

Fair today. Fair and warmer Monday.

# The Washington Times

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## BOARD ACCUSED OF COMPELLING TEACHERS' AID

### Senator Dolliver Says They Are Dragooned Into Signing a Paper Through Fear.

### Captain Oyster Emphatically Replies the Community Has a Right to See Proofs.

### Oyster Denies Charge And Asks Publication Of Letters Mentioned

Senator Dolliver's statement was read last night by Chairman Oyster, of the Board of Education. Captain Oyster said with much feeling:

"I deny, emphatically the charges made by Senator Dolliver.

"When a man in the position of Senator Dolliver makes a charge that members of the Board of Education are improperly and unduly influencing teachers in the public schools to sign a petition, the charge must receive attention.

"If the Senator is correctly quoted, I respectfully demand on the part of members of the board that these letters—in whole or in part—be made public by the Senator. I do not ask that names of the recipients be given or that any clue be afforded to their identity.

"If members of the board are guilty, as the Senator is represented to charge, the community has a right to know it. If the charge is without good foundation, the board is entitled that the public should know that."

That teachers in the schools of Washington are being dragooned into signing a petition against the abolishment of the present Board of Education and against the proposed legislation to overhauled the educational system of the District is the serious charge that has come to the attention of the Senate.

Senator Dolliver, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, the author of the bill introduced in the Senate this week to abolish the present board and to put the schools in charge of a director of education, said yesterday he had had his attention called to the matter.

He said teachers had come to him and exhibited communications from board members virtually ordering them to sign a petition against the board's abolishment on penalty of losing their positions. Senator Dolliver is indignant at such proceedings and he has been assured of strong support in the Senate for his bill to effect sweeping changes in the educational system here.

**Dolliver's Statement.**  
"Teachers have come to me," said Senator Dolliver, "and have shown me orders coming from the board that amount to commands to sign a petition against the bill I have introduced under penalty of dismissal from the schools if they do not do so. Further than this, I am led to believe that teachers who went before the board in the hearing of the Chancellor case and, supposing that they were expected under oath to testify to what they believed to be true, told the facts as they understood them and gave opinions favorable to the Chancellor, are being made to suffer for it."

"The bill I have introduced appears to have aroused widespread attention in the District. I introduced it because I was tired of the disturbance that is persistently being stirred up in the schools here. I have received a great many letters and expressions of approval from persons interested in the schools. They are telling me to stick to it and do my utmost to see that a change is effected.

"Many Senators have spoken to me and said they believed my bill was along the right lines. I have been given to understand that the Senate District Committee members are interested and that they will be pleased to have me appear before them to be heard on the bill. I shall perhaps do so at the next meeting of the committee. Undoubtedly there is a strong feeling in Congress that the school system here should be put on a different basis.

**Commends the Teachers.**  
"I am reliably informed that the teachers of the schools here are a most excellent corps of educators. They have come here from various parts of the country, generally among the best teachers in their communities, anxious to teach in the Capital of the nation. And when they get here they find it impossible to do their best work or anything like it, because of the constant turmoil and uproar and unsettled conditions generally.

"A board of education is not an ideal institution at the best and particularly when it becomes mixed up with low-down politics. But out in a State like Iowa, where the board is elected and

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J. H. Small & Sons, Florists, Washington and New York.—Adv.

## DUEL TO DEATH IN FISTIC RING ON SHIP'S DECK

### Naval Apprentice Killed in Fight Following Dispute With His Superior.

### Giant Blows in Ferocious Battle Cheered by Men on the Cumberland.

NEWPORT, R. I., Jan. 18.—A. Hartnett, a naval apprentice, lies dead in the Navy Station Hospital here tonight as a result of an eight-round fist duel aboard the United States training ship Cumberland, held in the presence of 600 officers and men, last Tuesday night. The man whose blow killed Hartnett is Acting Master-at-Arms D. M. Manning, of the Cumberland.

Manning, who entered the navy from Middleboro, N. Y., was in command of the gun deck of the Cumberland as she lay in the harbor. He ordered Hartnett to go below and clean the berth deck of the debris from the evening meal. Hartnett, resenting his shipmate's assumption of authority, did not move fast enough to suit the acting master-at-arms, who shoved him toward the companionway. A fight followed, but was quashed by another master-at-arms, who parted the angry men with the promise that if they would put off the encounter they might fight to a finish in a ring after the Cumberland had been put shipshape for the fight.

**Meet in the Ring.**  
Accordingly, at 9 o'clock the same night a ring was pitched on the forward deck and the two combatants, stripped to the waist, and wearing regulation boxing gloves, faced each other.

Hartnett, a recent acquisition from Philadelphia was the larger of the two and the bully of the training station. Officers of the station, who had gathered in great numbers to watch the bout, laid their money on him freely.

In the first round both men were knocked down. The second and third were repetitions. In spite of the padding to the "regulation gloves," Manning and Hartnett bled profusely. Right hooks and jabs were landed at every step in the fourth and the officers doubled the odds on Hartnett.

When Manning went back to his corner at the stroke of the bell, it seemed that he would not be able to rise again to take more punishment. His face was badly swollen, his eyes hardly found room to peek out of the puffed up lids; the wrist of his right hand hung limp from a sprain where he had fallen upon it when felled by one of Hartnett's sledge-hammer fist thrusts.

**Beats Antagonist.**  
Nevertheless, when the gong rang for the fifth round he set the spectators cheering by leaping with a bound into the center of the ring, where he delivered a furious hail of jabs and cuts upon the head and body of his astounded antagonist.

"Throughout the sixth round the fighters merely fell at each other. They had become so nearly exhausted that neither could aim a blow. The round ended with both men upon their knees—still punching weakly back and forth, but with hardly an atom of strength in either arm or body.

The eighth and last round brought both men to the center, very weak, but no longer staggering. Stimulants had been employed again without stint. Manning, feinted for a moment, lunged in, ducked the jab aimed at him by his larger antagonist, and then, stepping in behind the spent blow, sent a right swing to the jaw that sent Hartnett to the floor, lay upon his head.

Hartnett still lay unconscious at the end of the count. Manning was declared the victor, the officers paid the bets, dubbed it a good fight and returned to quarters at the training station. But the next morning Hartnett was still unconscious. The doctors of the Cumberland could not revive him and the station officers became frightened and sent the injured apprentice to the station hospital.

There he died yesterday afternoon, without regaining consciousness. The autopsy showed death was due to a blood clot on the brain. Rear Admiral Merrill, commandant of the second division, immediately ordered Manning to temporary duty in the office of General Bell, chief of staff of the army, in Washington.

**MAJOR DAPRAY COMING FOR WASHINGTON DUTY**  
Major John A. Dapray, U. S. A., retired, through orders issued by the War Department yesterday is relieved from duty with the organized militia of Florida, and by his consent, assigned to temporary duty in the office of General Bell, chief of staff of the army, in Washington.

**ALFRED MAHAN CONVICTED.**  
BENNINGTON, Vt., Jan. 18.—The jury in the case of Alfred Mahan, who has been on trial here since December 28, on the charge of killing his four-year-old niece, Ethel Mahan, at North Bennington last April, returned a verdict this morning of murder in the second degree.

**Seaboard Florida Limited.**  
Offers best and most reliable service to Florida. Office, 1421 Pa. ave.—Adv.

**Removal Notice.**  
Washington-Sunset Route has moved its office to 905 F. st. nw. Best service to California. A. J. Poston, Gen. Agt.—Adv.

# MORE SUBSTANTIAL PROSPERITY INDUSTRIAL FUTURE OF NATION, DECLARE EXPERTS TO THE TIMES



ELBERT H. GARY, Chairman of the United States Steel Corporation.

## STEADMANSTRICKEN; CIVIL WARREPORTER AND NOTED POET

### Heart Failure Ends Career of Brilliant Writer and Financier.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Edmund Clarence Steadman, poet, author, and critic, for years one of the best known newspaper editors in the United States, and the civil war correspondent of the New York World, died at his home here tonight of heart disease.

He was born in Hartford, Conn., in 1852, his father being Major Edmund Burke Steadman, a pioneer, and his mother the gifted Elizabeth C. Dodge-Steadman. He was graduated from Yale in 1873 and at once entered the newspaper field. His first work was on the Norwich, Conn., Tribune.

In 1879 he joined the staff of the New York Tribune, remaining with it until 1881, when he was sent to the front by the New York World. After the war he turned his attention to commercial life and became a member of the New York stock exchange. With it all he found time to turn out many poems and stories, notable among the latter being his "Alice of Blonmouth."

Among his critical works are several that are text books and include "Victorian Poets," "Poets of America," and the "Nature and Elements of Poetry."

He has edited many special editions of standard poets.

## WOMEN DESERTED BY VIRGINIA MEN IN THEATER PANIC

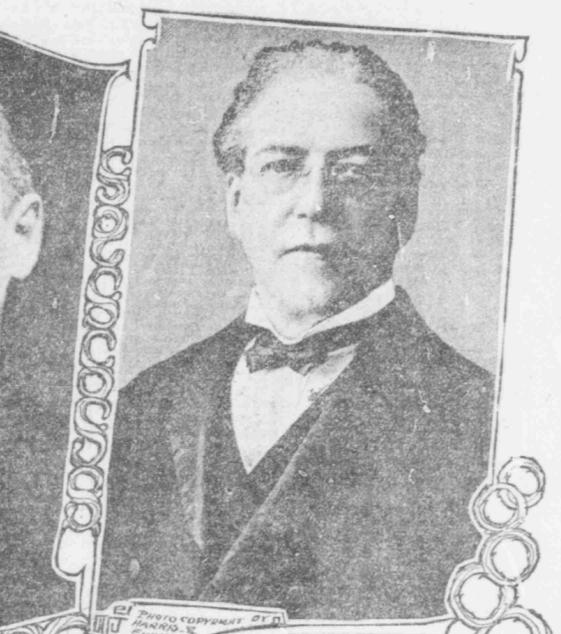
BERRYVILLE, Va., Jan. 18.—Another page of horror came near being added in the list of disasters in places of amusement, when, during the performance of a moving picture show at the opera house, the machine exploded, setting fire to the draperies surrounding it, the flames spreading immediately to other parts of the building.

The excitement caused a stampede among the men, women, and children composing the audience. A mad rush was made for the doors and windows, the sashes of both being carried away on the shoulders of those seeking immediate safety.

Fortunately, no one was seriously injured, although several were badly hurt in the jams at the doors. Several women fainted in the confusion. The interference of the cooler heads prevented the stampede from assuming the form of a panic.

Young men deserted the women whom they escorted to the performance, leaving them to fight their own way through the surging crowds. The fire was extinguished before it had done very much damage to the building.

**Removal Notice.**  
Washington-Sunset Route has moved its office to 905 F. st. nw. Best service to California. A. J. Poston, Gen. Agt.—Adv.



SAMUEL H. GOMPERS, President of the American Federation of Labor.



CARROLL D. WRIGHT, Former Commissioner of Labor.

## THOUSANDS STOLEN FROM WASHINGTON ELECTRIC RAILWAY

### Two Men Arrested on Charge of Gigantic Ticket Swindle.

Thousands of dollars' worth of Washington Railway and Electric Company car tickets are alleged to have been stolen by Lee Lucas, of 1731 T street northwest, and Charles Todler, of 212 West 141st street, New York, who were arrested here last night on charges of grand larceny and embezzlement.

The New York police also arrested two alleged accomplices in the gigantic swindling scheme. It is not known whether the prisoners will be tried here or in New York.

Lucas and Todler were arrested after months of shadowing by the Washington police and members of the Drummond Detective Agency, of New York.

**Todler May Confess.**  
After Todler had been incarcerated in a cell at the Eighth precinct for several hours, he is said to have declared he would make a clean breast of the whole affair, and would exonerate the men now held in New York.

Todler was employed by the Hamilton Bank Note Company, of 83 Gold street, New York, where the traction company tickets were printed, and is alleged to have shipped thousands of tickets to Washington in care of Lucas or himself. The tickets were disposed of to conductors and motormen of the company after delivery here.

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**When You Want It as You Want It—**  
It's the way we do your printing. Globe Printing Co., 14th & E st. nw.—Adv.

## HUMOROUS TWIN ASKS DEPOSITORS TO HELP A BANK

### Sadly Remembers That Receivership is More Costly Than a Harem.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—What is probably the most interesting appeal to depositors ever written was today given out at the headquarters of the Satterlee committee for reorganization of the Knickerbocker Trust Company, over the signature of "Mark Twain," who signs his checks Samuel L. Clemens.

The fact that he has some \$5,000 tied up in the trust company seemingly gives the humorist a right to lightly jest on the subject of permanent receiverships.

The letter which will, no doubt, go far to cheering up the Knickerbocker's depositors, is as follows:

**Time Is Short.**  
"To the other depositors: The time is very short. Mr. Grover Cleveland, a depositor, has approved the Satterlee plan for resumption, and it seems to me that that ought to satisfy every depositor that that plan is safe and wise. If we accept it we shall lose no part of our money; if we do not accept it the Knickerbocker will be delivered over to a permanent receivership. I have already tried a permanent receivership once and did not like the result.

"It costs more to keep a permanent receiver than it does to keep a harem. Anybody who has had experience in these matters will endorse this statement."

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**Cut Flowers and Decorations for All Occasions—Reasonable, Shaffer, 14th & L—Adv.**

### Optimism the Keynote of Interviews With Leading Authorities From All the Great Commercial Centers of the Country.

### Business Conditions Not Only Resuming Normal Activities After Recent Flurry, But More Healthy Growth Is Manifested.

CONFIDENCE in the general financial welfare of the country has been restored! This is the burden of the messages of hope and good cheer that have been received by The Times from every section of the United States, and it is the tenor of the interviews secured from the captains of industry, the students of economy, and the masters of business wherever found.

The eclipse of the panic has passed away, and with the dawn of the new year has come a renewed faith in the prosperity of the country that has served to dispel the gloom of the financial flurry which occurred in the money centers during the closing weeks of 1907 and which threatened for a time to become a national calamity.

While the influence of the optimist has been felt for several weeks, the last few days have added new force to the statement that the financial "hard times" is a bugaboo of the past. During the past week the banks gained enormously in the amount of deposits. There is today in all the financial centers plenty of reserve funds and there has been a tremendous improvement over the week before. The reports last night from New York, which is the financial barometer of the country, show that there has been a big increase in the amount of currency which is flowing into the metropolis from all sections of the country. There appears to be an abundance of money which can be had on good paper for less than 6 per cent, and some at 5 per cent. Yesterday call money was as low as 3 1/4 per cent.

Business men are again in a position to secure plenty of capital at fair rates of interest to start new enterprises and expand their present plans.

The entire industrial situation from Maine to California is indicative of renewed activity along safe and sane lines.

These conditions are reflected in the special reports and interviews which have been gathered by The Times from authorities in every section of the United States.

## Nation's Condition Sounded; Good Cheer at All Points

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—A telegraphed request to towns in various parts of the country for information on industrial conditions brought generally favorable responses. Prosperity and healthy, normal industrial and commercial conditions are returning throughout the country.

The railroads, iron and steel mills, and coal mines, which are America's barometer of trade and industry, report a general resumption in all parts of the country. Banks have plenty of money to lend, and are fostering the industries. Payrolls are increasing in mills and factories, and business houses are taking back men who were suspended. Prospects are declared brighter than at any time since the financial flurry in New York drove money into hiding. This money is again in circulation.

**TRADE CENTERS CHEERFUL.**  
In New York, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Denver, Omaha, Kansas City, Knoxville, Birmingham, Cleveland, Indianapolis, and Cincinnati, the industrial centers of the country, this statement is made:

"Resumption has begun, conditions are approaching normal, and the outlook is bright."

Briefly, the flurry is over and the nation's industries are resuming their forward stride.

While there were many, when the financial flurry first appeared, who were ready to cry panic and rushed frantically to the savings banks to withdraw their money, they have now become reassured. The steady influence of great combinations of capital did much to restore confidence.

The press throughout the country did everything possible to convince the people that they had more to fear from their own nervousness than from a slump in industries, and this was no small factor in relieving the strain.

**MONEY RETURNS TO BANKS.**  
Within the last two weeks a steady stream of gold has been pouring into the New York savings banks. It was the withdrawal of this money that threatened for a time to spread panic throughout the country. In one week more than \$20,000,000 went into the banks in New York city. The effect of this was immediately felt, for money became "easier" and a number of factories which had suspended or were running on reduced time because of the scarcity of money, started in full.

The great Northwest, which was practically unshaken by the flurry in the East, acted as a governor of the situation. The farmers enjoyed greater prosperity than ever before in the history of the country, and with prosperity so general in one section it was not possible that there should be actual disaster in another.

It seemed strangely incomprehensible to many that there could be financial reverses at a time when products were being shipped abroad in great quantities, bringing back a stream of gold; when mines were yielding up their wealth; when wheels of industry were humming in

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