

ing on Thursday evening. The regular services on next sabbath at 11 a. m.

At 1 p. m. I will run my mare, Iris, in a 600-yard race against all comers and ride my own horse."

The next Sunday morning the church was crowded. The race came off at 1 p. m. as scheduled and the preacher's mare distanced all competitors. Nine hundred and forty-seven penitents joined his church that day.

If men could get all their faculties to work for good, what a blessed world this would be!

STRAIGHT TALK

Two members of the police force were recently dismissed from the department, the explanation being that it was "for the good of the service." Possibly it was, but we had hopes that the head of the department would invoke some new rule in this respect that would show a small semblance of fairness to all concerned.

For instance, one of these men was notorious in his practices and could not command the respect of his fellow officers and the public. The other was clean, competent, and commanded the confidence of all those with whom he came in contact. Yet both were relieved of their duties in a manner that amounted to a summary dismissal, and the verdict so far as the public is concerned was the same in both instances.

A dismissal from the police department without explanation other than the stereotyped "for the good of the service" at no time reflects credit upon the dismissed officer, and it usually works to the contrary. We can conceive of any number of reasons why a clean and competent officer might still deserve dismissal, but in such instances it would seem only fair that the real reason be given to the public. Otherwise the character of such officers is bound to suffer, and the men are damaged beyond measure.

We suspect that during the process of reorganizing the police department there will be many dismissals—some for insubordination, some for being perniciously active in politics, some for not being in sympathy with the prevailing policies of the department, etc., but in such cases in justice to the men removed it would seem that the facts involved should be made public.

In the revolting case of Mrs. Viola Hood, wife of Van Lee Hood of San Diego, who eloped from that city to this with Raymand Dobbs, a colored chauffeur, a local paper stated that both Dodds and Mrs. Hood admitted to the officers the fact that their relationship extended over a period of about a year. In the following paragraph, it was stated that Mrs. Hood is deeply religious in temperament and told the officers that she has never been guilty of any of the small vices which the average person finds it hard to shun.

That makes it nice. Mrs. Hood is like a lot of other people we know of in the world, who freely criticize others who may drink or smoke or have some small vices, while they concentrate all of their efforts along one particular line—race horses, poker or another man or woman, as the case may be.

If she has no vices and husband has taken his darling back, why make the poor colored man the goat? People blamed the chauffeur more after they saw the picture of Mrs. Hood and then they didn't blame Mrs. Hood so much after they saw husband's picture. Well, there are you are.

It is a pretty mess all around. If the colored man is prosecuted he may be freer in jail than he would be out for, if fancy free, he will take the risk of being stolen again.

The news from Washington indicates that we

are to have a revival of "Peck's Bad Boy." The newspaper men have found one and he is a bear.

In the scramble for petty city jobs some amusing incidents are coming to light and some new ideas in fancy finance. In two instances that we know of, candidates for positions have gone to stronger candidates for the same position, and offered to withdraw, leaving the field open to them, with the understanding that if they got their jobs they would pay those who had condescended to withdraw \$25 a month during the time they were in office. That was a splendid idea, but one which did not meet with the immediate favor of those approached.

That was a nasty crack taken by an evening paper at Charles W. Lawrence, when he was appointed license assessor. It was intimated that the appointment was made on account of relationship and in reciprocation for the appointment of Mr. Scheid by Henry W. Lawrence as city recorder.

Charles Lawrence has been chief clerk in the department of streets, a position he has held with credit and his capabilities well qualify him for his new place.

Because somebody's grandfather married a great aunt of an uncle of somebody's second cousin, we fail to see the point.

The people are rapidly growing weary of the cat and dog policy pursued by the city commissioners, and it is high time for them to call a halt. On performances to date the five commissioners bear strong resemblance to a bunch of school boys engaged in the game of catch-as-catch-can.

Almost a month has passed since the new commissioners took office and still the city government is only partially organized. Moreover, the

end is not yet in sight and every one concerned is exercised over the outlook, including some of the commissioners themselves. This policy of indecision and inaction is unpardonable and it is time for the commission to show some speed.

This paper has extreme confidence in the personal integrity of each individual commissioner, and credits them all with good intentions as well. But these men will be measured ultimately by their deeds and not by their abstract ideas. And their deeds to date consist mostly of a series of capers that are ludicrous in the extreme. Perhaps the fault lies with the form of government, and not with the men who are entrusted with its offices. If that be true, then the people can ill afford to experiment much longer, and unless great strides are immediately taken in the direction of the general public welfare, we look for the people to arise early next year and kick the commission form of government into a cocked hat.

It is about time for some idiot to arise and remark that there won't be water enough next summer.

In his memorandum submitted to President Wilson, Secretary of Commerce Redfield spoke of the "false doctrine of American inability to compete." There is no such doctrine, there never has been, and Mr. Redfield knows it. He has put up a straw adversary in order to make a display of knocking it down. American ingenuity, American enterprise and American labor have the ability to compete with any nation on earth, on equal terms. They can compete on equal terms, but they won't.

Now Mr. Redfield and President Wilson, please take note of the difference. We have the ability but we haven't the inclination. The American laborer can live on the same wages and under the same conditions as the European and the Asiatic,

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