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WOULD TAX LANDS OF SPECULATORS

CONVENTION DELEGATES WOULD EQUALIZE BURDEN OF STATE BUILDING.

HOME BUILDER PENALIZED

Are Thousands of Acres of Unimproved Cultivable Lands Held By Land Owners for Speculative Purposes.

Donaldsonville, La.—Ways and means to bring about the taxation on a fair and reasonable basis of unimproved cultivable lands held for speculative purposes should receive the attention of the Constitutional convention, in the opinion of C. C. Weber, delegate to the convention from Ascension parish.

Mr. Weber believes this is one of the most important questions that will come before the convention. If a taxation system is devised whereby speculative land owners of this type will be forced to either improve the land or sell it to home-builders, he thinks it will bring about an era of development in the State. His idea is to tax unimproved cultivable lands on a ratio to that of the same class of improved cultivable lands.

"There are thousands of acres of unimproved cultivable lands in this State," Mr. Weber said, "that are being held by land owners for speculative purposes. Much of this land is not for sale, and that which is for sale is held at exorbitant prices. Annually when the assessments are reviewed the owners appear either in person or by counsel and plead for low assessments on the ground that their land is unimproved and is not producing anything. Almost invariably they have been able to get off with a small assessment, which means low taxes.

"Often these lands adjoin farms that are among the best in the State. The adjoining farms are assessed to their full value because the land is in a high state of cultivation through the thrift and energy of the farmers who own them.

"The unimproved and is just as rich in soil as that which is in cultivation. If improved and placed in cultivation it would produce crops as bountifully as the adjacent farms. The owners are making no improvements and are holding it for speculative purposes only. The more farms that are placed in cultivation adjacent to these large tracts just more valuable they become.

"This has brought about a situation whereby the home-builder and the home-owner is penalized. He is forced to pay taxes on a high valuation because he has done something for himself and his State, while the speculator gets off with a small tax bill. "I am in favor of going after these land-hogs by the taxation route. Taxation of such lands should be on a ratio to the same class of lands in cultivation. Then the land-hogs would be compelled to do one of two things—improve their property so as to make it productive, or sell it.

"If they improve the land, they would be placed on the same footing with owners of adjacent cultivated land. If they decided to sell it rather than improve it or pay the increased taxes, the land would pass into the hands of home-seekers and home-owners. That would bring prosperity and development to the State, for if these valuable tracts of lands are thrown on the market it will attract thousands of home-seekers from other parts of the country.

FOR HURRIED READERS.

Kentwood.—More than 200 acres of strawberries, 100 in cucumbers, in addition to many of English peas, beans, tomatoes and other truck, are being grown in this neighborhood.

Lake Charles.—Lake Charles is to have two Masonic blue lodges. An application and petition for the new lodge was presented last night to Lake Charles Lodge No. 165, F. & A. M. The application will now go to the Masonic Grand Lodge and it is expected that a dispensation, under which the new lodge will work for a year, will shortly be granted.

Thibodeaux.—At the meeting of the Thibodeaux-Lafourche Association of Commerce, Secretary-Manager Dr. H. S. Smith gave notice that at the termination of the present year, June 30, he would not stand for re-election. The Clacachoua road came in for considerable discussion, during which it was shown that it will be necessary to divert out a part of the route so that the assistance of the State Highway Department may be received.

Denham Springs.—Charles Harelson was seriously hurt by a blow on the head by a piece of timber, which fell on him while at work at the plant of the Constant Sand and Gravel Company, on the Amite river near here.

Baton Rouge.—Rev. Father M. A. Grace of Mobile, was a visitor at the State House. Father Grace is an official of the Springhill College at Mobile and was formerly food administrator in St. Landry parish, at that time president of St. Charles College at Grand Coteau.

Lake Charles.—The Joe Bren Production Company of Chicago, theatrical producers, has accepted the privilege of whipping the talent of Lake Charles into musical comedy form.

Natchitoches.—A truck loaded with seven ten-gallon cans of coal oil caught fire on the main thoroughfare here when the auto backfired. The truck was destroyed in the flames.

Denham Springs.—At the regular meeting of the directors, Odom Sullivan was elected assistant cashier of the Bank of Denham Springs. Mr. Sullivan has been with the bank for three years.

Kentwood.—Several large box factories and industrialists have notified the local farmers that they will advance crates, hampers and fertilizers to them through the association, with their crop as security.

Plaquemine.—News was received here that the Rev. Father Gerard Bosch, after a 30-day voyage, has reached his old home, Amsterdam, and that the voyage had seemed to improve his condition somewhat.

De Ridder.—The high school auditorium at De Ridder was filled to the doors with an appreciative audience which had gathered to hear the L. S. U. Glee Club Wednesday evening. Mr. S. W. Planché, president of the newly organized local chapter of the L. S. U. Alumni Federation, introduced the Glee Club. The entertainment throughout was exceptionally pleasing.

Denham Springs.—A special election will be held March 15, for the election of an assessor to fill the position made vacant by the refusal of the candidate, A. S. LeBourgeois, who was elected last April. The date of the primary has been fixed for March 1. Only two candidates have been announced, R. R. Richardson Jr. of Corbin, and I. D. Easterly of the First Ward.

Thibodeaux.—The entertainment for the benefit of the Catholic church building fund netted \$38.40. Besides the orchestra proper the program was participated in by Mrs. Joseph Wink and her daughter, Miss Estelina. Frank and Richard Gibbons, Thibodeaux College students, contributed a sketch and little Leslie Badaeux and Gerard Coignet contributed an interesting feature.

De Ridder.—The auction sale at De Ridder January 29 was a means of disposing of considerable farm products, household goods, etc., to the farmers and others of this community. The next sale will be held on Saturday, February 26. This will be an opportunity for those who want to buy machinery for their spring work and those who want to dispose of such machinery as they do not need, and to stock up with hogs, cows, poultry, etc.

Lake Charles.—The Calcasieu committee for European relief met at Red Cross rooms to settle the question as to whether Lake Charles would send money or rice to the starving European children. It was decided that rice only would be sent in keeping with the promises made to the public when the subscriptions were solicited. The money collected was this morning to P. G. Chalkley, who, with the assistance of J. A. Foster and W. B. Conover, will purchase the rice at local mills immediately.

De Ridder.—Stock in the new cement factory for De Ridder is being subscribed, as the citizens are greatly interested in this factory. The charter has been prepared, and Secretary Fowler of the Chamber of Commerce is now having the same signed up by the stockholders. It is estimated this cannery factory will be able to take care of 30,000 cans a day, or approximately a carload of sweet potatoes. This is only one of the several industries contemplated by the Chamber of Commerce for De Ridder.

Denham Springs.—A recent audit by a representative of the State supervising auditor's office did not give the parish any compliments for the state of its finances and the methods of handling them, and this report had some influence on the decision of the police jury in regard to cattle dipping.

Kentwood.—What promises to be one of the largest associations of its kind in Louisiana, was formed Saturday, when 68 farmers of Kentwood and this vicinity met and organized a Producers' Co-Operative Association. Much interest was displayed, and every farmer present signed for active membership.

Denham Springs.—There will be no tick eradication work done in Livingston parish for the year 1921. Indications were Friday. At the regular meeting of the police jury this week a representative of the government work was present and asked what the members intended to do. He was told that as the parish is already considerably behind in its finances that it would be impossible to do anything at all.

Natchitoches.—Joseph Lorens, a Mexican, who resided in Montrose, this parish, was said to have become mentally unbalanced and wandered away from home Sunday. Search failed to find him, and Tuesday he was run down near the Bayou Pierre trestle, four miles from Natchitoches, by a Texas and Pacific passenger train.

De Ridder.—The contributions so far received in Basourard parish by J. C. Fowler, chairman of the European Relief Committee, amount to \$722.75.

NEXT GENERATION TO HELP PAY DEBT

REFUNDING OF BIG LIBERTY LOAN, G. O. P. PLAN—SPECIAL TAX FOR SOLDIER BONUS.

REPEAL LEVY ON PROFITS

General Idea of Giving Relief From Tremendous Taxation to Rule, With Possibility of Sales Tax to Raise Bonus.

Washington.—Republican leaders in Congress are awaiting the inaugural address and subsequent delineation of the Harding fiscal policy for guidance in the revision of the direct federal taxation and of the tariff.

Their plan of revision, broadly outlined, which they hope the new president will endorse, is:

1. Refunding of government war obligations over a period of 40 to 50 years, thereby postponing liquidation of the four billion dollar victory loan which matures in 1923.
2. Repeal of the excess profits tax, scaling down of the higher surtaxes which drive investments into tax free securities, and raising the income tax exemption to pre-war levels.
3. Exercise of economy in government expenditures that no substitute for the excess profits tax will be necessary.
4. Levy of a special tax, possibly on sales, to raise the fund for the soldier's bonus.
5. Increase of the tariff for revenue as well as protective purposes.

Secretary of the Treasury Houston's estimate that it would be necessary to raise \$4,000,000,000 a year for some time was predicated on the assumption that the Victory loan will be retired upon maturity and on the theory that the present generation will discharge the entire war debt.

Republican leaders are practically a unit, however, in holding that the next generation should bear its share of the expense of the war from which it will benefit and that the immediate reduction of taxation, made possible by debt refunding will promote an earlier revival of trade and industry.

On the one hand are ranged those who favor a sales tax as a substitute, on the other, those who would raise the taxes on corporations.

The views of these rival schools of economists are already being aired at length in and out of Congress.

COL. HARDING RESIGNS.

Troublesome Situation Seems Brewing in the Canal Zone.

Panama.—Col. Chester Harding, governor of the Panama Canal Zone, has called for the United States and will not return to the isthmus. His resignation and departure leaves Col. Jay J. Morrow as acting governor. Operating mechanics employed on the canal have resigned because of the withholding of bonus payments, and the situation threatens a slump of the canal by the time the Atlantic and Pacific fleets return here from the joint maneuvers which are now in progress off the west coast of South America.

No Flying on Sunday.

Tampa, Fla.—Flying machines must not fly over this city during hours of worship on the Sabbath day. This order was laid down by the city commissioners as a result of complaints made to the commission that airplanes flying low over churches disturbed the congregations.

Airmen Honor Comrade.

Minneapolis.—Airplanes hummed overhead as the body of William L. Carroll, one of the three men killed in the crash of the air mail plane at La Crosse, was lowered into the grave here. One plane, piloted by H. F. Smith, circled over the grave, dipped once in salute and then started southward with the daily mail consignment for Chicago.

British Ship Abandoned.

Montreal.—The British steamship Bombardier, which left New York recently with cargo for Antwerp, has been abandoned 480 miles southeast of Halifax, according to a message received here from the steamer Mont Clay. The crew of the abandoned steamer was rescued by the Mont Clay.

Coolidge Gets Raise.

Washington.—A salary increase of \$3,000 a year—from \$12,000 to \$15,000—was voted for Vice-President Coolidge by the senate, which at the same time reduced his already small patronage roll by striking out a provision for a private telegraph operator at \$1,500 a year.

Woman As Constable.

Richmond, Va.—Miss Inez Cooke of Richmond has been appointed on the staff of High Constable William H. Hyatt, Jr., and is reported to be the first woman in Virginia to occupy an office of this character.

Big Ship Is Berthed.

Newport News, Va.—The super-dreadnought Maryland, building here, was towed back from the Norfolk Navy Yard and is berthed at one of the ship yard piers, where she will be completed.

GERMANY WANTS TO BARGAIN

Ministry of Finance Says Utmost Sum Germany Can Pay Is 150,000,000,000 Marks.

Berlin.—The ministry of finance has reached the conclusion that the utmost Germany can pay in reparations is 150,000,000,000 marks, this including all she had paid so far in cash and goods, according to information which the Deutsch Zeitung says it has received from a "special" source.

This 150,000,000,000 marks would be paid off in 30 years under the plan outlined by the newspaper's informant, who also declares the proposal would be submitted to the authorities at Paris to determine whether the coming London conference, will permit of its consideration.

Refusal to grant consideration would result in Germany absenting herself from the London conference, set for March 1, the newspaper declares it has learned.

GET NEAR EAST REPORTS.

Senate Is Told of Situation in Central Europe.

Washington.—Additional reports from American diplomatic and other officers in Europe regarding the need for relief work, there were sent to the Senate by President Wilson. They were in response to a Senate resolution in connection with proposed government indorsement of the campaign in this country to raise funds for near eastern relief.

Rear Admiral Bristol, American high commissioner at Constantinople, recommended consolidation of American relief organizations in the near east so as to avoid misunderstandings and overlapping of effort. He told of the thousands of suffering refugees at Constantinople, in Bulgaria, Armenia, Turkey and other near eastern countries. Hugh Gibson, American minister to Poland, said an investigation of conditions in that country showed that if food, clothing and medicine are not obtained from abroad serious prejudice must result to the coming generation.

FARMERS IN OPPOSITION.

Against Repealing Excess Profits and Income Taxes.

Cleveland, Ohio.—Farmers of the country will oppose any attempt to repeal excess profits and income taxes. J. R. Howard, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, told delegates to the All-American Co-Operative congress. He said that farmers of the corn belt region, including Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri were ready to donate 50,000,000 bushels of corn to starving people of China and Europe. Railroad brotherhoods, he said, have agreed to transport the grain to the seaboard free, and naval reserves have volunteered to see that the grain was delivered.

TO QUIT W. R. I. BUREAU.

Director Has Passed "Happy But Strenuous Days" There.

Washington.—Col. R. G. Chomley Jones, director of the war risk insurance bureau, will tender his resignation as soon as the new secretary of the treasury takes office. Mr. Jones said he hoped to be able to return to his home in New York soon, but would not "desert the ship." The change in administrations, he added, had no connection with his decision to resign.

Mr. Jones was appointed to the post in May, 1919, and said he had passed "happy though strenuous days" since then.

Polish Treaty Signed.

Helsingfors, Finland.—The treaty of peace between Soviet Russia and Poland was signed at Riga, it is announced in a wireless dispatch received from Moscow.

Rev. Wm. Darby Dies.

Evansville, Ind.—Rev. Dr. William Johnson Darby, president of the board of trustees of James Milliken university at Decatur, Ill., and secretary of the board of ministerial relief of the Presbyterian church of the United States, died suddenly at New-Burg, a suburb of Evansville. Dr. Darby was 73 years old.

Put End to Relief Work.

Great Falls, Mont.—Part of the 2,660 unemployed men here who were given jobs on city work by Mayor Newman at \$5 a day, are out of work again because waterworks employees, members of the Federal union, threatened to walk out unless the emergency employees were given \$5.50 a day.

Austrian Must Leave.

San Francisco.—Baron Oscar Albert Achim George Prager von Wisagen, former captain in the Austrian army and expatriated citizen of the United States, who is believed by federal authorities to have been employed as a spy during the war, will be deported from the United States.

Estimates Cost of War.

Baltimore.—Total costs of the great world war were declared to be more than \$48,000,000,000 by Dr. Richard P. Stroog, professor of tropical medicine at the Harvard Medical Echo, in a lecture at John Hopkins University.

Paper Bids Rejected.

Washington.—All bids for government paper supplies for next year, received recently by the joint congressional printing commission, have been rejected.

SESSION NEAR END AND NOTHING DONE

PASSAGE BY THE SENATE OF FORDNEY EMERGENCY TARIFF BILL EXPECTED.

NO IMPORTANT BILLS PASSED

Immigration and Reapportionment Probably to Be Left Over—Solems to Concentrate On Appropriation Measures.

Washington.—With only a few more days left before adjournment, not one of the regular appropriation bills has finally been enacted and practically all important legislation is in the air.

Passage by the Senate of the Fordney emergency tariff bill, however, is expected to break the jam, at least of the appropriation measures. Leaders believe that it still is possible, with night sessions, to get through all of the money bills, with the exception, possibly, of the navy and army appropriations.

The House plans to pass the last two appropriation bills, the naval and fortifications budgets, very soon, and clear the way for other legislation and conference reports. A half dozen appropriation bills are waiting for the Senate to consider, but protracted discussion of the naval supply measure is in prospect with the controversy over reduction or suspension of the building programme imperiling its enactment.

Miscellaneous measures before the House include the resolution for a special committee to investigate the escape of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, draft dodger. Adoption of the resolution at an early date is expected. The packer control bill, the Shepard-Towner maternity and infancy aid bill and the Smith-Towner measure for a federal bureau of education are other important measures on the House calendar which have been made subjects of great pressure by supporters and proponents.

Among important bills before the Senate are the immigration restriction measure and the congressional reapportionment bill. The change of enactment of either is declared doubtful. The soldiers' bonus bill probably will be reported to the Senate very soon by the finance committee, probably with a provision deferring arrangements for increased taxes to meet its obligation. Final disposition of it in the Senate is uncertain.

SAFE IS HEAVY; USE TRUCK.

Loot in Toledo Robbery Nets Bold Thieves \$11,000.

Toledo, Ohio.—Thieves broke into the Bank of Temperance, Mich., a few miles north of here, loaded a heavy safe containing \$11,000 into a waiting truck and made their getaway. The loot comprised \$2,500 in cash and \$8,500 in Liberty bonds. F. T. Wallace, president of the bank said, Mr. Wallace reported the safe was equipped with a three-day time lock and that it could not be opened through the combination for three days.

Needs Airplanes for Smugglers.

Spokane, Wash.—Donald A. McDonald, federal prohibition enforcement officer for Washington, said additional enforcement officers with a fleet of airplanes and seacraft will be necessary before bootlegging across the Canadian border can be halted. He announced also that he had offered his resignation, effective March 4.

Speaker Gets More Money.

Washington.—The salary of Speaker Gillett of the House will be increased from \$12,000 to \$15,000 under an amendment to the annual federal salary bill adopted by the Senate. The amendment was offered by Senator Pomerene, Democrat, of Ohio, who also sponsored the amendment adopted to increase the vice president's salary to the same sum. Both increases still have to be approved by the House.

Many Steamers Tied Up.

Newport News, Va.—Four more steel steamers went to the Camp Eustis anchorage in James River to tie up, bringing the total there well up toward the 125 mark. There now are approximately 350 steel steamships tied up at various ports in the country and officials of the shipping board said this number would be increased daily according to present indications.

Stinnes Buys Paper.

Berlin.—Vorwärts announces that Hugo Stinnes, the capitalist, has purchased the comic paper Kladderatsch.

Raids in Dubuque.

Dubuque, Iowa.—In a series of liquor raids in farming communities in Dubuque county federal prohibition officials seized six stills, two of them the largest ever taken in Iowa. 300 gal lone of moonshine corn whiskey and 1,000 gallons of mash in fermentation. Five arrests were made.

Weavers To Meet.

Chicago.—Weavers of the Southern Textile association will hold a sectional meeting soon. It has been announced.

U. S. SAILOR SHOT IN ATTACK

Tokyo Dispatch Sees Effort to Strain Relations Between United States and Japan.

Tokyo.—Five American bluejackets were fired at by unknown persons at Vladivostok, one of them being wounded, says the Asahi Shimbun's Vladivostok correspondent.

The Americans, reinforced by Russian policemen, arrested three Russian officers formerly under the late Gen. Kappel, once commander of the western armies of the Omsk government, the correspondent adds.

The impression in Vladivostok, according to the correspondent, is that the attack was arranged by communists with the object of straining relations between Japan and the United States.

MAKE COUNTER PROPOSALS.

Seek for Further Delay in Paying Big Indemnity.

Berlin.—A German committee of 15 industrial leaders and financiers began work on drawing up German counter proposals on reparations to be submitted to the London conference when it meets March 1. The work is proceeding along the lines of examination of the Paris terms to register German objections and exceptions and secondly the actual drafting of counter proposals.

The work is still in the initial stages but the indications are that Germany will request the right to make payments over a term of thirty years and that the counter proposals will closely follow the provisions laid down in the treaty of Versailles.

SULTAN IS DESERTED.

Izzet Pasha, His Special Envoy, Goes Over to Nationalists.

Constantinople.—The sultan has received a telegram from Izzet Pasha, who was sent to Angora in December by the sultan to endeavor to negotiate an agreement with the Turkish Nationalists, in which Izzet said he had joined the Nationalists. "All are deserting me," exclaimed the sultan, tearing up the telegram.

In the message Izzet begged the sultan to recognize the political sovereignty of the Angora assembly in order to forestall the naming of a new sultan.

DEMOCRAT LOSES OUT.

Republican Delegate From Alaska to Get House Seat.

Washington.—George B. Grigsby, Democratic delegate from Alaska, is not entitled to his seat in the House, the elections committee reported, after long investigation. The committee held that James Wickersham, Republican, had been duly elected to serve in the present Congress, which expires March 4.

German Lloyd Grows.

Berlin.—The recommendation of the executive board of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company for doubling the company's capital to 250,000,000 marks, which has just been announced, is made necessary by resumption of the company's overseas shipping and its working agreement with the United States Mail Steamship Company and the Steele Company of Galveston, it was declared here by the board.

Oregon Bonus Planned.

Salem, Ore.—The Oregon House has passed a bill providing a bonus to Oregon ex-service men of \$15 a month for each month served in the world war. The bill also provides an alternative of farm or home loans, not exceeding \$3,000. If passed by the Senate and approved by the governor, it would be submitted to the people.

Highway Work Halted.

Florence, Ala.—The contractors who came here to build Chisholm road, between Florence and the Tennessee line north of this city, are here awaiting instructions from their head officials, who went to Montgomery for a conference with State Highway Engineer Kellar following the supreme court decision declaring the road bond election illegal.

Negro Women Complain.

Washington.—Negro women from 20 states, meeting here at the call of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, presented to the National Woman's party a request that it urge congress to investigate the alleged disenfranchisement of negro women in the south at the last election.

Uphold Antired Act.

Topeka, Kan.—Constitutionality of the antiredicalism act passed by the 1920 special session of the legislature was upheld by the Kansas supreme court in denying a writ of habeas corpus to William Canton, under arrest in Rice county on a charge of violating the law.

Uphold Antired Act.

Topeka, Kan.—Constitutionality of the antiredicalism act passed by the 1920 special session of the legislature was upheld by the Kansas Supreme Court in denying a writ of habeas corpus to William Canton, under arrest in Rice county on a charge of violating the law.

Chamberlain Better.

Washington.—Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, who has been ill for several weeks, has returned to the Senate.

PAYS THE PENALTY FOR HIS CRIME

ILLINOIS MAN ADMITS MURDER FOR WHICH ANOTHER WAS LYNCHED BY A MOB.

SOUGHT TO GET MINE FOREMAN

Settino De Santis, Hanged at Marion, Ill., Shot Father-in-law of Mine Foreman Six Years Ago at Johnston City, Ill.

Marion, Ill.—The story of how an innocent man went to his death at the hands of a mob for another man's crime came to light after Settino De Santis, an Italian miner, was hanged here for the murder of Amel Calcester and Tony Tempbill, two boys.

Before he was led to the gallows, De Santis confessed to the murder of Edward Chapman, in Johnston City, Ill., six years ago, for which crime another Italian, Joe Bing, was lynched by a mob at the time.

Bingo, De Santis and another Italian, Frank Blanco, had been working together in a coal mine at Johnston City shortly before the Chapman murder and, upon being discharged by Ben Schull, the mine foreman, they made a threat to "get him."

Several nights later a bullet crashed through a window at the Schull home, where Schull, his wife and father-in-law, Chapman, were sitting. It missed Schull and killed Chapman. De Santis and Blanco disappeared the same night but Bingo was caught by a mob and lynched.

Several months ago Blanco, who also was implicated in the murders for which De Santis was hanged, made a confession in which he charged De Santis with the shot and killed Chapman, and a few days later he committed suicide in jail while his trial was in progress. De Santis then confessed to another Italian, Tony Maroni, who was one of the interpreters at his trial, that he had accidentally shot Chapman while trying to kill Schull.

De Santis was hanged in the yard of the Williamson county (Ill.) jail. He showed no evidence of fear as he was led to the gallows. Father Senese, a Catholic priest of Herrin, who had administered the last rites of the church to De Santis earlier, accompanied him to the gallows and read prayers just before the trap was sprung. De Santis responded to the prayers in Italian.

ATTEMPT MADE TO KILL FIVE U. S. BLUEJACKETS

Fund Proposed to Induce the Public to Buy the Product at the High Prices.

Washington.—Appearing before the Senate committee considering the coal regulation bill, Representative Huddleston (Dem.) of Alabama read what purported to be a transcript of the proceedings at a meeting of the directors of the National Coal Association, held in June, 1919, at which the motions were said to have been made to appropriate money for publicity to get consumers to buy coal while the operators "stood pat" on prices.

J. D. A. Morrow, vice president of the association, told the committee that the transcript "might or might not" be an authentic record.

Huddleston said he was informed that "prices were discussed at a secret meeting previous to this," but Morrow denied that such a meeting was held. Senator Reed (Dem.) of Missouri objected to Representative Huddleston's statement going into the record, but Chairman La Follette allowed it to stand.

T. T. Brewster of St. Louis was alleged to have suggested \$380,000 for the publicity campaign, but the total was left for future decision, though some money was made immediately available.

Alfred M. Ogle, of Terre Haute, Ind., was quoted as advocating particularly paid advertising about the danger of a coal shortage because, he said, "it changes the attitude of newspapers."

M. W. Griffiths, a Washington coal dealer, was called to the stand at his own request to answer charges that a combination in restraint of trade existed in the local trade. He waived immunity claim to tell his story, began upon it, but almost immediately asked to be excused, saying: "that his attorney advised him that coal dealers were 'going to be prosecuted.'"

Ordinance Against "Home Brew."

Brawley, Cal.—If a promised ordinance passed by the Brawley City Council on first reading is finally adopted, having in one's possession in Brawley a recipe for making "home brew" will be an offense punishable by a jail sentence of not more than six months or by a fine of \$100 or both.