

REASONS WHY SOLDIERS' COMPENSATION NOT PAID

"I want to be distinctly understood as saying that the men in charge of the sales of war supplies are in combination with men on the outside to whom an advantage is given, and that in no case except in exceptional cases is anybody advised that war supplies are declared surplus except those men who are given the inside."

The foregoing declaration by Congressman Martin B. Madden of Illinois on the floor of the House in April, 1920, is quoted by Marquis James in the fourth of his sensational "Who Got the Money?" series exposing war and post-war graft and profiteering, as indicative of some of official Washington's attitude regarding the alleged steals. The fourth article appeared in the American Legion Weekly September 29.

Congressman Madden asserted favorites of the war department had reaped profits of from 100 to 150 per cent. The substance of his allegations, the article says, was the basis for two indictments returned by the extra grand jury sitting in Washington of Ernest C. Morse, former Director of Sales of the War Department, the indictments accusing him, Everly M. Davis and Alexander W. Phillips, the last-named two chemical manufacturers of New York, with conspiracy to defraud the government. During Mr. Morse's regime property which cost the taxpayers \$1,685,000, 000 changed hands.

The article deals with three phases of these sales. A power plant which cost, it has been estimated, \$143,000, 000 being sold for \$3,500,000. Lumber worth \$4,697,000 sold for \$1,854,000 below the market level. Leather—the following is taken from the article:

"A total of 580,182 horses and mules were on army property rolls during the war.

"For these 2,033,204 nose bags were bought—more than three to each animal.

"For these 2,850,853 halters were bought—nearly five to each animal.

"For these 1,627,199 brushes were bought—nearly three to each animal.

"Of these 580,182 horses and mules, 86,000 were saddle horses. For these 945,000 saddles were bought—not quite eleven saddles to each horse.

"A total of 712,510 sets of spur straps were bought, enough to supply every mounted officer with thirty-six.

"Altogether our army leather program cost three-quarters of a billion dollars. And one reason why, during and after the war, civilian shoes cost from \$15 to \$20 a pair was that the army program called for more leather than America produces—which may also be a reason why Uncle Sam paid for 32,000,000 pairs of shoes an average of \$7.15 a pair."

The article quotes, concerning the leather situation, from the Graham congressional committee report that

followed an investigation. The leather equipment committee, an auxiliary of the Council of National Defense, was entrusted with the duty of determining and supplying the government's leather needs for the war.

Its chairman was Joseph C. Byron of W. B. Byron & Sons, large tanners of Hanover, Pa. He obtained, the article says, a commission of lieutenant colonel for his friend, George B. Goetz, vice-president and treasurer of A. D. Goetz & Co., harness makers of Ransom, W. Va., who became one of the principal purchasers of army harness.

Lieut. Col. Goetz "exalted Captain Axel F. Cochran, banker, of Hays, Kansas, to a position as harness purchaser, and Captain Henry W. Benke, small leather dealer of Chicago, to be chief harness inspector of the quartermaster corps." After the war the United States Harness company was organized and "became the corporate name of Messrs. Byron, Goetz, Benke, Cochran and others." The Graham report quoted says:

"Your committee is convinced there was a continued effort from the date of the armistice to the time of making the United States Harness company contract, to-wit, September 24, 1920, to prevent surplus leather equipment from being placed on the market. It is also obvious that the constant efforts of Colonel Goetz and Major Byron were to prevent the sale of the property in question. There seems to have been a concerted movement on the part of all leather men both inside and outside the war department to protect the leather interests at the expense of the government until the time came when those inside the government, having full control of the situation and seeing their opportunity to realize great profits, deserted their former colleagues."

The article declares sales campaigns undertaken by the government to get rid of the enormous leather supply were failures, and explains:

"Some of the most attractive items were not advertised. Minimum quantities offered were far above the needs of the individual consumer.

To obtain one saddle a farmer had to buy ten; to obtain one bridle he had to buy 22; one whip, 500. Byron and Goetz, without authority, appeared at meetings of the sales board of review and obtained rejections of bids which were time and again many times greater than the prices for which Byron, Goetz and associates ultimately obtained the coveted equipment."

"Sixty dollars was bid on 'double harness.' That stuff ain't worth \$3," an officer says Goetz exclaimed. "It's robbing the people for the government to get such prices."

"This same harness was about to undergo a further depreciation, for a few months later Colonel Goetz and colleagues took it over for \$4.59 a set as a part of the contract of the United States Harness company.

"An effective quietus was adminis-

tered those who protested against the methods of Byron & Goetz, either before or after the coup that resulted in the formation of the United States Harness company and the execution of the amazing contracts in its favor. Captain George C. Bossom, Jr., in charge of leather supplies, protested and was discharged from the service. Major W. O. Watts, executive officer of the surplus property division, protested and was reprimanded by his chief, Colonel Yates, and told not to dig up a 'mare's nest'. When he persisted he was discharged, refusing to consider a permanent majority as the price of silence.

"D. B. Baxter, leather merchant of Greenville, S. C., enlisted the aid of two United States senators. Byron and Goetz took him into partnership. Harbison and Gathright, a Louisville firm, sent a vigorous protest to the secretary of war. It is not known if the secretary of war saw the letter, but it is known that Colonel Goetz saw it and dictated an answer. Harbison and Gathright expressed surprise that a letter to a cabinet member should be answered by the man against whom the complaint was directed."

School Notes

New students enrolled: 9th grade, Anita Kirby, Maine, and Benny East-erling, Warren, Arkansas; 10th grade, Mamie Thomas, Garland, Prairie; 11th grade, Agnes Switzer, Flagstaff. This brings total high school enrollment up to 92, an increase of over 40 per cent over last year at this time.

In order to encourage better attendance, Emerson school has adopted the plan of giving one hour holiday to all students who are neither absent nor tardy during the month. Only one room had perfect attendance last month. This was Miss Anderson's second grade.

The kindergarten children have been busy working out a little project this month to send to some little kindergarteners in New York. How happy they have been moulding doughnuts, bread, cakes and pies from their own mixture of flour and salt. Each little tot can tell you the proportions. They have all the fun of mixing and stirring, too. Here they get a chance to develop their first co-ordinations of hand and brain. Color combinations in the painting of their forms, brings out their observations at home. We saw a little box all ready to be sent to New York and it held the brownest of cookies, the finest of pumpkin pies, and a big pink cake covered with cocoanut.

Country Doings

The high winds that were blowing a few days ago were not caused by the long speech of Governor Campbell in Williams on the night of the 4th, but were blowing up the punch and kick that are going to be in the doings at the Red Lake fair, tomorrow, the 14th. There will be a good old-time dance in the school house in the evening. The successful political candidates will be there, as it will be the largest country gathering of the year.

A large crowd attended the barn masquerade at the W. T. Morgan ranch in Garland Prairie last Saturday night. While the crowd was not as large as that which attended the dance there on September 9th, they were just as merry and happy, and danced until the wee hours of the morning. The barn was nicely decorated with sprigs of cedar. Sheriff Bill Campbell was a good fellow and had passed around a generous supply of good candy. Jacob Buss also passed around candy. Howard Marine passed around cigars. Every dance that Mr. and Mrs. Morgan has given has been a big success, and has drawn larger crowds than any other place in the country, but Bill has leased out his ranch for the coming year to W. R. Morgan, so there will probably be no more dances at the Morgan ranch for a couple of years.

It looks as if Williams is going to be a noisy place this winter, judging by the number of music teachers. So far Williams has about five piano teachers, in addition to several teachers of other musical instruments. There will be sweet satisfaction in living in the peace and quiet of the suburbs, where you will be disturbed only by the yapping of the coyotes.

Tom Venable, who has been spending a few months in California, returned to his homestead in Pittman Valley in a new auto, on the 6th. By the looks of the new car, Tom evidently has been prospering.

The Anderson sawmill, which has been running at Chalender this summer, is closing down. Most of the lumber cut at the mill is shipped to Phoenix, where Mr. Anderson operates a lumber yard.

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Who is the Most Beautiful Girl in Coconino County?

—The Coconino Sun has been appointed by the Arizona State Fair Commission to find out. She will be chosen by vote.

State Fair Beauty Contest

—Participated in by 13 counties of Arizona, Maricopa not included. One Queen to be selected by popular vote from each county. Each County Queen will have all her transportation, expenses and entertainment at the State Fair paid by the State Fair Commission.

—From these 13 counties, one will be selected at the Fair grounds in Phoenix, to be Queen of the Fair. This girl will receive the first prize, either a diamond platinum ring, value \$500, or a diamond platinum wrist watch, value \$500, as she may select.

—Pictures of these prizes may be seen at the office of The Coconino Sun. Each of the other 12 Queens will receive a prize in addition to her expenses, entertainment, box at the Fair, etc.

Additional Rules for Voting for the Coconino County Beauty Queen

"A"

Nominate her on the "A" coupon below, which gives her 500 votes as a start.

Send or bring the nomination blank to the office of The Coconino Sun, Flagstaff.

"B"

The "B" coupon below may be voted for the same girl, and as many "B" coupons as you clip from other copies of The Sun, each "B" coupon being worth 100 votes. Once a girl is nominated, no other "A" coupon can be credited to her—but as many "B" coupons as her friends wish to vote will be credited to her.

Names of girls nominated and vote each then has will be published in The Sun next week. No girl related to anyone with The Sun will be allowed to compete.

On October 20, the pictures of the four highest contestants will be printed in The Sun.

Copies of The Sun are 10c each—no discount for quantity. Anyone desiring additional copies of The Sun to get additional "B" coupons must place their order for same, with cash, not later than Wednesday noon, October 11.

—But listen—Here's how you can vote faster and cheaper! Every new year's subscription to The Sun at \$3 entitles you to 10,000 votes. A subscription for two years, at \$6 is 20,000 votes, and so on.

—Every renewal of a subscription for a year at \$3 entitles you to 5,000 votes. If you renew or get a friend to renew for two years at \$6, that's 10,000 votes.

WORK FAST—TIME IS SHORT

—Let's send our most beautiful girl to the State Fair. When she gets there she'll easily beat the other 12 for high honors and reign supreme as

Queen of the State Fair
and winner of a Diamond Prize.

Vote for the Girl You Believe Most Beautiful

"A" Nominating Coupon

Coconino Sun, Flagstaff, Ariz.:

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Write or print name carefully. 500 Votes

"B" Voting Coupon

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