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PERHAPS the plesiosaurus was hatched from a cold storage egg.

OKLAHOMA is running California a close race for front page murder records.

SOUTH BEND should be thankful, however, that it has other attributes aside from the fact that it once gave refuge to a countess.

Undermining Civil Service

The abrupt dismissal of thirty-two employees of the Government bureau of printing and engraving by executive order without an opportunity to defend themselves against ugly charges bruited about is the most serious blow ever struck at the civil service system. The President's order relieving these men summarily from their duties followed so closely Attorney General Daugherty's attack on civil service that it leads to the belief that an organized movement to restore the odious "spoils system" is receiving Administration sanction in Washington without even observing the customary political amenities, usual when lucrative appointments are desired for "deserving" partisans.

The statutes explicitly provide that a person removed from the classified service of the United States must have "notice of the charges against him and be furnished with a copy thereof and also be allowed a reasonable time to answer the same in writing and to file affidavits in support thereof," yet when the employees sought to learn the reasons for their dismissal at the White House President Harding was going.

Secretary Mellon says no charges involving the honesty of the men were made, yet the capital is full of rumors, emanating undoubtedly from official sources assiduously endeavoring to find alibis for the unprecedented procedure, that there was laxness and even dishonesty in the conduct of the bureau.

The ousted employees are entitled to a fair hearing and should be allowed in all fairness to answer the quasi-official imputations cast against their integrity. President Harding and Secretary Mellon, the two most intimately connected with the affair, owe it to the public and to the men themselves the right to be heard, even if they have determined that this incident is the opening wedge in a determined effort to "break down civil service and usher in the "spoils system" in all of its tarnished glory.

There is another phase of the situation that also demands an explanation. The Washington Times declares the men were ousted after employees of the bureau of printing and engraving had threatened to make public serious charges involving the twenty-five who came under presidential displeasure. If it is true that a little coterie of men in any department of the Government have sufficient power to intimidate high officials by the threat of an expose without due regard for the rights of the individuals concerned, it is time for the country to know it.

That the discharges were the culmination of a carefully studied scheme to pave the way for men who are more deserving of plums at the hands of the Harding Administration is evidenced by the fact that the actual selection of the victims was left to Elmer Dover, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and regional director for the Republican party on the coast. Dover has been entrusted with the task of restoring the "spoils system" to the Treasury Department and his first effort seems to have been unusually successful.

Democrats and Republicans alike are aroused over the incident, for it was not just a drive of the Administration to oust Democrats. Eighteen of the employees are Republicans and eight are Democrats, the others professing no political affiliations, thus giving unmistakable evidence that the whole affair was a direct attack upon the civil service system.

Passing the Strike Buck

The miner passes the "buck" to the owners of the mines, they pass it on to the railroads, they pass it on to the dealer, and he passes it back to the railroads, while the Uncle Sam public pays the bill.

The present peaceful, so-called, strike is more in the nature of a lock-out than a strike. The contract between the miners and owners of the mines terminated March 31. The miners did not strike, they simply had no jobs. They offered to go on at the old wages, but the operators refused to meet them to discuss a new scale. So the "buck" passed to the owners of the mines, who claim the railroads are charging an increase of 300 per cent for hauling coal, and that the cost of coal to the public is so high their business has been practically ruined. The railroads say the retailers, often the mine owners themselves, operating under a different name, are collecting too much profit from the public, thereby passing the "buck" along once more. At this point the retailer of coal must either keep it or pass it on, or back to the railroads, where, as a matter of fact, it should remain.

Of course, the poor miner can only deal with the operator, and while the wages of the miner, if he had steady work, would be too high, can only be adjusted in connection with a reduction in freight rates, not only on coal, but all other commodities, thereby reducing the cost of living. There is no wage ton basis for mining coal. There are thousands of mines and hundreds of different working conditions which make a uniform ton scale impossible.

One West Virginia Pocahontas coal mine operator told me in Washington last week that he was delivering his coal to the cars on side track at his mines for \$1.25 a ton. We used to buy his coal in Chicago delivered in our boiler room for \$3.50 a ton. Now the freight alone is \$3.50 a ton and this coal costs us \$7.50 a ton, an increase of \$4.00 a ton. The operator is getting 30 cents of that \$4.00 increase, while the railroads and retailer get \$3.70. I give you this concrete example in order to show you that after all this so-called "strike" is not so much against the owners of the mines as it is a combined strike of the miners and operators against the railroads and middleman who have put up their prices until the public is unable to buy coal and the miner is working less than half time, and the mine owner's sales have been cut in two with his overhead, taxes, investment, wear and tear remaining the same, or more. I will admit that until I got all the figures together I blamed the coal mine owner for at least one-half the trouble, but I have changed my mind as the public must with the facts before it.

Where I say owner or operator of the mines I mean owners independent of the railroads or big financial concerns that own both the railroads and the mines.

Before the United States Government passed a law forbidding the railroads to own coal mines, nearly 50 per cent of the mines were owned by the railroad companies, and whether coal cars were scarce, or not, they would freeze out independent operators by not spotting cars at their mines. While the law says the roads cannot own mines they have evaded the letter of the law in many, many cases by organizing coal companies and operating under a different name. I know this to be true. Even sometimes they are so brazen as to use the same officers in both the railroad and coal companies.

Now, what's the answer, is the question you and I are deeply interested in. This is a peaceful strike and there will be no trouble unless the railroads attempt to open up some of their under cover-mines. The miners know that the cost of coal to the consumer must come down for them to have steady employment. How is this all to be brought about, who is going to give way first? The railroads believe that starvation will force the miner to take less pay, especially as the country can keep going for the next four months on the coal now in sight and the tonnage produced by the non-union mines. If all the coal in the United States were dug for nothing it would not take \$1.00 a ton off the price. Suppose the miners stood a 25 per cent cut in their wages, that would only take 25 cents a ton off the retail price, and nobody asks this, not even the mine owners. The "buck" must remain with the railroads until the game is over. The delivered price of coal must come down before we reach a before-the-war basis. Coal should be delivered, and will be some day, at an average cost of \$1.00 per ton above 1914 prices, but I do not expect this price to be reached for a year or so.

Few people in this country realize that only 10 per cent of our manufacturing in this country is done "on top of the coal," while 77 per cent of British, 44 per cent of German and 37 per cent of French factories are located at the coal mines. Except for the fact that the countries named have to import their raw stock we could not compete with them. Some day our factories must locate "on top of the coal."—W. D. Boyce, in the

Highways and By-Ways of Lil' Ol' New York

By RAYMOND CARROLL

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NEW YORK, April 5.—Many of the big hotels of New York City are closing off entire floors because of the lack of patronage and their proprietors are issuing statements ascribing their woes to prohibition. Their contention is that people are going elsewhere after the theater to supper, to places where they can get liquor.

To one who knows the metropolis that contention is funny. Within the last six months hundreds of small restaurants have opened on Manhattan island and they are doing excellent business without the sale of intoxicating liquors.

What happened was this: The public finally awakened to the fact that it is being outrageously mulcted for food in the hotel restaurants and simply stayed away, seeking out the small places in the side streets. Even guests of the hotels go elsewhere to eat.

Another sore point with the public is the knowledge that the hotel proprietors sell the right to gouge tips for the care of hats and coats while the guests eat. The hotels themselves killed the goose that laid their golden eggs and they have only themselves to blame for the empty tables and rows of empty tables with little waiters standing around. Of course there are exceptions and from them we hear no complaints.

To the southeast of Chatham Square, along Madison street and adjacent cross streets is the Greek quarter of the lower east side. The signs are all in modern Greek and shops abound in Greek olives, tobacco and other Near East imports may be procured. For several blocks in any direction the impression is that of being in a Greek city.

I dropped into a nearby political club and asked: "What is the Greek vote of the assembly district?" The reply: "Exactly ninety-six Greeks are on the voting list, out of a total registration of about 17,000 of all races in the First assembly district."

It cannot be estimated how many Greeks live in this district, but there

Ye TOWNE GOSSIP

Copyright, 1922, by Star Company.

By K. C. B.

"IT MUST BE."

"THAT YOU'RE getting old."

"AND A little crabby."

I SAID to myself.

JUST A moment ago.

FOR SITTING here.

IN THE sunny room.

WHERE I do my work.

I'VE BEEN disturbed.

BY SOME little kids.

WHO ARE at play.

IN THE court outside.

AND I WAS surprised.

THEY SHOULD have me.

FOR YESTERDAY.

AND THE day before.

THEY PLAYED out there.

AND YELLED a lot.

AND LAUGHED a lot.

AND I wasn't disturbed.

IN THE very least.

AND I'VE wondered why.

I SHOULD have changed.

AND I'VE figured it out.

AND THE reason is.

THAT TWO of the kids.

SHOWED UP today.

WITH SOME man-made things.

THAT SOME one invented.

TO ENRICH himself.

AND PUT them in stores.

AND PARENTS bought them.

AND TOOK them home.

AND SHOWED the kids.

HOW TO rattle them.

AND SCREECH with them.

AND TURNED them loose.

ON THE neighbors' cars.

AND SO IT IS.

IF I'M disturbed.

IT ISN'T the kids.

WHO ARE doing it.

NOT HALF so much.

AS THE grownups.

BUT NEVERTHELESS.

IT IS the kids.

WHO GET the blame.

AND IF I had the guy.

WHO INVENTED the things.

THEY'RE WHANGING on.

THIS VERY minute.

I'D MAKE him eat 'em.

AND THEY'RE made of tin.

AND PAINTED green.

I THANK you.

Washington Briefs

WASHINGTON, April 5.—President Harding's merchant marine subsidy program will be launched on Capitol Hill with the opening of hearings before the joint committee created for the purpose—the Senate Committee on Commerce and the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. Senator Wesley L. Jones of Washington, chairman of the Senate committee and author of the 1920 merchant marine law, will preside over the hearings. They are expected to last many weeks. A vast variety of interests is to be given successive days in court. Tomorrow Albert D. Lasker, chairman of the United States Shipping Board, will be the chief and perhaps the only witness, for he has prepared a voluminous statement on behalf of the subsidy project. The joint committee will find Chairman Lasker a well-posted enthusiast on the subject. He is primed for hecklers.

Now it is the speaker'ship of the House in the Sixty-Eighth Congress upon which the ambitious farm bloc is said to have designs. It is the name of Sydney Anderson, Republican representative from the First Minnesota district, with which report is made. Anderson is a young lawyer and Spanish-American war veteran. Mr. Anderson is chairman of the joint congressional committee on inquiry into agricultural problems and that committee is one of the darlings of the farm bloc gods. He presided with conspicuous skill over last winter's national agricultural conference in Washington. The report is looked upon by many admirers as the future generalissimo of the farming forces in Congress.

Senators of the United States often sleep in their dignified but frequently dreary chamber, so why shouldn't their presiding officer, the Vice President? And what is more to the point of this narrative, it is asserted, affirmed and asserted that is exactly what Calvin Coolidge did last Friday afternoon. The Department of Justice's budget bill was under discussion. The floor was nearly empty. Senator Shields, Democrat, of Tennessee argued logically on the subject, but to somewhat colleague, "Mr. President," he said at one point of his remarks, "I ask unanimous consent to have this statement printed in the Record." He repeated his request. He uttered it a third time. From the Vice President came no sign of life. A vigilant reading clerk turned toward Mr. Coolidge, but did not invade his numbers. Instead the clerk functioned for him and announced that "It is so ordered."

The Government printing office in Washington has just issued "a primer" on radio communication. It is elementary in tone and entitled "The Principles Underlying Radio Communication." Issued by the United States signal corps originally in 1918, the present book is a revised edition dealing interestingly with latter-day developments, especially in the realm of radio telephony. The price is a dollar and can be had on application to the superintendent of documents, Government printing office, Washington.

Unusual Folk

CANTON, China, April 5.—Dr. Charles K. Edwards, president of the Canton Christian College is milkman to 400,000,000 people!

He's trying to teach the whole Chinese nation to drink milk and eat milk products. That's a new thing for China. Dairy cattle are unknown here. A Chinese baby, when weaned, goes on a rice diet. If its mother dies, milk of the sow, mare or goat sustains it. Edmunds has established a dairy at the college here. The provincial government is paying a subsidy to aid the spread of the industry.

Edmunds is on his way back from America now with some choice Holstein cattle.

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Am I my brother's keeper?—Genesis, 4:9.

Let us reflect that the highest part of our duty is to our fellow-men, who look up to us, and who, if we tread less loftily, may never look so high again. Remembering this, let it suggest one generous motive waiting heartily amid the detestments of earthly ways.—Nathaniel Hawthorne.

WOMAN SMOKES CALABASH

NEW YORK, April 5.—Mrs. Elizabeth Lents created a sensation at the Toy Fair in the Hotel Brealin by smoking a large calabash while inspecting the exhibits.

PUSS IN BOOTS, JR.

By DAVID CORY.

Early the next morning Puss Junior said good-by to the blind farmer and his daughter "so rosy and fair," and set off on once more on his journey of adventure.

"Ah," thought Puss to himself, "It's one thing after another. I wonder what will happen today?" And then he began to sneeze.

"If you sneeze on Monday, you sneeze for danger," cried a voice. "Sneeze on Tuesday, kiss a stranger; Sneeze on Wednesday, sneeze for a letter."

Sneeze on Thursday, something better; Sneeze on Friday, sneeze for sorrow; Sneeze on Saturday, see your sweetheart tomorrow."

"What is today?" asked Puss Junior. The owner of the voice had turned out to be a very pretty little girl.

"It's Wednesday," she said. "Well, I've sneezed for a letter," said Puss, "but I guess the postman has forgotten me."

"I'll send you one," said the little girl, and she sat down and wrote on a piece of paper: "I like a Pussy Cat who wears red-topped boots."

"That's a very nice letter," said Puss Junior, "and I don't know what I could do if you hadn't written it, for I can't take back my sneeze, you know."

"What are you going?" asked the little girl.

"Oh, just going," said Puss. "I'm a traveler."

"I'd like it," said the little girl, pushing her hand in his paw. "I know lots of geography, and that would help."

"Yes, it would," he replied. "But, you see, I just go where the wind blows. I don't need any map."

"I'd like to see you," said the little girl, "I'd like to be a little breeze and go with the wind wherever he went."

"Or a little star and follow the moon," said Puss. "I wished that only last night, for it was the Twinkle Twinkle Star that helped save me from the robbers in the wood."

"Oh, tell me, dear pussy cat," cried the little girl, nestling up to him as if the robbers might come by any moment.

"Twas this way: these bad men had tied me fast to their bed, going to bed and leaving me all alone. The little star looked in through the window and told me not to be afraid. And, after a little, the good sister of the robbers came and set me free. And here I am."

"Well, I'm going to travel," said the little girl, "as soon as I get big enough, even if I am only a girl."—Copyright, 1922.

(To Be Continued.)

Installing Vacuum Tube Detector

DAILY RADIO FEATURES

BY R. L. DUNCAN,
Director, Radio Institute of America.

No sooner is the radio fan set with his crystal detector receiver than he starts thinking about improvements. He wants to cover a greater range with his little instrument. He wants to hear more clearly.

He finds the way out—By substituting a vacuum tube detector for the galena. This gives approximately three times the receiving distance and a much greater audibility.

But the amateur cannot make the vacuum tube. It is too complicated, con-

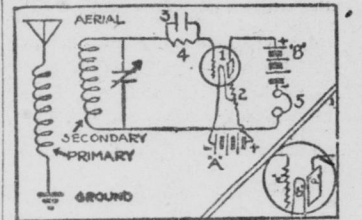


Diagram No. 1.

slating of a tungsten or tantalum filament, tungsten or copper grid and an aluminum or nickel plate enclosed in a highly vacuumed glass tube or bulb.

To change over from the crystal receiving set the following are necessary: A specially made socket for the tube's mounting.

Two batteries. A rheostat.

HOW TO CONNECT. The connection should be according to diagram No. 1.

A is the filament battery—a six-volt or 120 ampere hour battery which is regulated by a small one and one-half ampere rheostat—a little instrument that regulates the flow of current from the battery.

B is the plate battery—a dry battery—supplying twenty-two volts. It is best to have the plate battery variable on account of the characteristics of the tubes.

The flow of current should be regulated from seventeen one-half volts to twenty-two volts.

It should be noted that the negative point of the characteristics of the tubes.

No. 1 represents the vacuum tube. No. 2 is the A battery rheostat. No. 3 is the grid condenser—the fixed condenser of the crystal set.

No. 4 is the grid leak—the construction of which is explained below. No. 5—the head receiver.

THE GRID LEAK. To make a grid leak take a piece of stiff cardboard about one inch wide by two inches long. On this mount two small binding posts about 1 1/2 inches long.

On this mount two small binding posts about 1 1/2 inches apart. Take a very soft lead pencil and draw two or three lines between the posts and also around them.

Grid leak is shown in diagram No. 2: a is the plate; b the filament and c the grid.

The pencil lines act as a conductor of current.

The purpose is to allow the negative charge to leak off the grid so that it may not become clogged up with charges that will reduce the audibility of the signals.

RADIO PRIMER. Circuit—The complete path of an electric current, including the generating device and all points through which the current passes.

If the path is complete and uninterrupted, the circuit is called a closed circuit. When the continuity of the circuit is broken so that the current no longer can pass, it is called an open or broken circuit.

QUESTION BOX. ART, Tipton, Ind.: Question—My vario-coupler is wound with No. 18 wire and the windings are so crowded in order to get on the required number of turns that some of the windings overlap. Should I rewind it with No. 22. If so, how many turns?

Answer—Your vario-coupler should be rewound with No. 22. The exact number of turns is not a specific factor to consider. Put on as many turns as your coupler will conveniently hold. You should use shellac to hold the coils in place after they are wound.

ON VIEW TODAY. The following attractions are on view today: Harry Watson, Jr., at B. F. Keith's; "Polly's Pearl" at the Lyric; Tokio Orie in "The Charming Widow" at the Rialto; "Peck-a-Boo" a Jean Bodini show, at the Park; "Turn to the Right," at the Ohio; "Gas, Oil, Water," at the Circle; Monte Blue in person and "Football" at Loew's State; "Our Mutual Friend," at the Alhambra; "Moran of the Lady Letty," at Mister Smith's, and "Shadows of Conscience," at the Isis.

UPPER—William Hodge and "Tiger," a dog actor, as they appear in "Dog Love," a new comedy by Mr. Hodge, to be at the Murat Thursday for three days.

LOWER—Laddie Boy, known as the White House dog, who "writes" letters to Tiger and receives New Year's greetings from the dog actor.

EVEN DOGS WRITE LETTERS THESE DAYS. Even dogs have their obligations. Tiger, a dog who appears with Bill Hodge in "Dog Love," has called upon Laddie Boy at the White House. Secretaries to these two high society dogs

make it possible for the two canines to write one to the other as well as to Laddie Boy.

Here is Tiger's New Year's greetings to Laddie Boy: To the Honorable Laddie Boy: White House. My dear Laddie Boy: Happy New Year.

Remembering my very delightful visit to the White House, I have the honor to extend a most cordial invitation to you to be the honored guest at the Plymouth Theater, Boston, at any performance, matinee or evening, during the engagement of Mr. William Hodge in his new play, "Dog Love."

I would deem it a great pleasure to present you to the well known and distinguished members of the cast, which includes me. Yours faithfully, TIGER.

Mr. Henri Gressitt, press representative for Mr. Hodge, has a copy of a lengthy "letter" received by Tiger from Laddie Boy acknowledging Tiger's "wonderful invitation."

There will be in the cast of "Dog Love" at the Murat beginning Thursday night and closing with a Saturday night performance.

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