

"BIG FIVE" AGAIN UNDER HEAVY FIRE Federal Commission Accuses Packers of Seeking to Dominate Grocery Trade. SWIFT MAKES HOT DENIAL

By the Associated Press. Washington, Oct. 16.—Restoration of the claim that the five big packing companies of Chicago bid fair to dominate the wholesale grocery trade and already handle more than 200 foods unrelated to the meat-packing industry, many of them directly competitive with meat substitutes, is made in Part IV of the Federal Trade Commission's report on the industry, published today.

"The extent to which the packers should be permitted to enter unrelated food lines (even assuming legitimate competitive methods)," the report said, "is a matter which the public interest alone should determine."

"Two questions, primarily economic, are involved: Does this widening of activity result in additional economies of production and distribution? Does it result and will it continue to result in the public in lower prices and better quality of product and service?"

"A third question not here discussed relates to the ultimate effect of such vast and powerful organizations on the political and social fabric of American institutions."

Packers Handle Groceries. Included in the list of commodities said to be falling under control of the "Big Five" are poultry and game, dairy products, lard and butter substitutes, canned and dried vegetables and fruit, canned, cured and frozen fish, cocoa, coffee, molasses and corn, and maple syrup. In addition, Armour & Co., one of the five, is said to be handling extensively soda fountain preparations and ice cream.

"The extent of packer control varies with the locality and commodity and the dealer whose business is being absorbed," the report asserted.

"Four of the packers—Swift, Wilson, Armour and Cudahy—the report states, through their subsidiaries and not including family-controlled companies, handled in 1918 49.5 per cent of the estimated total of shipped dressed poultry and 33 per cent of shipped eggs."

"The same four handled 49 per cent of all factory-made cheese in 1918, the report says, and adds: 'That the big five are in a position to control 75 to 80 per cent of the cheese of the state (Wisconsin) is generally conceded.'"

Libby, McNeill & Libby, a Swift concern, alone handled 10.1 per cent of all evaporated and condensed milk in 1918, according to the report.

SWIFT CALLS CHARGES ABSURD AND FALSE Denies Statement That Packers Are Combined to Advance Prices

Chicago, Oct. 16.—By A. P. Louis F. Swift, president of Swift & Co., today issued a statement denying the charges that the five big packers by enlarging the scope of their business threaten to control the wholesale grocery trade of the country, which are contained in the latest report of the Federal Trade Commission.

"Mr. Swift's statement reads in part: 'The packing industry is again put in a wrong light by the latest installment of the series of attempts on the part of the Federal Trade Commission to scrape the American people into the belief that the large packers are getting control of the food supply of the country.'"

"In the first place the packers do not control anything. Swift & Co. is in active competition with all other packers in the purchase and sale of every product bought and sold."

"The charge that the five packers have divided the field, each specializing on certain lines, is absurd. Swift & Co. handles only such products as logically result from being the packing business and such other products as can be handled efficiently through its sales, organization and refrigerating equipment. The net result is the lowering of selling costs, more direct marketing from producer to consumer and a better service to the public. This statement we stand ready to prove to any impartial tribunal."

"There is no ground for the claim that the large packers bid fair to dominate the wholesale grocery trade. Swift & Co.'s sales of grocery products amount to only a little more than 1 per cent of the total wholesale grocery business. The five large packers together handle no more than 3 per cent."

"The trade commission's figures showing the percentage of poultry, butter and eggs handled by the large packers are greatly exaggerated."

"We have issued signs and a Department of Agriculture report showing that Swift & Co. handles only about 6 per cent of the total quantity of these products sold in the United States."

"There is no combination or agreement with other packers in the handling of these products or in dividing territory in their purchase or sale."

"I believe that the public is beginning to learn that it cannot rely on the prejudicial and sensational charges made by the Federal Trade Commission and that this commission is doing the contrary—a positive injury by stirring up discontent and misunderstanding."

TRAIN WITH ARMOR DRIVES OFF MINERS Union Expedition Forced Back by Armed Men at Logan, W. Va.

Huntington, W. Va., Oct. 16.—By A. P.—Fifty union organizers went into Logan county yesterday in an attempt to organize coal miners of the Logan valley, but shortly before midnight they returned to Huntington and reported that they had been stopped near Logan by armed men, and that later an armored train with several hundred armed men and machine guns on board had followed their train back across the Logan county line to a point near this city.

The organizers said the armed force was made up of company officials, county officers and miners. They denied assertions of Don Chaffin, Logan county clerk, that when searched by deputies at Logan twenty-six pistols were found on members of the party.

The band reported the case today to district headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America at Charleston. It is expected that the union officers will take steps immediately to secure complete details of the thrashing back of the organizers and place the facts before state officials with a request for an investigation.

Freighter Strands on Sandbar. Orleans, Mass., Oct. 16.—A steamer believed to be a freighter from Nova Scotia bound for New York became stranded on a sand bar near United States coast guard station No. 40 last night. The station crew, after reaching the vessel in the heavy fog, remained aboard.

WOMAN LEGION MEMBER. Ventnor City Post Makes Army Nurse Active Member. Atlantic City, Oct. 16.—Because she is a "good fellow" who showed her mettle very close to the firing line, Miss Lucy Parker, army nurse corps, with a record for heroism and efficiency in France, has been elected to active membership in James Harvey Post, American Legion, of Ventnor City.

Miss Parker is to have the same rights as if she had carried a gun and went over the top. She is the first woman in New Jersey to enjoy full membership in the American Legion.

READING BOOSTS LIGGETT Wants Native Son Elevated to Rank of Full General. Reading, Pa., Oct. 16.—A movement to secure advancement in the military service of Lieutenant General Hunter Liggett, native of Reading, was begun by the board of directors of the Reading Chamber of Commerce last evening. In support of this position letters were sent to Senators Penrose and Knox, and an active campaign with all other packers in the purchase and sale of every product bought and sold."

If the proposed advancement of General Liggett should be incompatible with the policy of the military authorities which led to the appointment of General Pershing to his present position, the Chamber urged that General Liggett be kept at his present rank of Lieutenant General permanently. It is understood that his present rank is only a war-time grade.

At present General Liggett is the commanding general of the Department of the West, with headquarters at the Presidio at San Francisco.

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How Much Profit Do You Pay Us? The United States Department of Agriculture informs us that you as an average American Citizen, eat about one hundred and eighty-two pounds of meat (181.83 lbs.) in a year. Based on these figures, if you had purchased all of your meat foods from us, Swift & Company would have profited to the extent of 48 1/2 cents during the first eight months of our present fiscal year. In that eight months we averaged to make two-fifths of a cent on each pound of meat and all other products sold. This profit you paid us equals 6 cents a month—or just about one street car fare. More than 30,000 shareholders looking to us as trustees of their invested money, had to be paid a reasonable return out of your 6 cents a month. Volume alone made this possible. Now figure for yourself how Government interference in the operations of the packing business is going to reduce your meat bill! Let us send you a Swift "Dollar." It will interest you. Address Swift & Company, Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill.

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PHOTOPLAYS The following theatres obtain their pictures through the STANLEY Company of America, which is a guarantee of early showing of the finest productions. Ask for the theatre in your locality obtaining pictures through the Stanley Company of America. ALHAMBRA 1230 Market & Poplar Ave. Mat. 1:45 P. M. 8:15 P. M. 10:15 P. M. THE WOLF. APOLLO 520 & THOMPSON STS. MATINEE DAILY 10 A. M. TO 11:15 P. M. THE WIDOW'S TRIAL. ARCADIA CHESTNUT Below 16TH 10 A. M. TO 11:15 P. M. IN MIZZOU. BELMONT 520 ABOVE MARKET FANNIE WARD IN "COMMON SENSE". BLUEBIRD BROAD STREET AND BUCKINGHAM AVE. STUART BROWN IN "THE OTHER MAN'S WIFE". BROADWAY Broad & Spruce Aves. EUGENE O'BRIEN IN "THE PERFECT LOVER". CAPITOL 722 MARKET STREET 10 A. M. TO 11:15 P. M. MRS. CHARLES CHAPLIN IN "FORBIDDEN". COLONIAL 6th & Mifflinwood Aves. 8:30 A. M. TO 11:15 P. M. ROBERT WARWICK IN "GOD IN THE HILLS". EMPRESS MAIN ST. MANAYUNK WILLIAM FAHNEY IN "THE BROTHER RANGER". FAIRMOUNT 29th & Girard Aves. ROBERT WARWICK IN "TOLD IN THE HILLS". FAMILY THEATRE 1311 Market St. 9 A. M. TO MIDNIGHT OGA BARRY IN "LOOT". 56TH ST. THEATRE—Below Spruce. 2:30 P. M. 8:15 P. M. "THE ONE WOMAN" "THE GREAT GAMBLE". FRANKLIN THIRD & FITZWATER FRANK MAYO IN "LITTLE BROTHER OF THE RICH". GREAT NORTHERN Broad St. at Erie JACK PICKFORD IN "BILL ARMSTRONG'S BOY". IMPERIAL 69th & Walnut Sts. 2:30 P. M. 8:15 P. M. BEATRICE NICHOLEN IN "THE PRICE A WOMAN MUST PAY". JUMBO FRONT ST. & GIRARD AVE. Jumbo Junction on Frankford "L" CHAS. HAYES IN "HAYFEEZ STRAWHAT". LEADER 4187 & LANCASTER AVE. HALE BRIDGES IN "THE WINDY CITY" ARBUCKLE IN "BACK SEAG". LIBERTY BROAD & COLUMBIA AVE. MATINEE DAILY "THE WINCHESTER WOMAN". LOCUST 520 AND LOCUST STREETS MATS. 1:30 P. M. 8:15 P. M. 10:15 P. M. HILLY BURKE IN "THE WIDOW'S TRIAL". 333 MARKET STREET THEATRE 9 A. M. TO 11:15 P. M. DADDY LONG LEGS. MODEL 435 SOUTH ST. Orchestra. MATINEE TRAYERS IN "THE SILENT FIN". NIXON 520 AND MARKET STS. 2:15 P. M. 8:15 P. M. HERBERT RAWLINSON IN "THE CARTER CASE". OVERBROOK 633 & Haverford MADRELAINE TRAYERS IN "WHEN FATE DECIDES". PALACE 1214 MARKET STREET 10 A. M. TO 11:15 P. M. D. W. GRIFFITHS IN "BROKEN BLOSSOMS". PRINCESS 1018 MARKET STREET 8:30 A. M. TO 11:15 P. M. "WHERE BROTHERS ARE LOGGED". REGENT MARKET ST. Below 17TH 11 A. M. TO 11 P. M. NUTVIAN MARKET IN "HIS OFFICIAL PLAN". RIALTO GERMANTOWN AVE. AT TELEHOOKER ST. "UPSTAIRS AND DOWN". RIVOLI 520 AND BANSOM ST. MATINEE DAILY HERBERT RAWLINSON IN "A DANGEROUS AFFAIR". RUBY MARKET ST. Below 7TH ALL STAR THEATRE IN "CHOOSING A WIFE". SAVOY 1211 MARKET STREET EVELYN 8 A. M. TO MIDNIGHT "THE OKLAHOMA AFFAIR". STANLEY MARKET ABOVE 16TH 11:15 P. M. TO 11:15 P. M. MIRIAM GIBBER IN "EVANGELINE". STRAND GERMANTOWN AVE. MARGUERITE CLARK AT VENANGO "WIDOW BY PROXY". VICTORIA MARKET ST. AB. 9TH DOROTHY PHILLIPS IN "THE LIGHT TO HAPPINESS". WEST ALLEGHENY 25th and "WITNESS FOR THE DEFENSE".

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