

determined to have peace in this city. I assure you that we will do all we possibly can, Congressman.

Mr. WHITENER. Mr. Broyhill?

Mr. BROYHILL. Mr. Commissioner, I am very happy to get your recommendations to make this measure retroactive. I think we have provided that in H.R. 13980, and in some of the other bills as well.

I join with my colleagues in commending you for a very thorough, complete, and comprehensive statement.

In the classified employees' salary increase hearings last year that you refer to in your statement, not only was the increase of 4.5 percent made retroactive to last October 1st, but there is another increase provided to take effect next July. Those two alone—and that doesn't include the third increase that we provided for, I think, to take effect in April of 1969—will provide a total increase of perhaps 9 percent.

Now, I wonder if we are keeping the police and fire departments in line with what the classified and postal employees are receiving?

Mr. WASHINGTON. I think we had an increase in 1957.

Mr. ETON. It was 9.9 percent I think, and I believe the classified government was somewhat less than that.

Mr. BROYHILL. Could you repeat that?

Mr. ETON. The last increase for police and fire was 9.9 per cent, as I recall it, which was several percentage points higher than the classified government personnel received at that time. It is true the first stage and the next of two stages of the civilian pay bill exceed what we are asking for here. Of course, we probably plan to come back with another pay increase at another time.

Mr. WASHINGTON. I wouldn't want to stop at that answer though, Mr. Congressman. I think we would hope, in the police and fire area, for continued study of this matter. The 8.2 is one that we felt, based on the prior increase, brought them up to a position, and I wouldn't think that we ought to remain static. If we are talking about keeping a force in competition with other forces and giving them the best opportunity and working conditions, I would think we would study this just as the federal is being studied. I would not be averse to further consideration in terms of increase.

Mr. BROYHILL. I know you have budgetary problems, Mr. Commissioner.

Mr. WASHINGTON. We do, sir, annually.

Mr. BROYHILL. I know you have difficulty raising revenue, and I will help you all I can within certain boundaries. However, don't go too far in too many different directions. I don't think we can escape the necessity of providing proper compensation for the police and fire departments. When we talk about comparison with other cities, the Chairman of the Full Committee, Mr. McMillan, made mention of the fact that this is the Nation's Capital; we have so many tourists coming here; and the government agencies are here, the judicial and legislative branches. I notice that even with the recommendation in your chart, we would only bring the District of Columbia back from 12th place to 5th place among the largest U.S. cities. It seems to me we should set our sights a little higher than that, because this is an exceptional area, there being only one like it in the world. If we want the best, we will have to pay for it. I urge that you consider fifth place as just not completely satisfactory.