# BOX
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## 28

## City Employees-Salary Increases

## 1910-1911

JAMES WHITE, SEC'Y 207 West 141st St
N. Y.

# D. A. 49

**DISTRICT OFFICERS**
LAWRENCE MARTIN. M. W.
THOMAS PARRAS. W. F.
ADAM HUFFER Treas.
JAMES WHITE. Sec'y.

OFFICE OF
SECRETARY

# Order of Knights of Labor

District Assembly 49

(INCORPORATED)

UNION PRINTERS 5

New York, March 24th, 1910.

RECEIVED
MAR 31 1910
MAYOR'S OFFICE

Hon. William J. Gaynor,

Mayor,

New York City, N.Y.,

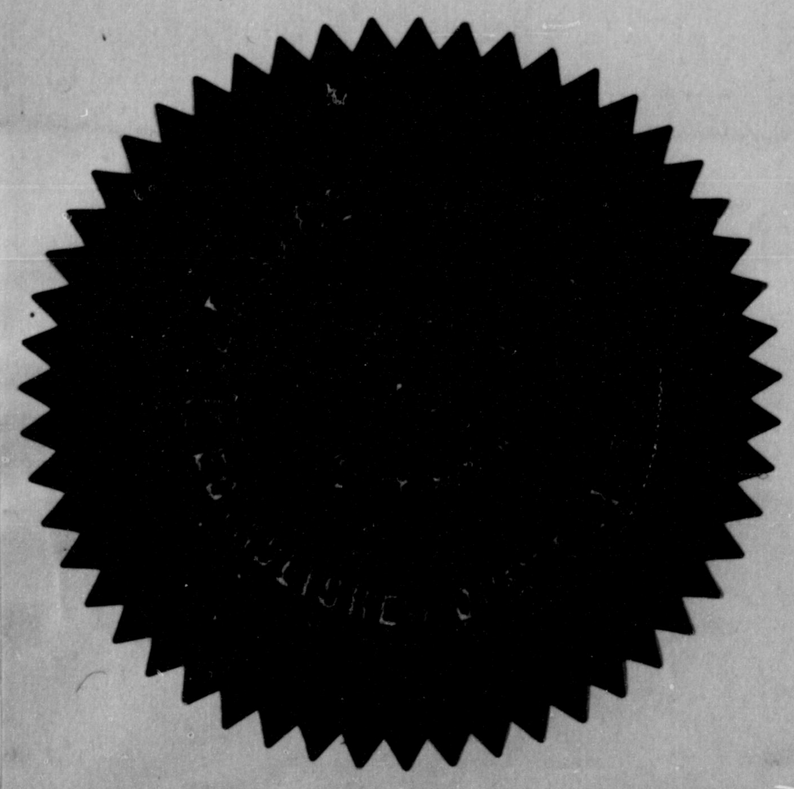
Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find resolution and petition, authorized by same, which we respectfully submit for your careful consideration, and hope and trust that you use your great influence, and give your assistance towards having the prayer of your petitioners granted. We believe that the increase in salary prayed for is reasonable and should be granted under the circumstances.

With best wishes, I remain,

Yours very respectfully,

Jas. White
Secy
Laurence Martin
Master Workman
671 E. 150th St



Mar 24/1910

# P E T I T I O N.

From District Assembly No. 49, Knights of Labor, on behalf of the SWEEPERS of the STREET CLEANING DEPARTMENT, City of New York.

To

His Honor the Mayor and the Members of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

At a regular meeting of the District Assembly No. 49 of Knights of Labor, held on the 24th day of March, 1910, at 57 West 134th Street, City of New York, Borough of Manhattan, the following resolution was adopted and passed:

RESOLVED, That the District Assembly No. 49 of Knights of Labor, through its authorized officials, transmit to Honorable William J. Gaynor, Mayor, and to each member of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of the City of New York, on behalf of the Sweepers of the Street Cleaning Department of the City of New York, the following petition or a copy thereof:

P E T I T I O N.

To

Honorable William J. Gaynor,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Board of Estimate and Apportionment

of the City of New York.

Sirs:

The undersigned respectfully petition your Honors as follows:

WHEREAS in 1894 the salary of the Sweepers in the Street Cleaning Department of the City of New York was raised from $600.00 a year to $720.00 a year; and that the salary of such Sweepers was again raised on January 1, 1909, to $780.00 a year and that such is the salary at present:

AND WHEREAS the increase of $60.00 made on said January 1, 1909, is insufficient and incompatible with the present cost of living and the increase in such cost since 1894 and notably at the present time; and that whereas at the present cost of living of a Sweeper with an average family of a wife and

three children, roughly estimated, is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| For purchases of food per day, at $1.50, making for one year - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | $547.50 |
| Rent per day 50 cents, making for one year - - - | 187.50 |
| Four uniforms (white suits) per year - - - - - - - | 5.20 |
| One rubber coat per year - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 6.00 |
| One paid rubber boots per year - - - - - - - - - - | 4.00 |
| Laundry for suits per year - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 26.00 |
| Two helmets per year - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 3.30 |
| One storm hat per year - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | .35 |
| Total cost or expenses for one year - - - - - - - - | $779.85 |

The above costs it is to be observed would make the cost of living at the rate of more than $2.13 per day. The above amount of $779.85 per year, of course, does not include the extra cost and expense for the purchase of hats, shoes, clothing and other necessities of life, and the cost and expense for the education of the children of such Sweeper. It should be considered, however, that the above cost and expense is continuous, irrespective as to whether or not the sweeper is at work. It should also be considered that the sweeper is not at work continuously, as he frequently is disabled by reason of illness and disease to which he is peculiarly subject by reason of the nature of his employment in coming in contact with refuse and filth, and which diseases so easily contracted are often communicated by him to immediate members of his family; and such loss of time necessarily diminishes his earning capacity and thereby makes it more difficult to meet his living expenses.

The above it is respectfully submitted, shows that it is absolutely impossible for a sweeper to live respectably

and bring up his family in the manner befitting that of a free American citizen.

WHEREFORE the undersigned hereby on behalf of the Street Sweepers of the City of New York respectfully request that the salary of Street Sweepers employed in the Street Cleaning Department of the City of New York, be granted a further increase of $50.00, making the salary $830.00 per annum.

The undersigned respectfully submit that in addition to the reasons above set forth, the said sweepers are rightly and equitably entitled to such increase, for the further reason that the position of the street sweeper has become more difficult and laborious because of the great increase of population and traffic in this city during recent years.

Dated at New York City, Borough of Manhattan, the 24th day of March, 1910.

Respectfully submitted,

Jas. White
Secy

Laurence Martin

Master Workman

571 E. 150th St

Rare

Petition of the Knights of Labor, District Assembly 49, for an increase in the salaries of the sweepers in the Street Cleaning Department from $780 a year, which they are now receiving, to $830 a year.

The petition sets forth that it is difficult for the sweepers to live within their present salary, and gives a table of the cost of living for the families of these men.

R.A.

Brooklyn, N. Y. May 21st, 1910.

TO

HONORABLES WILLIAM J. GAYNOR,
WILLIAM A. PRENDERGAST,
PURROY MITCHELL,
GEORGE Mc.ANENY.

SIRS:

We respectfully ask your indulgence in considering the enclosed list, representing the Municipal Watchmen of the City of New York employed in the Department of Bridges and all of whom perform the same duties in every respect.

From this you can easily ascertain more than one half receive compensation at the rate of 31-1/4¢ per hour, some 37-1/2¢, others 28-1/8¢ and while we the undersigned only receive 25¢ per hour for exactly the same identical work, and thought that we would ask you as Officials of this GREAT MUNICIPALITY , and who have charge of the increase of pay, and you who know the cost of living and expense to maintain ourselves and our families and knowing full well your fairness and equitable disposition towards the welfare of our Great City and towards it's progressiveness, we earnestly request that you look into this matter and see if we can not receive the same scale of wages as the majority of those employed under the heading of Municipal Watchman under the Dept. of Bridges.

From glancing at this list you will notice that for the 24 men employed as watchmen there are four grades of pay, and in all fairness and justice to ourselves, we think that under the circumstances, this is unfair and our salary should be brought to the same levek of compensation and will leave the matter to your fair, honest and immediate consideration.

We would add, inaddition to the above, that we are the custodians of valuable property and hold positions of responsibility, and humbly remain

MOST RESPECTFULLY YOURS,

Louis Thiee. 1882. 2nd Ave
Daniel Carey. 4 Lewis St
Michael J. Fraine 105 & 119 st
Thomas Conway, 858 3rd Ave
Charles Beatty 519 St Marks Ave
Francis J. Daly 30 4th Ave

## WATCHMEN IN BRIDGE DEPARTMENT.

| | | per hour. |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Charles Beatty, 679 ~~Gleason~~ Ft Mark Avenue, Bklyn. | 25¢ |
| 2. | Daniel Casey, 4 Lewis St., Manhattan. | 25 |
| 3. | James J. Clear, 53 Concord St., Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 4. | Francis J. Daly, 304-1/2 East 38th St., Man. | 25 |
| 5. | Ed. S. Darling, 1232-67th Street, Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 6. | James Doyle, 74 Jay Street, Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 7. | Thomas Campbell, 872-50th St., Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 8. | Frank Duffy, 17 Chapel Street, Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 9. | John Dunn, 27k Jay Street, Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 10. | James Ennis, 366 Van Brunt St., Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 11. | Michael J. Green, 105 E. 118th St., Man. | 25 |
| 12. | Thomas Conway, 858-3rd Ave., Manhattan. | 25 |
| 13. | John M Gregory, 129 Perry St., " | 28-1/8 |
| 14. | John Graven, 1452-5th Ave., " | 31-1/4 |
| 15. | Robert Gilburn, 89-10th Ave., " | 31-1/4 |
| 16. | Louis Wice, 1882-2nd Ave., " | 25 |
| 17. | John J. Hinton, 458 Baltic St., Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 18. | James B. Palmer, 602 Lexington Ave., Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 19. | Frank McGrath, 226-20th St., Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 20. | John McMullin, 1454 Fulton St., Bklyn. | 31-1/4 |
| 21. | Philip Frank, 1074 Jackson Ave., Bronx. | $ 2.50 a day. |
| 22. | Amos L. Poole, 1054 -53rd St., Bklyn. | |
| 23. | Hbl. Prager 840 Gravesend Ave., Bklyn. | 37-1/2¢ per hr. |
| 24. | Louis Roland, 34 York St., Bklyn. | 28-1/8¢ " ". |

May 21/1910

Petition of 6

Northumberland

Bridge Inhabitants

✓ Raised

This is a petition from six watchmen on the Bridges who want their pay increased to the same scale as other men in the same department doing the same work. These men get 25¢ per hour, while others get 31-1/2, 28-1/8 and 37-1/2¢ per hour, and these men think the salaries should be brought to the same level.

Brooklyn, N. Y.,

May 1910.

Hon. William J. Gaynor,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Honorable Sir:

The following named City Employees, who are under the Municipal Civil Service rules of the City of Greater New York, working in the position of Bridge Keepers and Bridge Tenders in the County of Kings:

DO HEREBY MOST RESPECTFULLY PETITION your Honor for an increase of salary. We give as our reason for asking this request, the enormous increase in the cost of living, a fact that has already been recognized by your government, and also by many corporations by giving their employees an increase in salary.

We are a uniformed Body of City Employees. The duty and responsibility of a Bridge Keeper is one of the most important positions in the City's Government. When you consider the amount of Bridge or City Property in his charge, and the judgment to be used by him and the Bridge Tenders in his charge, by safely and promptly accommodating navigation and public traffic at the same time; during the hours that Bridge Keepers are not assigned to duty the Bridge Tenders on duty are held responsible.

Most of the City's Bridges are now operated by electricity, consequently we must be operators as well as Bridge Keepers and Bridge Tenders. We must conform to the rules by wearing the prescribed uniforms. We are exposed to all kinds of weather while performing our duties. In snowstorms Bridge and approaches must be kept clear by us and our record as to the attention, care and courtesy we give the Public deserves your kind consideration, and we therefore

with confidence appeal to your Honor to use your influence and word in our interest, for which your employees will be forever thankful.

Most respectfully submitted.

May 3/1910

Petition - re -
to increase in salary
for Bridge Tenders
+ Keepers

Rust

# Petition for and Increase in Wages for Bridge Keepers and Bridge Tenders. Borough of Brooklyn.

## Hamilton Ave. Bridge

James E. Ryan - Keeper in charge.
Edmund Molloy - Bridge Tender
Louis McCann - Bridge Tender
Barth Holohan - Bridge Tender
John Schecker - Bridge Tender
Joseph Delany - Bridge Tender
Alex McLaughlin - Bridge Tender

## Ninth St Bridge

William F O'Brien - Keeper in charge
John Fitzpatrick - Keeper
Joseph Russell - Bridge Tender
Frank Kelly - Bridge Tender
James Duffy - Bridge Tender
James McGrath - Keeper
Geo G. Naples - Bridge Tender
Wm H. Courtney - Keeper in Charge } Coney Island Bridge
Richard Hayman - tender
Charles Meincke - Keeper.

Third St Bridge

Patrick Ryan Keeper in Charge
Michael White Bridge Tender
Michael Lavin Bridge Tender
Peter Gallagher Bridge Tender

Carroll St Bridge

Thomas McGee Keeper in Charge
James McInerney Keeper
John Walls Bridge Tender

Union St Bridge

Charles O'Donnell Keeper in charge
John Curran Bridge Tender
John O'Rourke Bridge Tender

Washington Ave. Bridge

Denis Galvin Bridge Tender
John Connell " "
Edwin Dodge " "
Stephen Kelsey " "
John Cahill Bridge Tender
Richard Quilan " "

Metropolitan Ave. Bridge

Patrick Sheahan Keeper in Charge
John J. Brosnan Bridge Tender
Patrick O'Brien Foreman Bridge Tender
Patrick Shea Bridge Tender
Michael Keating Bridge Tender
John F. Casey Bridge Tender

Hon. Wm J. Gaynor. Mayor.
The City of New York

Sir:-

Firmly believing in your sense of right and justice, the undersigned, recording clerks of the Surrogates Office, County of New York, beg leave to submit you the following appeal for an increase of salary.

Most of us have been employed in this office for many years, and have been drawing the same rate of wages which has not been increased since 1889.

On the other hand a higher cost of living and a general increase of prices cause us to be in the position of receiving, as a matter of fact, far less compensation than when we were originally appointed.

Again, we are the lowest paid recording clerks in the four counties comprising New York City, or in any similar position in the five boroughs.

Many of us are men of families, and are, under the circumstances, unable to maintain them in a half decent position on a salary of $1000.00 per annum.

The small increase of $200.00 each asked by the Surrogates is an infinitesimally small item in the budget of this great city, and we are sure when you seriously consider the justice of our plea you will take favorable action thereon.

Respectfully Yours.

Walter P. Delmour
Joseph A. Quinn
James J. Flaherty
Katherine L. McCarthy
Max Hellinger
Benjamin Weiss.
Davis Rieback
William J. Buckley
Patrick J. Reilly
Leo W. Schwab
Isador Frankel
Geo. Silberstein
Luke J. Finn
Joseph Goldberg
Benjamin Friedman
Joseph D. Mayers

Oct 1910

Petition of the
Clerks of the Surrogates
Offices - Re-to an
increase in Salary

Memo. for the Mayor:

Raise Raise Raise

Petition ~~regarding~~ the clerks in the Surrogate's office, New York County, requesting an increase in salary. The men say they have had no increase since 1889. They are paid $1,000. a year. They want $1,200.a year.

R. A.

City Personnel

Salaries

# The Merchants' Association of New York

"To foster the trade and welfare of New York"


OFFICERS

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GUSTAV H. SCHWAB, 1st Vice-Pres. — S. C. MEAD, Secretary
WM. A. MARBLE, 2d Vice-Pres. — FREDERICK B. De BERARD, Statistician
GUSTAV VINTSCHGER, Treasurer — JOHN W. GRIGGS, Counsel

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GUSTAV VINTSCHGER; Pres. Markt & Hammacher Co.
SILAS D. WEBB; Pres. China & Japan Trading Co.
J. G. WHITE; Pres. J. G. White & Co., Inc.



Telephone, 935, 936 & 342 Franklin

54-60 (old no. 66-72) Lafayette St..


March 13, 1911.

ANSWERED
MAR 15 1911
MAYOR'S OFFICE

Hon. William J. Gaynor, Mayor,
City Hall, City.

Dear Sir:-

A number of bills now pending in the Legislature have for their purpose the compulsory increase of the salaries of a great number of the employees of this City, and other compulsory outlays.

This Association does not contend that these expenditures may not be just and reasonable, or that they should not be made, but it does contend most earnestly that the proper judges of their reasonableness and propriety are the local representatives of the people of this City, and not the members of the Legislature.

The effect of these measures, if enacted, will be to deprive the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of necessary and proper control over the City's expenses for specified purposes, and to deprive the people of this City of all voice in the expenditure, for purely local purposes, of their own money.

If these bills become law they will entail a very large forced increase of the City's expenses, particularly in the Police, Fire, Street-cleaning, and Park Departments, and in the Highways and Sewers Bureaus. Some of the proposed increases are as follows:

<u>Police Department</u>: Increase in Salaries-

Patrolmen - 1st Grade - From $1400. to $1600.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Patrolmen - | 2nd | Grade | - From | $1350. | to | $1500. |
| | 3rd | " | - " | 1250. | " | 1400. |
| | 4th | " | - " | 1150. | " | 1300. |
| | 5th | " | - " | 1000. | " | 1200. |
| | 6th | " | - " | 900. | " | 1100. |
| | 7th | " | - " | 800. | " | 1000. |

7,190 men will each receive an increase of $200. per year; and 1,399 men will receive an increase of $150. per year, the aggregate being $1,647,850.

Fire Department: Increase in Salaries-

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Chief..... | From $6000. | to $10,000. | - $10,000. |
| 268 | Captains..... | " 2160. | to 2,400. | - 64.320 |
| 371 | Lieutenants..... | " 1800. | to 2,100. | - 111,300. |
| 450 | Engineers..... | " 1600. | to 1,800. | - 90,000. |
| 2596 | - 1st Grade Firemen | " 1400. | to 1,600. | - 519,200. |
| 224 | - 2nd " " | " 1200. | to 1,400. | - 44,800. |
| 197 | - 3rd " " | " 1000. | to 1,200. | - 39,400. |
| 152 | - 4th " " | " 800. | to 1,000. | - 30,400. |
| | | | | $903,420. |

Of the above $723,800. is mandatory, and $179,620. is permissive.

Street-cleaning Department: Increase in Salaries-

3,000 Sweepers - From $720. to $830. $330,000.

This increase is permissive, in the form of an increase in the maximum permitted to be paid.

Other Departments: Increase in Salaries-

The Park Department, Water Department, Highways Bureau, Sewers Bureau, and other branches of the City Government, employ many thousand day laborers during about eight months in the year, who are paid by the day during the time they work.

A bill now pending proposes to fix the pay of these day laborers at $3. per day. It further provides that all day laborers "regularly employed" during the whole or any part of at least 200

calendar days in the course of a year shall receive not less than $800. per year. The effect of this bill will be to give practically all day laborers employed by the City the status of permanent salaried employees at an annual salary of not less than $800. The amount of wages paid by the Park Department would be increased by approximately $1,000,000. with corresponding increases in other Departments, the amount of which is not readily ascertainable.

These four bills alone involve an increase in the City's expenses of probably in excess of $5,000,000. and there are many other Bills which provide for mandatory increases in special salaries and impose other mandatory outlays.

As a result of laws of the kind under discussion, the City of New York constantly has imposed upon it by the Legislature immense outlays for salaries and for other purely local purposes, concerning which the people of this City are deprived of all voice. Resort is had to the Legislature to compel these outlays, for the reason that in many, if not in most, cases they are not approved by the Board of Estimate and Approtionment and would not be made were not the right of the City to govern its own expenditures for local purposes arbitrarily over-ridden by the Legislature.

It is perfectly obvious that the forced expenditure of the public funds of any city, without regard, and frequently in opposition, to the judgment of its local authorities is destructive of economical government and inevitably leads to gross abuse.

In the view of this Association the local control of outlays for local purposes should not be interfered with by special mandatory legislation; and in the case of this City particularly, the

sole control of salaries and similar outlays should be left to the free judgment of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which is responsible to the people for the City's financial management.

This Association, therefore, asks your attention to the numerous Bills now pending whose purpose is to force upon this City large outlays by depriving the Board of Estimate of its proper control over such outlays, and respectfully urges that any of such Bills which reach you, be disapproved by you,

Very respectfully,

THE MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK.

By Henry R. Towne.

President.

BY ORDER OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Rare

This is a petition addressed to the Mayor by Bridge Keepers and Tenders for an increase in salary.

They say they are all civil service employes, uniformed, work every day in the year (except vacation) in all kinds of weather, and the increase in the cost of living makes necessary an increase in their salaries.

The signatures of the Committees, six in all, are in typewriting.

City of Greater New York,

June 12th, 1911.

Hon. William J. Gaynor,
Mayor City of New York,
20 Eighth Ave.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Honorable Sir:-

The undersigned Committees representing all Bridge Keepers and Bridge Tenders, employed on all Bridges within the City limits (except the Bridges over the East River), do hereby renew our Petition for an increase of salary presented to you last year, which the Hon. Board of Aldermen passed on May 10, 1911, and referred it to the Board of Estimate. But up to the present time we have not been successful in gaining our object, which we honestly consider we are justly entitled to, and we give you as our reasons for basing our claim the following particulars, and we hope our Commissioner, the Hon. Arthur J. O'Keefe, and our Honorable Engineers in charge under whose jurisdiction we are placed, will support our appeal.

First: We obtained our positions by successfully passing Civil Service. We are a uniformed body, regularly inspected by the officials over us, and at considerable expense we must provide the prescribed uniforms. Our duties and responsibilities are as important as that of any City employees (with very few exceptions), when you consider the amount of Bridge or City property in our charge, the attention that must be paid to promptly and safely accommodate navigation and public traffic at the same time. A complaint or accident through our neglect is hardly on record.

Second: The enormous increase in the cost of living, a fact that has been recognized by your Government and also by many outside corporations, by increasing the salary of their employees, should apply to us, particularly if you investigate and compare our positions with employees in other City Departments and the advances made in salaries.

Third: Most of the City's Bridges are operated by electricity. Consequently, we must be Operators, as well as Bridge Keepers and Bridge Tenders. During the hours that Bridge Keepers are not assigned to duty, the Bridge Tenders operate and are held responsible, yet they receive only $2.46 and a fraction per day. We work 8 hours per day and every day in the year (except vacation time). We are exposed to all kinds of weather while performing our duties. Our hours on duty differ from other City Departments in that most of the employees have regular day work

and Sundays off as well. We change every week. Our hours on duty are 12 midnight to 8 A.M., 8 A.M. to 4 P.M., 4 P.M. to 12 midnight. Thus you can see that two-thirds of the year we are on night work, and night or day, when snow-storms visit us, we must clean away and keep our Bridges ready to open at any time.

Hoping that you will see the justice of our claim by using your good offices in our interest, by having our salaries increased, - Bridge Keepers from $12.00 to $14.00, and Bridge Tenders from $9.00 to $10.95, for which we will be very thankful.

Very respectfully yours,

Patrick Callaghan)
Henry Becker ) Manhattan & Bronx.

James E. Ryan )
James O'Brien ) Borough of Brooklyn.

William Lee )
Frank Rickard ) Borough of Queens.

Committees.

June 12/1911

Petition from
Bridge Keepers
for increase in
salary

TO THE HONORABLE

WILLIAM J. GAYNOR

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

Sir:

With the permission and approval of the Fire Commissioner and Acting Chief of Department, the undersigned again respectfully appeal to you as a member of the Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment on behalf of the Engineers of Steamers and Firemen of the Fire Department, City of New York, for an increase of salary for the various grades, namely:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Engineers of Steamers | | from | $1,600 | per annum | to | $1,800 | per annum |
| Firemen of the | 1st | Grade | 1,400 | " " | " | 1,600 | " " |
| " " " | 2nd | " | 1,200 | " " | " | 1,400 | " " |
| " " " | 3rd | " | 1,000 | " " | " | 1,200 | " " |

Your petitioners beg to present the following undeniable facts, tending to show why an increase of salary should be granted them;

The salaries of the above positions have not been increased since Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-five, a period of over fifteen years.

During the intervening decade and a half, the cost of living, especially in this City, has been steadily advancing; which according to statistics of the present day, has increased about fifty-six per cent.; and while the wage scale and salaries of all mechanics, laborers and employees of corporations, as well as Federal, State and other municipal employees, have been advanced proportionately from twenty to sixty per cent. to meet the prevailing conditions; the petitioners' scale of remuneration has remained stationary.

Notwithstanding the depreciating purchase value of money to-day, compared with that of fifteen years ago, when our

present salaries were regulated, we feel the duties and responsibilities of Engineers of Steamers and Firemen have not correspondingly diminished; but on the contrary have increased, due to the vast growth of the City's population, erection of higher buildings and the ever constantly expansion of its business interests, which necessitates greater hazards, labors and liabilities in the prevention and extinguishment of fires.

The life of one in the fire service, at its best, is subjected to unnatural conditions, which no other City Employee is obliged to contend with, owing to the irregular meal hours, disturbed sleep and undue nervous strain; this is further augmented by the fact, of being compelled to be on duty twenty and one-half hours out of twenty-four hours each working day, thereby depriving us of the home comforts, other men enjoy, with the society of their families and friends.

In connection with the foregoing statement we wish to offer the following comparison, between the number of hours we work and the average City employee:-

Total number of hours in year (365) days) - - - 8,760

Total number of hours in year at 20½ hours per working day, members of Fire Department work, 5,287½

Total number of hours in year at 8 hours per working day, the average city employee works, 2,216

According to the above stated figures, members of the Fire Department are compelled to work nearly three times the number of hours of other City employees.

The United States Department of Commerce and Labor has classified, the work performed by the Engineers and Firemen of the Fire Department, as skilled labor, still they hardly receive unskilled laborer's compensation, taking into considera-

tion the number of hours said Engineers and Firemen are on duty.

Unlike other positions under the City Government, our salary is burdened by compulsory expenses in the following manner:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Life insurance (enacted by law) | averaging | - $20.00 |
| Payments to Matron for making of beds | " | - - 24.00 |
| Uniforms, rubber goods, caps, etc. | " | - - 85.00 |
| Making a yearly total of | " | - -$129.00 |

In the matter of uniforms, rubber goods, caps, etc., it is by no means a small item of expense, when you consider that it is a general occurrence, while operating at fires, for men to have their uniform equipment completely ruined, for which the City does not reimburse them, as in other City Departments, notwithstanding the fact that the loss is sustained through the men's faithful performance of duty.

We respectfully call attention to the salary increases, (averaging over sixteen per cent.), recently granted by your Honorable Board, to the officers of the Fire and Police Departments; and ask whether or not our request, (averaging about fifteen per cent.), is not deserving of the same consideration, and spirit of fairness and justice, that actuated your course in their matter; when it is shown that our appeal for an increase of salary is based upon, practically the same arguments and contentions (i.e.), the advanced cost of living, long hours of duty, compulsory expenses and the increasing duties and responsibilities.

The Fire Department of the City of New York has always enjoyed the confidence and sympathy of the public at large, for the reason, that it has consistently lived up to its reputation as the greatest and bravest fire fighting organization

in the world. In maintaining this standard of efficiency, the men in the ranks have never faltered or hesitated to execute their sworn duties, no matter how trying the conditions, under which they worked; and very often while combating the unknown danger of fire, they have been maimed or sent without a moment's preparation before their Creator. This is substantiated by the department records, which show an average of over five men killed yearly for the past sixteen years; not counting the numerous deaths from pneumonia and consumption resulting from the hardships and exposure with which the men have to endure, in this, the most arduous and dangerous of all occupations.

While the increases asked for, will entail an expenditure of about $696,600; it means but an additional compensation of three and three-quarter cents per hour to 3,483 Engineers and Firemen; a small amount, considering the services rendered to the City of New York and its citizens, by the members of the Fire Department in the aforesaid positions.

If further data or information of a more definite character be required, we earnestly request an opportunity to present same before you at some future date.

All of which is respectfully submitted for your kind consideration.

WILLIAM McGOUGH,
MATTHEW FITZPATRICK,
THOMAS O'TOOLE,
JOHN BOSTWICK,
TIMOTHY O'CONNELL.

WALTER J. DUGAN, Chairman,
Engineers' and Firemen's
Executive Committee.

June 1911

Petitions re. to increase in Salary to Firemen and Engineers in Fire Dept

June 1911

Petitions re. to increase in Salary to Firemen and Engineers in Fire Dept.

Memo. for the Mayor:

Application of the engineers and firemen of the Fire Department for increase of salaries. They ask for the following increases.

Engineers from $1600 to $1800 a year
Firemen, 1st grade, from $1400 to $1600 a year
Firemen, 2nd grade, from $1200 to $1400 a year
Firemen, 3rd grade, from $1000 to $1200 a year.

They state that the salaries for these places have not been increased since 1895, and during that period the cost of living has greatly increased.

R.A.

TELEPHONE, MADISON SQUARE 485

OFFICE OF
ERNEST HARVIER
1193 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, July 1, 1911

My dear Judge:

The salary increases in the Commissioners of Accounts office since May 1 of this year have been $3,850. Some of the employees have had more than two increases in salary since you have been Mayor. I append the list of increases since May 1.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harry M. Rice | from | $4,000 | to | $4,500 |
| (previous raise $3,500 to $4,000) | | | | |
| Peter J. McGowan | from | 2,400 | " | 2,700 |
| Thos. W. Duane | " | 2,400 | " | 2,700 |
| John N. Outwater | " | 2,400 | " | 2,700 |
| Matt. J. Dobbins | " | 2,100 | " | 2,250 |
| (previous raise $2,000 to $2100) | | | | |
| Harry G. Lynn | from | 2,400 | | 2,700 |
| Thos. J. McFall | " | 2,400 | " | 2,700 |
| Morris Manheimer | " | 2,400 | " | 2,700 |
| Ed. S. Connell | " | 2,400 | " | 2,700 |
| Chas. D. Schenck | " | 2,400 | " | 2,700 |
| Ed. P. Joyce | " | 1,050 | " | 1,200 |
| Anthony McTighe | " | 900 | " | 1,050 |
| Jas. A. Hagan | " | 900 | " | 950 |
| Jos. A. Heffernan | " | 900 | " | 1,050 |
| Jas. Pasta | " | 750 | " | 900 |
| (previous raise $600 to $750) | | | | |
| Louis Herman | from | 750 | " | 900 |
| (previous raise $600 to $750) | | | | |

Yours faithfully,

Ernest Harvier