

CONGRESS URGED TO EXTEND PRICE FIXING MEASURE

Federal Trade Commission Recommends Granting Greater Powers Over Business.

REPORT IS SUBMITTED

Investigation of "Trade Associations," Suspected of Boosting Prices Advocated.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Price fixing must be extended to many other products than fuel and food, the federal trade commission declared in its annual report submitted to congress today. Far greater powers over business are necessary if the government is to act for the protection of its citizens from profiteering and unfair trade practices, the commission asserted. It recommended also:

An investigation of "trade associations" suspected of promoting price boosting campaign among members; a further attempt to unscramble the petroleum industry; passage by congress of the Webb export bill.

"The commission is particularly of the opinion," the report read, "that price fixing by authority of law should be exercised with respect to the iron and steel industry, for which a bill has been introduced in the senate. Equally important is the regulation of the distribution of raw materials and intermediate products in the industry affected and of the distribution of the final products to the consumer."

Anti-Trust Legislation Urged
The commission declared the purpose of these laws would be defeated if existing contracts, largely based on inflated war prices, were allowed to continue.

Trade associations are declared to "engage in activities tending artificially to control prices and channels of distribution." Making public all the records and files of these associations is recommended as a remedy.

More effectively to check the "monopolized" petroleum industry, the commission suggests laws to abolish common stock ownership in corporations which have been members of a combination dissolved under the Sherman anti-trust law, and legislation which would make the owners of stock in "naturally" or "potentially" competing companies responsible for any acts which the various companies which they controlled performed to prevent competition.

Few Control Oil Business
The petroleum industry at present is declared to be controlled by a number of separate corporations "owned by a small body of capitalists," which do not compete.

A chief difficulty of the coal industry, the report said, is the ownership by railroads of coal mines to which favoritism is shown in supplying cars. This it is declared, accounts for much "car shortage" elsewhere, and keeps coal production 50 per cent under its capacity production.

Railroads which own anthracite mines are accused of another offense—obtaining from the interstate commerce commission "extortionate freight rates" on the coal they ship. Increased costs have passed on to the consumer.

Unfair Practices Enumerated
On recommendations from the commission, the justice department is running down evidence on flag manufacturers who raised prices at the beginning of the war.

Among "unfair practices" the commission has discovered the past year are included: intimidation, refusal to accept advertising, price cutting, disparagement of goods, disparagement of

Prominent Society Girl to Wed Engagement Announced Today

Miss Alisa MacMaster, whose betrothal to Lieutenant Reade M. Ireland was made known to their friends at an informal tea at the home of Mrs. MacMaster's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William MacMaster.



Mr. and Mrs. William MacMaster announced today the engagement of their daughter, Miss Alisa MacMaster, and Lieutenant Reade M. Ireland of the 44th U. S. Infantry, formerly of Detroit. The news was first told this afternoon at a tea given by Mrs. MacMaster and her daughters. It was an informal affair, largely attended by friends of this popular family, at the MacMaster home, Ardgor, near the Waverley Country club.

Miss Alisa MacMaster is a charming girl and one of the prettiest and most popular in the younger set. As Portland leader for the Portland chapter Girls' National Honor Guard, she has been actively occupied this season and has done much clever and constructive work for that organization. The engagement has the usual war interest, and in keeping with the fortunes of war all arrangements for the wedding are as yet indefinite. The bridegroom is now stationed at Camp Lewis, American Lake.

business, false advertising, misbranding, stimulation of slogans, use of coupons, use of leaders, cutting off competitors' supplies and credits, bribery and enticement of employees, use of bogus independent, enhancing prices of raw materials, malicious and vexatious law suits, inducing breach of contract, use of same or similar trade names, conspiracy to injure competitors, espionage, exclusive dealing contracts and defamation of name and goods.

Lulu Van Ness Seeks Divorce
Lulu Van Ness wants a divorce from Nestor Van Ness. She alleges cruelty. She asks for the custody of two minor children.

Mrs. Horace Kerr To Return to Oregon

Oregon Agricultural College, Dec. 12.—Although unable because of illness to accompany the body of her husband, W. Horace Kerr, to Corvallis for burial, Mrs. Kerr will return to Oregon as soon as her health permits. She was formerly a member of the art and architecture faculty, and her original oil paintings and drawings have received favorable recognition in the East, notably at Washington, D. C. Her sketches from nature are said to be remarkably clever.

HALIFAX DISASTER COST 1500 LIVES

Official Estimate Based on Recovery of Bodies and Thorough Check.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 12.—(U. P.)—Fifteen hundred men, women and children died in the Halifax disaster, according to official estimates today, based on recovery of bodies and thorough checking up at all identification stations. A big percentage of the recovered dead have not been identified.

Justice Drysdale of the supreme court expected to start his investigation into causes of the catastrophe today. Witnesses of the collision between the French munitions ship Mont Blanc and the Belgian relief steamer Imo said the Mont Blanc flew no red flag, as prescribed by regulations, when she entered the harbor.

Relief work is going ahead rapidly. Threatened distress from lack of food has been averted. The homeless are all being sheltered and warmly clothed. Supplies are coming in steadily. Additional surgical volunteers and nurses arrive on every train.

Reconstruction of buildings needed for shelter has begun. Military, naval and civilian parties are continuing the search for bodies but snow is hampering them.

The situation in Halifax hospitals is much improved since many of the injured have been taken to outside points.

The dead will be buried next Friday. Scores of the 1500 who perished have been already identified and interred. But Friday there will be a general funeral for all bodies taken from the ruins up to that time.

Three of the cemeteries in Halifax will be entirely filled with victims by Friday night.

Every minister in Halifax and nearby towns will be called into service. Canadian and American relief workers—estimated today that 800 persons may have been blinded in the explosion. Two hundred children have been orphaned.

England Sends Relief Fund
London, Dec. 12.—(U. P.)—The British government today sent 1,000,000 pounds to Halifax for relief work and rebuilding of the city.

Plummer May Run For State Treasurer

Salem, Or., Dec. 12.—O. M. Plummer of Portland, now engaged in food conservation work under W. B. Ayer, will probably become a candidate for state treasurer, according to remarks he dropped while in Salem Tuesday. He said he was giving some consideration to the matter. He is a member of the Portland school board and long has been active in public affairs.

Texas Bird Girl Captures Record

San Francisco, Dec. 12.—(I. N. S.)—Miss Katherine Stinson, young Texas bird girl, Tuesday flew from San Diego to San Francisco, a measured distance of 585 miles, breaking the American non-stop distance record made by Miss Ruth Law in her famous Chicago to New York flight. Miss Law's measured distance was 580 miles. Her corrected distance was 512 miles. Miss Stinson's corrected distance was 550 miles.

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FIRE IN FACTORY CAUSES ONE DEATH

Bethlehem Steel Plant at New Castle, Del., Scene of Spectacular Blaze.

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 12.—One man is known to be dead and a portion of the town of New Castle, Del., was bombarded by exploding shells the result of a fire which broke out today in the shell room of the Bethlehem Steel plant at New Castle, seven miles from Wilmington.

Chief of Guards Jacobson, after directing a score of men to remove cases of shells from the burning building, met death when his head was blown off by a bursting shell.

All ambulances in Wilmington and other nearby cities were rushed to New Castle. Members of the Wilmington fire department also hastened to the scene. The force of the explosion was felt for miles. Chester, Pa., reported that windows were shaken in buildings there.

Five workmen were injured. Because of blocked trolley cars hundreds of workmen who are usually at work at the hour of the explosion had not arrived when the blow-up occurred. The flames were extinguished at noon and an immediate investigation was begun by Superintendent Harris.

The fire occurred during the melting of TNT, a powerful explosive of tar-like consistency that is liquified before being placed in shells. It burned so slowly that most of the workmen escaped before the explosion occurred.

When writing to or calling on advertisers please mention the name of The Journal.

Woman Is Murdered; Attacked German

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 12.—(I. N. S.)—The wrath of German hate fell upon the household of Hugo Beyers, a well known German electrical engineer of Edgewood Acres, late Tuesday afternoon. His wife, Emma Beyers, a pretty blonde, was found dead in a pool of blood flowing from knife wounds in her left side, throat and wrists, and his home was completely destroyed by an explosion.

Autopsy Discloses Negro Murder Clues

As a result of an autopsy held Tuesday, Deputy Coroner Smith has decided that Prince Minkick, Barbadoes negro, was murdered. Minkick was found dead in his room at 314 North Broadway Monday night. The autopsy disclosed that his skull was fractured in several places. Minkick was in the habit of carrying considerable money on his person and the theory of robbery is advanced. Detectives Moloney, LaSalle, Goits and Howell have been assigned to the case.

Marshfield to Jail Members of I. W. W.

Marshfield, Or., Dec. 12.—The city council Monday night passed a drastic I. W. W. ordinance, intended to provide for the arrest of any I. W. W. found in the city. Fines and jail sentences are to be imposed where convictions are secured. I. W. W. insignia of any nature is considered, when found upon a person.

sufficient cause for arrest and trial. The ordinance, the I. W. W. as having no labor unions approved the ordinance and leanings towards work or labor.

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FALING WILL CONTEST HEARING IS RESUMED; T. N. STRONG TESTIFIES

Attorney Coy Burnett, Representing Contestants, to Put in His Side of Case.

That Mrs. Zarifa Faling was mentally incompetent in October, 1914, and that that fact was proved by the power of attorney which she executed on the last day of that month empowering Thomas N. Strong to transact and attend to the details of a mass of her personal affairs will be the contention of Coy Burnett, attorney for Dr. W. Tyler Smith, contestant of the will, when his side of the case is presented to the court.

After nearly a week's recess the hearing of the Faling will contest was resumed this morning before County Judge Taarwall. Thomas N. Strong, one of the two chief beneficiaries, was called to the stand under direct examination. He introduced in evidence a power of attorney given him by Mrs. Faling which authorized him to transact all her business and personal affairs, pay bills, engage nurses, doctors, buy or lease house or household furniture in any way that seemed to him best.

The power of attorney was produced by Strong to show the intimate relationship, both of a friendly and business character, existing between himself and Mrs. Faling.

Attorney Burnett moved the court to appoint a third executor, to serve with Mead and Strong until the contest is decided, to protect the interests of his client. The motion will be argued Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

Townsend Left \$30,000 Estate
The will of Frederick Townsend, local manager of the Bank of British Columbia in early days, was admitted to probate this morning. The estate is said to be worth \$30,000, of which \$20,000 was left to the son, Robert Townsend, who was appointed executor. The residue of the estate will go to the widow, Jane Townsend, in trust for the remainder of her life.

Tong Murder Trial Begun
The selection of the jury to try Chin Jung Hin, for alleged complicity in the murder of Chin Hong in the tong war of last June was completed at noon today in Circuit Judge Bagley's court. Taking of testimony will begin at the afternoon session.

\$650 Damages Awarded
Herbert C. Key obtained a verdict for \$650 in Circuit Judge Gatens' court this morning against Harry G. Durand, who was being sued for \$15,000 damages for injuries alleged to have been sustained in an automobile-motor cycle accident at Broadway and Grand avenue last June.

Trunk Was Traveling Bar
Deputy Sheriff George Harburt seized a trunk containing one keg and four quart bottles of whiskey as it came off the steamer Beaver at the Alsworth dock last night. The owner of the trunk is not known.