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INTRODUCE CIVIL SERVICE REFORMS

All Branches of Government Service May be Included.

Ottawa Feb. 7.—Without waiting for the promised parliament at the coming session bringing the outside civil service under control of the civil service commission, thus insuring the violation of patronage, the elimination of politics and appointments by merit rather than by political pull the government is going ahead to accomplish the main part of the long promised reform by order-in-council. Under the civil service act the cabinet is empowered to include by order-in-council any of the outside service now exempted from the operation of the civil service act of 1908.

It is proposed forthwith to make the act apply to the post office, inland revenue and customs departments. The employees of the government railways will not be included at present, pending their solution of some complicated problems that apply to them alone in regard to provident fund, etc. The order-in-council providing for this radical change has been drafted and will probably be passed by the cabinet this week. The work of the civil service commission under the chairmanship of the Hon. Dr. Roche will, of course, become much more responsible. The commission will have the final say in regard to all appointments and promotions for the whole civil service of Canada. These appointments and promotions will naturally be based in the main on recommendations of deputy ministers and responsible heads of branch services who have intimate knowledge of the personnel of their staff and of the character of applicants for positions or for promotions. Their first consideration may be expected to be efficiency rather than political favoritism.

The reform accomplished under Urion government has been hastened by the unanimous desire of the ministers to seize the opportunity of being rid of the bane and worry of patronage.

O. Henry Stories

VIII. The Ethics of Pig

By O. HENRY

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In an eastbound train I went into the smoker and found Jefferson Peters, the only man with a brain in the bunch. He was a bashful fellow who could use his cerebrum, cerebellum and medulla oblongata the same time. He is in the line of unselfish givers. He is not to be dreaded by widows and orphans; he is a redeemer of sinners. His favorite discipline is that of the target bird at which the spendthrift or the reckless investor may shy a few inconsequential dollars. He is really realized by tobacco; so, with the aid of two thick and easy burning cigars, I got the story of his latest automotive adventure.

"In my line of business," said Jeff, "the hardest thing is to find an upright, trustworthy, strictly honorable partner to work a graft with. Some of the best men I ever worked with in a swindle would resort to trickery at times. 'So last summer I think I will go over into this section of country where I hear the serpent has not yet entered and see if I can find a partner naturally gifted with a talent for crime, but not yet contaminated by success. 'I found a village that seemed to have the right kind of a layout. The inhabitants hadn't found out that Adam had been discovered and were going right along naming the animals and killing snakes just as if they were in the garden of Eden. They call this town Mount Nebo, and it's up near the divide where Kentucky and West Virginia and North Carolina corner together. Their states don't meet? Well, it was in that neighborhood anyway. 'After putting in a week proving I wasn't a revenue officer I went over to the store where the rude fourtubers of the town met, to see if I could get a line on the kind of man I wanted. 'Gentlemen," says I after we rubbed noses and gathered 'round the dried apple barrel, "I don't suppose there's another community in the whole world into which sin and chicanery has less extensively permeated than this. Life here, where all the women are brave and voluptuous and all the men honest and expedient, must, indeed, be an ideal. It reminds me," says I, "of Gold-stein's beautiful ballad entitled 'The Deserted Village,' which says: 'It farms the land, to hastening life a prey. 'What can drive its charms away? The rude judge slowly down the lane, mounted on a horse of the May.' 'For I'm to be queen of the May.' 'Why, yes, Mr. Peters," says the storekeeper, "I reckon we about as moral and torpid a community as there be on the mountainside, according to censures of opinion, but I reckon you ain't ever met Rufe Tatum." 'Why, no," says the town squire, "he can't hardly have ever. That air Rufe is shore the most monstrous scawling that has escaped hangin' on the gallows since the days he got for killin' Yance Goodloe was up then. A state's hog." 'He day or two more won't hurt Rufe any, though.' 'Shucks, now," says I in the mountain idiom, "don't tell me there's a man in Mount Nebo that ain't a scoundrel." 'Worse," says the storekeeper. "He steals hogs." 'I think I will look up this Rufe Tatum. So a day or two more constable turned him out I got acquainted with him and invited him out on the edge of town to sit on a log and talk business. 'What I wanted was a partner with a natural rural makeup to play a part in some little one act outrage that I was going to book with the Pittfall. A fine fruit in some of the western towns, and this R. Tatum was born for the role as sure as nature cast Fairbanks for the stuff that kept Eliza from sinking into the river. 'He was about the size of a first baseman, and he had ambiguous blue eyes like the china dog on the mantelpiece that Aunt Harriet used to play with when she was a child. His hair waved a little bit, like the statue of the Lincoln in the Vatican at Rome, but the color of it reminded you of the 'Sunset in the Grand Canyon,' by an American artist, that they hang over the stovetop holes in the saloons. He was the flesh without needing a touch. You'd have known him for one, even if you'd seen him on the vaudeville stage with one cotton suspender and a straw over his ear. 'I told him what I wanted and found him ready to jump at the job.

"I set up my little table and began to show them how easy it was to guess which shell the little pea was under. The unlettered bluffs gathered in a thick semicircle and began to nod and elbow and banter one another to bet. Then was when Rufe ought to have singlefooted up and called the turn on the little joker for few the sticks he had to get them started. But no Rufe. I'd seen him two or three times walking about and looking at the sidewalk pictures with his mouth full of peanut candy, but he never came nigh. 'The crowd piked a little, but trying to work the bells without a caper is like fishing without bait. I closed the game with only 242 of the unlearned increment, while I had been counting on yanking the yemenes for \$200 at least. I went home at 11 and went to bed. I supposed that the circus had proved too alluring for Rufe and that he had succumbed to it, content and amply to get him a lecture on the general business principles in the morning. 'Just after Morpheus had got both my shoulders to the shack mattress I heard a household of unbecoming and ribald noises, like a youngster screaming with green apple colic. I opened my door and calls out in the hall for the widow lady, and when she sticks her head out I says, 'Mrs. Peety, ma'am, would you mind chokin' off that kid of yours that honest people can get their rest? 'Sir," says she, "it's no child of mine. It's the pig squealing that your friend Mr. Tatum brought home to his room a couple of hours ago. And if you are uncle or second cousin or brother to it I'd appreciate your stopping its mouth, sir, yourself, if you please. 'I put on some of the polite outside habiliments of external society and went into Rufe's room. He had got up and lit his lamp and was pouring some milk into a tin pan on the floor for a dicky white, half grown, squealing pig. 'How is this, Rufe," says I. "You flunked and put the game on crutches. And how do you explain the pig? It looks like backsliding to me." 'Now don't be too hard on me, Jeff," says he. "You know how long I've been used to stealing shoats. It's got to be a habit with me. And tonight, when I see such a fine chance, I couldn't help takin' it." 'Well," says I, "maybe you're realy got kleptopigia. And maybe when

you get out of the pig pen you'll turn our mind to blubber and more unnerve misconduct. Why you should want to steady your soul with such a distasteful, feeble minded, perverted, roaring beast as that I can't understand." 'Jeff," says he, "you ain't in sympathy with shoats. You don't understand 'em like I do. This here seems to me to be an animal of more than common powers of reason and intelligence. He walked half across the room on his hind legs awhile ago." 'Well, I'm going back to bed," says I. "See if you can impress it upon your friend's ideas of intelligence that he's not to make so much noise." 'He was hungry," says Rufe. 'He'll go to sleep and keep quiet now." 'I always get up before breakfast and read the morning paper whenever I happen to be within the radius of a five cylinder or a Washington hand press. The next morning I got up early and found the Lexington daily on the front porch where the carrier had brought it. The powers of reason and intelligence. 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