

AUSTIN PLEADS CLERKS' CAUSE

Member Argues Pay Should Be Raised for All U. S. Employees.

BORLAND RAPS PRESS

Representatives Have Warm Debate on Appropriations Measure in House of Representatives.

A horizontal increase in the salaries of government clerks to bring their compensation more nearly in proportion to the increased cost of living was strongly urged on the floor of the House by Representative Austin, of Tennessee, during consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. The debate which ensued is printed herewith:

No General Increase.

I think it an important matter for Congress to consider the question of a new, up-to-date reclassification of the clerical force of the government. Not only should we do this in the interest of the public service and in justice to the clerks and the respective bureaus of the various departments, but a readjustment and increase of salaries, from the lowest to practically the highest, in the government service.

My understanding is that there has not been a general increase in the salaries of government officials since 1854. I read that statement in one of the daily Washington newspapers.

Mr. Borland—That ought, then, to be absolutely incontestable. Does the gentleman say that there have not been individual increases in the general appropriation bills?

Mr. Austin—I said a general increase in the salaries of government officials.

Mr. Borland—I never knew of a general increase, and neither does the gentleman know of such. There have been increases of all departments in separate bills.

Mr. Austin—No; we will take, for example, the Library of Congress, and in this bill we carry an increase, and in this case of other bureaus of the government, where the same argument would apply, we pass them over and do nothing; and then we will come here at the next session of Congress with another appropriation, with a favorable recommendation for an estimate from the head of a bureau recommending an increase for perhaps a limited number. We have had this partial and piecemeal method of increase here and there, and will have it in this Congress, and in the following Congress, year after year. But we have never had in my recollection—and I entered the service of the govern-

ment thirty-six years ago as a clerk in the Postoffice Department—a general and thorough investigation of this subject, bureau by bureau, with a view of eliminating inequalities, advancing and fixing and increasing salaries.

Was Once Clerk.

I remember the time, thirty-six years ago, when I was rendering clerical service in the Postoffice Department and was paid \$45 a month, when a clerk on the other side of the desk, doing identically the same work, was paid \$100 a month. And I have no doubt, Mr. Chairman, there are many instances of that kind in the government bureaus today.

Now, there has been a general advance in salaries in all private lines in this country.

Mr. Borland—Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. Austin—Not at this time. There has been a general advance of salaries in railroad business and in private corporations. Mr. Bryns, of Tennessee—Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield to his colleagues of every kind and character.

Mr. Austin, Yes.

Mr. Bryns, of Tennessee—Under the law the clerks are divided into four classes—those receiving \$1,200, \$1,400, \$1,600, and \$1,800.

Mr. Austin, Yes.

Mr. Bryns, of Tennessee. Now, I do not understand the gentleman to mean that there have been no promotions within those particular grades.

Mr. Austin, Oh, no. The \$1,200 clerk is getting today what the \$1,200 clerk received 25 years ago. I ask this committee to consider this question: What has been the advance in the cost of living to the \$1,200 clerk, comparing 25 years ago with today? Everything he consumes, everything he wears, and everything in connection with his living expenses has advanced, and \$100 25 years ago, Mr. Chairman, would go further than \$150 would go today in meeting the actual expenses of life.

One Promotion in Thirty-Five Years.

Mr. Cline, Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

The Chairman. Does the gentleman from Tennessee yield to the gentleman from Indiana?

Mr. Austin, Yes.

Mr. Cline. My understanding was that the clerks, as a rule, were classified some years ago.

Mr. Austin, Yes.

Mr. Cline. Does the gentleman say that there has been no increase of salary of those clerks since the classification was made?

Mr. Austin. No I have not said that.

Mr. Cline. There has been no general increase?

Mr. Austin, Yes. Now, Mr. Chairman, I had a letter this morning from a clerk, who stated, without complaint as to her record, that she had had one promotion in 35 years; so I doubt not there are many clerks who have been drawing \$600 and \$1,200 and \$1,400 a year whose cases are similar to her case. Where is the hope, the encouragement, and the justice when we turn our attention to the cases of these faithful and efficient public servants who for a half century have had no increase of salary or reward for a service which is higher and more efficient than the service of any private corporation in this country?

The Chairman. The time of the gentleman from Tennessee has expired.

Mr. Austin, Mr. Chairman, I am not here pleading for an efficiency commission. I am pleading for a readjustment and a reclassification and an increase of salaries. What has an efficiency commission to do with that proposition? It takes legislation on the part of Congress and an investigation and a report from one of its committees to bring about a reclassification, a readjustment,

and an increase of salaries—not an efficiency commission that is without that authority.

Pleads for Better Pay.

Mr. Bryns, of Tennessee. The gentleman seems disposed to criticize the committee or to intimate that the committee possibly has not done what it should have done along that line. I want to ask the gentleman if he, as a member of Congress, has introduced in this House a bill seeking to raise the salaries of clerks from what they were as established years ago?

Mr. Austin, Mr. Chairman. I will answer the gentleman's question. It is the duty of standing committees of this House to report legislation in the interest of the public service, and no man who serves on these committees can shirk the responsibility to a member of this House who is not on the committee and has not the opportunity and the chance to bring it in. I am not criticizing the committee. I suggested to the Committee on Appropriations what I think ought to be done in justice to the clerks in the various departments of the government.

Mr. Bryns, of Tennessee—Of course, the gentleman is entirely familiar with the rules of House. As a matter of fact, the Committee on Appropriation, has absolutely no jurisdiction of legislation such as the gentleman has indicated.

Mr. Austin—There must be committees of this House that can frame such legislation, recommend it, and report it to the House.

Mr. Chairman, the minimum wage in the Ford automobile factory at Detroit is \$5 a day and the wages are from \$5 to \$10 a day. Here, in the conduct of the affairs of this government, where we require the highest and most accurate service, clerks who have spent half a century in the service are drawing \$1,200 and \$1,400 a year. I think we have reached the time in this country where we ought to have a readjustment, a reclassification, and an increase of salaries for the clerks in every class, especially the laborers, the watchmen, and the messengers. Some people in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, who work standing on their feet all day long operating machines, are paid \$1.75 a day, doing the most difficult and trying work, which impairs their health. They receive less than \$60 a month, yet we cannot find a way to remedy this condition, which it seems will continue until time shall be no more.

SLOANE OPENING TOMORROW.

New Home at 1508 H Street Ready for Rug Establishment.

W. & J. Sloane, of New York and Washington, will open to the public tomorrow morning their new establishment at 1508 H street northwest with a display of furniture and rugs seldom, if ever, equaled.

The moving from the old home of the concern was completed yesterday, and the firm's stock of floor covering has been distributed about the spacious floors of the new quarters. Furniture is a new departure for the Sloane company, but the third floor of the new building will be entirely devoted to that branch.

The main display room, which occupies the entire ground floor of the building, contains a big plate glass window running its entire length and a large vestibule with double doors. It is finished with a hardwood floor. The ceiling is supported on square white pillars that line each wall and carry heavy dropped girders.

Each floor constitutes a single room 28 by 111 feet. On the third floor is a large and varied collection of furniture. The main floor will be devoted to carpets, rugs and draperies.

ALL SURPRISED BY MILITIA LAW

Commissioners to Investigate Status of Regulation Providing Compulsory Service.

FORGOTTEN 27 YEARS

District Service Reorganized Since Law Cited By Brig. Gen. Harvey Was Passed.

The Commissioners probably will begin an investigation immediately to determine the status of the law making military service in the District compulsory for all able-bodied citizens between 18 and 45 years.

Brig. Gen. William E. Harvey, commander of the District National Guard, surprised the Commissioners and the entire city yesterday when he dug this law from the Congressional records of twenty-seven years ago and presented it to the Commissioners for information.

The law, which is part of the act organizing the militia, provides that the District assessors, in making their assessments, shall determine who is eligible for military service and compile a list of such persons which the Commissioners shall submit to the commander of the militia. It was for this list that Gen. Harvey wrote to the Commissioners. The list was not to be had, for no one but Gen. Harvey seemed to know of the existence of the law.

Might Use Police Census.

It was suggested last night by an official of the District that such a list might easily be obtained through the police census.

It was further pointed out that since 1889—when the law under discussion was enacted—the District National Guard has been reorganized at least once. It was regarded as possible that the investigation might show that the law referred to by Gen. Harvey is no longer in effect.

Although the law expressly states that these militiamen are to have no duty required of them, "except when called into the service of the United States," Gen. Harvey stated that militia encampments have been regarded as service tendered the United States, inasmuch as pay is drawn from the United States for the encampments.

The District militia is the only one that comes directly under the President, and it is subject to orders by the President just as a branch of the regular army.

Would Pay \$225,000 Interest.

Senator Chilton yesterday introduced a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to make interest payments totaling \$225,000 to former owners of land acquired by the United States for the extension of the Capitol grounds. The interest payments are to extend from the filing of the condemnation report of the court commissioners, January 29, 1913.

MRS. LANSING TO PRESIDE.

Will Assist at Closing of Y. W. C. A. Month-end Celebration.

Mrs. Robert Lansing, wife of the Secretary of State, will preside at the closing services of the month-end celebration of the Y. W. C. A. in the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Mrs. Wallace Radcliffe, wife of the pastor, will deliver the principal address.

The heads of the various committees will report, and the Y. W. C. A. Choral Club, headed by Mrs. Charles McRoberts, will furnish the music. The following members of the Sunday School Chorus will take part in the exercises: Misses Margaret Folling, Margaret Lerner, Florence Trainham, Mary Byers, Mary Bell, Dorothy Schaff, Marie Knapp, May Mountjoy, Florence Thiele, Catherine Tonge, Florence Keene, Blanche Allison, and Esther Scott.

LENTEN TALKS TO BE HELD AT RAUSCHER'S

Weekly Series Under Auspices of Associated Charities Will Begin Next Thursday.

A series of Lenten talks will be held at Rauscher's on Thursday mornings during Lent, beginning next week, under the auspices of the Associated Charities. The principal speakers will be Dr. Phyllander P. Claxton, director of the Bureau of Education; Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, John Alder, former field secretary of the National Housing Association; Prof. E. J. Ward, Bureau of Education, and others.

"Educational Ideals" will be the subject of the first lecture. Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, chairman, Washington section, Women's Department, National Civic Federation, will preside. Ernest L. Thurston, superintendent of schools, will open the discussion.

The last meeting will be held on April 12 and will be a social service symposium on the normal life or "How Can Our Community Ideals Become the Common Possession of All the Citizens of the District?"

To Address Banking Class.

Parker H. Willis, who will sail for the Philippines to become president of the Bank of the Philippines April 1, having been granted a leave of absence by the Federal Reserve Board, of which he is secretary, will address the post graduate class of the American Institute of Banking, at their local chapter rooms, 1214 F street northwest, tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock.

Oppose Longer Workday

The Washington Building Trades Council, yesterday in a public letter, announced their opposition to the one hour increase on government employes proposed by the Borland rider.

GOTHAM SLEUTHS ARREST WOMAN

Selma Pine Taken in Alexandria on New York False Pretense Charge.

POTOMAC KEEPS CHARTER

E. C. Davidson, of Richmond, to Address City Trades Council Tomorrow Night.

Alexandria, Va., March 4.—Charged with obtaining jewelry valued at \$24 under false pretenses from the store of R. H. Macy & Company, New York, a woman giving the name of Selma Pine, 21 years old, was taken in custody this afternoon in this city by New York detectives, and a man giving the name of Hal Pine, who was playing in a local theater, and whom the woman claims is her husband, according to the detectives, also was arrested.

According to the detectives, the woman broke down and confessed, and the detectives state that they recovered from Pine the articles alleged to have been obtained from the store, consisting of a diamond ring, a scarf pin and a vest watch chain.

The arrests were made by W. H. Wall, a special detective employed in Macy's, and Detective Sergeant William H. Murphy. The sleuths were accompanied to Alexandria by Miss Daisy Fitzpatrick and Miss Sadie King, clerks employed in Macy's, who identified the woman, Chief Goode and Sgt. Wilkinson accompanied the detectives when the arrests were made.

The detectives say that both have agreed to return to New York without requisition papers.

The detectives were armed with a New York warrant charging Selma Pollard with obtaining goods under false pretenses to the foregoing amount.

A meeting of the Alexandria Trades Council will be held Monday night, at which time E. C. Davidson, of Richmond, Va., will deliver an address. Members of the various crafts of the city are invited to be present.

The efforts on the part of a number of residents of Potomac, Alexandria County, to have the town's charter repealed, have proved futile, for the joint committee on cities and towns of the senate of the State legislature, to whom the matter

was referred, has reported against the measure and its report was adopted. Attorney Walter U. Varney, representing 40 per cent of qualified voters of the town, presented a petition to the legislature, signed by that number, requesting that its charter be not repealed.

The hustler's adult Bible class of the Methodist Protestant Sunday School will give a banquet in the Sunday school room next Tuesday night. Each member of the class has been invited to bring a guest. Frank Ball, Commonwealth's attorney of Alexandria County, a member of Mount Olivet Methodist Protestant School, of Ballston, Alexandria County, will deliver the principal address. There will also be other speakers. Roger C. Sullivan, president of the class, will, it is expected, be toastmaster.

The board of tax review of Alexandria County, composed of David N. Rust, jr., chairman; Walter T. Weaver, and Charles T. Jesse, will meet Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10 o'clock, at the county court house to hear complaints on the assessment of property.

Potomac Lodge of Odd Fellows, at a meeting Friday night elected A. J. Butcher representative and Norman L. Williams secretary to the Grand Lodge of Virginia, which will meet in Lynchburg next May.

In the Corporation Court today the suit of William T. Chantland against the Virginia Highways Association, incorporated, was recommitted to Keith Carlin, special commissioner, for report.

S. H. Muse, of Fayetteville, Tenn., whose leg was fractured at the Potomac Railroad yards February 24, is recovering rapidly at the hospital.

Jewish Women Organize.

The Women's Proclamation Day Committee of the Central Committee for the Relief of Jews Suffering Through the War, of which Mrs. Samuel Elkies is chairman, is taking steps to organize the Jewish women throughout the country. In addition to the central organization in New York, a committee has been formed in Washington, D. C.

To Promote Health

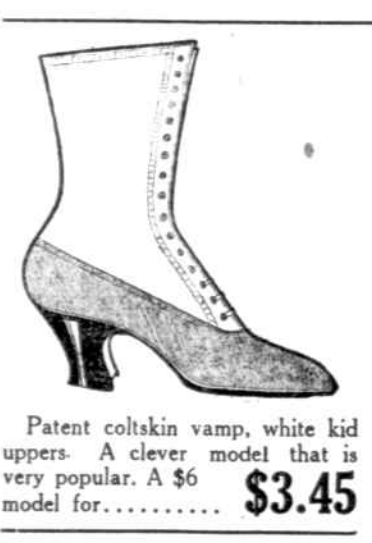
It is necessary to keep the Stomach strong and active, and in

HOSTETTER'S Stomach Bitters

you have a remedy that should help Nature correct any such weakness. Try it.

SPRING FOOTWEAR

The last word in styles is here at Hirsh's and at Hirsh's remarkably low prices.



Patent coltskin vamp, white kid uppers. A clever model that is very popular. A \$6 model for..... \$3.45



White Buckskin 9-inch Lace Boot. The most popular shoe of the season. Another \$6 or \$7 model at Hirsh's for..... \$3.45

Novelty Boots \$3.45

The \$5, \$6 and \$7 styles are here. The classy high-cut shoes that are hard to get. We've got them for you for \$3.45. Think of it! You'll find all the very latest models in



English last, White Buck Walking Boot. A clean cut, snappy, serviceable shoe with lots of style..... \$3.45

White Buck, Gray Kid, White Kid, Patent Colt, White Tops, Champagne



Gray Kid High-cut Boot; very dressy. A strong favorite this spring. A \$7 model \$3.45 for..... \$3.45

Clearance of Winter Ladies' Shoes..... \$1.65
Button, lace, blucher; tan, black, patent; cloth tops—every model that's left for \$1.65.

HIRSH'S SHOE STORES

11026-28 7th St. N.W. DET. R. & L.
Washington's Fastest Growing Shoe House

Satin Evening Slippers..... \$1.95
Pink, blue, white, black, and other shades.

Sigmunds' Suit and Hat Shop For Women, 736 7th St. N. W.

AN ADVANCE SEASON BARGAIN

Newest Model Spring Suits

Made to Sell For \$18

CHOICE TOMORROW, \$12.79



Choice of splendid grade guaranteed all-wool materials in all the latest shades for spring. Several very snappy models to pick from, and each style is distinctly smart. All sizes for misses and women.

Clean-Up Sale of LADIES' MUSLIN UNDERWEAR

A One-In-a-Year Event That Shrewd Buyers Will Be Quick to Take Advantage of

\$1.00 Crepe Gowns. Beautiful patterns; fine quality. They have been handled slightly; therefore..... 49c

29c Muslin Drawers, 18c
Beautiful embroidery patterns that will wash well; new stock.

Flesh Colored Nainsook Gowns, 89c
Rows of fine tucks or trimmed with delft blue French knots.

Combination Corset Covers and Drawers, 39c
Worth up to \$1.00.

50c Muslin Drawers. Discarded patterns, samples and slightly mused from being on display. 25c

50c SILK HOSE Black Only, 17c Pair

We guarantee these to be a regular 50c quality silk hose. Full fashioned, with seam up back. Very slight imperfections that will in no way impair the wearing qualities. Sizes are from 8 1/2 to 10. Black only.

Crepe De Chine Corset Covers, 49c
Flesh Crepe de Chine or China Silk; lace and embroidery trimmed; formerly \$1.00.

79c and 98c Petticoats
Full length muslin skirts of soft materials and pretty embroidery; a little soiled..... 49c

25c Corset Covers, 14c
Very neat and of exceptionally good materials.

\$1.00 Princess Slips to be closed out at 39c

39c Brassieres, 19c
Good quality; neat patterns; open front.

\$7.50 Silk Poplin Dresses \$4.89

Very pretty models of silk poplin dresses in the new spring shades. We ask you simply to see them and use your own judgment as to how big a bargain they are at the price.

SIGMUNDS' Suit and Hat Shop For Women 736 7th St. Look For The Green Tile Front