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Financial responsibility
Fire protection has become an essential factor entering into negotiations between financial institutions and property owners. Indifference to fire menace indicates irresponsibility in other directions.



RECORDER OF DEEDS PAY RISE OPPOSED

Bill Passed by Legislature Assailed by Research Bureau as "Absurd Rigidity"

INEFFICIENCY IS DEPLORED

Criticism of a bill passed by the Legislature, which increased salaries in the office of the recorder of deeds, is made in a statement issued today by the Bureau of Municipal Research.

"It makes us smile a little whimsically to read this new law," the statement says, "after we had just been congratulating ourselves on the greater measure of home-rule secured through the charter legislation. In the charter not a single mandatory salary is set up, except, very properly, that of the councilmen, whereas the bill under discussion mentions each position in the office of the recorder of deeds by title, and sets up a salary."

Called "Absurd Rigidity"
This is described in the statement as "absurd rigidity."

The statement continues: "There was a party in the department of the recorder of deeds when the news came that the Governor had signed the bill increasing every salary in the office—save only that of the recorder of deeds himself. Naturally, a large body of men—for the most part poorly paid—felt elated to know that the Legislature had relieved their financial plight to a certain extent."

"The Bureau of Municipal Research need hardly take the trouble to explain that it is not opposed to more adequate salaries for public servants. Together with its demand for more efficient and competent service from public employes, it has stood consistently for a public policy of fair compensation."

"This new law, however, is a fundamentally false way to get at the problem. In the first place, it takes care of one department of our city-government, without reference to a square deal for other departments, in many of which there are also faithful and underpaid employes."

Beyond Council Control
"In the second place, it places beyond the jurisdiction of the local council the control over local details of government which should without question be in the hands of the city's own authorities."

"In the third place, it creates an inflexible organization, which is entirely restrictive. Since this organization is a creature of the Legislature, it will require legislative action even to modify it slightly."

"Some day a new or amended state constitution will enable Philadelphia to discard forever the outworn and fictitious distinction between 'city' and 'county.' At some not distant day, too, a real salary standardization program will be inaugurated in our city service."

"When these happy events come to pass the straightjacket law just signed will have to go, but in the meantime it is just one more incubus—just one more premium on inefficiency, complexity, unfairness."

Major J. W. Good Has Operation
Major J. William Good, 2400 Bryn Mawr avenue, who was operated on for appendicitis last night in the Stomach Hospital, was reported today to be improving. He was recently mustered out of the service, having been stationed at Waco, Tex., in the aviation corps of the United States army. Major Good also commanded the old Second City Troop, First Pennsylvania Cavalry.

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POSTMEN WILL SELL ARMY FOOD SURPLUS

Will Take Orders, Money in Advance, and Parcel Post Will Deliver Goods

\$125,000,000 WORTH TO GO

Wilson Makes Deep Study of High Cost of Living

Washington, July 31.—(By A. P.)—President Wilson is giving "deep and very thoughtful consideration" to the high cost of living, it was announced today at the White House, and all branches of the government that might aid in solving the problem are at work. The President is understood to have been deeply impressed by the statement presented to him yesterday by Warren S. Stone, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, describing the unrest over the country because of the decreased purchasing power of the dollar.

Three new steps aiming to cut the cost of living not only in Philadelphia but throughout the country developed today. They are: First, inauguration of the government's plan to sell \$125,000,000 surplus army food direct to the consumer, with every postmaster and mail carrier acting as salesman.

Second, the investigation by the Department of Justice into the increased costs of living, with particular attention being given to the question of whether the producers or dealers had combined in violation of the law, was put under way.

Third, the brotherhood of locomotive engineers appealed to President Wilson to either increase wages or cut the cost of living.

Meanwhile there was pending in the House a resolution proposing that the federal trade commission investigate rising costs of sugar, coffee, shoes and clothing.

The surplus army food is to be sold directly to consumers throughout the United States by the Postoffice Department.

It will be delivered at the doors of housewives in every city, town, village and hamlet in the country through parcel post.

In this manner the government purposes a nation-wide reduction in the high cost of living. Prices for the army's food surplus will, it is announced, be materially lower than those asked by the cheapest "cash and carry" grocery stores.

Postmasters to Sell
Fifty-four thousand postmasters are ready to start the work of distributing food to consumers. Official authorization, with the working plans that have been evolved for the scheme, will be in their hands before the end of the week.

Prices are to be fixed by the executive heads of the army sales force. Secretary of War Baker has authorized the distribution of the food by the Postoffice Department.

Every postoffice in the land will be supplied with a large number of order blanks which consumers can fill out specifying the food desired. Deliveries will be prompt. Payment for food is to be made in advance. Receipts will be given purchasers, and their money will be refunded if deliveries should fail.

Restrictions will prevent any of the army's surplus food from being bought for purposes of speculation by dealers.

Working in co-operation, the War and Postoffice Departments will handle delivery of the food from the army warehouses to the local postoffices. Orders will be grouped, so far as possible, so that shipment from the army depots will

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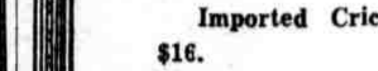
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Flannel Trousers, Plain White or Striped, \$8, \$11, \$12.

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HE WANTS JOB IN FRANCE SO HE CAN CLAIM BRIDE

Soldier Appeals to Knights of Columbus to Help Him Get Position Abroad—and Wife

"If this sort of thing keeps up the K. of C. workers will be wearing a red heart instead of a red shield on their sleeves," said John V. Loughney, general secretary of the Knights of Columbus employment bureau for returned service men, at 1717 Chestnut street today as he scanned a letter from the "applications" pile.

"Last week," he said, "Sergeant K. L. Stephens, of the 103d Engineers, sent us an S. O. S. to get him 'any old job in France' so he could get back to the wife he married and left over there. Now look what we've got."

"You will agree with me," it read, "that if Sergeant Stephens has the best reason in the world for returning to France I have a better one. He says he met his better half there. So did I—almost—and that's why I want to go back."

"You see, I was mess sergeant and

made in carload lots. In some cases, where a postoffice has large orders, carload delivery will be made to that postoffice direct. In some communities it will be necessary to break the carloads into crate deliveries.

Distribution to the homes will be made by parcel post from the local offices, where the community supply will be sorted and addressed. From the time the consumer makes prepayment and receives his receipt to the time the postman delivers his six pounds of roast beef and his dozen cans of green peas, or whatever his order may be, at his door, the government will take all trouble and responsibility off his shoulders.

The Postoffice Department, from Postmaster General Burleson down, is confident of its ability to handle the gigantic task.

The prices to be quoted at each postoffice will represent the original cost of the foodstuffs to the government and the parcel post transportation charges from the nearest War Department depot having the foodstuffs in storage. The prices quoted, officials said, would be considerably below the prevailing market prices.

While the amount of foodstuffs in each class has not been estimated, hearings before a House war investigation committee recently showed the value of the surplus to be approximately as follows:

Canned vegetables, \$23,000,000; corned beef, \$24,000,000; bacon, \$23,000,000; washed corned beef, \$10,000,000; roast beef, \$20,500,000, and fresh frozen meats and poultry, \$20,000,000.

Under arrangements for the sale of the food, made at a conference yesterday of Secretary Baker, Postmaster General Burleson and Representative Kelly, of Pennsylvania, author of the recent House resolution directing sale and distribution of the food through the parcel post, War Department officials were preparing a price list covering the entire available surplus.

The list will be sent to each of the postmasters throughout the country, as well as to all rural mail carriers, who will inform consumers of the prices and methods of sale and also take orders.

PRESIDENT ASKED FOR CHEAPER FOOD

Washington, July 31.—The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers appealed directly to President Wilson yesterday to take immediate action to reduce the cost of living.

The President was told this was the

If advertising is a form of salesmanship, then advertising men with actual sales experience ought to have an advantage.

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2 TRANSPORTS DUE IN CITY TOMORROW

1983 Soldiers and 753 Y. M. C. A. Workers to Arrive Here From Brest

Two transports, the Minnesotan, from Brest, with 1983 troops, and the Havercord, from Brest, with 745 Y. M. C. A. workers, the largest group to return to this country on one steamship, are due at this port tomorrow.

The Minnesotan will discharge its passengers at Pier 78, South Wharves, foot of Snyder avenue. The Havercord will land its passengers, which consists of 544 men and 201 women, at Pier 53, South Wharves, foot of Washington avenue.

The Minnesotan, of the American-Hawaiian Line, left Brest July 23 for Newport News, but was diverted at sea to this port. On board are the following units: Fourth Military Train, Ambulance Company 19, with 51 officers and 651 men; Fifty-second Telegraph Battalion, 10 officers, 152 men; Third Corps Military Police, 7 officers, 191 men; 322d Military Train, 2 officers, 77 men; 311th Repair Unit, 7 officers, 151 men. The following casual companies: 477th, with 5 officers, 100 men; 278th, 2 officers, 101 men; 278th, 3 officers, 143 men; 272th, 3 officers, 155 men; 320th, 3 officers, 140 men, and 321st, 3 officers, 27 men.

Preparations are under way for a reception to be tendered the Y. M. C. A. workers. Plans for the avoition to the largest contingent of "Y" workers to arrive in this city since the armistice are in charge of the transportation bureau of the National War Work Council of the organization.

Meeting Lasts an Hour
The meeting, precedent-making both in the annals of the White House and the history of union labor, lasted more than one hour. At the end the President was deeply impressed and made public the statement presented by the union officials and promised that would be given earnest and immediate consideration.

Starting with an expression of opinion that the situation which confronts the wage earner as the result of the present high cost of living "is brought about mainly by conscienceless profiteering in the necessities of life," the statement laid before the President urged that he "immediately inaugurate executive action to remedy it."

Engineers to Ask Increase
Under the mounting cost of living, it is explained, the engineers will be forced to request another increase in wages.

"But we feel," continued the statement, "that, should this request be granted, the relief would be temporary should prices continue to soar. We do not feel that increasing the compensation, accompanied by greater increases in the cost of commodities of life, will produce lasting benefits to our craft or to the American citizen in general."

"We believe the true remedy for the situation is for the government to take some adequate measures to reduce the cost of the necessities of life to a figure that the present wages and the income of people will meet."

The union officials called on Walter D. Hines, director general of the railroads, earlier in the day and presented the same case to him.

Heart Falls in Surf
Atlantic City, July 31.—Stricken with a heart attack while bathing off Kentucky avenue, late yesterday, Miss Margaret Merrick, twenty-seven years old, of Scranton, Pa., died ten minutes later in the City Hospital.

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Plenty of Goods and Plenty of Bargains in Linde August Furniture Sale

Just like our wonderful trade sales for the past quarter century with one exception—the values are more startling than ever before. This is due solely to the fact that our prices are based upon the low cost of the goods to us six months ago. From three to five advances have taken place since then, but we have not marked up a single piece on the present market value.

You can easily prove that our prices are away below all other stores simply by making comparisons. Shop around before you buy and see how much money we can save you.

We are so crowded with customers on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings that you must come early in order to get prompt attention.

Big Bargains in This Great Rug and Linoleum Sale

Guaranteed savings of a third on standard, first-quality goods in the face of rising prices, due to our extensive purchases six months ago, before price advances went into effect. If you are wise, you will buy your floor coverings NOW.

9x12 Rugs	8x10.6 Rugs	Linoleums
Highest Grade Wilton... \$95.00	Highest Grade Wilton... \$87.50	Best Inlaid, sq. yd. \$1.95
Royal Worsted Wilton... 87.50	Royal Worsted Wilton... 81.00	Heavy Inlaid, sq. yd. 1.75
Standard Wool Wilton... 67.50	Standard Wool Wilton... 62.50	Special Inlaid, sq. yd. 1.15
Best Seamless Axminster... 58.00	Best Seamless Axminster... 51.50	Cork Linoleum sq. yd.85
Special Grade Axminster... 42.50	Special Grade Axminster... 36.90	
Best Wilton—Seamless... 59.00	Best Wilton Velvet... 52.50	
Heavy Seamless Velvet... 48.75	Heavy Seamless Velvet... 41.00	
Best 10-wide Tapestry... 41.50	Best 10-wide Tapestry... 36.75	
Seamless Wool Tapestry... 32.00	Seamless Wool Tapestry... 26.50	

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And this year, to boot, men who are in touch with the times know that next season Suits of equal quality fabrics will have to sell for more than we were able to sell them for before we took a dollar off their regular prices!

Does that interest you? Have you been waiting to get the Summer Suit you need until the prices would come down? You have some wait before you! *They're going up!* And meantime you need the clothes! Need them for comfort, need them for appearance!

We're just tipping you off—not urging you to buy—for these Spring and Summer Suits are worth more right now than when we made and paid for them!

But, in spite of that, because it's our Annual Custom to reduce their low original prices at the end of the season, you can protect yourself in this sale!

\$65 Suits are Reduced!
\$60 Suits are Reduced!
\$55 Suits are Reduced!
\$50 Suits are Reduced!
\$45 Suits are Reduced!
\$40 Suits are Reduced!
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