this city. We would like to know just what the superintendent does that is worth \$90.00 per month to the municipality. If there is any one who happens to know what this gentleman does we would like to have him spring it. Whatever he does he has one helper, steady and another when the duties of office become onerous.

It is a small item and has probably escaped attention and comment. We introduce it with no idea of effecting a reformation, and with less desire to cause commotion about the superintendent's office. Commotion there is not to be thought of. The sweet tranquility should not be disturbed. The perusal of the morning paper in the shade of the city hall is a pleasure that should be denied no one. Our sole purpose is in a measure to account for the high cost of municipal government. It is simply an illustration and should be preserved as such. A constant example of municipal methods is well worth the cost to any city.

THE FESTIVE CANDIDATE

The observations which are about to follow have been given to the public before in substance in these columns. They are so good, if you will pardon us for saying so, that they will bear repetition, at a time when the jovial candidate is abroad in the land.

You have all observed the candidate. He is cheerful, wholesome, bright of eye, neat of dress, awake to the opportunities of the country and the beatitudes of its citizenship. He has great faith in his fellow beings, is charitable in thought and action, considerate of the opinion of others, and generally demeans himself as a perfect gentleman. It is our firm conviction that no man can conduct himself as a gentleman for 60 days without being a better man for the rest of his natural life. He will never get back to the old level of slovenly thought, action and dress, even if elected to office.

Taking as our premise that the candidate will always be better for having been a candidate we conclude that at some time or other every man should be a candidate. The law should compel him to seek public office during the first 20 years after attaining his majority. Failure to do so should be subject to fine and imprisonment.

After thinking it over we think that the law ought to go double and apply to women too.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES THE ONLY SAFETY

A terrible scourge, infantile paralysis, is raging in the east. The death toll in New York, where the disease seems to have become firmly established, is growing daily. The Federal Government has taken a hand in hopes that the disease may be confined to the areas infested. The authorities are doing everything in their power to prevent the spread of the affliction.

The medical world knows very little about the origin or treatment of infantile paralysis. Preventative measures are about all that can be safely recommended. The interview with Dr. J. W. Gue which appears elsewhere in this issue of The Tribune should be carefully read. Dr. Gue's suggestions are sane and sound and if followed will not only prevent the introduction of infantile paralysis but other diseases as well.

In the last analysis cleanliness and sanitation are the only real safeguards against disease. The person who lives under proper conditions and in a proper manner can reasonably expect to escape the scourges which rage from time to time. This is the very season of the year when sanitation should be practiced as never before.

GOOD ROADS HIGHWAY DISTRICTS

The benefits derived from good public thoroughfares of all kinds should be realized by everybody. There has certainly been enough of education and propaganda along this line. If the average man does not believe that good roads are a good investment we fear that he never will believe it.

If it be admitted that good roads are a good thing for the public then methods of acquiring good roads remain all that need be discussed. There are two methods, the old method which has produced such roads as we have and the new method which promises much. The old method is a haphazard sort of affair now and again bearing fruit. The new method introduces the systematic and continuous performance and bears fruit regularly. Under the old system there is now and again a good road. A neglected orchard occasionally brings forth good fruit. Under the new system good roads are invariably found. If by their fruits ye shall know them the new system of highway districts is worthy of a fair try-out.

Probably the best investment the promoters of the highway district could make, in the way of education, would be to give the objectors a long ride through a progressive highway district. Example is still more effective than percept.

IS JOE ANDERSON A REPUDIATOR?

"Repudiation of indebtedness" is the term officials of the Reclamation Service delight to apply to the efforts the farmers on the Government Projects are now making to have the expenditures of the Service investigated before they become a lien against their lands. The farmers object to the manner and amount of money which has been expended on some projects and they are branded as repudiators of their just and lawful debts.

There is no repudiation and has never been any thought of repudiation. The settlers simply ask that they be required to pay a reasonable sum for the irrigation works which have been constructed. They feel that mistakes of judgment, waste and extravagance are not a proper charge against them, and that in fixing the cost that they should be given credit for such items wherever they can be shown to appear. We believe that the farmers are right in their contention and entitled to

the support of the general public.

The Reclamation Service has been absolutely unconcerned about the cost of the Boise Project until the past few months. Now that the Project is about completed and ready to be opened, and the record will have to be made public, these officials want to cover up. They ask the settlers to enter into a blanket contract with the Government accepting everything, endorsing everything, and agreeing to pay for everything that has been done. Naturally the settlers object to entering into any such agreement, and at the proper time and in the proper manner they will protest against the water cost unless it is within reasonable approximation of the estimated cost of the works. They will lay their case before the general public. We predict that the verdict will be a condemnation of the Reclamation Service.

Let us cite an instance for the consideration of the reader. The Reclamation Service on the Boise Project went ahead and provided an irrigation system for from 75,000 to 100,000 acres more land than is legally under the Project and subject to the Reclamation laws. If these lands are not brought into the Project the remainder must pay the entire cost of the Project. The only way in which the lands can be brought into the Project is by the organization of an irrigation district. The landowners who are not already tied up will object to being forced in. They will fight the organization of the district. Can any one blame them in view of the fact that they do not know what the cost of water will be? The condition existing is due entirely to the carelessness and negligence of the Reclamation Service.

Let us look at the Boise Government Reclamation Project from the standpoint of a settler upon the land. For obvious reasons names and places are changed in the following story, but the facts are substantially as stated:

In 1907 Joe Anderson and his wife and three children were living near DeKalb, Illinois. They were well to do in a way. Anderson was industrious and able to support his family in comfort. Be it said, however, they had been able to accumulate no great amount of property. In the fall of that year they visited relatives in Chicago. While looking about Chicago Mr. Anderson's attention was directed to a large black tent which had been erected, and in which pictures of scenes on Government reclamation projects were shown; lectures on the conditions, advantages and opportunities on the projects, delivered; and literature dealing with the same subject matter distributed. Mr. Anderson attended several lectures, enjoyed the pictures and took home the literature. He was greatly impressed with what he had heard and seen. He determined to investigate and if conditions as set forth were found to exist, to cast his lot on a Government project.

Inquiry soon resulted in the information that the tent pictures, lectures and literature, were known to the Reclamation Service of the United States. This propaganda was being conducted with full knowledge, consent and approval of the Government. Indeed it was an official propaganda. Upon further inquiry Mr. Anderson found that a great many people from Pontiac, Illinois, had located in the Boise Valley, and even that their tract of land was included in the Payette-Boise Government Reclamation Project. (This tract is not now a part of the Project.) He wrote to persons whose names he had received and found that the pictures, facts and figures were authentic. He was advised to write to the Reclamation Service, Department of the Interior, Washington. He wrote and received a reply fully substantiating everything that had been told him. He inquired about the lectures and pictures; about the laws under which the irrigation works were being constructed; and about the terms, costs, etc. He was told that the big black tent was being conducted under the auspices of the Government and the representations there set forth were trustworthy; that the Government was constructing the irrigation system; that when it was completed it would be turned over to the farmers at actual cost, and that there would be no interest on deferred payments. Mr. Anderson was more deeply impressed than before. He is a careful man however, and wrote to the Payette-Boise Water Users' association concerning the cost of the irrigation system the Government had under construction. Literature was sent him which stated that the "cost in this instance is estimated at \$25.00 per acre." During the winter Mr. Anderson talked the matter over with his wife and friends and decided to visit the Boise Valley.

In early spring Mrs. Anderson's father died and Joe did not come west until mid-summer, when he was accompanied by his family. The death of Mrs. Anderson's father made available to the family \$3,200.00 and he was the last tie at DeKalb. The small patrimony enabled the family to pull up their stakes and depart. The family came to Caldwell. Mr. Anderson visited the Roswell section and found conditions as represented. He talked with the leading men of Roswell, Parma, Caldwell, Nampa and Boise—farmers, merchants, bankers, professional men and representatives of the Reclamation Service. By every one he was assured that the facts had been told him and that he could rely upon the literature he had read. Were not the lectures and the literature delivered to you published with the full knowledge, consent and approval of Uncle Sam? was a question which was hurled at him time and time again. He was importuned to buy land. He looked at homesteads, Pioneer Irrigation District lands, Nampa-Meridian lands and Dixie lands. He noted that both the Pioneer Irrigation District and the Nampa-Meridian Irrigation District were a part of the Payette-Boise Project. Accidentally he ran across a four page leaflet, being an address to the landowners of the Nampa-Meridian Irrigation District, setting forth facts in which the Reclamation Service, the Water Users' association and the Irrigation District, were commonly interested. This leaflet reiterated the statement that the estimated cost of the works was \$25.00. It was signed by J. H. Lowell, as President of the Payette-Boise Water Users' association and by H. A. Partridge as President of the Nampa-Meridian Irrigation District. It was in fact published and endorsed by the Reclamation Service.

In fact every inquiry on the part of Mr. Anderson, at Washington, at Boise, at Caldwell, and on the farms led to the statement that the estimated cost of the project was \$25.00 per acre. Finally Mr. Anderson was convinced that this section offered superior advantages. He bought an 80-acre relinquishment on Deer Flat for \$3,000.00.

Of course, Mr. Anderson got here too early for water but in view of the cheapness of the land; the cheapness of the water; the splendor of the scenery; the ideality of the climate; the friendliness and culture of the people; neither he nor his family felt any worse for being on the ground too early. He looked about him and found he could get work for himself and teams on the irrigation works under construction. He secured work and for a few months made money and was supremely happy. A disturbing thought entered his mind every once in a while when he looked over the young, inexperienced, yellow-legged engineers who seemed to be as thick as flies.

There seemed to be too many of them and they were too young. He was afraid that in the end they would prove to be expensive workmen. He dismissed the thought time and again with the comforting reflection that Uncle Sam was not only a genial old cuss, but knew his business into the bargain. A little later came rumors that the Reclamation fund was exhausted and that the work might be postponed indefinitely. However, Secretary Garfield came to the rescue with as brilliant a piece of frenzied financing as ever distinguished Amalgamated Copper in its palmiest days. When the fund was exhausted Mr. Garfield authorized certificates redeemable at par in payment for water rights. Mr. Anderson noted soon that every contractor, teamster and laborer was advancing his prices in an effort to overcome the discount on certificates which amounted in some instances to 65 per cent of the face value of the certificates. This did not look good but Anderson's confidence in Teddy and Uncle Sam was not shaken and his fears were dismissed but with lingering misgivings. About this time he visited the head offices of the Project at Boise where he found clerks, engineers and employees legion. Again his fears came to life, but they were buried with the reflection that that genial old fellow, Uncle Sam, would settle the reckoning.

A little later he found that laterals upon which he had worked had been abandoned; that surveys for laterals had been made eight and ten times; that rumors of graft were current; that sites for reservoir purposes had been bought at excessive prices; that incompetency was believed to prevail quite generally; that a chief engineer suddenly found that the altitude here was too high and that the farmers generally were convinced that the cost of the project would exceed \$25.00 per acre. Mr. Anderson felt that as the reclamation of arid land was a new departure of government that if the cost of water was two or three or even five dollars more per acre than

originally estimated no great hardship would be worked on anybody. At that time the information was given out that the cost would run to \$28.00 per acre and Anderson was again in the full enjoyment of his peace of mind.

For several years Joe Anderson has held down a farm on the Boise Project. He has seen the estimate of the cost of water advance from \$25.00 to \$28.00 per acre; from \$28.00 to \$33.00; from \$33.00 to \$45.00; from \$45.00 to \$55.00 and the end is not yet. He honestly believes that the cost may reach \$75.00.

Joe Anderson wants an investigation. He wants an accounting. He wants his water at approximately the estimated cost. He wants to know why the cost may reach three times as much as he was given to understand it would be. There are hundreds of others who feel the same as Joe Anderson feels. Are they repudiators of their debts because they ask for that which was solemnly promised them by the Government?

Joe Anderson is 59 years old today. He owes no man on earth a cent. He has never repudiated a dollar of just indebtedness in his life. He worked for years on his homestead. His wife and children worked side by side with him. They toiled early and late and practiced rigid economy, economy that at times was pitiful. Today he is on the threshold of old age with a \$6,000.00 mortgage on his farm staring him in the face. Into that farm he has placed his labor, time, soul and ambition. The little patrimony his wife inherited and the few hundred dollars he and she had accumulated together went into the home. What is he going to do? Go down to his grave with the greater portion of the mortgage unpaid? Or, make an effort to have the Government of the United States pay for the mistakes, waste, graft and extravagance that were practiced by its employees? What would you do? Would you be a repudiator of your debt because you tried to protect your own? Has not Joe Anderson the right to expect his government to live up to its promises?

LIVELY MEETING AT FRANKLIN

Messrs. J. H. Forbes, Jos. Dickens H. J. Zeh and John J. Plowhead were at Franklin Tuesday evening for the purpose of preaching the gospel of good roads and highway districts. Those in attendance at the meeting indicated their opposition to the proposed highway district. The missionaries feel that they made some impression on the tax payers of that section.

SPEEDWAY

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Cox and the Misses Mae and Merle Cox of Nampa visited at the Smith home Friday evening.

Misses Georgia Andrews, Bernice Weymouth and Helen Stockton, Messrs. Howard Biggs, James and Robert Andrews attended a party at the Meador home in Briar Rose on the twelfth.

Mrs. H. Witteborg entertained the ladies and girls of Speedway at a delightful Kensington on the afternoon of July 14. After a pleasant hour spent in sewing and visiting, the hostess served dainty refreshments.

Mrs. W. C. Weymouth is much better and is now able to sit up some.

R. R. Greger went to Boise Saturday.

Misses Bernice Weymouth and Georgia Andrews and Messrs. Earl Witteborg and Howard Biggs attended a party at the Clemens home in Briar Rose July 18.

Misses Electa Gartin of Caldwell and Olivia Meador of Briar Rose were guests at the Andrews' home Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Smith, Mrs. McCreger, Mrs. H. Dittberg and Earl Witteborg attended the dance at Lake Lowell last Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Biggs and family attended the union picnic at Curtis Park Thursday.

Miss Helen Stockton returned to the home in New Plymouth Monday night after a visit with her friend, Miss Georgia Andrews.

Clarabelle Wright of Deer Flat is the guest of her cousin, Lois Biggs, this week.

Mrs. Lee Biggs was one of the guests at the party given by Mrs. Ewing on Tuesday in honor of her sister.

Messrs. Andrews McCreger and Mesler have much improved the looks of Speedway by mowing the weeds along the road in front of their places.

The adult Bible class of the Christian Sunday school held the monthly social meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bird. A social car was run by the Caldwell Traction Company for the accommodation of the crowd. About thirty were present.

CANDIDATE FOR SHERIFF

I am a candidate for the Republican nomination for sheriff of Canyon County, subject to the will of the Republican voters at the primary election to be held Tuesday, September 5. If nominated and elected I promise economy in office, efficiency, and the enforcement of all laws.

JOHN A. BAKER.
721-93

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many friends who have given their sympathy, assistance and beautiful floral offerings in this our sad bereavement.

Mrs. C. C. Bales and Family,
Miss Mary Fugate.

CALL FOR BIDS

Sealed Proposals, addressed to the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Caldwell Irrigation District, at Caldwell, State of Idaho, and endorsed "Proposals for Grading and Constructing the Mason Creek Feeder Canal, Pumping Plants, Etc.," will be received at the office of the Caldwell Irrigation District, At J. B. Wright's on Canyon Hill at Caldwell, Idaho, until 8 p. m. of the 21st day of August, 1916, for the construction of the Mason Creek Feeder Canal, Pump House, Pumps, furnishing and installing pumps, Motors, Delivery Pipe lines, and all Accessories, and said proposals will be at that time publicly opened and read.

Plans, Specifications, Forms of Proposal and other information may be obtained on application to the undersigned Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Caldwell Irrigation

Advance Fall Styles

We have just received by express a shipment of the newest patterns of WOMEN'S DRESSBOOTS



Made of Blumenthal's French Glazed Kid stocks in the new Two-tone effects. Battleship gray Vamps with Pearl Gray tops. Two inch Leather Louis heels, Narrow Toes, Nine inch tops Per pair—

\$8

Same Shoe with Havana Brown Vamps and Pearl gray tops. Goodyear welt soles two inch Leather Louis Heels Nine inch Tops, Pointed Toes Per pair—

\$8

McNair's Shoe Store

CALDWELL, IDAHO

District, or at the office of the Inland Engineering Co., Caldwell, Idaho. Bidders must make personal examination of the work to be done. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. J. W. SHEPPERD, Secretary of the Board of Directors, Caldwell Irrigation District, Caldwell, Idaho. 721-818

We Invite Comparison

We confidently invite comparison of any Cement work ever done in Caldwell with the Cement work we are doing every day. We are not afraid of the comparison. We place the material, the knowledge and the workmanship into all our work. Nothing is scrimped; nothing is slighted; nothing is neglected. Cement work that has been put in Right will stand up under the keenest inspection. It will bear the closest scrutiny. It will withstand time and the elements.

We are not afraid of the Cement work we have done. We are not afraid of the buildings we have constructed. Reference to any owner will convince you of the substantial character of our work.

When you think of improvements think of Cement. Investigate Cement. Information will be furnished gladly. We will not mislead you. We do not try to use Cement where other material can be used to better advantage. We respect our material too much for that. We cannot afford to advise you wrong.

Terry & McGee
ALL THINGS CEMENT CALDWELL, IDAHO