

developed to half of his true capacity because of this ceaseless devotion to the harassing details of patronage. Some of them, to be sure, wouldn't develop very much if there were no patronage; but it is my firm opinion that if patronage could be eliminated we should have a bigger, broader, more patriotic and more useful body of legislators than we now have.

"I am not insensible to the demands made on public men, who, in their turn, make those demands on me; but I deprecate them. I see fierce contests over Federal offices; consume hour after hour listening to the claims of one set of men or another; and I am convinced that, except for mere organization purposes, the people, as a mass, are not interested, and do not pretend to be.

"Take the postmastership of any of our large cities, for example. When one of those contests for appointment is on you would think, to hear the proponents and opponents of the candidates tell it, that the very foundations of the Republic will rock if one man is not appointed, or if another man is. And yet, I venture to say, the only concern of the great mass of the people over the postmastership of one city is that they get their mail promptly, and that the office is administered honestly and efficiently. Let me repeat: If patronage could be eliminated we should have a much broader, more patriotic, more capable and more useful set of legislators."

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### ONE DAY OFF IN SEVEN.

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*(Respectfully submitted to the Honourable Mr. Doherty and Colonel Sherwood on behalf of the members of the Dominion Police.)*

The text of a petition which is now receiving the consideration of the Council Finance Committee of the city of Chicago is as follows:—

"On behalf of policemen and other employees of the city of Chicago now required to work regularly seven days a week.

"To the Honourable Finance Committee and to the Honourable Members of the City Council of the city of Chicago:

"Gentlemen: We, the undersigned, citizens of the city of Chicago, believe that efficiency in the public service and justice in the dealings of the city with its employees will be promoted by the introduction of one day off in seven for the policemen and such other employees as are now required to work regularly seven days a week.

"We, therefore, respectfully address this petition to you, and request that in preparing and passing the next municipal budget, or appropriation bill, you provide for a sufficient number of policemen and other civil service employees to give each employee one day off in seven, and that you enact an ordinance requiring department heads to give each of their employees one day off in seven for rest and recreation."