

STOCK PLAN

Company Denies Conspiracy in Reply to New Litigation

LED AID TO SERVICE

Contend That Gifts to Employees Has Increased Earnings

WILMINGTON, Del., April 25.—Officers and directors of the duPont Company today filed answer in the United States District Court in the suit instituted last by Eleanor duPont Perot, of Montclair, in which she attacked the company's stock bonus plan.

Perot was one of the plaintiffs who sued with Alfred I. duPont in the stock bonus suit recently decided in favor of the plaintiffs and of which the late John Johnson was chief counsel. The answer denies flatly every charge of fraud or conspiracy made by her and points out that the bonus system has been in operation since 1904 and that as administered the company it has been of incalculable value in effecting faithful and efficient service from employees.

The counsel of record who will defend the suit are United States Senator Philander C. Knox, of Pittsburgh; Richard V. Mahony, one of the chief counsel in the Trust litigation; Congressman George Graham, of Philadelphia, who was counsel in the stock-purchase suit; William S. Miles, of Wilmington; William H. Button, New York, and Judge John P. Laffey, general counsel of the du Pont company.

Up to date, the answer says, several thousand employees have become partners in the corporation's activities through the workings of this bonus plan. A large majority of these beneficiaries are minor employees of the company.

CONSPIRACY DENIED

The defendants absolutely deny existence of any conspiracy or scheme having for its purpose distribution to themselves or other favored employees of the assets of the company to which they were not entitled. They deny also that there was any thought of increasing their control of the company through these distributions, as alleged in the bill of complaint.

They deny the allegation that the stock was voted by a bonus trustee. It has been voted by those in whose names it was voted as a reward for their services. None of the defendants, the answer says, has attempted to exercise any control over the voting of this stock or has in any way suggested to holders how they shall vote. The answer states that there has been expended from the fund of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. (the present operating company) from the time of its organization until the filing of this bill the sum of \$10,877,566.91, for the purchase of bonus stock.

In answer to the paragraph in the bill of complaint asking for the names of the holders of this stock the defendants say that the bonus stock was acquired from time to time in the open market at the best price for which it was possible to purchase it.

One section on bill of complaint refers specifically to an award of \$250,000 made to Colonel Edmund G. Buckner, director of military sales for the company.

REWARD TO BUCKNER

The answer states that this award was made for most conspicuous service rendered by Colonel Buckner and was made in due course and by proper authority. Colonel Buckner is a vice president of the company and is the man who had personal charge of all the negotiations which brought the du Pont Company the hundreds of millions of dollars in contracts for war munitions supplied to the belligerent nations of Europe which have become allies of the United States since this country declared war on Germany.

No intimation has been given by Alfred and Philip du Pont, the latter of Merion, Pa., as to who will succeed the late John Johnson as counsel. William A. Glasgow, of Philadelphia, who assisted Mr. Johnson, may, however, be made chief counsel.

FAVOR INSURING SOLDIERS' LIVES

Plans Advanced by Evening Ledger, Approved by Experts

COMMITTEE HEARS PLANS

City Councils Have Appropriated \$25,000 for Families of Recruits

The plan to insure the lives of soldiers is practicable in every way, according to insurance experts who conferred with a special joint committee of Councils this afternoon at City Hall.

It was shown by the representatives of various insurance companies that the EVENING LEDGER'S suggestion in this connection would be entirely feasible.

Thomas L. Fansler, president Philadelphia Association of Life Underwriters, said the underwriters would be willing to act in an advisory capacity and that the group plan of insurance would be practicable. It could be done, he said, by using a blanket policy made out in favor of the Mayor of Philadelphia for the benefit of dependents of soldiers or sailors. He also urged the committee to take favorable action on the plan.

A representative of the Prudential Insurance Company said this concern would be willing to take over the insurance at a regular rate, plus 10 per cent war risk for men who are in service outside the United States. In this country he said the regular rate would prevail.

A regular premium at 10 per cent increase would be \$10 per man per year. Alexander Norden, of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, said his concern insured a Canadian regiment and other troops which suffered heavy losses. The offer made by his company for men twenty-two years old was \$44 a year per thousand.

W. H. Robinson, of the Philadelphia Association of Life Underwriters, suggested the consideration of a \$500 policy in the event of the committee deciding that one twice that amount would be too costly to carry. He said that most young men who enlist are not of the kind who have already made provision for their families.

All the representatives were requested to put their propositions in writing. The committee then directed its secretary to write to Washington and learn how many Philadelphians are in the regular service and also in the militia in order to cover every Philadelphian who enlists with a \$1000 policy.

James E. Walsh, Select Councilman of the Thirty-eighth Ward, who is chairman of the investigating committee, is enthusiastic in his support of the plan, as are also other members of the committee, who stand willing to endorse the project if "war insurance" rates are not set to prohibitive figures by the companies who will be considered in connection with the plan for individual or group insurance.

President James E. Lennon, of Select Council, and President Edward B. Cleason, of Common, are members ex-officio of the investigating committee and both are deeply interested in the welfare of Philadelphians who enter the service. Both are on record as favoring any plan that will stimulate recruiting and at the same time result in protection for the families of dependents. President Lennon is one of the most active members of Councils' Joint Committee on the relief and sustenance of dependents and his work brings him in close contact with patriotic Philadelphians.

TENNIS STARS TO PLAY FOR RED CROSS BENEFIT

NEW YORK, April 25.—Some of the country's brightest tennis stars will appear in the coming benefit tournaments at the West Side Tennis Club, of Forest Hills, it was learned today. Clifton B. Herd, formerly of California; Harold Throckmorton, Carl Behr, Theodore Bell, George M. Church and Dean Mathey are among them. All tennis matches at the West Side Club will be played for the benefit of the American Red Cross. No admission will be charged, but spectators will be given a chance to contribute to the cause.

Atlantic City Denies "Lights Out" Order

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: PLEASE deny, in justice to Atlantic City, the persistent rumors in circulation throughout the East that lights have been ordered out here and along the entire New Jersey coast. No such order has been received and we have learned from the War Department at Washington that no such order is contemplated. HARRY BACHARACH, Mayor, Atlantic City, N. J., April 25.

ARGENTINE ANTI-WAR ELEMENT IN MAJORITY

Another Day of Demonstrations Proves Neutrality Party in Ascendancy, Editor Says

By CHARLES P. STEWART

Special Cable Service of the Evening Ledger, Buenos Aires, April 25.

Buenos Aires had another day of demonstrations today. It started late at night with free-for-all fights between various groups of pro-war and pacifist enthusiasts in which the males became so vigorous and stones and other missiles flew so fast that the gendarmes were compelled to take a hand. There were a number of arrests, but no great damage done on either side.

The mix-up started with a huge neutrality meeting. After the speeches scores of processions started with thousands of persons filling the principal streets. For three hours they paraded up and down, orderly enough except when the pro-war enthusiasts made sudden sallies. The neutrality advocates, however, apparently outnumbered the war enthusiasts.

"The demonstration convinced me," said Jorge Mitre, editor of La Nacion, today, "that the neutral adherents heavily outweigh the war element."

As if in support of this neutrality plan La Nacion today editorially observed:

"The sinking of the Argentine steamship Monte Protegido resulted from a general rule. It was not intended as an offense or aggression against Argentina."

Continuing the newspaper decried war and urged that Argentina go no further than a break in relations with Germany at the utmost.

DR. ICKES, OF NORWOOD, DIES

Lutheran Church Choirmaster Practiced Dentistry in Philadelphia

Dr. H. A. Ickes, of Norwood, died today after a brief illness. He was forty-nine years old. Doctor Ickes practiced during his whole career as a dentist in Philadelphia. His office was in the Witherspoon Building.

He was a graduate of Central High School and the Philadelphia Dental College. Mrs. Ickes, a daughter and three sons survive.

The funeral will be conducted Saturday at the home in Norwood by three clergymen, the Rev. Seaman M. Holden, of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in Bristol, a relative; the Rev. E. Bakewell Green, of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Norwood; and the Rev. Stanley M. Billheimer, of the Lutheran Church, in Norwood, where Doctor Ickes was choirmaster.

Doctor Ickes was prominent among the Masons and other fraternal organizations and was a moving figure in Norwood's Horticultural Society.

Altered "Spy" Bill Reported

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The amended espionage bill, upon which the House Judiciary Committee has been at work almost daily since Congress convened, was reported to the House today by Chairman Webb. The principal modification in the bill is that relating to press censorship. The committee has eliminated altogether the original provision which would have prohibited editorial or newspaper discussion, comment or criticism of governmental policies. Instead, the press is prohibited only from disclosing military secrets.

3 BRAZIL STATES ARMED FOR KAISER

Population, Governors and Army Garrisons Entirely Pro-German

COULD DOMINATE OTHERS

By HENRI BAZIN

Special Correspondent of the Evening Ledger, Paris, France

PARIS, April 25.—Three extreme Brazilian States are virtually totally German in population, governors and many garrisons. These States would revolt in case Brazil declared war against Germany. As they possess greater strength than the others they would, in event of hostilities, master the remainder of Brazil.

Brazilian public opinion expresses the hope that America will reduce exportations to Spain to bare necessities.

The country views general conditions in the war as unfavorable to the Allies. The German people are absolutely unaware of true conditions at the front and think actual reverses are a part of General Hindenburg's plan of campaign.

It is essential that Allied screws be put on Germany from every angle, statesmen here express themselves.

'DAVE,' BLIND AND FEEBLE, SAVED IN STABLE FIRE

Old Horse, Pensioner of Breyer Ice Cream Company, Difficult to Rescue From Flames

Dave, one of those pensioned equines that business men keep after their usefulness is ended just to show that sentiment has a niche in the dollar mark, almost when down to his death this afternoon, when fire swept the stable of the Breyer Ice Cream Company, at Ninth and Cumberland streets.

"Dave" is blind and feeble, it being some years since he used to trudge between the shafts of the old wagon Henry W. Breyer had to take his ice cream around in, and it was a hard job to get him out of the stable without injury. Work by the superintendent and employees, however, saved him, along with thirty-two other horses.

The fire started on the third floor of the building, where fifty tons of hay was stored, and did little damage elsewhere. The horses were on the floor below and were in danger until the arrival of firemen. The loss is estimated at \$3000.

NAVAL SURGEON RAPS DISCOURTESY TO SAILORS

Indignant That Vaudeville Management Refused Admission to Tars

The popular opinion in regard to sailors was condemned by Surgeon Robert A. Bachman, stationed at the Naval Home, who spoke before the Rotary Club today.

"If a crowd of college students broke up things in a community," said Doctor Bachman, "it would not be noticed. But when sailors get loose and start trouble there is a popular outcry."

Doctor Bachman expressed great indignation that two sailors were refused admission on the lower floor of a popular vaudeville theatre because they were in uniform.

The speaker had something to say of the patriotism that does nothing but stand up when the national anthem is played and wave the flag.

"A patriot," said Doctor Bachman, "is a man who wants to do something for his country. A politician is one who wants his country to do something for him."

Norwegian Craft Sunk by U-Boats

LONDON, April 25.—Eight Norwegian ships, three sailing vessels and five steamships have been sunk by German submarines, according to a telegram received here today. It gives the Norwegian Foreign Office as its authority. The ships are Vestelo, Ville de Dieppe, Shild, Gisko, Godo, Eliga, Gerda and Valerie.

MRS. BEW FOUND IN HER PARENTS' APARTMENT

Lawyer Issues Purported Statement by Young Woman Denying Kidnapping

SAYS SHE LEFT HUSBAND

Brewer's Son's Friend Hints Young Couple Are to Be Reunited, Despite Parents

The Bergner-Bew case, in which Jean Bergner Bew, daughter of the millionaire brewer and wife of R. Berton Bew, wealthy Atlantic City youth, is the principal figure, is rapidly developing into a mystery that brings forth the question: "What next?"

Franz Ehrlich, attorney for Gustavus W. Bergner, father of the bride, issued a purported statement by Mrs. Bew this afternoon in which the young woman declared she went back to her father's apartment at the Ritz-Carlton yesterday of her own accord.

The statement says: "Stories published are all absurd. There has been no kidnapping. I am acting on my own free will and I returned to my parents' home alone. They knew nothing of my intentions until I walked into their apartment."

"That was all of that statement, but meantime Clinton A. Sowers, attorney for young Bew, said he was frankly 'mystified' as to the whole matter. He said he didn't know exactly what was what.

That's the trouble. Nobody appears to know just where either of the young pair is at present. Young Bew's father, George H. Bew, president of the Ventnor National Bank, said this afternoon that he had not seen or heard from his son since he left him yesterday morning at Broad Street Station.

"I left him when I caught the train," said Mr. Bew. "I had no inkling then as to what was going to happen. Where is he?"

The question, "Where is she?" is more easily answered. "She," the heroine of the mystery, is in the Ritz—at least she was there late this afternoon. "Nobody appears to know just where either of the young pair is at present. Young Bew's father, George H. Bew, president of the Ventnor National Bank, said this afternoon that he had not seen or heard from his son since he left him yesterday morning at Broad Street Station.

Apparently adding strength to the statement attributed to young Mrs. Bew that she went to her parents' apartments of her own will, the fact that she is in the hotel also knocks out assertions of Bew's friends that his bride had eloped again and rejoined him.

Some of Bew's friends started a rumor that the couple would meet later this afternoon.

"I can't say anything definite," said one of the men who has known the boy since he went to St. Luke's school to be near the girl who later became his wife. "But I will say that assertions of Bew's friends that his bride had eloped again and rejoined him and his wife."

In case the prediction of a reunion comes true, the hearing Friday morning at 10 o'clock of the habeas corpus proceedings, Bew instituted to get his wife back will be called off. In his petition, filed yesterday, the bridegroom stated that his wife had been kidnapped by her father and was held a prisoner in his apartment at the Ritz.

GIRLS QUALIFY AS NURSES

Seventeen Young Women Eligible for \$900 Jobs

Seventeen young women today qualified for appointment as city nurses, positions which carry a salary of \$900 a year. Those eligible under civil service rules are Florence Metz, Peter, Maizie S. A. Morris, Henrietta E. Davis, Bessie B. Crowell, Florence D. Kochey, Dorothea E. Goods, Caroline W. Price, Ethel R. Jackson, Elizabeth R. Burns, Martha Bartley, Wanda E. Groth, Kathryn M. McManus, Martha Voercks, Eva L. MacRae, Elton Douglas, Lillian J. Deitsch, Eleanor Swinter.

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Transform your out-of-date pieces into costly-looking, soft-finished, hand-rubbed effects. Lucas Velvo-Tone Finish will do it—in one operation stain the wood, varnish it and produce the hand-rubbed effect—the same effect you see on all high-priced furniture today. Does away with tedious and expensive hand rubbing, places beautifully finished wood within the reach of everyone. Get a can today.

Velvo-Tone in the following shades at all dealers: Old Oak, Golden Oak, Fumed Oak, Weathered Oak, Mahogany, Cherry Fruit, Zarin Green, Black Flemish, Natural. At any dealer's.

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Philadelphia

Who is to Blame for Flour Prices Leaping Up? —but no matter how high flour goes, the Ivins Baker will not use inferior grades.

MANY women have given up home-baking because flour is so high—but Ivins must use flour. And no matter how costly flour becomes, we will not buy inferior grades. Ivins' one and only standard is pure, nutritious flour, milled from the choicest of rich wheat.

That's another reason why you should always insist on Ivins' baking.

Ivins Lunch-on-Thins

This cracker owes its tremendous popularity to a special blending of flour. Then it is popped into a hot oven just long enough to crisp and slightly brown. Slow cooling prevents cracking. Result—a cracker that is different from anything baked in America. Serve Ivins Lunch-on-Thins today.

Ask for Ivins Lunch-on-Thins at your nearest quality grocer.

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Do you let them carelessly use a measured service telephone when the Keystone unlimited telephone is available and costs only about one cent an hour all the year around?

If you permit any of these things, you are wasting money as surely as though you threw it out of the window, and you are marking yourself a pretense instead of a real live manager who actually manages.

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