

COUNCILMEN TURN TO FIREMEN'S SIDE

Pressure of Public Opinion for Better Conditions Felt by Finance Committee

FAVOR RECOGNITION SOON

Allotment of Money From Sinking Fund May Solve Problem of Pay

Pressure brought to bear on the members of Council's Finance Committee in behalf of the firemen of Philadelphia is beginning to affect those Councilmen favorably to the fire-fighters' campaign to an extent that presages endorsement of their request for a more equitable salary scale and better working conditions.

This growing sentiment among Councilmen to render the firemen a recognition which, if tardy, will absolve the city of further criticism for failure to recognize these guardians of its householders and their property, is contained in a statement made today by I. Walter Thompson, Common Councilman from the Forty-sixth Ward.

"I have talked with Chairman Gaffney, as well as virtually every member of the Finance Committee," said Mr. Thompson, "and to mention numerous members of both chambers at large. While I do not think it would be fair at this time for me to mention names, I can say that I have been assured by a prominent and influential member of the Finance Committee that he and his colleagues are not only friendly to the cause of firemen, but in a few weeks they hope to be in a position to take up the matter on the floor of Councils."

WAIT ON SINKING FUND

"Just now, I am given to understand, the question of the amount to be appropriated to the Sinking Fund is the only obstacle to be disposed of. The Finance Committee member I refer to is well informed in the doings and intentions of that all-powerful element of Councils. According to him, there is a prospect that some \$50,000 now allotted to the Sinking Fund will become available for general appropriation. The exact amount will be known by the second regular meeting in the present month. Should this calculation prove correct, it is the intention of my informant and his colleagues, he tells me, to devote a portion of it to the men of the Bureau of Fire. Less than half of the amount I have named would be sufficient to provide them not only with the salary increase they are asking for, but would also make provision for the appointment of enough additional hose and ladder men to make it possible to grant the men in the service one day off in every four instead of every seventh day as at present."

"Speaking for myself, I am heartily with the firemen and the justice of their cause, and so are my colleagues from the Forty-sixth Ward. We represent a community of citizens who for the most part own their own homes, and I know the sentiment in the section of West Philadelphia wherein I live is strongly of opinion that the Bureau of Fire is not only underpaid and overworked, but underequipped and poorly equipped. Conversation among my associates in Councils has convinced me that this opinion is held by Councilmen from other wards and that a change for the better cannot be made any too soon. It is not a question of expense, in my estimation, it is a simple matter of necessary protection to the property owner and occupant, while to the fireman it is only a matter of fairness that he should receive a compensation equal to that given by cities of the same rank as Philadelphia. There is no fire department that I know of, and I have personally investigated conditions in other cities, that renders service as efficient as that of Philadelphia, yet at the same time I am forced to acknowledge that there is no city in America of the first or second class except Philadelphia that rewards that service so poorly."

"In my conversations with my fellow Councilmen and the members of the finance committee I have come across several who proclaim themselves ardent champions of the firemen in this campaign. In the course of a conversation I had only a day or two ago with one of the floor leaders in my branch of Councils and an active member of the finance committee he assured me that the sentiment in that committee lately had changed very much to the side of the firemen, and, as I have already said, when the sinking fund allotment is adjusted the matter of increased salaries and more liberal allowance in the ways of hours of service will have the first consideration. I look to see the Mayor, also, when he returns to the city, announce himself along with the expressed sentiment of the citizens and so many Councilmen as advocating the placing of the Philadelphia Bureau of Fire in the position that rightfully it should occupy."

"Just now I am busy enough in the investigation of the Pension Mutual Life Insurance Company, but my efforts on behalf of obtaining justice for the members of the Bureau of Police shall not be allowed to detract from my interest in or endeavor to aid in every way in my power the overworked and underpaid men of the Bureau of Fire."

Tag Days for War Sufferers
HAZLETON, Pa., Dec. 6. — Other nationalities having had tag days for the relief of war sufferers abroad, Mayor Harvey has granted permission to the Greeks and Syrians to hold a similar event on behalf of their countrymen. It is estimated that the anthracite field has sent more than \$100,000 to the starving and homeless people of European countries since the opening of the war.

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"Throws 37,500 C. P. light any way you want it. Picks out dark spots—house numbers, sign boards, etc. Substantially made. Fitted with 21 C. P. Nitrogen bulb. Diameter 6 1/2 inches. Make acceptable Xmas gift for motorist friend. Call and examine. Frank T. Stewart Electric Co. 37 & 39 N. 7th Old City Bldg. Send for Illustrated Catalogue."

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GIRLS SOLVE RIDDLE OF HIGH LIVING COST

Four Young Dwellers in Ardmore Reduce Price of Lunches to Three Cents

THAT'S BOTTOM FIGURE

When They're a Bit Extravagant They Pay as Much as Sixteen Cents

One can easily procure a tasty, nourishing and "really delightful meal" for as little as three cents, according to four young business women of Ardmore, who no longer content to pay forty and forty-five cents for lunch each day, started a little lunch room of their own, where they provide an enticing menu daily.

The four young women who have solved the high cost of living in a systematic way are Caroline Irwin, Nan Gallagher, Mary Francis and Florence Titlow. The quartet are all employed as clerks by firms in Ardmore. Miss Gallagher, who is responsible for the idea, is employed by the Autocar Company. She said today that the girls had become tired of paying high prices for food and decided to try to get their own lunch in a more economical way. Here is her own story of how the problem was solved:

"About a week ago three other girls and myself decided to eat no longer pay forty and forty-five cents a day for lunch, so we looked around and discovered that we could use a little gas stove in the town hall, provided that we pay for the gas. We all contributed toward getting our cooking utensils and then we prepared our first meal."

"The day after Thanksgiving we cooked our first luncheon. We had turkey and chicken sandwiches, which we brought from our homes; bread and butter, coffee with cream and sliced peaches for dessert. "That was the menu for the first day, and it only cost us really about twenty-two cents for the whole thing. Of course, leftovers from the home cannot be prepared every day, so after that we laid in a supply of things, which included a pound of coffee at thirty-two cents, a pound of butter, really we had good, fresh butter, for we appreciated the value of good, nourishing food. Next we bought two cans of condensed cream, at five cents a can, and a pound of sugar. This expenditure drew heavily upon our capital, but the supplies which we had purchased lasted us a week."

"For the last two days which was prepared by these three young ladies contained the following: Frankfurter sausages and baked beans, coffee, bread and butter and sliced peaches. This meal cost the young women about five cents each. The sausages cost ten cents and the beans five cents, and three-quarters of a cent for gas and about two cents for sugar. The menu for another day included lettuce sandwiches, nuts, bread and butter, coffee and sliced peaches."

Just as an instance that these young women believe in variety and plenty of it they had for another meal baked ham and canned corn, bread, butter, coffee and peas. This meal was one of the most expensive they have had to far, and it cost them six cents.

"How cheaply do you feel sure that you could consistently eat and every day get up a lunch that would be pleasing and nourishing?" was asked three of the young women as they bent over their desks discussing their new plan.

"Conservatively, about eight cents per day. That is an average, for some days we get up a lunch which costs us only three cents, while on other days we have had our lunch cost us as much as sixteen cents; but anyway that's lots better than paying forty and forty-five cents per day," they said.

Other young business women in Ardmore who are also interested in this new plan to combat the cost of living and at the same time get a meal which will sufficiently nourish them to continue with their daily work are becoming interested, and each day many of them come to see the four young women cook and eat their lunch.

The four agreed that they were perfectly satisfied with their new venture and would gladly enlighten any one who might be interested enough to want to start the thing on a larger scale. If this idea was operated on a larger scale, the young women say that it could be done even cheaper than they are able to do it.

Useful Gifts For Boys or Girls

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GIRL'S COMBINATION WATERPROOF Coat & Hat

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Boys' Raincoat \$2.25 Value \$4.00

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MARGARET McDONALD Five-year-old girl who was burned to death in her home, 2202 North Leithgow street, when her dress caught fire from the kitchen stove.

TWO GIRLS BURNED TO DEATH IN CITY

Dress of One Catches Fire Near Stove—Bonfire Fatal for Other

Two little girls were burned to death in Philadelphia in the last twenty-four hours despite heroic efforts made to save them. The victims were Margaret McDonald, of 2202 North Leithgow street, and Lillian Lincoln, of Woodbine avenue, Darby. Both were five years old.

The McDonald child was fatally burned when her dress caught fire while playing near the kitchen stove in her home. Her mother heard a scream and saw the child run into the dining room, her clothes enveloped in flames. The mother tried to beat out the flames, but was unsuccessful, and then pressed the child to her breast. Neighbors who heard the screams found the mother unconscious with her child still in her arms. Both were rushed to St. Christopher's hospital, where the child died last night. Mrs. McDonald was badly scorched.

Lillian Lincoln crawled through a fence near her home in Darby to watch a bonfire yesterday afternoon. Her dress caught fire from one of the sparks and, screaming, she rushed back to the house. Harry Schuyler, her grandfather, wrapped the little girl in a rug. She was badly burned, however, and died within an hour.

Conductor's Gallantry Causes Suit

A conductor's interest in a pretty girl resulted in a \$15,000 suit against the Public Service Railway Company, of Camden, for injuries received by Mrs. Myrtle A. Hackney, of 1918 Fern street. Mrs. Hackney asserts that she sustained serious injuries because the conductor was so engrossed in conversation with the girl that he pulled the bell before she had alighted from the rear platform.

DOG SAVES FAMILY AT FIRE AND PERISHES

Barks and Arouses Sleepers Over Grocery Store—Child Overcome, Six Rescued

"Toodles," a pet dog, was the hero of a fire at 2313 Aspen street early today. The animal barked, aroused the occupants of the house, who were asleep, and then lost his life in the flames. One woman was hurt by jumping from a window, a child was overcome by smoke and six persons were rescued by firemen.

The barks of "Toodles" awoke William McBrearty, owner of the grocery shop on the first floor, about half-past three. McBrearty ran downstairs and attempted to put out the flames, which were starting from an overheated range. His attempts were unsuccessful and he ran to the second floor, where Edward Plaherty, his wife and two children, Edward, seven, and Joseph, four, were asleep.

Alarms had been sent in and firemen rescued the two children, but their mother, Katherine, became nervous and jumped from her husband's arms. She fell to the ground and was taken to the German Hospital.

In the meantime Truckman Dorf, of Truck Company No. 9, and Truckman Thomas Reilly, of Truck No. 1, after two elder brothers, John, thirteen, and James, eleven, had been taken safely from the third floor, learned that Anna, eight, was sleeping on the third floor. They groped their way through the smoke and flames and carried the unconscious child from the third floor. She was removed to the Mary Drexel Home in a serious condition. The damage amounted to \$2000.

BABIES TO GET MORE SUGAR

LONDON, Dec. 6.—An investigation into the increasing infant mortality in Berlin has established that the rising death rate is due to an insufficient sugar allowance, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Amsterdam.

The dispatch says that it has been decided that each child born after December 1 shall receive an additional half pound monthly of sugar, the ration of the rest of the population being proportionately reduced. The allowance up to this time has been a little over two pounds monthly for each baby.

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COX PLANS STATE TOUR IN FIGHT FOR SPEAKER

Desires No Campaign Manager Except Himself and Backing of the Governor

HARRISBURG, Dec. 6.—Edwin R. Cox, candidate for Speaker of the House, after a conference with labor men and State officials, left for Philadelphia. He will make a tour of the entire State before opening headquarters here the latter part of this month.

Cox upon his arrival here found that Paul N. Furman, statistician of the State Department of Labor and Industry, had taken charge of his campaign. Furman ran the Governor's presidential campaign last spring. One of the first things that Cox gave out

for publication while here was that he desired no campaign manager except himself and the backing of the Governor. He said he would have no campaign manager, but will carry on his own campaign among the members-elect directly. He said he had seen several of the members and that many others have offered to act as a committee to assist him. The reports are most gratifying, he said, speaking of the situation in the State generally.

JACK NORWORTH SUED BY WIFE

Former Philadelphian Made Defendant in Plea for Divorce

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Mrs. Mary Norworth, the third wife of Jack Norworth, the vaudeville star, formerly of Philadelphia, has brought suit for divorce in the Supreme Court.

Mrs. Norworth, unlike the two former wives of the actor, was not a member of the profession when she married him in March, 1915. She came of a well-known southern family. The couple have two chil-

dren. They were married only a month after Mrs. Norworth No. 2 was in custody on the stage, obtained by divorce. The first wife was Louise Drexel. Norworth recently played an engagement of two years and a half in London, appearing at a "command" performance before King George and Queen Mary. His was accompanied abroad by his wife and children, the family returning here last September.

Man Found Dead in Road

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Dec. 6.—The body of an unidentified man, about seventy years old, was found on the State road between here and Johnson City. No marks of violence were found on the body. A tobacco pouch bearing the initials "J. O. R." was found in his pocket.

Erecting \$60,000 Vocational School

PINE GROVE, Pa., Dec. 6.—Porter township is completing a \$60,000 vocational school building at Belvidere. It is the largest and most up-to-date building for that purpose in Schuylkill County.



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