

TINY WAR CLOUD IN ORDERS TO BRUERE

Possibility of Clash With Board of Estimate in Work Mayor Lays Out.

PLANS SEARCHING SURVEY

Inquiry Into Standardization Asked Already Is Province of Prendergast.

The amplified office of City Chamberlain got its first marching orders yesterday from John Purroy Mitchell. The new Mayor wrote a letter to Henry Bruere, giving him work which will last for six months, perhaps longer. The five sets of jobs which Mr. Mitchell put upon Mr. Bruere will take him into every department under the Mayor's jurisdiction, and perhaps into those presided over by other city officials.

In that last feature of the programme lies the possibility of war, though all members of the new administration, elective and otherwise, are sworn to the most sympathetic cooperation as Mr. Mitchell phrased it in his speech at the City Hall on New Year's Day.

As the case stands now, there is only the first appearance of a delicate situation. But if it should serve Mr. Mitchell's purposes to ask the City Chamberlain to go where other members of the Board of Estimate feel that they are supreme, then there may be trouble.

The point on which the matter turns at present is a request from the Mayor that Mr. Bruere report on the progress of standardizing salaries and salaries, and recommend how it shall be continued.

Standardization had been Comptroller Prendergast's own peculiar function. He was chairman of the Board of Estimate committee on standardizing salaries. Borough President McAneny (now President of the Board of Aldermen) and Borough President Founds of Brooklyn served with him.

Exhaustive Inquiry Made.

Working under Mr. Prendergast was a regularly established bureau in charge of George L. Tirrell, secretary of the Finance Department. The investigators for the Bureau went through all the departments to find salary inequalities, and to gather material which will serve in putting men doing similar work in different departments on a single footing.

The preliminary survey is completed and the Board of Estimate is ready to go ahead. This work is the peculiar business of the Board of Estimate. Under the charter the Board of Aldermen technically has the power to fix salaries, but it can only act upon advice from the Board of Estimate, which in turn is supposed to listen to the recommendations of the heads of departments. But in effect the Board of Estimate is the active force which controls salaries, and its attempt upon the part of the Mayor or any other city official to dictate its action would be construed as an encroachment on its powers.

Far from giving up any of its present powers the Board of Estimate in this administration will extend them. Mr. Prendergast and Mr. McAneny will each have equal voting power with Mr. Mitchell.

Mr. Mitchell's Instructions.

This is the letter of the Mayor to Mr. Bruere, the first open letter of instructions to any of Mr. Mitchell's appointees. "For the purpose of carrying out the plan of departmental reorganization discussed at the time I requested you to accept the office of Chamberlain, I suggest that you take up the following matters at your earliest convenience:

"1. A survey of the office of City Chamberlain and a report to me thereon, with such recommendations for reorganization as you find necessary. This report I should like to have at the earliest possible moment, and I assume that you will be able to render it within the next two or three weeks.

"2. A review of the recommendations submitted to Mayor Kline at my request by the heads of the various departments, pointing out the defects in their present organization and submitting recommendations for an increase of efficiency.

"3. A report to me outlining a plan for surveys of the various departments of the city government as a basis for reorganization where necessary and an increase of efficiency.

"4. An extension of the accounting installation to the various departments in cooperation with the Department of Finance in order that it may be completed at the earliest moment. It would appear to me that it should be possible to complete this work by June 30 if it is pushed.

"5. A report upon the present status of the work of salary and supply standardization, together with recommendations for a continuance of that work."

Mayor Sees No Conflict.

After the possibilities of the letter had been called to his attention, the Mayor explained that his purpose was not to interfere in any way with the Comptroller's function in asking for a report on the accounting reorganization. On the contrary, he said, his purpose was to facilitate the Comptroller's work, for the Comptroller cannot accomplish a complete reorganization of accounts without the department's cooperation. All accounting work, he said, will be done, of course, under the Comptroller's supervision and be subject to his direction.

Similarly with regard to salary standardization, the Mayor said his purpose was to facilitate the work of the Board of Estimate's standardization committee and to do nothing in conflict with it.

NO WORD FROM GOETHALS.

Mayor Apparently No Nearer Finding a Police Commissioner.

John Purroy Mitchell had nothing but negative answers yesterday to questions put to him about appointments. He had heard nothing from Col. Goethals about taking the Police Commissioner's job; in fact Col. Goethals was as mum on the subject, said Mr. Mitchell, as Kaiser Wilhelm.

No answer has come from Frederic R. Couderc, whom Mr. Mitchell wants to make Corporation Counsel. Mr. Couderc may be in town early this week. Mr. Mitchell was silent.

The new Mayor and most of his department heads put in a laborious and quiet Saturday. Job hunters stayed away and Mr. Mitchell remained at the City Hall until 4 o'clock, when he went uptown with Henry Bruere.

The new Mayor had lunch with all the members of the new Board of Estimate yesterday at the Lawyers Club, 115 Broadway. They talked committees and programmes, but no decisions were made public.

Julian B. Beatty may be the Mayor's secretary. He was personal secretary to Grover Cleveland in Princeton and Borough President McAneny's secretary up to about a year ago.

FIFTH AVENUE
34th and 35th Streets, New York

THE STORE IS OPENED DAILY AT 9 A. M.

B. Altman & Co.

TELEPHONE 7000 MURRAY HILL

FIFTH AVENUE
34th and 35th Streets, New York

The following Sales of timely interest have been arranged:

An Exceptional Sale of Women's French Lingerie (hand-embroidered)

to be held to-morrow (Monday) and Tuesday, will consist of a large and most attractive selection of fine hand-embroidered Undergarments, made and imported especially for this occasion and presenting very unusual values at the following prices:

- Chemises at 75c., 90c., \$1.75 & 2.50
- Drawers at \$1.10, 1.25 & 2.75
- Corset Covers at 85c., 1.10 & 1.35
- Night Robes at \$1.65, 2.25 & 4.50
- Princess Slips at 2.95 & 3.50
- Walking Skirts \$1.25, 2.75 & 4.85

Misses' and Children's French Hand-embroidered Lingerie

at special prices, as follows:

MISSES' FRENCH LINGERIE

- Chemises . . . at 75c. & 90c.
- Night Robes . . . at \$1.65 & 1.85
- Drawers at 95c.
- Petticoats at 1.25 & 1.85

CHILDREN'S FRENCH LINGERIE

- Night Robes . . . at \$1.35 & 1.65
- Drawers 55c., 70c. & 85c.
- (according to size)
- Petticoats at 65c.

16,000 Yards of Cotton Dress Materials

suitable for Spring and Summer wear, will be placed on sale to-morrow (Monday), at these attractive price concessions:

- Irish Dimity, value 25c. per yard, at 13c.
- Printed Silk-and-cotton Ratine, in a large variety of designs and colorings; value 58c. per yard, at 35c.

Boys' Washable Suits and Blouses

will offer excellent values at the following prices:

- Boys' Washable Suits, in Russian, sailor, middy and novelty styles and a variety of materials, \$1.85 & 2.90
- Boys' Washable Hand-embroidered Russian Suits, of linen and pique, sizes 3 to 6 years . . . at \$4.75
- Boys' Washable Blouses at 60c.

The Dressmaking and Tailoring Department (Third Floor) has now ready for inspection a number of new models in

Tailor-made Suits

from which orders will be taken, for a limited period, for making Tailor-made Suits to measure at the special price of . . . \$67.00

(the regular prices being \$95.00 to 125.00)

The fabrics used in making these Suits are poplin, silk moire, taffeta, broadcloth, serge and gabardine.

AN EXTRAORDINARY SALE OF 15,000 ORIENTAL RUGS

(Modern and Semi-antique).

will be commenced to-morrow (Monday), January 5th, in the Rug Department on the Fifth Floor, at very remarkable price concessions, an unusual combination of circumstances making it possible for B. Altman & Co. to offer these Rugs at much lower prices than heretofore.

Oriental Rugs in Room Sizes

MAHAL RUGS
actual values \$165.00 to 1,400.00,
at \$90.00 to 700.00

AFGHAN RUGS
actual values \$150.00 to 375.00,
at \$75.00 to 190.00

CHEORAVAN RUGS
actual values \$250.00 to 1,250.00,
at \$125.00 to 650.00

MODERN ISPAHAN RUGS
actual values \$375.00 to 2,250.00,
at \$190.00 to 1,100.00

KIRMAN RUGS
actual values \$350.00 to 2,500.00,
at \$165.00 to 1,250.00

SARUCH RUGS
actual values \$365.00 to 2,500.00,
at \$175.00 to 1,250.00

(Also a number of Semi-antique Carpets in unusual sizes, at proportionate reductions in prices.)

Oriental Rugs in Small Medium and Large Sizes

ORIENTAL RUGS in small sizes,
actual values \$19.50 to 57.50,
at \$11.00 to 28.50

ORIENTAL RUGS in medium sizes,
actual values \$22.50 to 60.00,
at \$14.00 to 30.00

ORIENTAL RUGS in large sizes,
actual values \$50.00 to 175.00,
at \$26.00 to 85.00

500 Fine Persian Rugs

average size 4 x 7 feet, actual values \$85.00 to \$375.00,
at \$45.00 to 175.00

1,000 Oriental Hall Runners

(including many narrow widths),
actual values \$55.00 to 185.00,
at \$24.00 to 90.00

The wearing qualities of these Rugs are fully guaranteed.

On TUESDAY,

January 6th

FUR GARMENTS AND SMALL FURS

will be offered in the Fur Department on the Third Floor at decidedly attractive prices. Included are

Women's Fur Coats (a limited number)

- Karakul Coats at \$35.00, 55.00 & 85.00
- Hudson Seal Coats at 95.00, 110.00 & 145.00
- Seal-dyed Coney Coats at 45.00 & 65.00

Men's Fur-lined Overcoats

made of Oxford or black broadcloth, lined with natural muskrat, at \$55.00

Neckpieces and Muffs

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| NECKPIECES | | MUFFS |
| \$16.50 & 32.00 | Black Fox | \$16.50 & 35.00 |
| 18.00 & 24.00 | Pointed Fox | 25.00 & 35.00 |
| 10.00 & 20.00 | Moleskin | 15.00 & 20.00 |
| 25.00 | Natural Raccoon | 25.00 |
| 11.00 | Black Wolf | 12.50 |
| 20.00 & 30.00 | Skunk | 28.00 & 40.00 |
| Persian Paw Sets | | 10.00 |

Also the remaining stock of High-cost Fur and Fur-lined Garments, Muffs and Neckpieces at greatly reduced prices.

A Highly Important Sale of Household and Decorative Linens, Blankets, Bedspreads and Muslin Sheets and Pillow Cases

is now being held, and will be continued throughout the week, in the Department on the Fourth Floor, offering exceptional values. Included are lace-trimmed Centerpieces, Doylies, Tea Cloths, Reception Cloths and Scarfs, Luncheon Sets and other decorative linens; also the following:

LINEN DAMASK TABLE CLOTHS each . \$1.75, 2.50, 2.90 & 4.25

LINEN DAMASK TABLE NAPKINS per dozen \$2.20, 2.50, 3.50 & 4.90

LINEN SHEETS, hemstitched, per pair \$4.25, 5.75, 6.75 & 7.50

LINEN PILLOW CASES, hemstitched, per pair 90c., \$1.15, 1.25 & 1.50

HEMSTITCHED LINEN TOWELS per dozen \$3.00, 4.00, 5.40 & 7.75

HEMME BATH TOWELS per dozen . \$2.85, 4.80 & 5.40

WHITE BLANKETS per pair \$4.50, 5.00, 6.50 to 10.00

COMFORTABLES silk top, wool-filled each \$6.50

SATIN-FINISH BEDSPREADS hemmed . . . each \$2.90 & 4.25

scalloped each 3.25

CROCHET BEDSPREADS each \$1.25 & 1.60

MUSLIN SHEETS with plain hems, each 65c. to \$1.05

hemstitched, each \$1.05 & 1.20

MUSLIN PILLOW CASES with plain hem each 18c. to 26c.

hemstitched, each 25c., 28c. & 32c.

Appreciable Reductions have been made in the prices of discontinued lines of Satin, Silk and Sateen-covered Comfortables, filled with down or wool.

A Remarkable Reduction Sale of Women's Coats and Wraps

has been planned to commence to-morrow (Monday), presenting an unusual opportunity for purchasing stylish Outergarments of fine quality at less than one-half the former prices. The offering includes:

Practical Coats in three-quarter and full-length models, in plain and fancy materials; originally \$22.00 to \$150.00, now reduced to \$10.00, 14.50, 22.00, 30.00 & 45.00

Wraps for Afternoon and Evening wear, in plain and brocaded velvets and plushes and broadtail cloth, some trimmed with fur; originally \$55.00 to 285.00, now reduced to \$25.00, 32.00, 45.00, 58.00 & 75.00

Thirty-fourth Street

Fifth Avenue, New York

Thirty-fifth Street