

THE DAY BOOK

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21, 1914, at the postoffice at Chicago,
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BACK UP, REDFIELD.—Secretary Redfield may not understand the emphatic protest against his appointments on that federal investigation commission. He did the conventional thing, however. He appointed two eminently respectable BUSINESS men on the commission, besides the two government representatives, and announced that the fifth member would be a technical man from the Western Electric Co.

That was enough to cause a protest. It meant a commission composed of two representatives of the government department under charges and three representatives of MONEY and PROFIT—the impolite name for the last being plain old human GREED.

And the indictment in the PUBLIC MIND is against the two interests represented — FEDERAL INSPECTION and BUSINESS.

There wasn't a single representative of everyday humanity in the entire list as first indicated by Redfield. It simply meant Government and Big Business investigating themselves.

No wonder the people kicked. We don't mean the Illinois Manufacturers' Association. Doubtless that precious organization of cold-blooded greed was entirely satisfied with Redfield's cute little commission. But the Illinois Manufacturers' Association isn't the people of Chicago—not by a long shot. Nor are the banks

of Chicago the people of Chicago.

In substituting Lt.-Gov. O'Hara for "some technical man from the Western Electric Co." Sec'y Redfield got one human being on the commission, but the limitation put on the investigation places O'Hara where he can't accomplish anything no matter how hard he tries.

And if Lt.-Gov. O'Hara finds this is a phoney commission, loaded to the guards with whitewash, here's gambling he kicks over the bucket of whitewash and jumps the commission.

Baron Munchausen once took a short run and started to leap over a stream. When about half way over he saw he wasn't going to make it. The story runs that the Baron realized his mistake, so he concluded not to finish that jump, but went back and took a longer run and jumped again. If this investigation is entirely for Sec'y. Redfield's own information, he can go ahead with it. But if he expects the public to take any stock in it he'd better back up and take another jump.

This is no time to lidd the whole country with a commission like that.

SHORT ONES

The news that Japan is to build 26 warships may, even at this time, cause some Englishmen to do considerable thinking, even if it fails to attract attention of some Americans.

A New York woman wants \$85,000 from a Chicago man for breach of promise and we are mildly curious to know what he promised her that was worth that much.

The Cideons claim there are only 12 good reasons for swearing, but do they include putting up a stove pipe?

Maine reports seeing German submarines; which is a pleasing variant of the annual sea serpent story.

A number of villas have been destroyed in Europe, but that one in Mexico seems to keep right on going.

An optimist is a fellow who always thinks poison ivy does not affect him.