

October 4, 1916. No meeting held.

October 5, 1916. No meeting held.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

October 6, 1916, 3:00 P. M.

Edward N. Hurley, Chairman
William J. Harris, Vice Chairman
Joseph E. Davies

The Secretary called attention to the fact that the Department of Commerce had renewed its request for the space now occupied by the Commission; and also presented a report stating that the building, known as the Builders & Manufacturers Exchange Building, 711 Thirteenth Street, N.W., and the apartment house adjacent thereto on the South, were available for the use of the Commission. No action taken.

The Secretary also called attention to the necessity of preparing the estimates of appropriations for the fiscal year 1918, and having the same approved by the President and in the hands of the Secretary of the Treasury on or before October 15th. The Secretary was instructed to consult with the heads of the different divisions and prepare such estimates.

Thereupon, at the hour of 4:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Saturday, October 7, 1916, at 10:30 a. m.

Edward N. Hurley
Chairman.

Attest:

J. L. Bracken
Secretary.

- October 7, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 8, 1916. Sunday.
- October 9, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 10, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 11, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 12, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 13, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 14, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 15, 1916. Sunday.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

October 16, 1916, 3:30 P. M.

William J. Harris, Acting Chairman
 Joseph E. Davies
 Will H. Parry

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Parry, was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Certain employees of the Commission desire to go home to vote on November 7th next, and while there may be official business that might be incidentally attended to on such a trip, or public business so arranged as to make the prevate matter incidental thereto, it is the sense of the Commission that such procedure is subject to grave criticism,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Secretary of the Commission is hereby directed to grant such necessary and allowable annual leave to all employees who desire to vote on November 7th as may be required to visit their respective voting places and return to Washington and not to permit the same to be any part of a trip made on official business.

Thereupon, at the hour of 4:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Tuesday, October 17, at 10:30 a. m.

Attest:  Secretary.
 Acting Chairman.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

October 17, 1916, 11:00 A. M.

William J. Harris, Acting Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
Will H. Parry

The report of the Secretary, in reference to the availability of the Builders & Manufacturers Exchange Building, and the apartment house adjacent thereto on the South, was considered, and the following resolution adopted:

ORDERED: That a temporary Board consisting of the Secretary of the Commission, the Chairman of the Advisory Economic Board, the Chairman of the Law Board of Review, the Acting Solicitor, and the Chief of the Division of Mails and Files be directed to forthwith prepare tentative plans for the arrangement of rooms and specifications for such changes as may be necessary to make available for use by the Commission of the buildings known as Builders Exchange and the five-story apartment house adjacent thereto on the South, on Thirteenth Street, Northwest, between G and H Streets, and to report the same to the Commission, together with definite statements as to the basis of annual rentals of said buildings.

(a) For the unexpired portion of the current fiscal year, including such costs of changes and furnishings as the owners of the building will not provide without reimbursement and which may properly be included in the rental arrangement for the current fiscal year; and

(b) Basis of rental option for succeeding fiscal years.

The Board is authorized to secure the advice of Government architects of the Treasury Department to the end that plans and specifications may be attached to forms of lease or leases to be submitted for the consideration of the Commission.

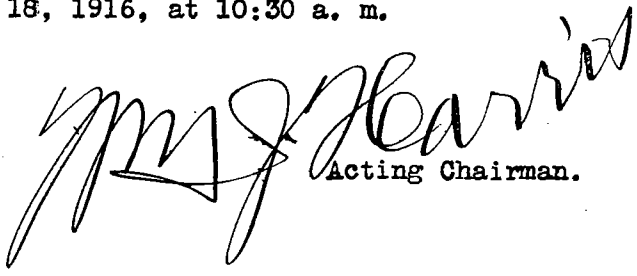
The Board is also directed to make approximate estimates of the cost of moving, including such new furniture and fixtures as may not be properly included in the current year's rental.

It is the intent of this order that the Board hereby created shall have full power to conduct preliminary negotiations for leases and to make plans as above indicated or as in its judgment may be deemed advisable and to submit the same to the Commission in form for final action.


The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

ORDERED: That until otherwise directed all three members of the Advisory Economic Board shall be ex-officio members of the Joint Board of Review.

Thereupon, at the hour of 12:30 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Wednesday, October 18, 1916, at 10:30 a. m.


Acting Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

October 18, 1916. No meeting held.

October 19, 1916. No meeting held.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

October 20, 1916, 3:30 p. m.

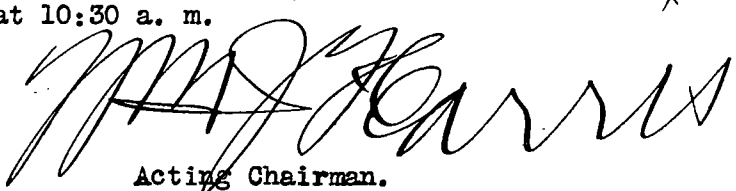
William J. Harris, Acting Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
Will H. Parry

A letter from Secretary Redfield, together with a copy of letter to him from Dr. Pratt, (8146-4-1) criticising the Commission's Report on Cooperation in American Export Trade, was presented, considered, and after discussion the members of the Advisory Economic Board, together with Messrs. Morrow and Durand, were called into the room, and after discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Advisory Economic Board, together with Messrs. Morrow and Durand, should confer with Dr. Pratt and his associates, with the view of having such report conform, if possible, to the suggestions of the Secretary.

Mr. Gilbert H. Montague, attorney for the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, appeared, and discussed certain questions involved in the Commission's investigation of gasoline prices. Messrs. Walker, Haney, Gordon, Walsh, McDonald and Carroll were present at the hearing.

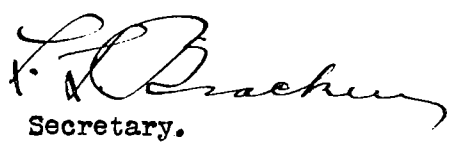
Mr. Davies presented a report, in re case of the Federal Trade Commission v. A. Theo. Abbott & Co. (Docket No. 2), recommending the final dismissal of the same, which, after discussion, was approved, and the case disposed of by consent finding and order.

Thereupon, at the hour of 6:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Saturday, October 21, 1916, at 10:30 a. m.



Acting Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

- October 21, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 22, 1916. Sunday.
- October 23, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 24, 1916. No meeting held.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

October 25, 1916, 11:00 A. M.

William J. Harris, Acting Chairman
 Joseph E. Davies
 Will H. Parry

The Secretary presented a letter prepared by the Advisory Economic Board to Secretary Redfield, advising him that the Commission had availed itself of the suggestions contained in his letter of October 18th, in regard to the Commission's report on Cooperation in American Export Trade. Letter approved, and the Secretary directed to sign such letter and forward same to Secretary Redfield.

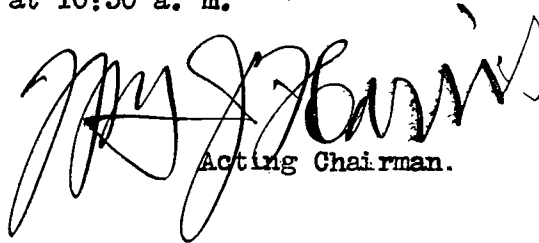
At 12:00 Noon a recess was taken until 4:00 p. m.

William J. Harris, Acting Chairman
 Joseph E. Davies
 Will H. Parry

The Commission reassembled at the hour of 4:00 p. m.

The Advisory Economic Board, together with Dr. Merchant, were called into a conference, and the Commission's investigation into the news-print paper industry was fully discussed.

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:30 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Thursday, October 26, 1916, at 10:30 a. m.


 Acting Chairman.

Attest:


 Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

October 26, 1916, 10:00 A. M.

William J. Harris, Acting Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
Will H. Parry

It was moved by Mr. Parry, and seconded by Mr. Davies, that the Advisory Economic Board prepare a statement for publicity covering the present status of the news-print paper investigation, including a statement of facts in reference to the cost of the manufacture of paper, etc. Motion carried.

Letter from Mr. Timothy T. Ansberry, dated October 16, (File 8508-584-1) asking for a hearing on the report of the Commission on the news-print paper industry, was presented. It was agreed that before such report is issued a public hearing would be held, at which the paper manufacturers, and publishers, would be requested to appear, and testify.

A letter from Congressman M. E. Burke, calling attention to the prospective shortage of coal in Wisconsin and other Northwestern States, on account of the alleged lack of cars, was presented, and after discussion it was unanimously agreed that inasmuch as this matter is being investigated by the Interstate Commerce Commission, a conference be held with that Commission, and that the Secretary arrange for such conference.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The nature of the work of the Commission has rendered inadequate the present system of cost accounting, and

WHEREAS, An accurate knowledge of the cost of carrying on the work of the Commission is essential to its efficient management,

RESOLVED: That the Secretary is hereby directed to put into effect November 1st, a cost accounting system which will show the cost of conducting economic investigations, disposing of complaints and carrying on the other work of the Commission in such detail as the Secretary may deem desirable for the efficient conduct of the work of the Commission.

WHEREAS, An accurate report of the work done by each employee is essential to any adequate cost system,

RESOLVED: That from and after November 1st, every employee of the Commission, except the Secretary, and such employees as may be excepted by him, shall turn in daily a report of his work on the forms and in the manner prescribed by the Secretary.

Thereupon, at the hour of 12:00 Noon, the Commission adjourned to meet Friday, October 27, 1916, at 10:30 a. m.


Acting Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

- October 27, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 28, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 29, 1916. Sunday.
- October 30, 1916. No meeting held.
- October 31, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 1, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 2, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 3, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 4, 1916. No meeting held.

- November 5, 1916. Sunday.
- November 6, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 7, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 8, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 9, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 10, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 11, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 12, 1916. Sunday.
- November 13, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 14, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 15, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 16, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 17, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 18, 1916. No meeting held.
- November 19, 1916. Sunday.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 20, 1916, 11:00 A. M.

- Edward N. Hurley, Chairman
- William J. Harris, Vice Chairman
- Joseph E. Davies
- Will H. Parry

The following resolution, in reference to granting Henry Rees and Edgar H. Gerber, clerks of the Commission, and now serving in the U. S. Army, annual leave, was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Henry Rees and Edgar H. Gerber, clerks in the Commission at \$900 per annum each, were mustered into the United States Service as second lieutenants of infantry on June 28, 1916, and

WHEREAS, the full thirty days annual leave with pay could not be granted them at that time by reason of the construction placed upon Section 6 of the Act of May 10, 1916, by the Comptroller of the Treasury, said section prohibiting the payment of two salaries when the combined amount exceeds \$2,000.00 per annum, and each of their combined salaries did exceed such a sum, and

WHEREAS, a proviso in the later act of August 29, 1916 (Public No. 241, page 30) provides

That no such retired officer, officer or enlisted man shall be denied or deprived of any of his pay, ~~as such, or of any other salary or compensation, salary or compensation for services heretofore rendered~~ by reason of any decision or construction of said section six, and

WHEREAS, The Comptroller of the Treasury in construing the proviso above referred to has in a case similar to the cases of Rees and Gerber allowed payment for a full thirty days annual leave.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That Henry Rees and Edgar H. Gerber, clerks at \$900 per annum each, now on indefinite leave of absence without pay, be each granted the full annual leave with pay allowed by law -- thirty days -- from which will be deducted, respectively, 17 days, 6 hours, and 30 minutes, and 19 days, 4 hours, and 15 minutes, the amount of annual leave with pay which was respectively allowed them prior to their muster into the United States service June 28, 1916.

It was unanimously agreed that a committee, consisting of attorneys and economists of the Commission, be appointed to prepare a plan for the proposed hearing on the news-print situation, the Secretary to select the members of such committee.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Parry, in regard to the print-paper investigation, under Senate Resolution No. 269, was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Senate Resolution No. 269, directing the Federal Trade Commission to investigate the increases in the prices of various kinds of paper required for printing and binding, the Advisory Economic Board has, with the approval of the Commission, but without formal action being taken thereon, begun an investigation of the book paper industry, assigning examiners and special agents to study the work as fast as they can be released from the news-print investigation, and has also sent out to manufacturers and jobbers of print paper schedules calling for certain information of a general nature which will be of assistance in planning the investigation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the action of the Advisory Economic Board in assigning men to this investigation and in sending out the schedules is hereby approved and said Board is further directed to prosecute the investigation called for under Senate Resolution No. 269, or such parts thereof as may be practicable with the limited number of men available for that purpose. Said Board is directed to report to the Commission the plan and scope of the investigation as outlined by it, together with its recommendations in reference thereto.

Report of Mr. Davies, in re request for ruling by United Cigar Stores Company, file No. 2-20, adopted, and the papers transferred from the Docket Division to the Division of Mails and Files.

A motion by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Parry, that consideration of the gasoline report be made a special order of business at 11 o'clock a. m., November 21st, was unanimously carried.

Thereupon, at the hour of 12:30 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Tuesday, November 21, 1916, at 10:30 a. m.

Edward N. Hurley
Chairman.

Attest:

J. L. Buckner
Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 21, 1916, 10:30 a. m.

- Edward N. Hurley, Chairman
- William J. Harris, Vice Chairman
- Joseph E. Davies
- Will H. Parry

The members of the Advisory Economic Board, together with Messrs. Gordon, Wing, and Carroll, were called into the meeting, and a general conference regarding the various points of difference concerning the gasoline report was indulged in. It was agreed that certain points of difference as to the correctness of certain tables respecting costs, be submitted by Messrs. Walker and Haney to accountants Belt and Hoover,

for consideration, and that said Belt and Hoover report to the Commission regarding the said points of difference. After further consideration of the report, the Commission decided to omit from the report the chart indicating the cost of shares of stock, but to state in the text of the report the facts covered by said chart.

A recess was taken at 1:00 o'clock p. m.

Edward N. Hurley, Chairman
William J. Harris, Vice Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
Will H. Parry

The Commission reassembled at the hour of 3:00 p. m.

The Commission gave further consideration to the matter of holding hearings in regard to certain features of the news-print investigation, and a resolution offered by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Harris, was unanimously adopted, as follows:

WHEREAS, A public hearing on the news-print situation with a view to ascertaining what, if any, artificial restraints are responsible for or have contributed to the present shortage in supply and increase in price of news print, at which those who are known or supposed to have information concerning the subject shall be examined under oath, is contemplated by the Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That a special board, consisting of Assistant Counsel T. M. Gordon, John Walsh, and W. T. Chantland, and Economists Robertson and Merchant, is hereby appointed to prepare plans for such hearing and lists of witnesses to be subpoenaed, and to report such plans and recommendations in relation thereto as they may deem advisable, said report to be made to the Commission at a meeting to be held on November 22, 1916, at 11:00 o'clock a. m.

The law members of said special board shall consider and report to the Commission on the question as to whether witnesses testifying under oath at said proposed hearing will be given immunity from prosecution for violation of law by reason of giving testimony under oath.
