

FIREMEN PROTEST AGAINST PENSION GRAB MEASURE

Bill to Put 387 Telegraph Operators in Class of Uniformed Force Opposed.

Every member of the uniformed force of the Fire Department has signed a protest against a bill passed by the Legislature last Thursday which would, if approved by Mayor Gaynor and signed by the Governor, give 387 workers in the telegraph bureau the rank of firemen and entitle them to participation in the pension fund, which was founded for the sole benefit of uniformed firemen. Chief Kelen and Commissioner Johnson have endorsed the efforts of a committee of firemen, who will present to the Mayor arguments against the bill.

If the bill admitting the employees of the telegraph bureau into the ranks of the Fire Department uniformed force goes through, all other civilian employees, clerks, stenographers, bookkeepers, blacksmiths, painters and the like will endeavor to break in. Bills for that purpose have been introduced by Senator Freeway and other city legislators.

The bill, which is aimed to give the telegraph bureau employees rank in the uniformed force, was authored by Senator Christy Sullivan, who has several commitments in the bureau.

Citizens of New York have at various times subscribed \$100,000 to the pension fund of the Fire Department, with the understanding that it was to be used solely for the relief of injured or retired firemen or for the benefit of the families of firemen killed in the discharge of their duty. The pension fund has always been administered in the interests of the members of the uniformed force—the men who fight the fires. Hence, there is bitter opposition to the plan of the civilian employees to break into the uniformed ranks—not only because of the pension feature, but because the civilians would rank as firemen and ogle the eligible list of officers.

VETERINARY SURGEONS MADE DEPUTY CHIEFS.

For instance, the Legislature passed a law last winter giving two veterinary surgeons in the Fire Department the rank of Deputy Chief, with a Deputy Chief's salary of \$4,500 a year. These gentlemen, whose job is to look after

the horses of the department, are on the eligible list for promotion.

Downtown there is a Battalion Chief named Worth who has been fighting fire below Thirtieth street for more than twenty-five years. He is eligible for promotion to Deputy Chief, but the horse doctors were put on the list ahead of him and he cannot be promoted until death or retirement takes them out of the way.

In the case of the wireman or telegraph bureau employees the bill provides that they shall have all the benefits and rank of the uniformed force, but particularly exempts them from the duties of a uniformed fireman. They are to continue to work eight hours a day, Sundays and holidays off, at taking the telephone messages or registering alarms or keeping wires in repair, and enjoy the same rank and pension privileges as the fireman, who is on duty twenty-one hours out of twenty-four, with every fifth day off, but no holidays or Sundays.

The committee appointed by the uniformed force to look after their interests has prepared a statement, from which the following extracts are taken:

PROTEST OF THE UNIFORMED FIREMEN.

The bill fixes the salary of a telegraph operator at \$2,400 a year, which is the same as that of a first grade fireman. This means that telegraph operators are actually advocating the passage of a bill which will make their salaries \$100 a year less than at present. The fact is that the operators expect through the passage of this measure to come into the force as chief officers and to receive the salaries of captains and lieutenants. The average salary paid by the railroads to men whose work is similar to that of the telegraph operators is \$30 per month, and these men have a far greater responsibility placed upon them than the members of the telegraph bureau at fire headquarters. The true explanation of this situation is that the members of the telegraph bureau are using the Fire Department as a stepping stone to a better pension. As firemen they could retire in twenty years on half pay, but as civilians they must serve the city for thirty years before they could share in the pension fund established for civilians. The bill states that their term of service shall date from the time of their first entrance into the bureau, and there is a large number of them at the present time who, as firemen, could retire at once on half pay. Their reasons, therefore, for advocating the passage of this bill are patent: it is merely a grab at the Firemen's Pension Fund—a fund which was established solely for firemen. That this is a manifest injustice is evident from the comparison of the work of the members of the two departments as given above.

The conditions established by this bill are without parallel in city, State or nation, and would tend to demoralize the discipline and morale of the Fire Department. There is nothing similar in the police force or in the army and navy of the United States. The effect of joining together a body of civilians and a body of disciplined men is pernicious and destructive. It would discourage the younger men who are seeking promotion through the faithful discharge of duty, and would cause a mad scramble to get the best jobs with the same pay and greater privileges.

TRIBUTE TO VAN BAAR.

Some Musicians Render Impressive Service at Cathedral.

Musical greater volume than had reverberated through St. Patrick's Cathedral in many a day filled the edifice to-

day at the funeral services for Charles I. Van Baar, who died at his home, No. 102 West Fifty-seventh street, on Thursday. More than 200 musicians rendered a last tribute to the man who, as leader of the Old Guard Band and other noted organizations, had a high place among the city's musicians.

A band of 150 before the doors of the cathedral played Beethoven's "Funeral March" as the casket was being carried in. Hidden in the Lady Chapel was an orchestra of 50, led by Joseph Pasternack. During the solemn requiem mass, conducted by Mr. Lavelle, Fathers McGuire and Martin assisting, the hidden orchestra rendered Handel's "Largo" and Chopin's "Marche Funebre." Interment in Calvary Cemetery followed.

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Now is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as the prescription ointment—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots.

Simply get an ounce of ethio-double strength—from Riker-Hegeman Drug Store and apply a little of it at night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than an ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful, clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength ointment, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.

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Broadway at 34th Street

Tomorrow, Tuesday, April 29th,

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Women's "Tango" Dancing Dresses

value \$45... at \$26.50

Made of white shadow lace, and draped and trimmed with charmeuse in light blue, pink, maize, white, peach and Nile green. All sizes.

Regular and Small Sizes—Fourth floor

\$3 Lingerie Blouses tomorrow at \$2

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Price alone never made a blouse distinctive any more than color ever made a picture great. It is the blouse shop itself which determines the character of its merchandise. And it is this which is responsible for our ability to show distinctive blouses at so low a price as two dollars. The styles in this offering are numerous, and the designs much more attractive than one usually finds at this figure.

There are combinations of net and batiste embroidery, voile blouses with diamond embroidery; semi-tailored blouses with yoke back; blouses of hemstitched cotton crepe; sheer lawn blouses with colored embroidery and flat Val. lace insertion; sheer batiste blouses with yoke of medallion fillet lace and embroidered front, and many others. A feature of these dainty blouses is that all have double collars—some of them a combination of self material and rose, blue or amber colored satin. All have ¾ sleeves. Great value. Main floor

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Women's Lisle and Cotton Hose, Lisle in black, white and tan; also Cotton, in black with double tops, soles and heels, Value 35¢ Pair, at 25¢

Women's Lisle Thread Hose, Summer weight, in black, white and tan, with serviceable tops, soles and heels, Value 65¢ Pair, at 38¢

Women's Silk Hose, in black, white and tan, with double lisle tops, soles and heels, Value \$1.00 Pair, at 68¢

Women's Black Silk Hose, with silk or cotton feet, Value \$1.35 Pair, at 93¢

Children's Lisle and Cotton Hose, fine ribbed, in black, white and tan, Value 35¢ Pair, at 22¢ Six Pairs \$1.25

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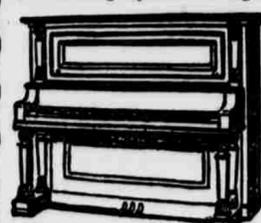
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This sale will be held ALL THIS WEEK—FORTY BARGAINS FOR EACH DAY—beginning tomorrow, TUESDAY, APRIL 29th.

We particularly call your attention to the fact that, any day this week,

\$100.00 Will Buy an excellent, fully guaranteed, upright piano of standard make and these same \$100.00 pianos may be purchased on the very generous terms of

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Any piano you select you may use for a whole year—and if at the end of that time you are not MORE than satisfied—we will allow every dollar paid to apply on any new piano or player-piano in our warehouses. That's fair—isn't it?

For Tomorrow, Tuesday Among the 40 bargains will be:
1 Hardman Upright.....\$100
1 Weber Upright..... 100
1 Shoninger Upright..... 100
1 Fischer Upright..... 100
and 36 others.

For Wednesday
1 Kranich & Bach Upright.....\$100
1 Mason & Hamlin Upright..... 100
1 Opera Upright..... 100
1 Chickering Upright..... 100
and 36 others.

For Thursday
1 Steinway Upright.....\$100
1 Wisner Upright..... 100
1 Haselton Upright..... 100
1 Gable Upright..... 100
and 36 others.

For Friday
1 Hallet & Davis Upright.....\$100
1 Krakauer Upright..... 100
1 Kroeger Upright..... 100
1 Haines Bros. Upright..... 100
and 36 others.

For Saturday
1 Chickering Upright.....\$100
1 Estey Upright..... 100
1 Kurtzman Upright..... 100
1 Emerson Upright..... 100
and 36 others.

For Saturday
1 Royal Player-Piano.....\$250
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