D. C. BUSINESS MEN DEFENDED IN HOUSE

Representative Stafford Disputes Charge Government Is Held Up for Office Rent.

RUNS INTO BORLAND ADDED-HOUR RIDER

Says Missourian Apparently Does Not Know Clerks Elsewhere Are Not Required to Work 8 Hours.

Representative Stafford of Wisconsin, who contemplates an amendment to the legislative appropriation bill giving government clerks a half-holiday the year round, ran head-on into the Borland added-hour provision late yesterday in the House and gave the author of the rider a talking to that seemed to please the few government employes who were sitting in the galleries.

Representative Borland had been making broad assertions about the "speculating land-owning interests" and the "holding up of the government" by men to whom the government pays rent for office buildings, claiming that the real estate owners of the District are somewhat similar to the buccaneers of the Spanish main. The business under discussion was a little proviso allowing a rearrangement of space in the State, War and Navy Departments building, which will possibly save $6,600 a year in office rents. Representative Borland made an attack on the business men of the District in general, and when he had concluded Representative Stafford replied:

"I think the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. Borland) is driven pretty hard when, in order to give support to the amendment on which he got snap judgment in the committee, he has to make an attack upon the real estate agents of this city and make the bald charge that they are holding up the government in the rents that are being paid by the government for the use of departmental service. The question of rental of these buildings in the city has received consideration by the subcommittee, and in this bill we authorize the Secretary of Labor and the Attorney General to enter into leases based upon the rate of 36.3 cents per square foot of available space used.

"Why?" asked Representative Borland, and Representative Stafford answered:

Considered Fair Return.

"We limited that to 36.3 cents a square foot not because we had been through a long fight, but because the Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Redfield, testified before the committee that it was but a fair return on the investment and that it was a very low rental for office buildings in the District. Now, what is shown by the figures in the Book of Estimates, showing the returns of rentals paid by the various departments? By reason of the growing departmental service we have been obliged to rent offices in the Woodward building, in the Union Trust building and in the Southern building, where the rental is $1.35 per square foot, including upkeep, janitor service and elevator service, whereas in the Department of Commerce we pay 36.3 cents per square foot for the use of the available space, and are obliged to maintain the upkeep.

"Secretary Redfield testifies that that upkeep, including everything, amounts to 18½ cents per square foot, or a total for that building of 54.8, thus saving more than one-half of what is being charged to the general public in the rent of office buildings. Yet the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. Borland), driven to the extreme to find some reason for bolstering up his amendment, claims that the question of rental is involved in compelling the clerks to work eight hours instead of seven. Apparently he does not know that throughout the country, even in private establishments, clerks are not required to work a maximum of eight hours; that in many insurance companies and banks the maximum is seven and one-half and in some instances seven hours.

"If there is merit in his proposition, let us discuss the question on its merits, but do not let us drag into this discussion an arraignment of a class who do not deserve to be attacked on the showing that is made. I do not link real estate agents with land sharks or money sharks. They perform a necessary function, and they have submitted to the department heads fair proposals as to the erection of new buildings, to be rented for a term of five years on the basis of 36.3 cents per square foot. That rental in some instances does not yield the owners an average of 4 per cent on the amount invested. If it does not yield a return of 4 per cent, even excluding taxes, certainly no one can charge that the real estate agents are engaged in a hold-up policy of the government in the rental of offices, to accommodate the respective branches of the government by reason of the growing needs of the service."

Long Debate Over $120.

During the discussion of the bill one of the most remarkable debates, as far as length compared to importance is concerned, occurred on the endeavor to save $120 worth of gasoline and oil for one of the park policemen's motor cycles. It was suggested by Representative Gallivan that the time and money of the government expended in the argument would have bought four new motor cycles. The item was for $240 for care and maintenance of a motor cycle, and Representative Sisson wanted to cut it to $120. Thereupon a debate ensued which bade fair to take up the rest of the day, and it was then early. Representative Stafford combated Representative Sisson, and finally Representative Gallivan stopped it with his Boston wit. A vote was taken to save the $240, and Representative Byrns, chairman in charge of the bill, called for tellers, whereupon Representative Mann, disgusted, made a point of no quorum, saying that if they were going to wrangle all day over $120 they would have to have a quorum present. Later Representative Rucker of Missouri endeavored to get an extra man in the pension office, but was unsuccessful. He had this to say:

"I have seen here today a serious difference on the question of whether it costs $120 or $240 to run one of these darned machines that disturb the peace of every one, and by a large vote the House decides that the man who runs the machine is best qualified to judge. If that is true the House will hardly question the judgment of a trusted officer of the government who says this man is needed." When the House adjourned, a few minutes later, a motion by Representative Rucker for two more messengers in the pension office was pending.

L. H. Haney to Probe Oil Prices.

Investigation of the oil and gasoline prices and production in the United States by the federal trade commission is to be under the direction of Lewis H. Haney, economist, of Austin, Tex., according to an announcement made by the body. A report on pipe-line transportation of crude oil has just been completed by the commission, and Mr. Haney will give particular attention to the rise in the price of gasoline. The Department of Justice also is investigating gasoline prices, and the interstate commerce commission is pursuing an investigation of pipe lines in the Allegheny fields.

LITTLE STORIES for BEDTIME

BY THORNTON W. BURGESS.

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Merry Little Breezes Tell the Truth.

Peter Rabbit didn't believe that the Merry Little Breezes had told the truth when they said that they had found flowers in bloom. Not that he thought that they had deliberately told an untruth. No, indeed! He didn't think that. He thought that they were either just trying to tease him or that they had been mistaken. But he couldn't get rid of the thought that perhaps they had seen something that he hadn't seen, and nothing upsets Peter more than the thought that others know more than he does about what is going on in the Green Forest and on the Green Meadows. The Merry Little Breezes had told Peter to use his eyes. Just as if Peter isn't forever using his eyes! You know how curious he is.

"If there are any signs of spring which they have seen I'd like to know where they are," muttered Peter, as he hopped all through the dear Old Brier Patch, looking sharply at all the bushes and little trees and brambles to see if any of the sleeping buds of leaves showed any signs of waking. But they didn't, and Peter felt satisfied that there were no signs of spring in the Old Brier Patch. And there certainly were none on the Green Meadows, for these were still covered with snow.

Then Peter made up his mind to visit the Green Forest, just to make sure that he had missed nothing there. "They were just fooling or dreaming or simply crazy," he muttered, as he scampered about through the Green Forest. Nowhere could he find the least sign of the coming of Mistress Spring. There was snow everywhere. Suddenly an idea popped into his head. "If they really saw any flowers it must be that they saw them through the window of Farmer Brown's house. I've seen them there myself," thought he. "Why didn't I think of that before? But flowers up there are no sign of spring."

A few minutes later Peter came to that part of the Green Forest where Lightfoot the Deer had spent the winter. It was quite sheltered there—one of the warmest places in all the Green Forest. In places it was swampy. You know a swampy place is where the ground is always very wet. In places

IT SEEMED THAT SMELL CAME RIGHT OUT OF THE WATER.

the snow had disappeared, and in one of these places there was a very tiny stream of water coming from a place where it bubbled up out of the ground. It was a spring, and the tiny stream was the beginning of the Laughing Brook. Peter stopped on the edge of it. Just then along came the Merry Little Breezes, and one of them tickled his nose with a queer smell. Peter sniffed.

"Smells like the scent Jimmy Skunk carries around with him, but I haven't seen Jimmy's tracks anywhere," thought Peter. Again he sniffed, and it seemed as if that smell came right out of the water in front of him. He stared at it a minute, and for the first time he noticed several queer brown things like pointed hoods sticking above the water. Peter leaned forward to look at one a little closer, and then he made a discovery. That smell like Jimmy Skunk's perfume came from that queer brown hood! Peter hopped a step nearer so that he might see better. On one side of that queer brown hood was an opening, a narrow opning. Peter was all curiosity now. He crept still nearer and held his nose while he peeped in at that narrow opening. You see, he didn't like that smell, and so close to that little brown hood it was very strong.

At first he couldn't see anything, but in a minute he discovered down in the bottom of that little hood a sort of thick stem all covered with something yellow. Peter's eyes popped right out, and he looked harder than ever. Then he saw that that thick stem was covered with very, very tiny flowers, all yellow with the dust-like gold which most flowers have and which is called pollen.

Peter jumped a foot straight up in the air. "Why, the Merry Little Breezes did tell the truth!" he exclaimed.

"Of course we did!" cried the Merry Little Breezes, who had been watching him. "We always tell the truth. Those are the first flowers of the year, and a sure sign that Mistress Spring is on the way."

DUKES AND BEGGERS ATTEND MYSTIC RITES

Aristocrats and Peasants Stirred by Revival Now Being Held in Russia.

BERLIN, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y., March 4.—The Overseas News Agency gives out the following, which it says is private information received from Petrograd:

"The Metropolitan Petrim of Vladicavkaz, together with the Archbishop Varpara, is conducting a revival on an enormous scale. It is a mystic movement which has taken hold of the aristocracy and the lower classes. The metropolitan and the archbishop held liturgical services with unheard-of pomp, employing the songs of innocent children in order to rouse the masses.

"People say that if Petrograd should be evacuated, the metropolitan and the archbishop should lead the people, carrying the cross and chanting anthems, so as to prevent political opposition and rebellion.

Kneel and Pray in Snow.

"At one of the services held by the archbishop 1,000 persons, including a grand duke and other aristocrats, pilgrims, peasants and beggars, stood shoulder to shoulder. When the archbishop returned to his monastery the people knelt along the roadside in the snow, with the temperature 30 degrees below zero, in order to receive his blessing.

"Eye-witnesses of these scenes compare them with religious ecstasies of medieval times.

"The holy synod and the better educated portion of the clergy have protested, but their objections were not heeded by the emperor, who himself is much impressed by asceticism and mysticism.

"The metropolitan is a stately prelate, whose princely appearance has made a deep impression on Emperor Nicholas. The archbishop originally was a gardener's boy. He became a monk, and although he has no education, subsequently was consecrated bishop, notwithstanding the protest of the holy synod."

THE ROD AND GUN

GOOD SPORT AT LONG KEY, FLA.

C. G. Wheeler of California and Washington (at right) with twenty-one fish, totaling 481 pounds. Twelve of them are amber jacks, weighing from twenty to forty pounds.

Mr. Wheeler with a forty-five-pound amber jack.

Cold weather and snow flurries prevented piscatorial enthusiasts from being much in evidence on week-end outings and was the means of compelling many of the sportsmen to remain at home with their families, one of them said. "But with the opening of spring weather," he added, "the families will see very little of many of them, for then the anglers will take advantage of the spring season for white perch."

Following the perch season will come the season for the big rockfish, and early in June there ought to be good fishing for hardheads, trout, croakers and other fish that are found in salt water.

Salt water fishing should keep the sportsmen busy until late in the fall, when the season for small-mouth bass will be on.

There was a time when there were hundreds of anglers in this city who cared for no piscatorial sport other than small-mouth bass fishing, but that was when bass were plentiful, and when an angler was almost certain to get a string of fish every time he made the effort.

Joe Bodine, who has charge of the Anglers' Club, one of the oldest fishing clubs in this section, tells of the good sport members of that organization enjoyed years ago.

"Bass were plentiful in those days," he said, "and it was possible for anglers to catch good strings of them, and it was a common occurrence for a sportsman to give a fellow two or three bass."

Such were the conditions before the carp and Mississippi catfish made their appearance in the Potomac, and while many bass still are caught in the upper river, there is no such thing as an angler giving persons, practically strangers, a bass or two.

Rudy Quistorf, Charlie Porter and John Dean recently participated in a fishing trip on the river near Fletcher's and caught fish enough to last them a week.

Weather conditions do not interfere much with Charlie Porter's fishing plans, his companions say, and usually he is able to find one or two friends who are willing to brave rough weather with him.

"After all," said Porter, "what difference does it make if a man goes prepared to combat unfavorable conditions? Dress properly, have a charcoal fire in the boat or a campfire on shore and enjoy life."

The three have landed some big fish at different places along the Potomac and they are going to make an effort to get a prize winner this season.

Porter led the catch with a Mississippi catfish that weighed twelve pounds. Quistorf following with an eight-pounder, and Dean bringing up the rear with several smaller fish.

J. E. Buckingham says he never will forget a catch of sixteen rockfish weighing 143½ pounds made near Turkey Foot three years ago. The veteran and Charlie Fletcher made the catch, and had it not been that the bait gave out the catch probably would have been fifty or more pounds heavier, Buckingham said.

"Catching big rockfish is great sport," said Buckingham, telling of the successful trip, "and only persons who have landed them have any appreciation of the excitement attending the catches."

It is during the herring season that the big rockfish are caught. Experienced anglers say that herring gills make the best bait for them, though the fish will take cut herring, at times.

When herring bait is used, it is stated, the bait must be exceptionally fresh and one herring will make only two bait. Bleached gills are useless for bait.

"There is every reason to believe there will be a good season for rockfish this year," commented Buckingham.

N. L. Pulliam and S. B. Kendig were at the tidal basin Thursday afternoon. They spooned near where the hot water from an engine room empties in the basin, the "hot-water box," as it is called, and Pulliam landed three bass. Kendig blamed his tackle for his failure to get a fish.

Death this week claimed Henry Talbott, one of the most enthusiastic of the several hundred local anglers. He was regarded as one of the most expert fly fishermen in the United States, it is stated, and wrote many articles about where and how to fish.

Many years ago Henry Talbott was a companion of Jesse Middleton, now dead, who resided at Four Mile Run, Va., where a number of the more prominent expert fly anglers enjoyed late afternoons and early mornings on the river.

Bruce S. Branson and John A. Koons are close personal and business friends, but there is one question upon which they have never been able to agree, and that is the ownership of a rabbit that both shot while on a gunning trip the past season.

It is agreed that each gunner shot the rabbit. One shot Bre'r Rabbit while he was going and the other while he was coming.

"There were no rules of the road to apipy to that incident," said Branson, "and it was not a question of east and west or north and south having the right of way, and under the circumstances we were unable to decide the question of ownership."

"I shot the rabbit's head off," said Koons. "And I shot it in the left hind leg," was Branson's rejoinder.

"We were never able to determine the question of ownership," said one of the sportsmen, "but did not have any trouble settling the question of disposition of it.

"The pot-pie," he added, "was thoroughly enjoyed."

Anglers are wondering if this season will bring a repetition of the sport of catching rockfish in the vicinity of Annapolis, Md., such as was enjoyed last season. Usually there is good sport to be found in the vicinity of Annapolis, and last year it remained for a party of Washington anglers to open the eyes of the Maryland sportsmen.

They caught 208 large rockfish, commented J. E. Buckingham, who was a member of the party that included William Campbell, George Moore, Dick Mullett, Theodore Weed and George Thomson.

It was reported that great sport was being enjoyed near Annapolis, said the veteran Washington angler, and the six anglers went over one night. Early the next morning the fishing grounds presented a lively scene, the fishing boats giving the place the appearance of the arrival of a mosquito fleet over night.

At the end of the favorable tide the party went to a place near the east end of the big bridge to enjoy dinner, and Buckingham's statement that the big rockfish would take fly bait was challenged by a New York sportsman.

"The New Yorker held a watch on me while I made a succession of casts with a fly," said Buckingham, "and I landed fourteen rockfish in twenty minutes."

Warwick Furr of Ballston and Washington, who last season shot and killed a rabbit that covered portions of three counties after he fired the shot, made his appearance on the river last week.

"A sportsman might participate in a rabbit killing in three nearby counties of Virginia, get his game and keep out of trouble," said a bass fisherman, "but he couldn't perform such a feat in the fishing game.

"He might manage to hook a fish in one county in the Shenandoah valley section and land it in another county," he added, "and he also might get in trouble because of the different local laws, but the gunning law is uniform."

Furr was gunning in one corner of Loudoun county when he shot the rabbit, he stated, and the lame animal passed through a portion of Fairfax county before it dropped in Prince William.

On his first fishing trip of the season, Furr landed one Mississippi catfish that provided a fish supper for his family. Several smaller fish, he said, took his bait and eluded his hooks.

Robert Ratherdale was one of the few Washington sportsmen who were willing to brave the weather conditions Wednesday in an effort to find a big fish. He boated to the vicinity of "Hen and Chickens," baited with shad bait and was able to convince his friends that all the fish had not been caught before his arrival.

Two Mississippi catfish, one weighing seven and the other weighing three pounds, were landed. No record was made of the fish that took the bait without getting hooked.

"John Souder has not abandoned his efforts at yellow perch fishing in Little river," said Will T. Reynolds, recalling the numerous catches made during the winter. "Wednesday afternoon Souder was surprised when he caught a bass—the first bass of the season."

The bass weighed only about one pound.

The many anglers who get rest and recreation along the towpath of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal are anxiously waiting for the water to be turned in on the upper levels.

"It is a case of enjoying scenery and fishing with those who fish in the canal," observed an old sportsman, "and I can imagine no more enjoyable way to spend a day."

Anglers say there usually is good fishing in the canal and numerous varieties of fish are found there. In that portion of the waterway known as Widewater, near the Anglers' Club, bass, crappie, catfish, sunfish, eels and pike abound. Turtles also are plentiful, according to a resident of that section who was trying his luck for pike last week.

SHIPS COLLIDE AT SEA: ESCAPE SERIOUS DAMAGE

Brazilian Liner Sergipe First Sends Out S. O. S. Call and Later Signals "All Well."

NEW YORK, March 4.—The Sergipe, a Brazilian steamship which left this port yesterday afternoon for South American ports, collided with another vessel early today about sixty miles south of New York. An hour after he had sent out an S. O. S. call the wireless operator on the Sergipe sent word that neither vessel was badly damaged and that his ship was safe and continuing her voyage.

Conditions for wireless transmission were bad this morning and the shore stations could not decipher the name of the ship with which the Sergipe collided. The shock temporarily disabled the Brazilian steamship's wireless apparatus. The first vessel to answer the Sergipe's call for help was a British auxiliary cruiser believed to be the Caronia. The Sergipe asked the cruiser to "stand by," but later signaled "all well." It was reported that the Caronia was the ship which struck the Sergipe, but wireless messages picked up by nearby stations did not confirm this.

The Sergipe is a steel vessel 280 feet long, gross tonnage, 1,859. She is owned by Lloyd Brazileiro.

The first S. O. S. call from the Sergipe was sent out at 2:20 a.m. At 3:40 the cruiser sent word that "all was well."

George W. Williamson died at his home in Baltimore. He was sixty-seven years old, and for more than twenty-five years foreman of a pottery works.

THE WEEK

Epitome of Events Ending March 4, 1916.

WAR CONDITIONS AFFECTING UNITED STATES.

The Senate tabled the resolution to warn American citizens off merchantmen armed for defense under a belligerent flag, changed to declare the sinking by a German submarine without warning of an armed merchant vessel of her public enemy, resulting in the death of an American citizen, would constitute just cause for war—a victory for the President, in response to his demand that agitation of this character in Congress should be resolved by vote to indicate that the United States presented a united front in its foreign policy. The negotiations with Germany for the freedom of the seas, in opposition to the German submarine policy, was suspended by the American government pending a determination of the spirit of Congress. Germany, in disregard of the contentions of the United States, inaugurated a submarine policy on the plan of destroying armed belligerent merchantmen of the enemy. The President, speaking at the Gridiron Club dinner, rated rashness with cowardice in considering the possibilities of a rupture with Germany.

Progress of War.

In the big German drive, with the capture of Verdun as the objective, the German forces captured some of the outer defenses and many miles of trenches, the French contending that the attack had been held by the defenders. Austrian forces occupied Durazzo, Albanian port evacuated by Italian defenders. Italy announced that merchantmen flying the Italian flag are to be armed for defense.

NATIONAL.

The post office appropriation bill passed the House. The House voted down a proposition to cut the mileage allowance for members below 20 cents a mile. The Kentucky republican convention indorsed Charles W. Fairbanks for President. Former President Roosevelt refused to allow his name to appear as a candidate for President before the Illinois primaries. Censure and praise of Louis D. Brandeis continued at the hearing before the Senate judiciary committee on his nomination for associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. James D. Preston was chosen to be in charge of the press section of the democratic national convention. Robbers secured $25,000 rifling mail pouches on the ferry from Jersey City to New York city. Among those who died during the week were: Col. Walter H. Taylor, adjutant to Gen. Lee during the civil war, and Henry Talbott, chief of division of indices of the interstate commerce commission.

FOREIGN.

Zapata and Villa threw in their lot with Felix Diaz in the new revolutionary movement in Mexico; Benjamin Argumedo, leader of opposition forces in Durango, was hanged after conviction of treason by a Carranza court-martial; Carranza guaranteed the paper currency issued by the constitutionalist government. The Senate ratified the treaty with Haiti, which provides for a United States protorate over that government. High food prices caused a strike throughout Spain. Among those who died during the week were: Henry James, novelist, and the queen mother of Rumania, Carmen Sylva.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Chamber of Commerce, labor and citizen bodies and other organizations protested against the Borland rider, proposing to add an extra hour to the working day of government employes in Washington. Representation in Congress for the District of Columbia was urged before the Senate committee on judiciary. The board of education postponed action of the application of citizens for the use of the public schools as civic centers. Street car conductors and motormen, secretly organized, made demand for shorter hours and more pay. W. F. Gude was elected exalted ruler of the B. P. O. E. of Washington. David Rothschild, W. B. Reilly and John W. Patterson, attorneys, were disbarred. The body of Alice D. Karr was found in the canal near the Anglers' Club, Md.; a coroner's jury decided that death was due to accident. Among those who died during the week were: Isaac Henry Ford, retired lawyer; Andrew H. Ragan, vice president of the Association of Oldest Inhabitants; Luke Kearney, for fifty years in government service, and Horace V. Bisbee, veteran printer of the government printing office.

CARS LOADED TO ROOFS ON STORAGE TRACKS

Statement That Only One Railroad Is Clear Between Chicago and New York.

CHICAGO, March 4.—Only one of the through railroads between Chicago and New York has its tracks clear, according to a story in the Chicago Tribune. The paper says that there are 100,000 cars, loaded to the roofs, backed up on storage tracks between the two cities.

"Goods which left Chicago in December have not gotten within 300 miles of New York."

"Littered With Delayed Freight."

"The docks, piers, private warehouses, public storehouses and finally the bare ground are littered with delayed freight. The value of the freight lying on the ground alone will total millions of dollars."

The story is credited to a traffic expert sent out to investigate the car shortage situation for a big Chicago corporation. The expert is quoted as saying: "The congestion is causing great losses to manufacturers. A large part of the goods were sold f. o. b. New York, but the railroads are not delivering within the time limit, and the home interests are being assessed the demurrage, besides having to stand the delays."

"Ugly Rumors" Afloat.

The expert further will be quoted as saying that "ugly rumors" have been afloat that undue influence has been used to expedite the movement of munitions of war, but that these rumors have never been confirmed.

"Americans probably do not realize the full extent of the munitions movement."

HUGE DREDGE AT PANAMA.

All Records for Excavating Are Broken by the Cascadas.

With the Cascadas, one of the most powerful dredges ever built, picking up fifteen cubic yards of material at each thrust of its dipper, the Panama canal engineers are breaking all records for excavation in hard material.

On February 18 the dredge excavated and loaded into scows a total of 23,305 cubic yards of earth and rock. This was a world's record, equivalent to 35,000 tons, and equal to eight of the heaviest freight trains ever hauled by one locomotive, and more than the weight of the greatest dreadnaught now building for the United States Navy.

IS CHOSEN PRESIDENT FOR THE EIGHTH TERM

John G. McGrath Yields to Importunities of Park View Association.

Miss Margaret Wilson Among the Speakers Advocating Organization of Community Center.

After endeavoring for a month to retire as its executive head, John G. McGrath last night finally was prevailed upon by members of the Park View Citizens' Association to accept an eighth term.

Effort was made at the meeting last month, held in the hall of the Whitney Avenue Christian Church, to re-elect him president, but when when he insisted that it was time the office should be filled by some other member the election was deferred for a month.

Edward H. Ward, George H. Russell, Dr. A. B. Crane and others spoke, saying that during Mr. McGrath's incumbency the Park View section had developed from a neighborhood of about 700 houses to a modern suburban settlement of 1,500 homes, and that, inasmuch as the principal physical developments needed had been obtained, Mr. McGrath should remain at the head of the organization to assist in the development of the Park View community center and the expansion of the section along lines other than those connected purely with its external development.

Other Officers Chosen.

At the same time officers who will serve with him were elected. These include J. C. Hoyle, vice president; H. R. George, secretary; H. W. Melville, financial secretary, and R. S. Williams, treasurer. M. H. Barnum, Dr. A. B. Crane and Frank Montgomery were chosen members at large for the executive committee.

The meeting turned out to be one of the longest and busiest in the history of the organization.

The association, by a unanimous vote, indorsed the Johnson bill, introduced yesterday in the House, providing for the organization of community centers and directing that certain schoolhouses, to be designated by the Commissioners, shall be available for civic meetings at any time their use is requested by the public. At the same time a unanimous vote was cast expressing the opinion that the board of education, under existing law, should grant the use of school buildings for civic purposes at any time the people need them.

The question of the locating of the proposed municipal hospital at 14th and Upshur streets, which the association disposed of several weeks ago by adopting a report approving the site, was reopened and a committee appointed to make further investigation of the matter. The committee consists of J. F. Culverwell, Dr. Thomas Miller, Dr. A. B. Crane and H. R. George. This action was taken following an address by J. A. Finch of the Piney Branch Park Association, in which he enumerated at length the objections to the establishment o fa hospital of this character in residential neighborhoods.

Advocacy of Playground.

Charlton M. Clark, chairman of the school committee, who was unable to attend on account of illness, sent a letter tendering his resignation and calling upon members of the association to do all within their power to induce Congress to appropriate at this session sufficient funds for the purchase of ground adjoining the new Park View School, to be used for a playground. This is the only ground available, and the Commissioners have asked Congress in their annual estimates for an appropriation of $22,000 with which to buy it. President McGrath was delegated to see Commissioner Newman and Chairman Page of the subcommittee on appropriations of the House District committee in regard to the matter.

Resolutions indorsing "baby-saving week" and the so-called "loan shark" bill to increase the rate of interest to 2 per cent were introduced by George H. Russell and unanimously approved.

Miss Margaret Wilson Speaks.

In approving the Johnson community center bill the association paved the way for organizing a community center in Park View. At its last meeting the association listened to addresses on this subject by Miss Margaret Wilson and others interested in the movement and shortly afterward its executive committee went on record indorsing the proposal.

Effort will be made to organize a model community center which will use the Park View School building now being constructed. President McGrath appointed a committee consisting of Edward J. Ward, J. F. Culverweil and J. C. Hoyl to appear before the proper committees in Congress and urge passage of the Johnson bill.

MINUTES OF GRAND JURY SECRET, GREGORY RULES

Attorney General Makes Public Telegram Sent to District Attorney Marshall.

Attorney General Gregory has made public a telegram he sent to District Attorney Marshall at New York February 29, which was the basis for Mr. Marshall's refusal to allow the minutes of a federal grand jury which indicted Representative Buchanan and others connected with Labor's National Peace Council to be turned over to the congressional investigating committee.

The Attorney General's telegram follows:

"Your letter 28th received. Federal grand juries are part of the machinery of the federal courts, and by long-established practice this department and district attorneys are bound not to disclose testimony and other proceedings had before grand juries except upon order of court.

"In the present case, moreover, both this department and State Department are of opinion that a disclosure of the proceedings before the grand jury would be prejudicial to the public interests.

"Accordingly, you are instructed to respectfully decline the committee's request. You may show this telegram to the chairman of the committee."

TO HONOR LANSING AND POLK

Members of Psi Upsilon Fraternity Will Entertain at Dinner.

Some fifty members of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity have arranged a dinner at the Metropolitan Club this evening in honor of the ir distinguished brothers, Robert Lansing, Secretary of State, and Frank Lyon Polk, counselor of the same department. George McLanahan of this city is a member of the committee on arrangements for the dinner, which will be strictly a fraternity affair and which will be attended by prominent New Yorkers and government officials.

There are in the united States about 10,000 members of the fraternity, the Amherst chapter of which Secretary Lansing joined while an undergraduate at that institution.

LEGAL NOTICES.

GEO. P. HOOVER and JOHN R. SHIELDS, Attorneys.

SUPREME COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COlumbia, Holding Probate Court.—Estate of David Wills, Deceased.—No. 22477, Administration Docket 52.—Application having been made herein for probate of the last will and testament of said deceased, and for letters testamentary on said estate, by David Wills, Jr., it is ordered this 3rd day of March, A.D. 1916, that David Wills Hollingsworth and Carrie B. Hollingsworth of Greensborough, Ala.; George Howe Hollingsworth, Julian Watt Hollingsworth, John Thomas Hollingsworth, Morris Field Hollingsworth and Mamie Hollingsworth Frazier of Lafayette, Ala., and A. Stephens Hollingsworth of Opelika, Ala., and all others concerned, appear in said court on Monday, the 10th day of April, A.D. 1916, at 10 o'clock a.m., to show cause why such application should not be granted. Let notice hereof be published in the "Washington Law Reporter" and "The Evening Star" once in each of three successive weeks before the return day herein mentioned, the first publication to be not less than thirty days before said return day. WALTER I. McCOY, Justice. (Seal.) Attest: JAMES TANNER, Register of Wills for the District of Columbia, Clerk of the Probate Court. mh4,11,18

RAY & GRANT, Attorneys.

SUPREME COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COlumbia, Holding Probate Court.—No. 22440, Administration.—This is to give notice that the subscriber, of the District of Columbia, has obtained from the Probate Court of the District of Columbia letters testamentary on the estate of Honora McGrath, late of the District of Columbia, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 24th day of February, A.D. 1917, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate. Given under my hand this 24th day of February, 1916. ROSE AGNES McGRATH, Soldiers' Home, D. C. (Seal.) Attest: JAMES TANNER, Register of Wills for the District of Columbia, Clerk of the Probate Court. fe26,mh4,11

LOUIS OTTENBERG, Attorney.

SUPREME COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COlumbia, Holding Probate Court.—No. 22424, Administration.—This is to give notice that the subscriber, of the District of Columbia, has obtained from the Probate Court of the District of Columbia letters testamentary on the estate of Kate E. Rawlings, late of the District of Columbia, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, legally authenticated, to the subscriber on or before the 5th day of February, A.D. 1917, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate. Given under my hand this 25th day of February, 1916. WILLIAM ADOLPH RAWLINGS, 3033 16th st. n.w. (Seal.) Attest: JAMES TANNER, Register of Wills for the District of Columbia, Clerk of the Probate Court. fe26,mh4,11

M. F. MANGAN, Attorney.

SUPREME COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COlumbia, Holding Probate Court.—No. 22486, Administration.—This is to give notice that the subscriber, of the District of Columbia, has obtained from the Probate Court of the District of Columbia letters of administration on the estate of Ellen Heasley, late of the District of Columbia, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, legally authenticated, to the subscriber on or before the 24th day of February, A.D. 1917, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate. Given under my hand this 24th day of February, 1916. MICHAEL F. MANGAN, 406 5th st. n.w. (Seal.) Attest: JAMES TANNER, Register of Wills for the District of Columbia, Clerk of the Probate Court. fe26,mh4,11

CHAS. T. HENDLER, Attorney.

SUPREME COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF Columbia, Holding Probate Court.—Estate of Christian C. Auracher, deceased.—No. 22435, Administration Docket 52.—Application having been made herein for probate of the last will and testament of said deceased, and for letters testamentary on said estate, by John F. Bieber, and for the ratification and confirmation of a stipulation and agreement entered into by the widow and heirs-at-law and next of kin of said decedent, it is ordered this 18th day of February, A.D. 1916, that Elsa C. Auracher and Teckla M. Auracher, and all others concerned, appear in said court on Monday, the 27th day of March, A.D. 1916, at 10 o'clock a.m., to show cause why such application should not be granted. Let notice hereof be published in the Washington Law Reporter and The Evening Star once in each of three successive weeks before the return day herein mentioned, the first publication to be not less than thirty days before said return day. WALTER I. McCOY, Justice. (Seal.) Attest: JAMES TANNER, Register of Wills for the District of Columbia, Clerk of the Probate Court. fe19,26,mh4

PROPOSALS.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, MARCH 1, 1916. SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners, Room 500, District Building, until 2 o'clock, P. M., March 20, 1916, for furnishing and installing the following miscellaneous equipment for the Central High School Building, located at corner of 13th and Clifton streets, Northwest, Washington, D. C.: Tables, Laboratory Tables, Chairs, Benches, Cabinet Work and Miscellaneous Furniture, Window Banking Counter and Screen, Bookkeeping and Typewriting Desks, Metal Book Stacks, Filing Cabinet, Steel Shelving and Metal Lockers, Opera and Folding Chairs, Gas Logs, Pottery Kiln, Electric Irons and Boards, Laundry Drier, Gas Stove and Safe, etc. Gymnasium Equipment, Moulding, Forge and Machine Shop Equipment, Blowers, Compressor, Tank and Miscellaneous Machinery, Wood-Working Machinery, Printing Department Equipment, Shakespearian Stage Curtain and other Curtains and Lantern Screens, Kitchen, Lunch Room and Cooking Room Equipment, Desks, Chairs and Stools. Blank forms of proposal, plans and specifications may be obtained from the Chief Clerk, Engineer Department, Room 427, District Building, Washington, D. C. A deposit of five dollars will be required to insure return of plans and specifications. OLIVER P. NEWMAN, LOUIS BROWNLOW, CHARLES W. KUTZ, COMMISSIONERS, D. C. mh1-6t,exSu

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS, DISTRICT of Columbia, March 4, 1916.—Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners, Room 509, District Building, until 2 o'clock, P.M., March 17, 1916, for work and program system for steam and electric work at the Western High School Building, No. 117, located at 35th and R streets, N.W., Washington, D. C. Blank forms of proposal, specifications and all necessary information may be obtained from the Chief Clerk, Engineer Department, Room 427, District Building, Washington, D. C. A deposit of five dollars will be required to insure return of specifications. OLIVER P. NEWMAN, LOUIS BROWNLOW, CHARLES W. KUTZ, Commissioners, D. C. mh4,6,7,8,9,10

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE District of Columbia,—Washington, March 3, 1916.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office, Room 509, District Building, until 2 o'clock p.m. Tuesday, April 4, 1916, for furnishing and delivering during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1916, and ending June 30, 1917, for use of the various branches of the government of the District of Columbia, supplies, as follows: Stationery, printing; school books; furniture and house furnishings; ironware and hardware; rubber stamps; plumbing supplies, groceries and provisions; boots and shoes; drugs and chemicals; paints and brushes; lumber; meats, fish and poultry; dry goods; ice; electrical supplies; saddlery and wheelwright supplies; kindergarten supplies; laundry work; automobile supplies; oils and lubricants; photographic supplies; flags; athletic goods and playground equipment. Form of proposal, specifications and necessary information may be obtained from the Purchasing Officer, D. C., Room 329, District Building. In applying specify the class of supplies for which forms are desired. OLIVER P. NEWMAN, LOUIS BROWNLOW, CHARLES W. KUTZ, Commissioners, D. C. mh3-6t,e8u

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