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GOVERNOR'S NAME ON TEACHERS' WAGE BILL A NECESSITY

Signature Expected To-Day to Measure Favored by Evening World.

Following representations which The Evening World has made at Albany and a presentation of arguments in favor of the bill providing for a statewide increase of the salaries of teachers in the public schools, word came from Albany yesterday that the Governor was expected to sign the bill to-day.

At a hearing before Gov. Smith last Thursday an editorial in The Evening World urging the Governor to sign the bill was read into the record by Dr. William I. Strovich, Commissioner of Widows' Pensions, who attended the hearing with a delegation at the instance of this newspaper. Petitions were presented from 500,000 parents of school-going children and 750 school boards. There were letters from the Mayors of twenty-four cities who approved the measure. It was also supported, along the policies laid down in The Evening World editorial, by

the Chamber of Commerce, the City Club, the Downtown Chamber of Commerce and many other organizations.

Further facts laid before the Governor since the hearing showed that the present situation due to the insufficiency of teachers' salaries was more threatening to the work of the schools than the shortage of seating space.

The profession of teaching is being abandoned. The attendance at normal schools and other institutions for the training of teachers is steadily falling off. The number of such students in the various training schools for teachers at the fall term of 1918 was but 23, or one-fourth of the number certain to be needed by the time the courses of instruction are completed.

In one day in New York City 20,000 children were sent home because there were no teachers for them. Later, to avoid turning these children loose on the streets, principals were instructed to put many classes under student monitors to keep them in order, and they were visited by teachers for a part of each day, getting far less than the minimum of instruction required.

Teachers trained in New York schools are being drawn away to other States and cities by their ability to get better salaries than New York will pay.

A particular instance of the working of the situation which was called to the Governor's attention was the plight of the Stuyvesant High School, which has forty vacancies with no applications from teachers qualified to fill them.

A high school teacher must have been a graduate of the public schools, a high school and a college. He must have had at least one year's experience in teaching in the public schools and he must pass an examination before appointment to be a high school teacher. After all this the State of New York offers such a teacher an initial salary of \$900 a year. There have been no increases in the salaries of high school teachers for the last twenty years.

Up-State the minimum salary of a school teacher is from \$450 to \$500 a year. The maximum salaries are from \$550 to \$600. There are vacancies for 2,000 teachers in the sections where those salaries prevail, with no prospect that properly qualified teachers can be found to fill them at such rates of pay.

New York, the Governor has been told, now stands thirty-ninth on the list of States in its equipment for offering education to its youth and has reached this low standard at a time when the need for general education was never greater in order to forward new ideals of Americanization which have been awakened by the situation of the world at large.

This city has recently set aside \$25,000,000 for the erection of school buildings. Clamor against the \$20,000,000 needed to pay proper salaries on account of the expenditure of that sum is of little account compared to the \$20,000,000 that is to go into the erection of buildings which will be vacant because of the lack of sufficiently well-paid teachers to make the buildings effective.

Dr. Sirovich told the Governor that he was empowered by 63,000 teachers throughout the State to say that The Evening World's campaign for the State-wide bill—as against the city bill for uneven increases, already vetoed by Mayor Hylan—was one for which they were grateful to a degree because it exactly represented what they believed to be justice to their profession.

EX-ARMY OFFICER KILLED BY AUTO; WOMAN INJURED

Wheel of Machine Came Off While Running Forty Miles an Hour on Jersey Road.

NEWTON, N. J., May 12.—One man was killed, one young woman seriously injured and another escaped with slight bruises when the right front wheel of their automobile came off at 5 o'clock last night.

The machine was running at an estimated speed of forty miles an hour toward the Sparta Road five miles east of here.

The dead man was Leonard H. Sherman, twenty-one, recently discharged as a lieutenant of the Aviation Service. While he was in France he was gassed and his parents were notified he was dead.

Miss Mary Earle suffered fractures of the right leg and right arm. Miss Viola Boss was bruised.

PROGRESSIVES IN SENATE WON'T AID DEMOCRATS

Decide Not to Endanger Republican Control by Fight on Penrose and Warren.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Senate Progressives have definitely decided that they will not endanger Republican control of the Senate by their fight on Senators Penrose and Warren as Chairmen of the Finance and Appropriations Committees.

Though some of them declared to-day they will never vote for either Penrose or Warren, they will not support the Democratic candidates for these or other positions.

At a final conference to-day Progressives said they expect to determine who their candidates will be for the two Chairmanships and for President pro tem of the Senate; how they will conduct their fight before the Republican caucus and on the floor of the Senate, and whether they will accept any committee Chairmanships themselves.

BODY IDENTIFIED BY TAG.

Man Shot in Brooklyn Sunday Was Alexander Bergeron.

Through a tailor's tag on his clothing, the man who was shot in the hallway of No. 253 67th Street, Brooklyn, early Sunday morning, and for whose death Salvatore Longo, has been held, was identified to-day as Alexander Bergeron, No. 247 58th Street, Brooklyn, a mechanic at the Morse Dry Dock Yards.

CRANFORD MAY BE NAMED AS NEW SUBWAY BUILDER

Rumor That He Is to Be Rapid Transit Construction Commissioner Follows Call on Governor.

ALBANY, May 12.—Frederick L. Cranford, engineer and contractor, called on Gov. Smith yesterday and a report spread around the Capitol that he was being considered for appointment as Rapid Transit Construction Commissioner in New York City.

Mr. Cranford is an independent Democrat who in the old days was allied with the Stuyvesant Democracy in Brooklyn. For some years he was President of the General Contractors' Association and has taken a prominent part in the construction of the city's subways. His last contract of this kind was the Post Office section of the Seventh Avenue subway, running from Chambers Street through Park Place and under a corner of the Post Office.

Some time ago Mr. Cranford was appointed by the Federal Government as Director of Construction of the nitrate plants that the Air Nitrates Corporation undertook to build for the War Department, contracts involving many millions.

LEG BROKEN BY AN AUTO, HE SUES FOR \$50,000

F. J. Siemer, White Plains Hotel Man, Charges Mesquita's Car Was Recklessly Driven.

The trial of the suit of Frederick J. Siemer, proprietor of the Crawaupum Hotel, White Plains, for \$50,000 damages for personal injuries against Rudolph Mesquita of Manhattan, will begin before Justice Keogh at White Plains to-day.

Mr. Siemer was run down by the defendant's car, it is alleged, on May 23, 1918, while crossing Fifth Avenue at 43d Street, after a concert at the Hippodrome by John McCormack and other artists in aid of the Liberty Loan. The car knocked him down and ran over his left leg. He spent six weeks in a hospital. His leg was fractured in two places. He charges that the automobile was operated in a careless, reckless and negligent manner.

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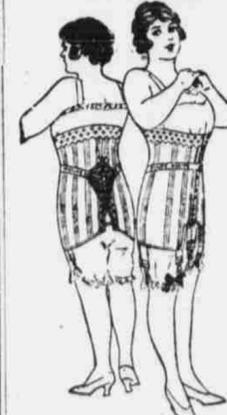
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