

BUILDING LAWS INVALID, SAYS COURT RULING

Violators Punished Wrongfully for Years, Judge Pugh Decides.

COMMISSIONERS LACK POWER OF ENFORCEMENT

Jurist Thanks Lawyers for Raising Point Against Regulations in Force Since 1870.

That no fine can be imposed for violations of the building regulations of the District, which have been in force ever since 1870, was a question raised by Attorneys Robert I. Miller and George C. Gertman in the District branch of the Police Court today, which caused a mild sensation among the legal fraternity and District officials.

Judge Pugh, following preliminary argument in the case, practically ruled that the Commissioners have no power in the building regulations made by Congress, to impose penalties.

In Force For Years. Although the regulations have been in force for years, nearly every week finding several persons convicted and fined for violating them, not until today was the issue raised that the imposition of penalties was not within the power of the Commissioners.

It was during the trial of the case of the District vs. Francis H. Javins that the question was raised. Javins is charged with altering a plan in violation of the regulations that he did so without a permit. Attorneys Gertman and Miller began to argue the invalidity of the penalty clause of the regulations as soon as the trial of the case began.

Justice Thanks Lawyers. "You gentlemen certainly are to be thanked for raising this question," the court said to the lawyers for the defendant. "This lack of a penalty provision by Congress, the power of the Commissioners to impose a penalty when not given the power by Congress has worried me often during my years on the bench. And strange to tell today has the issue been raised."

Assistant Corporation Council Williams argued that the power to impose penalties was implied by Congress when passing the bill giving the local government the power to make the regulations. "Thompson Judge Pugh cited the 'Seat Tax Case,' where the Commissioners were empowered by Congress to make and enforce the seat tax on automobiles. The text of the law showed that Congress had given no power for the Commissioners to impose penalties for violations of the District rules in the 'seat tax case' that unless Congress specifically empowers the Commissioners to impose a penalty for violations of the regulations which they are empowered to make Congress will have to pass a law immediately giving the Commissioners the power to enforce the building regulations or the regulations will be as good as invalid in toto."

Roosevelt Supporter Is White House Visitor

Former Governor Osborne, of Michigan, who was a supporter of Theodore Roosevelt during the last campaign, and who still retains his devotion to the Roosevelt principles, called at the White House today to pay his respects to President Taft. He had not seen President Taft since the latter was his guest in Detroit in 1911. "I like Taft," said Governor Osborne, after the conference. "I have great personal regard for him."

WEATHER REPORT.

FORECAST FOR THE DISTRICT. Generally cloudy with snow or rain tonight or Wednesday; temperature tonight about freezing.

TEMPERATURES.	
U. S. BUREAU.	AFFLECK'S.
8 a. m. 29	8 a. m. 28
10 a. m. 30	10 a. m. 29
12 noon. 31	12 noon. 30
2 p. m. 32	2 p. m. 31
4 p. m. 33	4 p. m. 32
6 p. m. 34	6 p. m. 33
8 p. m. 35	8 p. m. 34
10 p. m. 36	10 p. m. 35
12 m. 37	12 m. 36
2 a. m. 38	2 a. m. 37
4 a. m. 39	4 a. m. 38
6 a. m. 40	6 a. m. 39

TIDE TABLE.
High tides, 4:25 a. m. and 12:51 p. m.
Low tides, 11:35 a. m. and 7:31 p. m.
SUN TABLE.
Sun rises..... 7:19 | Sun sets..... 5:24

KILLS HIMSELF WHEN HE FINDS SIGHT IS GOING

Stenographer, Out of Work and Penniless, Turns on Gas and Dies.

NAME SAID TO BE WILSON OR WILLIAMS

Half Blind From Cataracts, He Is Thought to Have Been Despondent.

In despair because he was going blind, was unable to work and penniless, C. S. Wilson, or C. L. Williams, about fifty years old, who described himself as a stenographer, committed suicide in the rooming house kept by Miss Mary Knighton, at 220 North Capitol street, by asphyxiation.

The body was discovered at 10 o'clock today when a colored maid went to clean up the room. Coroner Nevitt viewed the body and ordered that it be taken to the morgue to await the action of friends or relatives.

Out of Work and Blind. Mrs. Knighton said today she knew nothing of the man beyond the fact that he gave his name as either Wilson or Williams, and said he was a stenographer. He came to the house last Friday, saying that he was going to move and wanted a room for a few days while looking for another apartment.

Heater Jet Turned On. When the maid discovered the body she found the heater jet was turned wide open and the upper half of the house was reeking with gas. There were no other occupants on the floor at the top of the house on which the dead man's room was and no notice was taken of the fumes of gas until the body was discovered.

Hold Body for Relatives. A Gospel Mission dispensary card made out by C. L. Williams was found in a pocket of the dead man's vest, but no one there knew anything beyond that he had been treated for cataracts on both eyes. The clothes found in the room were shabby and cheap and no money was found either in the pockets or in the room.

TURKS WILL NOT YIELD ADRIANOPOLE

Decision Will Probably Be Official Reply of Turkey to the Great Powers.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 28.—The council of the Committee of Union and Progress (Young Turks) today voted unanimously to refuse to give up Adrianople and the Aegean Islands to the Balkan allies.

The Young Turks are the backers of Enver Bey, the dictator of the revolutionary government and it is regarded as probable that their decision will be the official reply of Turkey to the great powers. The national assembly and the sublime Porte are expected to follow their action.

Envoy's Relative Sued by His Wife

Albert Volck, son of Mme. Du Gama, wife of the Brazilian ambassador to the United States, is accused in affidavits submitted to Justice Amend, of New York city, of trying to force his wife to divorce him to enable him to marry Miss May Allen, an actress, to whom it is alleged, he was engaged before he married his present wife.

DICTIONATION OF INGHAM DENIED BY EXAMINER

Insurance Probe Answer Not Outlined by Superintendent, Is Testimony.

HALL TELLS COMMITTEE OF OVERHAULING BOOKS

Reports Were Written in Ordinary Way, Declares Witness to Congressmen.

After hearing much testimony concerning real estate values, the appraisal and rental of the Southern building, underwriting contracts, and agents' commissions, the House District Committee today turned its attention to that particular feature of the insurance investigation which concerns the department of the Superintendent of Insurance.

William S. Hall, a statistician and examiner in the office of Superintendent George W. Ingham, was on the witness stand and was subjected to a long examination regarding the preparation of the reports on the First National and Commercial Companies—a document which has figured throughout the entire investigation.

Denies Dictation. Mr. Hall testified that the reports on the two companies were made in the ordinary way, and he denied that Mr. Ingham had attempted to dictate their substance in any way.

Helped Other Examiners. Mr. Hall said he finished his examination of the books of the First National and then aided Mr. Curry with the Commercial. "The First National had just started in business," said Mr. Hall, "and the Commercial had increased its capital stock. It is customary to make an examination of a company which does this, and the companies file with us a certified copy of the acts of the stockholders and directors."

Justice Bitterly Criticizes Courts. Mr. Hall said he had nothing to do with the Southern building appraisal, except to check over the figures. Mr. TheCurry, he said, had written the narrative part of the Commercial report, and they had discussed it as they went along.

New York Jurist Surprises College Alumni With Ultra Progressive Speech. TROY, N. Y., Jan. 28.—Not in many years have legal circles been as exercised as they are today, following Justice Wesley O. Howard's bitter attack on the "do-nothing" policy of the bench.

Democrats to Plan Garb for Inaugural

At a meeting of the Young Men's Democratic Club, of which J. Fred Kelly is chairman, tonight, preparations for the inauguration will be discussed, and the committees will report on the style of uniform to be worn in the parade. The meeting will be held at 56 Pennsylvania avenue, northwest.

Ship Traffic Hurt By Pilots' Strike

CHRISTIANA, Jan. 28.—Steamship traffic between Scandinavian ports and Bergen has been badly crippled by a strike of pilots, who are demanding higher wages and shorter hours. The employers today refused to discuss the trouble with the men.

Bolo Men Kill One; Wound Six Americans

MANILA, Jan. 28.—One man was killed and six wounded on the American side, in further fighting reported today from near Jolo, between Americans and Moros. Two troops of United States Cavalry and a detachment of native constabulary were attacked by bolo men. The Moros were beaten off.

Best High School Marksmen in the District



Business High School Rifle Team. Left to Right—Front Row—Cadepts Johnson, Struble, Eaton, McAllen, Derrick, and Captain Allen. Back Row—Cadepts Nash, Seltman, Joe Finkel (faculty adviser), Hutterly, and Keene.

SCHOOL RIFLEMEN ARE GIVEN AWARDS

Business High Marksmen Get Nearly All Prizes—Martin Lead Individual Contest.

Cups and medals galore were awarded members of the High School Regiment at Business High School today, students of the five white high schools sharing in the honors, although Business High marksmen captured nearly all the trophies except the highest aggregate individual score, which was made by a Central High student, Francis Martin.

Martin won the Secretary of War cup in the recent shoot, and Secretary Stinson was present in person today to give his cup, which Martin will have to win once more to retain permanently.

A. F. Eaton, of Business High, and S. Struble, of the same school, came next to Martin in individual honors, the former winning the General Oliver medal, given by the Assistant Secretary of War, and Struble capturing the Chamber of Commerce medal. National Rifle association medals for club champions went to Cadepts Struble, of Business High; Martin, of Central; Wick, of McKinley, and Eagan, of Western.

Junior marksmen medals were awarded Cadepts Derrick, Eaton, Keene, Seltman and Struble, all of Western; Cadepts Babcock, Perkins, and Sellers, Central High; Arnold and Watkins, Eastern; Dick, Gerber, Given and Hough, Western High; Baker and Cagan, of Western High. The silver cup given by W. B. Hibbs for the inter-company match, went to Company F, of Eastern, the team receiving the cup this morning being Cadepts Atkins, Arnold, Clark, and Davis.

The National Rifle Association gave a cup to the Business High team winning the inter-club match. This team is composed of Cadepts Struble, Eaton, Derrick and Keene.

Business High boys also captured the Du Pont silver cup for the inter-school match. The same cadets and Seltman and McAleer composed this team.

Superintendent Davidson presided at the exercises today. Mr. Stinson spoke briefly and departed. For the Rifle association, C. J. Schwartz, also representing Eastern High, spoke. Joseph Finkel spoke for Central, and Joseph Wilson for Business High. Principal Struble made a short speech in behalf of McKinley Manual. Ernest H. Daniel represented the Board of Education.

DALLAS, Jan. 28.—Federal Judge E. R. Meek today mailed to New York warrants for the arrest of three Standard Oil officials. He announced that if any difficulty is encountered in making the arrests, he will send officers after the men, who are wanted in the United States district court here.

To his comment regarding Attorney General Wickersham's action in not ordering the arrest of the three men on warrants from his court, Judge Meek today said an explanation of his criticism, adding that he did not believe Wickersham fully understood the nature of the case.

The three men charged with violating the Sherman anti-trust law in Texas are John D. Archbold, H. C. Fogler, Jr., and W. C. Teagle. Meeting Planned. A meeting of the Brightwood Citizens' Association will be held in Van Horn Hall, Georgia avenue and Longfellow street, tomorrow night at 8 o'clock.

LEGISLATURES REFUSE TO FURNISH FUNDS FOR INAUIGATION TROOPS

Democratic Economy of Many State Assemblies in Blocking Appropriations for Sending Militias to Washington, Promises to Decrease Attendance of Citizen Soldiers.

SOME ORGANIZATIONS PLAN TO RAISE OWN FUNDS AND TAKE PART IN PARADE

Democratic economy in State legislatures may decrease the militia attendance at the inauguration exercises. Word comes to the public comfort committee headquarters that many of the legislatures are blocking appropriations for sending troops to Washington and quartering them here.

Militia organizations write that they want to come for the inauguration, but that at present they are deterred from making any plans by reason of legislative opposition. In many cases the militiamen are taking steps to raise funds among citizens of their communities, in order that they may make a good showing at the first Democratic inauguration of many years.

Procrastination is likewise hindering the work of the public comfort committee. Few applications for quarters have been received recently, and the committee considers this merely a part of a program of delay. At the inauguration, there are prospects of the committee's being swamped by requests, for there have been thousands of preliminary applications. The committee is desirous of getting its quartering arrangements made as early as possible, so that there may be no overcrowding at the last minute.

"Booster" Train Coming. Chairman R. N. Harper, of the civic organizations committee, announced this afternoon that the Chevy Chase Hunt Club will join the hunters' section of the inaugural parade, in which there will be probably 100 riders. A "booster" train from Tulsa, Okla., and a large delegation of the Moose Green Club, of Kentucky will be features of the inaugural. The last named club is planning to hold open house during its stay here.

Prices on the Lafayette Square stands, under direct control of the inaugural committee, will be \$5, \$4, and \$2. Stands on the Avenue will undoubtedly be quite a little cheaper. The committee on street decorations is sending out today the following letter, urging citizens to assist in carrying out an elaborate decorative scheme throughout the city:

Green and White Decorations. The committee on street decorations has decided to use green and white as the predominant colors for decoration of review stands and houses along the line of the parade to be held on March 4, 1913, on the occasion of the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson as President of the United States of America, and earnestly request your co-operation in carrying out this color scheme, as it is important to have as harmonious and attractive a display as possible. The use of green shrubbery or leaves is strongly recommended in this connection, and wherever the American flag is displayed it is preferable to have it on a staff free to the wind.

If there are other occupants of your building you will kindly communicate this request to them. Any suggestions or further information desired will be cheerfully furnished by applying to the office of the committee, Murphy & Otishead, 1415 H street northwest.

The merchants of Washington have been requested to have a plentiful supply of green and white materials on hand. C. W. de Lyon Nichols of New York. (Continued on Second Page.)

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Jan. 28.—The court of appeals heard argument today in the bitterly contested effort of Isaac A. Emerson, of Baltimore, the bromo seltzer king and owner of the Emerson distillery, to obtain the rescinding of the order of the court requiring him to pay heavy alimony to his former wife, now the wife of C. Hazeltine Basshor.

At the time a divorce was granted the wife, it was agreed that a large amount of property should be turned over to her, and that she should be paid \$2,800 annually, in equal monthly installments.

Upon the marriage of Mrs. Emerson Mr. Emerson promised to the court to rescind its order as to alimony. Mrs. Emerson won the first brush in the lower court, and the matter is now being contested in the highest court of the State. The court has reserved its decision.

SPEND THE LENTEN SEASON IN THE SOUTH. Make your plans now. Splendid resorts at Asheville, The Land of the Sky, Aiken, Augusta, Columbia, Charleston, Savannah, Brunswick, Florida, Nassau, Cuba, New Orleans, Southern Railway electric-lighted Pullmans, Superior roadways and service. 1406 New York ave. n.w. —Adv't.

IN CONGRESS TODAY. SENATE. Senate met at noon. After routine morning business, Senate goes into executive session over conferees.

Republican Senators in caucus determine to move daily executive sessions and try to force confirmations. Electoral messenger from Arizona, Wilfred T. Webb, located in New York. HOUSE. Met at 11 o'clock for a quorum, debate resumed on river and harbor bill. Insurance investigation resumed. Turf hearings continued. Currency reform hearings continued.