

**Bungling Jangles
Vare 'Nerve Center'**

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recognize the need of some such remedy when they realize that while Congressman Vare in Washington was declaring with solemn and ponderous emphasis that Senator Penrose was dragged into supporting Moore, David Lavis, a member of the committee of one hundred who resigned from the committee in a pout, was, at the same instant, declaring in Philadelphia that Congressman Moore was Penrose's choice and his candidacy the result of a Penrose plot.

Organization Scrambled
It is evident that things are pretty badly scrambled in the Vare organization when virtually at the same hour on the same day Lavis, the belated convert to the Vare system, issues a statement that flatly contradicts Congressman Vare who was talking for publication in Washington on the same subject.

Lavis, in blunt phraseology, either made a fool of the congressman, or the latter was so indiscreet as not to inquire what the ex-secretary of the committee of one hundred was going to say in his letter of resignation.

Another piece of evidence that will be taken as showing that the Vare people are losing their grip on the situation is the crude way in which they handled this same David Lavis case. When John Phillips and Mrs. A. W. Harman withdrew from the committee of one hundred they chose the psychological moment. They calmly waited until the committee had organized and then sprang their trap. It was a clever move and properly timed.

The Lavis incident was about as cynically handled as it was possible to be.

If David Lavis knew that the Moore candidacy was a sham and a device, he knew it from the start. Yet he stuck to the committee long after Phillips and Mrs. Harman had resigned.

The knowledge did not rush upon him like a flood yesterday morning.
The question, therefore, is why did not the Vares spring the Lavis letter to the public last Saturday or Sunday, or at least the day before registration day, when it might possibly have had some effect?

Instead, they waited till the day following registration day, the worst possible time in the whole campaign to spring their surprise.

The Lavis Deal
There appears to be but one opinion on the subject. The Vare leaders could not arrange to complete the deal with Lavis in time to get his letter into the newspapers before registration day.

Either that or the organization leaders are losing their cleverness and skill in handling political situations.

Or did they commit the conduct of the Lavis deal into the hands of that distinguished amateur strategist and ex-Progressive, Thomas Robbins, whom County Commissioner George J. Holmes "landed" so cleverly in the Vare ranks for the purpose of selecting the forty-six women of the Forty-sixth ward, to say nothing of the other 354 shining stars that will go down in the comic histories of Philadelphia politics as "Tom Robbins' Thousand."

Weeks ago I intimated that Congressman Moore, if selected as the Independent candidate, would cause trouble in Senator "Dave" Martin's political household.

There are already queer stories afloat of dissatisfaction in the senatorial hail-wick. It is not directed against the veteran senator personally, but against his constant insistence, in season and out of season, in pushing to the front Edward Buchholz, his candidate for Council, particularly when, as those patriots assert, Mr. Buchholz has no personal following whatever.

It is openly charged that neither Mr. Buchholz nor Henry Kuenzel, candidate for county commissioner, who with Coroner William R. Knight, Jr., is credited to Senator Martin, can personally bring any strength to the ticket outside that given them by the faithful division workers.

This condition I understand is creating soreness and dissatisfaction among the precinct bell ringers and there are, in consequence, some evidences of quiet dissipation. Besides some of the largest manufacturers in the Fifth district are known to be for Moore.

Then, too, there is that matter of Daniel Wade, a Democrat, for sheriff. Paraphrasing "Uncle Dave" Lane's historic words on a somewhat similar occasion:
"A Mike Ryan Democrat? Bah!"

Another sidelight on the Fifth district situation is the kindly feeling that a lot of Republican folks in the Forty-fifth ward have for William F. Campbell, Independent candidate for coroner. Every "once in so often" Campbell loops over from his own into Coroner Knight's ward and deliberately blows him out of his trenches.

All of which goes to indicate that Senator Dave Martin may be headed for trouble in the Fifth district.

WARRING ON HIGH PRICES—BUYING ARMY FOOD



Surplus United States army food is on sale at cost today at Gimbel Brothers, part of the plan to reduce living costs. At the left is Mrs. Robert Agnew, the first purchaser; next is Joseph S. MacLaughlin, director of supplies, head of the market commission directing the sale of the food; George T. Sale, chairman of the sales committee of the market commission of Councils, is in the center. Mrs. Charles M. Lea, of the Emergency Aid Volunteers, and Daniel Gimbel are at the right.

**SOCIETY WOMEN CLERKS
AT BIG ARMY FOOD SALE**

Emergency Aid Uniforms Only Mark of Identification—They Dig Into Task With Zeal That Emphasized War Work

If it hadn't been for the familiar tri-cornered blue hats with their Emergency Aid bands, an onlooker would never have recognized the dozens of business-like women selling government foodstuffs at the Gimbel Brothers' store today as some of Philadelphia's leading society women.

"Need another bag, sir? Yes, head rice is seven cents a pound. Three pounds, did you say? Let me put it in a new sack for you."

The busy little woman, poking cans of tomatoes and packages of head rice into gaping bags held out by purchasers, was Mrs. J. Willis Martin, head of the Emergency Aid, and prominent in war work and in club circles. She, like many of the other Emergency Aid women detailed to help in the government sale, wore a blue-billed apron over her simple white dress.

Beside her Mrs. Andrew Wright Crawford reached caudal corn from the shelves and sold them almost as rapidly as she could pull them down.

"Hoast beef seems to be my specialty," said Mrs. William J. Clotiler, and she patted the shoulder of a small archaic she had just loaded with canned beef as she passed on to the next section.

Twenty-seven There at 8:30
By 8:30 o'clock this morning twenty-seven Emergency Aid members were at the store, reviewing final instructions. They lined up behind the counter shoulder to shoulder with almost an equal number of store clerks, and at 9 o'clock they were ready for the rush of men, women and children taking advantage of the government food sale.

"It's great sport selling goods," one society woman had time to whisper to one of her best friends to whom she was selling baked pork and beans at nine cents a can. "Now I know what I can do if I ever have to work for a living. Really, it is interesting. I think I've sold a whole carload of pork and beans already."

When Director Joseph MacLaughlin, of the Department of Supplies and chairman of the city market committee, arranged for the purchase of government foodstuff for Philadelphia, the Emergency Aid members offered their services in any capacity needed.

"We feel this is just as important as war work was last year and we expect to stay on the job till it is completed," said Mrs. Martin. "This sale helps some, we think, in the fight to lower food prices."

Mrs. Charles M. Lea was enthusiastic over the work this morning. Standing in the aisle she marshaled the slowly

**Army Food Sale
Opens at Gimbel's**

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This manner enables the housewife to get it cheaper than she could through other sources."

Less than half an hour after the sale had begun the force of nearly 100 volunteered women workers had become accustomed to their task, with the result that the machinery of the big price-cutting sale continued to run smoothly the balance of the day. Included among the workers were thirty-five members of the Emergency Aid, headed by Mrs. J. Willis Martin and Mrs. Charles M. Lea.

Long before the opening hour, 9 o'clock, the crowd of prospective purchasers began to gather with suitcases, traveling bags, handbags and other carriers, in which to cart home the purchases. The fact that previous announcement that customers would not be allowed to take the carriers into the store seemed not to worry them in the least.

Crowd Is Cosmopolitan
And the crowd, figured at now to be about 2000 persons, was cosmopolitan. The woman who dragged a small express wagon through the streets to take home her purchases would rub elbows with the woman who drove to the sale in an automobile and had her machine parked nearby. Both displayed their places with the haughty chauffeurs of the more affluent, sent by their employers to make purchases.

Traffic along Chestnut and Ninth streets was hindered by the rush of persons eager to get into the store before the first sale of government surplus to be sold under the commission's supervision was exhausted.

The big staff of clerks from the Gimbel store; loaned to the commission by the management, and the volunteer Emergency Aid workers, were swamped by the first rush of customers. But they soon became accustomed to their task and within half an hour the machinery of the big price-cutting sale was moving smoothly.

Statement by Gimbel
Commenting on the sale, Ellis A. Gimbel said:
"I have never seen anything that is so directly benefiting the public as this sale. It affords the housekeeper wonderful opportunities. The housewife knows what she is buying before she hands over her money, and she is actually saving averaging about 150 per cent. The work of Mrs. J. Willis Martin and other members of the Emergency Aid is deserving of special praise."
"What effect has this sale upon the home? It has a good moral effect because it causes the members of the family to become thrifty and saving. The principle of the government selling this foodstuff at cost price will be reflected in all lines, and will eventually result in a drop in the cost of living."
"To my mind, the United States Government should unload all its surplus shoes, clothing, underwear, toilet requisites and household to be sold at sales similar to this one. Philadelphia is a great home center should get its share of these goods."
"The sale of government foodstuffs is unprecedented," said D. F. Gimbel, another member of the firm. "It is a distribution of necessities direct to the people. Our organization makes it possible for immediate delivery of goods, whereas purchases made through the postoffice would incur endless complaints. Our trained organization is wrapping the purchases made by the buyers of government food."

Carload of Fruit on Way
Corn, peas, baked beans and roast beef in cans and rice in five-pound bags are being sold. A carload of dried fruits left Baltimore for Philadelphia several days ago. If it arrives this morning big trucks will rush its contents to the sale, and the fruits will be placed on sale immediately.

The food is being sold on the cafeteria or "cash and carry" plan. Customers are limited to six cans each of corn, peas and baked beans, three cans of roast beef and five pounds of rice. The maximum order cost \$3.67, and weighs 47½ pounds.

Temporary wooden barricades keep the crowds in check as they pass by the various counters and place their purchases in the strong fibre bags provided by the commission, the bags having been donated, at a cost of \$700, for the sale. Several cashiers have been placed at convenient points and the nation leaves the various sections of the sale by or she settles for the purchases made.

All Aides Are Volunteers
E. L. Snysler, head of the grocery

**Prices Are Bending,
Palmer Asserts**

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expected to result in a day or two from the lower livestock prices, other food-stuffs, including fruits and vegetables, declined in price.

In the commission house district, apples slumped 25 cents a bushel, oranges 50 cents a box, sweet potatoes 50 cents a bushel, peaches 25 cents, bananas 25 cents bunch and canteloupes 25 cents a crate. Tomatoes, green corn and watermelons also sold lower.

Declines generally were attributed to abundance as crops mature.

Cleveland, O., Aug. 28.—Suit to seize and sell all meats alleged to have been held in Sheriff street storage and market hours longer than the legal period was filed in Common Pleas Court today by County Prosecutor Samuel Doerfler.

The petition asks that injunction be granted to prevent the Sheriff street market from disposing of the meats and that a receiver be appointed to take charge of the meats and fix prices.
Doerfler's action is the result of the State Supreme Court's ruling yesterday, holding a similar seizure of meat in Columbus legal.

Toledo, O., Aug. 28.—A receiver to sell 351,000 pounds of pork stored here by Swift & Co. was asked today by County Prosecutor Seney, who is conducting the Grand Jury investigation of the high cost of living.
Late yesterday Judge Ritchie granted a restraining order forbidding the Northern Refrigerator Company from turning the pork over to Swift & Co., and also ordering the latter not to remove the meat.
The prosecutor took measures to seize the pork immediately following the decision of the Ohio Supreme Court that cold storage seizures and sales are legal.

Sixty Carloads Allotted
A total of sixty cars of army food will probably be allotted to Philadelphia, said Mr. MacLaughlin, instead of fifty cars. Sales will continue from time to time at Gimbel's, though it is expected that large quantities will be sold through the police stations as the supplies begin to arrive.

The distribution of army surplus food through the postoffice will begin early next week, according to Major Charles E. Jones, zone controller and supply officer here, who hopes by that time to begin to deliver food to the parcel-post station at Twenty-second and Market streets. Orders for this food were placed through the postoffice several days ago, but deliveries could not be made because of delay in shipping the supplies here from army depots throughout the country.

department at Gimbel's, and the Emergency Aid Volunteers, headed by Mrs. Charles M. Lea, Mrs. J. Willis Martin, Mrs. Barclay H. Warburton, Mrs. Thomas Robbins and Miss Margaret Comaroe, and all other persons connected with the sale of the government food, are acting as volunteers.

An unlimited supply of frozen meat will soon be available, said Mr. MacLaughlin. He expects to sell this meat to the public at government price through some of the dealers of the city. He hopes some of them will step forward and offer to distribute this meat, without charge, at Gimbel Brothers as they are doing in the case of groceries, fruit, chicken and pork loin and shoulders will be available at an early date, and Mr. MacLaughlin hopes to obtain a supply of beef later.

A car of bacon and 30,000 pounds of ham are on the way to Philadelphia from Chicago, and will be sold through Gimbel Brothers as soon as it arrives. The ham is dry smoked and will be dark in appearance, but in flavor will equal the famous Virginia product.

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