

Senate Orders Probe of Higher Gasoline Price

Inquiry to Cover Situation Since 1919, With Special Attention to Evidence of Agreements

Naval Contract Opposed

Independent Producers File Protest Against Opening of Government Reserves

WASHINGTON, May 13.—A resolution providing for an investigation into the increase in gasoline prices by the Committee on Manufactures was adopted today by the Senate. The resolution was offered by Senator McKellar, of Tennessee. Meanwhile the Department of Justice already is making inquiry into the price increase.

Another development in the Senate in connection with the oil situation was a protest filed by Senator La Follette from the National Association of Independent Oil Producers against the policy of the government in opening up the naval oil reserves.

The resolution of Senator McKellar reads:

"Resolved, That the Committee on Manufactures, or any sub-committee thereof, be and it is hereby instructed to investigate and report to the Senate as early as possible:

1. The stock of crude oil on hand at the refineries in the United States for the years 1920, 1921 and 1922.
2. The price of crude oil during the various months in said years.
3. Figures on Stocks Asked
4. The stock of gasoline on hand during the said years of 1920, 1921 and up to date in 1922.
5. The relation of prices of gasoline during said years to the prices of crude oil.
6. Whether or not the recent increase in the price of gasoline has been by some companies or whether there has been any uniformity in the prices demanded by all of the companies.
7. Whether these prices have been put in at the same time, or at substantially the same time.
8. Whether there has been any understanding or agreement between various companies to raise the price.
9. Whether there is any natural reason for the increase of prices of gasoline.
10. And all such facts as bear upon the present increase of prices of gasoline in view of the decreased price of crude oil.

The Independent Oil Producers protested:

"First. Against the policy of the Secretary of Interior and Secretary of Navy in opening the naval reserves at this time for exploitation.

"Second. Against the method of leasing public lands without competitive bidding as exemplified in the recent contract entered into between Secretary Fall, of the Interior, and Secretary Denby, of the Navy, and the Standard Oil-Sinclair-Doheny interests.

"Third. Against the policy of any department of the government of the United States entering into a contract of any character whatsoever, whether competitive or not, which would tend to continue or perpetuate a monopolistic control of the oil industry of the United States, or create a monopoly on the sale of fuel oil or refined oil to the navy or any other department of the government."

The reasons assigned were in part:

"There exists no emergency or necessity which would warrant the opening of the naval reserves at this time for exploitation in order that the navy might be supplied with the various grades of oil required by it, there be-

Senators Again In Clash Over Newberry Case

Townsend Resents McKellar's Charge That People of Michigan Cannot Be Trusted in Elections

Sharp Words Exchanged

Pomerene Offers New Bill to Prevent Corruption in Senatorial Contests

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Proposed action to prevent corrupt practices in Senatorial primaries and elections was the subject of an animated controversy and much discussion on the floor of the Senate today. The result was reference of the question to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, headed by Senator Dillingham, of Vermont.

A feature of the debate was a bitter exchange between Senator Townsend of Michigan, and Senator McKellar, of Tennessee, over the Newberry case. Senator McKellar, in the course of an argument over the state control of elections, intimated that the people of Michigan could not be trusted to be "honest and fair" in elections. This was resented by Senator Townsend, who defended the Michigan people. Senator McKellar charged the Newberry case was "bought" Senator Spencer warmly joined this. Senator Robinson, who was in the chair, called Senator McKellar to order.

Later in the discussion Senator McKellar declared "absolutely false" and "entirely untrue" statements by Senator Townsend. The chair thereupon ordered Senator McKellar to take his seat and not proceed except in the manner prescribed by the rules on motion.

Reference Made Before Clash

The Townsend-McKellar clash broke out after the reference to the Privileges and Elections Committee and was an aftermath of the pending measures, which had little relation to the parliamentary proceedings.

Senator Pomerene, of Ohio, introduced a new bill intended to prevent corrupt practices in Senatorial primaries and elections. This bill was referred to the Privileges and Elections Committee, as were also the resolutions of Senators Pomerene and McKellar proposing to amend the Senate rules to exclude from the Senate persons elected to that body through corrupt practices.

It was made clear that the plan to adopt a Senate rule to exclude from that body persons guilty of corrupt practices will not be hurried through and probably will not be carried out at all. The most pronounced opposition to this plan of regulating elections by rule of the Senate came from Southern Democratic Senators, who clearly had in their minds the idea that such a rule might trespass on state rights and might lead to other rules inter-

Major in Charge of Martial Law in Mingo Tells of Disposition of Forces; State Expects to Close This Week

CHARLESTOWN, W. Va., May 13 (By The Associated Press).—Martial law in the Mingo County coal fields and disposal of the state's scant military forces were discussed today at the trial of William Blizzard, Major Thomas B. Davis, under whose direction the military rule in Mingo has been carried out, was the chief witness.

That mine union officials and members planned to overthrow the martial law and levied war in marching toward Mingo and fighting with state forces, who blocked their way, was the contention on which the state based its charge of treason against fifty-three men, of whom Blizzard is the first to be tried.

Use of union funds and other money provided by union men to further the march and details of the activities of the miners' forces during the ten days covered by the marching and fighting made up the testimony of the other witnesses. The prosecution announced it would probably finish its case Wednesday or Thursday.

About one hundred state police, comprising parts of two companies of the organization and a few special state policemen were sent from Mingo County to assist the Sheriff of Logan County, Major Davis testified. These men, he asserted, left his jurisdiction when they left Mingo County. They were sent at the direction of Governor Morgan.

He has been in Williamson, county seat of Mingo County, enforcing martial law since May 20, 1921, he said, and the military forces consisted first of the enrolled militia and later of Company L, 100th Infantry, West Virginia National Guard. All civil officers in the county were under his direction, the witness said.

At the time of the march and fighting there were ninety-nine prisoners in the Mingo County jail, Major Davis testified. The indictment against Blizzard alleges that one of the purposes of the march was to release members of the union held in the jail mainly for violation of the martial law.

Present Law Held Futile

"I am exceedingly anxious," said Senator Pomerene, "that we shall leave the law in its present, uncertain state. I think it is a reflection on the Congress, as well as upon this body, that there should be no regulations which might seem to meet the situation."

"Was the corrupt practices act, which applied to the election of Senators by the legislature, broad enough to embrace a method of election by popular vote, which was adopted subsequently?"

"I seek now to avoid that objection by a bill I am going to present. In substance, it provides for restrictions or regulations with respect to the election of Senators by popular vote that were contained in the corrupt

Practices Act of August 19, 1911, Applying to the Election of Senators by the Legislature

Senator Pomerene said the bill also provided "the same limitations and regulations with respect to the nomination of candidates for Senators that were contained in the corrupt practices act."

"It is a matter of common knowledge," said Senator McKellar, "that the newspapers have been printing the story that seats in this body are now open for purchase, that they are open to the highest bidder and the Senate is doing nothing in the world to prevent a situation of that kind."

"It seems to me that in the interests of the purity of the election of members of this body we ought to leave no stone unturned to protect the body against the purchase of seats herein."

Remedy Sought in Rules

Senator McKellar asked unanimous consent for consideration of his resolution for a change in the rules, which would bar any one elected through corrupt practices. Senator Moses of Michigan moved to discharge the Rules Committee from consideration of his resolution and to

Have the Senate Proceed to Consider the Resolution

Senator McCumber moved to table this motion.

A wrangle followed and Senator Curtis raised the point of order that Senator McKellar's motion should lie over one day. The chair sustained it. Finally the McKellar and Pomerene resolutions against corrupt practices and the Pomerene bill were all referred to the Privileges and Elections Committee.

Before this reference was agreed to, however, Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, said that while he was anxious to regulate expenditures of money it could not be done by rule of the Senate and must be done by law. He contended that the Senate could not by rule override the statute of a state, otherwise the states could be deprived improperly of representation in the Senate.

Senator Brandegee, of Connecticut, took the same view, and so did Senator John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi.

United States Internal Revenue Collector Robert O. Eaton, of the Connecticut district, has asked his superiors in Washington this question.

The Volstead act permits heads of families, upon notifying the collector, to make a maximum of 200 gallons of "fruit juices," provided such are not "intoxicating in fact." The office is flooded with notices of intent to make "fruit juices" from dandelion blossoms and rhubarb. Collector Eaton is asking if the juices from those two "vegetables" are "fruit juices."

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Belief that the government would not issue permits for the home manufacture of wine from the juices of dandelions or rhubarb was expressed today by Acting Prohibition Commissioner Jones.

Although there has been no ruling as to whether dandelion and rhubarb juices are fruit juices under the provisions of the law permitting the home manufacture of wine from fruit juices, not intoxicating in fact, government chemists, Mr. Jones said, have declared that so much sugar must be used in the manufacture of dandelion or rhubarb wine as to raise the amount of alcohol beyond legal limits.

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Solid Mahogany Boudoir Lamps with carved portables and equipped with georgette or taffeta shades in attractive models. (Sixth Floor)

Thin-Blown Table Tumblers

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These thin-blown table tumblers of a superior quality glass are neatly etched with a border design. A truly exceptional value at this surprisingly low price—less than 10 cents a piece. (Sixth Floor)

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Pie or Cake Knives, 1.50 formerly 1.75

Pie or Cake Knives, 2.75 formerly 3.00

American Sheffield Plate, plated on nickel silver.

Vegetable Dishes, lock or side handle. 10.75 formerly 15.00

Gravy Boats and Trays, 7.75 formerly 10.50

Bread Trays, 3.95 formerly 5.25

Hammered Design, Cheese and Cracker Dishes, 5.00 formerly 6.25 (Main Floor)

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