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The Two Great Needs of the District Schools.

Five bills designed to affect radically the public school system of the District of Columbia now pend before Congress. All of them provide that the teachers of the Capital shall be paid larger salaries. All but one of them provide for a reorganization, more or less extreme, of the present teaching force.

Two subcommittees will now undertake to choose from these five measures the best features of each and amalgamate them into one act. In anticipation of that course, the District Commissioners have sent to the Capitol a statement of objections to all the measures excepting that drawn by the Board of Education, approved by the Commissioners, and known as the "official" bill the effect of their statement being that the present system is now only five years old, has on the whole worked well, and should not be materially altered.

Thus begins a controversy as to details which was, perhaps, inevitable, but which will be worse than unfortunate if it is permitted to cloud the two great needs of the Capital's schools.

Those two needs are: First, a decided advance in the salaries of the teachers, together with a regular system of promotions.

Second, a reorganization of the Board of Education so that, if paid at all, the members of that body shall not be paid according to the number of meetings attended, that they may supervise the affairs of the schools with some degree of grit and sand, and that their attention may be confined to the business administration of the schools and the professional administration be intrusted to trained pedagogues.

Every citizen of the Capital with enough public spirit to give the slightest attention to its schools understands now the urgent need for increasing the pay of its teachers. But understanding is not enough. That understanding must be driven home to Congress. Every member of the two Committees on the District of Columbia and the two Committees on Appropriations particularly, and the great body of Senators and Representatives generally, must be sufficiently impressed with this cause to be moved to the only kind of action which will produce results.

If once those Congressmen realized the present status they would be moved to action. The thing to do, therefore, is to see that they do realize that status—and the facts essential to that realization are these:

That Washington, ranking fifteenth in population and seventh in the number of its teachers, is twenty-second in the average salary of its elementary teachers and seventy-first in the average salary of its high school teachers.

That of nineteen cities with a population of 200,000 or more, Washington is twelfth in the average salary of its elementary teachers and last in the average salary of its high school teachers.

That Washington pays its high school teachers \$400 a year less than the average high school salary in cities of the same class.

That the lowest average high school salary for both men and women is \$362, and that that is the average paid in the Capital of the United States, and that the lowest average for men is \$397, paid also in the Capital of the United States.

That Washington's minimum high school salary is the lowest in the list of cities of the same, or half as great, population, and that Washington's maximum high school salary is the lowest in the same cities.

That in all the cities indicated Washington is the only one which does not provide for a regular annual increase in salaries.

The effect of these conditions has been what might have been expected.

In the past few years forty-eight out of 200 teachers in the Washington high schools have been bought away by other cities, and thirty-five of these forty-eight were men. In the past three years alone, twenty-one have been given higher salaries elsewhere. The average salary vacated was \$1,083. The average salary received was \$2,023. Specialists in particular branches of education, trained teachers, have been able to obtain more pay through general civil service examinations for the departmental service than all their special skill and training could command in the schools.

The teaching force for the graded schools has meanwhile been mustered almost entirely from the local normal school—and while the graduates of that school are well trained, they are not as a rule graduates of colleges, and rarely obtain any other pedagogical instruction.

Thus, the vacancies created by the resignation of specialists and specially trained teachers are filled, and most of necessity be filled, by the promotion of teachers who are not specialists and have not been specially trained far.

Here, surely, is enough ground to move the most obtuse and case-hardened economist in Congress to favorable action. The essential thing now is to get this ground before those economists. Last year the body of the House was so much impressed in favor of this cause that it overrode the restraint of its leaders. The spirit must be made equally strong this year—and making it so rests with the District Commissioners, the District newspapers, the District citizens' associations, the District Board of Trade and Business Men's Association, and the District citizens. What will they do about it?

The second great need of the schools has been almost equally emphasized. Notwithstanding the attitude of the Commissioners, it is fair to say that the present system has not on the whole worked well and should be materially altered.

The system is bad at the top. It is supervised by a board which, however admirable its members may be—and are individually, is pitifully weak and vacillating as a body. Its decisions in important matters have been almost uniformly spineless. It got on three sides of one question—the charges against Principal Swartzell, of the Eastern High School. It found a principal guilty of grave offenses of insubordination, and yet permitted her to continue at the head of one of the high schools—the reference being, of course, to Mrs. Cooper, principal of the Colored High School. It has even taken testimony on one issue and rendered a decision on another.

But more serious yet than this lack of backbone has been its persistent meddling. The Commissioners make a point of disclaiming that the members of the board were moved to meet often because their compensation depended upon the number of meetings held. No one has charged that they were. But they have undoubtedly met too often, nevertheless. For whole sessions have been given over to such matters as the transfer of a single boy and the board, in the face of what the National Educational Association has termed "the general tendency toward a clearer division between the professional and business administrations," has interfered with every possible feature of the school system, large and small, until the superintendent is no longer a head teacher but a clerk, and the whole force of teachers has learned to ignore their supervisors and look directly to the board.

And this has been accomplished behind closed doors. For the first time in the history of the Washington public school system it has been deemed advisable to keep the administration of the public schools a secret. For this result! If anything beyond the record of the Board of Education were required to establish the wisdom of change, it is furnished by the board's practice of holding star chamber sessions.

What is needed is not so much a larger board—it may be as small as the Board of Commissioners—but a change in its personnel so that its members may not act on each other like water on milk, a distinct division of authority so that men and women who know the business of education may administer the schools professionally and the board administer their business affairs, and open sessions, that every parent may know the manner in which his child's school is governed and to what end.

These are the two great needs of our schools. Nothing that has been said or can be said in the future should be permitted to confuse them.

THE PHILIPPINE PARTY TO HAVE REUNION

Will Be Given Tea by Miss Roosevelt.

DINNER TO JUDICIARY

President and Mrs. Roosevelt Will Entertain Supreme Court on Next Thursday Evening.

Miss Alice Roosevelt will give a tea on Monday afternoon to members of the party who accompanied Secretary Taft on his trip to the Philippines.

Miss Corinne Robinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Robinson, of New York, is spending a week at the White House. Miss Ethelberta Russell, also of New York, is making a brief visit to the President's daughter.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt have issued invitations to a dinner on January 25 in honor of the Supreme Court. The reception to the judiciary will be held on next Thursday evening. The President and Mrs. Roosevelt will also give a dinner party on Friday evening, January 26.

Secretary Hitchcock went to New York today to attend the funeral of Mr. Dwight Collier, brother of Mrs. Hitchcock, whose unexpected death has plunged the Secretary's family into mourning. Mrs. Hitchcock and Miss Hitchcock went to New York yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Fairbanks, who have been visiting the former's parents, Vice President and Mrs. Fairbanks, will leave Washington today for their home in Chicago.

The Mexican Ambassador and Mme. Casaus left Washington this morning for New York and Philadelphia. They will be gone a week or ten days. The Misses Casaus accompanied their parents.

Anselmo De La Portillo, who was recently appointed Secretary of the Mexican embassy here, will arrive in Washington in a few days. Senor De La Portillo succeeded Joseph F. Godoy, who has been transferred to Cuba as minister from Mexico.

The German Ambassador and Baroness von Sternburg will give a reception tonight. The entertainment will be the first of its kind in the German embassy since the return from abroad of Baron and Baroness von Sternburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitlaw Reid were entertained in New York last night with a dinner by Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton McKay Twombly and later at a musical reception in the home of Mrs. Trener L. Park. The ambassador will return to England next Wednesday and Mrs. Reid and their daughter, Miss Jean Reid, will follow shortly.

Walter Paris, the artist, has returned to Washington, after a visit to Boston. On Tuesday evening Mr. Paris entertained a number of members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Mrs. Samuel Spencer gave a luncheon yesterday afternoon, when he guests were Mrs. Galt Smith, of Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. Truman H. Newberry, Mrs. Kearney, Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Carroll, Mrs. Arthur Lee, Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Audenreid.

At her reception yesterday afternoon Mrs. Alger, wife of Senator Alger, was assisted by her daughter, Mrs. Chaffee; Mrs. Sheldon, of Harrisburg, and Mrs. Frederick Alger.

Mrs. Barney will be at home on Sunday afternoon, for which she has invited a few friends to meet Ben Greer, whose Shakespearean performances next week will be one of the notable theatrical events of the season.

An informal dance will be given at Washington, Bettricks, this evening. These dances have been a pleasing diversion for the young people of the post and their friends.

Mrs. Donald McLean, president general of the Daughters of the American Revolution, was yesterday the guest of Capt. and Mrs. Walter McLean. A prettily appointed tea. Assisting the hostess and her guest of honor were Mrs. Leroy Tuttle, Mrs. Simpson, Mrs. J. Knapp, Mrs. Eakin Gadsby, Mrs. H. M. Hodges, Mrs. Wallace McLean, Miss Goodwin, Miss Bessie McLean and Miss Elsie McLean.

Mrs. Anna Smith and her son Robert have moved from Irvington to 1414 I street.

Dr. Randolph Carmichael has returned from Philadelphia, where he went to attend the convention of the Dermatological Society, of which he is a member.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lesser and daughter, Miss Roselle Lesser, of Augusta, Ga., en route from New York, were the guests of Mrs. M. Silver, of New Hampshire avenue, for a few days. Miss Lesser will remain for a few weeks.

Rabbi Abram Simon, of the Eighth Street Temple of this city, has gone to New York to deliver a series of lectures. Last night he opened a course of winter lectures at the Young People's Literary Society of the West End congregation, this evening he will talk of "The Men's Hebrew Association; Saturday morning he will occupy Dr. Moses' pulpit; Sunday afternoon he will deliver a lecture on "The International Alliance," and Sunday morning he will lecture to the Brotherhood of the Temple Emanuel. Dr. Simon is expected home Monday morning.

An election of officers of the Mercantile Club took place Wednesday night when the following officers were elected: Harry King, president; Joseph Strassner, vice president; Daniel E. Gusdorf, secretary, and Mose Eisman, treasurer.

Mrs. J. Kronheimer, of T street, entertained the Thursday Evening Club last night at her new home. Among those present were Mrs. Sam Beninger, Mrs. Louis Newmyer, Mrs. Max Fischer, Mrs. Julia Luchs, and Mrs. A. Sigmund.

THIS YEAR OF 1906. This year of 1906 corresponds to the year 2519 of the Julian period; the year 5695-5697 of the Jewish era (the year 5697 being at sunset on September 19); the year 2285 since the foundation of Rome according to Varro; the year 2266 of the Japanese era, and to the thirty-ninth year of the period entitled "Meiji"; the year 1324 of the Muhammadan era, or the era of the Hegira, begins on the 25th day of February, 1906.—Detroit News.



MRS. ROSCOE CARLISLE BULMER, Who Will Spend the Next Few Months With Her Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Poor, at Their Home on Twenty-second Street. Mrs. Bulmer is One of the Most Popular Young Women in Washington Society.

DIPLOMATIC DINNER A BRILLIANT EVENT

Representatives From Almost Every Nation Entertained by President Roosevelt at the White House—Floral Decorations Unique and Attractive.

One of the most brilliant State entertainments known in Washington was given last night at the White House. When the President and Mrs. Roosevelt entertained at dinner ambassadors, ministers, and charge d'affaires from foreign nations.

Few affairs even at the White House are of the significance of the annual diplomatic dinner, and last night's company was notable. It included representatives from almost every country and the uniforms of the diplomats with the gorgeous costumes of the women contrasted in the famous state dining room an air of distinction quite out of the ordinary.

The guests assembled in the East Room and at 8 o'clock were joined by the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, then with the President escorting Baroness Hengemuller and the Ambassador from Austria Hungary, with Mrs. Roosevelt, they went into the dining room.

Mrs. Roosevelt was dressed in a blue gown trimmed with a great deal of gold. She wore her beautiful diamond necklace. Miss Alice Roosevelt looked unusually pretty in a gown of white chiffon embroidered with garlands of pink roses.

Nine plateaus of mauve orchids formed the principal decoration of the semicircular table, vases of white carnations and maidenhair ferns alternating with pots of ferns, the tall silver candelabra with their white shades, silver stands for the bouquets, all adding to the pretty effect of the table.

Directly in front of the President was the tall gold goblet presented to him by the city of San Francisco.

Almost a thousand orchids were used in the decorations, for, beside those on the table each woman guest received a corsage bouquet of the many ones and such a man a boutonniere of the green ones.

Ferns and pink azaleas were lanked in the corridor. The Marine Band played throughout the evening as usual.

The guests present were the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and Mrs. Hengemuller, the French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand, the German Ambassador and Baroness von Sternburg, the British Ambassador and Lady Durand, the Brazilian Ambassador and Mme. Nabuco, the Russian Ambassador and Mrs. Rosen, the Mexican Ambassador and Mme. Casaus, the Swedish minister, the Danish minister, the Haitian minister, the Guatemalan minister, the Peruvian minister, the Nicaraguan minister, the Siamese minister, the Argentine minister and Madame Walker-Martinez, the Portuguese minister, the Cuban minister and Madame Quesada, the Chinese minister, the Netherlands minister, the Bolivian minister and Madame Calderon, the Minister of Panama and Madame Obaldia, Captain and Mrs. Cowley, Mrs. Cameron, the Swiss minister, the Minister of the Argentine Republic and Madame Portella, the Colombian minister, the Peruvian Minister and Madame Fardo, the Turkish minister, the minister of the Dominican Republic.

The charge d'affaires of Italy, the charge d'affaires of Spain, the Charge d'Affaires of Norway and Mme. Havge, the charge d'affaires of Japan, the Secretary of State and Mrs. Root, the Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Lodge, Senator and Mrs. McCreary, Representative Adams, Representative and Mrs. Howard, Representative Longworth, Captain and Mrs. Cowley, Mrs. Cameron, Miss Roosevelt, Miss Carol, Miss Corinne Robinson, Miss Ethelberta Russell, Major McCawley.

Mme. Hebbinghouse, wife of the naval attaché at the German embassy, has gone to New York to remain a week.

Captain Fournier, of the French embassy, entertained at a stag dinner party last night, at Raucher's.

Senator and Mrs. Martin gave a dinner last night in honor of the Vice President and Mrs. Fairbanks. Invited to meet them were Justice and Mrs. Harlan, Senator and Mrs. Scott, Surgeon General of the Navy and Mrs. Rixey, Mr. and Mrs. Hemphill, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Gordon, of Baltimore, who are house guests of Senator and Mrs. Martin; Miss Grace R. Day and Hon. H. D. Flood.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lee gave a dinner last night. Their guests were Mr.

ROCKEFELLER RICHER THAN EUROPE'S KINGS

His Income Larger Than Theirs Lumped in One Sduam, Greater Than Combined Budgets of Fifteen of Smaller Nations.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Income. Includes John D. Rockefeller (259,000,000 francs), Czar of Russia (62,160,000 francs), Emperor William of Germany (20,040,000 francs), Edward VII, King of England (11,524,500 francs).

annual budget of fifteen European states. Hungary spends \$97,000,000; Denmark, \$119,000,000; Greece, \$17,000,000; Luxemburg, \$12,500,000; Monaco, \$3,000,000; the Lower Countries (the Netherlands), \$320,000,000; Portugal, \$25,000,000; Roumania, \$18,000,000; Servia, \$72,000,000; Sweden, \$23,000,000; Norway, \$18,000,000; Switzerland, \$16,000,000. Total, \$2,629,000,000.

Twice Around Globe. His fortune in dollars would form a double globe around the earth. It would take 125,000 persons, earning 300 francs a year, to reach the figure of Rockefeller's income. His fortune is so colossal that it grows at the rate of 3 francs a minute. Every morning he awakes Rockefeller is richer by 7,200 francs. He alone possesses much more than the income of all the kings and emperors united.

His Rise. Here are some dates indicating chronological progress of the unheard-of fortune.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—The Almanac Hachette for 1906, published in Paris, has a remarkable article on John D. Rockefeller, and compares his wealth with that of the reigning sovereigns of Europe, much to the aforesaid sovereigns' disadvantage.

It also gives him a new title of nobility, "King of the Billionaires," and quotes the two proverbs:

"He who is rich, is poor in health." "It is folly to live poor to die rich."

Here are a few of the interesting things that this French publication has to say on the subject of the Standard Oil magnate: "The Rothschilds are no longer the Kings of Wealth. A poor grocer's boy of the name of Rockefeller, who thought himself lucky in his youth to earn 25 sous a day, and to live on boiled potatoes and rice, has in less than fifty years dethroned the secular dynasty that issued from Frankfurt."

"Mr. Rockefeller's wealth equals the

HOUSE TO HAVE SAY IN PANAMA AFFAIRS

Demand May Be Made for Explanation of Plans as They Were Prepared by Wallace Before He Resigned.

In the minds of the men who are likely to have an influential part in shaping legislation, there is a pretty definite program about Isthmian canal legislation already formed. These men include not only the members of the Senate Committee on Canals, but also, at least, those of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

The Senate committee is not the only body that has power to start a canal investigation. The House body may yet want one of its own, and one of the subjects that the House committee is threatening to take up is the relation of John F. Wallace to the canal enterprise.

Wallace Prepared Plans. The story goes that Mr. Wallace, when he determined to resign, last summer, as chief engineer of the canal, prepared a detailed exposition of his views about the status of canal work, the prospects of its future, the type of canal that should be built, and the plan that ought to be followed in building it.

Then came the trouble between Mr. Wallace and the Secretary of War, who accused Mr. Wallace of deserting the great undertaking for "mere pelf." As a result, Mr. Wallace, it is said, decided that he would not worry himself about expelling his ideas of canal work unless he was authoritatively called upon to do so.

Recently there has been report that some of Mr. Wallace's friends, notably Representative Mann of Chicago, who is a close intimate of the former chief engineer, were desirous that opportunity be given for a proper public explanation of Mr. Wallace's views.

It develops that while the Senate committee is just now holding the center of the stage the House committee has by no means lost interest in the canal question. In fact it was said by a leading member of that body that the Senate committee does not call on Mr. Wallace, it is more than likely the House committee will do so; and furthermore, that the House members have some reform ideas of their own.

Dissatisfaction in House. There is, for example, a strong feeling of dissatisfaction with the canal

commission in the House. "And I wouldn't be surprised," said a leader of the House committee significantly, "if you would find that a plan would yet be developed for getting rid of the superfluous members of the committee. Suppose the Committee on Appropriations should quietly drop out the items of appropriation for salaries for the extra members? That might be done; I shouldn't wonder if it would."

In connection with canal affairs, there is an interesting story about how an exchange of positions on the committee was made the other day. It seems that for a long time there has been a feeling on the Pacific coast that Oregon was getting more than its share of money for river and harbor improvement. Oregon has consistently kept a member of the Commerce Committee of the Senate, who looked after such things. When Mitchell passed from the scene, the State wanted to retain its influence, and Mr. Fulton became a candidate for such a position. California and Washington didn't want the post to go to Oregon. So Mr. Piles, of Washington, was picked to represent the coast on that committee. But he was a new Senator, and by rank Fulton was entitled to choice of committee places. So, in order to keep the place from Fulton, Senator Ankeny became a candidate for the Commerce Committee. His claim could not be denied, and he got the place.

And All Was Fixed. In the Senate there is an interesting tradition that the committee position belongs to the State that has the individual Senator. So after Mr. Ankeny had secured his place on commerce by right of seniority, he and his colleague, Mr. Piles, agreed to "trade places." Mr. Piles had been placed on Inter-oceanic Canals. The trade was perfectly regular, as the Senate looks on it.

The matter was brought up on the floor of the Senate. It was naively suggested that the Senators would like to swap positions, the Senate agreed. Mr. Piles was transferred to commerce. Mr. Ankeny went on canals, and all was fixed. It was just a good exemplification of the Senatorial way of doing things.

GREAT NAVAL REVIEW FOR JAMESTOWN SHOW

Harry St. George Tucker Is Meeting With Success on His European Tour.

Scores of the best warships of the world will participate in the naval maneuvers in Hampton Roads and Chesapeake bay during the Jamestown exposition next year.

Harry St. George Tucker, of Virginia, president of the Jamestown Exposition Company, is interesting the European rulers in the project.

Senator Quesada, the Cuban minister to Washington, in answer to an invitation extended by the State Department some time ago, has informed the department that his government will be represented at the exposition. He stated that President Palma will send a large military delegation, probably a detachment of rural guards.

SECESSIONISM IN SPAIN. Spain has a case of secessionism to deal with in Catalonia. The people of this province are divided into two parties—autonomists and nationalists. The first-named party wants administrative independence. The nationalists desire complete separation from Spain. Riots are common, disaffection is growing, and it has been openly predicted in the Spanish cortes or parliament that the Catalonians will ultimately gain their liberty.

MRS. VANDERBILT TO GIVE SUNDAY NIGHT DINNERS

These Will Be Followed by Musicales, Which Are Expected to Replace Bridge.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt is certain to meet with a considerable amount of criticism in connection with the announcement of her intention to give a series of Sunday night dinners, followed by musicales, during the remainder of the season, a form of entertainment which, so far as the Sabbath is concerned, has not been attempted by any one in the fashionable set here since the death of Mrs. Paran Stevens, whose Sunday evenings were a feature of each winter.

The concerts are expected to replace bridge, to which the Sunday evenings of New York society are now, as a rule, devoted, and, although there should be much less objection in the eyes of strict observers of the Sabbath to good music on Sunday nights, than cards, yet there is no doubt that Mrs. Vanderbilt's innovation will be subjected to considerable denunciation, the reason being that whereas the Sunday evening bridge parties do not invite the attention of the public, the engagement of a celebrated prima donna, such as Mme. Emma Eames, who is to sing at Mrs. Vanderbilt's on Sunday evening, cannot very well be kept from becoming known or from getting into print. Sunday entertainments of this nature have been very successful here, save in the case of Mrs. Paran Stevens.

A DEAD BEAT. The trolley car was crowded, a number of passengers finding precarious foothold upon the running-board. It had proceeded quite a distance before the conductor could complete his fare-collecting round. Suddenly a woman caught hold of his arm and cried, excitedly: "Conductor! A man has fallen off the car!" "I know it, ma'am," was the cool reply. "I hadn't got his fare. Some folks will go any length to beat the company."—Harper's Weekly.