

**HEARING BEFORE SUBCOMMITTEE
OF HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS, IN CHARGE OF
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
APPROPRIATIONS BILL FOR 1912**

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Hearing Before Subcommittee of House Committee on Appropriations, in Charge of District of Columbia Appropriations Bill for 1912 by Washington Gardner & Jr. Taylor & H. M. Snapp

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WASHINGTON GARDNER & JR. TAYLOR & H. M. SNAPP

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APPROPRIATIONS BILL FOR 1912**

HEARINGS

BEFORE
U. S. Congress.

SUBCOMMITTEE OF HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON APPROPRIATIONS

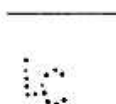
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CONSISTING OF

Messrs. WASHINGTON GARDNER, E. L. TAYLOR, Jr.
H. M. SNAPP, A. S. BURLESON, AND E. J. BOWERS

IN CHARGE OF

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
APPROPRIATION BILL FOR 1912



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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATION BILL FOR 1912.

Hearings before subcommittee of House Committee on Appropriations, consisting of Messrs. Washington Gardner, E. L. Taylor, jr., H. M. Snapp, A. S. Burtleson, and E. J. Bowers.

TUESDAY, December 13, 1910.

STATEMENTS OF MR. CUNO H. RUDOLPH, GEN. JOHN A. JOHNSTON, AND MAJ. WILLIAM V. JUDSON, COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Mr. GARDNER. I want to say in a general way that it has been a uniform custom of the committee to abbreviate the hearings in the short session of Congress as much as can be without in any way working injury to anybody. We notice in this bill that the notes are particularly full, for which we are much obliged. With that fact in view, and considering the short session, where the time is limited, both of the committee and the Congress, I need only to suggest that we would be very glad to have you bring out fully any points that you have in mind, and those points which the notes make clear you can pass over, unless the committee wants to learn something further in regard to them. We would be glad to have any general statement you may wish to make at any time.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

Mr. RUDOLPH. Mr. Chairman, I have a brief opening statement which, if it is agreeable to you, I will put in the hearing and not deliver it at this time.

Mr. GARDNER. How long is it?

Mr. RUDOLPH. It will take a couple of minutes to read.

Mr. GARDNER. Read it. We will be glad to hear it.

Mr. RUDOLPH. [reads]:

On behalf of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia I want to say that every item in the bill we are submitting has been given serious consideration by the commissioner in charge of the department affected personally and also by the board. Where we recommend an increase in salary we have been convinced after personal investigation and consultation with the head of the department that the employee is honestly entitled to the higher compensation; and in the cases of heads of departments, the salary proposed is less in every instance than is paid for similar service in other cities of the same size as Washington. Where we ask for new equipment, or for funds wherewith to improve existing plants, machinery, etc., we feel that we can show that urgent necessity exists. In framing the estimates we have been mindful of the attitude of Congress as regards appropriations for the District of Columbia, as gathered from the appropriation bills for several years back, and have endeavored to make our propositions in accordance with the views of Congress as we read them. We hope, therefore, that the consideration of the estimates

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATION BILL.

will impose upon this committee and the Houses of Congress the very minimum of labor and annoyance.

A fair quota of necessary permanent improvements, of the many we hope to build in coming years, are included, and it will be noted that the proposed estimates carry appropriations for a larger proportion than heretofore of improvements of this kind that endure and become an asset to the District. Requests for a number of desirable projects and some well-earned advances in salary we have been compelled to ignore, and the bill as now presented contemplates only such expenditures as are absolutely required to keep pace with the expansion of ordinary business of the city and the construction of certain permanent improvements, so that we may be able to maintain that high standard of efficiency in every branch of municipal government to which the citizens of Washington rightly aspire and which we know Congress will very properly insist upon.

After the foregoing, it seems superfluous to add that in no case have we asked for a greater sum than is actually required, with the idea, always a mistaken one, I am sure, that Congress would then grant about what was needed.

In accord with the District of Columbia appropriation act approved March 3, 1909, limiting the amount of the estimates to not exceeding twice the amount of the estimated revenues, the estimates for the fiscal year 1912 in the original draft as sent to the Secretary of the Treasury amounted to \$12,141,950.90, payable from the general fund, and \$131,535, payable from the revenues of the water department, making a total of \$12,273,485.90. After a conference with the President, the commissioners reduced their estimates by \$300,500, so that they total now \$11,972,985.90. The estimated receipts from all District sources not including the water revenues are \$7,095,770, as per the following statement:

Tax collections:

Realty taxes, current and arrears.....	\$4,965,000
Personal taxes, current and arrears.....	1,150,000
Special reimbursable taxes.....	500
Penalties and interest on taxes.....	35,000
Automobile wheel taxes.....	25,000

Licenses:

Liquor licenses, wholesale and retail.....	460,000
Plumbers' licenses.....	50
Insurance licenses.....	90,000
Miscellaneous licenses.....	130,000
Engineers' licenses.....	250
Dog taxes.....	22,500
Motor-vehicle operators' licenses.....	500

Rents:

Markets.....	26,500
Miscellaneous, street termini, wharves, and buildings.....	9,000
Hay scales and fish wharves.....	2,000
Pipe lines.....	370

Fines:

Police-court fines.....	95,000
Juvenile-court fines.....	2,000

Fees:

Sealer of weights, measures, and markets.....	6,500
Surveyor.....	24,000
Health department.....	400
Municipal court.....	35,000
Pound.....	1,000
Inspector of gas and meters.....	1,600
Sewer and gas permits.....	4,500
Water permits.....	2,000
Railing permits.....	900
Tax certificates.....	4,500
Building permits.....	30,000
Electrical permits.....	4,000
Landing and storing wood.....	100
Bathing Beach.....	300
Public-convenience stations.....	1,500
Motor-vehicle tags.....	4,000
Public crematorium.....	100
Recorder of deeds, surplus fees.....	10,000
Register of wills, surplus fees.....	250

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Miscellaneous:	
Advertising taxes.....	\$2,000
Street-extension benefits and interest.....	50,000
Sale of old material.....	3,000
Proceeds of labor, Municipal Lodging House.....	200
Sale of old houses.....	100
Tuition, public schools, nonresidents.....	600
Forfeited guaranty deposits.....	100
Reimbursement-account appropriation, water meters.....	9,450
Miscellaneous.....	1,000
Total.....	7,210,770
Less estimated amount to be deducted from police-court fines and dog taxes, for credit of policemen's and firemen's relief funds.....	115,000
Total available.....	7,095,770

The sum of \$807,175 will be required to pay liabilities chargeable wholly to the District, which leaves \$6,288,595 as the half of a fund of \$12,577,190 to cover appropriations chargeable equally against the District and the United States.

Estimated revenues for fiscal year ending June 30, 1912..... \$7,095,770

This amount is subject to reduction on account of the following items chargeable wholly to District revenues (estimated)—

1. Reimbursement of United States account of advances.....	\$616,000
2. Interest on advances by United States for fiscal year 1912, at 2 per cent.....	50,000
3. Indefinite appropriations—	
Extension, etc., of streets and avenues.....	75,000
Refunding taxes, etc.....	30,000
4. Appropriations other than District bill—	
Lighting, etc., Executive Mansion, etc. (sundry civil bill).....	4,700
Salaries of employees, public buildings and grounds (legislative, executive, and judicial bill).....	81,475

Total estimated amount (items chargeable wholly to District revenues)..... 807,175

Leaving net revenues available for appropriations payable one-half from District revenues..... 6,288,595

To this sum should be added an equal amount to be paid by the United States..... 6,288,595

Making available for appropriations payable half and half..... 12,577,190

From this deduct following estimated appropriations payable one-half from District revenues—

1. Indefinite appropriation: Damages, changes of grade, Union Station, act April 22, 1904.....	\$60,000
2. Appropriations other than District bill—	
Salaries and expenses court of appeals, District of Columbia.....	35,160
Salaries, supreme court, District of Columbia.....	41,400
Support and medical treatment of destitute patients.....	19,000
Maintenance of Garfield Hospital.....	19,000
Lighting public grounds.....	10,200
National Zoological Park.....	115,000
Burial of indigent soldiers.....	3,000
Improvement and care of public grounds.....	131,550

434,310

Foregoing items contained in sundry civil, and legislative, executive, and judicial bills.

Balance available for estimates to be submitted by Commissioners, District of Columbia, on account of appropriations for fiscal year ending June 30, 1912..... 12,142,880

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATION BILL.

It will be noted that the estimate is \$735,739.10 less than the above amount, which in the opinion of the commissioners is more than ample to cover appropriations that may be made in other than the regular District of Columbia bill.

We have allowed \$616,000 as a reimbursement to the United States on account of the floating indebtedness arising from advances to June 30, 1911 (the total of which at that time is estimated to be \$2,465,978.23, as per following statement), and \$50,000 interest at 2 per cent per annum thereon.

Statement showing the estimated deficiency in the revenues of the District of Columbia to meet the proportional part of advances from appropriations chargeable to said revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, assuming that all charges against said revenues, actual and estimated, shall have been paid.

Amount due the United States from the District of Columbia June 30, 1910, on account of advances from appropriations chargeable to the District in excess of the revenues thereof, including interest charges.....	\$3, 274, 278. 98
Interest on above for fiscal year 1911, at 2 per cent.....	65, 485. 57
Amount of appropriations unadvanced, June 30, 1910, \$2,795,738.51, of which amount there is chargeable to the District....	1, 453, 939. 90
Appropriations for fiscal year 1911:	
District appropriation act, May 18, 1910.....	\$9, 719, 010. 99
Sundry civil appropriation act, June 25, 1910.....	372, 450. 00
Legislative, executive, and judicial act, June 17, 1910.....	108, 035. 00
Public act No. 315, June 25, 1910, probation system.....	5, 000. 00
Deficiency appropriation act, June 25, 1910....	262, 483. 70
	10, 468, 982. 69
of which the amount chargeable to the District is.....	5, 261, 739. 95
Estimated amount of indefinite appropriations—	
Refunding taxes, etc., wholly District of Columbia.....	20, 000. 00
Extension, etc., of streets and avenues, wholly District of Columbia.....	40, 000. 00
Damages, changes of grade, Union Station, \$100,000, of which one-half is chargeable to District of Columbia....	50, 000. 00
	10, 165, 444. 40
Less estimated amount of appropriations which will not have been expended by June 30, 1911, \$2,600,000, of which the District's proportion is.....	1, 300, 000. 00
	8, 865, 444. 40
Total known and estimated charges to revenues of District during fiscal year ending June 30, 1911.....	8, 865, 444. 40
From which deduct—	
Estimated collection of revenues for fiscal year 1911, as reported by committee of estimate.....	\$6, 337, 970. 00
Cash in hands of collector of taxes, account general fund, 1910, deposited during 1911..	62, 396. 17
	6, 400, 366. 17
Estimated debt of the District of Columbia to the United States, June 30, 1911, on account of advances under appropriations, and interest thereon, chargeable to the revenues of said District....	2, 465, 078. 23
Estimated reduction in unfunded debt for fiscal year ending June 30, 1911.....	809, 200. 75

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATION BILL.

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GENERAL STATEMENT.

Estimates for the fiscal year to end June 30, 1912.

Gross estimated revenues, exclusive of water revenues.....	\$7,095,770.00
Amount wholly chargeable to such revenues, including \$818,000 repayment on account of advances by United States Treasury and \$50,000 interest thereon.....	807,175.00
District revenues available for appropriation.....	6,288,595.00
Add equal amount to be paid by United States.....	6,288,595.00
Total appropriation fund.....	12,577,190.00
Less appropriations other than those included in the regular Dis- trict appropriation act for 1911, amounting to.....	434,310.00
Appropriation fund for estimates, 1912.....	12,142,880.00
Estimated expenditures from general fund, including \$101,100 for "Extension of water distribution, District of Columbia".....	12,141,950.90
Reduced, after conference with the President, by.....	300,000.00
Leaves estimate.....	11,841,450.90
Payable wholly by the United States, but reimbursable out of District of Columbia revenues in four equal annual install- ments, with interest at 3 per cent per annum;	
Meridian Hill Park.....	\$490,000.00
Montrose Park.....	110,000.00
Preservation of Klinge Ford Valley.....	200,000.00
	900,000.00
Estimated expenditures from the water revenues.....	131,535.00

MR. GARDNER. Now turn to page 2 of the bill.

CLERK AT \$1,300.

MR. RUDOLPH. The notes are very full on page 2, with the exception of the item of \$100 increase to the clerk and confidential secretary to Dr. Tindall, who also takes down, stenographically, all the public hearings that we have in the board room.

MR. SNAPP. Which one is that?

MR. RUDOLPH. That is a little below the middle of the page, an increase of \$100.

MR. GARDNER. Is this a new clerk?

MR. RUDOLPH. No, sir. He is the confidential man to Secretary Tindall, and he is a very competent stenographer. He takes down our hearings, and frequently he has to work over hours.

MR. GARDNER. You have two clerks above that, at \$1,200; and then you drop one and you make the other a clerk at \$1,300. Now, that is one of those three?

MR. RUDOLPH. Yes, sir. We thought he ought to have \$1,300.

MR. SNAPP. Just one moment. Do you dispense, then, finally, with one clerk?

MR. RUDOLPH. No, sir. We keep the full force, but we ask for an increase for one man of \$100.

MR. TAWNEY. Do you estimate specifically for a confidential secretary?

MR. RUDOLPH. No, sir. This man is a "handy man," an expert stenographer and typewriter, and by the faithful performance of his duties he has proven his worth.