An ALL Washington Page for ALL Washington People

The Washington Times

SECTION TWO — WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1920. — SECTION TWO

RENTS! The full text of the new District of Columbia Rent Law, with explanatory notes by the Real Estate Editor of The Times, has been printed in convenient booklet form. A free copy is yours for the asking at the counter of The Washington Times.

T. R. L. says—

Why pay storage on your car when you can phone The TIMES an ad—Main 5260—and sell it.

BOARD TO AID SCHOOL MOVE

Dr. Van Schaick Indorses Program Proposed by Betterment Committee.

Indorsing the program of the school betterment committee, representing seven of the most prominent District organizations, Dr. John Van Schaick, jr., president of the Board of Education, at a luncheon at the Cosmos Club given today by the committee, said the board is ready to delay its reorganization plan if it will in any way help immediately to improve school conditions.

"The board recognizes that it cannot get the legislation needed without the help of the citizens," said Dr. Van Schaick. It therefore places at the service of the committee all its resources and welcomes co-operation.

"Especially is the trained business experience of your body needed in deciding the amounts the community can afford to pay in salary increases and in shaping a building program for the next five years to meet the needs of the entire community. The board welcomes this opportunity to make clear to the committee the general misunderstanding of the attitude of the board on reorganization.

Fundamentals Required.

The fundamental things of reorganization demanded by the board appear in the program of the committee.

"A business manager for the schools, with an adequate force of accountants and clerks.

"Abolition of present salary classes in the grade schools and a system by which teachers can be placed in the grade for which they are best fitted and given salary increases without passing to other grades installed. This makes possible a higher type of ability in the primary department and a more efficient adjustment all around. We accept with gratitude your statement that this is already included in object one, and also the principle of the same salary for grade and high school teachers possessing the same qualifications.

"No Board of Education would be fit to hold office an hour if it permitted a difference of opinion on lesser matters of reorganization to endanger the success of this great program.

What Board Favors.

"The board is on record as favoring these other things:

"Lengthening of the course of the normal schools;

"More assistant superintendents;

"Substitution of group principals for supervising principals;

"A personnel committee subject to the superintendent to study grievances and keep up morale.

"A permanent board of examiners free from other duties.

"Substitution of head teachers for heads of departments.

"All these things and other minor changes were included in the brief to the joint commission on reclassification submitted at its request. In preparing that brief the board had the help of the Superintendent of Schools, who indorsed every change suggested except three—the union of the offices of director of primary and director of kindergarten work, the substitution of head teachers for heads of departments and the sustitution of group principals for supervising principals, although he was in favor of certain group principals and larger divisions.

Board's Attitude.

"This board proposes now, as it has always proposed, to put first things first. Where matters of reorganization will help accomplish the five objects they will be pushed.

"Where they will endanger the five objects they will be delayed.

"Where they need to be changed they will be changed.

"The board has no pride of opinion to safeguard.

"The task before us calls for modesty as well as courage. The great need of all of us is intelligence, unselfishness, and co-operation.

"The board finally calls the attention of the committee to the misunderstanding of the purposes of the survey of the United States Bureau of Education begun some weeks ago.

"The object is to get the advice of educational leaders who live in our community. While other cities pay for this service, this community gets it without cost. Neither the board nor the community is bound by any findings. The bureau does not approach its work in a destructive spirit nor does the board, concerned as it is with the honor and good name of the schools, fear the result.

Asks Committee's Help.

"To stop the survey now because of misunderstanding would create a false impression and might prove disastrous to the success of our program. The board asks the help of the committee in making its position understood by the community.

"If in principles we are in cordial agreement, in details open-minded, and in all things actuated by the single purpose to serve the children and so serve the nation, we cannot fail to work as one man, and thus get what we seek."

Those present at the luncheon were Col. Robert N. Harper and Dr. Arthur Ramsay, of the Chamber of Commerce; Capt. James F. Oyster and Roy C. Claflin, of the Board of Trade; William B. Westlake, and Jesse C. Suter, Federation of Citizens' Associations, and Roland Robbins and Charles I. Corby, Rotary Club.

A meeting of the Board of Education will be held this afternoon in the Franklin School. The teacher's council will meet in the Franklin School at 3 o'clock. Only routine matters are expected to come up.

N. H. FOLKS TO MEET.

The New Hampshire Association will hold the first meeting of the year on January 13 at the St. James Hotel, at 8 o'clock. An informal dance will take place immediately following the business meeting.

Here's How Boost in Fare Affects Both Lines

This table, prepared for The Times by A. N. Duart, statistician of the Public Utilities Commission, shows the approximate earnings of the Washington Railway and Electric Company and the Capital Traction Company yearly under three rates of fare, and the amount the companies should earn on the suggested 7-cent plan, with a 2-cent charge for transfers.

In making these estimates it is assumed that 80,000,000 passengers ride on each line every year, which is computed to be the average. The Utilities Commission says each company should receive 6 per cent return on its investment.

Under 5-cent fare, with six tickets for 25 cents, it is estimated the following amounts would be earned, or lost, by each company in one year's time:

W. R. & E., lose $517,000, or 4 per cent of investment.	Capital Traction Company, earn $443,000, or 3 per cent of investment.

Under the straight 5-cent fare, with a 2-cent charge for intra and inter company transfers, it is estimated the following amounts would be earned or lost by each company in one year:

W. R. and E., lose $167,000, or 1 per cent of investment.	Capital Traction Co., earn $793,000, or 5½ per cent of investment.

Under the present rate of fare—seven cents, with four tickets for 25 cents, and with a 2-cent inter-company transfer charge—it is estimated the following amount would be earned by each company in one year:

W. R. and E., earn $443,000, or 3.28 per cent of investment.	Capital Traction Co., earn $1,443,000 ,or 10 per cent of investment.

Under the fare asked by the Washington Railway & Electric Company, straight 7 cents, with a 2-cent charge for all transfers, it is estimated the following amount would be earned by each company in a year:

W. R. & E., earn $850,000, or 6 per cent of investment.	Capital Traction Company, earn $1,910,000, or 13½ per cent of investment.

SENATE GIVES D. C. FIREMEN MORE PAY

Scale of Salaries $200 Less in Bill Passed Today Than In House Measure.

Without discussion the Senate today passed the increased pay bill for Washington firemen.

No objection was made when Senator Calder of New York called up the bill early this afternoon.

Under the bill as it passed the Senate, the scale of salaries is approximately $200 less than the amount voted by the House. The total proposed increase is $206,830.

The proposed increase per man is as follows: Chief engineer, $250; deputy chief engineers, $250; battalion chief, $300; marshal, $300; assistant marshal, $400; inspectors, $580; captains, $400; lieutenants, $440; sergeants, $500; engineers, $260; assistant engineers, $320; 110 privates, class one, $300; 85 privates, class two, $220; 250 privates, class three, $320.

May Give Highest Salaries.

It is expected that the House provisions will be kept in the bill when it is sent to conference. The deductions were made in the Senate bill when it was reported from the committee in the absence of a number of members. Rather than jeopardize the chances of the bill passing without discussion, it was decided to leave the differences in salaries to be adjusted in conference.

The bill provides for appointment and promotion of officers and other members of the Fire Department in accordance with civil service regulations. Provision is made, however, for the automatic transfer, without regard to civil service rules, of privates from class one to class two, and from class two to class three, after the required period of service.

A strong anti-strike provision, the same that applies to the Washington policemen, is carried in the bill.

DENIES HOLDING UP EX-YANKS' PAPERS

Denial that former service men are being dismissed from the Government service, notably from the War Risk Bureau, because their examination papers have been delayed in marking by the Civil Service Commission was made by the latter today.

Examination papers of ex-service men have in all cases have been given first attention by the Civil Service examiners by order of the commission, Commissioner Wales said today.

"The facts of the case are simply that in the competition for jobs the race has resolved itself into one among service men themselves. In many cases, one service man passes his examination, while another fails, the latter then fails to be certified. As for the certification of women, or others in his place, it is unlikely. It is more natural to assume that his place is filled by another service man who has excelled in his examination. Virtually 75 per cent of applicants now are ex-service men.

CHAIRMAN CHOSEN BY MASTER PRINTERS

At a meeting of the master printers' section of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association yesterday, O. T. Wright was elected chairman. The printing and publishing trade is regarded as the largest of the local industries.

Ernest Mayer was chosen chairman of the women's specialty store section. In anticipation of a busy year, Mr. Mayer said he would call frequent meetings of the section.

BILL TO COMPEL HEAT IN HOMES

Sherman to Press Law to Stop Landlords Freezing Out Tenants, He Says.

Following the appointment of the Rent Commission, Senator Sherman, chairman of the District Committee, introduced a bill in the Senate today to protect Washington tenants from landlords who are trying to freeze them out.

Some Washington landlords, according to Sherman, are making living conditions so uncomfortable for tenants that they are being forced to give up their apartments. Overcoats and rubbers are being worn in chilly apartments by many Washingtonians, Sherman declared.

"It is time something was done to put a stop to such practices," he said "In Chicago landlords who failed to live up to their agreement to furnish sufficient heat are fined, and they ought to be fined here."

Sherman proposes to subject landlords who do not keep apartments properly heated to fines of not less than $25, nor more than $1,000. Each day an apartment was not heated would be considered a separate offense.

"I am told that some of the landlords who have been unable to get rid of their tenants owing to the Saulsbury law, are trying to freeze them out," said Sherman. "It is not uncommon for many tenants to be forced to wear their overcoats and overshoes in their apartments and rooms. I am going to bring this bill to the attention of the District Committee to see what can be done to remedy conditions here."

Under Sherman's bill tenants who have complaints to make with regard to heating would file them with the District Attorney's office. It also provides for court trials.

The Senate District Committee will meet some time this week to take up the nomination of the Rent Commission members and of the Rev. John Van Schaick as District Commissioner. Senator Sherman said no date had been set for the meeting.

"If the rent law is given a chance I believe that it will prove beneficial," said Sherman, "but if the property owners seek to hamstring it, then let them beware. Congress has full control of the District of Columbia and it is determined that profiteering in rents here shall cease.

"If property owners and landlords persist in their efforts to avoid proper regulations, I predict that a law will be enacted placing an occupational tax and property taxes on real estate owners and landlords that will soon bring them to their senses."

WASHINGTON SOCIETY TO AID ACTORS' FUND

Washington society women have agreed to take part in the campaign to raise contributions for the Actors' Fund of America, it was announced today by the Actors' Memorial Day committee for Washington, which is in charge of the drive to be held here January 27.

John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American Union, has been appointed chairman of the committee which has charge of arrangements for the special matinees, to be given at the National, Poli's, the Belasco, and Garrick Theaters January 27. Mrs. Newton D. Baker is vice chairman of this committee.

Moving picture owners notified the committee that they would advertise the performances by signs on the screens and in the lobby.

PLITT LEADS PAINTERS.

George Plitt was elected president of the Master House Painters and Decorators' Association, at their annual meeting and dinner at Harvey's Restaurant last night. Arthur F. Steinberg was chosen vice president; E. L. Smith, secretary, and Edward W. Minte, treasurer.

2 MILLION GIFT IF FARES RISE

Increase Would Give Capital Traction Co. 13 1-2 Per Cent Return on Investment.

Nearly $2,000,000 profits a year will accrue to the Capital Traction Company if the Public Utilities Commission consents to a raise in street car fares in Washington.

Figures compiled today also show that the traction company will be earning under the new fare plan 13½ per cent of its investment, while the utilities commission holds that 6 per cent is a fair earning.

The application for increase in fare, made by William F. Ham, president, Washington Railway and Electric Company yesterday, is still in the hands of the Public Utilities Commission.

To Set Hearing Date.

The matter will be taken up at a meeting this afternoon, and a date for a public hearing to consider the petition will be announced.

It is improbable that the commission will begin hearings before January 20 as a ten-days notice is required on all public hearings.

The W. R. and E. is very anxious that the petition be disposed of immediately and is urging quick action on the part of the commission.

The Times Has Figures Prepared.

At the request of The Times, A. N. Duart, statistician of the Public Utilities Commission, prepared figures showing the earnings yearly of the two companies if the commission grants a straight seven cent, two cent charge for transfers, rate.

The figures, which are only approximate show that the Capital Traction Company will earn $1,910,000 and the Washington Railway $850,000. Twelve months ago the Capital Traction Company was earning a little more than $400,000 a year. Its earnings will be quadrupled by this higher fare. The W. R. and E twelve months ago was losing about $500,000 a year, and this is a gain since that date of more than $1,000,000 in earnings.

PENNILESS GIRLS PLEAD FOR MONEY TO GO HOME

Congress Besieged By Workers Discharged Without Price of Railroad Ticket.

Without prospects for further employment in Washington, hundreds of girl clerks discharged from the War Risk Insurance Bureau are besieging members of Congress for aid in reaching their homes. The girls for the most part are absolutely penniless, and some of them are in debt.

The War Risk Bureau will dismiss 2,500 employes during the month of January. Of this number, not more than 300 will be able to find employment elsewhere, it is estimated. The situation is appalling, in the opinion of Mrs. Mina C. Van Winkle, head of the women's bureau of the Metropolitan police department, who advocates action by Congress to relieve the situation.

Mrs. Van Winkle declared it is impossible to find employment for these girls, and that some way should be found to provide them with transportation to their homes.

Many of the girls now dismissed, or facing dismissal in the next month, came to Washington for positions paying $900 to $1,100 per annum.

Senator Overman and other members of Congress will advocate a bill for relief of these girls, it was stated today.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DRIVE OPENS FEB. 9

A financial campaign for the benefit of the Community Service of the District will begin on February 9 and will end on the 16th. This date was agreed upon at a meeting of the executive committee at the Community Service Club, 1408 Pennsylvania avenue, yesterday.

"I know the people of Washington are going to stand back of this great civic organization and give it splendid financial support," declared Henry White, chairman of the committee.

SIAMESE TWINS NOT ONE PERSON, RULES CENSUS CHIEF

Director of the Census Rogers gave what he called "a saddleback opinion." It was on the case of the Siamese twins, and a census enumerator did not know whether "they" were one or two.

"My idea is," declared Mr. Rogers, "that they are two—two lives, two souls. I have not had the case before me, but that is the way it strikes me offhand—just a saddleback opinion, you know."

The twins, Lucio and Simplicio Godino, are natives of the Philippine Islands and eleven years old. They are living with Commissioner Yangco.

Mr. Yangco said the twins undoubtedly are two persons, although they are joined. "They are healthy, full of play, and intelligent."

MISS ELLEN McADOO, five years old, has the honor of being the first of his four grandchildren to be received by President Wilson since his return to the United States.

—Photo by Towles.

LITTLE GRANDCHILD CHEERS PRESIDENT

Miss Ellen McAdoo, Five, Now at White House, Spends Much Time in Sickroom.

To little Miss Ellen, the five-year-old daughter of former Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. William Gibbs McAdoo goes the honor of being the first of his four grandchildren to be received by President Wilson since he returned from the peace conference in Paris.

Shortly before President and Mrs. Wilson went to Paris, more than a year ago, the President made a hurried trip to Philadelphia to see his newest grandchild, Woodrow, the son of Prof. and Mrs. Sayre, but since then and until the present visit of Mrs. McAdoo, the President has been denied the presence of children in the White House by the advice of his physician.

It was planned to have a Christmas party with all the grandchildren present and the President was very anxious to have this brought about, but a family conference decided against it. Following the visit of Prof. and Mrs. Sayre at the White House last week, Mrs. McAdoo, accompanied by little Miss Ellen, arrived and the President has been permitted to see the little girl, who is the oldest of the four grandchildren.

The frequent visits of the McAdoo youngster to the President now are said to be having gratifying effects, and members of the family note with pleasure the increased cheerfulness and animation in the President's manner following the child's visits.

SUFFRAGISTS ROUTED FROM BEDS BY BLAZE

Two Fires Within Few Hours In Woman's Party Headquarters Here.

Ten members of the National Woman's Party were given a second episode of a fire scare about 1 o'clock this morning, when smoke was discovered in the headquarters of the party, 14 Jackson place, and a hurried fire alarm was turned in. Before the arrival of the firemen, the women who were sleeping on the third floor of the building left their rooms and made their way safely to the first floor. No serious damage resulted.

Yesterday afternoon a fire originated in the furnace room of the building and spread to the ballroom, causing an estimated damage of $1,500. The blaze, however, did not reach the living quarters on the third floor.

On awakening shortly after 1 o'clock this morning, one of the members of the party found her room on the third floor filled with smoke and spread the alarm to the nine occupants of other rooms.

The fire this morning also was in the furnace room.

GETS $300 FOR INJURIES.

In a suit to recover $20,000 damages from the Chesapeake Beach Railway Company for injuries resulting from an accident August 14, 1919, in which she tripped on a protruding bolt and fell from a rear platform of one of the company's cars, Lucie A. Walker yesterday was awarded $300 by a jury in Circuit Court, No. 1, Chief Justice McCoy presiding.

CALLS KNOCKS UNION BOOSTS

Attacks on U. S. Workers Add Thousands to Federation, Says Pres. Steward.

In answer to Senator Smoot's attack yesterday afternoon upon the work of the Congressional joint commission on reclassification of salaries and Government employes, the National Federation of Federal Employes, this morning, through President Luther C. Steward, declared that "the remarkable growth of the National Federation of Federal Employes is largely due to unfair attacks on the mass of deserving workers in the Federal service."

"The late Congressman Borland practically brought the federation into being with his minimum eight-hour law. Congressman Blanton and Senator King have ably assisted, and now Senator Smoot has added himself to the list of our organizers," said Mr. Steward.

"We are asking only for fair treatment; we shall continue to ask and sweeping generalities plainly actuated by prejudice will serve only to focus public attention upon the justice of our claims.

"The federation is devoting its best efforts now, as it has been in the past, to laying before the American people the facts concerning conditions of employment in Government service.

"We shall rest our case on what an impartial investigation discloses. Senator Smoot in his comparison of salaries paid in the Federal service a century ago with those paid at present ignores the cost of living, which is a vital factor."

SMOOT ON WARPATH FOR CLERKS' SCALPS

Utah Senator Outdoes Blanton In a "Turn 'Em Loose" Philippic.

Friends of the Government clerks are rallying their forces in the Senate to combat the spring offensive that will be launched against thousands of Uncle Sam's employes here when the Joint Congressional Reclassification Commission makes its report, March 12 next, on salary readjustment.

As a forewarning of the storm that is about to break in the Senate when the report is brought up for approval, Senator Reed Smoot of Utah yesterday even surpassed some of the early attempts of Representative "Turn Loose" Blanton of Texas, in one of the bitterest attacks on Federal employes that Congress has witnessed in many years. Back of the attack is the strong support Senator Smoot carries with him.

Although Senator Smoot contented himself with a wholesale condemnation of the various Government bureaus, and the work of the Reclassification Commission in particular, he did not block the action of the Senate in adopting a resolution extending, until March 12 next, the time within which the commission may complete its work.

Senator Smoot is on the warpath. He has two big fights on his hands. These he will wage in relentless fashion on the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, which he wants abolished, and the recommendations for salary increases to Government clerks.

Senator Smoot heaped ridicule on the statement that 1823 average salaries of the Government clerical force have increased from $1,137.28 in 1823 to $1,138 in 1916, an increase of 72 cents.

Senator Smoot claimed that the Reclassification Commission, in arriving at its salary calculations, had arrayed figures in such a fashion that no one could "gather the faintest idea whether the kinds of work performed by a majority of the men and women on the Government payroll in 1823 are comparable with the kinds of work performed by those on the pay roll at present, for the reason that no information as to the nature of the work peroformed is available for more than a few years previous to the present time."

FEDERATION WILL MEET ON VAN SCHAICK CASE

Citizens Call Special Session To Act On D. C. Commission Appointment.

A special meeting of the Federation of Citizens' Associations to discuss the nomination of Dr. John Van Schaick, president of the Board of Education, as District Commissioner will be held in the board room of the District building, Friday evening. A lively debate is expected, as there seems to be division of opinion among delegates to the federation.

The meeting is called at the request of the Benning Citizens' Association to consider its resolution protesting the confirmation of Dr. Van Schaick's nomination. The Mid-City Citizens' Association has passed a resolution favoring the confirmation of the Board of Education president, and representatives of this association are expected to be on hand to back up with speeches their resolution.

Both resolutions were presented to the Federation at a meeting held last Saturday night. The resolutions were referred to the committee on civic development and federations' relations, and this committee makes its report Friday night. There is one other association opposed to Dr. Van Schaick.

W. W. KEELER, an employe of the navy yard, who was elected president of the Central Labor Union at the annual meeting in Musicians' Hall Monday night.

KEELER, C. U. HEAD, IS A 'PROGRESSIVE'

Newly Elected President Denies Statement He Is a "Radical."

W. W. Keeler, new president of the Central Labor Union, is a "progressive" rather than a "radical," according to his statement made after his election at the annual meeting in Musicians' Hall Monday night.

Charges that the election contest was a fight between "radical" and "conservative" factions were denied by nominating speakers. The contest was described as a "friendly scrap," involving no issues which would not be buried as soon as they were threshed out in open discussion.

Keeler won by a vote of 79 to 72 ever Newton L. James, secretary of the Central Labor Union. In accepting the presidency, after James had moved to make his election unanimous, Keeler said:

"Despite the fact that I have been called a radical, there is no man more loyal to the American Federation of Labor than I am; no man who more fully subscribes to its principles In the next year we will make steady, substantial progress, and you may count on me to give to the organization all the energy and enthusiasm which I possess."

Frank T. Coleman, editor of the Plate Printer, was elected secretary by 1 vote over Charles E. Frazier, of Machinists' Lodge No. 193, the count being 74 to 73. J. W. Reynolds, of Elevators Constructors' Union, was elected vice president without opposition. J. E. Toome, of Bakery Salesmen's Union No. 33, was chosen financial secretary, and Mrs. Mary Birckhead, of Local No. 105, National Federation of Federal Employes, was the choice for treasurer.

The new sergeant at arms is Joseph E. Clarke, and the trustees are Miss Florence P. Smith, of Women's Trade Union League; Paul R. Donley, of Machinists' Lodge No. 174, and Edward Nothnagel, of Electrical Workers' Union No. 26. The officers serve for one year only.

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CONTINUE WAR ON PROFITEERS

Fair Price Committee Disappointed But Not Discouraged By Court Action.

There will be no abatement of the work of the fair price committee in obtaining evidence against local profiteers, in spite of the action of the grand jury yesterday in dismissing the cases brought against four Washington grocerymen on charges of profiteering in milk, the first of the kind brought up for action by the committee, declared Clarence R. Wilson, chairman, today.

In each of the four cases the men are charged with selling milk which they bought for 8 cents a pint at the rate of 20 cents a quart and 10 cents a pint. The finding of the jury was that these prices were justified, "in view of loss and shrinkage."

The contention of the fair price committee is that there could be no such loss through shrinkage incurred by the grocers, who, it was alleged, bought the milk bottled.

Prosecute Violators.

The practice of warning dealers selling foods below the standards of the District Health Department has been discontinued, and Dr. William C. Fowler, District health officer, said today that all violators of the law would be prosecuted as swiftly as possible. In several instances foods of low quality have been sold unknowingly and dealers were warned.

Of late violations of the law have begun to increase, and Dr. Fowler intends to put a stop immediately to the sale of any impure commodities.

Dr. Fowler is especially concerned in milk. He has found instances of impure milk being sold in lunchrooms. Dr. Fowler says he intends to push the cases in court as far as possible.

Impure Food Sold.

"Reports of the sale of impure foods have become too numerous," said Dr. Fowler today, "and this office will not tolerate them any longer. We intend to see that the food sold to the people of Washington is pure. In some instances dealers sell a poor quality of food unknowingly, but this office insists that more care be exercised in the future in the buying and distributing of foods."

Cases of deception have also been reported to Dr. Fowler. One dealer was found to be selling butter for margarine. Upon investigation it was learned that the dealer was not at fault, as he bought the margarine for butter.

REALTORS GO TO CHICAGO.

John L. Weaver, Bates Warren, and Charles W. Fairfax, left Washington today to attend the meeting of the executive committee of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, to be held in Chicago, Friday and Saturday. Weaver is president of the association. Warren and Fairfax will represent the local real estate firms. They expect to stop at Cleveland for a day to join the delegates of the real estate board of that city.

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