

RESEARCH BUREAU REBUKES DIRECTOR

Department Head Warned Not to Criticize the Civil Service Commission Prematurely

LOOK BEFORE LEAP ADVISED

One of the city department heads under Mayor Moore received attention in the weekly bulletin issued today, of the Bureau of Municipal Research, in which "Premature Criticism" is rebuked. He is advised to "look twice before you leap" because of his opposition to the Civil Service Commission's proposal that city employees be promoted in order of merit as determined by competitive examination.

The bulletin says: "It is neither fair nor convincing for a new public official to criticize proposals of the Civil Service Commission before he has had an opportunity of observing their results."

"To every new public official we would give the counsel 'look before you leap.' To those new public officials who find some of the restraints of civil service regulations a trifle irksome and who feel impelled to enter at once upon a war of emancipation we would pass on the word of caution 'look twice before you leap.' The merit system is too well established in public sympathy and has too long a record of successful operation to be readily attacked and overturned.

One of our new city officials has recently come out in opposition to the proposal of the Civil Service Commission that city employees should be promoted in the order of merit as determined by a competitive examination. A limited choice being permitted from those having the highest rating. His argument was that an employee's fitness for promotion can be determined better by his superior than by a civil service examination.

An Old Story "Strange as it may seem, there is nothing at all novel either in the proposal of the Civil Service Commission or in the argument of the protesting new official. Wherever an effort has been made to insure to the young men and women of the community an opportunity for a career in the public service, similar to the one proposed by the Philadelphia Civil Service Commission has been adopted. In such cities as New York, Chicago, Buffalo, San Francisco and Cleveland, and in such states as Ohio, New Jersey, New York and California, the employees in the service are given a reasonable assurance that promotion will be according to merit by a rule requiring that when an appointing officer selects to make a promotion he should select one of the three persons whose names stand highest on the list of eligibles. As for the objection that an examining board is not as capable of picking out the best qualified man as the appointing officer himself, we can find it stated and restated in every variety of form in the utterances of spoils politicians in every community where the merit system has ever been considered. Had this objection been permitted to prevail wherever it has been raised, we should still be as completely in the grip of the spoils regime, with all its attendant evils, as we were in the days before the first civil service act was adopted in this country in 1883.

Let's Judge After the Evidence "It would be well, too, for this new official who has made his protest against the new promotion rule to wait until he has an opportunity of observing its results. He may find the promotion rule in effect a better instrument of selection than he ever dreamed it to be. As a matter of fact, the promotion rule in effect in Philadelphia during a considerable period just prior to 1917 was essentially the same as the one now under consideration, and the results during that period appear to have been highly satisfactory. There seems to be no good reason for anticipating less satisfactory results should this rule be re-established at the present time.

The Commission's Opportunity "It is true that the merit system, like every other human system, may be poorly administered and thus fall short of its highest possibilities. We do not make the Civil Service Commission responsible for such a failure. The best results of which it is capable. At the same time it should not be overlooked that no Civil Service Commission has yet achieved all of the possibilities inherent in the system. In the past there has been a little too much emphasis on the negative side of civil service administration and not enough emphasis on the positive side. The Civil Service Commission can and should become to the city government what a well-organized employment department is to a private business concern. It can and should become much more of a positive aid to administrative officials than it has been in the past. The new civil service law carries out the spirit of this new viewpoint by imposing upon the commission important duties that were not required by the former law. It is now up to the new members of the Civil Service Commission to develop to the full the opportunities for constructive service along employment lines that the new law has opened to them.

The Administrative Official's Duty "The least that the administrative officials of the city can do in making the employment work of the Civil Service Commission a success is to give the commission a chance to work out its own policies in its own way and to withhold criticism until those policies may be judged by their results."

Gloucester Fire Chief Hurt Patrick Mealey, eighty years old, chief of the Gloucester Fire Department, while sliding down a pole from the second to the first floor last night and sustained a broken ankle. Chief Mealey was taken to his home on a truck. He is a Civil War veteran and one of the organizers of the New Jersey town's fire department. Formerly he was a volunteer fireman in Philadelphia.

Growth We want a man of executive ability to join us, a department manager with printing experience. Will be helpful. Write us.

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COL. ARTHUR T. MARIX To take charge of education in San Domingo City for the United States army, following his detachment from the marine barracks at Charleston, S. C.

OFFERS TO MAKE MARS TRIP

Philadelphia Aviator, However, Insists on a Few Conditions Captain Claude R. Collins, president of the Aviators' Club of Philadelphia, has volunteered to make "the leap to Mars." He says he is willing to be shot from the earth in a super-rocket, in an effort to learn what is going on at the neighboring planet. Captain Collins does not, however, make his offer unconditionally. His terms are: A host of ten scientists must agree that the trips to Mars can be made by the super-rocket route. He must be allowed to help in the construction of the rocket. A pioneer rocket must be sent to Mars before he makes his start. His life must be insured for \$10,000 for the benefit of his heirs in case the rocket jumps the track on the way through space. Before he starts on his journey of a number of millions of miles he must be enabled to make a tour of the country to awaken America to the danger of the control of the air by foreign nations.

PRICE BODY BEGINS MONDAY

Mrs. Chas. M. Lea, J. B. Hains and Hamilton Disston on Board Nearly all the members of Philadelphia's fair-price commission have been appointed by State Commissioner Frank B. McClain and the body expects to begin actual work Monday. Only those equipped to deal with the situation are being selected. Mr. McClain said today, and he expects to obtain results which will be equitable to all concerned. Three more members of the commission have been selected. They are Mrs. Charles M. Lea, J. B. Hains and Hamilton Disston. Mrs. Lea was identified with the food conservation section of the food and fuel administration. Hains is a member of the Hains Advertising Agency, and Mr. Disston is a member of Henry Disston & Sons, Inc.

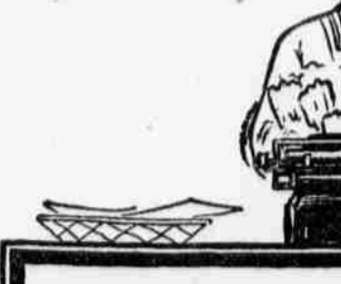
CARRICK FUNERAL TODAY

Episcopal Vestryman Buried From Germantown Home William C. Carrick, who died Monday of pneumonia at his home, 451 West Brighthurst street, Germantown, was buried this morning at 11 o'clock. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Robert Norwood, of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, Overbrook, at the undertaking establishment of Andrew Hair, Internment was in West Laurel Hill Cemetery. Mr. Carrick, who was born July 23, 1841, was a graduate of the forty-fourth class of the Central High School. He was for years a vestryman of St. Matthias's Protestant Episcopal Church, at Nineteenth and Wallace streets.

KANE GOING TO CAPITAL

He Will Address House Committee on Judiciary Tomorrow United States Attorney Kane will leave this city for Washington tomorrow to appear before the House committee on the judiciary tomorrow. He has been invited to address the committee by Chairman Clegg, of the committee. It is understood that Mr. Kane will explain why he decided to resign as United States attorney, and why he is opposed to the Graham anti-sedition bills and other bills of that character. Friends of Mr. Kane say that the opportunity to be heard by a committee of Congress is what he has desired. There is an impression that Mr. Kane will, among other things, discuss the methods of A. Mitchell Palmer, United States attorney general.

BUSINESS



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FIREMEN FIGHT WAY THROUGH BIG DRIFTS

Early Morning Blaze Is Extinguished After Hard Battle With Wind and Snow

TWO OTHER ALARMS GIVEN

Firemen had to fight their way through snow drifts at 3:49 o'clock this morning in responding to an alarm from Fourth and Porter streets, where flames had been discovered in the notion store of Albert Leskowitz. Despite the difficulties presented by the storm, they put out the blaze before any serious damage was done. The Leskowitz family, which lives over the store, was warned in time to a place of safety while the firemen extinguished the flames. Considerable excitement was caused by another fire which started last night in the delicatessen store of Frank Manto at Seventh and Wharton streets. The loss was small. Wind blew a curtain against a lighted gas jet in the home of George Townson, a negro, of 612 North Fourth street, early today. The curtain caught fire and some one sent in a fire alarm, but the blaze had been extinguished when the firemen arrived.

BACKS STRIKE STATEMENT

Miss Taft Says Professors Should Unite for Higher Pay Miss Helen Herron Taft, daughter of former President and acting president of Bryn Mawr College, said today she stood by her former statement advocating a strike of professors, although, she added, her remarks were not intended to be wholly serious. "I should not like to see college professors use precisely the methods of labor unions," Miss Taft said in a statement given out by the Bryn Mawr endowment committee, "because the position of the teacher or professor is rather different from that of the laboring man." "I believe, however, it would be better for college professors to unite to demand higher pay, and even, perhaps, to act as a body rather than that they should strike individually by leaving the profession."

WIFE MAY SURVIVE WOUNDS

Mrs. Stroup Better, but Husband, Who Shot Her, May Die Mrs. Catherine Stroup, of 2377 Pierce street, the eighteen-year-old bride who was shot Tuesday by her husband, James, who then attempted to kill himself and is confined with her at the city clinic hospital, was reported today to be improving. Her husband's condition remains unchanged. The wife has bullet wounds over the heart and in the right arm and the husband is wounded in the abdomen. Mrs. Stroup's refusal to consider a reconciliation was the cause of the shooting. Stroup attacked his wife on the steps of the home of a friend, Mrs. Catherine Gray, at 1655 South Twentieth street.

RADICALS MENACE PERSIA

Bolsheviki Transporting Troops Into Transcaucasian Area London, Feb. 5.—(By A. P.)—The attitude of both the Bolsheviki and the Afghan toward the Persians is becoming increasingly hostile, according to British war office advices. Unverified reports from the transcaucasian area say that the transport of Bolsheviki troops thence is continuing at the rate of about 2000 a week. These troops are said to be well equipped and led by officers of the old Russian army. A number of high military and civil officials, including some Germans, are reported as having arrived at Tashkent in a special train from Moscow.

Will Hold Symposium on Europe

"What Europe Expects of America" will be the subject of a discussion Saturday night at a meeting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Thirty-sixth street and Woodland avenue. The address of the evening will be by Sir George Paish, of England.

YOUNG POLISH MAN

college graduate, speaking all Slavic languages, is about to sail for Poland; would like to present some branches of American industry. J. R. MILLER, 4657 Milnor St. Philadelphia (Frankford)

SAYS RUMANIANS ARE BAD AS HUNS

Unitarian Minister Says They Have Invaded Transylvania and Are Terrorizing People

RELIEF FUND BEING RAISED

"The Rumanians are doing in Transylvania what the Germans did in Belgium." The Rev. Roger S. Forbes, minister of the Unitarian Church of Germantown, at Chelten avenue and Greene street, made this assertion today. In response to a general appeal sent out all over America by Dr. Samuel Atkins Eliot, president of the American Unitarian Association, Mr. Forbes will receive a collection at the church next Sunday morning in aid of the fund. "Famine is stalking through the Hungarian plains," he said. "Men, women and children are dying of starvation." "Adding to the general horrors, Rumanians have invaded the country. It is believed that Transylvania was permitted to fall into Rumanian hands as a reward for that nation's help to the Allies. By failing to sign the peace treaty it gave Rumania a pretext for invasion." "A statement that emanated from Transylvania sets forth that terrorism prevails under the Rumanian military domination. The trials of former years were bad, but not as bad as at present." "The Unitarian Church originated in Transylvania, and at one time there were about 400 churches. The Unitarians were persecuted and martyred until there are only about 100 churches under an Episcopal form of government." "In the schools the Rumanians have supplanted the native teachers with their own. In some places they have even taken the children from the school children. An actress, on her way to a wedding, was seized by the invaders, stripped and flogged openly in the street." "The unit to be sent from this country will give first-hand aid to the ministers and followers of the Unitarian faith in the stricken areas. This unit will investigate conditions and will take a report of the dire situation to the allied powers at Paris in an effort to have provisions for religious liberty in Transylvania and the Hungarian plains enforced."

Concerning Epidemics

In Epidemics the germ fastens most readily on fruitful soil—a system that is in poor condition. Stoppage of food waste, and the resulting decay, generates poisons which are absorbed by the blood, lowering its power of resistance to withstand the attack of outside germs such as influenza.

In plain terms, constipation encourages Epidemics. If you keep your intestinal passage clear and functioning regularly to get rid of this waste, your system will be kept in good condition to successfully cope with disease germs to which you may be exposed.

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The Point in This BIG ANNUAL DRIVE TO CLOSE OUT OUR Finest, Higher-Priced Suits Overcoats and Ulsters at Special Prices is this—

These Finest Overcoats and Suits have been our very best sellers all season—and are today! Our men who have charge of them in our stocks point out every morning that these particular Finest, Higher-Priced Overcoats and Ulsters are the most depleted after each day's selling! The reason's plain. Men want the best! And these are going accordingly!

Yet, fine as they are, and desirable as they are, we want to speed their departure before another season. By that time they would be merely odds and ends of broken lots and sizes. We shall have new goods and full lines of assortments for next Fall and Winter, though today we can't duplicate these goods at what they cost us! If that fact and these Finest Overcoats and Suits interest you, NOW IS YOUR TIME!

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Illustrations of various furniture pieces with prices: \$13.75, worth \$20. Mahogany Rubber-tired wheel and removable tray. \$185, worth \$250. Upholstered in Brown Spanish Imperial Leather. Full spring seats and backs. Davenport, 6 feet long. Large Fireside Arm Chair. \$175, worth \$225. This handsome 3-piece Library Suite. Lattice sofa, Rocker and Arm Chair. 2 rosette pillows. Upholstered in high-grade Tapestry. \$235, worth \$310. Fine, massive, four-piece Bedroom Suite in Walnut Mahogany. Dresser, \$70; Chest-dresser, \$85; Bed, \$50; Toilet Table, \$10. \$275, worth \$400. American walnut or golden oak. Buffet, 60 in. long. China Closet, 43 1/2 in. Serving Table, 28 in. long. Extension Table, 48-in. top. \$215, worth \$300. Selected quartered dull golden oak. Buffet, 60 in. long. China Closet, 43 1/2 in. Serving Table, 28 in. long. Extension table, 48-in. top. Full Third Saving in Rug and Linoleum Sale EXTRA SPECIAL REDUCTIONS A limited number of patterns in each style rug \$10.50 Basket-Weave \$7.50 Fiber Rugs, 6x9 ft. 8 1/2 x 10 1/2 ft. Rugs Highest-Grade Wilton . . . \$140.00 Royal Worsted Wilton . . . 100.00 Standard Grade Wilton . . . 85.00 Best Seamless Axminster 62.50 Heavy Seamless Axminster 55.00 High-Pile Axminster . . . 42.50 Finest Wilton Velvet . . . 71.50 Seamless Wool Velvet . . . 49.75 Ten-Wire Tapestry Brussels 34.75 \$65.00 Axminster, 9x12 ft. \$48.00 \$52.00 Axminster, 9x12 ft. 36.00 \$57.50 Seamless, 9x12 ft. 42.00 \$100.00 Wilton, 8.3x10.6 ft. 74.50 \$38.00 Axminster, 8.3x10.6 ft. 29.50 \$36.00 Tapestry, 8.3x10.6 ft. 24.00 \$75.00 Axminster, 11.3x12 ft. 52.00 \$2.50 Tapestry Carpet, yd. 1.25 \$1.25 Cork Linoleum, sq. yd. .85 Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday Evenings 23d Street, Columbia and Ridge Aves.