

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 1, 1917, 10:00 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Commission resumed its conference with the delegates appointed by the Governors of the various States on the food situation. (See stenographic file No. 1 8517-96.)

At 11:15 a. m. a recess was taken until 11:30 a. m.

Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

A number of persons, representing various branches of the anthracite coal industry, appeared before the Commission and gave expression

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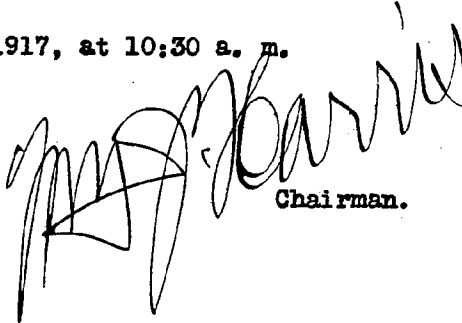
to their views in reference to the anthracite coal situation. (Steno-
graphic file No

At 1:00 p. m. a recess was taken until 2:30 p. m.

Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Commission reassembled at 2:30 p. m. and resumed its conference
with persons representing various branches of the anthracite coal industry.

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:15 p. m., the Commission adjourned
to meet Wednesday, May 2, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 2, 1917, 10:00 a. m.

Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort
(Mr. Harris conducting bituminous coal hearings
in Chicago.) (See file 8508-597-2.)

A number of representatives of various lines of the anthracite
industry appeared before the Commission and discussed the anthracite

coal situation from their point of view. (See file No.

At 12:40 p. m. a recess was taken until 2:30 p. m.

Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Commission reassembled at 2:30 p. m.

The Secretary presented a resolution adopted by the Senate of the United States April 30th, directing an investigation relative to the anthracite coal industry, and after discussion the following order was adopted:

ORDERED, That the plan of the investigation into the anthracite coal industry, now being conducted by the Commission under the Hitchcock resolution, be altered, if necessary, so as to include an investigation of conditions as directed by the resolution of April 30th; and that a report, in response to both of said resolutions, be prepared and submitted to the Senate at the earliest possible date.

Mr. Davies presented file 1-246, application of The Coca-Cola Co. for the issuance of a complaint against Kelly Manufacturing Co.

Report of the Joint Board of Review approved, and ruling, dismissing application, adopted.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Fort, was adopted:

WHEREAS, Conditions disclosed in the Anthracite coal investigation point to the possibility of panic prices and attendant hardships for the year 1917; and

WHEREAS, Conditions in the cold, winter months are dependent upon immediate action in the present;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That under the direction of the Advisory Economic Board Special Examiner Durand be directed to prepare for

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the Commission material to be used as a public statement, particularly to admonish the public against producing panic conditions by hysteria in buying; and, second, that Special Examiner Durand do furnish the Commission a list of representative producers among the railroad companies and the so-called independents, representative wholesalers, jobbers and retailers, which list may be available for the forming of a committee who shall be requested to consider the present conditions that exist appertaining to the production, distribution and sale of coal, and make recommendations to the Commission as to the possible remedial action which can now be projected of either a private or public character or both, which suggestions the Commission is not bound to accept but may have to consider.

Mr. Colver made an oral report of a conference with Mr. E. W. Phelps, Vice President of the American Can Co., in regard to the can situation. The stenographic report of the conference, file 8517-98 was referred to, and made a part of, Commissioner Colver's report.

The Secretary presented a telegram from the Chamber of Commerce, of Lynn, Massachusetts, in reference to the closing of certain shoe factories pending the adjustment of certain labor disputes. After discussion a copy of the telegram was ordered referred to the Department of Labor. (File 8840.)

The Secretary submitted a letter and resolution from a committee of conferees appointed by the Governors who appeared before the Commission on April 30th and May 1st, in connection with the food investigation.

After consideration the letter and resolution were ordered received, and placed on file. (See file 8823-1.)

On motion of Mr. Fort, it was unanimously voted that interim reports, in connection with the bituminous coal and anthracite coal investigations, be prepared and sent to Congress at the earliest possible moment.

LJPWG

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May 3, 1917.

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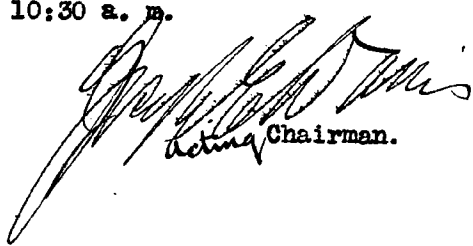
Mr. Davies presented file 1-263, application of Buchanan-Daley Co. for the issuance of a complaint against United States Gypsum Co., American Cement Plaster Co., and Wasem Plaster Co.

Report and resolution of the Joint Board of Review, recommending dismissal of application, adopted.


ORDERED, that the salary of J. O. Hoover be increased from \$1320 to \$1500 per annum, the same to be effective as of May 16, 1917.

ORDERED, That the salary of W. J. Hoover be increased from \$1200 to \$1500 per annum, the same to be effective as of May 16, 1917; and also, that the said Hoover be placed on the permanent roll of employees.

Thereupon, at the hour of 6:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Thursday, May 3, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.


Acting Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 3, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

Joseph E. Davies, Acting Chairman
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

(Mr. Harris conducting bituminous coal hearings in Chicago.)
(File 8508-597-2.)

May 3, 1917.

The Commission held an informal conference with the following representatives of the anthracite coal operators:

Mr. W. J. Richards, President, Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Co.

Mr. J. D. Reynolds, Attorney for Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Co., and Lehigh & Wilkesbarre Coal Co.

Mr. Samuel D. Warriner, President, Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co.

Mr. C. F. Huber, President, Lehigh & Wilkesbarre Coal Co.

Mr. E. W. Parker, Anthracite Bureau of Information.

Messrs. Walker, Durand, and Smelser were in attendance at this conference.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The Federal Trade Commission recognizes the urgent need of men by the Government for special services during the existing war, therefore be it

RESOLVED That in so far as not incompatible with existing law all employees of the Federal Trade Commission entering the military, naval or other special service of the Government expressly for the present war service shall be considered as on leave with pay from the Commission not exceeding thirty days in any calendar year; Be it further

RESOLVED That the resolution adopted by the Commission on March 26, 1915, be and the same is hereby suspended as to such employees with regard to their respective leaves with pay; Be it further

RESOLVED That so far as not incompatible with existing law all employees of the Federal Trade Commission entering the military, naval or other special service of the Government expressly for the present war service, in addition to leave with pay, shall, after the expiration of their respective periods of leave with pay be considered as on leave without pay from the Commission without loss of status during the continuance of such service.

ORDERED, That Thomas H. Claffey, an employee of this Commission, be granted leave, without pay, to July 31, 1917.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Friday, May 4, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.

Attest:

S. H. Zacher
Secretary.

Joseph E. Miller
Chairman.

May 4, 1917. No meeting held.
May 5, 1917. No meeting held.
May 6, 1917. Sunday.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 7, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

A letter dated May 7th, replying to a communication from Mr. P. T. Dodge, President of the International Paper Company, bearing date of May 4th, was approved, and ordered mailed. (8813-1-28.)

It was ordered that file 1-312, application of Edwin M. Freeland for the issuance of a complaint against Thomas A. Edison, Inc., be transferred to Chairman Harris.

A letter from Mr. Isidor Jacobs, of San Francisco, California, dated March 27, 1917, to Mr. Francis J. Heney, was presented and referred to the Docket Division.

The findings and order of the Federal Trade Commission disposing of the case of the Commission v. the A. B. Dick Company of New Jersey et al., were further considered, and after discussion were referred to Mr. Colver for revision, and report.

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

May 7, 1917.

RESOLVED: That in connection with the anthracite coal inquiry, a Commissioner be appointed to confer with the Committee on Transportation of the National Council of Defense, with a view to coordinating our information with their action in the facilitating of moving coal for the relief of the present situation.

The Chairman named Mr. Fort, as a committee of one, to carry out the intent of the above resolution.

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

RESOLVED: That the retail coal dealers of Washington, D. C., be called in to confer with the Commission with reference to retail coal prices and conditions in the District of Columbia.

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

WHEREAS, conditions with reference to the manufacture and sale of newsprint paper on the Pacific Coast are different in many aspects from that which has been the subject of inquiry thus far, and

WHEREAS, there are numerous complaints of unfair practices with reference thereto in the Western and Pacific Coast States,

BE IT RESOLVED, that for this purpose Francis J. Heney be and is hereby appointed as an examiner of the Commission.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Special Attorney and Examiner Francis J. Heney be directed to undertake an investigation of this situation, and be authorized to do those things necessary thereto, and to report to the Commission as soon as he may be able.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, by virtue of the authority granted to and conferred upon the Federal Trade Commission by the Act of Congress approved September 26, 1914, (38 Stat., 717), and particularly by paragraphs "a" and "c" of section 6 of said Act, the Commission has power:

to gather and compile information concerning, and to investigate from time to time the organization, business, conduct, practices, and management of any corporation engaged in commerce;

and

whenever a final decree has been entered against any defendant cor-

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poration in any suit brought by the United States to prevent and restrain any violation of the antitrust Acts, to make investigation, upon its own initiative, of the manner in which the decree has been or is being carried out;

and

WHEREAS, by Senate Resolution No. 457, adopted September 28, 1914, the Commission was further empowered and directed to investigate:

the relation existing among the several branches or companies into which the Standard Oil Company was resolved at the time of its dissolution; the relation between the producing, purchasing, transporting, and refining agencies of the several branches or companies into which the Standard Oil Company was resolved, and the methods and practices of such agencies towards independent producers, transporters, and refiners of oil; and the control of the price of crude oil and its refined products;

Now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Commission conduct an investigation of the matters referred to in said Senate Resolution No. 457, pursuant thereto; and into the organization, business, conduct, practices, and management of the Standard Oil Company and of the several branches or companies into which it was resolved at the time of its dissolution, and of the manner in which the decree of dissolution of said Standard Oil Company has been or is being carried out, pursuant to said paragraphs "a" and "c" of section 6 of said Act of September 26, 1914.

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

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Commission reassembled at 3 o'clock p. m.

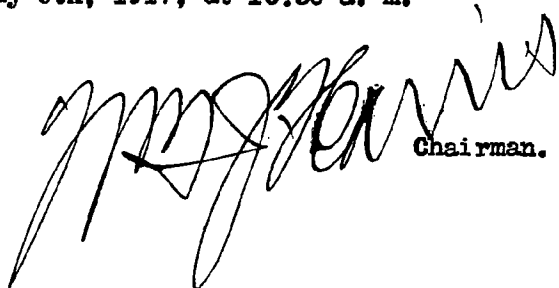
The draft of a letter, in reply to a letter dated May 4, 1917, received from John Barton Payne, attorney for Alexander Smith, and others, in reply to the Commission's inquiry as to whether or not the news-print paper manufacturers intended to carry into effect the award of the Commission as to the price of news-print paper, was approved, and letter ordered mailed. (File 8359-1-1.)

May 7, 1917.

A letter, dated May 5, 1917, from Mr. E. H. Mason, President of the National Bank of Brunswick, Georgia, and addressed to Mr. Harris, alleging manipulations by Wilson & Company affecting the price of rice, was presented, and after discussion the Secretary was instructed to request an official of Wilson & Co. to appear before the Commission Thursday afternoon, May tenth, 1917.

A letter dated May 3d, from the Belgo-Canadian Paper Co., in regard to car shortage, was presented, and same referred to Mr. Heney for attention. (File 8815-1.)

Thereupon, at the hour of 6:30 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Tuesday, May 8th, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

May 9, 1917. No meeting held.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 10, 1917, 2:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

(Mr. Davies in New York on official business.)

Mr. V. D. Skipworth, Vice President of Wilson & Co., Chicago,
appeared before the Commission in response to our telegraphic request,
and presented facts in reference to the report that his company, and
other meat packers, were dealing in rice. (See file No.

Messrs. S. D. Warriner and E. W. Parker appeared before the Commis-
sion and discussed.

Thereupon, at the hour of 3:30 p. m., the Commission adjourned to
meet Friday, May 11, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.


Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 11, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

(Mr. Davies in New York on official business.)

Telegram from Dr. Haney, stating that the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey had declined to grant access to its books and records, and that it desired a conference before finally deciding whether the books and papers desired would be submitted for inspection, was presented, and after discussion it was unanimously agreed to instruct Dr. Haney to return to Washington for a conference with the Commission.

At 11:00 o'clock a. m. the meeting of the Commission was adjourned.

William J. Harris, Chairman
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Commission met at 11:15 a. m. with a number of independent coal operators, who discussed the anthracite coal situation from their point of view. (See file No. 8508-599.)

At 1:30 p. m. a recess was taken until 2:30 p. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Commission reassembled at 2:30 p. m., and resumed their confer-

ence with the independent anthracite coal operators. (File 8508-599.)

Thereupon, at the hour of 6:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Monday, May 14, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.

(Mr. Davies in New York on official business.)


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

May 12, 1917. No meeting held.

May 13, 1917. Sunday.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 14, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver

A letter from Hon. F. W. Taussig, Chairman of the Tariff Commission, dated May 3, 1917, addressed to Chairman Harris, in reference to the Commission's beet sugar report, was considered, and after discussion it was unanimously agreed to transmit to the Tariff Commission all of the Commission's data relating to the beet-sugar industry, including the tariff chapter, together with a statement that it is not the intention of the Commission to continue the investigation further in reference to tariff

May 14, 1917.

matters. (See file No. 8115-22.)

A form of letter, transmitting the beet sugar report to Congress, was presented, and after some minor changes, approved.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Colver, in reference to an investigation of certain phases of the beet sugar industry, was adopted:

RESOLVED: That Dr. R. E. Jones, of Ft. Morgan, Colorado, be invited by wire to submit a complete statement of the facts in the matter of the present situation of the beet sugar industry, especially as to whether unfair practices are now in operation.

(See file No. 1-370.)

Mr. Heney was present at the meeting and presented a letter, bearing date of May 12, 1917, from Mr. F. T. Dodge, President of the International Paper Company, in reference to carrying into effect the award of the Commission in regard to the price to be charged for news-print paper.

After some discussion the matter of preparing a reply to such letter was referred to Mr. Heney.

At 12:45 p. m. a recess was taken until 2:00 p. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Commission reassembled at 2:00 p. m.

Mr. W. M. Ritter, of Washington, D. C., together with Judge Boyle, of Kansas City, and a number of representatives of the Hardwood Manufacturers' Association of the United States, appeared before the Commis-

May 14, 1917.
May 15, 1917.

sion, and presented certain facts with reference to the hardwood lumber industry. (See file No. 8517-105.)

The findings and order in the complaint of the Federal Trade Commission v. A. B. Dick Co. of New Jersey, et al., was reported back by Commissioner Colver, and considered by the Commission and members of the legal staff.³

Thereupon, at the hour of 6 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Tuesday, May 15, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 15, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The matter of granting a hearing to officials of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, before insisting upon an inspection of the books and papers of that company, at its offices, in connection with the general oil investigation, was called up, and upon motion it was

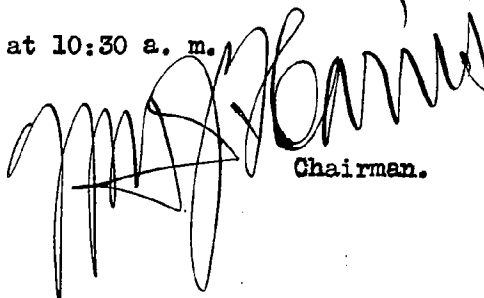
MAY 15, 1917.

agreed that on account of the conditions growing out of the war, and the fact that certain officials of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey are engaged in matters connected with the national defense, that a hearing be granted to said company before proceeding with such inspection of its books and papers, and that the date for such hearing be arranged by the Secretary for May 24th, 1917.

Upon motion of Mr. Davies, the regular order of business was suspended, and General Ayleshire appeared before the Commission as a representative of the Council of National Defense, and asked that someone from the Commission be detailed to serve as a member of a committee to act in connection with the Committee on Munitions, of the National Council of Defense, in disposing of numerous requests for information, and other matters, now accumulating in the offices of the Council of National Defense. After discussion the Secretary was directed to assign Mr. Carlos C. Houghton, a representative of the Commission, to act upon such committee.

The matter of the organization of the Commission was called up, and after discussion was referred to Messrs. Harris and Colver as a committee.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Wednesday, May 16, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 16, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

Mr. Colver called up the matter of reassigning cases heretofore referred to Mr. Parry, and after discussion the Secretary was ordered to refer such cases to the present Commissioners, in rotation, and to assign new cases, which in the ordinary course would go to a fifth Commissioner, in the regular way.

Mr. Davies presented a report regarding an alleged method used by the Crescent Baking Powder Company, of Seattle, Washington, to maintain prices.

Referred to the Docket Division for attention as an application for complaint.

Commissioner Fort reported that The Pictorial Review Company had brought suit in the United States court, in New York City, against The Curtis Publishing Company, for an injunction against alleged violations of the Clayton Act, involving the questions now before the Commission between such parties, and that the matter would be argued before the court at an early date. It was agreed that Mr. C. H. McDonald be authorized to go to New York, attend the hearing of arguments, and to keep in touch with the issue and results of that case.

Mr. Colver reported in the matter of file 1-222, application of the Pan-American Trading Company, New York, for the issuance of a com-

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plaint against Pan-American Trading Company, New Orleans, La.

Report of Joint Board of Review approved, and resolution, directing dismissal of application, adopted.

Mr. Colver reported in the matter of file 1-281, application of New York Public Service Commission for the issuance of a complaint against Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, Standard Oil Company of New York, and Gulf Refining Company.

Report approved, and resolution, directing dismissal of application, and transmission of papers to the Economic Board, to be made a part of the papers and records of the general oil investigation; and further, that it be now the policy of the Commission to give information and assistance immediately to public officials wherever possible, adopted.

At 1:00 p. m. a recess was taken until 3:00 p. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Commission reassembled at 3:00 p. m.

On motion by Mr. Colver, the following order was adopted:

ORDERED, that file 1-244 and file 1-203 be consolidated and that with them be also consolidated any other case in which the controlling question is an alleged discrimination as to prices paid to sellers of goods and that consolidation cases be prepared for early presentation to the Commission in such form that a definite ruling as to policy governing such cases may be made.

Special Attorney Francis J. Heney presented for discussion a letter addressed to the International Paper Company, and also a letter from Hon.

Gilbert H. Montague, (8235-103) attorney for George H. Mead and George Chahoon, dated May 8th, 1917, in connection with the news-print paper question.

The letter to the International Paper Company was discussed, and left with Mr. Heney for redraft and submission. (8813-1-28.)

Mr. Colver reported in reference to file 1-129, application of W. W. Turner & Company against Mishawaka Woolen Manufacturing Company, and after discussion it was ordered that a complaint be issued against the Mishawaka Woolen Manufacturing Company only.

Mr. Colver reported in reference to file 1-306, application of Monsanto Chemical Works for the issuance of a complaint against General Fire Extinguisher Co., et al.

Report of Joint Board of Review, recommending dismissal of application, approved.

Mr. Colver reported in reference to file 1-265, application of the Pennsylvania Tank Line for the issuance of a complaint against Standard Car Equipment Co., et al.

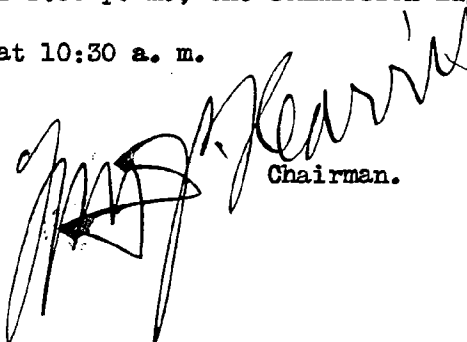
Report of Joint Board of Review approved, and resolution, directing the issuance of a formal complaint, adopted.

Mr. Colver reported in reference to file 1-68, application of California Canneries Co. for the issuance of a complaint against The American Can Company and the California Fruit Cannery Association.

Report of Joint Board of Review, recommending that application against the California Fruit Cannery Association be dismissed, and that a formal complaint be issued against The American Can Company, approved.

ORDERED: That Mr. Joseph H. Claffey be appointed
Clerk to a Commissioner.

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Thursday, May 17, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 17, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The preliminary report of the Commission on the production and distribution of bituminous coal was considered, approved, and ordered transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

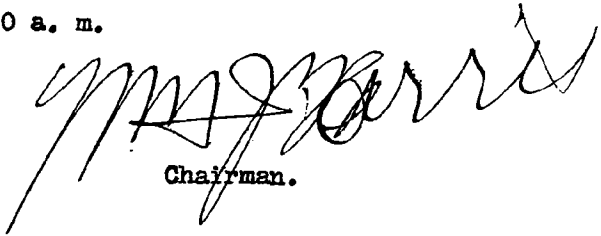
Upon motion of Mr. Fort, the food investigation was assigned to Mr. Davies.

Messrs. Madeira, Hill, Wentz, and Dodson, independent anthracite coal operators, appeared before the Commission and discussed matters in reference to the anthracite coal situation.

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Thereupon, at the hour of 1:30 p. m., the Commission adjourned
to meet Friday, May 18, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 18, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver

The report of the Commission, in re the news-print paper investigation, was called up, and after discussion the following resolution, offered by Mr. Davies, was adopted:

RESOLVED, That the Commission do complete its report on News Print forthwith and send it to the Senate of the United States;

That such report include a statement of the facts which have developed since last preliminary report;

That such report include the recommendation that the news-print manufacturing mills (including producers of mechanical sulphide pulp), both in Canada and the United States, be operated as they are now, but upon "Government account" -- under the English plan, -- and that such operation be under the direction and supervision of a joint commission of Canada and the United States, during pendency of this war.

May 18, 1917.

ORDERED, that Mr. Douglas D. Felix, of Hartford, Kentucky, be appointed an examiner, at an annual salary of \$1800, the same to take effect on his entering upon the discharge of his duties.

ORDERED, That Mr. Frank F. Linehart, of Belvidere, Illinois, be appointed an examiner, at a salary of \$1.00 per annum, the same to take effect on his entering upon the discharge of his duties.

The questionnaire prepared by the Advisory Economic Board, for use in collecting information desired in connection with the price of sugar, was submitted, and approved.

Drafts of letters to Hon. Gilbert H. Montague, and the International Paper Company, in reply to letters dated May 8, 1917, and May 12, 1917, respectively, were submitted, approved, and ordered mailed. (8235-103; 8813-1-28, respectively.)

The report of the Advisory Economic Board, submitting a plan for the supervision of anthracite coal prices, was adopted. (See file 8755-5.)

Mr. Harris presented file 1-328, application of I. Lowenburg Co. for the issuance of a complaint against Warren, Jones & Gratz, et al.

Report of Joint Board of Review adopted, and formal complaint ordered.

Mr. Davies reported in re file 1-250, application of Michigan Avenue Drug Store for the issuance of a complaint against The Coca-Cola Company.

Report, recommending the consolidation of this file with file

1-136, approved

Mr. Davies submitted the file and report of the Joint Board of Review in re application of J. R. Hartline for the issuance of a complaint against The Coca-Cola Company.

Report of Joint Board of Review, recommending that a complaint be not issued at this time, was considered. However, on motion of Mr. Davies, the report of the Joint Board of Review was not adopted, and a formal complaint ordered issued.

Mr. Davies reported in re file 1-75, application of United States Acoustical Correction Co. for the issuance of a complaint against H. W. Johns-Manville Co.

Report approved, and resolution dismissing application, adopted.

Thereupon, at the hour of , the Commission adjourned to meet Monday, May 21, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.

[Handwritten Signature]
Chairman.

Attest:

[Handwritten Signature]
Secretary.

May 19, 1917. No meeting held.

May 20, 1917. Sunday.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 21, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Colver, was presented, and after a general discussion of the food situation, same was adopted:

MOVED, that the economic board secure at once from all canners of vegetable and fish food products detailed schedules of all contracts now entered into for the sale of this year's pack, giving prices and parties to such contracts; also, similar information as to contracts for the pack of 1916, and 1915.

Similarly, all contracts for the purchase of products for packing;

Similarly, all contracts for the purchase of cans;

Lists of canners, wholesalers and brokers may be secured from Thomas Guide, a book put out by Thomas Publishing Co., of New York.

Matter referred to Mr. Davies, to be considered in connection with the general food investigation.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Davies, was adopted:

RESOLVED: That the economists in charge of the anthracite and bituminous coal investigations be directed to conduct an inquiry immediately into conditions and costs in the distribution and sale of coal in the District of Columbia, and that the date of hearing before the Commission for the coal dealers of Washington, heretofore ordered, be set at the earliest possible date consistent with adequate preparation by the investigators.

Matter referred to Mr. Colver, to be considered in connection with the anthracite coal investigation.

Thereupon, at the hour of 11:00 a. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Thursday, May 22, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.

W. J. Harris
Chairman.

Attest:

J. S. Duesler
Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 22, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The interim report of the Commission on bituminous coal was discussed, and the transmission of same to the House of Representatives on May 19, 1917, approved.

Mr. Colver reported in the matter of file 1-291, application of Furniture Merchants' Club for the issuance of a complaint against Associated Furniture Manufacturers.

Report of Joint Board of Review approved, and resolution, dismissing application, adopted.

Mr. Colver reported in the matter of file 1-43, application of Seeman Brothers for the issuance of a complaint against American Grocers'

May 22, 1917.

Society, Incorporated.

Report of Joint Board of Review approved, and resolution, dismissing application, adopted.

Mr. Harris presented report in the matter of file 1-332, application of Hawthorne Manufacturing Co., Inc., for issuance of a complaint against John W. Brown Manufacturing Co.

Report approved, and resolution, dismissing application, adopted.

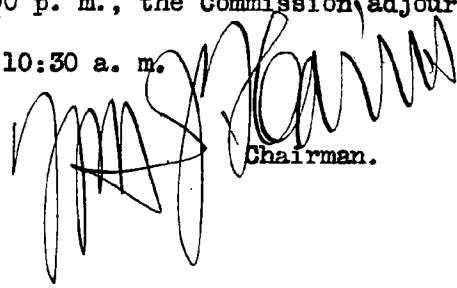
Mr. Harris reported in the matter of file 1-221, application of Merchants Trade Journal for issuance of a complaint against The Congoleum Company.

Report of Joint Board of Review approved, and resolution, dismissing application, adopted.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Davies, was unanimously adopted: (See file

RESOLVED: That the Chairman of the Advisory Economic Board of the Joint Board of Review be directed to make an examination into, and report upon, the qualifications of the volunteer auditors, accountants and lawyers, respectively, named in the list hereto attached, received from the Council of National Defense, with a view to a possible securing of the services of some of these men, at a nominal consideration, if the Commission should determine upon such a course.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Wednesday, May 23, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 23, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The Secretary presented a telegram, dated May 22, 1917, from the Chamber of Commerce, Worcester, Massachusetts, stating that the Ward Baking Company, of New York, was giving one loaf of bread free with each one sold.

On motion, it was ordered that the telegram be filed as an application for a complaint.

Mr. Davies reported in re file 1-240, application of The Woodville Lime & Cement Co. for the issuance of complaint against Toledo Pulp Plaster Company.

Report of the Joint Board of Review disregarded, and resolution, dismissing application, adopted.

Letter from Attorney General Gregory, bearing date of April 25th, regarding the possible employment of Mr. Neil Carothers, was referred to the Advisory Economic Board for consideration, and the Secretary directed to request such Board to report in reference to all available economists qualified for the work of the Commission. (See file No.

ORDERED, That Mr. Charles G. Duganne be appointed Disbursing Clerk for the Commission, the same to take effect on the entering upon the discharge of his duties.

May 23, 1917.

Mr. Colver reported that Mr. Bond J. Geddis, to whom the Commission had recently offered employment, had declined to accept.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Colver, was adopted:

RESOLVED: That a preliminary investigation be made at once into the cement industry, the same to be limited to the ascertainment as to whether or not there is a combination or conspiracy, or other unfair practices, in the industry, provided the Department of Justice is not now making the investigation.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Colver, was adopted:

RESOLVED: That all cases involving patent laws be assembled and a memorandum be prepared developing suggestions for handling them.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Davies, was adopted:

RESOLVED: That the Secretary be requested to make, at the earliest possible date, a plan for the allotment of funds for the next fiscal year, and to report to the Commission an allotment of funds, by months, to be spent by the Commission, and to report as to number and salaries of additional men needed, also, to make such further recommendations as he may deem desirable.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Davies, was adopted:

WHEREAS, There are a number of important cases before the Commission in which it is alleged that the policy of quantity discount is being employed as a rebate and a tying contract and thereby avoid the intent of the law, and which cannot be disposed of until the policy of the Commission thereon is settled, and

WHEREAS, the matter has been briefed by the economic and legal staffs;

BE IT RESOLVED: That Monday, May 28, 1917, at 2:30 p. m., be set as a date certain for a presentation of the matter to the Commission by such members of the staff as have been working on the subject.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Colver, was adopted:

RESOLVED: That jurisdictional cases be made a special order of business for Thursday, May 24, at 11:30 a. m.

The following order, offered by Mr. Colver, was adopted:

ORDERED: That the matter of arranging an organization for the food inquiry be made a special order of business for May 25th, at 11:30 a. m.

The following order, offered by Mr. Colver, was adopted:

ORDERED: That cases affected by Supreme Court decision re Motion Picture Patents be made a special order of business for May 28, at 11:30 a. m.

The following motion, offered by Mr. Colver, was adopted:

MOVED, That the Chief Examiner be requested to report on the Diamond Tack & Nail Co. reorganization, as directed by resolution of February 1, 1917.

On motion of Mr. Colver, the following order was adopted:

ORDERED: That trade association requests for rulings be made a special order of business for May 29, at 11:30 a. m.

The matter of the necessity for an assistant to the Secretary was called up, and after discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Secretary be authorized to select an assistant.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p. m., the Commission recessed until 3 p. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

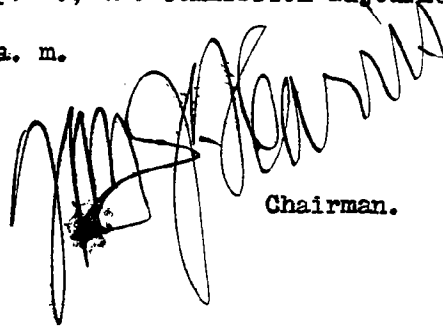
The Commission reassembled at 3:00 p. m.

May 23, 1917.

May 24, 1917.

Mr. A. C. Bedford, President of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey appeared before the Commission and presented matters in connection with the postponement of the examination of the books and records of such company. After discussion it was decided to continue such investigation on May 31, 1917.

Thereupon, at the hour of 5 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Thursday, May 24, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.



Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 24, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

On motion of Mr. Davies, Mr. Colver was appointed a committee of one to see the Secretary of War regarding certain matters connected with the oil industry.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Davies, was adopted:

WHEREAS, Mr. Hoover, in his plans for food control, has suggested the possibility of creating various committees of business men to administer certain lines of business vital to food control, and has expressed the desire that the Federal Trade Commission should perform certain functions;

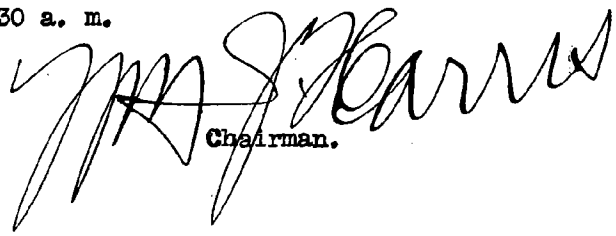
BE IT RESOLVED: That Mr. Hoover be advised that the Commission is desirous of cooperating in every way with his administration of the situation, and will be pleased to comply with the above request, or with any other suggestion within the limitations of its force and work.

The substance of a letter to be sent to certain anthracite coal producers, restating the attitude of the Commission with regard to operators selling wholesalers and jobbers, was considered, and same referred to Commissioner Colver for attention and action.

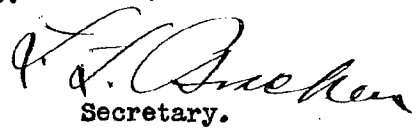
Mr. Arthur J. Eddy, an attorney of Chicago, appeared before the Commission and discussed certain phases of open-price associations.

Messrs. C. H. McDonald and William T. Chantland appeared before the Commission and discussed cases involving questions of jurisdiction, as set forth in the report submitted on April 10, 1917. After consideration it was agreed that the questions involved should be further reduced to writing and made a special order of business on the afternoon of June 4, and each day thereafter until disposed of.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p. m., the Commission adjourned to meet Friday, May 25, 1917, at 10:30 a. m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

May 25, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fort

The minutes of the meeting held May 24th, at 10:30 a. m., were read and approved.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Colver, was adopted:

RESOLVED: That a conference be had with the Council of National Defense, and the Advisory Council of the Council of National Defense, to the end that requests for data to be secured by the Federal Trade Commission for the Council of National Defense may be complied with in such manner as to secure the maximum of public service.

The above matter referred to Mr. Colver.

Letter, bearing date of May 23, 1917, from the President of the United States, addressed to the Chairman, to which was attached letter from Senator Weeks, with enclosures, calling attention to alleged excessive shipments of cotton to Europe, and asking for information in regard thereto, was presented, and the Secretary was directed to refer the matter to the Advisory Economic Board, with instructions to collect data and forward same to the President at the earliest possible date.

The Chairman presented a letter from Secretary Redfield, dated May 24, 1917, addressed to him, requesting the appointment of some representative of the Commission to attend a conference on Cost Accounting, to be held in the office of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Tuesday, May 29th, at ten o'clock a. m. (See file No. 8517-108.)

