

# MAKING A BUREAU

### Secretary Cortelyou Hard at Work Planning the Manufacturing Bureau.

### Organization of the Department of Commerce a Matter of Hard Labor.

From The Journal Bureau, Room 45, Post Building, Washington.

Washington, April 3.—Since Mr. Cortelyou became secretary of commerce he has been importuned to make speeches in many sections of the country at banquets given by commercial organizations. He has declined all such invitations. He tells his would-be hosts that his business just at present is to do. He has been called to organize a great and important department of government as yet he has done nothing but work at the task of organization. The greater tasks to be performed by the new department when it is fully constructed have not yet been reached. At this time his speeches would necessarily deal with hopes and expectations. He says he prefers to talk about things which have been accomplished.

#### A Moving Day on July 1.

The big task for the secretary of commerce just at present is to organize the administrative machinery which is to take care of the business of all the great bureaus which are to be transferred July 1 to the jurisdiction of the secretary of commerce. All the employees of the census, the immigration, the geologic and coast survey, the bureau of standards and measurements, Chinese exclusion, statistics, consular reports, labor, fish commission, steamboat inspection, and the lighthouse board—all these will have to be brought into order under the new regime. To do this without confusion or interruption of work is not a simple task. The bookkeeping and accounting feature alone is so small an undertaking that the departments will move their quarters. The new building opposite the Willard hotel is to be ready for occupancy about that time, and July 1 promises to be a great moving day in government circles.

#### Bureau of Manufactures.

The bureau of manufactures, which is one of the two new bureaus created by the law which made the department of commerce, is hardly in a condition yet to be the subject of a prospectus. What it will be depends almost entirely on Secretary Cortelyou's ideas of what it can be made to be. The law is very vague. The act reads that it shall be the province and duty of such bureau, under the direction of the secretary, to "foster, promote and develop the various manufacturing industries of the United States and markets for the same at home and abroad, domestic and foreign, by gathering, compiling and publishing, and supplying, all available and useful information concerning such industries and such markets, and by such other methods and means as may be prescribed by the secretary or prescribed by the law."

Under such an authorization the secretary can do just about what he pleases. Anything to promote commerce and manufactures, with a view particularly to gathering and distributing information, that is about the purport of the statute. The secretary might make it a more statistical bureau, but that is evidently not the purpose of the act, as there is already a bureau of statistics which comes fully organized and equipped, with O. P. Austin, a competent man, at its head. It is evident that the secretary intended this work, nor is it contemplated that the work of the census, which gathers and distributes a vast amount of statistical and other information bearing on manufactures, shall be duplicated. Information as to foreign markets is already furnished by the consular officers of the United States, and is distributed by the bureau of the state department, which handles these commercial reports. The new bureau of manufactures will handle these consular reports; the law specifies that as "a part of its duties." But that will be but an incident.

There are scores of government departments which are now doing work which fosters and promotes manufacturing industries of the United States. The patent office may be said to do that; so may the bureau of animal industry, of the agricultural experiment stations, the bureau of chemistry, of those branches of the government which map the mineral bearing sections of the earth and explore the water power of streams. Indirectly almost all the machinery of government works to the general result of developing manufactures and finding markets for the same.

#### Opening Up Foreign Markets.

The task is set the new secretary of commerce to build a bureau of manufactures which will really be useful and will fill some want not yet supplied. The question is, what do the manufacturing interests of this country want—that which they cannot get now? Perhaps foreign markets are as important as anything at present. They are getting into foreign markets very well without much aid from the government, but that does not alter the fact that better, fuller, quicker and more explicit information might be welcomed. For all such information the new bureau of manufactures is dependent on the consular officers. The latter are under the jurisdiction of the state department, and all reports have to come through that department to the secretary of state to the secretary of commerce. In course of time these consular officials may be transferred wholly to the department of commerce and labor, and their reports be made direct and under better direction.

The new bureau of manufactures can, under the law, do more than supply information. The bureau may lend a little government aid in the actual introduction of American manufactures. There are doubtless foreign countries where American manufactures might be sold at a profit, but which private enterprise is not strong enough or daring

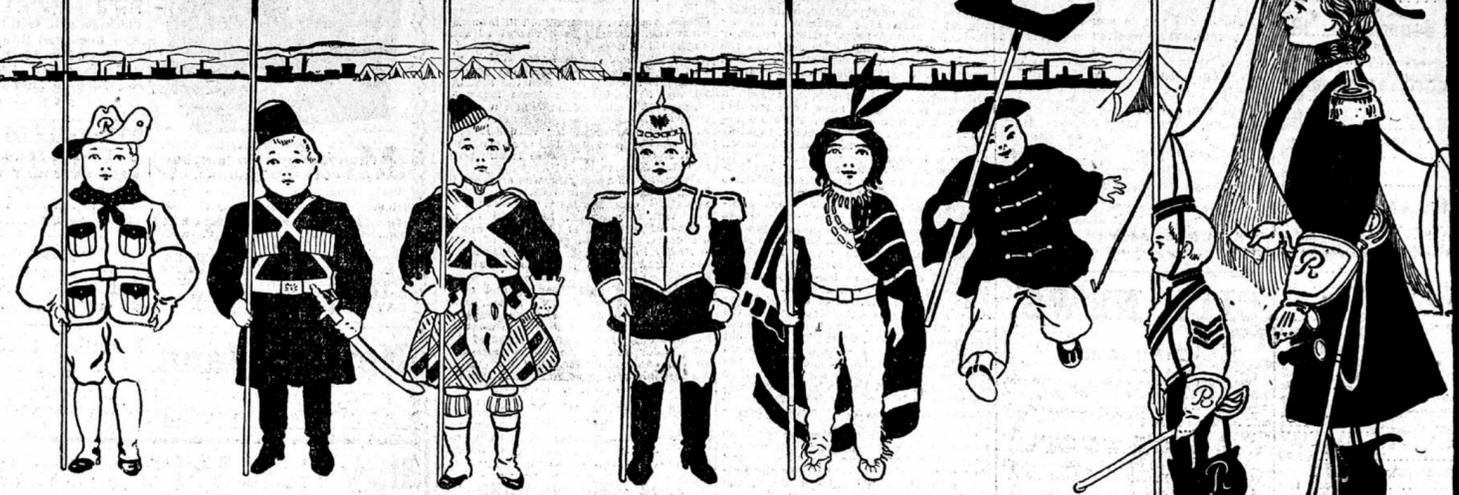
enough to invade. It may be that in such markets there are prejudices to be overcome, and that nothing short of a practical demonstration will convince the natives of the utility or superiority of the article. In such places the new bureau of manufactures might lend its aid in smoothing the way for private enterprise. The practical test might be made under government auspices as of a reaper or self-binder in Egypt, an automobile in China, a wind mill in Afghanistan, or of oil stoves in Siberia. Private individuals would readily be found to co-operate with government experts in such enterprises, and the actual expense to the government, in the end, would undoubtedly be found to be very small. Similar efforts have been made by the government, in behalf of the farmer, under the auspices of the department of agriculture. For example, agents have labored with the continental people of Europe to convince them of the value of maize, or common Indian corn, as an article of food for human beings and for domestic animals. And recently the secretary of agriculture has spent considerable money experimenting with the shipment of fruits to European ports. This bureau of manufactures might do similar service for manufacturers.

#### To Bring in Manufactures.

In addition to seeking and opening up foreign markets for home manufactures, the commissioner of manufactures will be empowered under this new law to cover foreign manufactures which might be conducted profitably in the United States, and to help to establish them here. It was entirely unknown in the United States, and imported a plant with which America almost bodily. The department of agriculture has vainly urged that the manufacture of paste-foods of the macaroni order. The "lard wheat from which it is made has been introduced and is found to grow abundantly in the Dakota region, and the industry abroad is known to be very profitable. These are simply examples taken at random. There are doubtless many other lines of manufacture which might be set up in the various localities of the United States, with profit to the people conducting them, and eventually to the great enrichment of the whole nation. The best sugar industry was built up under the auspices of the agricultural department. The bureau of manufactures will not be limited to agricultural specialties, but can concern itself with any industry calculated to flourish, keeping in mind the needs and resources of the locality. In this respect it would be better in the field what the department of agriculture does for the farmer when it explores the four corners of the earth, and brings back seeds, bulbs, slips and all forms of vegetable life, and tries whether they will grow in the various climates of the United States.

Secretary Cortelyou has not committed himself to any plan for working out this bureau of manufactures problem. What is said above, indicates what may be done under the law, and what Mr. Cortelyou is turning over to his subordinates. He is anxious about all things, to have the bureau a practical and useful branch of the government. He is determined that it shall not degenerate into a merely scientific department, with a pall of scholasticism upon it; nor does he want it to become a useless machine for grinding out useless figures and equally useless facts. He is feeling his way, soliciting suggestions, and trying to get at the sentiment of the best informed and most progressive thought. He knows that his present work is bound to be most important for the character which he stamps upon the new department it will in all likelihood carry for many years to come.

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### STILL ALL AT SEA

#### Movement for Wisconsin Grain Inspection Must Be Fought Out on the Floor.

#### Committeemen No Nearer Agreement Than in Earlier Stages of Legislation.

Special to The Journal. Madison, Wis., April 3.—The bill providing for a Wisconsin system of grain inspection at Superior is still "up in the air," with no prospect of an agreement being reached in committee, and from present indications the matter will have to be threshed out on the floor. The amendments drawn by Mr. Hudson, which it was hoped would meet the objections raised by Mr. Rogers, had little effect, and were withdrawn. It was intended to have the bill reported back from the senate committee on state af-

airs this week, and bring the contest on the floor on at once, but John A. Murphy, who is looking after the Great Northern interests, was called away Wednesday by the death of his mother, and the bill now goes over to the next legislative week, beginning April 13.

#### Anti-Cigarette Legislation.

The anti-cigarette bill will be reported for concurrence by the senate committee on state affairs. No one appeared to oppose the bill when the committee took it up yesterday and the disposition was to report it for immediate passage. All that prevented was a request from Senator Bird, who is understood to favor the bill, that he have a hearing.

Senator Bird has two bills, one similar to the assembly bill which passed the lower house, and one providing for a license fee. The assembly measure absolutely prohibits the sale or importation of cigarettes or cigarette paper into the state. This is the bill that will be passed unless something unexpected develops. The committee on claims cut down the appropriation for the Wisconsin state fair from \$80,000 to \$20,000 because of a shortage of funds. The Wisconsin Agricultural Experimental association was given \$1,000 with which to make experiments with seeds and plants. Municipal judges will have to resign

or else they will have to give up their clients and private practice. The senate judiciary committee has taken the matter in hand and Senator Roehr has been requested to frame a measure barring judges from engaging in private practice as an attorney.

The question was discussed at the session of the judiciary committee yesterday afternoon, when a complaint was heard because municipal judges are practicing as attorneys. It was stated that the judge of the municipal court of Milwaukee, the two municipal judges of Waukesha county and municipal judges in other sections of the state are acquiring large practices.

#### Short Night Session.

The senate held a short session last night mainly for the reception of committee reports. The bill to legalize all franchisees heretofore granted to street railway companies and public service corporations or to any individual was recommended for passage. This measure is supposed to be designed to cure defects that may exist in the franchise of the Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light company franchise. The banking substitute bill was presented and 400 copies were ordered printed. The bill providing for a regular mode of procedure in disbarment proceedings was reported for concurrence together with many bills of lesser importance. Senator Rioridan's bill providing a bounty of \$15 for grown wolves and \$5 for wolf cubs was favorably reported.

#### OTHER WAYS MAY BE FOUND.

Sioux City Journal. "A bill to encourage the horse breeding industry," introduced in the Minnesota legislature, turns out to be a measure legalizing gambling at the state fair. It is thought probable the Minnesota legislators, after thinking the matter over, will try to find some other means of encouraging the horse breeding industry.

Madrid-Student riots have broken out at Salamanca as an outcome of a quarrel between the students and the police. The civil guard fired several rounds, killing three students and wounding many others.

### STEAMBOAT INSPECTION

#### Employees of the Service Are Asked to Make Out Nutshell Biographies.

From The Journal Bureau, Room 45, Post Building, Washington. Washington, April 3.—The first task of George Ulmer, the new head of the steamboat inspection service, will be to look over the members of the service at all the stations, and decide for himself whether or not they shall continue in government employ. This he will do pending the preparation by the civil service commission of a new system of examination for local inspectors and the procurement of a fresh register of eligibles. There has been some talk of a re-examination of all the present members of the service. It may be that they will be put, here and there, to special tests; but it is believed that with his abundance of practical knowledge and experience, the new chief can do his sifting in most cases without the aid of a formal examination paper.

With a view to facilitating this work, and in order to bring the whole force into touch with central headquarters, there has gone to every employe a filing card ruled out to show his full name, age, place of residence, etc., and with two large spaces left to be filled with "Special Qualifications" and "Personal History," respectively. This is enclosed in a circular instructing him to insert, in typewriting, the data called for. Under "Special Qualifications" are to be included information concerning any training in, or study of law, medicine, chemistry, or the like, and any expert business or professional experience. Under "Personal History," he is expected to "state briefly such pertinent facts as, in his judgment, may be of interest or value to the department."

The cards, on coming back, are filed in a drawer so as to be easy of access, and will enable the departmental officers, when any man's name comes up for promotion, discipline or dismissal, to know something more about him than his mere name and station. There is another object in mind, also, which every business man who had ever conducted his own correspondence will appreciate. The details of the answers have been left for each employe to work out for himself without catechetical assistance, and the characteristics of the writer reveal themselves not only in the facts he sets forth, but the way in which he states them. Every card is therefore not simply a directory slip, but more or less of a mirror of personal traits, and the impressions made by it will serve as a sort of leader to the specific investigation which is to follow.

—H. C. Stevens.

### SENATORIAL DIGNITY

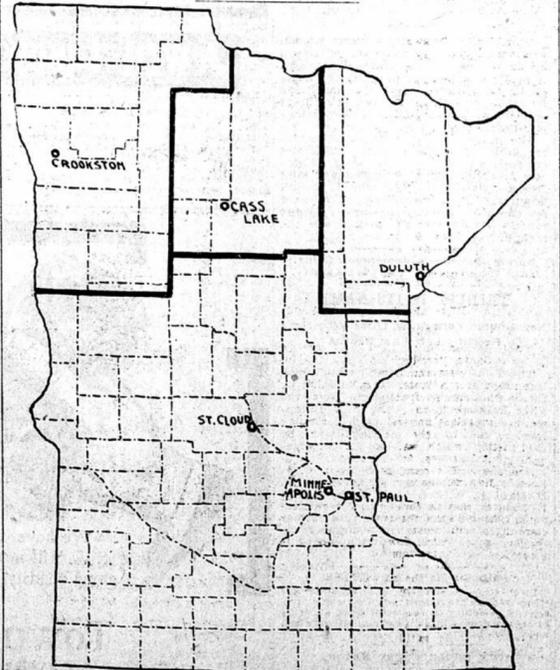
#### It Is Injured in an Encounter at Little Rock.

Little Rock, Ark., April 3.—United States Senator James P. Clarke and Congressman S. Brundage had a personal encounter in front of the Capitol hotel yesterday afternoon. Clarke was talking to four members of the legislature and Brundage came up and offered to shake hands. Clarke is alleged to have said: "I don't want your friendship." Brundage replied that he "did not have to have it." Clarke retorted and they clinched. Clarke is alleged to have struck Brundage with a closed knife. Brundage being badly cut on the face. The men were separated by friends. All refuse to make statements.

The trouble is alleged to be the result of a recent interview published with Brundage criticizing Clarke for not having Senator Berry escort him to the desk to be sworn in.

St. John, N. F.—According to reports from Bay of Islands, on the west coast of Newfoundland, the ten American fishing vessels which have been frozen in the ice field here since Jan. 17 are in a perilous position owing to the ice drifting after a severe storm on Tuesday night.

### The New Minnesota Land Districts



Map showing how the state has been divided by the recent presidential orders between the land offices at Duluth, Crookston, St. Cloud and Cass Lake.

### HARRIS

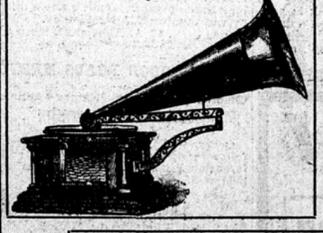
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  - Fennel, per peck . . . . . 7c
  - Lettuce, each . . . . . 3c
  - Cabbage, hard, each . . . . . 3c
  - Radishes, two bunches for . . . . . 5c
  - Fresh Strawberries, Pineapple, Bananas and oranges at lowest market prices.
  - Cocoanuts, each . . . . . 3c
  - Grapefruit, each . . . . . 5c
  - Lemons, thin skin, dozen . . . . . 10c
  - Bananas, dozen . . . . . 10c
  - Persian Dates, lb . . . . . 5c
  - Crisp Ginger Snaps, lb . . . . . 5c
  - Fresh Soda Crackers, lb . . . . . 5c
  - 1-lb jars Fancy Bitter . . . . . \$1.35
  - California Lemon Cling Peaches, worth 20c can; 14c can, dozen, \$1.65
  - Polk's M. F. Peas, can, 7c; dozen, .80c
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