

WOULD OUST U.S. DEADWOOD

Strict Enforcement of Civil Service Urged to Promote Efficiency of Workers.

Memo for the early elimination of the inefficient Government employee, and the offering of a promising career for the efficient, through the stricter enforcement of the civil service rule to the probationary period by the automatic promotion of those retained as proficient and by subsequent periodic promotions, was recommended to the Congressional joint commission on reclassification of salaries this morning by a representative committee of the personnel service.

It was declared that efficiency alone should be the basis for advancement, and it was recommended that such efficiency could be raised to a higher standard by encouraging a course of study.

"The Government employee should be made to feel that his work offers a career, and that through study and closer application he will rise and be rewarded accordingly," said L. F. Allen, office manager of the War Department, who was chairman and spokesman for the committee.

Favoritism Denied.

Lump sum appropriations, as tending toward greater economy and a more thorough working organization, were favored. Commissioner Cooper inquired whether there was not some cause for complaint with employees about favoritism where lump sum appropriations were dealt out at the discretion of bureau chiefs.

It was said that no such complaints had come to the attention of the individual members of the committee, who in arguing for lump sum appropriations pointed out that they would give a freer hand in taking care of the deserving employee through promotion to a higher position and salary.

Mr. Cooper explained that the reclassification would take care of this by setting salaries for the various grades of positions, and that when an employee was promoted he would automatically receive the increased compensation which his new duties called for. He added that he believed it would be more gratifying to the employee to feel that his compensation in this manner was fixed by Congress rather than through the unscrutinized compensation than the general service clerk.

Personnel Service.

The committee asked that the personnel service should, because of its responsibilities, be considered as a higher grade and hence entitled to a greater compensation than the general service clerk.

M. J. McAuliffe, chief of division, Civil Service Commission, was secretary of the committee, and the other members were: Edward Egan, Hugh J. McGrath, John Harvey, R. S. Regan, P. L. Goldman, Clifford Hastings, P. F. Allen, Dr. L. H. Waring, John B. Switzer, C. Johnston, C. Starr, E. J. Skidmore, E. E. Weiss, Samuel K. Murphy, James J. Taylor, Mrs. H. E. Wheeler, B. W. Kuntler, R. S. Gellbart and D. E. Gargus.

E. W. Kuntler, chairman of the Civil Service Commission, presented a separate brief for the personnel service of the Civil Service Commission.

Specifications Agree.

Both briefs of the personnel service declared that the specifications they had worked out agree, with few exceptions, with those of the Reclassification Commission. Commissioner Hamilton remarked that it was gratifying to the commission to note that the specifications prepared from two different sources should be similar, and that it bore evidence of their accuracy.

"The commercial accountant errs and his firm pays. The scientist errs and his employer loses. If any member of this financial group errs he personally bears the loss. We maintain that he should be rated as technical and paid accordingly," summed up the brief presented to the commission by the accounting, bookkeeping and auditing service.

Insurance Accuracy.

"The governmental accountant in many instances insures the accuracy and sufficiency of all fiscal papers approved by him. These instances his liability is that of an insurer of negotiable paper, and furthermore, he is responsible for the adjustment through collection or the submission of additional evidence of all amounts to which exceptions are taken by departmental auditors.

"The commercial accountant is not an insurer, yet he receives from \$5,000 to \$20,000 per year for his work. The governmental accountant asks that the technical and fiduciary character of his work be recognized. He bases his worth on the technical requirements of his profession and on the financial responsibility he assumes," the brief declared.

Speakers for the committee were: E. Wittberger, Donald B. McLeod, and Monie Sanger.

TOO POOR TO BURY BABY, MOTHER'S NOTE ON BODY

"My child died and I am too poor to bury it."

This was a message found by the police of the Second precinct yesterday on the body of a male infant about seven months old, which was found, wrapped in a blanket, at Fifth and K streets northwest.

The note was signed "Broken-hearted Mother." The note was pinned to the body of the infant. The death of the baby was found to have been due to natural causes.

Police are endeavoring to find the mother of the infant.

Internal Revenue Bureau Warns Taxpayers Against Daring Fake Collectors

The Internal Revenue Bureau today warned the public to watch out for fake tax collectors.

One of the fake collector's schemes is to sell a taxpayer a book, with directions to fill it out and make his returns to a fake bureau.

Alleged credentials are printed on a letterhead of the Income Tax Bureau in Washington and bear an impressive gold seal.

MAKES ATTACK ON MORMONS

Presbyterian Ministers Hear Dr. R. N. Stevenson Urge Fight on Utah Church.

Denouncing the Mormon Church and its followers as a distinct menace to the welfare of the nation, Dr. R. N. Stevenson, formerly president of the Westminster College, in Salt Lake City, Utah, addressed members of the Presbyterian Ministers' Association of the District of Columbia this morning.

Asserting that the Mormon Church leaders are exercising their power over business and political life, using the business man and the politician to further their desires, Dr. Stevenson said that it was high time for the churches of America to band themselves together and stamp out Mormonism.

Dr. Stevenson made no direct charge that polygamy was being practiced in Utah, but intimated that an investigation by the Government might reveal some startling disclosures.

Have Met President.

"Prominent men in the Government—leaders in the Senate and in the Government departments—have met formally and socially the president of the Mormon Church.

"The opportunity for Mormon propaganda on the floor of the United States Senate has been permitted while the same privilege would be denied ministers of any evangelical church.

"The President of the Mormon church comes to Washington and is escorted from one department to another, and even in the Capitol he is received as few, if any, other church leaders are received. It would seem that everyone wished to curry his favor."

Spread Propaganda.

President Grant, of the Mormon Church, was a visitor in Washington early in November, and at that time was the guest of honor at several formal functions given by Senators Smoot and King of Utah. In his reference to Mormon propaganda on the floor of the Senate Dr. Stevenson was referring to a protest made some weeks ago by United States Senator Reed Smoot against the attacks made on the Mormon Church by professional lecturers who were profiting by their attacks which he characterized as libelous. Senators Ashurst, Henderson and Thomas all joined in this protest.

The Rev. W. R. McElroy, of Falls Church, Va., also spoke at the meeting. Another meeting is to be held two weeks from today.



Santa Claus Gives Sugar to Pair of Senators

Members of Congress Given Five Pounds Each as Present by Louisiana Delegation.

SANTA HANDS OUT SUGAR AT CAPITOL

There isn't going to be a shortage of sugar in Congressional cupboards. From California each Christmas Congress is usually flooded with oranges. Maple sugar from Vermont and New Hampshire always finds a way to each Congressional office. But this year real Louisiana sugar, which simply can't be found at most groceries is being distributed among members of Congress will be acceptable gifts to every Congressman's wife.

Bachelor members are prepared to be besieged with urgent appeals. Because of the zone system that regulated the distribution of sugar last year, Congress had to do without its annual Christmas package from Louisiana, but Congress attended to that this year.

The zone system was cut out of the sugar control bill. Consequently the Louisiana delegation got on the job, and there's going to be plenty of sugar for Congressional wives.

Join Our 1920 CHRISTMAS Savings Club

On Which We Pay 2% Interest

Washington Savings Bank.

10th St. & Grant Place N.W.

Hewers of Christmas Greenery And Throngs Out Shopping Mark Approach of Holiday

Streets Are Filled With Gay Purchasers, While Churches, Schools, and Societies Plan Programs to Bring Happiness to All.

With a comfortable measure of prosperity, typical Christmas weather and the presence of thousands of men and many women who last year were awaiting return from overseas service, Washington is starting early in its celebration of its first real post-war Christmas.

Everybody seems to have been on tiptoe for the event, for Christmas shopping, Christmas mailing and shipping and Christmas giving have begun earlier than any previous year in the memory of those who have handled the rush.

Celebrations Start.

Christmas celebrations started today with parties for children who are being cared for by clubs and associations.

They were anticipated by excursions of hundreds of automobilists to the woods of Maryland and Virginia for Christmas greens and holly.

Weather Bureau officials think that the weather will continue crisp enough to preserve some of the snow, which gives the season a particular holiday touch.

Special Christmas programs have been arranged in scores of schools and churches.

In the Catholic churches the usual midnight mass will herald the beginning of the day. Churches will be magnificently decorated and special music will be rendered by the church choirs.

Shopping crowds have thronged the stores for more than a week.

Business Is Heavy.

At the Postoffice it was stated this morning that the peak of the Christmas business appeared to have been passed. Business to date is 20 per cent heavier than that of the same period last year.

Three hundred extra employees are handling the mail, and this morning the boards were reported clear, the temporary reduction of railroad trains having been remedied so as to give prompt clearance.

At the American Railway Express office it was reported that the platform forms are clear in spite of greatly increased business.

Washington people who were not doing up packages and addressing Christmas messages yesterday were in search of Christmas greens and holly. Hundreds of automobiles carried amateur woodmen beyond the District line into Maryland and across the river into Virginia. The old

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MARRIES WAR WORKER; ARRESTED FOR BIGAMY

Four Other Charges Placed Against E. B. Tupper, Held by the District Police.

With charges of false pretenses, forgery, petit larceny and bigamy against him, Earl Benjamin Tupper, giving his home address as Mason City, Iowa, is under arrest today at the Sixth precinct police station.

Tupper is alleged, was married to a girl at Barboursville, Va., last May and on last Tuesday he was married to Cecelia Doherty, of South Dakota, a resident at the Plaza dormitories, by the Rev. W. A. Cahill, of St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

According to Detective Harry K. Wilson, of the Sixth precinct, Tupper when arrested had letters alleged to have been signed by Senators Lenroot, Kenyon, Sterling, La Follette, and others recommending him for employment. The signatures on the letters have not been verified by the police.

The names of "E. B. Smith," "Lieut. F. B. Lewis" and "John R. Ray" were also used by Tupper, Detective Wilson declares. So far as the police can learn, the checks which Tupper is alleged to have passed were for \$10, with one exception, that being a check for \$25, the police say.

Detective Wilson said this morning that Tupper was given work about two weeks ago by Prof. Marcus LaMar, at 1220 G street northwest, where he obtained LaMar's bank and check book. He made an unsuccessful effort to cash a check for \$200, to which Prof. LaMar's name had been signed, the police assert.

The check was sent to a bank by messenger, it is charged, but the bank did not cash the check.

The matrimonial career of Tupper began six years ago, the police say, when he married a girl in his home town. Two years after his marriage he enlisted in the army. According to the police information, it was last May that he married the girl in Barboursville, Va.

He later went to Baltimore and then to this city, Tupper will be given a hearing in Police Court tomorrow.

FEDERATION OF WOMEN PLANS DOMESTIC DRIVE

Questions Affecting Home Will Be Objective of Campaign Outlined at Meeting.

The high cost of living, the servant question, and other features of the domestic problem are to be the target of a joint drive by the District Federation of Women's clubs and the Housekeepers' Alliance, according to plans mapped out by Mrs. Grace C. Hopkins, chairman of the committee on industrial and social problems, at the monthly meeting of the Federation today in the hotel Lafayette.

A final appeal for retirement legislation in behalf of Government clerks was made by Mrs. Court F. Wood, chairman of the committee on legislation, while Mrs. C. E. Stoddard told of the Federation's work in furnishing clothing to the poor and needy.

All of the clubs comprising the District Federation were urged to speed up and expand their work before the national meeting next June in St. Louis, because there is danger that the national headquarters may be transferred from Washington to some middle western city unless the District makes an aggressive showing.

Mrs. Howard T. Hodgkins presided at the meeting, which was called for the purpose of closing up the year's work.

CHILD'S RIGHTS FIRST, SAYS MISS ANNE MARTIN

"The rights of the child should be considered first," said Miss Anne Martin recently, woman candidate for United States Senator from Nevada and writer on social topics. "In this case the parents are making a sacrifice for the welfare of the child. It is vitally important that a child should be given a right start in life and opportunity for happiness. If the parents are economically unable to give it the opportunities it should have, it is better for the welfare of the child that foster-parents, able to provide properly for it, should have it."

W. R. & E. RE-ROUTING PLAN EXPERIMENT

The re-routing plan of the Public Utilities Commission for the lines of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, which will be announced shortly, it was learned today.

This plan, which probably will go into operation on the 1st of January, will afford better car service.

An additional conference was called last week, and it necessitated a delay in announcing plans for re-routing.

ANNOYING PLAN OF BURNS.

As the result of burns about the face and body, when her clothing caught fire on December 19, Carl D. Wallace, colored, eighteen years old, of 61 Boston street northeast, died yesterday.

TURKEY PRICES SOAR AND SUPPLY IS SMALL

Fresh Birds From Farm May Sell at 65 Cents a Pound Tomorrow.

With Christmas only two days away, Washington is facing a turkey famine, and, worse still, prices are soaring. In some quarters it was predicted fresh farm turkeys would be selling at 58 to 65 cents a pound before Christmas.

The price for the festive bird was taken up right where it left off at Thanksgiving time. In the farming districts today turkeys are selling at 48 and 50 cents a pound. In the markets, the prices, generally speaking, are around the 56-cent mark, with 2-cent variations either way. Cold storage birds were selling at 50 cents to 54 cents, and, although not offered, it was stated that some dealers are demanding as high as 65 cents for cold storage stock.

Dealers at the Center Market say there has been the same big demand for turkeys this Christmas as during Thanksgiving time. Few Washington homes probably will be without a Christmas turkey, if the supply holds out—but there is every evidence that the supply will be greatly diminished before this night a substantial increase in the price is expected tomorrow.

HELD FOR TRUNK ROBBERY.

Charged with the theft of \$150 from David Carmichael, 1717 Ninth street, Edward Christian and John De Shields, both colored, were held in \$500 bail for the action of the grand jury by Judge McMahon in Police Court this morning.

It was charged that the two men, who were boarding at Carmichael's home, took the money from the trunk in his room.

Now is the time, Good Fellows, to register in the joy-giving band that is to take happiness to the poor kid on Christmas.

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