

HOOVER SNUBBED IN SUGAR PROBE

Committee Again Refuses Request for Immediate Hearing
BROKER HEARD THREAT
British Royal Commission Mentioned as Steam Roller Subject

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The Senate sugar investigating committee today again refused Herbert Hoover's request for an immediate hearing.

Hoover, through his counsel, Judge Curtis H. Lindley, asked to be allowed to testify at once because he has to go to New York on business.

"We'll hear Mr. Hoover when he comes back from New York," ruled Senator Reed, committee chairman. "He will be in town more than some other witnesses."

In five minutes' testimony Herbert W. Bluenstock, grain and provision broker, of Chicago, said Louis Strauss, Hoover's secretary, had threatened to "steam roll" A. H. Lamborn, a sugar broker, "if he isn't careful."

"I offered my services to Strauss," said Bluenstock. "In the course of the conversation Strauss asked me if I knew any New York food dealers. I mentioned A. H. Lamborn. Strauss said he was sorry I had done so."

"He said that while Hoover had the highest regard for Lamborn personally, yet Lamborn had better be careful, or the steam roller would be over him."

"What did Strauss mean by that, do you know?" asked Reed.

"I have no idea," replied the witness. "Strauss didn't tell me why Lamborn was to be steam-rolled," asked Senator Vardaman.

"No, he just said what I have told you," said Bluenstock, who was then excused.

A. H. Lamborn & Co. are agents in this country for the British royal commission, which has charges of blockade running for France and England. Strauss is to be called to tell what he meant.

Following Bluenstock's testimony, Earl P. Babbitt, trust head, was called. Babbitt said he was eager to testify concerning charges against his honor which he said Claus A. Spreckels had made.

One of the first questions Senator Reed asked Babbitt was:

"Is the American Sugar Refining Company a consolidation of many smaller ones?"

"I don't know about that," replied Babbitt.

"Don't you as president know of the organization of your company?" asked Reed.

"Well, its subsidiary sugar refineries are operated as one company," Babbitt admitted.

"At how many places does it own or control refineries?" asked Reed.

"It has refineries in its own name at Boston, Jersey City and New Orleans, with subsidiary companies at Philadelphia and Brooklyn. We have two subsidiary refineries at Philadelphia, the Spreckels and the Franklin Refining companies."

Contradicting Claus Spreckels' charge that the food administration "created" a sugar shortage, Earl D. Babbitt, head of the sugar trust, said increased consumption, inadequate supply and delayed distribution combined caused the famine. He stoutly denied Spreckels' claim that there is a big surplus of Cuban sugar.

"Foreign buyers have cut down United States supply of Cuban raw sugar 450,000,000 pounds," said Babbitt. "The great preserving campaign last summer took 500,000,000 pounds more than is usually consumed in the canning period."

A demand that the food administration use its influence to force an advance in the price of sugar beets was made to Herbert Hoover this afternoon by representatives of the beet growers of California, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming. Tomorrow they will meet with Chairman Reed of the Senate probe.

The growers say Babbitt's company has depressed the beet price. They claim to have statistics showing that his company can increase the price from the present figure, \$7.25 a ton, to \$12 and still make 50 per cent on the investment. One refinery in the West controlled by the trust made \$15,000,000 last year, they say.

Twenty thousand stockholders in the trust are women, largely New England school teachers, according to Babbitt.

Reed read into record several interventions of the trust printed in February, 1916, which stated there was no danger of a sugar famine. This was explained by Babbitt as intended to allay fears in the trade over labor troubles.

Every sugar refinery in the country, with five exceptions, was closed on or before last October 24 as a result of lack of raw sugar, Babbitt testified.

WILL BOOM CHRISTMAS FUND FOR THE 315TH

Public Meeting to Be Held in the Curtis Building to Urge Co-operation

A public meeting will be held tonight in the auditorium of the Curtis Building, Sixth and Walnut streets, to urge public co-operation in raising a fund of \$2000 with which to send Christmas presents to the 3200 men of the 315th Infantry at Camp Meade, Admiral, Md., all of whom are Philadelphians. Judge Norris S. Barratt will preside at the meeting.

The committee in charge, which is made up of a score of prominent Philadelphians, includes former Governor Edwin S. Stuart; John Gribbel, president of the Union League; Dr. Thomas H. Fenton, president of the Art Club; J. G. Hetherington, John H. McFadden and John M. Strong, vice president of the West End Trust Company, who is acting as treasurer of the fund. Nearly \$700 has already been subscribed.

The Christmas gifts are to be distributed at a jollification to be held by the men of the regiment in the Y. M. C. A. headquarters at Camp Meade on Friday night. As a mark of the pride which the citizens of Philadelphia should have in the regiment, every one in the city is urged to make some contribution to the fund, no matter how small. Only half of the men in the regiment will be able to visit their homes at Christmas.

The Executive Prizes Listeners acknowledge receipt of the following additional contributions for the 315th:

Mrs. J. McGovern \$1.00

Cash 2.00

Cash 1.00

Cash 1.00

Cash 1.00

Cash 1.50

Cash 1.00

SCHOOLGIRLS WHO WON LIBERTY BONDS FOR FOOD CONSERVATION ESSAYS



The budding literary talent of Philadelphia's youngest daughters is liberally represented in this group of 100 schoolgirls from all parts of the city. They are the fortunate winners of the \$5000 worth of Liberty Bonds offered by Blauner's Department Store for the best essays on "How to Help Conserve Food in the Home." Mr. Blauner personally presented the bonds to the embryonic essayists in the First Regiment Armory.

COURT COMMANDS IMBER TO PRODUCE HIS BOOKS

City Controller Wins Point in Fight to Audit Magistrate's Account

Controller John M. Walton won a point today in his fight to make Magistrate Harry J. Imber produce his accounts and records for 1917 for auditing. Judge Finletter, in Common Pleas Court No. 4, issued an alternative writ of mandamus commanding Imber either to produce all the books and records to the Controller by December 24, or to show cause why he should not be compelled to do so. The writ was issued on petition of the Controller, who was represented by City Solicitor John P. Connelly and Assistant City Solicitor Ernest Lovengrund.

Magistrates are required by law to submit their records to the Controller, but Mr. Walton says his efforts to induce Imber to produce his have failed.

DRASTIC STEPS AGAINST WASTE IN WILMINGTON

Forbid Collection of Usable Refuse to Guard Against Famine in Fuel

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 18.—The Street and Sewer Department of Wilmington today took drastic action toward ending the famine in fuel, adopting a resolution which forbids collection of ashes or refuse throughout the city which contains either unsorted coal or excelsior, wood or other combustibles. By so doing it is believed that hundreds of householders who now permit waste in fuel will be compelled to look more carefully after their coal and wood supplies.

While Wilmington has not suffered shortage in fuel in comparison with conditions in Philadelphia, New York and cities in Ohio, the scarcity has, nevertheless, been severely felt, and need of conservation is realized.

U. S. TO REFUND MILLIONS FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES

Importers to Get Rebates on Goods From Countries Whose Money Has Depreciated

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Millions of dollars paid in customs duties by American importers will be refunded, the Treasury Department announced this afternoon.

Because of the depreciation in the value of German, Austrian, Italian and French currency a refund proportionate to the depreciation will be given on all goods imported from those countries since the depreciation passed 10 per cent.

The refund date on German importations will be September 15, 1915. Austrian currency depreciation passed 10 per cent in January, 1915, and Italian in February, 1915. The depreciation in French currency has been marked only during the last few weeks.

The principal refunds will be made on goods imported from France and Italy. There has been little buying of German or Austrian goods by American importers since the beginning of the war.

Whenever the depreciation in the currency of any country in more than 10 per cent the same principle will be applied to imports from that country, the Treasury Department announced.

JURY HEARS KILLING CASE

MAYS LANDING, N. J., Dec. 18.—Charles Wilson, Thomas Alwyn, Howard Wilson, Horace and Walter Ennis, all negroes, of Philadelphia, were placed on trial here yesterday before Judge Shuman charged with manslaughter in connection with an accident on the boulevard in September last, when Otto Keppel, manager of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company of Atlantic City, was killed.

Nearly two hours was consumed in obtaining the jury. Prosecutor Moore offered testimony tending to show that the car in which the negro men were seated was running at a great rate of speed when it struck the car in which Keppel was riding. Isaac Nutter, counsel for the defendants, asked for their dismissal, but the Court overruled the motion.

The defense is that there was no collision. The case, it is expected, will end today.

TO REGULATE FOOD CHARGES

U. S. Administration Rules Regarding Licenses on Wheat and Other Grains

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The United States food administration this afternoon issued regulations setting forth charges and additions governing licenses on wheat, rye and other grains and setting

proportional basis between the cost of the raw grains and the price of grain products.

In making public the regulations the food administration said that the maximum prices for mill feed established on the basis relative to the cost of wheat would result in a very marked reduction in price and it was hoped that this would be reflected in lowering the prices for milk and other dairy products as soon as its effect should be felt in large dairy countries.

HOUSE TO TAKE UP SUFFRAGE ON JAN. 10

Proponent Confident Amendment Will Pass by Safe Margin

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—House leaders have agreed to take up the Susan B. Anthony suffrage amendment on January 10, Judge Baker, of California, chairman of the House Suffrage Committee, said today. The Rules Committee informally agreed to pave the way for consideration on that date by reporting a special rule. Adoption of this rule, however, will precipitate a big floor fight. Baker and other suffrage leaders, however, were confident today.

"We shall pass the amendment by fifteen or twenty votes above the required two-thirds," he said.

CARNIVAL OF ROBBERY MENACE TO CITIZENS

Three More Hold-Ups Reported to Police—Grocery Store Is Looted

The epidemic of hold-ups and robberies continues. Three more hold-ups were reported to the police today.

Nelson Foster, a negro, of 5716 Arch street, was held up at Fifty-seventh and Filbert streets last night by three negroes, who took from him a diamond stud he valued at \$200.

Mrs. Mary Murphy, a negro, of 2255 Wilder street, was walking at Twenty-second and Reed streets when two negroes approached. One engaged her in conversation, the other snatched her handbag, containing \$95, and fled.

Frank Slavik, of 124 North Twelfth street, was at Eleventh and Callowhill streets on his way home from work at 2:20 this morning, when a white man held him up and relieved him of \$25.

The Bell grocery store, at Twentieth street and Columbia avenue, reported that between Saturday night and Monday morning somebody entered the store and took \$53 from the safe.

Samuel Walters, of 1516 North street, reported that a thief entered his house through a window and stole jewelry, mostly diamonds, and clothing of a total value of \$1649.

U. S. SHIPS MAY HELP CHECK GERMAN RAIDS

Sinking of 14 Ships Causes Demand for Stronger Patrol Fleet

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Demand for stronger patrols in the North Sea to cure German raiders has given rise to an interesting but unconfirmed report that an American naval force might reinforce the British guard-ships on duty in those waters.

The sinking of fourteen ships by the Germans, three of them in British waters off the mouth of the Tyne River, show that the German navy is operating with impudent boldness and is now using large sized cruisers, as well as submarines, in its warfare upon mercantile shipping.

A naval court of inquiry has already begun an investigation of the sinking of the British destroyer Partridge, six merchantmen and four trawlers while plying between Scotland and Norway, by four German destroyers. The British destroyer Pelaw, which was damaged by the Germans' shellfire in the same

HELPED ROUT THE TURKS

Reading Pipes Conveyed Waves Miles for British Army

READING, Pa., Dec. 18.—Rolling mills aided the British in routing the Turks and in capturing a salient. The many miles of pipe supplied the northward-marching British and American engineers in their advance on the Taurus front.

The pipe was loaded on 100 cars the summer of 1915, sent to Baghdad and thence shipped to Egypt. Troops who fought at Gaza dragged the pipes laid 150 miles across the desert from the Egyptian sources of

HARMONOLA advertisement featuring an image of the instrument and text: 'Plays any record made a little better than the machine for which it was intended. Recitals Daily: 10 to 6 P. M. 8 to 10 P. M. Catalogue on Request THE HARMONOLA SHOP 1502 Chestnut Street Entrance—Hotel Colonnade, Lobby Salon'

Hudson Super-Six Closed Cars advertisement featuring a large image of a touring limousine and several smaller images of other models. Text includes: 'Hudson Super-Six Closed Cars New Beautiful Types Now on Display. We are now showing, for the first time this season, a complete line of closed and chauffeur-driven Hudson Cars. It is in reality an advance exhibit of the Hudson closed cars that will be seen at the larger Automobile Shows just after the first of the year. You will find much in these cars to admire. They express the wealth of experience that Hudson coach builders have gathered through years of leadership. The unpracticed eye will appreciate the beauty of design, the good taste expressed in the detail of finish and will admire the comfort and luxury each type offers. But the greatest appreciation by far comes from the enduring satisfaction of Hudson Super-Six performance. The smoothness of operation with which the Hudson mechanism performs its work under every condition of stress relieves the passenger of all sense of mechanical labor. There is a thrill of freedom and comfort about the operation of the Super-Six that is common to few cars. These Hudson cars know no season. They are warm and comfortable in the coldest weather. They are dry and clean in the wettest and dustiest seasons. For winter or summer you will find either of these models ideal. They give the security and comfort of your own drawing room. Whatever your taste, you will find the car of your choice in this collection. Immediate deliveries can be made of some models.'

Hirsch's advertisement for Christmas gifts. Text includes: 'HATS TRIMMED FREE Hirsch's 923 MARKET STREET Suggestions of Sensible XMAS GIFTS for Mother, Sister, Daughter. This list contains a few items picked at random from our immense stock of beautiful "things to wear" that will bring joy to the heart of the recipient and leave you the satisfaction of having spent your money on something worth while. Dainty Lingerie and Silk Waists, 98c to \$4.98. After Xmas Reductions on Our Entire Stock of Dependable Furs. \$10 French Coney Scarfs..... \$4.98 \$15 New Vicuna Scarfs..... \$10.00 \$25 Taupe Wolf Scarfs..... \$15.00 \$15 Manchurian Wolf Sets..... \$10.00 Children's Fur Sets \$1.98 to \$4.98 Large variety at only Children's New Washable 98c Dresses..... pretty little Dresses of chambray, trimmed with smoking and belt. Pink, tan and blue. For the Big Girl—All-Wool \$1.98 to \$3.75 Sweaters. Sizes 8 to 16. THE HOME OF STYLE & ECONOMY'

CHANCE FOR SERVICE ABROAD
Naval Reserve Needs Carpenters, Shipfitters and Other Mechanics
Carpenters, shipfitters, bricklayers and general machinists who are not eligible for the National Army are wanted for foreign service in the United States naval reserve force. Application for enrollment should be made at the Naval Home, Fitzwater street and Gray's Ferry road.