

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 1, 1915, 10:00 A. M.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
Edward W. Hurley, Vice Chairman
William J. Harris
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

The Chairman reported letter of E. E. Pratt, Chief of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce (File A6757) in re correspondence of Victor H. Beckman. Referred to Commissioner Parry.

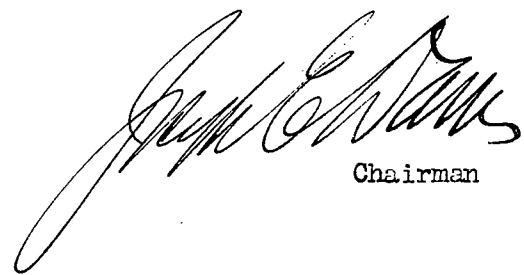
Commissioner Parry called the attention of the Commission to the oral complaint made by the Standard Compressed Yeast Co., of Baltimore, Md., at a conference had with the Commission on March 24, 1915, and moved that the matter be referred to Commissioner Hurley for further investigation as to the merits of the complaint. So ordered.

In the matter of the complaint of the Alpine Evaporated Cream Co. et al. (File A6171), requesting investigation and report by Commission as to the possible imposition of tariff rate on preserved and condensed milk products. Upon motion of Commissioner Parry, seconded by Commissioner Hurley, and unanimously carried, it was ordered that a hearing for argument as to the jurisdiction of the Commission over matters complained of be set for Wednesday, November 24, 1915, at the hour of 11 o'clock, a. m.

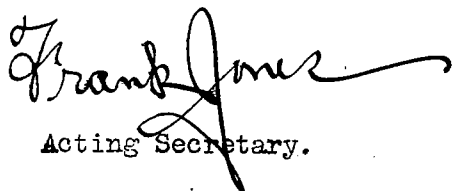
Commissioner Parry was instructed to hold a conference with the Attorney General in re Informal Complaint of Farmington Shoe Manufacturing Co. vs. United Shoe Machinery Co. (1-13-1), and Request for Ruling of F. Mayer Boot & Shoe Co. vs. United Shoe Machinery Co. (2-27-1).

A conference was held with the Joint Board of Review.

At 12:45 p.m. the Commission adjourned to November 2, 1915, at 10:00 a. m.


Chairman

Attest:


Acting Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 2, 1915, 10:00 A. M.

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

November 2, 1915.

It was directed that all copies of Rules of Practice on hand be amended by use of stickers to conform to amendment to paragraph 3 of Rule II, passed by the Commission October 29, 1915.

Report of Commissioner Parry in re Informal Complaint 1-139, recommending reference of complaint to Office of Markets and Rural Organization of the Department of Agriculture, adopted. (file 1-139 - Kenneth MacRae vs. California Citrus Industry)

Chairman reported recommending that William S. Gulbertson be appointed a Special Examiner and designated as Special Counsel, at \$4,000 per year, salary to take effect upon his taking the oath of office and entering upon duty, not later than November 27th. Report adopted.

Report of Commissioner Parry, as special committee on foreign trade schedules for (1) export commission houses, etc., (2) domestic merchants, exporters, etc., (3) publicists, economists, etc., was adopted.

Commissioner Parry moved the adoption of a resolution directing resumption of investigation of resale price maintenance, under the supervision of a Commissioner to be appointed by the Commission. Such investigation to be pressed to conclusion so the Commission might make its report to Congress as early as possible at the next session; and further directing that the Chief Economist assign as many men to this work as might be required. Upon motion of Commissioner Parry, seconded by Commissioner Harris, it was ordered that the resolution lie on the table, to be considered in connection with the report which the Chief Economist is directed to make concerning the present status of the resale price maintenance investigation, and the probable cost of completing said investigation.

Commissioner Parry submitted report covering amount and cost of supplies ordered during the month of October, 1915, which was ordered filed.

Resolutions ordering the actions noted below, with reference to the following complaints, were adopted:

- Informal Complaint 1-79 - B. Gilham, in re Conditions in Clay Mining and Marketing. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to Economic Department for consideration with foreign trade investigation.
- Informal Complaint 1-65 - Wilcox, Crittenden & Co., in re Price of Zinc. Ordered withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-115 - General Federation of Women's Clubs v. Moving Picture Film "Poison." Ordered withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-104 - Frank F. Casseday v. American Smelting and Refining Co. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Division of Corporation Reports.
- Informal Complaint 1-100 - F. E. Cudell, in re Price of Zinc. Ordered referred to Department of Justice.
- Informal Complaint 1-58 - Samson Electric Co. vs. Western Electric Co. and New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. Ordered consolidated with Informal Complaint 1-137 and Informal Complaint 1-106.
- Informal Complaint 1-99 - Ross A. Collins, Attorney General of Mississippi v. Sons of Plato, et al. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-59 - Forstmann & Huffman Co. v. Textile Alliance. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Mails and Files Division.
- Informal Complaint 1-128 - Fir Tree Lumber Co., in re Shipowning Lumber Brokers. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and referred to Economic Department for consideration with lumber hearings and reports.
- Informal Complaint 1-72 - A. N. Lantz v. Prune Buyers' Pool. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and referred to Division of Markets and Rural Organization of the Department of Agriculture.
- Informal Complaint 1-18 - J. H. Mink v. Boise-Payette River Power & Electric Co. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Division of Corporation Reports.
- Informal Complaint 1-33 - H. J. Hammond v. Prairie Oil & Gas Co. and Regional Bond & Investment Co. Ordered withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-8 - Joe E. Price v. Theatrical Trust Exchanges. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.

November 2, 1915.

November 3, 1915.

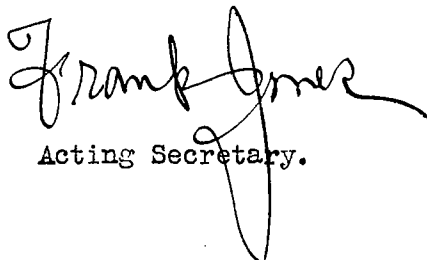
- Informal Complaint 1-2 - F. A. Partlow v. Bridge and Leonard. Ordered referred to Division of Markets and Rural Organization of the Department of Agriculture.
- Informal Complaint 1-60. - B. F. Bennett v. Wool Merchants. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and referred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-55 - A. W. Thomas v. Ammonia Trust. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and referred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-54 - Mercantile Printing Co., Ltd. v. American Paper & Pulp Association and Writing Paper Manufacturers' Association. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and referred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-53 - N. O. Nelson, in re Wheat Speculation. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-51 - M. A. Whiting, in re Storage of Sugar, etc. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.
- Informal Complaint 1-49 - Harry B. Stilz v. Curtis Publishing Co. Ordered withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.

At 1:00 o'clock, p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet November 3, 1915, at 10:00 a. m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Acting Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 3, 1915, 10:00 A. M.

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

Commissioner Harris orally reported that he had carefully examined the text of the Report on the Fertilizer Industry, and that he recommended the same be sent to the Public Printer to be put in galley. Report adopted.

Commissioner Harris orally reported his plans for conducting the investigation of the gasoline situation in the State of Georgia and the cotton buying situation in North and South Carolina and Georgia, heretofore referred to him. Report adopted.

Report of Commissioner Parry on messenger service adopted. Ordered that one additional messenger boy at \$480 be employed from the classified service, and assigned to the Economic Division.

Ordered that the hearings of Duane, Morris & Heckscher and A. Mitchell Palmer, counsel for the Alpine Evaporated Cream Co., et al., set for November 24, 1915, be deferred until some date to be hereafter decided upon.

Promotion of W. T. Roberts, Special Attorney, from a salary of \$2280 per annum to a salary of \$2460 per annum was ordered, effective upon taking the oath and entering upon duty.

At 12:15 p.m. the Commission adjourned to the hour of 2:30 p.m.

The Commission reassembled at the hour of 2:30 o'clock, p. m.

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

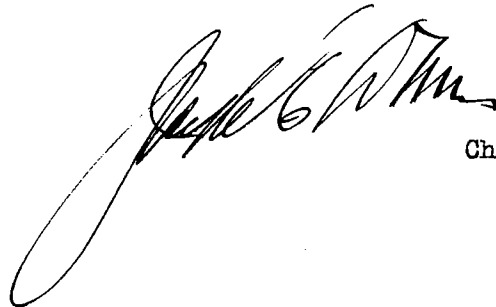
November 3, 1915.

An informal conference was held with Mr. H. O. Nelson, of the H. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., St. Louis, Mo., and Mr. T. R. Barnes, of the Barnes Manufacturing Co. of Mansfield, Ohio, representing the Sanitary Enameled Ware Association, who presented a plan relating to their industry, as set forth in Stenographic Report File A-6931.

An informal conference was held with Mr. John R. McKnight, of Elkins Park, Pa.; Mr. R. A. Patton, President Abram Cox Stove Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; Mr. H. E. Campbell, Treasurer, Reading Stove Works, Reading, Pa., a committee representing the Keystone Association, who appeared before the Commission (see Stenographic Report File A-6952).

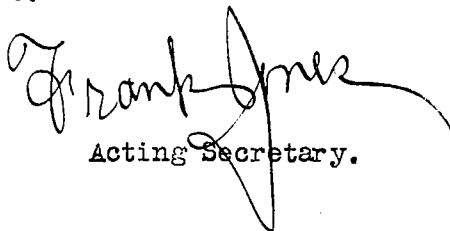
An informal conference was held with Mr. Louis W. Army, Secretary, The Leather Belting Exchange, 918 LaFayette Building, Philadelphia, Pa., also President, National Association of Leather Belting Manufacturers, in re plan for operation of The Leather Belting Exchange, (see Stenographic File No. A 6994).

At the hour of 6 o'clock, p.m., the Commission adjourned to November 5, 1915, at 10:00 a. m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Acting Secretary.

November 4, 1915. No meeting held.

November 5, 1915. No meeting held.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,

November 6, 1915, 10:00 A. M.

Joseph E. Davis, Chairman
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

Report of Commissioners Parry and Rublee on conference with Attorney General, in re Informal Complaint 1-13, Farmington Shoe Manufacturing Co. v. United Shoe Machinery Co., adopted.

The Chairman reported that he had notified A. Mitchell Palmer, counsel for Alpine Evaporated Cream Co. et al., of postponement of hearing.

Assignments of informal complaints were made by lot to Commissioners as noted below:

Chairman Davies:

Informal Complaint 1-14: C. L. Davis v. Taylor-Lowenstein & Co.

Informal Complaint 1-75: United States Acoustical Correction Co. v. H. W. Johns-Manville Co.

Informal Complaint 1-76: United States Lightning Conductor Co. v. Reyburn, Hunter & Co.

Informal Complaint 1-88: C. M. Barnes-Wilcox Co. v. State School Textbook Depositories.

Informal Complaint 1-91: C. A. Waldron v. Eastman Kodak Co.

Informal Complaint 1-106: R. B. Swayne, Inc., v. Western Electric Co.

Informal Complaint 1-126: Frank Holton & Co. v. C. G. Conn, Inc.

November 6, 1915.

Informal Complaint 1-134: Corby Company v. Fleischmann Co.

Informal Complaint 1-136: J. R. Hartline v. Coca-Cola Co.

Informal Complaint 1-151: J. A. Stewart v. Kelly Axe Manufacturing Co.

Informal Complaint 1-157: Hamberger-Polhemus Co. v. W. R. Grace & Co.

Commissioner Hurley:

Informal Complaint 1-10: J. M. Anderson Grocer Co. v. Cudahy Packing Co.

Informal Complaint 1-11: J. M. Anderson Grocer Co. v. Proctor & Gamble Co. and Proctor & Gamble Distributing Co.

Informal Complaint 1-12: J. M. Anderson Grocer Co. v. Corn Products Co., National Starch Co. and St. Louis Syrup and Preserving Co.

Informal Complaint 1-16: Standard Compressed Yeast Co. v. The Fleischmann Co.

Informal Complaint 1-39: General Roofing Manufacturing Co. v. General Roofing Co.

Informal Complaint 1-43: Seeman Brothers v. American Grocers Society, Inc.

Informal Complaint 1-56: American Stone Co. v. Rhodes & Co.

Informal Complaint 1-120: Joseph Kay v. Fleischmann Co.

Informal Complaint 1-129: W. W. Turner & Co. v. Mishawaka Woolen Manufacturing Co.

Informal Complaint 1-139: New Bedford Textile Co. v. Competitors.

Informal Complaint 1-147: Beckwith Railway Fog Signal Co. v. J. L. & D. S. Riker, Inc.

Informal Complaint 1-152: Van Emon Elevator Co. v. Elevator Supply & Repair Co.

Informal Complaint 1-154: C. E. Hoffman v. Standard Oil Co.

Commissioner Parry:

Informal Complaint 1-13: Farmington Shoe Manufacturing Co. v. United Shoe Machinery Co.

- Informal Complaint 1-20: Western Fuel Association
v. Wyoming Coal Co. and Lion Coal Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-46: Pacific Sanitary Manufac-
turing Co. v. Standard Sanitary Manufacturing Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-63: Northwestern Brokerage Co.
v. Ryan-Newton-Virden Interests.
- Informal Complaint 1-67: Department of Agriculture,
Office of Markets and Rural Organization, v. Charles
Weinberger, Secretary, Louisiana Strawberry Dis-
tributing Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-78: American Fair Trade League
v. Lit Brothers.
- Informal Complaint 1-93: Imperial Sugar Co. v.
American Sugar Refining Co. and Great Western Sugar
Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-95: Louis Klein v. Chester Kent
& Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-98: S. C. Peirce & Sons v.
Standard Oil Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-130: Star Candy Works v. Beech
Nut Packing Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-156: E. W. Wing and L. J. Per-
kins v. Continental Oil Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-159: National Enameling and
Manufacturing Co. v. National Tube Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-160: Frank A. Dussault v.
Peterson & Packer Coal Co.
- Request for Ruling 2-27: F. Mayer Boot & Shoe Co.

Commissioner Rublee:

- Informal Complaint 1-1: Cluett, Peabody & Co., Inc.,
v. National Binding Machine Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-4: Belle City Incubator Co. v.
Rayo Incubator Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-23: New York Bank Note Co. v.
New York Stock Exchange.
- Informal Complaint 1-74: Interstate Electric Co. v.
Benjamin Electric Manufacturing Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-86: A. H. Phillips v. Procter
& Gamble Co. and Procter & Gamble Distributing Co.
- Informal Complaint 1-89: C. J. Rainear & Co. v.
National Tube Co. and Crane Company

Informal Complaint 1-96: Fosston Manufacturing Co.
v. J. L. Owens Co.

Informal Complaint 1-97: J. L. Owens Co. v. Fosston
Manufacturing Co.

Informal Complaint 1-101: Edwin P. Corbett v.
Jobbers, etc.

Informal Complaint 1-124: S. D. Sejler and S. DeSayda
v. "Another Party."

Informal Complaint 1-145: Pyramid Mercantile Co. v.
J. S. Brown Mercantile Co. et al.

Informal Complaint 1-146: Electric Corporation v.
Holabird-Reynolds Electric Co.

Informal Complaint 1-150: C. W. Degnan v. Purington
Paving Brick Co.

In conformity with the above action, the action of the Commission on October 30, 1915, directing the Joint Board of Review to make report upon the following pending complaints was rescinded:

Informal Complaint 1-10: J. M. Anderson Grocer Co.
v. Cudahy Packing Co.

Informal Complaint 1-11: J. M. Anderson Grocer Co.
v. Procter & Gamble Co. and Procter & Gamble Dis-
tributing Co.

Informal Complaint 1-12: J. M. Anderson Grocer Co.
v. Corn Products Co., National Starch Co., and
St. Louis Syrup and Preserving Co.

Informal Complaint 1-96: Fosston Manufacturing Co.
v. J. L. Owens Co.

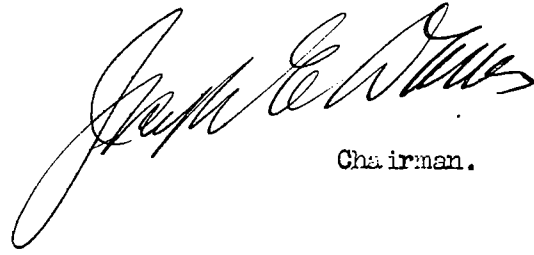
Informal Complaint 1-97: J. L. Owens Co. v. Fosston
Manufacturing Co.

Mr. James W. Nichol was appointed Clerk to the Chairman, effective upon taking the oath of office and entering upon duty, at a salary of \$1,800 per annum until otherwise ordered.

In the absence of Commissioner Harris, Commissioner Parry was appointed a committee for recommendations for promotions on the statutory roll.


November 6, 1915.
November 8, 1915.

At 11:30 a. m. the Commission adjourned to meet November 8, 1915,
at 10:00 o'clock a.m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

November 7, 1915. Sunday.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 8, 1915, 11:00 A. M.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
Edward N. Hurley, Vice Chairman
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

Resolutions directing the following action with refer-
ence to complaints noted below were adopted:

Informal Complaints.

- 1-7 Farmers and Producers Association of Montana v.
Great Western Sugar Co. Withdrawn from Docket
Division and transferred to Economic Department.
- 1-25 William H. Richmond v. Windstacker Manufacturers.
Withdrawn from the Docket Division and trans-
ferred to Mails and Files Division.
- 1-29 National Petroleum Association v. South Penn Oil
Co. Withdrawn from Docket Division and trans-
ferred to Chief Economist.
- 1-6 Toch Bros. Withdrawn from Docket Division and
transferred to Economic Department for considera-
tion in connection with foreign trade investi-
gation.

1-28 Hussey-Binns Shovel Co. v. Shovel Manufacturing Industry. Withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to Economic Department for consideration by the Division of Corporation Reports.

Complaints were assigned to Commissioners, by lot, as follows:

Informal Complaints

1-26 Joplin Mercantile Co. v. Milwaukee Beer Co.
Vice Chairman Hurley.

1-22 E. Morrel v. Barrett Manufacturing Co. et al.
Commissioner Harris.

1-34 Miller v. Competitors Chartering Steamer.
Commissioner Rublee.

1-24 Yankton Brick & Tile Co. v. Sioux City, Iowa,
Corporation. Commissioner Parry.

1-35 John F. Nash v. Wyker Co. Commissioner Parry.

1-31 Montpelier Fruit Growers' Association v. J. E.
Terry. Chairman Davies.

Report of the Assistant Chief Economist in re letter of R. Conner, File A 6153, recommending that no action be taken, was adopted.

Report of Joint Board of Review, recommending that specific complaints regarding discriminatory conditions in gasoline be consolidated with the general investigation of the industry, was adopted.

Letter of Mr. Harold D. Warhurst, of the Friendly Society of Engravers, transmitted to the Commission by Secretary Redfield, (File A.6754), together with all correspondence with reference to "dumping," (File 8409-1), was referred to the Economic Department.

The Secretary was directed to make an appointment with Mr. Merle Sidener, Chairman, National Vigilance Committee, Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, to appear before the Commission on Tuesday, November 23, 1915, at 3:30 p.m.

The Secretary was directed to make an appointment with Mr. J. W. Conchar, General Secretary and Treasurer, Metallic Bedstead & Supply Manufacturers' Alliance, to appear before the Commission on Tuesday, November 23, 1915, at 2:30 p.m.

Letter of Mr. W. F. Powers, President, National Association of Employing Lithographers, dated October 12, 1915 (File A 6212), was referred to Commissioner Hurley.

Report of Commissioners Parry and Rublee in re letter of Mr. Alonzo H. Stewart, dated July 3, 1915 (File 8006-14), was adopted.

Action of Commissioner Parry in making request of Department of State for conference between Mr. Thomas Sammons, Counsel General at Shanghai, China, with a representative of the Commission, regarding trade conditions in the Orient, was approved.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet at 10:00 a.m., November 9, 1915.

[Handwritten Signature]
Chairman.

Attest:

[Handwritten Signature]
Secretary.

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November 11, 1915.

November 9, 1915. No meeting held.

November 10, 1915. No meeting held.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 11, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
Edward N. Hurley, Vice Chairman
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

Oral report of Vice Chairman Hurley of a tentative plan to appoint an advisory board made up of members of the American Association of Public Accountants, to assist the Commission in its work of devising a plan of uniform cost accounting, was submitted. Matter referred to Vice Chairman Hurley for action.

Letter of Herbert S. Houston, dated November 9, 1915, addressed to Chairman Davies, presented. The Chairman was authorized to make an appointment with Herbert S. Houston, James Keeley, E. T. Meredith, and Merle Sidener, to appear before the Commission on Tuesday, November 23, 1915.

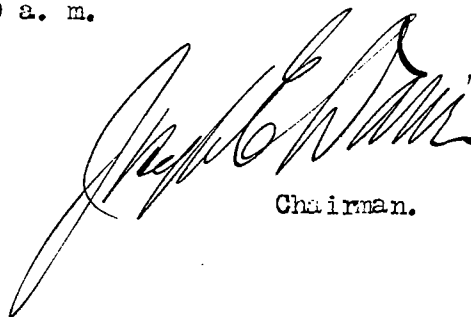
Report of Commissioner Rublee, approving the report of the Economic Department on its investigation of the beet sugar industry, adopted.

Commissioner Rublee presented his suggestions on a draft of the Annual Report of the Federal Trade Commission, prepared by the Chairman. Report and suggestions adopted. Secretary to submit amended draft for consideration and report of the other Commissioners.

Hon. Thomas Sammons, Consul General of the United States at Shanghai, China, appeared before the Commission, upon its invitation, and gave valuable information as to competitive methods in China.

Report of Commissioners, Parry and Hurley in the matter of the application of Calvin C. Davis for three weeks leave of absence without pay, adopted.

Thereupon, at the hour of 12:30 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet November 12, 1915, at 10:00 a. m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 12, 1915 - 10:00 A. M.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
Edward N. Hurley, Vice Chairman
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

Ordered, That the request of the President of the United States (letter dated July 22, 1915) that the Federal Trade Commission make inquiry into foreign laws and customs regulations in Central and South America, and make a report thereof, with suggestions as to how modifications or changes therein can be made with benefit to trade between this country and the Latin-Ameri-

November 12, 1915.

can republics, be referred to a committee consisting of the Chairman and Vice Chairman Hurley, with power to conduct such investigation.

The matter of the employment of Robert H. Vorfeld in connection with the Foreign Trade Investigation and South and Central American tariffs, was referred to Commissioner Parry for report.

The matter of the increased compensation of Messrs. David L. Wing and William S. Culbertson during their proposed trip to South America, was referred to Commissioner Parry for report.

Letter of S. B. & B. W. Fleicher, dated November 9, 1915, (File A-7324) was referred to Commissioner Parry.

Letter of Beech-Nut Packing Co., dated November 8, 1915, (File A 7292) was referred to Commissioner Parry.

Informal complaint 1-79, in re conditions in clay mining and marketing, as affected by imports and preferential rates, was referred to Commissioner Rublee. (File 1-79 - B. Gilham vs. Conditions in Clay Industry).

Letter of Carl E. Ackerman, Secretary of Conference of Independent Retailers of the Metropolitan District, dated November 8, 1915 (File A-7306), together with resolution attached to said letter, was referred to the Economic Department.

Commissioners Harris and Parry were appointed a committee to make recommendations with reference to a plan of classifying positions held by noncivil-service employees of the Commission.

Anonymous letter (File A 6742) relating to treatment of tenants of the Mississippi Delta Planting Co., was referred to Commissioner Rublee.

The Chairman reported a telegram from Herbert S. Houston, asking that the appointment with the Commission for himself and associates be postponed to Wednesday, Nov. 24, 1915. The Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Houston that this arrangement would be agreeable to the Commission.

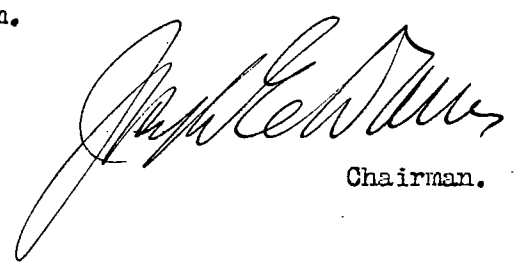
Commissioner Parry was appointed a committee to make recommendations with reference to a method of making all official correspondence available for daily inspection by members of the Commission.

Request for Ruling 2-66, Walter Emmerich & Co., in re legality of secret rebates, was referred to Commissioner Rublee.

Informal complaint 1-47, Pill Bros. Co., in re refusal of jobbers to fill orders for goods, assigned by lot to Vice Chairman Hurley.

Requests for hearing by Homer S. Cummings, in behalf of the minority stockholders of the International Steam Pump Co., on the question of the jurisdiction of the Commission, and by Paul D. Cravath, counsel for the committee of the first mortgage bondholders, in the event the Commission decides to grant a hearing on the complaint, were referred to the Chairman.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet November 13, 1915, at 10:00 a. m.


Chairman.

Attest

Secretary.

November 13, 1915.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 13, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
 Edward N. Hurley, Vice Chairman
 Will H. Parry
 George Rublee

Commissioner Parry reported, recommending the immediate temporary appointment of Robert H. Vorfeld, as special expert, to abstract and compile data regarding Latin-American customs regulations, etc., at a salary of \$175 per month, salary to begin upon his taking the oath of office and entering upon his duties. Report adopted.

Resolutions directing the following action with reference to complaints noted below were adopted:

Informal complaints

- 1-57 Ralph W. Crary, in re sale of evaporated milk. Withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to the Division of Mails and Files.
- 1-83 Harry A. Cramer v. South Atlantic & Gulf Steamship Conference. Withdrawn from Docket Division and transferred to the Division of Mails and Files.
- 1-139 Kenneth MacRae v. Conditions in California Citrus Industry. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and referred to the Office of Markets and Rural Organization, Department of Agriculture.
- 1-118 Thomas J. Guay Oil Co. v. George Millett and Standard Oil Co. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to the Economic Department, having charge of the general investigation into the oil business.
- 1-123 J. W. Newman, Commissioner of Agriculture, Labor and Statistics, Ky., v. Combination of Purchasers of Leaf Tobacco to suppress prices. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to the Chief Economist.
- 1-132 Gordon, Morrill & Ginter v. National Wholesale Jewelers Association. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and referred to the Department of Justice.

- 1-148 S. S. Fielder v. Theatrical Trust. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to Division of Mails and Files.
- 1-149 Miles Poindexter (Senator) v. Mail Order Houses and Manufacturers. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to Chief Economist for consideration and report.

Resolution directing the following action with reference to complaint noted below, was adopted:

Informal complaint

- 1-158 Port of Seattle Commission v. Great Northern Ry. Co., Northern Pacific Ry., and others. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to the Division of Mails and Files. Commissioner Parry to prepare a letter informing complainants of disposition of case.

The following complaints were assigned by lot, to-wit:

- 1-127 Albert M. Dueber, President, Dueber Watch Case Manufacturing Co., and Hampden Watch Co. v. Unfair Practices in Manufacturing, etc. of Watchcases and Movements.

Commissioner Parry.

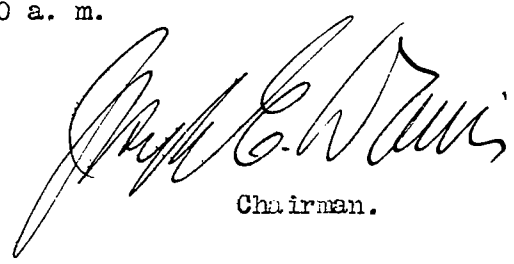
- 1-133 Coal Operators' Traffic Bureau of St. Louis, Mo. v. St. Louis & O'Fallon Coal Co. and Anheuser Busch Brewing Co.

Vice Chairman Hurley.


- 1-92 Edmund A. Condon v. Welsbach Gas Lamp Co.

Commissioner Rublee.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p.m. the Commission adjourned to meet November 15, 1915, at 10:00 a. m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

November 15, 1915.

November 14, 1915. Sunday.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 15, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
Edward H. Hurley, Vice Chairman
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

The draft of the Annual Report was approved and the Secretary directed to send same to the Public Printer for printing.

Commissioner Parry, appointed to make recommendations with reference to method of making Commission's correspondence available for inspection by the Commissioners, offered the following order, and moved its adoption:

ORDERED, That the Chief of the Division of Mails and Files be directed to transmit to the Secretary before 10 o'clock, a.m., each day, a complete file of the correspondence of the Commission for the preceding day, with the exception of extra copies of form letters, routine letters transmitting publications of the Commission, and bulky exhibits and enclosures. The Secretary of the Commission shall place this correspondence upon the conference table at 10:00 a.m., daily, where it shall remain for inspection until 4:00 p.m. of the same day. No letter or part of this correspondence shall be removed from the file without notification of such removal being given to the Secretary.

Unanimously adopted.

Letter of V. V. Lebedjeff considered. The Secretary was directed to write Mr. Lebedjeff, inviting him to call upon the Commission.

The report of the Chief Economist as to the scope and status of the Resale Price Maintenance Investigation having been received

and discussed, the resolution offered on November 2, 1915, by Commissioner Parry, providing for the further investigation of said matter, was taken from the table for consideration. After discussion the following substitute resolution was offered by Commissioner Parry, seconded by Vice Chairman Hurley, and unanimously adopted:

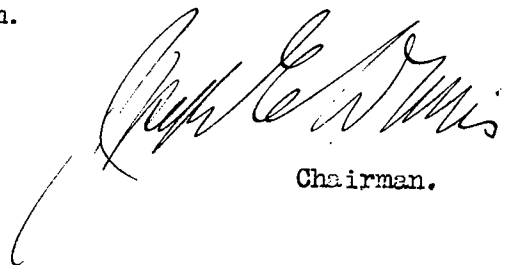
ORDERED: That the investigation of Resale Price Maintenance be continued, under the direction of the entire Commission, and that the Chief Economist be directed to submit to the Commission detailed plan and recommendations for carrying this resolution into effect.

The proposition of the Munsey Trust Company to lease certain space in its new building to the Commission for office purposes, was referred to Commissioner Harris.


The matter of the employment of additional temporary clerks was considered, and the following order unanimously adopted:

ORDERED: That eight (8) clerks of the \$900 grade be temporarily employed in connection with the foreign trade investigation.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet November 16, 1915, at 10:30 a. m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

November 16, 1915. No meeting held.

November 17, 1915. No meeting held.

November 18, 1915. No meeting held.

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November 23, 1915.

November 19, 1915. No meeting held.

November 20, 1915. No meeting held.

November 21, 1915. Sunday.

November 22, 1915. No meeting held.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 23, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

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

The Commission met in the Cabinet Room of the New Willard Hotel and held a conference with representatives of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, with reference to false advertising as a method of unfair competition. The following gentlemen appeared before the Commission and presented their views:

Herbert S. Houston, President, Associated Advertising Clubs of the World.
James Keeley, Editor, The Herald, Chicago, Ill.
H. J. Kenner, Executive Secretary, National Vigilance Committee.
William H. Ingersoll, The Ingersoll Watch Co., New York, N. Y.
E. T. Meredith, Publisher, "Successful Farming," and member of the National Executive Committee, Associated Advertising Clubs of the World.
Charles H. Porter, President, Chicago Advertising Association.

At 12:30 p.m. a recess was taken, to meet at the office of the Commission, Commerce Building, at 2:30 p.m.

The Commission reassembled at 2:30 p.m.

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

Mr. Charles J. Columbus, Secretary, Retail Merchants' Association, Washington, D. C., appeared before the Commission, and made a short statement with reference to false advertising as a method of unfair competition.

An informal conference was held with representatives of the Metallic Bedstead and Supply Manufacturers' Alliance, who presented and discussed certain unfair practices relating to the bedstead industry. (See stenographic report, File A 8426.) The following gentlemen appeared before the Commission:

J. W. Conchar, General Secretary and Treasurer,
Metallic Bedstead and Supply Manufacturers'
Alliance, 41 Park Row, New York, N.Y.
A. O. Foster, of Foster Brothers Manufacturing Co.,
bedstead manufacturers, Utica, N. Y.
W. A. Manchee, bedstead manufacturer, Newark, N. J.
B. F. Sprinkle, Vice-President, Pittsburgh-Hickson Co.,
Butler, Pa.

The following resolution, introduced by Commissioner Parry and seconded by Vice Chairman Hurley, was adopted:

"WHEREAS, The Commission has undertaken, first, an investigation of tariff and customs regulations in Latin-American countries, and second, an investigation of trading methods in South America, pursuant to Sec. 6, paragraph (h), of its Organic Act, therefore be it

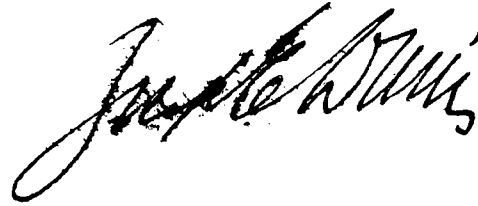
"RESOLVED: That William S. Culbertson and Robert H. Vorfeld are directed to sail from New York to South America on November 27, 1915, in pursuance of the first investigation, and that David L. Wing is directed to sail from New York to South America on December 11, 1915, in pursuance of the second investigation; and be it further

"RESOLVED: That at the departure of said agents their salaries shall be increased to the respective amounts specified below, namely: William S. Culbertson, from \$333.33 per month to \$500.00 per month; Robert H. Vorfeld, from \$175.00 per month to \$400.00 per month; and David L. Wing, from \$205.00 per month to \$400.00 per month."

Thereupon, at the hour of 4 o'clock p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Wednesday, November 24, 1915, at 10:30 a.m.

November 23, 1915.

November 24, 1915.



Chairman

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

November 24, 1915 - 3:00 P. M.

Edward N. Hurley, Acting Chairman
 Will H. Parry
 George Rublee

The following resolution, introduced by Commissioner Parry and seconded by Commissioner Rublee, was adopted:

"WHEREAS, The Commission has determined to send William S. Culbertson, Robert H. Vorfeld, and David L. Wing to certain countries of South America to investigate, first, tariff and customs regulations, and second, trading methods thereof, and

"WHEREAS, It will be impracticable and inconvenient to remit the necessary amounts of money to defray expenses of said Culbertson, Vorfeld and Wing, each month, while engaged in said work; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED: That William S. Culbertson be appointed special disbursing agent; that after he shall have qualified as said agent, and given bond as required by law, Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) of the funds appropriated for the use of the Commission shall be placed to his credit, out of which he shall have the authority to pay the necessary expenses of said Culbertson, Vorfeld and Wing, while in South America and engaged on the work aforesaid."

The matter of the term of the employment of Lee S. Robinson was called up by the Chairman and discussed, and by unanimous vote such term of employment was extended to December 15, 1915.

Thereupon, at the hour of 3:30 o'clock p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Friday, November 26, 1915, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Edward H. Wiley
Acting Chairman

Attest:

A. L. Dickers
Secretary.

- November 25, 1915. No meeting held.
- November 26, 1915. No meeting held.
- November 27, 1915. No meeting held.
- November 28, 1915. Sunday.
- November 29, 1915. No meeting held.
- November 30, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 1, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 2, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 3, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 4, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 5, 1915. Sunday.
- December 6, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 7, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 8, 1915. No meeting held.

December 9, 1915.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

December 9, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
Edward W. Hurley, Vice Chairman
William J. Harris
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

The following resolution, introduced by Vice Chairman Hurley,
and seconded by Commissioner Parry, was adopted:

RESOLVED, That each Commissioner shall keep a record of informal conferences with persons calling upon official business, and that such records, so kept by each Commissioner, shall be delivered to the Secretary and presented to the Commission at its next meeting thereafter.

Chairman Davies reported progress in the matter of informal complaint 1-140, E. V. C. Hawkes v. International Steam Pump Co.

Chairman Davies reported that because of his enforced absence from the City he had requested Commissioner Harris to confer with the attorneys of the Commission and with the Solicitor for the Department of Commerce regarding the matter of preparation of a draft of a proposed law on the subject of dumping.

Commissioner Rublee reported conference with Mr. Edwin A. Fleisher, representing S. B. & B. W. Fleisher, Inc., of Philadelphia, manufacturers of worsted and woolen yarns. (For stenographic report see File A 9778).

Commissioner Parry reported a conference with Judge George C. Greer, Dallas, Texas, General Counsel for the Magnolia Petroleum Co., in reference to a proposed plan of consolidating certain oil and pipe line com-

December 9, 1915.

panies operating in the States of Texas and Oklahoma, and concerning which plan the approval of the Commission is desired. Referred to the Joint Board of Review for consideration and report.

Commissioner Parry reported a conference with Mr. H. A. Christy, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The American Ship Building Co. (For stenographic report see File A 8181).

At 12:30 p.m. a recess was taken until 3:00 p.m.

The Commission reassembled at 3:30 p.m.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
Edward M. Hurley, Vice Chairman
William J. Harris
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

The following resolution, introduced by Vice Chairman Hurley, and seconded by Commissioner Harris, covering the employment of Mr. Stephen S. Gregory as Special Counsel, was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) be appropriated to pay for the service of special counsel and that the Chairman is hereby authorized to engage Mr. S. S. Gregory, of Chicago, as such Special Counsel.

The following resolution, introduced by Commissioner Rublee, was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That the Docket Division be and hereby is instructed not to designate as "Informal Complaints" applications to the Commission for the enforcement of laws which the Commission is authorized to enforce, but to designate each such application as follows:

"Application of _____
for the issuance of a complaint
against _____"

or

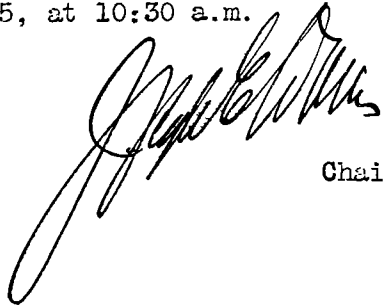
"Application of _____

for the issuance of a complaint in re (describing the method complained against)"

The report of Commissioner Rublee in reference to File 2-66, Walter Emmerich & Co., in re legality of secret rebates, was adopted. The matter was left with Commissioner Rublee with instructions to direct further investigation in conformity with the recommendation contained in such report.

Report of Commissioner Rublee in re informal complaint 1-113, in the matter of the Gray's Harbor Lumber Co., - conditions in the lumber industry, was adopted, and the files ordered withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to the Economic Department, in connection with the Lumber Investigation.

Thereupon, at the hour of 4:30 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Friday, December 10, 1915, at 10:30 a.m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

December 10, 1915.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

December 10, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

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

Report of Chairman Davies in re informal complaint 1-14,
C. L. Davis Co. v. Taylor, Lowenstein & Co., was adopted, and the
case referred to the Law Board of Review for preparation of a
formal complaint.

The following resolution, in the matter of the employment of
Mr. John L. Simpson, as a special expert, was introduced by Commis-
sioner Rublee, seconded by Commissioner Parry, and unanimously
adopted:

RESOLVED, That John L. Simpson of San Francisco,
California, be employed as a special expert
at a salary of \$1500 per annum, such employ-
ment to commence from his taking the oath of
office and entering upon the discharge of
his duties, and that he be assigned to the
Economic Department.

Report of Commissioner Rublee in re informal complaint 1-4,
Belle City Incubator Co. v. Rayo Incubator Co., with reference to
the issuance of a complaint, adopted, and in accordance therewith
the application is dismissed.

Letter, dated November 9, 1915, from Brennan, Kane & McCoy, of
Bartlesville, Okla., asking for advice, was referred to the Board of
Review.

December 10, 1915.

Letter, dated November 22, 1915, from The Phoenix Glass Co., of Pittsburgh, Pa., was referred to Messrs. Morrow and Durand of the Economic Department, for consideration.

Letter, dated November 22, 1915, from W. S. Mallory, President of the Edison Portland Cement Co., considered, and the Secretary was directed to invite Mr. Mallory to appear before the Commission, if he desired to be heard upon the question of foreign trade.

Letter, dated November 22, 1915, from Thomas W. Swan, of the firm of Bentley, Burling & Swan, attorneys, Chicago, Ill., asking for advice, was referred to the Board of Review.

Letter, dated December 3, 1915, from The Atlas Portland Cement Co., asking for advice regarding its right to destroy certain duplicate records, was referred to the Board of Review for consideration.

Letter, dated November 20, 1915, from Ralph Crews, counsel for the Franklin County Coal Operators Association, was referred to Vice Chairman Hurley.

Letter, dated December 4, 1915, from the Secretary of Commerce, enclosing a letter from Robert Judson Kenworthy, was referred to the Docket Division.

Thereupon, at the hour of 12:30 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Saturday, December 11, 1915, at 10:30 a.m.

Attest:

F. S. Bruchas
Secretary.

[Signature]
Chairman.

December 11, 1915. No meeting held.

December 12, 1915. Sunday.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

December 13, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

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

The Commission met in the Cabinet Room of the New Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C., and held a conference with representatives of the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association.

- Hon. Henry S. Graves, Forester, Department of Agriculture.
- Hon. E. E. Pratt, Chief, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce.
- Hon. W. B. Greeley, Assistant Forester, Department of Agriculture.
- Mr. Franklin Smith, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce.
- Mr. C. Howell Smith, Forest Service, San Francisco, Cal. --

were also present.

Mr. Joseph N. Teal, of Portland, Oreg., Counsel, West Coast Lumber Manufacturers' Association, Portland, Oreg., presented a brief and delivered an oral argument on behalf of the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association. (For stenographic report see File 8519-2-5-1.)

At 12:30 p.m. a recess was taken until 2 o'clock p.m.

The Commission reassembled at 2 o'clock p.m.

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

December 13, 1915.

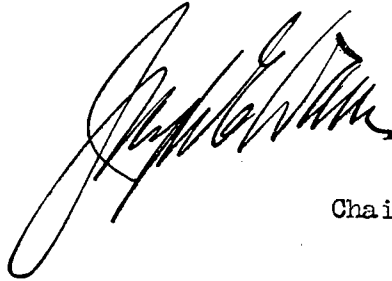
December 14, 1915.

Mr. Joseph N. Teal, of Portland, Oreg., concluded his oral argument on behalf of the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association.

Hon. L. C. Boyle, of Kansas City, Counsel, National Lumber Manufacturers' Association, delivered an oral argument on behalf of the Association.

Mr. Charles S. Keith, of Kansas City, Mo., President of the Southern Pine Association, and Mr. C. H. Worcester, of Chicago, Ill., representing the Northern Hemlock and Hardwood Association, Portland, Oreg., also spoke briefly. (For stenographic report see File 8519-2-5-1.)

At 5:55 o'clock p.m. the Commission adjourned to meet at 10:30 a.m., December 14, 1915.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

December 14, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

William J. Harris, Acting Chairman
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

The conference with representatives of the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association was resumed for the purpose of hearing further arguments and receiving exhibits.

Hon. E. E. Pratt, Chief, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic
Commerce, Department of Commerce,

Mr. Thomas M. Robertson, Assistant Chief Economist,
Federal Trade Commission,
Hon. W. B. Greeley, Assistant Forester, Department of
Agriculture,
Mr. Franklin Smith, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic
Commerce, Department of Commerce, --

were present and participated in the conference.

The following gentlemen presented their views:

Hon. L. C. Boyle, of Kansas City, Mo., Counsel, National
Lumber Manufacturers' Association,
Mr. Joseph M. Teal, of Portland, Oreg., Counsel, West Coast
Lumber Manufacturers' Association,
Mr. R. S. Kellogg, of Chicago, Ill., Secretary, National
Lumber Manufacturers' Association,
Mr. Charles S. Keith, of Kansas City, Mo., President,
Southern Pine Association,
Mr. E. B. Hazen, of Portland, Oreg., West Coast Lumber
Manufacturers' Association,
Mr. E. A. Selfridge, Jr., of Willits, Cal., President,
California Redwood Association,
Mr. C. I. Millard, North Carolina Pine Association,
Mr. H. D. Langille, of Portland, Oreg., West Coast Lumber
Manufacturers' Association.
(For stenographic report see File 8519-2-5-2.)

At the hour of 12 m., the Commission adjourned to meet at
10:30 a. m., December 15, 1915.


Acting Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

December 15, 1915. No meeting held.
December 16, 1915. No meeting held.
December 17, 1915. No meeting held.
December 18, 1915. No meeting held.
December 19, 1915. Sunday.

December 20, 1915.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

December 20, 1915 - 10:30 A. M.

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

The following resolution, offered by Commissioner Harris and seconded by Chairman Davies, was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That a multigraph, together with the necessary equipment and supplies for its efficient use be purchased by the Commission immediately.

Commissioner Parry submitted a written memorandum concerning certain phases of a controversial nature in the Report on the Fertilizer Industry calling attention to the fact that Chapter VIII of said report condemns certain practices in the industry which might be construed to be "unfair methods of competition" within the meaning of Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act and offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Federal Trade Commission in its Report on the Fertilizer Industry has taken occasion to condemn certain practices of the large fertilizer manufacturers, particularly

1. The operation of selling companies as independent manufacturers.
2. The operation of local fertilizer mixers and manufacturers as independents.
3. The multiplication of brands.

BE IT RESOLVED that representatives of the companies listed below be invited to attend an informal conference to be held at the office of the Commission in Washington at the earliest date possible, to consider ways and means of eliminating the features of the fertilizer business especially condemned.

The American Agricultural Chemical Co.,
 2 Rector St., New York, N. Y.
 Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co.,
 Richmond, Va.
 Armour Fertilizer Works,
 Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill.
 International Agricultural Corporation,
 165 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
 F. S. Royster Guano Co.,
 Norfolk, Va.

On motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Rublee, the resolution and memorandum was re-referred to Commissioner Parry with instructions to confer in reference thereto with the Board of Review and to make further recommendations to the Commission after such conference in respect to the advisability of considering the information now in possession of the Commission as an application for a complaint against the parties charged in the report with practicing unfair methods of competition.

Vice Chairman Hurley reported the completion of Chapter V and VI of the Report on Pipe Line Transportation of Petroleum. The Secretary was instructed to send copy of said chapters to the Public Printer.

Chairman Davies reported orally regarding a conference which he and Commissioner Harris had with representatives of the Department of Commerce concerning the draft of a tentative law on the subject of dumping. He further reported that the draft of said proposed law had been prepared by the Solicitor for the Department of Commerce, and that both the Chairman and Commissioner Harris acquiesced in the report. The report was approved, all Commissioners voting in the affirmative except Commissioner Rublee.


Upon further consideration it was ordered that a copy of the proposed law on the subject of dumping, so prepared by the Solicitor for the Department of Commerce, together with report and recommendations of attorneys of the Commission regarding such matter, be referred to each Commissioner with the understanding that each Commissioner would consider the draft of the proposed law and report his views thereon to the Commission.

December 20, 1915.
December 21, 1915.

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A report of the Chief Economist covering the work of the Economic Department was received, and a copy of said report was referred to each Commissioner.

Thereupon, at the hour of 12:00 o'clock, noon, the Commission adjourned to meet Tuesday, December 21, 1915, at 3:30 p. m.


Chairman

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

December 21, 1915 - 3:00 P. M.

Edward N. Hurley, Acting Chairman
William J. Harris
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

Report of the Law Board of Review in the matter of 1-68, California Canneries Co. v. American Can Co. and California Fruit Cannery Association, adopted, and the matter referred to the Law Board of Review for further action in conformity with the recommendations contained in such report.

Resolution directing the following actions with reference to applications for complaints noted below, were adopted:

Application for complaints.

1-64, Curtis Brothers v. Westfield, Mass., Laboratories.
Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to the
Division of Mails and Files

1-108, Walter W. Gove v. Hartley Silk Co. and United States Metal Products Co. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to the Economic Department, for consideration by the Division of Corporation Reports.

1-50, David G. Baltimore v. "Music Ring." Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to the Division of Mails and Files.

1-135, C. Van Deventer & Co. v. Exporters, etc. Withdrawn from the Docket Division and transferred to the Economic Department for consideration in connection with the Foreign Trade investigation.

1-66, Standish-Barnes Company v. Associated Bill-posters and Distributers of the United States and Canada, et al. Action on the part of the Commission is to be postponed until a decision of the Federal Court is announced.

ORDERED, That all pending applications for issuance of complaints not heretofore assigned to any Commissioner be immediately assigned to Commissioners by lot; that hereafter all applications immediately upon receipt and acknowledgement by the Secretary be assigned, one to each Commissioner in rotation, a notice of such assignment being sent to the Commissioner to whom the application has been assigned, and a copy of such notice, together with the application, being transmitted to the Joint Board of Review for action in the regular way under the supervision of such Commissioner.

Thereupon, at the hour of 4:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Wednesday, December 22, 1915, at 10:30 a.m.

Edward Henley
Acting Chairman.

Attest:

T. F. Buckley
Secretary.

December 29, 1915.

- December 22, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 23, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 24, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 25, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 26, 1915. Sunday.
- December 27, 1915. No meeting held.
- December 28, 1915. No meeting held.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

December 29, 1915, 11:15 a. m.

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

The invitation of the Secretary of State (File A-9558) to the Commission to participate by one delegate, with alternate, in the Second Pan-American Scientific Congress, was read, and upon motion Commissioner Harris was appointed delegate and Commissioner Parry alternate, it being directed that the Secretary of State be immediately notified of their appointment.

Letter of Hon. G. Carroll Todd, Assistant to the Attorney General, (A-9656) suggesting reference by the Department of Justice of communications on conditions in the oil industry to the Commission, if it is investigating conditions in the oil industry, was presented, and the letter of the Chairman, in reply thereto, stating the Commission would be glad to give such communications attention was unanimously approved.

Existing conditions in the gasoline industry, with reference to increased prices, were discussed with the Chief Economist and

Special Agent T. A. Carroll. The Chief Economist was directed to immediately prepare a detailed statement as to the plan of investigation, the men available and time required to secure from the oil companies data as to actual deliveries and any further facts tending to explain such increase in prices of gasoline.

Commissioner Parry made a report on resolution and memorandum referred to him regarding the desirability of action by the Commission under Section 5, with reference to certain practices set forth in Chapter 8 of the Fertilizer Report, and transmitted therewith report of the Joint Board of Review and a letter requesting such companies to appear before the Commission for an informal conference January 10th, 1916, at 2:30 p. m. Action was postponed until the afternoon meeting.

At 12:15 p. m. recess was taken until 3:00 p. m.

The Commission reassembled at 4:00 p. m.

Joseph E. Davies, Chairman
Will H. Parry
George Rublee

Report of Commissioner Parry was again taken under consideration and was unanimously adopted, Commissioner Parry being directed to redraft letter in accordance with suggestions made and mail to companies mentioned in report of Joint Board of Review.

December 29, 1915.
January 3, 1916.

At the hour of 4:30 p. m. the Commission adjourned to meet
at 10 o'clock a. m., December 30, 1915.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.