

CITY WAGE PLANS STRIP UP DISCORD

Old Employes Say Only Few Higher Paid Men Benefit.

MOST ADVANCES SMALL

Some Well Cared for Agree that in General Salary Increases are Not Fairly Apportioned.

(Continued from First Page.)

city than the saving of human lives. A \$5 a month increase to the city health officer, who has no eight-hour day, no Sundays, no holidays, but is subject to call 24 hours a day, is a slap in the face."

It has been rumored that an open break has occurred between Park Superintendent Keyser and his superior, Commissioner Pier, who is chairman of the committee, as a result of the proposed salary increases. Neither Commissioner Pier nor Superintendent Keyser will deny or confirm the rumor, although it is said that Superintendent Keyser, who is a technical engineer, feels he should have been given the same consideration as technical engineers in the department of public works.

Keyser is Rotted.

Mr. Keyser was increased from \$240 to \$260, but points to salaries ranging from \$250 to \$415 per month to officials in the public works department as a basis for his claim of unfairness. And in addition to his own salary, it is understood that Superintendent Keyser is considerably rolled over the fact that he was a, no time called into consultation over the salaries of employees working in his department and feels that some worthy employees have been overlooked as a result of this policy.

City Building Inspector Plummer is another official who points to the proposals as unfair.

Mr. Plummer makes no plea for himself but insists that many of his men have not been given increases on a parity with men doing similar or even less important work, but who are employed in the city engineer's office. For instance, he cites the increase of \$5 raising the salary of Planning Engineer Eichenlaub from \$175 to \$180 per month, as typical example of failure to accord fair treatment to some city employes. Mr. Eichenlaub checks all plans submitted to the department of buildings, and, according to his chief, not only works diligently throughout the day but is often forced to work nights in order to turn out the work, which Mr. Plummer says is of a particularly technical nature.

Draftsmen Get More.

In contrast to the increase given to Mr. Eichenlaub, Mr. Plummer looks at a copy of the proposals and points to a proposed increase from \$180 to \$225 for a topographical draftsman, who, Mr. Plummer insists, has not as important work to accomplish as the chief clerk, who is given but a \$5 per month increase. Another particular instance which Mr. Plummer cites is Deputy Building Inspector Lotzpeich, who is on the list for a \$5 increase bringing his monthly salary to \$180. Mr. Lotzpeich, according to Mr. Plummer, functions as the chief deputy, must regulate both the field and the office work, which comprises more important work than that handled by other men in the city employ who are given far greater increases.

The primary purpose of the appointment of Mr. Lotzpeich was to bring about a standardization of salaries.

At the last meeting of the city council, Commissioner Pier made it plain that the proposed ordinance should not be construed as an ordinance to standardize salaries, but that such an ordinance would come later. On this point, many city employes are willing to agree. To prove that Commissioner Pier is correct in saying that the ordinance proposed does not standardize, these employes take the proposed salaries for chief clerks.

Under the proposed ordinance these employes find that one chief clerk is to receive \$225 per month, three chief clerks are slated for a \$200-a-month salary, two chief clerks will be given \$175 per month and one is on the list for \$150 per month.

The chief clerk on the top of the list is handling the duties of assistant to the commissioner of public utilities. The assistant commissioner of public works is also on the list for \$225. Commissioners in charge of both departments insist that the two men are entitled to the proposed increases, but employes are free in asserting that \$200 should be the top-notch stipend for the position despite the supposed brilliancy of the men holding them.

Technical men in the department of public works, who have threatened from time to time to quit, are the real beneficiaries of the ordinance. One department chief is given an increase of \$110 monthly. That this man, a college graduate, is not generally admitted, but few employes can be found who do not feel that such a large increase to one man is one of the derogatory features of the ordinance.

Proposals Called Trade.

The manner in which the proposed salaries were arrived at is another point which is far from satisfactory to men and women in the city employ. Claim is made that but few heads of departments were consulted, and some claim that the salary proposals were brought about through a trade between Commissioner Pier and Harbur, with the latter on the long end of the bargaining.

The salary proposals were shrouded in darkness until they were read by the council clerk at a meeting of the council. Efforts to obtain copies of the proposed salary increases prior to this meeting failed. Members of the committee met at an unannounced meeting in the city hall after hours of closing on Monday night and completed the final work of the ordinance.

Commissioner Bigelow refused to work with the other two members of the committee, although he attended two meetings. At the last meeting he announced his intention to oppose the ordinance. The role played by Commissioner Bigelow does not exempt him from the wrath of city employes who hold him equally to blame for the alleged inconsistencies, claiming that had he fulfilled his duty, the ordinance might have been presented in proper form.

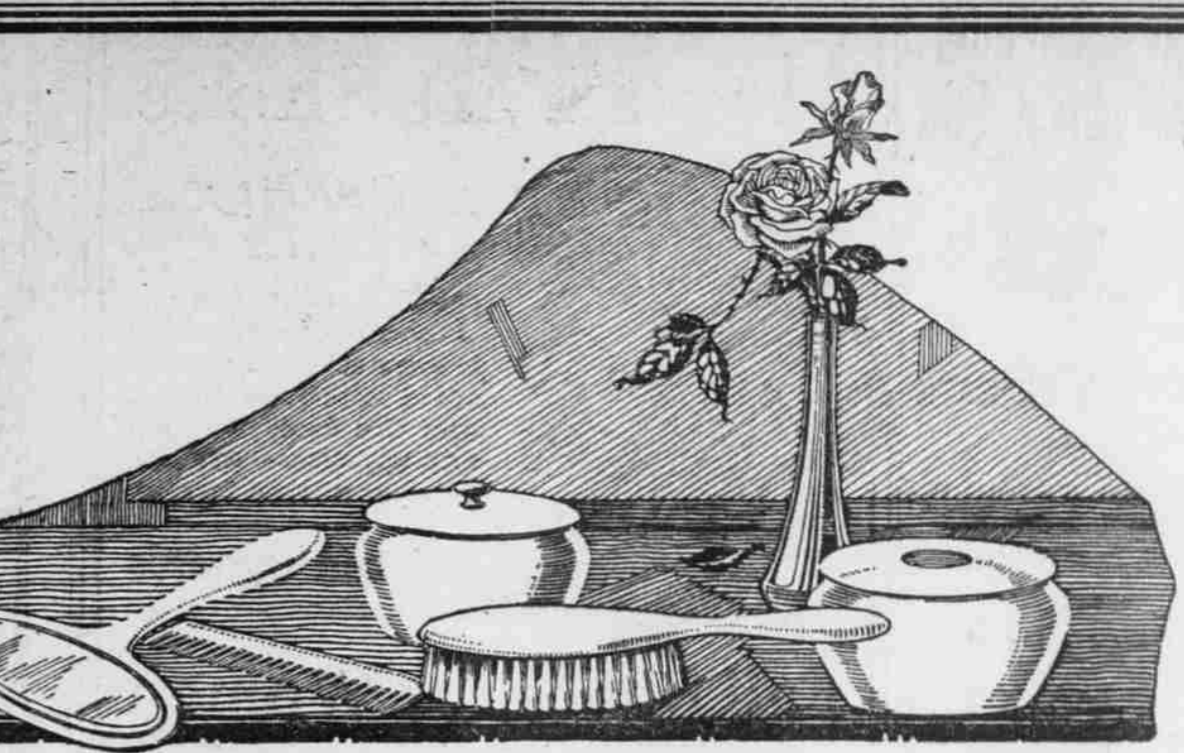
Complete List Given.

The complete list of salary increases proposed under the ordinance is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Position, Salary. Includes Bureau of Police, Municipal Court, Judge, etc.

Main salary list table with 2 columns: Position, Salary. Includes Instrumentman, Water Inspector, Chief Clerk, etc.

Continuation of the main salary list table with 2 columns: Position, Salary. Includes Water Inspector, Chief Clerk, etc.



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