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First Show Sunday at 5:30; Monday and Tuesday at 7:00 sharp

Wednesday, Feb. 20

**PAT O'MALLEY**

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also  
**"ONE NIGHT IT RAINED"—EDUCATIONAL COMEDY**

and  
LATEST PATHE NEWS

First show at 7:00 p. m.

Thursday and Friday, Feb. 21 and 22

SPECIAL MATINEE FRIDAY (Washington's Birthday) at 2:30

**WESLEY BARRY**

in his very best picture  
**"GEORGE WASHINGTON, JR."**

also  
**BEN TURPIN in "ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH"**

First Show Nights at 7:00

Saturday, February 23

Matinee at 1:00 p. m.  
**CHARLES RAY**

in  
**"THE DEUCE OF SPADES"**

and  
**"POSTAGE DUE"—PATHE COMEDY**

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13th Episode of **"THE SANTA FE TRAIL"**

First Show Evening at 6:30

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 24, 25, and 26

**ANTONIO MORENO,**

**JACQUELINE LOGAN and WALTER HIERS**

in  
**"FLAMING BARRIERS"**

also  
**"MARATHON DANCERS"—PATHE COMEDY**

LATEST KINOGRAM

## PATENT OFFICE IS CATCHING UP WORK

DELAY IS LESS FREQUENT

Reorganization Under Republican Administration Speeding up This Important Government Dept.

A report on the business of the Patent office for the calendar year ended December 31, 1923, has been submitted by Secretary of the Interior Work to the Senate and House of Representatives.

The report shows that the Patent office is making a gain at the rate of 1,000 cases per month in acting upon applications for patents, designs, and trade-marks. Addition of new employees to take care of greatly increased business has resulted in a congestion of space in the new building now occupied by the Patent office in which the conditions are described as "deplorable."

### Reduce Expense

Through coordination of work and elimination of duplications, together with other economies, expenses in operation during the last calendar year were reduced by thousands of dollars. Some of the savings recounted run from \$500 up to sums around \$20,000. One of the largest economies recorded is the publication of the Official Gazette of the Patent Office, where a reduction in the cost of printing amounted to approximately \$20,000. Another large saving was in a change of the method of reproducing foreign patent drawings amounting to \$15,641. The report in part follows:

In the years 1921 and 1922 this office received over 9,000 applications each month. With a capacity to act upon only 7,500 cases per month, it followed that the office went behind about 30,000 cases in the two years. These arrears, added to the 42,000 cases already awaiting attention at the beginning of the Harding administration, made an accumulation of cases equaling in volume the entire amount of work received by the office in any one year before this country entered the great war. To reduce the accumulations of years, this office was provided, on July 1 last, with 45 additional examiners and 40 additional clerks. Although it took over four months to enroll this force, and it is still untrained, rapid progress is being made as evidenced by the reduction, since the increase in force, of 6,567 patent cases, 1,697 design cases and 1,542 trade-mark cases, a total reduction of 9,806 cases.

### Less Delay

Progress is further shown by the fact that one year ago an applicant in some branches of the work had to wait 15 months before his patent case would be taken up for the first reading (seven months in design cases and five and one-half months in trade-mark cases), while today no applicant has to wait more than nine months in patent cases, or seven weeks in either design or trade-mark cases. The office is now gaining at the rate of more than 1,000 cases per month and, in the absence of unexpected circumstances, it is confidently believed that this gain will increase rather than decrease as the force becomes trained. Nevertheless, there are now on hand 67,000 patent cases, 900 design cases and 2,100 trade-mark cases awaiting action. Even with a gain of 1,000 cases per month, it will be five years before the technical work can be current. To accomplish this within a reasonable time the force would have to be augmented by at least 100 examiners.

## THREE NEW RULINGS UPON INCOME TAXES

At the Beginning of New Period Filing Department Gives Decisions

Half a million persons in the first Illinois district, comprising Chicago and the thirty northern counties of the state, are due to make income tax returns during the filing period which started last week and will continue through March 15.

On the eve of the drive three new rulings on income tax were received from the Washington office by Chicago's Collector, Mrs. Mabel G. Reincke. Briefly they are as follows:

1. A woman who brings suit for annulment of her marriage on the ground of fraud and asks for damages is not compelled to pay income tax in any amount that is awarded her through a compromise effected prior to trial.

2. The compensation of officers and employees of street railways owned and operated by a municipality is taxable under the Revenue Act of 1921 although the salaries and wages of city officers are exempt.

3. An executor may not deduct in his personal return as a bad debt due from the estate of a deceased an amount which the executor paid out of his personal funds and without legal liability to creditors of a corporation of which the testator was virtually the legal owner.

Considering all the valuable advice they give to their parents, the young crowd think it strange that it is not more frequently accepted.

Feet speak a language all their own—soak yours in Blue Devil Cleanser and listen.

## MOVES IN PLAN FOR CITY PLAZA

(Continued from page 1)

Mrs. Ralph F. Seymour, Mrs. John W. Warrington, Mrs. Anna E. Hardacre.

This committee is empowered to add or substitute members, by action of the council.

Commissioner Cheney presented bills and payrolls for the period, Dec. 15 to Feb. 1, and which were approved and ordered paid. Bills aggregated \$8932.79. On motion of Commissioner Cheney payment of public benefits, including special and supplemental assessment, was ordered, totaling \$9628.08.

E. M. Laing Resigns  
The resignation of Edward M. Laing as building commissioner was tendered and on motion of Commissioner Card it was accepted. A successor has not been appointed, and for the present John Hart, superintendent of the street department is discharging the duties of the office.

### More Land For Library

Commissioner Goutley moved adoption of a resolution to the effect that as erection of an addition to the public library would be necessitated in near future because of increased patronage, and as the present lot is not wide enough, therefore the city proceed to purchase additional 50 feet west and adjoining the library premises together with a strip of land 75 feet wide and 60 feet deep, in the rear of the library, at a price not to exceed \$12,000. The motion prevailed, and another motion authorizing the mayor to enter into contract for the purchase of this land, \$4,000 down and balance in one and two years, was also carried.

### Committee On Plaza Plan

Mayor Hastings appointed a committee consisting of Commissioners Cheney and Card to work out a preliminary plan for a Plaza and the extension of Sheridan road from Central avenue. The appointments were confirmed by the council.

This is the first step in a plan long discussed in Highland Park and which contemplated setting aside a tract in the center of the business district as a plaza or community center with such buildings and improvements as may enhance the attractiveness of the city as a residence suburb.

## FIVE CANDIDATES FOR STATE'S ATTORNEY

The name of Atty. E. M. Runyard, candidate for state attorney, will appear first on the ballot at the spring primaries. This was assured when Robert B. Conolly, who had stood in front of the county clerk's office for fifteen hours, was first in line last week when the office was opened. Mr. Conolly presented Mr. Runyard's petition. He took up his position in front of the door to the clerk's office at five o'clock Thursday night. All night long he maintained his vigil. Next in line was Harold Finer, a member of the "sponge squad," who presented the petition of A. V. Smith.

Although there is no positive confirmation of the fact it seems to be generally agreed that there will be at least five candidates in the race for state attorney.

Friends of former State Attorney James G. Welch are circulating his petitions and Mr. Welch asserts positively that he will be a candidate. Atty. William A. Deane, former assistant state attorney under Mr. Welch also is an avowed candidate although it is said he has not yet circulated his petitions. Atty. Harold J. Hanson of Waukegan also has announced to friends that he plans to be a candidate.

With five candidates in the field the race promises to be hotly contested. Up to the present there has been no indication of a contest for any of the other county offices. February 28 is the last day for filing petitions.

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