

# COLORED GIRL GETS A HEARING BEFORE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## Miss Charity A. Bailey's Case Considered at Public Meeting. —Superintendent Denies Discrimination; Junior High School Plans Approved

After publicly hearing Miss Charity Alberta Bailey, 23, colored, of 119 Wads worth street, through Attorney Joseph G. LeCount, on her petition for appointment as a teacher in Providence public schools, the school committee last night received from Isaac O. Winslow, superintendent of schools, a statement setting forth that Miss Bailey had not failed of appointment because of arbitrary or discriminatory action by the school department, as charged in her petition for a hearing, but because she "has simply been one of a number of candidates in excess of the number required to fill the position."

Miss Bailey's appointment has not finally been set aside and the matter is still under consideration. Mr. Winslow and William L. Sweet, chairman of the committee, made clear following the hearing, which was attended by many teachers, student teachers and relatives and friends of Miss Bailey. Also noted in the audience, which taxed the small committee room in Central Fire Station to capacity, were Michael P. McLaughlin, Jacob Conn and Erik A. Anderson, director of vocational guidance, Providence public schools.

Meeting in regular session before the hearing, the committee approved final plans for additions which will make George J. West school on Beaufort street a junior high school, as submitted by the commissioner of public buildings, and under suspension of rules approved a resolution authorizing the superintendent to spend \$200 during the present school year, in addition to \$600 already authorized, for employment of temporary clerks in the superintendent's office.

The committee also received through Committeeman George J. West a petition in which residents of Federal Hill request investigation into advisability of acquiring three lots on the south side of Spruce street for playground purposes in connection with the Atwell's avenue school.

**Winslow's Statement**  
"In the complaint of the failure to appoint Miss Charity A. Bailey there is evidently much misunderstanding," reads Mr. Winslow's statement. "There has been no partiality or irregularity in connection with the failure to give her an appointment. She has simply been one of a number of candidates in excess of the number required to fill the positions."

"The school authorities have never regarded themselves as under obligation to give appointments to all of the pupil teachers who have taken the course in State training and city training. The completion of these courses simply entitles teachers to become candidates for appointment."

"To render it possible to make intelligent selection for appointments the candidates are rated according to their ability and success, as manifested in their periods of training after the completion of the required amount of academic preparation, and are classified in groups under such headings as 'good,' 'medium plus,' 'medium,' 'medium minus' and 'poor.'"

course, made from those on the list having the highest rating. The number of positions to be filled has not been equal to the number of candidates and many who have passed through the training courses have necessarily looked for positions elsewhere. The present list of 23 who are seeking appointments will be increased at the end of the present term by the addition of approximately 20 others who will have completed the training.

"Miss Bailey's name appears in the group of those candidates who are rated as 'medium.' It would not be possible to consider her for an appointment at present unless we should deliberately pass over a number who have higher ratings. That would be in injustice to such candidates and contrary to our constant practice for many years."

**Miss Bailey Testifies.**  
Taking an improvised witness stand after Mr. LeCount told the committee he would try to bring out rebuffs and statements indicating undue and arbitrary attitudes met by Miss Bailey in her attempts to secure a teacher's appointment, the young candidate said she was born in Providence Sept. 7, 1904. She said she attended Potter's avenue, Vineyard street and Technical high schools before completing a two and a half years course of training at Rhode Island College of Education, from which she said she graduated in June, 1925.

After city training from September, 1925, to January, 1926, Miss Bailey said the following September she returned to the College of Education, earning a degree of Bachelor of Education there last June. She has certificates entitling her to hold to qualify for teaching in elementary and secondary schools, she said.

In further responding to questions put by her attorney, the young lady said she took State training at Althea street school from January to June, 1925, going to teach in Bellevue avenue elementary school in September, 1925, and completing her course of city training the following June. Applying then for regular teaching employment, Miss Bailey and Miss Lena M. Arnold, school supervisor, advised her to take up music, having intimated that there were no teaching vacancies.

Two months later her overtures for a position among substitute teachers were of no avail, Miss Bailey said, stating Miss Arnold at that time told her she did not qualify in her city training. In June, 1927, she said she went with Committeeman West to see Mr. Winslow, who told her she had met her city training requirements, but was not in a group of candidates eligible to become teachers.

Mr. Maud E. Rider, a member of the school committee before that body was revised under the Strayer school act, and Mrs. Mary D. Phillips, teacher at Bellevue avenue school, told her, she said, they did not see the need of asking for an appointment as teacher, the young lady testified, quoting Mrs. Rider to the effect that when she, Mr. Rider, asked Mr. Winslow why he let colored girls get training if they were not to receive appointments, the superintendent said "nothing was being done."

**Letters of Recommendation.**  
Mrs. Phillips said she was a good teacher but that no matter how good she was Mr. Winslow was not going to appoint her, Miss Bailey told the committee. She said she had letters of recommendation from Mrs. Phillips and professors at the college of education, including Clara E. Craig, before stating that when she asked Mr. Winslow what the criticisms were which were said to have resulted in her not being appointed the superintendent sent her to William H. Eddy, deputy superintendent, and to Miss Arnold and Misses Ella L. Sweeney and Clara M. Polk, supervisors.

Misses Sweeney and Polk said they did not remember much about circumstances surrounding her rejection as a teacher but said so far as they recalled she had necessary qualifications, Miss Bailey testified. Miss Arnold, she said, told her her class room management and teaching were not good and that children in

# BEHOLD THE INDIAN'S GARAGE



Here are the original "frontier garages" which the Indians along the western border of Glacier National Park use to keep their furs in during the snow months.

her classes were fooling and not paying attention. Miss Arnold, the young lady said, visited her room once while she was in city training, for not more than 15 minutes, and come once while she was in State training, remaining about the same length of time.

Miss Bailey said she knew of two other colored girls who graduated before she did with ambitions to teach school. Replying to a question put by Mrs. Marion L. Misch, a member of the committee, the young lady said she had taken a teacher's examination in New York but that she had not heard whether or not she was successful in it.

**Misunderstanding Seen**  
Submitting his statement in reply to charges that Miss Bailey was being discriminated against, Mr. Winslow said he regarded last night's hearing as a fortunate occasion, an opportunity to offset evident misunderstanding relative to the appointment of teachers in Providence.

"There has been no unfairness or discrimination," he said. "Providence has a reputation for having a thorough system for making appointments." The school department had increased the number of supervisors until the possibility of partiality or unfairness had been reduced to a minimum, he said, stating there was every effort on the part of the school authorities to avoid unfairness in its appointments.

"It is proper for the superintendent to appoint those rating as good teachers before appointing those rating as poor," he said, stating he did not recall in 15 years that he had been superintendent that a girl who failed to pass in one examination for a teaching position had been accorded the privilege of taking the test a second time.

Replying to a question put by Mr. LeCount, the superintendent said he did not know if there were any written marks pertaining to Miss Bailey and her qualifications in his office. When he had testified that he did not recall appointing any colored teachers in Providence public schools, in reply to another question by Mr. LeCount, Chairman Sweet ruled the question out.

Mr. West said he saw no reason why the name of a colored teacher whom Mr. Winslow has said was teaching in city schools should not come out at the hearing. Mr. Sweet said he saw no reason why the name should not come out. Mr. West said he thought keeping the name secret would create suspicion that such a teacher did not exist. "I think it's a lot of bunk," he said.

**Other Business**  
The committee carried over to the next meeting, a week from Monday night, the following resolutions:

Authorizing the Superintendent to em-

ploy such persons as may be required, at not exceeding one dollar an hour, to conduct work for Americanization in home and community classes consisting of 10 or more persons over 16 years of age who cannot read, write or speak the English language.

Accepting bids for school and janitor supplies for the year ending July 1, 1929, as recommended by the Superintendent, the cost of the supplies to be paid out of sums heretofore apportioned or out of \$125,000 which shall be apportioned for purchase of school supplies and \$9000 which shall be apportioned for purchase of janitor supplies, from the appropriation for school purposes for the year ending September 30, 1929.

The following report was submitted with the resolution relative to accepting bids for school and janitor supplies: "The Superintendent hereby submits for the approval of the School Committee the following bids for school and janitor's supplies for the year ending July 1, 1929.

"In each case the quantities to be purchased and the specifications were in accordance with article I, section 14, of the regulations.

"Specifications for bids were mailed to 142 individuals and firms as shown in the tabulation on file in the office of the secretary, the same being a complete list of the individuals and firms which have filed with the purchasing agent a request for specifications.

"In all cases the lowest bids for the quality required were accepted. "Tabulations of bids received are on file in the office of the secretary for the inspection of members of the committee."

## GOV. SMITH RETURNS

**Rain Caused Him to End Vacation in North Carolina**  
New York, April 24.—(AP)—Gov. Alfred E. Smith unexpectedly curtailed his vacation trip and returned to New York last night. He said rain had caused him to end his vacation. He went directly from the Pennsylvania Station to his Hotel Biltmore apartment.

The Governor said there was no possibility of issuing a statement this week on the 1928 campaign issues. He declined to say when such a statement might be forthcoming.

He said he planned to telephone to Mrs. Smith at Albany and that if she planned to come to New York to-day he would remain here for several days. Otherwise, he said he would go to Albany.

The Governor, still wearing his brown derby, appeared in excellent health and was deeply tanned.

"As I return to New York I feel particularly gratified at the sincerity of the reception and greetings accorded me everywhere I touched," he said in a statement issued just before his train reached the Pennsylvania Station.

"As I looked out the back windows of the car and stood on the platform when the train came to a stop and looked into the smiling countenances of North Carolina mountaineers, they did not seem any different than the people I have been seeing and shaking hands with so many years in the State of New York."

relief, said that he had "never seen anything like it," referring to the rush for aid.

## Strikers Appeal For Financial Aid

### New Bedford Relief Agencies Overwhelmed With Requests

New Bedford, April 24.—Many appeals for financial aid came in yesterday, at the start of the second week of New Bedford's textile strike which had caused 56 mills to close and thrown almost 30,000 operatives out of work. The board of public welfare and soldiers' relief departments in the municipal building were crowded with applicants all way, while the New Bedford Family Welfare and Catholic Welfare Societies reported that appeals from the needy were pouring in rapidly.

Secretary Charles A. Poirier of the Board of Public Welfare said that no money was given out, the board taking the applications and making investigations. One of the main difficulties is to differentiate between strikers who are receiving union aid and workers not organized. Mr. Poirier will confer with union leaders before he actually starts distribution of money.

A committee from labor headquarters conferred with the Mayor and he told the workers that the city must look out for the strikers and see that there was no suffering from lack of food. Edward J. Macy, head of the soldiers' and sailors'

## Overnight Features

(By The Associated Press.)  
**FOREIGN**  
Lake Ste. Agnes—Reports from Greenly Island say Bremen will probably reach New York Wednesday night or Thursday.

Quebec—Condition of Floyd Bennett, in hospital here with pneumonia, described as grave.

Managua—Royalty of two mines near headwaters of Pis Pis River convince marine headquarters Sandino is headed for Atlantic coast.

Athens—Earthquakes in southern Greece centered in Corinth district kill 30 or more persons and injure many more.

Paris—Illness of Aristide Briand alarms friends.

**DOMESTIC**  
New York—Lindbergh files from Washington to greet Bremen crew here.

Washington—Sinclair appears to appear before Senate Teapot Dome committee to answer questions regarding Liberty bond profits of Continental Trading Company.

Washington—House defeats efforts to amend flood control bill to meet Coolidge objections.

Washington—Former Senator Owen,

relief, said that he had "never seen anything like it," referring to the rush for aid.

Despite the lack of funds in many families, when more than 3000 strikers crowded into Elm Rink in answer to a question of Chairman Joseph Harrison, president of the Textile Council: "Are we downhearted?" there came a roar of "No."

Some of the speakers told the strikers—most of them women operatives—that he was sure that they would look just as well in cotton made in the mills here as in rayon and silks made elsewhere, but this met with little enthusiasm. After the meeting 400 strikers signed cards signifying that they wished to join a union.

## Some Plants Work Longer Than Others

Washington, April 24.—(AP)—Most plants are willing to work overtime at their fundamental chemical task of producing sugars and starches from light, water and the carbon dioxide gas in the air, but some are able to maintain their efficiency for longer periods than others without rest.

The basic phenomenon, without which human life as now sustained would not be possible, was the subject of a paper presented to the National Academy of Sciences to-day by Dr. John M. Arthur, biochemist of the Boyce Thompson Institute, Yonkers, N. Y., describing two series of experiments with growing plants in climates which were mechanically controlled.

In each experiment some of the plants were supplied more than normal quantities of carbon dioxide gas and the working days of all were controlled by use of incandescent lamps at night, to permit study of the effects of different conditions on their growth, dry weight production, chemical composition and flowering.

"Several plants, like the red clover,

## POSING FOR THEIR PICTURES



## Modernize Your Kitchen

Convenience Outlets in the kitchen provide for saving appliances that should be in this "village."

**X**  
**HE'S NO PURITAN**

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