

GROUP OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS BELIEVE SECRET SOCIETIES SHOULD BE ABOLISHED.

HEARING SET FOR TUESDAY

Asserting that high school fraternities and secret societies are undermining the democracy of the public schools of the District of Columbia, a group of teachers and parents are preparing to wage a strong fight to have secret societies abolished from the schools. Those leading the movement hope that the board of education will take immediate steps to abolish the fraternities.

Some of the Expected Changes.

Here are some of the changes which it is expected will be lodged against the fraternities at the hearing Tuesday afternoon: That although the public schools are essentially democratic and supported by all taxpayers, the secret societies are essentially undemocratic, and for the privileged few, in that they may "black ball" such boys or girls as they see fit.

That racial and religious factors are considered in electing students to the fraternities, and the members of a certain religion can never be chosen.

That faculty "advisers" to fraternities, as well as the members of the organizations themselves, are compelled to take an oath to support the interests of the particular organization.

That "fraternity politics" are brought into class elections, athletics and school activities, involving the keeping of many really good athletes off the fields because they are not members of the fraternities.

That several fraternities in the Washington high schools are supporting "frat houses" in direct violation of the laws of the District of Columbia.

That friction between fraternity and non-fraternity pupils is constantly developing, and that intimations of disciplinary action are being directed against fraternities.

That fraternities are frequently made, and similar intimations against fraternities favoring the societies are made by non-frat students.

Alleged Fundamental Differences.

It is pointed out that fundamental differences exist between college and university fraternities and those of the high schools; that a great number of college men are opposed to the latter, and that many college societies will not admit students to high school secret organizations.

The question of abolishing fraternities has been before the school officials and the board of education for some time, but it has not been definitely settled. Last winter it was taken up by a committee appointed by the board of education, and the committee reported in many other cities, a voluminous report advocating the abolition of the secret societies.

The report was forwarded to the board of education, which in turn referred the report to a special committee headed by Mr. Gallinger.

It was expected that this committee would make a report concerning fraternities at the meeting Wednesday last. A number of those favoring the abolition of the secret societies, however, hearing that a report allowing the continuation of the organization under certain regulations was being made, asked to be heard, no hearing having been previously granted them.

At this time Rev. Dr. John Van Schaick, president of the board, said he would admit very frankly that there are certain points connected with the secret societies, but added that they would be given another trial.

It is stated that nearly every high school principal and teacher is opposed to the organizations. It is pointed out that they are a clear touch with fraternities than any other group of persons. A vote taken at the McKinley Manual Training School Monday showed that forty-three teachers were opposed to the societies, while only eight were in favor of them.

Every effort is to be made to have all opponents of high school secret societies present at the hearing Tuesday afternoon. The teachers may be given a hearing separate from that of the public in general.

OFFICERS OF THIRD D. C. INFANTRY AND TROOP A, RECENTLY COMMISSIONED, RECEIVE ORDERS.

MEN NAMED FOR VACANCIES

By J. Crosby McCarthy, Staff Correspondent. CAMP WILSON, SAN ANTONIO, Tex., November 18.—Officers of the 3d Regiment, District of Columbia National Guard, who have received their commissions since June 3 last will have to undergo examinations now being formulated by the War Department, in order to conform with the requirements of the army reorganization bill, according to information which Col. Glennie H. Young received today in a letter from the department. Officers of Troop A also are affected by the ruling.

May Await Return to Washington.

Col. Young is of the belief it will not be until the regiment has returned to Washington. Capt. James H. Washburn of Troop A and First Lieut. Benjamin R. Kees and Second Lieut. Langdon Moore have received their commissions since June 3.

On Way to Leon Springs.

The medical troop of the District regiment is camped tonight in shelter tents at Nine-mile hill, about midway between here and Leon Springs, where the men are going to participate in maneuvers. A package of mail was delivered to the men this afternoon by Chaplain Smith, who made the twenty-mile trip on horseback. He reported that the 2d Regiment foot ball team today defeated a team representing the 7th Illinois Regiment by a score of 33 to 6.

DEUTSCHLAND TO GIVE BOND.

Label Filed by Scott Company Declared Friendly Proceeding. NEW LONDON, November 18.—The sailing of the German merchant submarine Deutschland for Bremen as a matter of course, has been definitely settled. Last winter it was taken up by a committee appointed by the board of education, and the committee reported in many other cities, a voluminous report advocating the abolition of the secret societies.

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District and School Board Officials Are to Address Meeting Tuesday Night.

Commissioner Oliver P. Newman; Ernest L. Thurston, superintendent of public schools of the District of Columbia; Rev. Dr. Van Schaick, president of the board of education, and Mrs. Ida L. Purman, of the Chicago school system, are to be speakers at the mass meeting to be held under the auspices of the High School Teachers' Union at new Central High School, 11th and Clifton streets northwest, Tuesday evening. Pensions for teachers will form the principal theme. A musical program is to be given.

Arrangements for the meeting are practically complete. It is considered by many that the attendance at the meeting will be largely indicative of the amount of interest taken in the teachers' pension proposition. Several organizations, including the Board of Trade and the Park View Citizens Association, have taken action favoring the establishment of an adequate pension system for teachers grown old in service.

60 PRISONERS RELEASED

Sixty prisoners who last week were taken here from the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., and given quarters in the District's penal farm at Occoquan, Va., have become accustomed to their new home and are awaiting the arrival of a batch of prisoners from the federal prison at Atlanta, Ga. It is expected that the first batch of prisoners from the Georgia prison, sent here in order during the next few days, possibly by the end of the coming week.

RETAIL MERCHANTS TOLD SHOP EARLY DATE IS HERE

Members of the Retail Merchants' Association are urged to "get busy" in a circular "special report" sent out by President R. F. Andrews and Secretary Charles J. Columbus last night. The "shop-early" mail-early campaign is on, says the circular. "Carry this and similar slogans in your advertising. Postmaster Merritt O. Chance is helping us; we owe it to him to co-operate."

ACCUSED OF KILLING JUDGE

David D. Overton going on trial Tuesday at Huntsville, Ala. HUNTSVILLE, Ala., November 18.—Sheriff John O. Madison county, and a force of deputies are at work today serving subpoenas on more than 160 witnesses for the state and defense who will appear in the trial of David D. Overton, charged with the murder of Probate Judge William Miller, which will begin here Tuesday.

BRITISH IN SUCCESSFUL AIR RAIDS UPON TURKS

LONDON, November 18.—An official report from the headquarters of the British army in Mesopotamia says two successful air raids have been made by British aviators on Turkish positions on the Euphrates river and at Kut-el-Amara.

DRYS' WIN SCHOOL DEBATE

Have Best of Discussion at the National University. National prohibition is the right idea. This was decided by the debate of the second-year class of National University Law School last night. Judgment was rendered, however, with one dissenting voice among the three judges.

HUNT TEACHER IN WOODS

Athol, Mass., People Think She May Have Died. ATHOL, Mass., November 18.—An all-day search of the woods by members of the local fire and police departments for Miss Bina M. Shorey, until recently teacher of English in the high school here, who has been missing since Tuesday, ended in failure tonight.

Prizes for Good Photographs

A prize of Five Dollars is offered EACH WEEK, and in addition any other photographs used for prizes will be paid for at one dollar each and the name of the photographer will be printed.

"CAB, SIR?"



ENGLISH TOMMIES WHO IN MORE PEACEFUL TIMES MAY HAVE BEEN CAB DRIVERS, PEERING THROUGH AN OLD CAB FOUND IN RUINED TOWN ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

NATIONAL UNION FEAST HONORS ORDER'S HEAD

District of Columbia Cabinet Holds Reception With E. J. Smejkal of Chicago as Guest.

The District of Columbia Cabinet of the National Union gave a banquet and reception at the New Exhibit last night in honor of Edward J. Smejkal of Chicago, Ill., president of the National Union Association Society, who is making a tour of the eastern cities. About 300 members of the order attended, representing twenty-eight local chapters.

COMMISSIONER WILL ACT ON CHURCH EXTENSION

Methodist Board Adopts Measure Providing for Distribution of Fund by Means of Areas.

SAYS GOOD SEWERAGE PREVENTS PELLAGRA

Commission in New York Finds Disease Not Caused by Unbalanced or Inadequate Diet.

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About to Call on Belligerents to Send Delegates to Conference, It Is Reported.

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THE SUNDAY STAR

Published by the Sunday Star, Washington, D. C.

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Program of Three-Day Conference to Open Tomorrow—Canada to Be Represented.

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Chauncey C. Williams is to be chairman in receiving delegates and will have general oversight of the arrangements. Luncheon will be served Tuesday at 1 o'clock in the church parlors by the Women's Alliance. At the same hour all visiting ministers will be entertained by Rev. Dr. U. G. B. Pierce at the Cosmos Club.

After this luncheon there will be a discussion on "Is Ritualism Consistent With Our Unitarian Faith?" J. T. Sunderland and Frank C. Doan will treat different phases of the general theme.

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At 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon speakers from New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New England will discuss various phases of church work in their respective sections. The evening features, at 8 o'clock, will be a presentation of the report of the committee on the use of the novel and author of "The Man Jesus."

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Falling in line with action of the city council, the association, at a meeting last night in Brown Betty Inn, 16th street and Park road, adopted a resolution to this effect.

The action followed the recommendation of a committee which has made a study of the matter. The resolution is to be presented to the board of public works.

The commission admitted that it had not discovered the cause of the disease, but reported it had disproved the theories that pellagra was due to the bite of the black fly; that it was caused by the presence of certain minerals in drinking water or by eating maize.

To test its theory a sewerage system was built in Spartanburg, S. C., by the commission as the "worst pellagra spot" in South Carolina.

The results of the experiment, which reported that only one person living in the sewer district contracted the disease in which the disease no longer spread, the report declared.

Classes in salesmanship in the public night schools of the District of Columbia, established by the board of public works, are proving popular. Courses in this subject are given Monday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 o'clock in the Thomson School, 12th and L streets northwest. It is expected they will continue until May 1.

The subject has been divided into two main divisions, namely, retail counter selling and outside salesmanship. The first is under the direction of Miss Sibyl Baker and the second by Miss E. Warner. Both are teachers of the day classes at Business High. Miss Baker during the last two years has made a special study of this phase of educational work, and the board of education at its meeting Wednesday authorized the payment of her expenses on a trip to Boston for the purpose of making additional studies.

According to the story, the conference would necessarily open its sittings without an armistice being proclaimed, interruption of hostilities continuing only after it was established that the negotiations were apt to be crowned with success.

Merchants receiving bad checks are urged to send them to the headquarters of the association and William A. Corcoran Thom, chairman of the check committee of the Bankers' Association, is co-operating with the merchants.

Attention is called to the fact that the Retail Merchants' Association will hold a co-operative show at 1212 G street from December 2 to 16 in connection with the electrical vehicle parade scheduled for December 5.

Members of the Retail Merchants' Association are urged to "get busy" in a circular "special report" sent out by President R. F. Andrews and Secretary Charles J. Columbus last night.

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