

E. F. OF... WORKING TO ROOT OUT RADICALS

SHIP BOARD MONTHS WITHOUT RECORDS, IS CLAIM

CHIEF TROUBLE LAID TO INEFFICIENCY OF ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

Martin J. Gillen, Former Assistant to Payne, Tells Investigating Committee That in August, 1919, Chaos Reigned; No Dishonesty, He Says.

New York, Nov. 17.—The Walsh congressional committee investigating the U. S. shipping board was told at Wednesday's hearing that when Alonzo Tweedale was made treasurer of the board of the Emergency Fleet corporation in August, 1919, no record existed in either office showing how \$2,500,000,000 expended up to that time had been disbursed. This testimony was given by Martin J. Gillen, former executive assistant to John Barton Payne, when he was chairman of the board.

Gillen added that neither was there any record of \$240,000,000 worth of securities belonging to the fleet corporation. These later were found deposited with a Philadelphia trust company he said.

The shipping board had to call on the state department to get records of the division of various ships among Norwegian ship owners, Mr. Gillen declared. He said that on 21 ships taken over from Norwegian account the government paid out \$34,500,000 for what the owners had paid \$11,404,585.

To complete the \$400,000 tank ship being built by the Union Iron Works, \$680,483 was expended, Mr. Gillen said. Settlement with the Norwegian ship owners for more than \$34,000,000 was arrived at by "trading with them after they had put in claims for \$42,000,000," Mr. Gillen said. These settlements, he added, were without authority and without consulting records where the ships were built.

"My investigation disclosed that the board had no records to show how much money it had taken in during the war and how much was expended."

He said that up to October 1, 1919 there had been more than 8,000 voyages of shipping board vessels, but added that one shipping firm alone had more than \$25,000,000 of the board's money.

Mentions Harding's Name. The name of President-Elect Harding was brought into the record when Gillen said he had informed Senator Harding that it was the duty of congress to see that only big men, capable of handling affairs entrusted to them, be appointed to all departments.

"I have been conceded," he said, "that but few men connected with the Emergency Fleet corporation had an expert knowledge of accounting," and he also said that it was due to a complete breakdown of the accounting system that the board had its main troubles.

Mr. Gillen testified that among other conditions disclosed by Tweedale as treasurer were the following: There was no balance sheet showing what funds the board possessed, or in what bank its funds were deposited.

No Accounting Record. There was no record of accounting vouchers or shipping board vessels nor any way of determining how money belonging to the government they had in their possession.

Prior to the advent of Mr. Tweedale, he said, the treasurer of the board was "an issuer of checks" some of the times without supporting claim vouchers.

On November 1, of this year, the witness said, of the sum of \$3,800,000,000 expended, there had been submitted to the treasurer vouchers to cover only \$2,700,000,000. Vouchers representing disbursements of \$900,000,000 had been "excepted to" by the treasurer because of lack of sufficient supporting data, and there was yet to be present vouchers amounting to \$1,100,000,000.

Employ 900 to Check Up. Vouchers and data to make possible the accounting so far obtained, he testified, have been obtained by going out into the field, starting with bank accounts of various firms, and persons with whom the board and the Emergency Fleet corporation had transactions and tracing the accounts back to the board. In this work he said a force of 900 men had been engaged.

In summing up his evidence Gillen made it plain that he had found no evidence of dishonesty on the part of any of the board members, that they had done their very best—but the energies of the board had been concentrated on getting ships and getting them into operation. He further said an order of congress on the subject of board funds to the national comptroller had not been complied with when Mr. Tweedale took charge, because of the bad condition of the accounts.

Ships Make Big Profits. The witness also testified owners of ships commandeered by the government in 1917 were allowed to make profits far in excess of what this country permitted in the other industries. He said ships, regardless of their age and natural depreciation, were taken on a basic contract of rental value of \$1.15 a dead-weight ton. An allowance for profit, interest on investment, allowance of depreciation, based on the war time earning value, and other items, made it possible for the owners to make on the contract as high as 57 per cent. He said ships 30 years old made this profit for their owners.

The witness said he knew of one ship bought by a New York firm for \$200,000, on which alterations costing \$475,000 were made and which earned in six months over \$600,000.

This ship was then sunk by a submarine," Gillen added.

Protected by Attorney. Testifying as to taking over contracts of ships built in American yards, he declared it was due to the precaution of a former general attorney of the board, Joseph Cotton, that the United States was not forced to pay millions in "consequential damage claims."

U. S. OFFICER SHOT HAITIAN PRISONERS IN BACK, TESTIMONY

Native Witness Identifies American at Court of Inquiry Session at Port au Prince.

Port au Prince, Haiti, Nov. 17.—(By The Associated Press.)—The charge that Freeman Lang, formerly a corporal in the marine corps and a lieutenant in the gendarmerie, killed three Haitian prisoners at Hinche in 1917, was made Wednesday before the court of inquiry which is investigating the activities of the American marines in Haiti.

It was made by Adolph Bourgot, a native. Bourgot, who at the time was acting as corporal in the gendarmerie, testified he witnessed the execution of the prisoners, which took place immediately after a night attack.

Shot Prisoner in Back. He testified that "during the attack, which lasted half an hour, the three Haitians were in prison. When the attack ended Lang ordered them out, shooting the first one in the back. The others were brought out singly, meeting the same fate."

Answering a request by Judge Advocate Major Jesse F. Dyer to identify Lang, if present, the witness rose and pointed across the table at Lang. At this juncture the court retired, subsequently announcing it would give Lang the right to question Bourgot, obtain witnesses and employ counsel.

Describes Attack. Lieutenant Colonel Hooker described the January attack on Port au Prince, saying 66 had been killed. He declared the attack was made in order to bolster the bandit cause.

Colonel Louis Little, commanding the field forces, testified that the only complaint from President d'Artiguevane of Haiti had been investigated and found to be incorrect.

ONLY 2 MIDDLEMEN WIVES TO RETAILER, ANTHRACITE PROGRAM

Wholesalers Work to Remove Causes of Price Increase and Restricted Distribution, Claim.

New York, Nov. 17.—Wholesale anthracite coal dealers have rounded out a program which they assert will "drive out of the coal business" the elements which have tended to restrict distribution and increase prices to consumers.

Meeting here, they adopted recommendations of their fair price committee restricting to two the number of middlemen between the mine and the retailer and providing that no wholesaler should take more than ten per cent maximum gross profits on any transaction. It was decided that the sale of coal by a mine agency or representative should be considered one of the permissible transactions. The recommendation that maximum gross profit to wholesalers "should not exceed ten per cent should not be taken as an invitation to wholesalers to take that profit," a statement issued by the Wholesale Coal Trade association said.

Other resolutions seeking to cut down the number of middlemen and thwart "brokers and wholesalers who have no established business and clientele, to the end that outlaw buying and consequent fictitious and artificial prices might be prevented, were adopted.

Breakfast for Baby Oats Join Price Tumble

Chicago, Nov. 17.—A 17 per cent reduction in the wholesale price of rolled oats was announced Wednesday by a Chicago grain company. The price of rolled oats has increased steadily since July, 1918, officials of the company said. Wednesday's cut was made possible by the recent decline in oats.

Officials of the company said 20 ounce packages, which have been retailed at 18 or 19 cents should sell in a few weeks at 15 to 16 cents. Grocers and jobbers have not stocked up on package cereals, it was said, in anticipation of a drop, and therefore the reduction should reach the consumer within a short time.

ROBBERS BIND, GAG DIVORCEE; GET RICH GEMS

In Attempt to Elude Thugs Woman Loses \$400,000 in Pearls.

Hidden Diamond Bracelets Removed by Men From Gown.

New York, Nov. 17.—Search was instituted Wednesday night for three men who early Tuesday morning entered a fashionable residence in East Ninetieth street, bound and gagged Mrs. Charlotte King Palmer, wealthy divorcee, and her two servants, then escaped with jewels and furs valued by the family at \$500,000. There was \$54,000 insurance on the jewels, police said.

Before leaving Monday night to attend a reception at the home of Mrs. Sidney Drew in Monmouth, N. J., Mrs. Palmer arranged with her servants that they would answer the door only when the bell rang twice, sharply. Shortly after 9 o'clock, the servants said the bell rang twice and they opened the door. Cloaks were thrown over their heads, they were bound and placed on a bed.

Three Men Answer. Returning after 1 o'clock, Mrs. Palmer said she used a night key to enter. Noticing some disarrangement of furniture, she rang for the butler. Three men, dressed similarly and wearing false moustaches and wigs, answered. They told her the house was in danger of being robbed, she said, but she tried to pass them and was pushed back.

Mrs. Palmer wore a pearl necklace valued at \$400,000 and two diamond bracelets. She darted past the men, she said, and at the head of the stairs fell. She tore her necklace and two pearls ran over the floor. Her bracelets she thrust into the bosom of her evening gown.

Pick up Pearls. The men carried her to her room. After they had picked up the scattered pearls, she said, they returned, bound her, then took the jewels from her fingers and the bracelets she had secreted in her dress.

The three then ransacked the house and did not leave until 7:30 o'clock Tuesday morning. Soon after, the butler loosened his bonds, freed the maid and his mistress and called physicians and police.

Mrs. Palmer is 38 years old. She formerly lived in Chicago, and her former husband's name is said to be Parish.

Stocks Touch Lowest Prices in Three Years; Steel Quoted at 80 1/2

New York, Nov. 17.—After a brief respite, in which hopes were entertained of a recovery from the disturbing conditions which have attended almost every session since election, the stock market met with fresh liquidation and short selling Wednesday. The general list fell to lowest prices for one to three years, United States Steel making a new low for three years at 80 1/2.

Wednesday's break was the more surprising because the market began with a show of firmness, attributed principally to the assurances from banking headquarters that the protracted decline of securities and commodities had uncovered no points of financial weakness.

The same assurances were tempered however, with the statement that further liquidation would have to be effected, especially in retail branches of trade, before confidence in the general business situation could be restored.

General Chemical, on a single sale of 100 shares, dropped 19 1/2 points, and Famous Players represented the electrical or film issues at a loss of 11 points.

First Degree Murder Verdict Is Returned in Butte Prosecution

Butte, Nov. 17.—Mike "Peaches" Webbe, colored, was found guilty of murder in the first degree by a jury here today. Sentence will be pronounced Saturday.

Webbe was charged with the murder of two service men who were found dying in a cabin here on August 17. An autopsy indicated that the men had died from cocaine poisoning.

Sea Captain Pleads Guilty to Smuggling Charge; Fined \$2000

Los Angeles, Nov. 17.—Captain Charles Reiner, master of the steamship West Hika, and for 35 years navigator on the Pacific coast, Wednesday pleaded guilty to a charge of smuggling and was fined \$2,000 in federal court.

Captain Reiner said he did not know he should declare dutiable articles unless he wished to land them.

\$150,000 Opium Haul Made in Philippines

Manila, Nov. 17.—More than 1,800 tons of opium valued at \$150,000 were seized in one haul by the collector of the port on the island of Cebu Wednesday. The opium is believed to have been shipped from Borneo by an alleged ring which smuggles large quantities into the Philippines.

Gas Downed Third of Yanks Wounded, Says Army Report

Washington, Nov. 17.—More than 31 per cent of all American soldiers admitted to hospitals overseas during the world war were gassed, according to a statement by the chemical warfare service. Excluding marines and sailors the total of American soldiers gassed was 70,522, of whom 1,221 died and 2,853, or 4.04 per cent were discharged as having suffered some disability from gassing. Every effort to prepare this country with an efficient gas defense in the event of another war is being made by chemical experts, according to officials of the service. Fifteen thousand chemists have been enrolled to enter service at a moment's notice and constantly engaged in research in order to perfect all kinds of gases for use in the event of hostilities.

HARDING DEPARTS FOR NEW ORLEANS TEXAS REST ENDS

Following Address to Business Men Will Board Steamer for Canal Zone.

On Board President-Elect Harding's Special Train, November 17.—(By The Associated Press.)—President-elect Harding's vacation in Texas came to an end Wednesday, and he was well on his way toward New Orleans Wednesday night to board a steamer for a voyage in southern waters.

His special train, left Brownsville, Texas, at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning, on a scheduled run of exactly 24 hours along the Gulf coast to the Louisiana port. He will stay there five hours, making an address at noon before the New Orleans association of chemists and boarding his steamer, the United Fruit Liner Parismina, at 3 p. m.

Whether Vera Cruz or some other Mexican port will be visited by the president-elect had not been announced Wednesday night. Parismina's present sailing orders call for a direct run to the Panama Canal zone, but Mr. Harding has indicated that he might request a change to permit him to accept the invitation to visit Mexican territory.

"BABY IRENE" LOSES \$300,000, BUT GAINS MOTHER FROM COURT

Margaret Ryan of Ottawa Wins Substitution Against Mrs. Matters of Chicago.

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 17.—The last resource on which Mrs. Frederick Matters of Chicago, pinned her hope of regaining possession of "Baby Irene," claimed by two mothers, was exhausted here Wednesday when the appellate division of the supreme court upheld a decision of the lower court awarding the child to Margaret Ryan of Ottawa.

By the same process of law the child was excluded from falling heir to nearly a third of a million dollars which would have been hers as daughter of the rich American.

Ever since Mrs. Matters and Margaret Ryan were inmates of Misericordia hospital the fight over "Baby Irene" has raged in the courts. Both had become mothers, but only one child had lived.

Months of litigation, with both women claiming the living child, resulted in the decision of Justice Lennox last December that a substitution had taken place, and that Margaret Ryan was really the mother of the infant girl.

Corn Show Opens With Excellent Exhibits From 14 Counties

Miles City, Nov. 17.—The annual state corn show opened in Miles City Wednesday with 14 counties represented in the exhibits. Those represented are: Cascade, Custer, Richland, Couteau, Dawson, Fallon, Fergus, Meagher, Prairie, Powder River, Stillwater, Teton, Valley and Yellowstone.

The exhibition will last three days and after prizes are awarded the best of the exhibits will be packed for shipment to the International Hay and Grain exposition at Chicago. The state is more generally represented this year than in any former year. The displays are excellent.

Harding's Minnesota Majority Is 376,447; Preus Polls 415,805

St. Paul, Nov. 17.—Minnesota gave President-Elect Harding a majority of 376,447 votes in the recent election, according to official figures announced Wednesday by Julius Schmachl, secretary of state. The Republican candidate polled 519,421 votes and Governor James M. Cox got 142,904.

For governor, J. A. O. Preus, Republican, polled 415,805 votes; Henrik Shipstead, (indorsed by the Nonpartisan league) 281,402, and L. W. Hodgson, Democrat, 81,208.

SOLONS POWDER LAW TO REVIVE WAR FINANCE

Appalling Situation Is Faced by Farmers; Quick Action Urged.

Houston's Desire Not to Aid American Producer, Averred.

Washington, Nov. 17.—Senators from the western and southern states are considering legislative action to revive the war finance corporation. They said Wednesday this was the only agency which could give them immediate help to agricultural interests in the "appalling situation resulting from the sudden fall in prices."

A conference of western senators and representatives to discuss the matter will be called, it was stated, when Chairman Gronna, North Dakota, of the senate agricultural committee, arrives in Washington.

One suggestion that congress adopt a mandatory resolution, directing the immediate revival of the corporation, Appeals to Wilson.

In an appeal to President Wilson to restore the corporation Senator Dial of South Carolina wrote that he had discussed the matter with Secretary Houston and added: "I must say that he does not comprehend in the least the situation, or he does not desire to assist the American producer, and I fear that it is useless for anyone to confer with him further on the subject."

"I have conferred with all the leaders of our party," the senator's letter continued, "and I have not found a man who does not agree that the war finance corporation should resume operation."

Discuss Relief. The executive committee of the national board of farm organizations will meet here Monday to discuss possible relief measures.

Delegations named at the recent agricultural conference here also asked Secretary Houston to rehabilitate the war finance corporation and were met with the statement that it was not necessary, the secretary quoting experts to show the amount of agricultural products which have moved over seas.

Passage of the Capper-Versmold-Volstead bill, legalizing collective marketing, will be urged by the farmers' representative at the coming session of congress, it was said. They also will ask for congressional investigation of credit and rates of interest.

DES MOINES CHAMBER ADDS IMPETUS TO MOVE

Des Moines, Ia., Nov. 17.—A movement to restore the war finance corporation will be given added impetus by a positive and immediate way of restoring grain prices, was inaugurated Wednesday by the board of directors of the Des Moines chamber of commerce.

Dozens of other organizations, local and national, will be invited to participate in the movement. Among others, the department of agriculture, the treasury department, the United States congress, the National chamber of commerce, the Mississippi Valley association, the Greater Des Moines committee and the various state and national farmer organizations will be consulted.

U. S. Banks' Resources Total \$21,885,480,000; Deposits On Decrease

Washington, Nov. 17.—Resources of all national banks amounted to \$21,885,480,000 September 8, a reduction of \$311,257,000 compared with June 30, but an increase of \$270,064,000 over September 12, 1919, according to reports of the last bank call summarized Wednesday night by Comptroller Williams.

Deposits totaled \$16,751,956,000, the controller said, a reduction of \$403,465,000 compared with the June call and an increase of \$70,349,000 over September of last year. Loans and discounts increased by \$18,662,000 as compared with June and September.

Between June and September there was an actual net increase in deposits in all the national banks (outside of New York) of \$82,697,000, but a reduction in the deposits of the New York banks of \$48,092,000. Between September, 1919, and September of this year, however, the increase in loans and discounts exceeded the decrease in deposits by \$1,259,951,000.

The state showing the largest increase in deposits since June in country banks was Pennsylvania, \$40,000,000, while those showing the largest reduction were Connecticut and Minnesota, \$8,000,000 each.

Beer and Pretzel Object of Curious in Milwaukee Musee

Milwaukee, Wis., Nov. 17.—Real beer has taken its place with the things that are extinct.

Two bottles of beer, one dark and the other light, with a plate of large pretzels, have been placed under a glass case and are on display at the Milwaukee public museum, preserved for the page of future generations.

VICTORY ACHIEVED IN EFFORT TO AID UNEMPLOYMENT

CONFERENCES FORESHADOW SOME ACTION LOOKING TO CLOSER CO-OPERATION BETWEEN CAPITAL AND LABOR TO SOLVE PROBLEM OF IDLE WORKMEN DUE TO DECREASE IN INDUSTRY'S DEMAND FOR WORKMEN.

Washington, Nov. 17.—(By The Associated Press.)—Direct steps to eliminate radicalism from any control in organized labor and to meet the menace of increasing unemployment are being taken by the American Federation of Labor through its executive council, in session here. Already a decisive victory over radical elements in the organization has been achieved at one point and the far reaching nature of the conferences appear to foreshadow some action looking to closer co-operation between labor and capital to meet unemployment.

CHAULMOOGRA OIL MAY CURE SOLITARY LEPROUS OF MONTANA

Effort Will Be Made to Subject Former State Senator Willett to Treatment.

Special to The Daily Tribune. Helena, Nov. 17.—Former State Senator O. G. Willett of Mineral county, the first and only known leper in Montana, will be offered the treatment sponsored by the United States public health service for the cure of the disease, left hurriedly for Montana. His wife, to whom he had been married for 10 months at that time, did not desert him, but has been living with him on his farm, in quarantine ever since.

He became ill shortly after his return home to Abertown after the legislative session. It is his belief that the disease was contracted when he spent 20 months in the Philippines as a member of Company G, First United States Infantry. He enlisted in San Francisco in 1902 and was discharged in 1904. He is about 46 years old.

Conservative leaders have pounded away on the radical question for several months, insisting on a more determined stand by the controlling body, but reports of increasing unemployment have now brought that subject into a position of equal importance.

It developed that there was a feeling among certain members of the council that it should deal emphatically with the attempts of radicals to bore from within. Based on Two Premises. This sentiment was based on two premises, first, that organized labor cannot hope to exert great power in ensuing years if its foundations are weakened by the permeation of certain radical doctrines, and second, that the next administration will be conservative. As to the latter, it was said in some quarters 'abor could gain little from the new congress, unless it established policies of a conservative nature.

In the reorganization of the committee to unionize the steel workers the conservative element showed its strength. It eliminated from the committee John J. Fitzpatrick, chairman, and William Z. Foster, secretary, each of whom participated in the direction of the steel strike last winter around which clustered intimidated and outspoken radicals. Fitzpatrick was replaced by M. E. Dighe, and Foster gave place to J. G. Brown, known conservatives.

Cuts Foreign Radicals. President Gompers of the federation has declared against the unrestricted admission of aliens with capital on several occasions and the federation itself is having no intercourse with foreign labor groups of a radical turn.

Immigration also has a bearing on the question of unemployment, recognition by the labor men to be increasing at a rapid rate. The situation was characterized by several labor officials as somewhat alarming and they felt that the council should take steps to deal with it.

The department of labor has made public statistics showing that during October there were decreases in the number of employes in ten industrial plants, as compared with October of a year ago, while only four plants had enlarged pay rolls.

See Further Decreases. It was declared that the real reductions in employes, particularly in the textile industry, had become of importance only this fall, and reports obtained by the various branches of the government were said to indicate further decreases in scores of plants.

There was no indication as to means which may be adopted by labor to reach a common ground with the employers, the subject of the radicals. It may be, however, that pressure against the radicals will be exerted by refusing sanction to their strikes, unless grounds for the walkout are uncompromising, according to labor leaders.

The number of men and women without work now was said to point to a reduction in the number of controversies between labor and capital this winter. While labor officials refused to admit existence of the situation, government data reported an evident desire among more workers to retain their places on the payroll.

ROADS NOT EARNING WHAT THEY SOUGHT BY INCREASED RATES

Income for September 26.9 Per Cent Short of Returning 6 Per Cent On Their Valuation.

Washington, Nov. 17.—Main line railroads are not net earning amounts expected to accrue from the rate increases granted by the interstate commerce commission, according to a study of operating statistics made by the bureau of railway economics, and issued through the Railway Executives association.

During September, the first month for which practically complete statistics on the new basis are available, the association said, the net income of 207 railroads, less operating expenses, was 26.9 per cent short of the amount necessary to give them a 6 per cent return on the provisional valuation placed on the property used for transportation purposes. This, however, might be in part due to the statutory amount of traffic during the month was charged for at the old rates.

DeValera Organizes New Irish Association to Aid Recognition

Washington, Nov. 17.—"The American association for the recognition of the Irish Republic" was organized here Wednesday by Irish leaders from all over the country who were summoned to Washington by Eamonn DeValera, president of the provisional Irish republic.

The new organization is designed to support the Friends of Irish Freedom and to absorb the membership of the organization and to give Mr. DeValera a vehicle for working out his plans and those of the Irish representatives.

Engine Crew Injured in G. N. Rock Slide

Spokane, Nov. 17.—Engineer Landis and Fireman McKnight were slightly injured when a rock slide struck Great Northern west-bound fast mail train No. 27 at Katka, Idaho, early Wednesday. The engine was derailed but the cars remained on the track.

Great Northern passenger trains No. 1, 3 and 43, west-bound were delayed six hours by the wreck.

FOIL COUP D'ETAT PLOT OF VENIZELISTS, RUMOR IN ATHENS

Bloodshed Responsibility Placed On Premier; English Favor Prince George for King.

Athens, Nov. 17.—One of the election aftermath rumors was the disclosure of a report that supporters of Venizelos planned a coup d'etat to prevent their defeat. M. Montagna, Italian minister, is said to have called on Venizelos, and, informing him of the plot, told the premier he would be responsible if there was any bloodshed.

It is declared Premier Venizelos, before resigning, issued the strictest orders for the enforcement of order.

The newspapers opposed to Venizelos announce that most of the Venizelist functionaries will be retained in the new government.

It is the frequently voiced opinion of political observers here that Lloyd George favors the return of Prince George to the throne, and that the British prime minister indicated abandonment of Venizelos three weeks ago by his notification that Great Britain would refuse to surrender Cyprus to the Greeks.

GEORGE GOES TO GENEVA. Paris, Nov. 17.—Premier Lloyd George of Great Britain, is expected in Geneva soon, according to newspaper dispatches from that city.