

MERIT SYSTEM IS IN GREAT DANGER

Government Jobs Being Placed More and More on Pure Politics.

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Washington, Dec. 9.—Representative Wesley E. Disney of Oklahoma proposes the establishment of a National Academy of Public Affairs, comparable to West Point or Annapolis, to train young folk for civil service careers in the federal government.

Veterans in this field of Uncle Sam's employment say the Oklahoma man's idea would be pretty good if there could be any guarantee that the merit system will survive much longer in the selection and promotion of workers on the United States payroll, but they are skeptical that it will last for many more years at the present rate of its disintegration.

In pre-New Deal days Uncle Sam's permanent staff, not counting the mail service, was approximately 560,000. Not all were chosen by competitive examination, but something like 75 per cent were. The remainder had political pull to thank for their positions, and advancement in them. Some folk argued that even this much patronage was evil. Nearly 20 years ago the then Senator Jonathan Bourne, of Oregon referred to it as "in effect, bribery." He advocated the election of "United States district attorneys, marshals, tax collectors and postmasters."

MERIT SYSTEM IN DANGER

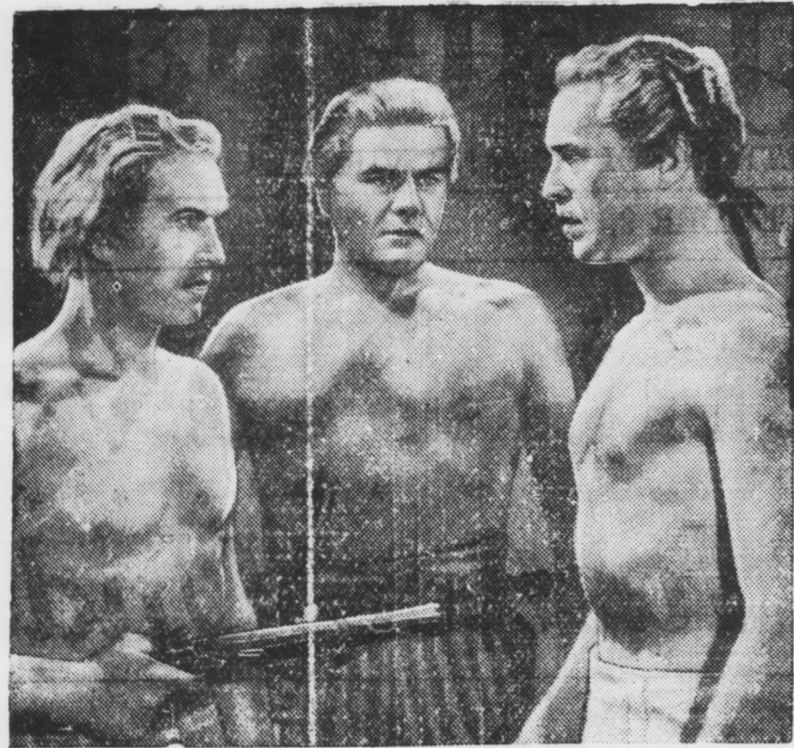
However, at that time the merit system was gaining in popularity; anyway, it wasn't threatened.

Today, according to President Luther C. Steward of the National Federation of Federal Employees, it is in the gravest danger. Under emergency administrations of various alphabetical sorts approximately 160,000 workers have been added to the earlier 560,000—and, of the newer personnel, nearly all hold office on a political basis. Whether or not they are competent doesn't signify. The question is, "Is the candidate politically properly sponsored?"

Merit cannot be diluted by politics to such an extent without the utmost peril to the former, warns President Steward.

Steward mentions New Deal administrations, manned by political appointees, in which the monthly turnover of workers has approximated 30 per cent.

Stevenson—Thursday, Friday and Saturday



Charles Irwin, Pat Flaherty Franchot Tone in "Mutiny on the Bounty"

NEW SCHOOL BUSES TO BE READY SOON

At Least 150 of 200 New Chassis to be Delivered by December 15

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel, BY J. C. HASKERVILLE.

Raleigh, Dec. 9.—At least 150 of the 200 new school truck chassis will be delivered here by December 15, when they will be sent at once to the body factories, where the new bodies have been completed and are awaiting installation. Claude F. Gaddy, assistant secretary of the State School Commission in charge of transportation, and today. Due to a change in models and to labor trouble, the other 50 trucks will not be delivered until about January 15, he said. But it will be possible to get the 150 buses distributed to the counties to which they are to be sent before the Christmas holidays.

"We have been criticised a good deal lately for not buying these trucks earlier and for the delay in getting delivery on them," Gaddy said. "But the contracts for these buses were not let until October 24, and these contracts did not call for delivery until December 15—and we are now assured that 150 trucks will be delivered on that date.

"There are two reasons for the delay. One is that we waited as long as possible in the hope of getting some PWA aid from Washington so we could buy more than 200 buses. But as soon as we learned there was no chance of getting this aid, we went ahead and bought all the trucks we could with the money available, after having bought 200 new buses last summer, which were delivered this past fall and are now in use.

"The second reason for the delay was that this contract was let just as the various automobile manufacturers were changing their models, so that it was not possible to get immediate delivery and get the new models at the same time. That is why they would not promise delivery until December 15."

While at least 800 to 1,000 new school buses are needed right now, the school commission will already have expended all the money appropriated for new buses when it gets this second 200, Gaddy said. It is being hoped that a Federal grant of some sort can be obtained next year to help buy some additional buses then.

FAVOR U. S. ENTRY IN OLYMPIAD



As the fight over U. S. participation in the Olympic games in Berlin in 1936 threatened to cause an open rift in the Amateur Athletic Union at its 47th annual convention in New York, Avery Brundage, president of the American Olympic committee, firmly stood by his "regardless of what action the A. A. U. takes, we are going to send a team abroad." Meanwhile, Jeremiah T. Mahoney, A. A. U. president and opposition leader, said "there is a preponderance of sentiment in favor of a boycott of the games." Members of the Olympic committee are shown above. Seated left to right are Brundage and Dr. Joseph E. Rayeroff of Princeton university, committee vice president. Standing, left to right, are Fred W. Ruben, committee secretary, and Gustavus T. Kirby, treasurer.

Federal Earnings Will be Stressed

(Continued from Page One.)

critics of the Roosevelt administration.

Its investments in railroads likewise are heavy. But there the RFC has stepped in when reorganization has become necessary. Yet—administration men ask—what large creditor would not? Railroad reorganizations in the past have been notorious for their squeeze plays on unsuspecting investors.

There has been even a bit of humor connected with the RFC money lending. It has taken doubtful securities as collateral from corporations and municipalities, has held them on a rising market at a profit to those who had scorned them!

RECOVERABLE?
How much of government expenditures is recoverable? That is a moot question—since the administration speaks of "recoverables."

Investments in slum clearances, model housing, subsistence homesteads, roads, sewers, breakwaters, power dams, irrigation ditches, hospitals, schools, army posts, naval bases electric power lines, municipal buildings, airports, etc., are accounted as increasing the value of national wealth, thus are listed as assets.

But actual loans with securities as collateral are the only items actually listed under "recoverables."

The administration will carry into the election campaign the statement that the national wealth, both in improvements and in earnings, has increased since 1932 far beyond the expenditures of the national government.

NOTRE DAME CONFERS DEGREE ON PRESIDENT



Notre Dame university confers an honorary degree of doctor of laws Monday upon President Roosevelt and Carlos P. Romulo, Catholic publisher of Manila, P. I., with Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago presiding over the convocation in the university's gymnasium. The convocation commemorates 400

years of Catholic action in the Philippines, and is held now because of the establishment of the Philippines as a separate commonwealth. Pictures show President Roosevelt, Cardinal Mundelein, President John F. O'Hara of Notre Dame, and the Notre Dame gymnasium.

"Bounty's" Camera Crew Endangered on Location

The thrills were a-plenty in the filming of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Mutiny on the Bounty," M-G-M's great sea drama playing at the Stevenson Theatre Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

One of the biggest thrills was experienced by a camera crew while seeking dangerous reefs through which to sail the historic "hell ship."

Accompanying the crew were Commander A. G. Alexander, British Royal Navy, retired, as technical director; James Havens, builder of the "Bounty," and cameraman Lester White and James Hackett.

In a 60-foot power cruiser, the party headed for the Anacapa, Santa Cruz and San Miguel islands. En route, Havens and Commander Alexander were semi-asphyxiated in the galley when a gas pressure line broke. Semi-conscious, the two men were rescued by their companions and revived.

A few hours out, the party ran into a terrific storm that raged unabated for twenty-four hours, repeatedly breaking the cruiser from anchorages off each of the islands.

When the party successfully landed on one of the barren islands, hundreds of seals dove the camera crew back to the boats.

Havens Shoots Eagles
Again, on a rocky promontory an eagle swooped down on Cameraman White and was killed by Havens, who is a crack-shot.

"Mutiny on the Bounty," produced by Irving G. Thalberg, presents Charles Laughton, Clark Gable and

Sharp Decline in Cotton Production

(Continued from Page One.)

ember 1 were reported by the Census Bureau to have totalled 9,352,243 running bales, compared with 9,019,834 to that date last year, and 12,106,373 in 1933.

The estimated production this year by states included: North Carolina, 585,000 bales.

Ginnings prior to December 1 this year, reported by the Census Bureau, included, North Carolina, 854,127 bales

Wife Preservers



Bread and rolls, or even pecan cinnamon rolls, should be eaten with the fingers, not speared with a fork, as a woman was seen doing in a restaurant. Fingers that grow sticky may be wiped on the napkin. Break bread in small pieces, butter each piece separately and eat.

Moon Theatre

TODAY and TOMORROW
An all musical Western Thriller.
"MOONLIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE"
Added: Comedy
Admission 11 and 16c

The VANCE Theatre

Will be closed Monday and Tuesday for installation of a new heating system and insulation of the auditorium.

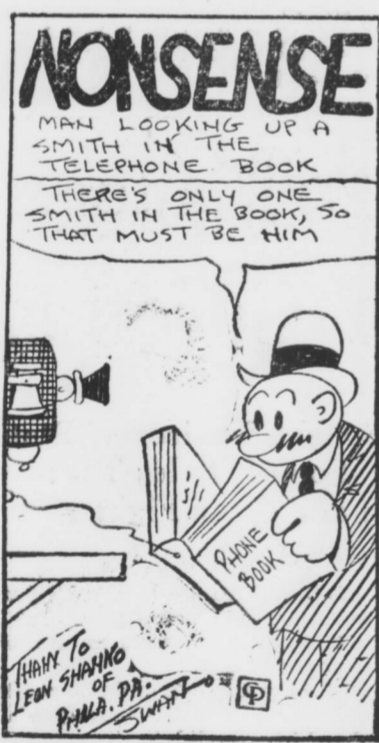
Wife Preservers



The ordinary potato ricer may be used for many things besides ricing the potatoes. If you are making apple sauce, cook the fruit with the skins on until soft, then put through the ricer, which rejects the skin and core and lets the pulp through.

RADIOS

Battery and Electric
Three Nationally Known
Makes
Stewart-Warner
Sentinel
Zenith
Wincharger
T. P. Stewart, Jr.
Vance Barber Shop



STEVENSON

THEATRE Henderson

ON THE SCREEN
"ACCENT OF YOUTH"
—with—
Sylvia Sidney—Herbert Marshall

TODAY — TOMORROW
Matinee and Night

The NEW YORK VARIETY GUILD PRESENTS... ON THE STAGE! TOM and JOE
ROLLO
IN THE MELODY-COMEDY REVUE.
"JUST FOOLIN"
featuring the Screen's Loudest Vocalist **JOAN BROOKS**
RADIO PICTURES STARLET **JUNE HART**
PUBLIX-PAUL ASH PROTEGE
CLOWNS IN CLOVER AND ALL STAR Broadway Cast INCLUDING... **the MUSICAL JESTERS**

Guests Tomorrow: Mrs. Richard Turner—Mrs. Harry Baker.

Sold to White Sox?



Chicago reports state that Jimmy Foxx, slugging first baseman of the Philadelphia Athletics, has been sold to the Chicago White Sox for \$75,000. The report is unconfirmed but it is known that Connie Mack has placed Foxx on the auction block. (Central Press)

STARVED FOR LOVE!... 16 men from the hell-ship, "Bounty," answer the siren call of the island Paradise—



From the blood-drenched decks of a man-o'-war to the ecstasy of a sun-baked Paradise isle... from the tyrannical grasp of a brutal captain to the arms of native beauties who brought them love and forgetfulness! Now their romantic story lives on the screens of the world... in one of the greatest entertainments since the birth of motion pictures!



CHARLES LAUGHTON · CLARK GABLE MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY

with **FRANCHOT TONE**
Herbert Mundin Eddie Quillan
Dudley Digges Donald Crisp
A Frank Lloyd Production

STEVENSON
THEATRE—HENDERSON
3 DAYS THURSDAY—FRIDAY and SATURDAY