

THREATENING POWER OF PACKING HOUSES

Report by U. S. Commission
Shows They Are Acquiring
Control of Foodstuffs.

FINANCIAL POWER

Have Acquired Affiliation Thru
Stock Ownership Representa-
tion in Banks.

Washington, July 11.—An approaching packer domination of all important foods in the United States and an international control of meat products with foreign companies seem certain unless fundamental action is taken to prevent it, the federal trade commission declared today in part one of its report to President Wilson on the "extent and growth of power of the five packers in meat and other industries."

"A fair consideration of the course the five packers have followed and the position they have already reached," said the report, "must lead to the conclusion that they threaten the freedom of the market of the country's food industries and of the by-product industries linked therewith. The meat packer control of other foods will not require long in developing."

Declaring "the history of the packers' growth is interwoven with illegal combinations, rebates and with unduly closed control of corporations," the report urged the importance of full publicity of corporate ownership for all industries.

Alleging that the "big five" packers—Swift & Co., Armour & Co., Wilson & Co., Morris & Co. and the Cudahy Co.—jointly or separately, wield controlling interests in 574 companies, minority interest in 95 others and undetermined interest in 93—a total of 762 companies—and that they produce or deal in some 775 commodities, largely food products, the report gives this picture of growing packer invasion into related and unrelated industries:

Growing Packer Invasion.
"In addition to meat foods, they produce or deal in such diverse commodities as fresh commodities and canned goods, leather and cottonseed oil, breakfast foods, cured hair, pepin and washing powder. Their branch distribution of meat and poultry, but take on the character of wholesale grocery stores, dealers in various kinds of produce and jobbers to special lines of trade."

"They have interests large enough to be a dominating influence in most of the services connected with the production and distribution of animal foods and their by-products, and are reaching out for control, not only of substitutes of animal food but for the integration of their business has led them. They are factors in cattle loan companies, making the necessary loans to growers and feeders of live stock; are interested in railways and private car lines transporting live stock and manufactured animal products; in most of the important stock yards companies, the public market for the bulk of food animals, and in live stock trade papers, on which growers and feeders rely for market news."

Interested in Banks.
"They are interested in banks from which their competitors borrow money, in companies supplying machinery, ice, salt, materials, boxes, etc., to themselves and their competitors; they are interested in the provision of material and other crude animal by-products; purchase from other packers these crude by-products, and themselves carry them to the market, thus obtaining a further stage than most of their competitors."

"They are important factors in the leather industry, in cottonseed oil, in fertilizer, in soap, in glue, etc."

"Their vast distributing system, with the advantages arising from the control of private cars, cold-storage, and a network of branch houses, has enabled them to extend their activities on a large scale into poultry, eggs, cheese, butter, rice, breakfast foods, canned vegetables, soda fountain supplies and other lines."

"In England, France, Italy, Holland and other European countries, large meat distributing companies have been organized by the packers to sell the meats from their plants in the United States, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil and Australia."

The Financial Power.

"As to financial power, the report said in part: 'The packer has drawn to a marked degree upon the banks of the country for liquid funds. To assure himself loans ample to his purpose, the big packer has secured affiliation thru stock-ownership representation on directorates and in other ways, with numerous banks and trust companies.'"

"After reviewing the interest of the packers in the leather, fertilizer, cottonseed oil, grain and breakfast food industries, the report said: 'The reason why the packers are seeking control of the substitutes for meat—the foods that compete with meats—are obvious. If the prices of substitutes for meats are once brought under packer control, the consumer will have little to gain in turning to them for relief from excessive meat prices.'"

"Judged conservatively by trade estimates the big five handle at least half of the poultry, eggs and cheese in the main channels of interstate commerce."

"Recently the big packers began dealing in various staple groceries and vegetables, such as rice, potatoes, beans and coffee and increased their sales at such a rate that in certain lines they have become factors of great moment."

Activities in South America.
Referring to the packers' activities in South America, the report said that from establishment of a single plant in Argentina in 1907 by Swift and Company, the American packers, Swift, Armour, Morris and Wilson, had developed by 1917 until for that year they exported 57.4 per cent. of all exports of frozen and chilled beef from Argentina and Uruguay. "It is significant of their power and the rapidity of their action," said the report,

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FOUGHT INDIAN FIGHT AGAINST BOLSHEVIKI

American Company, Surprised
Near Vladivostok, Rallied in
a Log Cabin.

Romanovka, Siberia, July 11.—It was at this little village, 50 miles northeast of Vladivostok, that at dawn on June 25 a force of 200 Bolsheviks attacked an American camp in which were 74 men of Company A, 31st Infantry, killing 19 and wounding 27 others. Two of whom died of their wounds.

The men of Company A who were guarding the railway from Vladivostok occupied a row of tents pitched near the railroad. The Bolsheviks crept up and hid in the dense underbrush, fence corners and woodpiles near the camp. At 5 o'clock they fired a volley which killed many of the sleeping Americans. Others who had been wounded by the first discharge staggered outside and were shot down as they left the tents.

Of those who escaped the first volley, some were pulled on only light garment or two, clapped on their steel helmets and organized a centre of resistance in a log cabin, firing then at puffs of smoke from the bushes.

Then for three hours the Americans fought as in an Indian battle of the frontier days, relief finally coming to them when 17 men rolled in on a train after an American volunteer had run from the beleaguered cabin to the nearest camp, five miles distant.

The Bolsheviks, thinking large reinforcements were arriving, then withdrew toward the hills, dragging their wounded and their dead with them, but leaving behind eight of their number who had been killed.

Forest Fires in Alberta Now Practically Controlled

Calgary, July 11.—Forest fires west of here are now practically under control, according to Attorney-General Boyle, who made a trip to the fire area yesterday afternoon. Settlers and rangers have made a hard fight and the battle is not yet over, but the fires are now pretty well confined.

"That in 1910, three years after their entrance into River Plate, Argentina, field they had secured control of over 40 per cent. of the trade; that in 1915 they had substantially 65 per cent.; and that their weighted average control during the eight years from 1910 to 1917 was 55 per cent. In this period they exported nearly 22,000,000 quarters of the beef from these two South American countries, which represents well over five million head of cattle."

The American packers control, or are associated with, 17 meat companies or holding companies in South America, according to the reports to the commission.

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FORDS IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF COMPANY

Mayor Couzens of Detroit Only
Other Shareholder Under
Reorganization Plan.

Detroit, July 11.—Re-organization of the Ford Motor Company is being completed, whereby Edsel B. Ford, 25-year-old president of the company, becomes, with the exception of one other stockholder, the sole partner with his father, Henry Ford, in the corporation. This announcement was made here today by Frank L. Klingensmith, vice-president and general manager of the company.

Mr. Klingensmith announced that the purchase had been arranged of all the minority stock excepting a block held by James Couzens, millionaire mayor of Detroit, and former vice-president of the company. Mr. Klingensmith and other officials of the company refused to divulge the amount involved in the purchase. It was estimated in financial circles, however, that it would total close to \$100,000,000.

Up to the present Henry Ford has held 58 1/2 per cent. of the Ford Motor stock. The minority stock bought in included that of John F. and Horace E. Dodge, heads of the Dodge Motor Company.

Today's announcement comes as a complete surprise in motor and financial circles, and is rumored for some weeks that another large automobile corporation was seeking the minority holdings.

No New Company.

Mount Clemens, Mich., July 11.—Edsel Ford, president of the Ford Motor Company, stated that the new stock purchase means that there will be no new automobile company formed, as had been planned by the Ford family and announced in California last March.

Wages, he said, would be increased from time to time, but he declined to confirm the report concerning certain Ford employees, that a \$7 minimum would be put in effect soon. He also declined to state the price paid for the minority stock. The Ford family now hold 59 per cent.

Re-elect Miss A. M. Brown President of King's Daughters

St. John, N.B., July 11.—The Dominion convention of the King's Daughters this afternoon re-elected Miss A. M. Brown of Toronto, president, and Miss L. Thorne of Fredericton, secretary. Mrs. J. E. Austin of Toronto was elected treasurer.

Prince, During Canadian Tour, Not to Speak at Luncheons

Vancouver, July 11.—The Prince of Wales during his visit to Canada has decided not to accept invitations "which will be involved in his speaking at public luncheons," according to a telegram from Sir Joseph Pope to the Vancouver Canadian Club.

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ARAGUAYA BRINGS WOUNDED TROOPS

Names of Soldiers for Toronto District—Men Now on Train En Route Home.

Portland, Maine, July 11.—The transport Araguaya with 769 wounded Canadians arrived today from Liverpool. Most of the wounded had recovered, but there were some serious cases, including thirty-eight insane. All were forwarded by special train to Canadian military districts. Among those on board were 23 officers and seven nursing sisters. Sergeant R. B. C. Smith of Chester, N.S., died on July 4, of heart trouble, and was buried at sea the next day.

Officers returned aboard the hospital ship are as follows:
Capt. George A. Clarke, Port Hope; Lieut.-Col. Norman B. Gwyn, Dundas; Lieut. Andrew F. Menzies, Orillia; Lieut. Harry C. Scarth, Toronto; Lieut. Elmer S. Chagnon, Hamilton; Major John C. Hartley, Toronto.

The general list of those returning to Toronto military district follows. Unless otherwise designated, the names are of soldiers for Toronto: E. S. Chagnon, Hamilton; N. B. Gwyn, Dundas; J. C. Hartley, H. C. Scott, E. Fairfield; R. Mallory, Hamilton; J. W. Ogilvie, M. C. Robinson, C. Hoults, T. Milligan, E. H. McIlroy, W. T. V. Smart, G. Soderstrom, V. E. Sornberger, W. Oldfield, C. A. G. Dow, R. E. Fisher, C. Jarvis, C. C. Partridge, S. Best; A. J. Campbell, Milton West; W. Burnie, Sutton; A. G. Carpenter, Hamilton; H. W. Fletcher, Hamilton; R. Gribble, S. E. Hall, Brantford; J. Johnston, J. W. Ledwith, P. Parent, St. Catharines; E. R. Smith, Whitby; W. Smith, Hamilton; W. F. Auckett, J. W. Bell, F. J. Brown, G. H. Carter, G. Chas. G. Donaghy, R. J. Dow, M. J. Duggan, C. W. Evans, W. Everden, Eglington; H. G. Forth, Newmarket; J. Gullans, A. Harrison, H. Heston, E. H. Hoyle, Hamilton; R. H. Hill, J. Howell, W. H. Howes, W. Jarvis, E. Johnson, J. Kennedy, Hamilton; F. T. Laborde, Brantford; A. Leclair, Hamilton; J. W. Loftus, W. T. Maguire, Brantford; A. H. Makeley, Hamilton; W. A. Mooney, F. E. Monaghan; J. Mulr, A. E. Nicholson; J. Orntoski, Hamilton; C. P. Porteous, G. Rawson, Orillia; J. T. Roussel, Mount Hamilton; A. G. Shaw, Oakville; J. C. Stewart, Hamilton; A. F. Smith, H. J. Smith, Mount Hamilton; W. F. Symonds, R. Turner, W. Turner, T. Urwin, J. A. Wright.

CLAIMED HUSBAND REFUSED TO RETURN

Evidence Given at Inquest Into
Suicide of London
Beauty.

London, July 11.—The Earl of March, chief witness at the coroner's inquest into the death of Mrs. Arthur Elliot, who was found shot dead in a room in her home on Wednesday, testified today that Mrs. Elliot had consulted him regarding the actions of her husband, Captain Arthur Elliot, a dramatist and grandson of the late Earl of St. Germans. Mrs. Elliot, better known as Mrs. Mabel Louise Elliot, was the divorced wife of Col. Thomas Atherton.

The Earl of March, in his testimony, said Mrs. Elliot told him her husband was making his home with his step-daughter—the daughter of his former wife—and that he refused to return to their home.

Other evidence given at the inquest tended to show Mrs. Elliot herself after having had disagreements with her husband over his step-daughter's testimony showed that Mrs. Elliot lived with Capt. Elliot only a short time.

The step-daughter referred to by the Earl of March, Miss Cornell, when called to the stand in her own defense, denied statements credited to Mrs. Elliot regarding Miss Cornell's relations with Capt. Elliot. Miss Cornell was a daughter of Capt. Elliot's second wife, who was Mrs. William A. C. Cornell.

SUPPLIES ARE STOLEN AND SHIPPED TO GERMANY

Coblenz, July 11.—A plot involving wholesale thefts of food, automobile tires and other troop supplies for shipment to Germany, has been uncovered by army officers here, it was learned today, when several Germans who are alleged to have had a hand in the plans, were arrested.

Three cars of American bacon and three cars of dyes and tubes, which were billed thru to unoccupied Germany today from the edge of the bridgehead, the military police alleging that the goods had been stolen. Officers say that shipments under various pretexts have been going on for weeks, and possibly months, and they estimate the loss to the army at several million francs.

SUSPECT MURDER

Montreal, July 11.—The discovery of the body of a man identified as Leon Demers, at Shawbridge, near the boys' farm training school, on Tuesday afternoon, may develop into a murder case, in the opinion of Coroner LaBelle, of St. Jerome. The coroner, upon examination of the body, found that the man's skull was fractured at the rear base, and there was a rope around the man's neck.

NEW R.N.W.M.P. BARRACKS

Regina, July 11.—Storey & Van Egmon have been commissioned to design plans for a new barracks here for the R.N.W.M.P. to cost \$80,000.

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31 x 4 16.00 24.50 15.00 3.50 2.00

32 x 4 15.00 22.00 15.75 3.60 2.10

33 x 4 18.00 26.00 16.75 3.75 2.20

34 x 4 23.50 28.00 17.25 3.80 2.30

36 x 4 26.50 32.50 18.25 3.90 2.40

33 x 4 1/2 20.00 25.00 17.00 4.50 2.75

34 x 4 1/2 20.00 25.00 17.75 4.65 2.90

35 x 4 1/2 22.50 37.00 15.00 4.80 3.00

36 x 4 1/2 25.00 38.00 19.25 4.95 3.20

35 x 5 25.00 35.00 21.50 5.35 3.50

36 x 5 25.00 42.00 22.50 5.75 3.70

37 x 5 30.00 23.00 5.75 3.90

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Canadian Boy Magazine

Now the Organ of Boy Scouts

St. John, N.B., July 11.—The Canadian Boy Magazine, established here by Percy Gibson, has been purchased by the Dominion Council of the Boy Scouts' Association of Canada as its organ. Mr. Gibson's service has been secured, and he has been added to the council as Dominion publicity agent. He will move to Toronto.

Bolsheviks in Montreal

Want Support of Soldiers

Montreal, July 11.—Bolshevik agents are at work in this city and thru the medium of the Industrial Workers of the World, are carrying on a campaign to gain support among the returned soldiers. The I. W. W.'s have formed an industrial council of affiliated organizations, acting on the principles of radical socialism and are endeavoring to secure the allegiance of all leagues which may be formed by the war veterans.

No Government Action Yet

To Quiet Unrest at Sydney

Ottawa, July 11.—Hon. G. D. Robertson, minister of labor, stated today that he knew of no action which the department could take at present, with regard to the situation at Sydney mines, where serious unrest due to unemployment, is reported. He said that he had not received any communication from the steel workers and miners within the last day or two. The closing of the collieries was probably the result of the country-wide conditions resulting in a lessening of the demand for steel.

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