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SECTION TWO

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1920.

SECTION TWO

YEAR REQUIRED FOR MERGER

Vice President Hanna, of Capital Traction Co., Suggests Time Limit.

A merger of the street railway lines of the District of Columbia could be effected within one year, in the opinion of John H. Hanna, vice president of the Capital Traction Company.

Mr. Hanna, appearing before the House District Committee today, suggested that a time limit should be included in merger legislation. At least six months should be allowed, he said. Notices would have to be sent to all stockholders and various incidental meetings and conferences would consume much time. Chairman Mapes of the House committee, asked Mr. Hanna if a service-at-cost plan could be worked out without a merger.

Criticizes Romjue Bill.

It would be impossible for such a system without a merger because many of the lines are parallel and there would be a variation in fare which would work to the detriment of the line charging the higher fare, he said.

Mr. Hanna declared that the Romjue bill were it in effect today with its provision for six tickets for a quarter and its taxing feature, would cost the public \$1,651,000 annually.

A 6-cent fare and more of them is the desire of both companies because they are easier to handle and more satisfactory to the public, Mr. Hanna told the committee.

Discussing the reproduction cost of the Capital Traction Company, Mr. Hanna said that if its charter were repealed and the public compelled to purchase it the cost would be greater than the Capital Traction Company has ever claimed as the value of its property.

He predicted prices would never return to the low level of three or four years ago.

Predicts Fare Increase.

An increase in traffic at the present increased fare is anticipated by both companies, he said. The public has misunderstood the street railway company in the District, he contended. If the people once are shown that the cost of a ride does not pay a return on the company's investment they will not object to the increased fare, he said.

Congressman Ben Johnson of Kentucky asked Mr. Hanna if the lines on being merged would be willing to let the Public Utilities Commission fix their number of officials and employees.

Mr. Hanna explained the commission has that power at this time, and he stated that in Cleveland where the service-at-cost system is in operation there are restrictions which do not give the officials carte blanche to do as they please in determining the actual cost of operation.

Commissioner Louis Brownlow again appeared before the committee today. He reviewed the history of fare increases here.

Opposes Higher Rate.

The only alternative so far suggested, he said, had been a rate system and increase in rate for the Potomac Electric Power Company. Both methods were rejected.

LEAP YEAR GIRLIES, HERE'S A CHANCE

Here's a ready-made chance, girls. Colonel Kroll, Dan Cupid's intermediary at the Court House, today received the following letter, and he asked that it be given the widest possible publicity, intending thereby to help a good cause. The letter is from Salem, S. C., and is dated February 16. It says:

"Matrimonial Bureau, Washington, Gentlemen: Please publish my name on your list as advertised. I would like to hear from ladies wishing to marry. I am a widower. Yours respectfully, James Crombia, Walhalla, S. C., R. F. D. 1, Box 83."

D. C. EMPLOYEES ASK EARLY WORKING DAY

Late "Stagger" Hours Will Keep Them From Needed Night Employment.

If the hours of District employees are to be changed by the adoption of the stagger-hour plan, it ought to be from 8:30 to 4 o'clock instead of from 9:30 to 5 o'clock. This is the plea of the clerks expressed through the president of the District Employees' Union, William F. Franklin, to the Commissioners.

The reason for wanting the early quitting hour set forth by Mr. Franklin is that the pay of the District employees is so small that many of them are forced to night work on the outside and if they were dismissed at 5 o'clock they would not have time to go home to their dinner.

In his letter Mr. Franklin says: "The suggestion has been made that if it is found necessary to change the working hours of the District employees that they be set at 8:30 a. m. to 4 p. m., instead of 9:30 a. m. to 5 p. m., for the reason that a great many employees have evening work that keeps them to earn a living, and if the hour is moved up to 5 o'clock it will interfere with their reporting for duty, and may in some instances preclude them from the position."

It will also deny several of them from going home to get their dinner before reporting for work, thus forcing them to go to a restaurant, which will be a great burden on them.

Owing to the small pay paid in the District service, a great many students are accepting positions, and if the hour is moved up to 5 o'clock it will greatly inconvenience them with their studies."

He gives as another reason the fact that many District employees engage in gardening to eke out their salaries, and that this work would be seriously handicapped by the adoption of the later hours.

The District Commissioners will make no decision on the adoption of the plan until after the plan has been placed in operation by the War Department. The War Department employees will report according to the new schedule, beginning Tuesday.

It is considered likely that the plan will be universally adopted in the Government departments.

ALL CARS IN DISTRICT NOW HAVE AIR BRAKES

All street railway cars in the District are now equipped with air brakes, the Public Utilities Commission announced today. The commission this morning received a letter from the Washington Railway and Electric Company stating that the last of its hand-brake cars had been equipped with air brakes.

When the company was ordered, about a year ago, to replace all hand-brake equipment with air brakes, there were 150 or more cars affected by the order. These cars were all removed by January 30, the letter stated, and the last air brake equipment was installed by February 12.

CONGRESS HITS D. C. WAGEBODY

Commission on Minimum Pay Crippled by Failure to Secure Appropriation.

Congress has moved to cripple the Minimum Wage Board of the District of Columbia by withdrawing its support and pointing out that if it is to be continued, its expense will have to be borne entirely by the District of Columbia.

The Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill, which is now before the House, carries no appropriation for the board.

Attacking the board on the floor of the House yesterday Congressman Wood, of Indiana, chairman of the committee, which drafted the bill, declared that the board assumed to dictate to business men the minimum wage that should be paid to women and children and thereby destroyed the right of contract.

"We provided that the commission and the clerical force created by the law passed in 1918 creating a Minimum Wage Board in the District of Columbia should be paid entirely out of the money of the District of Columbia," Mr. Wood told the House.

"I do not know how many gentlemen here remember having voted for that law, which provided for the establishment of a board which can go to every business man in this town and dictate to him the minimum wage that he shall pay to women and children, absolutely destroying the right of contract, absolutely violating the constitutional provision that property shall not be taken without the process of law. It was done, however, by this Congress and is still in existence."

"The employees of this board may be entitled to their bonus under the law, but we have provided that it shall be paid out of the moneys of the District of Columbia."

Mr. Wood predicted that these changes provided in the bill would not make for the popularity of members of Congress, adding that "I know that when you take away things which are being enjoyed by others you do not add to your popularity, but I believe at least we will receive the sympathy of a tax-suffering public in our attempt to save them a few million dollars."

ACCUSED OF ATTEMPT TO SWINDLE HEROES' KIN

On a warrant charging attempt at false pretenses, Vernon A. Callar, thirty-two years old, was arrested last night by Central Office detectives and locked up at the First precinct police station. Callar gave his address as Falls Church, Va.

According to police, Callar is alleged to have obtained lists of soldier dead and their next of kin saying a mistake had been made by the Government and he had located the loved one, who was without funds, and would start for his home as soon as money was received.

When arrested last night Callar, the detectives say, declared that he had never obtained any money from relatives of hero dead. He said he adopted this scheme to obtain money because he was sick and not able to work.

Callar was unable to say how many telegrams he had sent. He will be given a hearing in police court tomorrow. Detectives Embrey, Hartman and Thompson are in charge of the investigation.

One telegram Callar is alleged to have sent was to the father of a soldier in Anacostia, Mont., stating that his son had been located in Pennsylvania and requested \$50 so he could depart for his home.

PAY REVISERS LIST 1,755 U. S. CLASSES

Work of Specifying Various Employees Completed and Forwarded to Printer.

The specifications on the 1,755 classes of positions found in the Government service in Washington by the Joint Congressional Commission on Reclassification of Salaries are now in the hands of the Public Printer, the commission announced today.

Today the editing of the specifications, which has been done by R. E. Goodell and R. O. Beckman of the headquarters staff, assisted by various members of the classification staff detailed from the departments, was completed.

Each of the sets of specifications includes a title, a statement of duties, with examples of the work performed, and qualifications required for performance. A series, on any position in the class concerned.

The titles and specifications represent the most comprehensive classification of public positions that has ever been made, and covers a greater variety of positions than in the Canadian or any state or municipal classification that has been made, it is said.

The 1755 classes fall into forty-four services or main lines of occupation, regardless of departmental organization lines. Of these all but 291 of the classes fall into 374 series within the various services. A series, on an average, has about four classes, ranking from under or junior, to senior or chief, showing the ranking element of the classes in the same series on the basis of the difficulties of the duties, the degree of the responsibility involved, and the extent of the education training skill and experience.

By getting all positions involving the same character of work into the same class, and throughout a pay schedule for the class, there is bound to be uniformity and equity in compensation between all positions in each class. Also with the series correctly established there is bound to be equity as between the positions in the different classes in the series, officials believe.

The commission has been using the specifications as the basis for its work of determining all salary recommendations. It is now well along in the work of fixing a salary schedule with a minimum and maximum and intermediate salary levels for each class. These salary schedules, however, will be the last thing sent to the printer.

The compensation rates for each class will be inserted on the galley proof of the last thing before the commission's report goes to press.

Progress is also being made on the preparation of the text of the report explaining the plan of the administration of the classification by a central classification agency so as to assure not only uniformity at the outset, but in the execution of the work.

The report will explain the system of periodic advances within the classes on the basis of efficiency and promotion from class to class on the basis of merit competition.

TO VISIT MT. VERNON.

Members of George Washington Post No. 1, American Legion, will hold services at Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, in honor of whom the post was named. The party will form at 10 o'clock Sunday morning at the office of the commander, Mr. McRae, Room 303, 734 Fifteenth street.

Arrangements will be in charge of Commander McRae and T. Murphy, R. Winton, Ed. Sloan and Steve F. Tillman.

All members of the American Legion and all former service men are invited to meet with the post and go to Mount Vernon in a body.

TRY NEGRO ON CHARGE OF KILLING CONTRACTOR

William Taylor, colored, charged with the murder of William McKee Bentzell, October 14 last, was placed on trial today before a jury in Criminal Court, No. 2 Justice Stafford, presiding. The accused is indicted for first degree murder it being alleged that he struck Bentzell over the head with an iron bar.

Investigations showed that the colored man had a quarrel with Bentzell, who conducted a contractor's firm, in the rear of 1336 B street southeast, over the use of a truck. The Government was represented by Assistant District Attorney Paul Cromelin.

WOULD REORGANIZE FRATS.

Albert S. Bard, of New York, president of the Chi Psi Fraternity, emphasized the importance of re-establishing strong fraternity organizations in colleges that were discontinued during the war, at a banquet of the fraternity at the University Club last night.

Educational influence of college fraternities and work accomplished in this direction was the subject of discussion by all the speakers.

AMERICANIZATION CLASS TO SEE HISTORIC SCROLL

The State Department will be opened tonight to about 500 students of the Americanization School, who will be given an opportunity to view for the first time the original document of the historic "Declaration of Independence."

The students, who are all adults, have been instructed to assemble at their school building, the old Central High School at Seventh and O streets northwest, this evening at 7:45. From there they will be conducted in a body to the State Department.

MAJ. PULLMAN STILL ILL.

The condition of Major Raymond W. Pullman, superintendent of police, who is suffering from double pneumonia at his home, 55 Ivy street southeast, was reported to be unimproved by attending physicians at noon today.

FIRE IN VACANT HOUSE.

Fire early this morning was discovered in a vacant house, 202 Balls court northwest, which resulted in slight damage. The cause of the fire has not been determined.



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| PORK | BEEF |
| Pork Roasts 27c | (Of highest quality—only selected native beef) |
| Lean Pork Chops 28c | Round Steak 30c |
| Center Cuts 33c | Sirloin and Porterhouse .38c |
| Fresh Shoulder 25c | Top Rib Roast 22c |
| All Pork Sausage 35c | Bouillon 25c |
| Smoked Hams 33c | Chuck Roast (highest grade) 22c |
| Smoked Shoulder 22c | Hamburg 22c |
| Best Country Eggs ... 75c | Plate Beef 12 1/2c |
| Blue Valley Butter ... 78c | Liver 10c |
| Pure Hog Lard 28c | LAMB |
| Troco Nut Oleo 35c | Shoulder Roast 30c |
| Good Luck Margarine . 45c | Shoulder Chops 30c |
| Full Line of Country Sausage, Scapple and Pork Puddings | Choice Shoulder Chops .40c |
| | Breast of Lamb 18c |

Sugar Cured Sliced Bacon 40c
Sugar Cured Bacon by the piece 35c
Fresh-killed Chickens (Frying and Roasting)
DIRECT FROM THE FARM
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Announcement!



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NO WAR TAX

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Our store will be open from eight until eleven including Sundays and all legal holidays

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| Round Steak 25c lb. | Fancy Smoked Hams .29c lb |
| Top Rib Roast 22c lb. | Veal Chops... 20c and 25c lb |
| Bouillon Roast 23c lb. | New Sauerkraut 15c qt |
| Hamburg Steak 20c lb. | Sliced Ham, mild cured 42c lb |
| Fresh Hams, small... 33c lb. | Shoulder of Lamb 33c lb |
| Lean Pork Chops... 28c lb. | Fresh Creamery Butter 65c lb |
| Compound 24c lb. | Fruits and Vegetables |
| Bacon in Strips 31c lb. | Porterhouse Steak 25c lb |
| Veal Pork Roast 33c lb. | Shoulder Clod Roast... 22c lb |
| Veal Cutlets 35c lb. | Plate Beef 10c lb |
| Calf Liver 50c lb. | Boneless Pot Roast... 20c lb |
| Fancy Roasting Chickens 42c lb. | Spare Ribs 25c lb |
| Legs of Lamb 40c lb. | All-Pork Sausage Meat .35c lb |
| Finest Fresh Eggs... 65c doz. | Machine Sliced Bacon .38c lb |
| Oysters and Fresh Fish | Pork Puddings 18c lb |
| Sirloin Steak 25c lb. | Fancy Smoked Shoulders, small 23c lb |
| Prime Rib Roast 22c lb. | Veal Roast 14c to 18c |
| Chuck Roast 18c lb. | Fancy Corned Pigs Feet 45c doz |
| Beef Liver 10c lb. | Smoked Fish and Salt Mackerel |
| Fresh Fresh Shoulders 25c lb. | Breast of Lamb 25c lb |
| Loin Pork Chops... 35c lb. | Fancy Process Butter .62c lb |
| Pure Hog Lard 25c lb. | Wilson's Nut Oleo 31c |
| Beef Pork or Fat Back 23c lb. | |

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