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LASKER DEFENDS FORMER HEAD OF SHIPPING BOARD

Books Are in Deplorable Condition, But the Board Labored Under Stressful Times of War

PRESIDENT HARDING GREATLY SHOCKED

CHAIRMAN LASKERS IS ANXIOUS TO APPEAR BEFORE COMMITTEES POINT OUT THE FAULT OF THE SYSTEM

Washington, July 19.—With the publication today of revised estimates of the shipping board's deficit for the last fiscal year, showing a total of \$380,000,000 or approximately \$280,000,000 more than previous estimates, Chairman Lasker of the board said he was prepared to appear before congressional committees to explain the condition of the board's finances and asked for a relief appropriation of approximately \$200,000,000 for the current fiscal year.

"I know and want to explain," the chairman added, "that Admiral Benson (former chairman of the board) and Auditor Tweedale had not the remotest thing to do with gross misrepresentations."

"The accounting systems, he said, were started in the stress of war, and continued in the stress of incompetency and through outside auditors had produced the figures given out, I don't guarantee them even now."

"When I showed the president the figures he was shocked and dismayed that such a condition could exist," Chairman Lasker continued. "The \$300,000,000 received from operations when deducted from the \$680,000,000 received by the board from all sources, shows net expenditures of \$380,000,000 although the public records show \$100,000,000 to be all that had been appropriated by congress for the year. This is an astounding case of absolute deception of the country and of congress. It will be a shock to congress, as it was to the president to hear that the net expense of this enterprise paid out of public funds last year was \$380,000,000."

Chairman Lasker explained that the extra funds to keep the establishment going were obtained chiefly from the sale of \$200,000,000 of capital assets and supplies, plus \$80,000,000 of a balance from funds left from last year.

"Approximately \$200,000,000 represents the absolute loss on operations of the first," he continued, "and then there was \$160,000,000 spent on ship construction. What these newly acquired assets are worth is highly questionable."

"The plans for the steamer 'American Legion' which starts on its first trip in a few days, were re-drawn seven times and it is easy to see how that would run up the cost. First, the American Legion was an army transport, then a navy transport, then a hospital ship, then it was determined to make her a cattle boat, and, after spending money on all these blue prints it was decided to transform her into a passenger ship, and she is a beautiful and fine passenger ship but she cost between \$6,000,000 and \$7,000,000 before she sailed her first mile. Her real worth is possibly half the cost. So you can see the assets are pretty sick assets. But after all, there is a fleet. So that our task is to make what was a liability into an asset."

President Harding has instructed the board "that the public is to have the facts—all the facts," Mr. Lasker said. They operated on a commission basis, which cannot be discontinued, he said, "and we must grin and bear that system for some months to come."

"I have actually heard of a boat turning back in mid-ocean to take on a cargo on which the operator made \$4,000," he remarked, "and the government lost \$3,000—and that boat was half way across the China sea when they turned her back to get that cargo at Manila. Anybody can see where the operator has nothing at all at stake, whereby the government loses and he wins and it is a system that makes for inefficiency."

"The morale of the men on the boats, because of all these conditions is pretty sick. At flood tide the loss from these policies in the past cannot be stopped for months to come."

LEGION PLANS BIG DAY AT EVERY FAIR

Oklahoma City, July 19.—American Legion days will be observed by county fairs in all parts of Oklahoma according to H. B. Feil of Ardmore, state commander, who has written to all county commanders suggesting reunions under the leadership of the American Legion.

Meeting of county executive committees are to be called at once to arrange details of special entertainments to be offered. Post commanders, forming the committees, will arrange the Legion booths at the fairs to display war relics and assist ex-service men in making application for vocational training, compensation, renewal of war risk insurance and victory medals.

Heart Pierced With Knife: Brooklyn Boy Is Still Living

New York, July 19.—Frank Farino, 16, of Brooklyn, is recovering today after his heart was accidentally pierced with a knife and then promptly sewed up.

The boy was working yesterday in a factory when a 17 inch knife with which he was cutting rope, slipped. The blade entered through the heart muscle. He was hurried to a hospital where surgeons opened his chest wall, took four stitches in the heart muscle and three in the covering.

AVIATION FANS HERE ORGANIZE FIRST AERO CLUB

DR. HARDY, PRESIDENT; OTHER PROMINENT ARDMOREITES ENROLLED IN NUCLEUS ENTERPRISE

The latest addition to Ardmore's already long list of useful and important clubs is the Aero Club of Ardmore, with Dr. Walter Hardy, president; J. B. Champion, vice president; Harold Wallace, treasurer, and Florence Bradley, secretary. Its sky pilot is the Reverend Jesse Thompson, assistant pastor of the Broadway Methodist church, and its board of directors is made up of James Mathers, chairman; Buck Garrett, Dr. E. C. Harlow, Wirt Franklin and Dick Hignight.

The officers and directors have been selected from the many Ardmore people who have taken flights in local airplanes and are interested in this safe and sane means of locomotion. The membership will be made up of people who have, at any time, made an airplane flight. They are requested to report their names to James Barron, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Later, a meeting will be called to devise ways and means for the improvement of Ardmore's aviation field and build a hangar. Ardmore is recognized by authorities on flying as a logical center for aviation in the southwest. Not only is its climate ideal for flying, but it is conceded that its citizens are exceptionally "live" and enterprising.

According to a map prepared by the officials of the army air service of recognized air routes and repair and landing stations, Ardmore is on a direct line running from Topeka, Kansas, south to the Mexican border. Ardmore is indebted to its local aviators—Oakley and Askew—for the desirable publicity it has received for its activity and interest in flying, and the Aero Club of Ardmore is the outgrowth of the public interest Oakley and Askew have created in aeronautics.

These citizens of Ardmore who are not now eligible for membership in the new club are urged to become eligible by taking air flight at an early date. One trip is sufficient to make the most conservative an ardent advocate of flying as a means of transportation.

It is confidently believed that before the close of the fiscal year there will be in Ardmore at least a dozen privately owned aircraft, and it is expected that the Aero Club of Ardmore will grow proportionately with Ardmore's enthusiasm for flying.

Among those who have already joined the club are Tom Frame, Hugh West, Wm. Potter Jr., Bowden Lacey, Mrs. Walter Hardy, Vance White, Frank Ketch, Dr. C. C. Lynch, Bud Ballew, George Strawn, Hoxie Anderson, Ruth Nolan, W. A. Happ-Billie, Frank Wm. Krohn, Dr. Boardway.

AVIATORS BOMB ANOTHER PRIZED GERMAN CRUISER

Newport News, Va., July 19.—The former German cruiser Frankfurt is lying on the floor of the Atlantic today with six other former enemy craft disposed of in recent bombing and target practice off the Virginia Capes as a result of the successful attack by the army and navy flyers yesterday which continued all day before the cruiser was sent to the bottom. Surviving 11 direct hits, six with small bombs of 250 to 300 pounds, scored during the first phase of the attack, and five with heavier bombs up to six hundred pounds, the cruiser received its death blow from a six hundred pounder hurled from one of a squadron of six army Martin planes, which proceeded to the attack from Langley Field, Virginia, late in the day.

ANOTHER REVOLUTIONARY LEADER DEFEATED IN MEXICO

Vera Cruz, July 19.—General Palaocieta, the revolutionary leader has been defeated at Chinampa and his troops dispersed by federal soldiers under command of General J. Goudalopez Sanchez, chief of military operations in the state of Vera Cruz. The federal forces captured arms and ammunition from the insurgents.

MILLAN EXPLORES OFF FOR THE ARCTIC REGIONS

Booth Bay, Maine, July 19.—The McMillan Arctic expedition took final departure from American shores yesterday. The explorers auxiliary schooner, Bowdoin, which came here Saturday night, after formal God-speed from Rev. Baxter at Wiscasset, went away at dawn, cheered by townspeople. The Bowdoin will make a short stop at Sydney, N. B., on her way north.

BOY MAKING PLEA TO HOUSE COMMITTEE FOR FUNDS SO 60,000 SCHOOL CHILDREN MAY CONTINUE NATURE STUDY



Jimmie Bradley, 15 years old, is seen here making a plea before members of the house committee concerned with the affairs of the District of Columbia, on behalf of 60,000 Washington school children for an appropriation so that they may continue nature study in the schools. Jimmie presented endorsements from President Harding, General Pershing, the American Forestry Association and several senators. Jimmie is president of the John Burroughs Club jury which recently decided that the White House owls might live. Left to right are Rep. Lampert, Jimmie, and Judge Kathryn Sellers and Rep. Focht, chairman of the committee.

WANT SOL SAI MAR EXPELLED FOR ITS SUPPORT OF NEGRO

AUSTIN LEGION POST INCENSED AT THE ACTION TAKEN BY AMERICAN LEGIONNAIRES OF CHICAGO

Austin, Texas, July 19.—Resolutions requesting national headquarters of the American Legion to withdraw the charter of Sol-Sai-Mar post at Chicago because of alleged support promised by the Chicago post to Jack Johnson, negro pugilist, in a proposed bout with Jack Dempsey, heavyweight champion, were adopted by Travis post of Austin last night.

The action followed published reports that Sol-Sai-Mar post had banqueted Johnson and pledged its support if he fought Dempsey. The resolution set forth that Johnson was a fugitive from justice during the world war that he could not have fought for the United States had he so desired, and condemned any organized effort looking toward the negro's reappearance in the ring.

Similar resolutions are reported as pending before other legion posts in Texas, including John W. Lowe post at Dallas, which is scheduled to ballot on the question tomorrow night.

SIGN PAINTERS WILL GIVE \$50 IN WORK TO COUNTY FAIR

Without being solicited, the Ardmore Poster Advertising Company and its employees offered to do sign painting to the extent of \$50 for the Carter County Free Fair without charge, according to an announcement by Secretary J. W. Simpkins of the fair board. The employees included in the voluntary offer comprise: Howard Hite, Frank James, M. C. Hulse, James A. Bloomfield, George Gunn, G. N. Knapp and Oscar Denington. W. R. Burnitt, who also offered his services, is manager of the company.

The offer will meet a long felt want at the fair, Mr. Simpkins said yesterday. The company will be asked to make signs for the various buildings designating the nature of the exhibitions.

COST OF LIVING GOES LOWER, SAYS FEDERAL EXPERTS

Washington, July 19.—The retail cost of food to the average family declined three-tenths of one per cent in June as compared with prices in May, while wholesale food prices declined slightly less than one per cent, according to statements today by the department of labor. Declines were noted in retail prices of sugar, plate beef, cheese, butter, rib roast, bacon, canned salmon, fresh milk, bread, macaroni, baked beans, canned tomatoes, coffee and prunes.

Among articles which increased in retail prices were potatoes, flour and ham. Wholesale prices of farm products showed a decline of three and a half per cent. Wholesale fuel prices dropped equally, while declines in the wholesale prices of clothing and miscellaneous commodities were less than one per cent.

OPEN GOLD CHAMPIONSHIP OPENS TODAY AT WASHINGTON

Washington, July 19.—The open golf championship of the United States got under way in the course of the Columbia country club near Washington today with half the field of 250 entrants in the tourney scheduled to play in the qualifying round at 18 holes. Robert White, the professional attached to the Wyklyst club of New York and John J. Rows of Germantown, Pa., were the first pair to tee off this morning.

NEGOTIATIONS ON IRISH QUESTION MEET DEADLOCK

SIR JAMES CRAIG CLINGS TO SELF-DETERMINATION FOR ULSTER REGION

London, July 19.—Irish negotiations appear to have reached a deadlock insofar as they concern a tripartite conference between David Lloyd George, the British prime minister, Eamonn de Valera, Irish republican leader, and Sir James Craig, premier of Ulster.

This developed late last night when Sir James, as he departed for Belfast, issued a statement on the subject of "self-determination," which is interpreted to mean that he will not compromise on any matters pertaining to Ulster's political rights.

While the statement has made a deep impression upon political circles, in many quarters, it is not accepted as final, and hope is expressed that the negotiations for such a conference are not yet ended.

The Ulster premier's statement said that he was returning home well satisfied with the efforts being made toward peace and that Mr. de Valera "has broken his silence and cleared the ground by his statement to the press that he proposes to found his claim on recognition of the rights of self-determination."

He asserts that the people of northern Ireland have "determined their own parliament," which was "opened by his gracious majesty in person," and that Mr. de Valera and his associates, by standing as candidates for the northern parliament and submitting their policy of "no partition," have admitted the right of self-determination on the part of Ulster.

"This was the only issue placed before the electorate," he adds, "and no partition" was rejected by the largest majority which, so far as I am aware, ever has been returned in a general election in any part of the world."

He declares that it now remains for Mr. de Valera and the British people to agree upon the administration of the area outside Ulster. The people of northern Ireland, he continued, "do not in any way claim to determine the claims of settlement which Great Britain and Southern Ireland may make and add a ray of hope by concluding:

"When this is accomplished I can promise cordial co-operation on equal terms with southern Ireland in any matter affecting our common interests. "Having reached the present stage, I go back to Ireland to carry on the practical work of the government. I feel that our interests are ably represented in the imperial parliament, and, of course, our services are available at any moment."

Belfast, July 19.—The return to Belfast of Sir James Craig, the Ulster premier, and the members of his cabinet who have been with him in London in connection with the Irish peace move, must not be taken as a rupture of the negotiations, it was stated today by Colonel Spencer, secretary of the delegation on its arrival here. It is thought, indeed, that the delegation will be called to London next week.

None of the cabinet members would have anything to say for publication. Eamonn de Valera is regarded by the Ulster Unionists as a visionary, and the feelings in unionist circles here is that no discussion among all the parties concerned in the Irish settlement will be possible until he considerably modifies his position.

The attitude of the Ulster premier is cordially approved by the Belfast unionists in general. "There was never any other outcome of the negotiations possible," says the Belfast News Letter. "We shall have nothing to do with any settlement terms that infringe upon or diminish the status of our parliament."

On the other hand, the Irish News, which voices the views of Joseph Devlin, nationalist, says: "If the six specially chosen Ulster counties are to self-determine themselves into ruinous conflict with the rest of Ireland, why deny the claim of any county to self-determine itself out of association with secessionists."

S. S. "AMERICAN LEGION" SOON GOES ON VOYAGE

TRIAL TRIP OF STEAMER INDICATES IT WILL SHORTEN TIME FOR TRAVEL GOING TO SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES

New York, July 19.—When the new passenger-cargo liner S. S. American Legion sails from New York on July 27 on its maiden voyage to South American ports, a new link will have been inserted in the commerce chain between the two Americas, for the inauguration of high-class passenger service between the United States and South America is looked upon as a great boon in the promotion of trade between the two continents.

Plans are now being developed for a reception at each of the South American ports for members of the American Legion. The legionnaires have posts in all of the stopping points on the ship's schedule. The veterans will be taken aboard and entertained as guests of the New York Shipbuilding Corporation, builders of the vessel, and the Munson Line Company, operators of the ship.

Following the recent trial trip of the speedy new craft, when a delegation of American Legion officials, headed by John C. Emery, national commander, were aboard, Frank C. Munson, president of the Munson Steamship line, said that the S. S. American Legion would reduce the running time between New York and South America several days.

As a passenger carrying vessel the 'American Legion' has accommodations that will equal any liner on the Atlantic ocean and its facilities for cargo handling are far ahead of the old type boats, according to Mr. Munson.

GOVERNMENT EXPENSE LAST YEAR DECREASED BY NINE BILLION

Washington, July 19.—The total government expenditures during the fiscal year just ended, dropped off by nine million dollars as compared with last year, representing a decrease of one billion, three hundred eighty-seven million dollars in ordinary disbursements and a reduction of \$7,846,000,000 in payments on the public debt, according to the annual statement issued today by the treasury.

Ordinary expenditures for the year amounted to \$5,115,927,689, compared with \$6,492,343,581 for the fiscal year of 1920, while disbursements on the public debt totalled \$9,132,027,170, as against \$17,038,039,723, in the previous fiscal years.

PRISONERS ARE QUIET FOLLOWING OUTBREAK

Pittsburgh, July 19.—Western penitentiary officials today had accounted for all but two of the convicts who yesterday rebelled and after setting fire to a number of buildings, fought guards, deputy sheriffs and city policemen for more than two hours. These two, it was stated, were probably hiding in the cellars.

Excitement still prevailed in the big prison, and the twenty-five Pittsburgh policemen reinforcing the prison guard, have their hands full keeping the convicts quiet. So many locks were broken yesterday that it was necessary to put as many as six men in a cell and when together, they persisted in shrieking and crying out at every opportunity.

Large forces of workmen were cleaning up the broken bricks and dinner ware used in yesterday's battle, while other workmen were restoring the electric and plumbing systems and locks damaged by the convicts.

WEATHER

Oklahoma: Tonight and Wednesday part cloudy, cooler in extreme western portion tonight.

DEFENSE CALLS GUSTAFSON FOR HIS TESTIMONY

Chief Gustafson Claims He Spent Most of His Time With the Detectives During the Riots

CLAIMS ON ALERT DURING THE RIOTS

SAYS PERSUADED NEGROES AND WHITES TO DISPERSE WITHOUT SERIOUS TROUBLE DURING EARLY EVENING

Tulsa, Okla., July 19.—John A. Gustafson, chief of police, on trial for his removal from office from which he is now suspended, took the stand in his own defense today. He is charged with failure to prevent the race riot and with part in a police conspiracy to permit automobiles to be stolen to procure insurance and rewards. Three other counts against him have been dropped. One charging extortion by the use of his own detective agency for services the police should have rendered early in the trial, and the other two charging failure to abate vice and stop liquor selling were dropped yesterday when the state announced it would offer no evidence on them.

The chief testified he was constantly on the alert during the riot doing what he could to stop the outbreak. He said he had received warnings as early as 3 o'clock in the afternoon that there might be an attempt to lynch Dick Rowland, a negro held for alleged assault on a white girl, from police commissioner J. M. Adkinson.

In describing his conduct on the night of the riot, Chief Gustafson said he spent most of the time between 7:30 and the time of the outbreak driving about with Chief of Detectives Parsons to keep "tab on the situation."

The time of the occurrence was unfortunate, he said, because it was at the end of the month when the officers were changing shifts. He said there were few men at the station at any one time and they did what they could to disarm negroes.

After two trips to the courthouse, the chief said he came back to the station and about 9 o'clock received reports that the negroes were arming in the negro district. On his first trip to the courthouse at 7:30 the chief said he saw a small crowd and it seemed to be made up of spectators. At 8 o'clock on the second visit, he said the crowd was larger but he saw no guns, heard no talk of a mob, or any disturbance and noticed many women and children there. With the conclusion of its evidence against the chief on an automobile theft conspiracy count the state announced late yesterday bearing on the charges of failure to abate vice and prevent liquor selling brought against the police. A charge of extortion through his private detective agency was ruled out earlier in the trial. The state's case is now confined to alleged failure to prevent the race riot and the automobile count on which it has rested.

Commissioner of Police J. M. Adkinson was the first witness yesterday for the defense. He said that Chief Gustafson was busy on the night of the riot dispatching his men to quell the outbreak. He said the crowd of whites assembled at the court house was not armed. The trouble occurred, the commissioner said, when the armed negroes invaded the downtown district. He stoutly defended the acts and testimony of the chief throughout his testimony.

On hearing of the negroes arming, the chief said he and captain George H. Blaine drove to the court house for the third visit about 9 o'clock. Finding a large crowd of whites and some armed negroes the chief said he and Blaine disarmed one negro gave the gun to sheriff McCullough and discussed the situation, finally deciding "it would be suicide to start a fight on account of the great number of women and children present."

It was decided that "the only thing possible was to persuade the crowd to leave peacefully," the chief added. Continuing the chief said: "For the next few seconds, I pleaded with the whites and negroes alike to leave and prevent trouble. I assured the whites that the town would be protected and told the negroes that Rowland would not be lynched. The sheriff was doing the same thing. I saw no guns among the white people at that time. I induced a number of negroes on the sidewalks to leave."

"It is probably true," says the majority report, "as contended by both Secretary Daniels and Assistant Secretary Roosevelt, that they were not officially informed regarding acts of operatives or detectives until later."

Erasmus N. Hudson, of the medical corps, who was in charge of the investigation, the report says, showed utter lack of moral responsibility, should have been court martialled. The naval personnel "would be benefited," the report says, if the name of Chief Machinists' Mate Ervin Arnold, Hudson's assistant in the investigation, "were stricken from the roster of the navy."

TEXAS SOLONS WOULD INVESTIGATE KU KLUX

Austin, Texas, July 19.—A resolution proposing investigation into activities of the Ku Klux Klan, in Texas, is being prepared for introduction in the state legislature, now in special session, Representative Lee J. Rountree of Brazos county, said here today. His resolution, which probably would be introduced this week, the representative said, will not seek to force the Ku Klux Klan from the state, but merely to determine what its mission is, if it is found to exist.

Dickson, Texas.—G. C. Benson, prominent citizen here was seized by three masked men, escorted half a mile from the city and whipped with a leather strap. A threat of death if he did not remain silent concerning the incident accompanied his release. Benson said.

ROOSEVELT COMES UNDER FLAIL OF SENATE REPORT

Charge That Both Former Secretaries Daniels and Roosevelt are Reprehensible

CHARGE KNOWLEDGE OF IMMORALITY

ROOSEVELT HURLS BACK TILT, INTIMATING UNFAIR INVESTIGATION BY SENATE COMMITTEE

(By the Associated Press) Washington, July 19.—Former Secretary Daniels and Franklin D. Roosevelt, former assistant secretary of the navy, are denounced for the methods used in investigating the wartime scandal among enlisted men at the Newport training station, in the majority report of a senate sub-committee, made public today.

The charges made by clergymen of Newport, R. I., and the Providence Journal, the report says, "have been proved to the satisfaction of the committee," and both the clergy and the Journal, says the report, "deserve the thanks of the people at large."

At the same time today, Mr. Roosevelt, who was the democratic candidate for vice president, issued a statement declaring that Senators Hall of Delaware and Keyes of New Hampshire, the two republicans who constitute the majority of the investigating committee, had issued their findings without giving him a hearing after promising to do so, which Mr. Roosevelt, in his statement, contended shows a premeditated and unfair purpose of seeking what they mistakenly believe to be a partisan political advantage.

Senator King of Utah, the democratic member of the investigating committee, will file a minority report later.

Most of the details of the Newport scandal, as it is disclosed in the investigation, are of an unprintable nature. The crux of the majority report is that with the knowledge of Mr. Daniels and Mr. Roosevelt, enlisted men of the navy were improperly used as participants in immoral practices for the purpose of securing evidence on which to dismiss offenders from the navy.

Mr. Roosevelt, under whose office the investigation was conducted, was held by the majority to be "morally responsible for the orders." The findings of a naval court martial which investigated the scandal are introduced in the record for the first time. It held the action of Mr. Roosevelt "unfortunate and ill-advised."

Secretary Daniels disapproved the portion of the findings which condemned the method of investigation and on that point, the committee report today says:

"The committee agrees that Franklin D. Roosevelt's action was not only unfortunate and ill advised but most reprehensible, and Mr. Daniels' disapproval of this opinion of the court is to be severely commended."

Mr. Roosevelt, in his statement, said that "at no time was the work of investigating supervised by himself personally," and that when, in September, 1919, he and the acting chief of the bureau of navigation were informed that members of the investigating squad "had used highly improper and revolting methods in getting evidence, immediate orders were sent out that 'that day to stop it.'"

"The insinuations that I must have known, that I supervised the operations, that I was morally responsible," said Mr. Roosevelt's statement, "are nowhere supported by the evidence, directly or indirectly."

On that point, however, the majority point to findings of the investigating committee holding that Mr. Roosevelt was present at conferences which determined the methods of the investigation and that it is "beyond comprehension of the committee how the methods to be used could have been entirely eliminated and forgotten at the conferences."

"It is probably true," says the majority report, "as contended by both Secretary Daniels and Assistant Secretary Roosevelt, that they were not officially informed regarding acts of operatives or detectives until later."

Erasmus N. Hudson, of the medical corps, who was in charge of the investigation, the report says, showed utter lack of moral responsibility, should have been court martialled. The naval personnel "would be benefited," the report says, if the name of Chief Machinists' Mate Ervin Arnold, Hudson's assistant in the investigation, "were stricken from the roster of the navy."

Cotton Market Heavy

New York, July 19.—An opening advance of four to seven points in cotton prices today was not sustained, owing to a renewal of southern hedge pressure and local realizing, and the market soon became heavy, about four to eight points under previous close, which carried October down to 13.64 and December to 13.66. The early buying which included orders from Liverpool, Wall Street and local traders, was based on firm cables, favorable to textile news and predictions for showers over the belt.