

The Washington Times

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1919.

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SECTION TWO.

D. C. RAILWAYS TO BE VALUED

Company Heads Consider Plan for Merger Suggested by Mr. Gardiner.

By BILL PRICE.

What is becoming known as the Gardiner plan for merging the two street railway companies of the District—and some combination of public control made to obtain better conditions for Washington people—is receiving considerable attention among leading stockholders of the two lines. It became known today.

Commissioner W. Gwynn Gardiner first put forward his plan a month or a year ago, when efforts were being made by a joint committee of stockholders of the two railway lines to get together for a merger. Negotiations were carried on for weeks, but failed owing to disagreements as to details of a plan.

It is Mr. Gardiner's purpose to devote much of his time to bringing about a merger when he retires from his position as Commissioner and as a member of the Public Utilities Commission.

He will retire shortly, as soon as the President names his successor. Because of the view of practically all interests in Washington that a merger of the Capital Traction and Washington Railway and Electric Companies is imperative, the Gardiner plan will prove very interesting at this time.

The Gardiner plan. Stockholders of the two companies were met yesterday to select a joint committee to represent them, choosing the ablest and fairest men to be found. This committee would select a depository, preferably a local trust company. The stockholders would agree to deposit their respective holdings of stock in either company with the depository selected under the terms of the agreement.

The stockholders would receive from the trust company, as depository, receipts for the number of shares deposited, with the terms of the contract written on the receipt. The vital portion of the contract to be a merger of the companies. The stock would remain in the depository, subject to the order of the joint committee, until the final valuation of the two roads have been definitely determined by the highest courts. After this, stock in a newly organized company would be distributed upon these courts. The stockholders would agree to deposit their respective holdings of stock in either company with the depository selected under the terms of the agreement.

Dividends to Be Paid. Between the time of the valuations fixed by the Commission and the highest courts, the respective stockholders shall receive dividends on their stock for the period of valuations of the Utilities Commission. After the termination of litigation in the courts, and the issue of new stock, the dividends would be paid on the court basis of valuations.

Right to Sell or Assign. On the receipt of the trust company for the original stock would be the right to sell or assign, the same as applies to all stock at this time. Any holder of the interim receipts might sell or assign, and the final holder would be entitled to new stock in the consolidated company.

The joint committee would be permitted by the stockholders to determine the management of the merged roads from the start, or at least until the annual meeting of the respective stockholders in January, at which time the holders of receipts would elect directors or trustees to manage and operate for the next ensuing year in the same manner as at present.

Mr. Gardiner's Views. To The Times today, Mr. Gardiner said: "In the plan I propose, there would be no injustice, in my opinion, to any stockholder. He or she would lose no value. On the contrary, the value of the stock deposited should increase as the benefits of consolidation became more apparent."

"I cannot see any legal objection to such a plan, and it appears the most equitable I can think of. There would be equity and justice for all stockholders, and much benefit to the public generally. "Although I have not recently talked with the officers of either of the companies, I am satisfied they would welcome a fair plan for consolidation."

Valuations in Few Days. The Public Utilities Commission will announce within a few days its final valuations of the properties of the two railway companies. The decision may be reached tomorrow. There is little probability that the three members of the Commission will be unanimous in their findings. Two of them will agree, and a dissenting opinion will be handed down by the third. That is the way it looked today.

The Chamber of Commerce has recommended that the Public Utilities Commission appoint a commission of impartial men of high standing, who will consider the various merger plans and recommend one that may be accepted. The Utilities Commission will probably not do this unless there is a unanimous demand not now contemplated.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS HERE. Four cases of infantile paralysis are under treatment here, Health Department records show. Two cases were reported in the last several days. Health officials are not alarmed over the reporting of these cases.

MISS JANE GREGORY, the first Cabinet "daughter" to be decorated by the Belgian government for her Belgian relief work during the war. Queen Elizabeth sent the medal to Miss Gregory with a citation.



BELGIUM HONORS WASHINGTON GIRL

Jane Gregory, Daughter of Former Attorney General, Decorated.

Miss Jane Gregory, daughter of the former Attorney General, has received notification from the Belgian legation here that she is to be decorated by the Belgian government for her work in behalf of the Belgian relief commission, and, incidentally, for adopting her three little Belgian orphans. The brevet for the decoration has already been forwarded to Miss Gregory and the medal is now on its way to this country from Belgium.

The daughter of the former Attorney General is now at her summer home in Forest Hills Gardens, Long Island. During the war Miss Gregory was actively engaged in the Belgian relief work with Mrs. James Hamilton Lewis, wife of the Senator from Illinois, and in addition she held an \$80-a-month job at the food administration to help support her three dependents. The story goes that when she presented herself at the food administration for a job, she was refused on the grounds that she had no dependents. "Oh, but I have," said Miss Gregory. "I'm supporting three Belgium orphans whom I adopted."

MOTORMAN HELD FOR FATAL CRASH

Gardiner Knode, motorman of the street car which struck the automobile operated by Howard W. Payne, at Thirtieth street and Dumbarton avenue, Wednesday morning, killing the driver and severely injuring his twelve-year-old son, Brent, yesterday, was held for the action of the grand jury by a coroner's jury at the inquest held in the District morgue. The Public Utilities Commission, driver of an automobile truck for a soft drink company, testified he was driving down Thirtieth street about ten miles an hour, and passed Payne's automobile on P street. He said he heard the crash a moment later.

Henry L. Hibbs, a motorman, who was on Knode's car, testified that the car was going between eight and ten miles an hour, and that Knode threw on his reverse when he saw the machine. Others who testified were Conductor R. A. Walters, Sergt. John Roper, of the Seventh precinct, who was a passenger on the car, and George E. Meyer, a motorman, who was also a passenger. Motorman Knode made a voluntary statement that he slowed up at the corner, and when he saw no vehicle in sight started across. The Public Utilities Commission was represented by A. C. Putnam.

BAND CONCERT

BY THE U. S. SOLDIERS HOME BAND, BANDSTAND, FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 29, 1919, BEGINNING 8:00 P. M. JOHN E. M. ZIMMERMANN, Director. March, "Loyal Comrades." Blankenberg Overture, "Concert No. 2 in F." Serenade, "The Nightingale." Kalliwoda Selection, "The Gondolier." John Bull. Rag Oddity, "Procrustean Rag." Waltz Suite, "Touffant Fancies." Cobb Dell Oyo Finale, "Tenth Regiment." Dell Oyo "The Star-Spangled Banner." Hall

EX-MEMBERS OF FIRST WILL BE PARADE

Former Officers and Men Invited to March in Pershing Welcome Here.

All former officers and men of the First Division in Washington and nearby cities have been asked by the War Department to present themselves in uniform on the day of the parade. They will be given a prominent place with their former comrades in the parade.

Lieut. Col. John Millikin, General Staff, is in charge of the arrangements for the ex-members of the Division to participate. He said today more than fifty letters are being sent out from the War Department to men in Washington who formerly served with the First as commissioned officers.

Because of the large number of enlisted men now out of the service, no attempt will be made to communicate with them individually, but announcement will be made within a day or two, designating the time and place for them to assemble on the day of the parade.

Out-of-town Men Expected. Although many men and officers from outside of Washington are expected to be present to march with their comrades of the First, War Department officials said today they would necessarily have to come at their own expense. The War Department will not be authorized to pay for their transportation here.

Officers and men have been asked by Colonel Grant, at the War Department, to communicate with Lieutenant Colonel Millikin as soon as possible, and to assure him they will be among the former members of the First to parade with the division here next month.

This has been predicted by officers at the War Department as one of the features of the parade which will attract much attention. It is stated there will be many wounded men in the procession, wearing the red chevrons, noting their separation from the army. All officers above the rank of captain will be mounted, it was stated, and the War Department already has made arrangements to provide the necessary horses.

Details Now Complete. At the War Department this morning it was stated that final arrangements have been made for the parade. All that remains now is the designation of "D" day, the day on which the soldiers will march. September 6 still remains the tentative date. Miss locating the troops on all streets leading to the Peace Monument, the starting place of the parade, have been drawn up, and with the arrival of the troops here, there will be no confusion resulting from forming for the march. Several hours will be consumed in the troops' lining up in the southeast section of the city. That section is expected to be lined with soldiers before daylight on the day of the parade until hours after the procession begin moving up Pennsylvania avenue.

Conference Today. Chairman Robert N. Harper of the citizens' committee in charge of the local arrangements for the parade of the First division here, will confer with War Department officials today. Practically all other arrangements have been completed, the conference probably will have to do with the sale of grand stand tickets, and to decide on some fair method of distribution to Washingtonians and out-of-town visitors. Colonel Harper has announced the tickets probably could be sold through a private ticket agency in Washington.

Pershing May Lead. The announcement that General Pershing personally would lead the division in New York, when it passes in review before the Secretary of War there, has led those in charge of the parade here to predict he will do the same in Washington. Although the division would not be under the command of the commander-in-chief technically, a War Department official says, he probably would ride at the head of the Peace Monument to the reviewing stand in front of the White House. He probably then would dismount, and take his place beside the Secretary of War as the troops pass in review.

With the passage by the House yesterday of the bill to make the commander-in-chief a permanent general, it is expected the commission will be tendered him either just before or following the parade of the First division. General Pershing will bear the honor heretofore held only by George Washington, Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan.

At the same meeting James T. Lloyd, Albert Schutte, and Charles W. Claggett were named as a committee to draft a bill to be presented to Congress providing for the merger of Washington's street car lines as proposed in a recent report of the Chamber.

THESPIAN DIRECTOR AT WAR RISK QUITS

Richard Kaplan, organizer of the War Risk Insurance Dramatic Club, resigned as its director today. He appointed Dwight Terry to succeed him. Mr. Kaplan, who is returning to Boston to resume his law studies, completed organization of the dramatic club two months ago. It is composed of seventy-five War Risk employees, and is making progress toward producing his play, "The Dutch Detective."

HOLDING in its hands the delicate balance of the immediate economic and industrial future of the country, the executive council of the American Federation of Labor yesterday met in extraordinary session. Among the leaders shown here are, from left to right, back row, T. A. Rickett, sixth vice president; Frank Duffy, third vice president; James Duncan, first vice president; Joseph Valentine, second vice president; front row, Daniel Tobin, treasurer; Samuel Gompers, president; Frank Morrison, secretary, and Mathew Wall, eighth vice president.



WOMEN WORKERS PROTEST ELECTION

Form New Unit of Federal Employees' Union to Push Own Interests.

Women members of Federal Employees' Union, No. 2, last night in a protesting meeting, at the headquarters of the Women's Trade Union League, 1423 New York avenue, against the recent election in the union of an executive committee composed entirely of men, organized a "women's unit" of the union to promote the local and to insure women a fair representation on the roll of officers and on important committees. "At the annual election of officers in October, the women announce they propose to use their unit to secure important offices and committee appointments. The women prepared a letter which will be presented to the board of representatives of the Federal Employees' Union, No. 2, outlining their grievances and announcing their organization of a separate unit to advance their own interests. Miss Jessie Dell presided at the meeting last night. Others present included Misses Juliette Stebbins, Cornelia Lyne, Florence Smith, Elizabeth Ede, Estelle Hellman, and Mrs. Lillian King. Miss Stebbins was elected permanent chairman of the women's unit and Miss Florence Smith was elected secretary. A meeting to outline definitely the activities proposed by the unit will be discussed at a meeting to be called at an early date.

ANTI-LOAFING LAW PLAN OF CHAMBER

Beware the anti-loafing law 'ye corner loungers, the Chamber of Commerce is getting after you. A committee will ride at the head of a law compelling every able-bodied person to work at least forty hours each week, and work will soon be started on the idea. It was declared that the Maryland anti-loafing regulation could be used as a model for the District's law. R. Andrews is chairman of the committee to draft the law. Other members are Charles W. Claggett, Chapin Brown, C. C. Corby, Charles W. Darr, E. W. Davis, Joseph Dreyfus, W. W. Everett, James F. Finnigan, F. J. Jones, Henry King, Louis Ottenberg, James F. Oyster, Leon S. Ulman, and W. B. Westlake. At the same meeting James T. Lloyd, Albert Schutte, and Charles W. Claggett were named as a committee to draft a bill to be presented to Congress providing for the merger of Washington's street car lines as proposed in a recent report of the Chamber.

"RIGHT TO HAPPINESS" TO BE SHOWN PRESS CLUB

"The Right to Happiness," the latest Universal-Jewel photodrama, will be specially exhibited at the National Press Club tomorrow evening at 8:30 o'clock. Members and their guests have been invited. The photoplay stars Dorothy Phillips in the dual role of sisters.

Ever Hear Story of The Bull and the Bee? No, No, Not That One!

Ever hear the story of the bull and the bee? No, not that one! Here it is: The bull stands at a heavy traffic corner. "Long comes prominent citizen in automobile. Bull blows whistle. Waves automobilist to curb. "Now, what'll have I done?" petulantly inquires automobilist. Here's where the bull puts the bee on him. "It ain't what you done; it's what you ain't done," is the cop's answer. "I understand you haven't bought a ticket to the Policemen-Home Defense baseball game." It happened this morning. Proof on request.

BOYS UNDER 18 TO GET MINIMUM WAGE

Boys under eighteen years old are affected by the order issued by the District minimum wage board today, providing, beginning October 29, for a weekly minimum wage of \$14.50 for women and girl workers in mercantile establishments in the District. Following a public hearing in the board room of the District building this morning, the wage order was issued. This is the first time the board has exercised its authority by including boys under eighteen in their order. The law gives them jurisdiction over all minors, male or female. For boys beginning work a weekly wage of \$10 for the first five months is provided; \$12.50 for the next three months; \$14.50 for the next four months, and \$16.50 after a year's service. This applies also to girl minors. Women learners are to be paid \$12.50 per week for first three months; \$14.50 for next four months, and \$16.50 for any time thereafter. The law provides that persons, firms or corporations violating this order shall pay a fine of not less than \$5 and not more than \$100, or by imprisonment for not less than ten days nor more than three months, or both fine and imprisonment.

JUNK MAN HELD AS 'FENCE' FOR ACTION OF GRAND JURY

Edward Ellison, owner of the Star Junk Shop in Georgetown, charged by the police with having connection with the recent freight car thefts uncovered at Potomac Yards, was held for the action of the grand jury by Judge Harrison, following preliminary hearing in the United States branch of Police Court yesterday. His bond of \$5,000 was renewed. He is alleged to be a "fence" of stolen property.

W. R. & E. CRISIS OVER UNTIL OCT. 1

Car Men's Requests Postponed Until Expiration of Agreement With War Labor Board.

Discussions over wage demands and labor recognition between President W. F. Ham, of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, and representatives of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees, which gave promise of a serious outcome, have been ended temporarily, the association deciding not to press its requests until October 1. That date will mark the expiration of an agreement between the Amalgamated and the National War Labor Board. Despite the fact that President Ham refused to recognize the Amalgamated and declined to negotiate with its representatives at the time the executive committee of the association has deferred all action, drastic or otherwise, that had been planned. President Ham also refused to consider an increase in wages demanded by the Brotherhood of Street and Electric Railway Employees. H. W. Gentry, president of the Brotherhood, conferred with Ham yesterday morning. Situation Unchanged. As a result of this action, the street car situation in Washington will remain the same for a month, when the same demands again will be presented to the company. The Amalgamated wanted a 50 per cent increase in wages, the Brotherhood a 25 per cent raise. Many changes in working conditions also are asked in the demands by the Brotherhood and the Amalgamated. President Ham assured the committee yesterday that he was only too willing to talk with employees and consider any grievances they have, but courtously refused to recognize the committee as representatives of the association or Brotherhood. J. H. Cookman, of the Amalgamated, who has been the guiding hand of the association, issued this statement last night: "At present there is nothing further to be done. We are bound by the agreement with the War Labor Board to abide by its decision until October 1. No definite announcement as to the course we will take in October can be made at this time. But it is probable our demands will be renewed when the award of the Labor Board expires."

President Ham assured the committee yesterday the company was willing to grant increases to its men in line with the high cost of living jumps if the Public Utilities Commission grants the company adequate relief. Means Additional Expense. To grant the wage increases demanded, President Ham declared, would mean an additional expenditure of \$1,500,000 a year in the case of the Amalgamated and \$350,000 a year in the case of the Brotherhood. The company, he said, is in no position to "pay its trainmen more than is paid by the Capital Traction Company, which has a contract with its men, effective until March, 1920."

The formal company statement added that any increase in wages "must necessarily be paid by the riding public." Even with the 7-cent fare, which the company has asked the Public Utilities Commission to grant, the additional revenues would hardly suffice to pay the present wages of the trainmen and other employees are

MRS. WILSON, HIKER, GETS 'FLIVVER' LIFT

President's Wife Takes Daily Constitutional Alone in Potomac Park.

Mrs. Wilson, wife of the President, has taken up walking. Each morning this week she has taken a stroll through Potomac Park. Twice she has mingled in the crowds of workers out for lunch hour, and to the few who recognized her she bowed pleasantly. Ever since the outdoor recreation of the First Lady of the Land has been confined principally to golfing and motoring, although several times she has been out on the "cruising" path. The nearest approach to an automobile was one night, several years ago, when the President and Mrs. Wilson, wearing "silkcracks," left the White House in a driving rain and walked through Potomac Park. Yesterday, when Mrs. Wilson returned from a walk, she was greeted by some friends riding in a "flivver." Perhaps to show her contempt for the five or six big limousines, footmen, and liveried chauffeurs, in the White House garage, she stepped into the humble machine and went for a ride. Policemen at the gates stood aghast when the "flivver" charged up to them and they recognized the distinguished occupant.

Although Commissioner Brownlow would make no admission today, it is deemed certain the Commission will wait until the next meeting before pursuing any drastic course. The Commission only looks upon the delay as another setback in the securing of increased pay for members of the force. Commissioner Brownlow today is awaiting word from union officials regarding the meeting last night. The legislative committee of the union, when informed of the Commission's policy some time ago, promised to call upon Commissioner Brownlow, when action was taken by the union's representatives of the District Building today. The meeting was held last night in Musicians' Hall, 1006 E street northward. It was decided to vote on the amendment at the next meeting. During the meeting last night these four men resigned from the union: W. H. H. House, G. R. W. Browning, No. 5; W. G. Gleason, No. 6, and John Browning, No. 16. Nineteen other applications for membership were received. Union officials refuse to discuss the plans made by the association last night, and will only state that "no vote was taken on the Commission's plan."

MAIL ARMY FOOD ORDERED FOR D. C.

First Requisition By Postoffice Department Represents Goods Worth \$7,000.

The Postoffice Department today requisitioned the War Department for the first order of surplus army food allotted to Washington for distribution through the Postoffice Department by parcel post. The first consolidated order representing food valued at \$7,000, the distribution of which will begin immediately. Other orders will follow as soon as the postoffice authorities can turn over the blanks to the War Department. All the machinery for the distribution of the food is in readiness, according to Assistant Postmaster Kerlin, and the total supply of the Government warehouses can be disposed of in a very short time. Distribute 20,000 Blanks. Approximately 20,000 order blanks were distributed yesterday by mail carriers to Washington housewives, and the work of taking orders for the food still continues. Mr. Kerlin intends to distribute 100,000 blanks in Washington by mail carriers. "Whether we handle any more of this surplus army food after we have disposed of the sixty cartons," said Mr. Kerlin, "depends entirely on the plans of the War Department of Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Control Administration. No plans for handling retail trade at the farmers' produce market have yet been worked out, and in view of the situation, market officials deem it inadvisable for persons to go to the market tomorrow expecting to buy less than wholesale quantities. Would Avoid Confusion. Because of the confusion and dissatisfaction that existed at the market last Saturday, it was decided to devise a plan whereby purchases could be made readily and to advantage by Washington housewives. A plan was submitted to the Board of Commissioners by George M. Roberts, superintendent of weights, measures, and markets, providing that purchases be made in moderate quantities, but no action has yet been taken on this proposal. THOUSAND PLEDGE AID TO D. C. FOOD LEAGUE. The central committee of the Citizens' Co-operative Buying and Distributing League will meet Tuesday night at 1423 New York avenue to formulate definite plans for enrolling subscribers to the league. "Already 1,000 members of a local organization have pledged to join, and subscriptions are coming in from various sources, according to A. E. Cole, secretary of the league. "We shall start work just as soon as we get sufficient members," said Mr. Cole. "If we get \$20,000 we shall start on that and enlarge our facilities as we gain more members." Mr. Cole expressed the opinion today that the movement, from interest already manifested by many persons in Washington, would undoubtedly be a success. PLAN FOR ARMY RETAIL STORES NOT YET FIXED. Exactly what are the plans of the War Department regarding the establishment of retail stores throughout the country for the disposition of surplus household commodities held by the army has not yet been officially announced by the Quartermaster General. Advice and plans were submitted to the quartermaster general by surplus property field officers at a conference which ended yesterday afternoon, but it was explained at the War Department, a definite program of procedure has not been decided upon. It is expected, however, that a detailed plan will be announced tomorrow and that work will begin immediately on the establishment of retail army stores.

COPS PUT OFF NOTE ON A.F.L. AFFILIATION

Commissioners Also Expected to Delay Action Until Union Decides on Final Stand.

With voting on the question of affiliation with the American Federation of Labor by the City Policemen's Union deferred at a meeting last night, no immediate action is expected to be taken by the District Commissioners in their determination that this union, or any other police union, shall not be connected with an outside labor organization. The vote will be taken by members of the union at the next meeting, to be held the second Thursday in September. In the meantime, officials of the union will confer with officials of the federation. By the time of the next meeting the policy of the federation toward police unions and the disapproval of these unions by municipal officials probably will be determined. Will Await Final Vote. Although Commissioner Brownlow would make no admission today, it is deemed certain the Commission will wait until the next meeting before pursuing any drastic course. The Commission only looks upon the delay as another setback in the securing of increased pay for members of the force. Commissioner Brownlow today is awaiting word from union officials regarding the meeting last night. The legislative committee of the union, when informed of the Commission's policy some time ago, promised to call upon Commissioner Brownlow, when action was taken by the union's representatives of the District Building today. The meeting was held last night in Musicians' Hall, 1006 E street northward. It was decided to vote on the amendment at the next meeting. During the meeting last night these four men resigned from the union: W. H. H. House, G. R. W. Browning, No. 5; W. G. Gleason, No. 6, and John Browning, No. 16. Nineteen other applications for membership were received. Union officials refuse to discuss the plans made by the association last night, and will only state that "no vote was taken on the Commission's plan."

H. S. Hollahan, E. W. Payne, and N. A. James, Central Labor Union; Thomas Jones, of Engineers, No. 33; John Bentley, Firemen, No. 62; E. Venable, of Engineers, No. 9; A. Kelso, of Boilermakers, No. 458, and J. E. Tobin, of the A. F. of L. spoke at last night's meeting. Rudolph, chairman, of the Army of Lumber & Furniture, and a member of the Policemen's Union, told members of their rights in the matter of forming and joining a union. The District subcommittee of the Senate, investigating police pay in Washington, recently approved of the recently announced policy of the District Commissioners regarding the city Policemen's Union, and until this time the Policemen's Union with union has withdrawn affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, the committee will take no action toward raising the pay of members of the force. Senator William M. Calder, chairman of the committee, in a letter to Commissioner Louis Brownlow today, declared his opinion of the union. He said he favored a union with no outside affiliations. Commissioner Brownlow, who has conferred on numerous occasions with members of the subcommittee, said today the police union, which is the cause of the committee's opposition at this time to increased salaries for the police.

SEE NO RELIEF IN PROFITEER FIGHT

Protecting they have no control over the price of food, Washington food dealers told the fair price committee at a meeting yesterday that the elimination of food profiteering in the District would not necessarily lead to a reduction in the prices of foodstuffs. The dealers practically admitted that profiteering was practiced here, but not so extensively, they asserted, that its abolition would reduce the cost of living problem in the National Capital. They resented the disfavor brought against them through statements that have been issued in the fight against high prices and tried to minimize the work of various local organizations bent on the elimination, to some extent, of profiteering. Clarence E. Wilson, chairman of the fair price committee, said the list of fair margins of profits on foods had not quite been completed yet, but it was hoped it would be ready to present to the buying public the early part of next week. FRANCE BUYS ARMY PROPERTY. American army property in France including railroads and railroad stocks, docks, buildings and surplus material has been sold to the French government for \$400,000,000, to be paid for by ten-year 5 per cent gold bonds. Secretary of War Baker announced.