SURVEY WILL AFFORD EARLY RELIEF IN CAR SERVICE HERE

By BILL PRICE.

Leading street railway experts of the United States will next week begin work upon a careful survey of street railway conditions in Washington, under the employment of the Public Utilities Commission.

This survey is to be preliminary to definite action by the commission for the relief of a situation that is becoming intolerable to Washington people, and must be corrected at the earliest possible moment.

Official announcement of the selection of the experts is held in abeyance, but The Times has indisputable information today for saying that the Utilities Commission is about ready to make public the names of the men who have been or will be engaged for this important work. The greatest care has been taken in their selection, the commission wishing to secure men in whom the public and the commission will both have unlimited confidence. The negotiations for the experts has been in progress some time.

Immediate Relief.

The instruction to be given the investigators is to ascertain and report as soon as practictble upon two questions—what is best to be done to give immediate relief to the annoying and irritating conditions here, and what should be done to provide permanent relief.

These men, acquainted with traction management of the most modern character in all the large cities of the country and with all the latest methods for coping with the handling of transportation difficulties, will have carefully impressed upon them the necessity for reporting to the Commission recommendations that may solve the difficulties here in record time, but at the same time to take into consideration the demands of the future that must be met as Washington's population continues to leap by the thousands at a time.

All phases of the traction situation here are to be gone into and the Utilities Commission feels that it will obtain an impartial report regardless of what companies or what individuals, if any, may come under criticism. The Commission wants the facts, fair and uninfluenced, and has no doubt it will get them.

Situation Getting Worse.

For many days the three Commissioners of the District, who likewise constitute the Utilities Commission, have been in daily session considering conditions. Each member of the commission has pondered and worked. The views of the experts connected with the commission have been taken into consideration, and the conclusion was reached that the advice of well-known outside experts should be had before action is taken.

There have been before the commission questions of trying to relieve the strain on the street railway lines by asking the Government departments to change working hours, so that all the rush may not take place at the same time; of constructing subways; of requiring the building of additional lines; of forcing the railways to operate more cars on lines many of which are woefully congested now; of licensing jitneys to operate more freely. In fact, nothing has apparently been overlooked.

As to changing government working hours the commission has consulted the Council of National Defense, which is now working on the idea in conjunction with the problem of housing the thousands of additional Government clerks and workers being called here every day. Cabinet members have not been consulted pending consideration by the Council of National Defense, and nothing further will be done along this line until the new body of experts has had time to report. Having the Government to co-operate in putting employes to work at varying hours in the morning may be the eventual solution, but it would be temporary only.

Subways Are Remote.

Subways appear remote for the reason that it would take years to construct them, and that the cost is practically prohibitive. Under normal conditions in the business world subway construction is exceedingly costly as compared to surface construction. In New York subway construction was practically financed by the city, again bringing forward the question of municipal ownership of all the lines of Washington if the rapidly critical situation here is to be relieved on a permanent basis.

Congress will undoubtedly consider municipal ownership this winter and will ask the Utilities Commission to report upon the feasibility of the proposition, with the prospect that it will again be favored by the Utilities Commission and District Commissioners.

The building of additional surface lines does not promise prompt easing up of things, simply because the claim is made that materials could not be had for a year or more after Congress authorized routes, unless the National Government should take a hand and direct that the materials be given priority of manufacture and shipment.

As to the operation of more cars the claim of the railway lines is that they can not get men to operate, although continually adding to the number in operation. They also present the claim that on some of the lines more cars can not be run with safety during the hours when they are most needed.

Yesterday's Service Bad.

There began pouring into the Utilities Commission today widespread complaint against the service on the car lines yesterday, especially against that of the Washington Railway and Electric Company. In bad weather and with large crowds waiting for transportation the service was utterly inadequate, it is charged.

The commission sincerely realizes the situation, and is determined to lose no more time than necessary in taking steps to alleviate it. It does not want to proceed, however, without all possible light and the public will have to stretch its patience a little further, which it may now be willing to do knowing that definite steps have been taken toward getting at the very bottom of the facts.

Health Hints From the Health Office

Dr. William C. Woodward, health officer for the District, today gave The Times the following "Diphtheria Don'ts" as a guide to parents in preventing the spread of the disease, which is prevalent in other cities, but not in Washington:

Don't take a chance. If the child has sore throat call a physician.

Don't jeopardize others. Isolate the child suspected at once.

Don't let anybody sneeze or cough in your face. The disease is spread in this way.

Don't use the common drinking cup, or bubble fountain.

Don't use the unsterilized glass, or spoon, at a soda fountain.

Don't go into poorly ventilated places.

Don't trust to luck. From 1 to 2 per cent of the population are diphtheria carriers. Take every precaution.

"BORROWED" RING FROM HER; FACES LARCENY CHARGE

Through the arrest of Elmer M. Duvall, of Baltimore, for larceny of a diamond ring from Helen S. Flanner, of this city, valued at $450, the police believe they have uncovered a scheme by which the prisoner has been able to secure money through pawning jewelry borrowed from women.

In the preliminary hearing, in Police Court today, Miss Flanner testified that the first night she met Duvall, he insisted on using a clean linen handkerchief to brush the dust off her shoes.

"Don't do that," she protested.

The next day he borrowed her ring.

TEUTONS' TRENCHES WIDENED TO DELAY TANK

LONDON, Nov. 30.—The Teutons are widening their trenches in an effort to delay the advance of the tanks, according to a dispatch from British headquarters in France. The trenches in the past, says the correspondent, have been narrow and easily crossed, but for long distances along the Hindenburg line they are being reconstructed to a width, in many cases, of sixteen feet. At the bottom are great dugouts and trench mortar redoubts.

U. S. MEN SCATTERED THROUGHOUT FRANCE

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Nov. 30.—That the American troops being sent to France are not encamped in a central position, but distributed throughout France is the report brought back by C. L. Grant, one of the special election committee of three that went to France to poll the vote of New York soldiers. Mr. Grant has just returned on an American steamer.

In a high-power automobile Mr. Grant said that it was necessary to cover 1,726 miles in order to reach the various camps where New York troops were stationed. He conducted elections in each camp.

"When I got through with my task," he said, "I thought that I had seen nearly every part of France, the American camps are so numerous and so widely scattered.

"The work took up from active sectors on the firing line to the environs of Paris and farther south."

Band Concert

BY THE SOLDIERS' HOME BAND, IN STANLEY HALL THIS EVENING, BEGINNING AT 6:30 O'CLOCK.

JOHN S. M. ZIMMERMANN, Director.

"My Country 'Tis of Thee."

March, "Step Lively,"....Roberts
Overture, "Bridal Rose"....Lavallee
Dialogue for Flute and Clarinet....Hamm
Messrs. Bergh and Veith.
Selection, "The Highwayman"...De Koven
Fox Trot, "The Kiddies"....Baker
Valse Intermezzo, "Valse de Coeur"
Jerome
Intermezzo Arabian, "Alaba"....Lindsay
Finale, "Take Me To My Alabam"
Dillon
"The Star-Spangled Banner."

JOY RIDERS STEAL POLICEMAN'S AUTO

HOUSTON, Tex. Nov. 30.—A number of automobiles have been stolen in Houston the past two days. One car found abandoned in Houston last night was found to be the property of a Galveston resident, and he was notified. Two cars were found abandoned at Camp Logan and they were returned to their owners.

Inspector of Police McPhail was also a victim of the epidemic. He and two other officers drove to Dallas and Fannin street last night to answer a call, and when they returned the police car was gone.

ONE OF THE FAMILY.

Marie Dressler, the actress, says that an Irish servant girl, a member of a large family whose members have been scattered all over the habitable globe, was taken on her first visit to see the animals at the Bronx Zoo.

At sight of a giraffe browsing in a paddock her eyes bulged almost out of her head.

"For the love of heaven what's that?" she asked.

"That," said a sophisticated friend who had accompanied her, reading the information board attached to the base, "is a giraffe—a native of South Africa."

The greenhorn gave a low moan.

"Holy saints!" she exclaimed. "Me sister's married to wan of 'em."—Saturday Evening Post.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children
In Use For Over 30 Years
Always bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

ENGLISH PRINCE FORCED TO UNDERGO OPERATION

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Prince Albert, second son of King George, suffered a relapse and has been operated on for duodenal ulcer with satisfactory results, an official court bulletin announced today. His condition was described as "satisfactory."

Prince Albert is an officer in the British navy. He has been ailing since early in the war. On August 28 he was removed ashore, suffering from appendicitis and on September 9 was operated upon at Aberdeen for that ailment. He has been on duty intermittently since then. The prince is nearly twenty-three years old.

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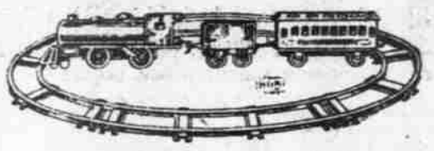
This White Enamel Dolls' Chiffonier 79c
Just the thing to keep the doll's clothes in. A real Chiffonier, with four drawers and mirror top. White enamel finish.

Turn to your left as you enter our store and you'll be in Toy Town. Here you will find all the Wonderful Toys from Toy Land to gladden the hearts of girls and boys. You will enjoy a visit to Toy Town as much as the children and the wonderful values will prove as amazing as the astonishing display of new and wonderful toys. Come tomorrow so as to be sure of getting the toys you want.

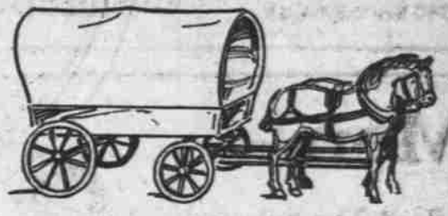
Extra Specials in Gift Furniture for Saturday.
Use Your Credit—Buy Now and Pay Next Year.

This Big 20-inch Teddy Bear 98c
A wonder at the price. A 20-inch "Teddy" with a thick, soft coat of A No. 1 bear cloth.

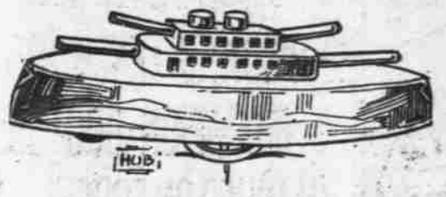
Junior Hand Car
—has sprocket propelier—motor and strong steering handle; wire wheels with solid rubber tires; 30 inches long; special..... $3.75



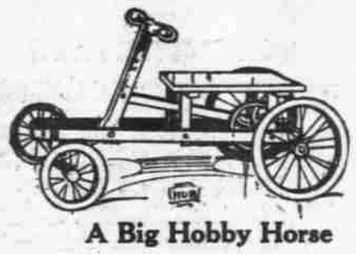
Friction Power Dreadnaught
—An all metal, 15-inch Armored Dreadnaught—mounting two 3-inch and two 2-inch guns. White hull and superstructure, blue water line, brass finished guns and red conning turrets. Special..... 98c



The Hub Special Train
Always Arrives on Time!
The "Hub Special" is an extra fine, extra fast Automatic Train, consisting of Spring-Motor Engine, Tender and Coach on a big four-section track. All metal—nicely finished. Special..... 59c



Two Horse Gypsie Wagon
—An exact reproduction in miniature of the wagons the gypsies travel and live in. Team of two horses that actually move their legs. Special..... 79c



A Big Hobby Horse

—Not a toy, but a good riding horse for the boy. Light gray with real hair mane and tail. Fully equipped with bridle, saddle and stirrups; mounted on patent rocking frame. Prices start at $4.49

Big Game Hunter Outfit
—consisting of big game animal with target; spring rifle and wooden bullets. Special 29c

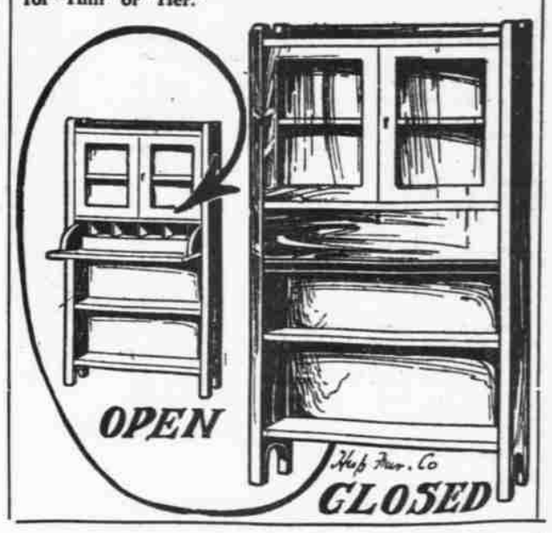
Panama Pile Driver
—a perpetual motion automatic toy that will appeal to boys. All metal. Special, 98c

Boys' High-Grade Auto
—All metal—red or green finish—long wheel base, crank, steering wheel, solid rubber tires and wire wheels. A wonderful gift for the boy. Special..... $5.45

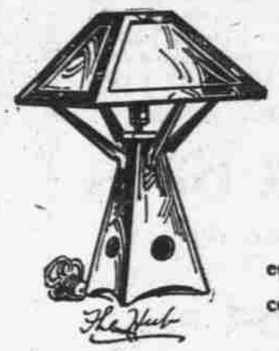
Saturday's Specials In Guaranteed Gift Furniture!

This Steel Bed Outfit
Including strong "Porcelain" White Steel Bed, Iron Frame Woven Wire Spring, and Sanitary Soft Top Mattress for $14.95

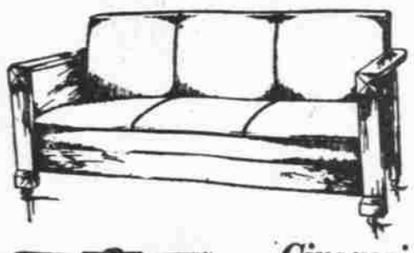
This Fumed Oak Combination Desk and Book Case, $9.75
Has drop lid, pigeonhole interior desk; two lower shelves and a double glass door book case top. A splendid gift for "Him" or "Her."



This Fumed Oak Mission Lamp $2.98
Fumed oak frame, glass shade, equipped with tubing for gas, or cord and plug for electricity.



This Bed Davenport
—Massive fumed oak frame, upholstered in Brown Imitation Spanish Leather—a Davenport by day and a bed at night. On easy terms for $26.75



This Golden Oak Black Imitation Leather Rocker, $5.95
Massive golden oak frame, black imitation leather seat and back, broad arms, best springs. A splendid gift Rocker.

Circassian Walnut Toilet Table $22.75
An elegant circassian walnut Toilet Table, with triplicate genuine French plate mirrors. An extra special value.

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SEVENTH & D STREETS

This Fumed Oak Imitation Spanish Leather Morris Chair $9.75
An ideal Xmas gift. Massive fumed oak frame with brown imitation leather seat and back, best steel springs.