MILLIONS SAVED IN WAR CLAIMS IS GRAHAM'S BELIEF

Illinois Representative Explains What He Hopes Will Result From War Department Query.

By David Lawrence
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Washington, Dec. 20.—Millions of dollars have been saved since the armistice and many more millions will be saved because of the vigilance which has been kept over the public purse in the settlement of war claims; and that vigilance, in the opinion of Representative Graham of Illinois, Republican chairman of the house sub-committee of investigation of expenditures in the war department, is as much due to facts brought out during the congressional investigation as any other factor.

In view of the speech of Representative Garrett of Tennessee, giving the viewpoint of the Democrats toward the Republican investigation which I outlined on Thursday, I asked Representative Graham to discuss the purpose of the investigation as he saw it, and to tell what he hoped would be accomplished for the country by such an inquiry.

"I dislike as much as anybody else," began Mr. Graham, "to go around probing into the affairs of the war department. I do not like destructive inquiries. But I think we have done something constructive in our investigation. For one thing, it has attracted the attention of the officers of the war department, so that they feel that a watchful eye is being kept on the way they settle claims. Since the investigation began, millions of dollars have been saved by the adoption of rules brought out by our investigation. Why, in one claim alone, I know that $380,000 was saved by compelling an audit. I hope that our inquiry will so attract the attention of the government as to reopen all claims which after an examination by an impartial board, is deemed advisable to reopen."

CONCLUSIONS SUMMARIZED

It would appear that under the Dent act the opportunity to reopen claims is not given unless fraud is proved, but Colonel Reeves of the war department has informed Representative Graham that in any case in which too much salvage has been given or there has been wastage, the war department can view the case as one of "constructive fraud," and at least reduce the amount of the claim.

Mr. Graham summarized the conclusions of the majority of the investigating committee. This was: "First, the interests of the government in many cases have not been sufficiently guarded in such settlements. Second, certain rules have been adopted by the war department claims board which as administered have had the effect of depriving the government in many cases of large sums of money to which it is rightfully entitled. Third, large sums of money have been allowed to various contractors on settlements through unfair salvage values for raw materials and special facilities furnished by the government. Fourth, in numerous instances government officials charged with official responsibility have not exercised sufficient vigilance in the protection of the government's interests in such settlements."

ARRANGEMENT FAVORABLE

Mr. Graham devoted particular attention to the profits of the copper companies, declaring that the arrangement entered into by the war industries board, of which Bernard M. Baruch was chairman, was one "extremely favorable to at least a few of the copper producers and from this arrangement and because of the necessity and demands of the government during the war those who operated these copper producing properties were enabled to make and did make extravagant and extraordinary profits."

Mr. Graham took a broad view of war contracts in general, saying that haste due to the war and the desire to get production led to the doing of some things which might have been avoided had there been more time, but he declared that this was all the more reason why the war department should be most careful in settling war claims.

ECONOMY ESSENTIAL

"I stood one day in the mud in a ruined town in Northeastern France," concluded Representative Graham, "and saw a division of American boys go past through the mist toward the battle out yonder that awaited them. As I looked at those young, healthy, clear skinned boys with the sacred fire of youth in them—they who had so much to live for—I thought of the supreme sacrifice they were making for their country. What the rest of us did was as compared to this a mere bagatelle, my countrymen. There was no thought of profit or gain or presents or personal returns—it was pure and unselfish dedication of all they had to the country that had gained much credit in this old world of ours by having given them birth; and it does irk me exceedingly when I think of the economies and sacrifices of our people; when I remember what I saw in Flanders and France, to observe a careless disregard of the public rights and an ignorant and apparent willful waste of public funds. Every cent we have must be carefully conserved. The times cry for the most stringent economy. We must not save our country to see it become a bankrupt. It is the duty of every right thinking man to guard in every possible way the public purse, and it matters not whether he be a member of a claims board or a member of the congress of the United States."

Mr. Graham estimated that out of the $100,000,000 involved in outstanding claims arising out of war contracts he would not be surprised if the sum were cut in half and a saving of at least $50,000,000 effected. The investigation was intended not merely to find fault, he said, but to furnish stimulus for post bellum economy.

Soviet Dictatorship For World, Lenin's Pamphlet Predicts

By Walter Muir

Helsingfors, Dec. 20.—(I. N. S.)—The latest pamphlet issued by Nicholai Lenin, the Bolshevik premier, promises Russia that "Europe will inevitably become a vast republic and that Bolshevik dictatorship will be worldwide in scope," according to a Norwegian subject who arrived here today from Petrograd.

Notice has already been issued that Petrograd will be deprived of streetcars, electric lights and probably water by January 1. The Bolsheviks are said to have instituted a house to house canvass for warm clothing for the soldiers.

The Bolshevik regime is calling upon the allied soldiers to overthrow their own governments.

Premier Lenin in a speech at Moscow promised to commence constructive work at once to increase the food and fuel supplies, stating that "the enemies of Bolshevism have now been defeated."

Mont Faucon hill, in the Argonne, on which are hundreds of graves of American soldiers, is to be made an historical monument by the French government.

DEATH TOLL FROM C.P. TRAIN WRECK INCREASED TO 23

Rescue Squads Toil in Intense Cold of a Maine Winter Night to Recover Bodies of Victims.

Onawa, Maine, Dec. 20.—(U. P.)—Officials of the Canadian Pacific railway officially announced tonight that 23 persons were killed or burned to death when an eastbound freight collided head-on with a special passenger train bearing 200 English immigrants, near here today.

The death toll was raised when more bodies were found as the wreckage cleared away.

Working in the intense cold of a Maine winter's night, under the rays of huge searchlights and bonfires, wrecking crews and rescue squads were toiling tonight over the wreckage.

PASSENGERS FROM EUROPE

The passengers arrived at St. John, N. B., on the Empress of France yesterday. Their train collided with an eastbound freight train shortly after 7 o'clock this morning.

Nearly two score were injured, many seriously. Among them were several children.

The wreck is believed to have been caused by the failure of the train to take siding at Bodfish to allow the special train right of way.

Identification of the dead was slow, owing to the condition of the bodies and the confusion following the crash. Up to early tonight it was reported that the only bodies positively identified were those of the engineers of the trains—Fred Wilson, who drove the special, and Engineer Bagley of the freight. Both came from Brownsville, Maine.

HOMES OPENED TO INJURED

The uninjured were taken to nearby towns until the track can be cleared for continuance of their journey. In the meantime citizens were offering the hospitality of their homes to relatives of the dead and injured.

The collision occurred near the foot of Bearston mountain in an isolated section of the wilds of Maine.

The country here is bleak and uninviting, lying under several feet of snow. A short distance from the scene of the wreck is a long, high trestle. Had the crash occurred on the bridge, the death toll would probably have been much greater.

The spot where the two trains met is in a deep cut on a sharp curve, which obscures the view of the track in either direction. The heavy locomotive of the freight train, driven by the great weight of a long string of cars, plowed through the engine and some of the cars. Almost immediately the wreckage broke into flames.

The nearest human habitation is several miles from the wreck. Telegraph lines were broken and it was several hours before the wires were patched and the first frantic call for help was dispatched. Then came another long wait before the relief train steamed into view.

HOLIDAY SALES BREAK ALL FORMER RECORDS

(Continued From Page One)

jewels, one almost forgets for a moment that, after all, Christmas is really for the little ones. But Santa has not forgotten it, and the shops are laden with every kind of toy that could be imagined—all made in America, which hasn't always been true about toyland until it was discovered that American craftsmen had as much skill and imagination as those of any other land. There are dainty dolls and funny dolls for little sister, and for brother are toys of varieties which will exercise his mechanical ability, his brains and his brawn. Every toyroom is stocked with Kiddie Cars, and, judging from the popularity of this "limb-operated" vehicle, young America is going to have some well developed little legs. It is true that the holly in Oregon has been injured materially by the cold, as have also a large supply of hothouse flowers, because many green houses were crushed in by the snow. And, although this will reduce the florists' stock, it is promised that prices will not be increased. As usual, the poinsettia will be the most popular Christmas flower, and the florists are anticipating large sales of their attractive baskets arranged with quaint combinations of pepper plants, cyclamens, poinsettias and ferns.

Funeral Services For Ex-Gov. Moore Held in Walla Walla

Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 20.—Floral offerings sent from all parts of the nation, from New York city to Los Angeles, were in evidence at the funeral of Miles C. Moore, the last territorial governor of Washington, held here today at the family residence. Rev. Otis H. Holmes of the First Congregational church presided, introducing Governor Louis F. Hart, who delievered the funeral address. Dr. S. B. L. Penrose gave the Scripture reading. Governor Hart read extracts from the last message of ex-Governor Moore to the legislature at the time of the inauguration of the first governor of the state.

Gibbons Stresses Christ's Teachings

Baltimore, Dec. 20.—(U. P.)—"Christ's coming means peace, on condition that we get back to his teachings," said Cardinal Gibbons today in his Christmas message. "The Christmas crib tells the story of sacrifice and unselfishness, and sacrifice and unselfishness bring peace."

Wilson's Health Is Rapidly Gaining

Washington, Dec. 20.—(I. N. S.)—President Wilson's condition is so improved that Dr. Dercum, the Philadelphia specialist, will discontinue his weekly visits and will make visits at "indefinite intervals." Dr. Grayson announced this afternoon.

Christmas Seals' Sale Approximates $36,000 in Oregon

Estimates Saturday night placed the total returns to date from the sale of Christmas seals in Oregon at $36,000. The actual returns from Portland were $16,000, and judging from the record of past years, the state outside will match Portland. More than $3000 worth of seals are in the hands of the public school children, and only a few partial returns have been made. The sale in the schools will continue over Monday and Tuesday, and the booth sales will continue until Christmas eve.

The total returns from the booths for Saturday were $206.58. The high booth for the day was the Fifth street postoffice in charge of Mrs. Anna Pettibone of the American War Mothers, her returns including coppers and silver by the pound bills and even a dollar coupon from a Liberty bond.

Britian Names Man to Fill Berlin Post

London, Dec. 19.—(U. P.)—Lord Kilmarnock has been appointed British charge d'affaires at Berlin, the Post reported today. He will be Great Britain's first post-war diplomatic representative in Berlin.

Pershing Has Great Reception in Chicago; Children Honor Him

Chicago, Dec. 20.—(I. N. S.)—General John J. Pershing arrived in Chicago today to remain until Monday—honored by this city's 3,000,000 of population as no other visitor.

As the general's special train entered the station, he was greeted by a salvo from a battery of 155-millimeter guns manned by a crew which had served under him in France.

Mayor Thompson and his official family greeted the general as he alighted from the train, and was escorted to an automobile through a lane of school children who raised their voices in patriotic songs.

Starting with a parade this afternoon General Pershing will be kept on the jump during his stay here, attending banquets, addressing returned soldiers and presenting decorations to Chicago's war heroes.

Fire Destroys Film Laboratory

New York, Dec. 20.—(I. N. S.)—Fire starting from a film in the laboratory of the Solax Studio building, at Fort Lee, N. J., today destroyed the building, causing a loss estimated at $300,000. The structure, a two-story affair, was occupied by A. Capellini, a motion picture producer. All employes of the plant escaped safely.

Habeas Corpus Is Refused in Case of Miss Anita Whitney

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 20.—(I. N. S.)—Superior Court Judge James G. Quinn today denied a writ of habeas corpus in the case of Anita Whitney, prominent social and civic worker, recently arrested on the charge of criminal syndicalism. She was immediately remanded to the custody of Sheriff Barnett.

Attorney James F. Pemberton, defense counsel, filed notice of demurrer, but the application was denied by Judge Quinn. Pemberton announced he would appeal the case to the supreme court.

BETTER OPTICAL SERVICE

¶ Our Opthalmoscope and Retinoscope is one of the most scientific eye-testing instruments in the world. With it we can detect errors of vision instantly.

¶ Treating eye strain by means of suitable glasses is not by any means so simple as it appears. The necessary skill can only be acquired by years of close study and experience.

¶ There are so many opticians in the world and so many people selling glasses that you are in a position to demand something better than the average, and we are in a position to give it to you.

¶ The necessary knowledge covers a wide field and includes eye physiology and anatomy, physical and visual optics in their advanced stages; also a practical knowledge of lens grinding.

¶ Our many years' experience in scientific eye-sight testing is at your dsposal.

¶ Complete lens-grinding factory on premises.

SAVE YOUR EYES

Thompson Optical Institute

Eyesight Specialists

Portland's Largest; Most Modern, Best Equipped Exclusive Optical Establishment.

209-10-11 Corbett Bldg., Fifth and Morrison

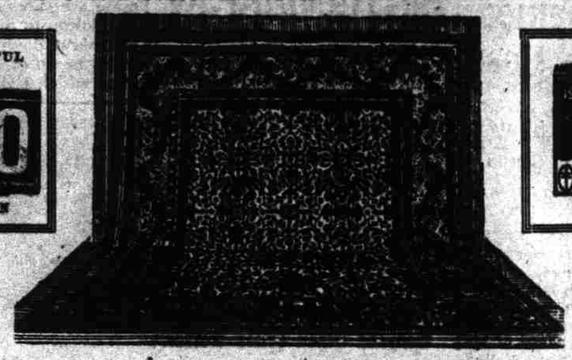
Since 1908.

SELECT ONE SINGLE PIECE OR A HOUSEFUL —IT'S EASY-TO-PAY-THE-EDWARDS-WAY—

EDWARDS CO

—OAK STREET—

JUST TWO BLOCKS NORTH OF WASHINGTON



A Very Timely Event Is This Christmas Sale of NEW (Just Unpacked)

9.0x12.0 Seamless Axminster Rugs

—$59.50—

$10 Cash, $1 Week, No Interest

HOME ATMOSPHERE

is built from the floor up. The first impression of your home is usually a lasting one. Have at least a rug in your living room that will bespeak good taste and cultured judgment.

PERFECT HARMONY

with your draperies and wall tints will be had from now on; charmingly clever two-tone effects, Golden Tans and Browns, Mixed Reds, Green, Blues and Old Rose. Every one contains that rich, lustrous wool which adds durability and insures long wear and lasting relief to bare floors.

27x54-INCH AXMINSTER RUGS $8.75

36x72-INCH AXMINSTER RUGS $12.50

27x54-INCH CYDONIA RAG RUGS $3.75

36x72-INCH CYDONIA RAG RUGS $5.75

54x48-INCH BRAIDED OVAL RAG RUGS $5.50

HELP SAVE LIVES!

—Buy Red Cross Christmas seals and help combat that dreadful disease—tuberculosis. These seals cost only a trifle. Put Red Cross "Tubercular Prevention" Seals on every package you give or send this Christmas.

Going to Have a Family Gathering at Your Home This Christmas? Then You Had Better Order—the First Thing Monday—Edwards' Improved

NUFOLD BED DAVENPORT

PRICED SPECIAL AT

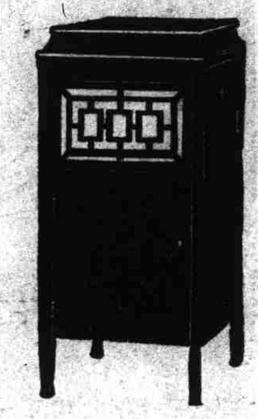
$67.50

$7 CASH—$2 WEEK—NO INTEREST.

—Frame is built entirely of solid oak, seat and back upholstered with heavy leatherette. Spring has helical braces at each end, with rows of coils in the center; two persons can sleep comfortably—no rolling together.

—Davenport on sale differs slightly from illustration—has slat ends instead of panel.

The Brunswick



Model Illustrated to Your Left, With Seven Double-Faced Records (Fourteen Selections).

$105.95

—$10 Cash
—$2 Week
—No Interest

—WAXED OAK
—FUMED OAK
—MAHOGANY

WHICH WILL YOU HAVE?

For the Little Ones!

—Wire-Framed Doll Buggies at ..... $1.25 to $6.00
—Ivory Enamel Wicker Doll Buggies ..... $7.95 to $16
—Red Painted Chairs and Rockers at ..... 39c to 49c
—Oak Arm Rockers at ..... $3.90 to $7.75
—Golden Elm and Oak High Chairs ..... $4.75 to $9.50
—Ivory and Frosted High Chairs ..... $11.75 and $12.50

Here You Are—for Wife or Sweetheart!

Wicker Sewing Baskets

$8.75
$9.50, $10.50,
$12.75

—Round or square, in Ivory, natural and brown finishes—

Genuine Red Tennessee Cedar Chests

$24.95 & $28.75

$5 CASH—$1 WEEK—NO INTEREST

—Some plain, some with copper trimmings. These are underpriced from $3 to $6. Quick selection is suggested.

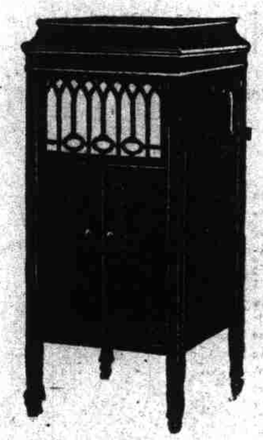
Model Illustrated to Your Right, With Eight Double-Faced Records (Sixteen Selections)

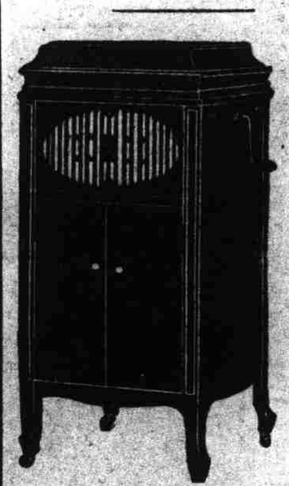
$141.80

—$15 Cash
—$2 Week
—No Interest

—WAXED OAK
—FUMED OAK
—MAHOGANY

WHICH WILL YOU HAVE?





Model Illustrated to Your Left, With Ten Double-Faced Records (Twenty Selections).

$183.50

—$20 Cash
—$3 Week
—No Interest

—WAXED OAK
—FUMED OAK
—MAHOGANY

WHICH WILL YOU HAVE?

100-Piece SEMI-PORCELAIN Dinner Set

In Gold Band and Floral Decorated Designs.

$24.50 $26.50 $28.50 $32.50 $35.00

—$5 CASH
—$1 WEEK
—NO INTEREST

EXTRA SPECIAL

Aluminum Cooking Outfits

$12.75

—$3 CASH
—$1 WEEK
—NO INTEREST

—Percolator, Teakettle, Double Boiler, Covered Cooker, Lipped Saucepan with bail handle and two (2) Lipped Saucepans with dipper handles.

Royal Easy Chairs

"PUSH THE BUTTON—BACK RECLINES"

A Gift That Will Bring to Mind "This Xmas" for Years—Models on Display at

$32.50
$39.50
$43.50
$49.75

No Need of You Sleeping on an Uncomfortable Bed—Get One of These Fifty-Pound Felted Cotton

Sleepwell Mattresses

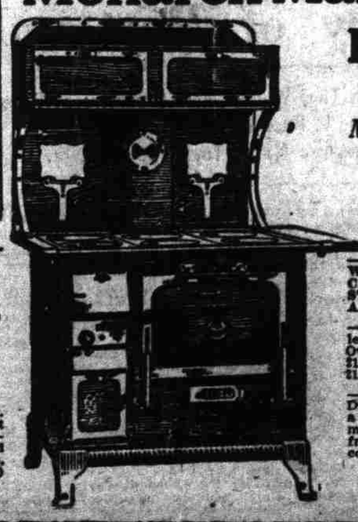
$25.00, $31.00

$5 CASH, $1 WEEK, NO INTEREST

—They're guaranteed not to lump or shift. You see, Sleepwell Mattresses are built up in layers (like so many small comforters). Then, too, Sleepwell edges and boxing contain long-fiber staple cotton, which insures them (edges and boxing) from breaking over.

The Gift Supreme for Mother

Monarch Malleable Range



Built of Malleable Iron. Built With Rivets, Not Bolts.

—THE HEAVY DOUBLE WALLS ARE BUILT OF COPPER-BEARING STEEL PLATE WITH ASBESTOS LININGS.

—Four or six-hole tops in leg or cabinet base styles. Oven sizes as follows: 15x21 inches, 17x21 inches, 19x21 inches and 21x21 inches.

—Sure they have Duplex Drafts, Duplex Grates and a dust-tight ash compartment, as well as the pin-front water heater (no coil).

INSTALLED ON EASY TERMS