

M'ADOO DENIES ANY DICKERING FOR SHIPS

Secretary Says Government Has Taken No Steps to Get Tonnage.

TWO MEN SUMMONED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The Federal Government has taken no steps to ascertain the number of merchant ships available for purchase in the event that the Administration shipping bill is passed by Congress, according to a letter from Secretary McAdoo to Senator Fletcher.

Mr. McAdoo's letter is in answer to the questions raised by the Burton resolution last week making inquiries as to whether or not Secretary McAdoo had knowledge that any official had secured options on detained belligerent vessels. Mr. McAdoo has given evidence that he represents this resolution as a thinly veiled attack upon him.

The communication caused something of a surprise, for it had been assumed that the Administration, while pushing its fight for the ship purchase bill, had prepared for the immediate execution of the proposed merchant marine by getting complete data as to the tonnage available.

Two informants. According to Mr. McAdoo's statement the only information now in the possession of the Treasury Department regarding available ships has been furnished by two persons, Bernard M. Baker of Baltimore and J. V. McCarthy, manager of the Merchant Marine Agency of Boston.

The latter, some time ago, furnished the Secretary with a list of fifteen English and seven German ships and more recently has submitted lists of available neutral ships.

Mr. Baker informed the Secretary about a number of French and British ships available for purchase. In conclusion Mr. McAdoo says:

"In view of the false rumors and statements which have come to my ears permit me to say in conclusion that the Secretary of the Treasury has not time had a communication from or discussion with any banking house, banking institution or banker in or out of the United States in regard to the purchase, sale or disposition in any manner whatsoever of the German ships interned in the ports of the United States or elsewhere in connection with any other ships of belligerent or neutral nations for any purpose whatsoever."

Mr. McAdoo denied categorically questions embodying in general terms the substance of the Secretary's statement designed to ascertain if the Secretary of the Treasury or any other official acting within his knowledge or consent had made inquiries or taken any steps to bring the owners of belligerent ships, had received tenders of sale of any such ships or of neutral ships or had secured options on such ships or had directly or indirectly taken steps to get information as to the possibility of purchasing such ships.

Mr. McAdoo said that the only possible steps which might have been taken in this direction by any officials with whom he is associated were the inquiries made by the Secretary of War last fall, when the Government relief board was considering purchase of ships to home the American people who were in Europe at the outbreak of the war.

Voluntary Information. Here is the only excerpt from the Secretary's letter in which he indicates that he has information as to where ships are available:

"The Merchant Marine Agency, J. V. McCarthy, manager, of Boston, has furnished me voluntarily and without the solicitation or request of the Secretary of the Treasury sent to the Secretary of the Treasury a list of vessels, some of English and some of German registry."

Mr. McAdoo adds that his attention was called to some offers of ships of British and French registry by B. N. Baker of Baltimore.

"Mr. Baker," says the Secretary, "gave the information contained in the above in response to the question I asked him; viz. whether it was true, as alleged by opponents of the shipping bill, that no ships, other than the German vessels, could be purchased if the shipping bill became law."

"The Secretary of the Treasury has entered into no agreement with Mr. McCarthy of any other else for the purchase of ships. These offers were submitted to the Treasury Department, as before stated, without solicitation on my part and resulted, I presume, from the publication of the fact that the shipping bill is under consideration by the Congress and the Secretary of the Treasury is mentioned as a member of the shipping board."

The special committee of the Senate to investigate the alleged influences at work for and against the ship purchase bill held a preliminary meeting this morning. The committee agreed to call as witnesses Bernard M. Baker of Baltimore, former manager of the Atlantic Transport Company, and Sigmund Albert of 45 Broadway, New York city, said to be attorney for the Hamburg American Line. The committee will begin taking testimony to-morrow morning in the Senate Office Building. Senator Walsh of Montana presiding. The other members of the special committee are Senators Reed and Simmons, Democrats, and Senators Burton and Sutherland, Republicans.

Senator Sutherland was named to-day as a member of the committee to succeed Senator Weeks of Massachusetts, who declined to serve.

Secretary McAdoo may not appear personally unless the committee expresses a desire to cross-examine him on its statement. Mr. Burton, who introduced the resolution for the investigation, gave the committee the names of Mr. Baker and Mr. Alberts.

Missouri Honors Pioneers. St. Louis, Feb. 16.—A tablet to the memory of the pioneers of Missouri unveiled in Forest Park here to-day. The ceremonies also celebrated 100 years of peace between Great Britain and the United States.

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HOUSE PASSES SHIP BILL BY VOTE 215 TO 121

Continued from First Page.

with Germany. The Democrats howled in derision.

NETTLED AT BURLESON.

Democrats Opposed to the Ship Bill Suspect Blacklist.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—A good deal of hard feeling against the Administration was provoked among Democrats of the House to-day when it was learned that Postmaster-General Burleson had directed his secretary, Haskin MacArdie, to ascertain the names of those who voted against the ship bill at the party caucus last night.

The assumption was that Mr. Burleson, as the dispenser of Post Office patronage, wanted to add to his "blacklist" the names of all Democrats who failed to stand by the Administration in this emergency. Fifteen members of the President's party absolved themselves from the caucus pledge at the meeting last night. Their names were forwarded to Mr. Burleson in accordance with the request made by Secretary MacArdie.

To this list must be added the names of those Democrats who voted against the gag rule providing for the consideration of the ship bill and those who voted against the Administration. Among those who opposed this Administration bill were Representative Kitchin, who will be the Democratic leader in the next House, and Chairman Fitzgerald of the Committee on Appropriations.

Members favorable to the Administration who heard about Mr. MacArdie's letter placed a charitable construction on the communication. They suggested that Mr. Burleson probably wanted to ascertain the names of the recalcitrants in order that he might confer with the Republican city committee and bring them into harmony with the Administration policies.

CLOTURE ORDER RIDER.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Another day in the Senate was given over to consideration of the Reed cloture proposal. The opponents of the ship bill gained a victory in the fight when they practically added to the Reed proposal for special cloture the Cummins amendment condemning the caucus. This result was obtained by a vote of 47 to 45.

As a result the Democratic Senators, if the Cummins amendment is retained, will be put in the attitude of voting to condemn their own methods by which they brought to the support of the President's pet measure all except seven of the Democratic Senators.

Senator Reed moved to table the Cummins amendment. Senator Norris appealed to Mr. Cummins to withdraw it. The latter declined and the vote defeated the motion to table the amendment. Senators Kenyon and La Follette voted with Mr. Cummins and against the ship bill advocates. It was the first vote on which Senator La Follette has aligned himself with the ship bill opponents.

The remainder of the day was taken up in debate. Senators Reed, Owen, Lippitt, Norris and Cummins addressed the Senate. Physical violence was threatened on the floor of the Senate this afternoon when Senator Clark of Wyoming virtually called Senator Reed of Missouri a liar.

"I call the Senator from Wyoming to order, and if he doesn't come to order, I'll bring him to order," shouted Mr. Reed, advancing threateningly toward Clark.

Mr. Reed had just charged that the agreement between the Republicans and seven leading Democrats specially amounted to a caucus as binding and reprehensible in every way as that held by the Democrats.

At 4 o'clock adjournment was taken until noon to-morrow.

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TRAVIS BUREAU LAX IS SETH LOW'S HINT

Wickersham Then Defends Department's Work at Albany Tax Hearing.

WHITMAN CLASH AVOIDED

ALBANY, Feb. 16.—Those who expected fireworks and open hostilities between Gov. Whitman and State Comptroller Travis to-day at the hearing on the Governor's bill creating a State tax department were disappointed. The nearest approach to a squabble came over a discussion of the corporation bureau of the Comptroller's office, from which it is proposed to take the assessment of corporation taxes. Mr. Travis did not even attend the hearing.

Seth Low said the fact that the corporation bureau was annually levying and collecting more than \$11,000,000 with a force of fourteen clerks and one stenographer "arouses the idea, perhaps the suspicion, that there has been so little cost because appropriations have been permitted to tax themselves."

John J. Merrill, head of the corporation tax bureau, called upon ex-Archbishop General George W. Wickersham to correct that impression. Mr. Wickersham, although he spoke for the bill and the transfer of the duties from the Comptroller's office, said Mr. Merrill's bureau has done excellent work and has investigated the tax situation thoroughly. It developed that Mr. Wickersham is counsel for the Interstate in a case now pending before the United States Supreme Court protesting the levy of a tax by the Corporation Bureau.

Mr. Merrill explained that last year the cost of levying and collecting \$11,000,000 by his bureau was \$41,000 and he urged that the work be continued under that bureau.

"It has always been true that an elective officer does more efficient work than an appointive one," said Mr. Merrill, referring to the fact that the bureau now is under an elective official.

Mr. Merrill showed that of 15,000 tax accounts there remains \$6,000 of uncollected taxes. For the last five years the total uncollected tax is about \$6,000. Mr. Merrill said. The total tax levied during the last five years was \$49,000,000, so that the actual collections were \$43,000,000. In New York city, Mr. Merrill said, one-sixth of the levied tax is uncollected.

Mr. Low, Mr. Wickersham, Isaac N. Seligman for the New York Chamber of Commerce, Robert C. Morris, ex-chairman of the Republican city committee of New York city; Alfred G. Davison of Hempstead, J. O. Nicholson of the Board of Supervisors of Ontario county and De Lancy Ellis of the New York State Real Estate Association favored the bill. A letter from William D. Guthrie favoring the bill was read and the Citizens Union registered its approval of the measure.

Corporation Counsel Frank L. Polk of New York is said to oppose the bill, as Edward J. McDonrick, the legislative representative of the New York office, asked leave to file a brief with the committee within a week. The measure also stirred up opposition from county boards of supervisors, who do not want the State to interfere with local tax matters.

Martin Saxe, who expects to be one of the three tax commissioners appointed by Gov. Whitman if the bill becomes a law, was at the hearing, but did not take part in the discussion.

WORK TOO MUCH FOR BRYAN.

Secretary Enlists Aid of Former Taft Official.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Because of the rapidly multiplying problems confronting the State Department in connection with the European war, Secretary Bryan has been forced to enlist the aid of Chandler P. Anderson, counselor to the Department in the Taft Administration, to act as an additional adviser. Announcement to this effect was made by Mr. Bryan this afternoon. It is understood that Mr. Anderson will act as assistant to Counselor Lansing.

At the outset of the war Mr. Anderson was sent to Europe to act as legal adviser to the Department to assist American Ambassadors and Ministers in the matters relating to the protection of American interests. He returned recently to Washington to report on conditions abroad, particularly in regard to the detention camps maintained by the belligerents.

BIBLE FOR SCHOOLS PASSES COMMITTEE

Assembly Hearing Brings Fight on Compulsory Scripture Reading.

BILL REPORTED BY 9 TO 2

ALBANY, Feb. 16.—After a hearing before the Assembly Committee on Public Education reported favorably by a vote of 9 to 2 the Tallett bill, which requires the reading of at least ten verses of the Bible a day in schools.

Assemblymen Oliver of New York and Stephens of Richmond voted against the measure, the former on the ground that the bill conflicts with the charter of New York and the latter on the ground that the bill is unconstitutional.

The religious question was injected into the hearing by some of the speakers and alleged anti-Catholic agitation in western New York was bitterly attacked. Those who urged the reporting of the bill argued that the Bible contains no and no provisions in the bill regarding what version of the Bible shall be read in any particular school. They argued that no sect would be favored and there are no provisions in the bill regarding what version of the Bible shall be read in any particular school.

Assemblyman Smith, Democratic leader of the House, opposed the bill.

Discretion of School Boards. "If you must report this bill," said he, "amend it so as to confer some discretion on the local school boards as to the plan they may follow. I take off my hat to no man in my belief that children should have religious training, but I submit it to any reasonable man that the reading of the Bible to a child is a good thing if it is to accomplish any good."

H. William Miller of Albany said he regretted that there is a group in this State who have built up out of charity a substantial and apparently profitable business as well as a political organization. They have capitalized benevolence of men and women who contribute from their private funds to relieve distress.

"The other organizations in this State which collect money in a public way they persistently refuse to make any proper accounting of their expenditures. The public from which these donations are collected is entitled to know who the deserving persons are who participate in this \$174,600 payroll and how deserving each is. The heads of some of these organizations are said to be on several payrolls.

"It is unpatriotic," he declared, "to do so. I regret," Mr. Graves said, "that this does not show who the real authors are and the powers behind it. I believe the public should know this. The moment any authority gets up and says, 'I must read the Bible, others will ask why they are so anxious that this should be done.'"

Mr. Graves pointed out that if many parts of the Bible were taken out and printed they "could not be sent through the mails." "It is unpatriotic," he declared, "to do so. I regret," Mr. Graves said, "that this does not show who the real authors are and the powers behind it. I believe the public should know this. The moment any authority gets up and says, 'I must read the Bible, others will ask why they are so anxious that this should be done.'"

HELD FOR \$30,000 THEFT.

C. E. Walker Accused of Stealing New England Firm's Money.

BOSTON, Feb. 16.—Charles E. Walker, treasurer of the New England Discount company, was arrested to-night for the theft of \$30,000 of the concern's funds on September 28. The warrant was issued following an investigation of the books.

Walker was also treasurer of the Union Commercial Paper Company, National Investment Security Company, Colonial Furniture Company and the St. George Bay Fur Company, all the concerns having offices together in the Journal Building, and being now in receivers' hands.

Ladd, Deputy State Engineer.

ALBANY, Feb. 16.—Dwight Ladd, a Republican, who was retained in the State Engineer's Department under John A. Hensel, was named special Deputy State Engineer in charge of the large canal terminals at \$6,000 a year, to-day.

ASKS INQUIRY INTO PRIVATE CHARITIES

Resolution Asks Who Got \$137,272 Salaries From Gifts of \$223,881.

COSTS \$1.40 TO GIVE \$2.50

ALBANY, Feb. 16.—Senator George F. Thompson of Niagara and Assemblyman William J. Maier of Seneca have introduced resolutions providing for a joint legislative investigation of charitable organizations which do not receive and disburse public moneys, but do dispense moneys privately subscribed.

They have been told that it costs \$1.40 to distribute each \$2.50 of private charity and point out that the Charity Organization Society of New York city one donor received \$223,881 in charitable individuals, of which \$137,272 was paid out in salaries and \$86,609 was used in relief work.

Senator Thompson said he understood the School of Philanthropy in New York city has an annual salary roll of \$37,331 and that the same people are in the Charity Organization Society and School of Philanthropy.

Robert W. De Forest is the president of the Charity Organization Society and is also the chairman of the trustees of the Russell Sage Foundation. The central council of the charity organization comprises Mr. De Forest, Vice-President Otto T. Barnard, Treasurer George F. Baker, Jr., and Secretary Edward J. Devine, who is also director of the School of Philanthropy. Among the vice-presidents of the organization are Cleveland H. Dodge, Charles S. Fairchild, Seth Low, Peter B. Olney, J. P. Morgan, Eugene A. Phillips, J. R. Roosevelt, Jacob H. Schiff, James Speyer and Henry L. Stimson.

Senator Thompson said he understood the value of the company's plant at \$96,000,000, while the company placed it at \$135,000,000, and declared that the telephone revenues would not stand the drastic reduction suggested by Prof. Bemis.

Chairman Thompson announced that the consideration of the bills would be put over for two weeks.

120 SPARROWS TO EACH MILE.

Census Shows Robins Are Most Numerous Birds in U. S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Sixty pairs of English sparrows to the square mile, or seven to every 100 native birds, is the average throughout the United States, according to the preliminary census of birds of the United States just completed by the Government biologists. The bird most abundantly found in the United States is the robin, with the English sparrow a close second. In the Northeastern States there were found on an average six pairs of robins on each acre of farm land covered by a few farms of six-eight acres. English sparrows averaged five pairs to a farm.

Taking 100 robins as a unit other desirable birds were noted in the following proportions: Catbirds, 48; brown thrashers, 37; house wrens, 28; kingbirds, 27; bluebirds, 26.

A few years ago nearly all the bluebirds in the eastern United States were destroyed by a severe winter, but there are now several million in that section. On each acre of farm land covered by the census there was an average of one pair of birds.

DEVINE FAVORS BILL.

Charity Organizer Says Workers Welcome Inquiry.

Edward T. Devine, secretary of the Charity Organization Society, was told of the introduction of the resolution in the State Legislature and of the statement made by Senator Thompson. "The Charity Organization Society would have no objection to a law providing for the inspection and reports of charity organizations," said Mr. Devine. "We are strongly in favor of such legislation. We publish annually an accounting, which has been certified to by expert accountants, showing just how much money has been received and what has been done with it."

Concerning the statement made by Senator Thompson about the "charity organization society" to the effect that only \$86,000 was expended for relief out of \$223,000, Mr. Devine said, "Every dollar that was given to us to be used for relief has been so reported and without even charging the cost of dispensing it."

LOWER PHONE RATES WAIT ON COMMISSION

Proposed Cuts Stopped in Senate Pending Public Service Hearings.

ALL DEAD WOOD TO GO

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Lower telephone rates for a dozen bills pending in the Legislature, must await the Public Service Commission investigation. Notice to this effect was served to-day by Senator Thompson, chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Service Corporations, when the telephone rate bills were brought up before the Senate and Assembly committees for discussion.

The intimation is that the new Public Service Commission to be appointed by Gov. Whitman will deal with telephone rate reductions, which are now being investigated by the up-State Public Service Commission and by Senator Polky's joint legislative committee. Senator Polky appeared at the hearing to-day and said his committee would be ready to report within a week or ten days. He pointed out that the committee's expert, Prof. Bemis, upon a valuation of the New York Telephone company's plant of \$5,000,000, figured telephone rates should be reduced in New York city from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 and that \$3,000,000 cut should be recommended.

Edward W. Beatty, representing the Telephone Company, said the Public Service Commission's experts fixed the value of the company's plant at \$96,000,000, while the company placed it at \$135,000,000, and declared that the telephone revenues would not stand the drastic reduction suggested by Prof. Bemis.

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TUBERCULOSIS IN SAUSAGE

Seth Low Commission Urges Closer Watch Over Cattle.

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Close inspection of cattle, a general and frequent investigation of slaughterhouses and the pasteurization of skinned meat will reduce bovine and human consumption, according to the report of a commission filed with Gov. Whitman to-day. The commission, appointed a year ago, is composed of Seth Low, Calvin J. Hudson and Dr. Luman R. Williams, Deputy State Commissioner of Health.

The commission holds that many tubercular cattle are slaughtered annually and made into sausage, which may be eaten raw and cause tuberculosis in human beings. The report says that farmers be indemnified for cattle slaughtered by the State.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S EXIT.

Whitman Approves the Bill Abolishing the Department.

ALBANY, Feb. 16.—The long fight to abolish the department of the State Fire Marshal terminated to-day with the approval by Gov. Whitman of the House bill, which wiped this department out of existence.

The abolition of the Fire Marshal's department and the Commission of Efficiency and Economy was made a Republican campaign issue.

INDORSE WILSON FOR 1916.

Michigan Democrats Vote for Re-election of President.

LANSING, Mich., Feb. 16.—A ticket for the spring election was nominated by acclamation and the Administration of President Wilson was endorsed in most emphatic terms at the Democratic State convention here to-day.

LEGISLATIVE COMB FOR STATE PAYROLL

Senator Sage Appoints Ten Sub-Committees to Pare Down Salary Lists.

ALBANY, Feb. 16.—Chairman Henry M. Sage of the Senate Finance Committee to-day appointed ten sub-committees, each consisting of one member of the Finance Committee and one other Senator, to look into the personnel and payroll of each important State department.

Senator Sage has collected statistics from the head of each department showing the payroll for a number of years past and these are to be turned over to the sub-committees with a view of relieving the payroll of "dead wood."

"These sub-committees are not to conduct a probe," said Senator Sage, "but are expected to reveal numerous positions which have either outlived their usefulness or which were created by unscrupulous men in public life. These sub-committees are expected to report to the Finance Committee by March 15 and their recommendations will be considered in making up the annual appropriation bill."

TO AID COMPENSATION BOARD.

Senator Sage reported from the Finance Committee to the State Senate to-day the bill appropriating \$425,000 for the expenses of the State Compensation Commission for the remainder of this fiscal year.

The bill was reported by the committee in the same shape it was in before the measure was recommended for a hearing and it still contains the original provision permitting direct settlements between employer and employee subject to a review of the commission.

It is expected in the investigation of the financial situation of New York city and it was referred to the Finance Committee.

The revised resolution provides an appropriation of \$50,000 instead of \$10,000 for the expenses of the investigation to come out of the State Treasury and provides that a joint legislative committee of four Senators and Department of Finance and all other city departments "with a view to ascertain what changes, if any, in their organization and administration are advisable."

THE CITY DEBT.

It is further provided that the committee shall investigate and determine absolutely the city debt and examine and determine the necessity of each item in this year's \$200,000,000 budget and report "a remedy to the extent the debt may be lowered and the annual expense of maintaining the city of New York decreased."

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Another resolution introduced in the Senate and adopted was offered by Senator Brown directing the Senate Committee on Civil Service to investigate and report what pensions and service allowances are now made from the State Treasury.

The Senate Finance Committee unanimously approved Gov. Whitman's three appointments to the Court of Claims bench and the Senate unanimously.

Advertisement for Carstairs Eye and non-refillable bottle. "The last drop! I wonder if a Carstairs non-refillable bottle is really non-refillable?" "I'll bet I can fill it. I think easy and I look at it." "That doesn't seem to turn the trick. Let's see—I've a better way." "There now, I told you I could fill it."

Advertisement for Carstairs Eye and non-refillable bottle. "Be sure you get Carstairs Eye in the non-refillable bottle—a good bottle to keep good whiskey good." Oldest; purest; finest whiskey in America. Skillfully blended and aged in wood.

Advertisement for Tuberculosis in Sausage. "Tuberculosis in Sausage" Watch Over Cattle. ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Close inspection of cattle, a general and frequent investigation of slaughterhouses and the pasteurization of skinned meat will reduce bovine and human consumption, according to the report of a commission filed with Gov. Whitman to-day.

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Large advertisement for Kaffee Hag Caffeine-free COFFEE. "PERFECT COFFEE" "95% OF THE CAFFEINE REMOVED" "NOT A SUBSTITUTE" "R. O. Brooks, Chemist and Food and Drug Inspection Expert (formerly State Chemist, New Jersey and Pennsylvania): Mr. Brooks finds: '... an almost complete removal (at least 95%) of the caffeine, as claimed on label.'" "Even tho' the tasteless drug caffeine is removed, you'll be surprised to find Kaffee HAG the best coffee you ever drank." "Kaffee HAG is no experiment—millions of pounds are consumed annually and it is recommended by physicians, hospitals and sanitarians in all parts of the world." "the Delights None of the Regrets" "25 cents a package—in the bean only—all dealers" "KAFFEE HAG CORPORATION, 225 Fifth Ave., N. Y."

Advertisement for New Jersey Central. "GO TO PHILADELPHIA VIA THE New Jersey Central" "FAST TRAINS EVERY HOUR ON THE HOUR" "HARD COAL NO SMOKE NO TUNNELS" "SUPERIOR DINING CAR SERVICE" "BEAUTIFUL SCENIC PANORAMA" "Your Watch Is Your Time Table" "As Every Hour on the Hour fast trains leave Liberty Street from 7 A. M. to 10 P. M. weekdays; 8 A. M. to 11 P. M. Sundays. Midnight train daily; Sleepers ready 10 P. M. (Leave West 23d St. 10 minutes of the hour for all trains.)"