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INVESTIGATION OF BEEF TRUST IS SIDETRACKED

Federal Prosecutor Says Routine Business Is Too Pressing

TO ABSOLVE TARIFF

Attempt Will Be Made to Show High Prices Due to Limited Supply

Even Hetty Green Too Poor to Afford Meat

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—Mrs. Hetty Green, who has many millions of dollars, declared today that at present prices meat was too dear for her, and she cut it out of her noonday order.

Mrs. Green entered a modest uptown restaurant and scanned the bill of fare. Steak she found at 50c a portion, and roast lamb and roast beef at 35c.

Mrs. Green took halibut, which was 15c a portion.

"Have you joined the boycott?" asked the waiter.

"No," said Mrs. Green dubiously, "but meat is too high. You don't get your money's worth. People really can't afford to eat it. There are other things just as good and cheaper."

In response to a lighter demand, the price of beef in the Brooklyn wholesale district declined 20 per cent today, and pork loins slumped sympathetically.

[Special to The Herald.]

CHICAGO, Jan. 24.—The long deferred prosecution of the beef trust, which the government finally threatened as a result of the powerful protest by the American people against the exorbitant prices of meat and the high cost of living, received a backset today.

The federal prosecutor explained "there was some routine business to be disposed of first."

Just how vigorous is to be the federal prosecution of the trust remains to be seen, but it was reported from Washington today that the Republican regulars, aided by administration heads, would make a desperate effort to show that the high cost of living is not, as claimed by Republican insurgents and experts, a result of the Aldrich tariff, nor of administrative policies.

Before the actual prosecution of the trust is instituted Uncle Sam's agents, it is said, will present claims to show that the high cost of living (including the high price of meats) is caused by the scarcity of farm help, the arbitrariness of grain growers, faulty range conditions and the excessive consumption of cities and the diminishing production of the soil. In fact, many and variable arguments will be brought to bear in the case, following the step already taken by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson to attribute the entire gamut of exorbitant prices to the influx of foreigners and their refusal to work at agricultural pursuits.

Retailers Charged More

But how this will explain away the astounding difference between the jobbers' prices to public institutions and those charged to retailers is beyond conjecture. Why meat is considerably cheaper in Chicago and Kansas City, the distributive points, than in the districts from which it is supplied is another stunner for the politicians. Why beef can be sold profitably at 7 cents to hotels and restaurants, yet has to be sold at 2 to 2½ cents higher to retailers, and in turn at 10 to 15 cents higher by retailers to consumers affords still another vexing problem.

In delaying the action against the beef trust today it was stated that "a change had been made because the case against the packers was of such grave importance that it was deemed best that the twenty-three men impaneled on the federal grand jury before Judge K. M. Landis should familiarize themselves with grand jury procedure before considering the evidence."

It was promised, however, that the case would go ahead as rapidly as possible.

The firms against which it is announced the government will proceed are Armour & Co., Swift & Co., and Morris & Co., who, it is charged, control the National Packing company for their own benefit and arbitrarily regulate the prices and market supply.

Many Subpoenas Served

Deputy United States marshals early today were put to work with more than a score of subpoenas and writs to bring before the grand jury all packing house employes and books of the three companies involved.

Every precaution was taken to keep the identity of the witnesses secret. A large number of secret service operatives have apparently been brought here from other cities and it is believed they will be used in serving subpoenas and supplying evidence.

At the city offices of the National Packing company and Armour & Co. it was said no subpoenas had been served. Judge Landis in his charge to the grand jury today declared it was through information furnished by him that the present proceedings were started.

Judge Landis also said that after he had notified the United States district attorney in Chicago January 20 he was surprised to see January 22 notices in the newspapers coming ostensibly from Washington that the government officials there had ordered the investigation.

It was announced, however,s that action on the beef trust investigation would be postponed for a few days until some docket cases had been considered.

"Having in mind the duty of the district attorney," said Judge Landis, "I notified that office on the twentieth of the present month that on your assembling here today the court would direct your attention to the subject of the present investigation.

Regrets Publicity Given

"It is a source of profound regret that two days later there began widespread newspaper publication of matter purporting to come from Washing-

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AVIATOR FLIES 34 MILES; SOARS HIGH OVER SEA

Hamilton Breaks World's Record for Distance Above Water

CROSSES INTO MEXICO

Makes Journey Without Accident -- Ends with Moonlight Trip

[Associated Press]

SAN DIEGO, Jan. 24.—Charles K. Hamilton flew in his Curtiss biplane across the border line of the United States into Mexico and over the ancient Mexican city of Tia Juana today, surprising the inhabitants of that sleepy little place into unusual life, and then flew back to the polo field at the Coronado Country club without a stop. He was gone from the field forty minutes and traveled thirty-four miles. For the greater part of the time he was over the Pacific ocean at a height of 200 feet.

Not satisfied with furnishing this sensation today, the aviator made a flight by moonlight over the ocean, staying up for three and a half minutes and alighting on the field in the deep shadows that had settled below the sky line.

Both of these flights may be said to establish new records, for Hamilton flew farther over the water than did Bleriot in his flight over the English channel, and he made the first flight ever recorded where both start and finish were in semi-darkness.

Slight Disaster

Hamilton's first flight of the day resulted in a slight disaster. At 3:15 p. m. he went up while a strong wind was blowing, and after zigzagging over the field for three minutes and while he was attempting to alight in the center of the field, a sudden gust caught him just as he struck the ground, causing the machine to bound for ten feet. One of the rear wheels was crushed and two ribs on the lower plane were broken.

After an hour of tinkering Hamilton had the machine repaired, and at 4:17 he was off for Old Mexico. Thousands of people in San Diego city watched him wing his way over the wide expanse of blue water, flying steadier than the gull flies, while automobiles raced over the boulevard that extends along the ocean shore on the narrow strip of land from Coronado to Point of Rocks, trying to keep him in sight.

Dusk was gthering when Hamilton again alighted on the field, but the big throng was still there to welcome him back, and when he said that he was going up again as soon as the moon rose, many came over to his tent to dissuade him.

Flies in Moonlight

But Hamilton did not heed their protestations and at 6:03 he left the ground and made an indescribably beautiful picture as he soared to a height of 200 feet against the dark background of the distant mountains, and then came suddenly against the brighter blue of the sky in which a great round moon sailed with him.

Tomorrow morning if conditions are favorable, Hamilton will try for the altitude record of the world.

Discussing his world's glide record made late yesterday at Coronado field, Charles K. Hamilton today said:

"In Los Angeles I had to take a chance on a glide when my propellor shaft broke, and the experience taught me something, I know now that I can glide safely to earth from any height I go."

This is in direct contradiction to the belief generally held by Curtiss and others that death awaited the aviator whose engine stopped while he was any distance from the earth. Hamilton yesterday made two glides, the first of some 300 feet and the second of 575 feet, the latter being officially designated as a world's record by H. LaV. Twining, president of the Aero club of California, whose presence here is for the purpose of making official any records Hamilton may make.

L. F. Walsh whose monoplane crashed into the fence yesterday has decided to construct a biplane, in which, he says, he can fly successfully.

Paulhan Braves Wind

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 24.—In order to please a few thousand people who waited through a stormy afternoon to see him fly, Louis Paulhan, the French aviator, took chances against threatening clouds today and rose over the fields in a 10-mile flight from Tanforan park to San Bruno hills. To do this he had to lift his machine from a sod-soaked ground. He came back without mishap just before a hail storm broke.

Paulhan made several short flights during the early part of the afternoon, but the wind was too strong to risk leaving the ground far or for any considerable time.

WILL FLY IN UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Jan. 24.—Louis Paulhan and his company of aviators will appear in Salt Lake City January 29 and 30 for flights. Negotiations to this end have just been concluded. The Commercial club is handling the event. Particular interest attaches to the proposed flights here because of the altitude, the starting point being four-fifths of a mile above the level of the sea, and the sustaining power of the atmosphere diminished in proportion.

WIFE SLAYER SENTENCED

GOLDFIELD, Jan. 24.—John Sheridan, who was convicted on the charge of manslaughter as a result of the stabbing of his wife a year ago, today was given the extreme penalty for his crime. The court sentenced him to ten years and ignored the plea for clemency made by the jury. Sheridan stabbed his wife while in a drunken frenzy, and she died some time afterward.

FAIL TO GET JURY

RENO, Jan. 24.—The ninetieth talesman was examined and dismissed this afternoon in the trial of Mrs. May Talbot for the murder of her husband, E. A. Talbot, without a jury being secured. Eleven men are in the box, and the defense has one peremptory challenge remaining. The state exhausted all of its peremptory challenges this morning.

MONOPLANE WHICH MET DISASTER IN ITS FIRST TRIAL AT SAN DIEGO

The upper photograph shows the monoplane designed and built by C. F. Walsh of San Diego which was wrecked in an attempted flight at the polo grounds of the Coronado Country club Monday. Below is the wrecked machine after it had crashed into the fence.

RUN STARTED ON MEXICO CITY BANK

GEORGE I. HAM IS FORCED TO RESIGN

Depositors Become Uneasy and Withdraw Large Sums—President Well Known in Los Angeles

[Special to The Herald.]

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 24.—Following the action of two other banks in placing one of their men in charge of the institution, a run was started on the United States Banking company late this afternoon. Twenty accounts, aggregating $200,000 (Mexican), were withdrawn.

The president and chief stockholder of the bank is George I. Ham, well known in Los Angeles, and whose spectacular rise from the position of a locomotive engineer to that of head of one of the largest banks in Mexico City has made him famous. Mr. Ham's resignation as president was forced by two big local banks from which the Ham bank had borrowed $5,000,000 in Mexican money.

The run started when it became known that Ham had resigned. Depositors are being paid as fast as checks are presented. Assurances were given that the bank will pay in full.

The National Bank of Mexico and the Bank of Montreal have placed James Forsythe, assistant manager of the Mexican branch of the Bank of Montreal, in charge of the affairs of the United States Banking company.

Amassed Fortune

Mr. Ham is a Canadian and one of the heaviest stockholders.

Since he came to this country he is said to have amassed a fortune of $2,500,000 pesos, and is said to have transferred all his personal possessions to prevent the bank from closing its doors. He is now in a sanitarium suffering from the effect of overwork.

The United States Banking company is capitalized at 2,000,000 pesos, with deposits amounting to 8,000,000 pesos. It is an institution without governmental concessions and therefore does not enjoy certain banking privileges accorded under the Mexican law, including the issuing of currency.

It is said the bank recently borrowed 5,000,000 pesos from the Bank of Montreal and the National Bank of Mexico. This was loaned to a local corporation, which was unable to meet the obligations when it became due. This is said to account for the action of the two banks in placing Mr. Forsythe in charge.

Mr. Ham and his family are well known in Los Angeles. Mrs. Ham has been living in Whittier for several months with her daughter. Mr. Ham and his son have made their home in this city. In addition to his banking business Ham was financially interested in other enterprises, including the Mexico Daily Record, an afternoon newspaper published in English. He is probably the most widely known member of the American colony in Mexico.

EARTHQUAKE IN ISLANDS

ST. THOMAS, D. W. I., Jan. 24.—Earthquakes have been felt in a number of West Indian islands. Sunday afternoon there were two sharp shocks at St. Vincent and Demerara, a slight one at Trinidad and prolonged shocks at St. Lucia, Barbados and Grenada. No damage is reported.

HOLLYWOOD IS VOTED INTO CITY

Returns from Election Show Consolidation Was Carried by an Overwhelming Majority

By a vote of more than 16 to 1 Hollywood was consolidated with Los Angeles at the election held yesterday. The total vote, as recorded at the office of City Clerk Harry J. Lelande last night, was 6,618 for annexation and 393 against. This means that one of the prettiest foothill suburbs of Los Aangeles is, barring a few preliminary legal steps, to all intents and purposes an integral part of the Southern California metropolis.

That Hollywood was willing and anxious to join hands with Los Angeles is demonstrated by the vote, which stood 409 for annexation as against 19 in opposition, when the count was made at the Hollywood city hall last night. This shows the territory most vitally affected by the consolidation movement was 20 to 1, and better, in its favor.

San Pedro's three precincts, only recently annexed to the city themselves, came loyally to the polls and rolled up a vote of 167 for the annexation, as compared with 9 against it.

Colegrove, a near neighbor of the town, nestling against the Santa Monica mountains, cast a vote of 67 to 2 for the annexation of Hollywood.

Before the actual annexation of Hollywood and its being made an integral part of Los Angeles can be effected the vote must be legally canvassed by the members of the city council; a certification of the legal canvass must be sent to the secretary of state and a return certificate must be received by the city clerk from Sacramento. This means a matter of only a comparatively few days, and it is probable that Hollywood will be an integral part of Los Angeles in less than two weeks.

The vote by precincts at yesterday's election was as follows:

Precinct.	Yes.	No	Precinct.	Yes.	No
1	229	3	44	86	4
2	96	7	45	93	11
3	93	22	46	88	4
4	140	11	47	72	1
5	92	9	48	57	4
6	89	3	49	71	7
7	93	2	50	74	9
8	137	5	51	73	10
9	120	7	52	21	7
10	155	9	53	53	8
11	98	11	54	82	5
12	149	6	55	63	10
13	110	..	56	44	8
14	29	..	57	78	8
15	126	1	58	64	6
16	113	1	59	48	12
17	73	5	60	32	11
18	135	3	61	23	5
19	85	4	62	15	14
20	128	4	63	36	7
21	95	1	64	99	15
22	96	5	65	30	..
23	38	..	66	69	3
24	54	7	67	101	..
25	135	1	68	104	4
26	133	5	69	28	2
27	51	..	70	28	3
28	106	2	71	42	1
29	89	2	72	97	5
30	96	5	73	20	..
31	73	6	74	43	3
32	40	1	75	38	2
33	26	..	76	112	1
34	30	3	77	26	1
35	40	..	78	67	2
36	73	2	79	51	2
37	111	2	80	40	..
38	117	5			
39	12	..	Total city	6229	375
40	84	9	HOLLYWOOD		
41	102	3	81	409	18
42	89	8			
43	80	..	Grand tot	6618	393

WOMEN ROB RICH MAN OF $28,000

BANKER VAN NORDEN OF NEW YORK LOSES BIG SUM

Supposed Thief Swoons on Shoulder of Financier in Front of Waldorf-Astoria—Two Suspects Are Under Arrest

[Associated Press]

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—Warner M. Van Norden, the banker and president of the Van Norden Trust company, was held up and robbed of $28,000 last Wednesday night as he was leaving the Waldorf-Astoria.

With the arraignment of Bessie Roberts, alias Kitty Dowdell of Chicago, and Annie Williams, alias "Chicago Margie" same the story how Mr. Van Norden's exceeding graciousness cost him his fat pocketbook.

He left the hotel and was about to take his automobile when he saw two women walking along Fifth avenue. One of the women dropped a pocketbook, and Mr. Van Norden politely picked it up and returned it.

A hearty slap on the back was the somewhat startling manner in which one of the women signalized her thanks. There was a profusion of thanks and bows and one of the woman fainted suddenly on Mr. Van Norden's shoulder.

Roll of $28,000 Stolen

She quickly revived and the banker went home in his machine. Then he discovered the $28,000 was missing. The women have been held in $30,000 bail for further examination.

Van Norden at once reported his loss to police headquarters and on his descriptions of the women Inspector McCafferty said he was sure the yunger woman was "Margie Williams" of whom the police have heard much recently.

Kitty Dowdell, or Bessie Roberts, was arrested yesterday and the Williams woman was found later.

They admitted they had spoken to a man as he was leaving the Waldorf.

The Williams girl, who is described by her associates as the "big blonde," denied she had robbed any one or that she knew of any robbery.

"If Dowdell got away with anybody's roll,' she observed, "she didn't give me any of it. I wasn't wise to the operation."

RECOVER FOUR BODIES

SUDBURY, Ont., Jan. 24.—The recovery of four bodies and the identification of two women found yesterday was the net result of today's work at the scene of Friday's wreck at Spanish river. The bodies recovered today were those of Miss Mulroy, Cache Bay, Ont.; — —Hansen, a man of 40, addres unknowh; Mrs. Kelley, wife of Joseph Kelley of Leavenworth, Wash., and Florence Kelley, 10 years old, daughter of Mrs. Kelley.

TO PROBE INSURANCE

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 24.—An insurance commmission, consisting of R. S. Lennie, D. H. McDowell of Victoria and A. B. Erskine of Vancouver, was appointed by the provincial government today to ivestigate fire insurance matters in British Columbia, including the operations of American companies in the province. The commission will report upon the advisability of legislation for the regulation of foreign fire insurance associations.

18 VILLAGES IN FRANCE FLOODED; HUNDRED PERISH

Fourth of Country Under Water, Rivers Are Still Rising

THOUSANDS SUFFER

Food Prices Soar--Famine Is Menacing Poor of Many Districts

(Special Cable).

PARIS, Jan. 24.—With one-fourth of France under water tonight, eighteen villages inundated, thousands of homes flooded and hundreds of persons reported drowned in the departments of the Seine and Marne, the situation tonight is the worst in the nation's history.

The heavy snowfall of yesterday was followed today by a terrific downpour of rain, and tonight every river in eastern France is a raging torrent, pouring in great volumes over quay, dyke and levee, driving thousands of persons to their housetops and tearing up trees and fences for many miles. The larger rivers are filled with cattle, trees and debris.

The dyke at Saone-Ah-Doubs broke tonight, and ten villages were flooded. The streets of Chalons-Sur-Saone are five feet under water, and several persons have been drowned in attempting to escape from their homes.

Hundreds of persons at Chalons are clinging to the roofs of buildings crying frantically for help. The scene presents innumerable appalling features.

Despite the use of hundreds of boats at Chalons, the work of rescue is attended by unusual difficulties, owing to the torrential downpour of rain.

Four inches of rain has fallen in two hours this afternoon—a record unprecedented, and bringing the precipitation almost to the proportions of a cloudburst.

Water Rising Fast

The Marne at Rheims is reported to be rising at the rate of two inches an hour, with no prospects of the flood crest passing Rheims before tomorrow morning, even should the rain cease falling immediately, of which there is no indication.

Tours-Sur-Marne is completely under water. Ten large structures in that town have collapsed, and several persons are bleieved to have met death in the wreckage. Twenty-seven other buildings are said to be seriously menaced.

Ruin and consternation prevail among the inhabitants, and municipal authorities held conferences late into the night to decide measures of relief.

The situation in Paris tonight is the most critical in the last century. The Seine continues to rise, and three-fourths of the city is in darkness. The floods drowned out the large electric plant in the chamber of deputies, and the deputies tonight were compelled to meet by lamp light to consider steps to relieve suffering.

Premier Briand has introduced a bill carrying approximately $400,000 for the immediate relief of the homeless and destitute.

The soldiers and gendarmes have done heroic work in saving lives and protecting property from ghouls.

Food Prices Soar

Owing to the difficulty of getting food into the city, market prices have almost trebled in the last three days, and the poorer classes in many instances are reported on the verge of starvation.

Thousands are without beds or shelter of any kind except that which is provided by the government and municipal authorities in the parks and public places which so far are not under water.

Twenty-five thousand factory men have been thrown out of work along the river-front warehouses.

Many narrow escapes from death are reported. The explosion of boilers in inundated factories is an occasional element of danger.

An enormous amount of live stock is reported to have been drowned in the departments of Marne, Aube, Aisne and Meuse.

It is now believed the Eiffel tower, the foundations of which were threatened by the waters, is no longer in danger of collapse. However, the wireless station at the top of the tower has been abandoned temporarily.

The rivers Rhone and Loire are reported falling and the situation accordingly improved at Lyons, Lymoges, Troyes, Annecy and Auxerre. The property damage cannot be estimated with any accuracy, but it will be very great.

President Tours District

Late this afternoon President Fallieres and Premier Briand made a tour of the flooded districts. The crest of the flood had then almost touched the top of the arches of the Pont Alma. Preparations were made to blow up the span with dynamite if it should become necessary.

The sewer in the Place Havre has caved in and the Avenue Montaigne has been invaded by the waters. The schools in the inundated suburbs have been closed.

The trains in the subway are being sent out only from the stations at St. Lazare and the Invalides. The lower stretches of the road have been abandoned. In the submerged districts women fled from their homes with their children in their arms.

Two thousand homeless persons have arrived in Paris seeking shelter.

The Seine has risen nine inches since 2 o'clock and the river now registers 7.53 metres at Pont Royal. This is the highest since 1802, when it reached 8.80 metres, the highest point recorded in the history of France except in the year 1615.

A terrible tempest of rain and wind which broke over the city at daylight only adds to the horror of the situation and to the sufferings of the poor and homeless.

Although the waters of the Seine affluents above the city are still rising rapidly, the municipal authorities were hopeful this morning that the maximum stage of the waters would be reached by nightfall.

Sight Awe-Inspiring

The river presents an awe inspiring spectacle. A quarter of a million of people in a drenching rain throng the

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