

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

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

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

(Mr. Fort absent on account of illness.)

Mr. Victor Murdock, having been duly nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and having taken the oath of office on September 4, 1917, as a member of the Federal Trade Commission for a term of office ending September 25, 1918, was present and met with the Commission.

The minutes of the meetings of August 27th and August 30th, respectively, were read and approved.

The work of the Commission with reference to the administration of the coal industry, in connection with Dr. Harry A. Garfield, Coal Administrator, was taken up, and after discussion it was agreed to arrange for a conference with Dr. Garfield for the purpose of advising him of the Commission's ideas regarding certain features of the coal situation, and also to ascertain the nature of the work that would be required of the Commission in connection with the coal administration.

Mr. Davies reported that the President had called him

by telephone and asked when certain data concerning the price of steel products would be prepared, and that he had advised the President that such data would be submitted at an early date; that the President suggested that he communicate and confer with the War Industries Board in reference to costs of certain steel products essential to the conduct of the war.

Mr. Davies further reported that misstatements had been found in the data submitted by certain steel companies; that in his opinion such misstatements indicated guilty intent, and he thereupon asked for authority of the Commission to investigate further and, if the facts justified, submit the matter to the Department of Justice with a recommendation that the offenders be vigorously prosecuted. Such authority was duly granted.

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

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

The Commission reassembled at 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Harry A. Garfield and Mr. Nims met with the Commission and discussed at length the coal situation and the proposed plan for the administration of the coal business under the provisions of the Lever law.

Thereupon, at the hour of 4:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Saturday, September 8, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:



Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 8, 1917, 4:00 p.m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
Victor Murdock

The Commission considered a draft of the preliminary report to the President covering the cost of production of certain steel products essential to the conduct of the war, which after discussion was approved. Mr. Davies reported that the President had requested that a copy of the report be delivered to the War Industries Board for consideration. It was unanimously agreed that such copy would be delivered to Mr. Robert S. Lovett of that Board, in the absence of Chairman Scott.

Mr. Davies presented report setting forth the understanding reached between the Commission and Dr. Harry A.

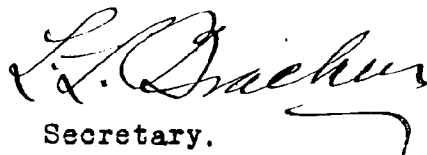
September 8, 1917.
September 11, 1917.

Garfield, Fuel Administrator, growing out of the conference on yesterday afternoon, covering the work to be done by the Commission in connection with the Fuel Administrator.
(See file Coal Mem 5 Dav 5)

Thereupon, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Tuesday, September 11, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 11, 1917, 3:30 p. m.

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


The minutes of the meetings of September 7th and 8th, respectively, were read and approved.

The activities of the Commission in connection with work of Dr. Harry A. Garfield, Coal Administrator, were discussed; also the future work of the Commission in continuing its

investigation into the coal business independent of the coal administration was considered. The matter of recommending certain modifications in the pronouncements made by the President in reference to the prices of coal and the classification of mines by districts was taken up, and after discussion, by unanimous consent, was laid on the table for action as a special order of business at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Mr. Davies presented a written report of a conversation with the President by which he was requested to submit the Commission's report on the prices of steel to the War Industries Board. The report also set forth the fact that the report had been delivered as directed. (See file 8910-2)

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:30 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Wednesday, September 13, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 12, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

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

Mr. Davies presented report in re file 1-340, application of C. F. Pritchard for issuance of a complaint against The House of Rothschild. Report approved, and resolution embodied in report of Joint Board of Review, recommending dismissal of application, adopted.

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

WHEREAS, There are now pending in the Commission several cases, to wit, the American Radiator case, the National Biscuit case, the Coca-Cola case, and others, the disposition of which is dependent upon the determination of a question of policy; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That a date and time certain be set for the consideration of the following question: "Is accumulative discount paid by a producer at the end of a fixed period to a customer, contingent upon the gross amount of purchase at the end of a period of time, an unfair method of competition in operating either in effect as a tying contract or as an unfair method of competition in full line forcing where the seller handles more than one commodity?" and

BE IT RESOLVED, That in the consideration the Economic Advisory Board, Board of Review, and such examiners as have worked upon the cases be requested to appear to present their views to the Commission.

By unanimous agreement the hearing ordered in the above resolution was set for special order of business September

20th, 1917, at 2:30 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Fort, the Chief Examiner was directed to again assemble all applications for complaints and pending formal complaints involving questions of resale price maintenance and report the same to the Commission, after which time a date certain would be fixed for the consideration of such cases by the Commission.

Messrs. Harris and Colver, committee on docket, calendar, organization and procedure, presented a written report. After some discussion it was unanimously agreed that the matter would be laid on the table until 3:00 p.m. this afternoon.

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

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

The Commission reassembled at 3:00 p.m.

The Commission considered the reports on the prices of oil and lumber.

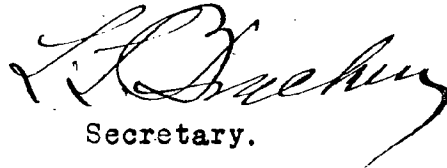
September 13, 1917.

64713

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Thursday, September 13, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 13, 1917, 10:30 a. m.

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

The Commission considered the report of Messrs. Harris and Colver, committee on docket, calendar, organization and procedure, which report was discussed and by unanimous consent laid on the table for special order of business for the meeting to be held this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Mr. Colver presented memoranda and recommendations in reference to certain changes in the Executive Orders of August 22d and 23d concerning coal, as follows:

(1) Brazil Block Indiana -- Recommending that such coal be classified separately from other Indiana coal.

(2) Jobbers, Registration of Same -- Recommending that jobbers of coal and coke be required by the President to enroll themselves with the Commission, the idea being that it might be necessary in the future to license such jobbers.

(3) Contracts -- Recommending that an executive order require filing with the Commission copies of contracts for the purchase and sale of coal and coke.

(4) Anthracite Pea Coal Prices -- Recommending increase in the price of pea coal.

(5) Classification of Jellico Districts -- Recommending the price of certain grades of bituminous coal mined in sections of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia.

(6) Cartage at wagon mines -- Recommending that cartage be allowed as a cost at wagon mines under license by the Fuel Administrator.

(7) Alabama Coal Prices -- Analysis of coal prices -- No specific recommendations.

On motion of Mr. Murdock, duly seconded, the Secretary was directed to transmit at once the above memoranda and recommendations, together with supporting data, to Dr. Harry A. Garfield, the Fuel Administrator.

Mr. Davies moved that a corps of investigators and accountants be provided by the Commission and sent simultaneously into the several coal fields of the United States for the purpose of ascertaining cost of production and other facts in connection with the coal business. After some discussion the matter was laid on the table for consideration at a future meeting.

September 13, 1917.

3124

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


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

The Commission reassembled at 2:30 p.m.


The Commission briefly considered the report of the committee on docket, calendar, organization and procedure.

After discussion Mr. Murdock moved that the matter be laid on the table until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock, at which time it was to be taken up as a special order of business with the understanding that it remain before the Commission until disposed of.

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:45 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Friday, September 14, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:.


Secretary.

September 14, 1917.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 14, 1917, 10:00 a. m.

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

Mr. Davies moved that the Commission consider the Oil Report and Lumber Report prepared at the request of the President before taking up the report of the committee on docket, calendar, organization and procedure which was made the special order of business for this hour. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

Dr. Haney was called into conference and the Commission discussed and considered the Oil Report prepared for and submitted to the President.

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

MOVED, That a letter be directed today to the Fuel Administration setting forth the fact that the "Memorandum on the Cost of Producing Gasoline and Fuel Oil, June, 1917, by the Federal Trade Commission," now in the hands of the Fuel Administration, was drawn, as stated in said memorandum, only for the purpose of determining the costs of production of certain petroleum products already used and to be used by the Navy Department in order that proper compensation for such products used by the Navy might be determined.

Also that this memorandum was not drawn in aid of any price fixing as to petroleum products to the public.

September 14, 1917.

The memorandum was so drawn in response to a request of the Secretary of the Navy, through the President.

That the Commission is engaged in procuring cost figures for the whole industry under the resolutions of Senators Gore and Owen. Such figures would be useful in aid of price fixing as to the public.

The following motion was offered by Mr. Fort:

In fixing the final cost figures in any industry or business there shall be added to the cost total, as found by the actual computation of the items going into the costs, a percentage of five per cent of the amount of such costs so specifically ascertained, to cover possible expense or damage for contingencies incident to the conduct of the business, which percentage shall be tabulated and included in the cost estimate in every case.

Seconded by Mr. Colver.

After discussion it was unanimously agreed that such motion be referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Harris, Fort and Murdock for consideration and report; such committee to report on Tuesday, September 18, 1917.

Mr. Davies moved that a hearing be granted to oil companies affected by the cost determination as to fuel oil and gasoline which have been supplied to the Navy, or are under contract for supplying the Navy, as requested by some of the companies. The motion was duly seconded, and an aye and nay vote taken, Messrs. Harris, Davies and Fort voting in the affirmative, and Messrs. Colver and Murdock in the negative. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

At the hour of 1:00 p.m. a recess was taken until 2.30 p.m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
William B. Colver
John F. Fert
Victor Murdock

The Commission reassembled at 2:30 p.m.

Upon motion of Mr. Colver the consideration of the report of the committee on docket, calendar, organization and procedure was made a special order of business for 10:00 a.m. Monday, September 17, 1917.

Mr. Davies moved that the services of a corps of investigators and accountants be provided by the Commission, and that such employees be sent into the several coal fields of the United States, simultaneously, for the purpose of ascertaining costs and other material facts in connection with the production and distribution of coal. Such motion was duly seconded and carried.

Mr. Davies presented draft of a formal complaint in the matter of file 1-390, application of the Federal Trade Commission for issuance of a complaint against the Association of Flag Manufacturers of America, et al., and moved the approval and issuance of such formal complaint. Motion duly carried and issuance of complaint ordered.

September 17, 1917.

Thereupon, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Monday, September 17, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.

Attest:

L. L. Baepur
Secretary.

Wm J Harris
Chairman.

September 15, 1917. No meeting held.

September 16, 1917. Sunday.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 17, 1917, 10:00 a. m.

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

The minutes of the meetings of September 13th and 14th were read, and, after certain corrections, approved.

Mr. Davies reported that Mr. Baruch, in behalf of the War Industries Board, had asked for a conference with the Commission for this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. By unanimous consent it was agreed to confer with members of such Board at the time mentioned.

September 17, 1917.

The members of the Advisory Economic Board were called into the room and various methods of determining the prices of the materials essential to the conduct of the war were discussed at length.

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

MOVED, That the committee report on organization and procedure set down as a special order for today, and displaced by the steel report, be made a special order for 10:00 o'clock a.m. tomorrow, September 18, 1917.

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

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

The Commission reassembled at 2:30 p.m.

Messrs. Robert E. Lovett, B. M. Baruch, R. S. Brookings, Rear-Admiral F. F. Fletcher, Hugh Frayne, and Lieut.-Col. P. E. Pierce, members of the War Industries Board, conferred with the Commission with reference to methods of determining the prices of materials essential to the conduct of the war.


September 18, 1917.

via 11.8

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Tuesday, September 18, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 18, 1917, 10:00 a.m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
John F. Fort
Victor Murdock

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

RESOLVED, That the Secretary employ whatever additional first-class stenographers are needed, to be paid out of the funds allotted to us by the President from the National Security and Defense Fund.

The Secretary reported that Dr. Garfield had advised that he did not deem the plan of securing copies of contracts from the coal operators by Presidential order as feasible. After discussion the following motion by Mr. Fort was adopted:

MOVED, That the Secretary forthwith put into operation the proper steps for securing all existing bona fide contracts for the sale of coal which the operators themselves deem legal and enforceable at law.

The resolution heretofore adopted, on September 14, 1917, directing the further and simultaneous investigation into the coal industry, was considered; whereupon it was unanimously agreed that the Secretary be directed to see that the work ordered by the resolution be projected, and, further, that the Secretary be authorized to communicate and cooperate as the representative of the Commission, when necessary, with the Fuel Administrator, and report to the Commission.

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

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
John F. Fort
Victor Murdock

The Commission reassembled at 3:00 o'clock p.m.


The Commission considered the reports, prepared at the direction of the President, in connection with the cost of production of lumber and cement.

September 19, 1917.

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:45 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Wednesday, September 19, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 19, 1917, 10:30 a.m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
John F. Fort
Victor Murdock

The Commission considered and discussed draft of a letter directed to the President in reference to the points developed at the conference held by the Commission with members of the War Industries Board in reference to steel. A draft of the letter was approved and signed by all members present; Mr. Fort attaching an explanatory note.

At 12:30 p.m. a recess was taken until 2:00 p.m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
John F. Fort
Victor Murdock

The Commission reassembled at 2:00 o'clock p.m.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, It is expedient and desirable that the Commission procure from each coal mine operator and coal jobber in the United States a report in writing of (a) all documents relating to the purchase or sale of bituminous coal by them which they claim constitute bona fide contracts enforceable at law, and in full force and effect on the 21st day of August, 1917; (b) all documents relating to the purchase or sale of anthracite coal by them, which documents they claim constitute bona fide contracts enforceable at law, and in full force and effect on the 1st day of September, 1917, and to file with such report true copies of any such documents relating to the purchase or sale of coal by them which they claim constitute bona fide contracts enforceable at law, and to state in reference to each of said contracts (1) the date of its execution; (2) the price at which coal bought or sold pursuant thereto was billed by, or to them, on August 21st, 1917, or the nearest date thereto, if for bituminous coal, and the price as aforesaid on September 1st, 1917, or the nearest date thereto, if for anthracite coal; (3) the quantity of coal which has been delivered or received thereon to August 21st, 1917, if for bituminous coal, or to September 1st, 1917, if for anthracite coal; and (4) a definite specification or statement of any allowance, split commission, premium, rebate, or payment of any sort made, or to be made, by them to any sales agent or jobber or any person interested in the coal transferred or to be transferred by such contract,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, That pursuant to the provisions of Section 6 of an Act of Congress, approved September 26, 1914, entitled "An Act To create a Federal Trade Commission, to define its powers and duties, and for other purposes," all coal mine operators and jobbers in the United States be required, and they are hereby required, to file with the Commission at its office at Fifteenth and K Streets NW, Washington, D. C., within fifteen days after the receipt of the notice of the Commission so to do, a report in writing containing the information referred to above, and be it further

resolved that the Secretary serve notice on all coal mine operators and jobbers in the United States, requiring them to file such report, and that he serve upon such coal mine operators and jobbers a notice to make and file such report in substantially the form hereunto annexed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission interposes no objection to the Fuel Administrator in endorsing at the foot of said notice the following:

The undersigned, United States Fuel Administrator, hereby joins in the foregoing demand and notice, this 20th day of September, A. D. 1917.


(Signed) H. A. GARFIELD,
United States Fuel Administrator.

The Commission considered reports directed to the President on the cost of production of cement and lumber. The cement report was, after some modification, approved, and its transmission to the President directed.

Thereupon, at the hour of 6:15 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Thursday, September 20, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 20, 1917, 10:30 a.m.

William J. Harris, Chairman
Joseph E. Davies
John F. Fort
Victor Murdock

The question of giving access to the correspondence and records of the Commission, relating to the so-called arbitration agreement between the publishers and news-print paper manufacturers, was considered, and after discussion it was unanimously agreed to send a letter to all publishers who had accepted the terms of the award following the arbitration, advising them that such access would be granted to the files and records of the Commission.

The report of the Commission on the cost of producing lumber was presented by Mr. Harris, and after discussion approved and ordered transmitted to the President.

The report of the Chief Examiner in response to a motion of September 12, 1917, directing him to assemble all applications for complaints and pending formal complaints involving questions of resale price maintenance, was presented (see file 8181-36), and after discussion the following motion by Mr. Davies was adopted:


MOVED, That all cases mentioned in the report of the Chief Examiner be reassigned to Mr. Fort for personal supervision, and that a plan for a general hearing by the whole Commission at an early date be fixed, and notice thereof be duly given to all attor-

September 20, 1917.


September 25, 1917.

neys and other persons interested in the cases enumerated in the report of the Chief Examiner.

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:15 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet at 10:30 a.m., Friday, September 21, 1917.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

September 21, 1917. No meeting held.
September 22, 1917. No meeting held.
September 23, 1917. Sunday.
September 24, 1917. No meeting held.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

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

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

The matter of permitting some one from the staff of the Commission to testify in the trial of the United States vs. Mead, et al., as requested by the Attorney General, regarding the process of the manufacture of paper and conditions surrounding the same, together with the cost of

production, was considered, and on motion the Secretary was directed to advise the Attorney General that members of the Commission's staff would be permitted to testify in the case, regarding the matters above indicated, as to all information in the possession of the Commission except that expressly promised to be held confidential.

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

MOVED, That the staff of the Commission be instructed that no promises as to the holding in confidence of any information given to the Commission may be made by members of the Commission's staff, and that no engagements or stipulations may be made by members of the staff which shall be considered binding upon the Commission.

Any such promises or engagements may be made only by the explicit authority of the Commission.

Draft of a letter to Hon. William B. Wilson, Secretary of Labor, requesting the detail of an expert from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for service in connection with the ascertainment of the cost of steel, was presented by Mr. Davies and unanimously approved.

Draft of a letter to be mailed to expert accountants for the purpose of enlisting their services for the Commission at a reasonable compensation, was presented by Mr. Davies and approved.

A letter from Mr. Herbert C. Hoover, bearing date of

September 25, 1917.

September 22d, stating that he had selected Messrs. E. Dana Durand and Harry Wheeler as assistants to aid in the determination of prices for meats, and asking that such gentlemen be given access to materials collected by the Commission in connection with its meat investigation, was presented, and upon motion of Mr. Davies it was unanimously agreed that, in response to Mr. Hoover's request, the Commission will direct its agents to furnish information as desired, with the suggestion that the proceeding be that such requests be made in detail and in writing to the Commission, and that written memoranda be promptly supplied in response thereto.

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

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

The Commission reassembled at 3:00 o'clock p.m.

On motion of Mr. Harris, a letter was ordered prepared advising the President that the Canadian Government had fixed the prices of news-print paper to Canadian publishers, and that the limitations on the prices do not apply to the publishers of the United States; that such discrimination does not seem fair in the light of the fact that this Government is furnishing coal and other materials to the consumers of Canada at the same prices required from the consumers in the

United States, and further that the Commission is submitting such information because it feels that it is the only administrative body connected with the Government acquainted with all the facts.

It was unanimously agreed that representatives of all the oil companies supplying oil to the Navy and mentioned in the report on the cost of oil submitted to the President be given an opportunity to be heard if they so desired.

The following resolution with reference to the administration of certain features of House Bill No. 4960, known as the Trading with the Enemy Bill, was duly adopted:

WHEREAS, Section 10 of H. R. 4960, the Trading with the Enemy Bill, as passed by the House of Representatives on July 11 and reported favorably by the Senate Commerce Committee to the Senate on August 23d and August 31st, proposed to authorize the Federal Trade Commission, when it should deem it for the public welfare, to grant a license, exclusive or non-exclusive and under such rules and upon such conditions as it might prescribe, to any citizen of or corporation organized within the United States to manufacture, or cause to be manufactured, any article or carry on, or cause to be carried on, any process protected by any patent, or to use any trade mark, print, label, or copyrighted matter owned or controlled by an enemy or ally of enemy; and

WHEREAS, This Commission, deeming it advisable that an agency for the administration of said section should be available immediately upon its passage, directed C. H. McDonald to make a study and report in reference thereto; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to this direction a study of the section and its purposes has been made; various data on the subject, including English and Canadian laws, rules, forms, etc., have been secured, and steps taken to secure similar information in regard to France and Australia; and tentative rules, forms and plans for

September 25, 1917.

the administration of the section have been prepared;
and

WHEREAS, By an amendment proposed in the Senate during the consideration of the bill the authority to be invested in this Commission was conferred upon the President of the United States, to be exercised directly by him or "through such officer or officers as he shall direct;" and

WHEREAS, Such change was proposed in the Senate and made by Congress for the sole purpose of harmonizing the bill by giving the President power to administer, or cause to be administered, all its provisions (which had been previously contemplated by the bill as to every section except section 10), and not because there was any lack of trust in the Federal Trade Commission or division of opinion as to the wisdom of granting such authority to this Commission; and

WHEREAS, The public has been led to believe, and now generally understands, that the Federal Trade Commission will be authorized to grant such licenses, and further as numerous inquiries, letters and applications for license have been and are now being received by this Commission; and

WHEREAS, Data now in the possession of the Commission, the Commission's familiarity with present business conditions and its experience in adjusting trade differences place it in a peculiarly advantageous position for administering the aforesaid section; and

WHEREAS, Such administration would give the Commission insight into many industries, result in the acquisition of valuable business information, foster mutual frankness and trust between the Commission and various business interests of the country, and afford an opportunity for the initiation and study of and comparison between regulated monopoly and regulated competition;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Federal Trade Commission acquaint the President with the work done by this Commission preparatory to the administration of section 10 of the Trading with the Enemy Act, and point out the advantages which would accrue to the Commission through such administration.

The resignation of Mr. Harold V. Amberg, Attorney-Examiner, was presented and accepted. The Secretary was directed

to express to Mr. Amberg the Commission's appreciation of his services and regret at his leaving.

Mr. Davies presented report in connection with applications for complaints (files 1-344 and 1-378) against Ward Baking Company of New York, together with draft of formal complaint prepared by the Acting Chief Counsel charging the Ward Baking Company of New York with violating the provisions of Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, and recommended that such complaint be issued, subject to the approval of Mr. Fort. Report approved and recommendation adopted.

Thereupon, at the hour of 5:45 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 26, 1917.

M. J. Harris
Chairman.

Attest:

L. L. Bachus
Secretary.

September 26, 1917.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 26, 1917, 10:30 a.m.

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

Draft of a letter and report, addressed to the President, in regard to the work done in connection with the costs of war materials and the expenditures therefor, were presented. The report and the letter were approved with the understanding that the facts in the letter were to be covered in brief form.

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

WHEREAS, The supervision of the important work of the Commission was divided among four Commissioners, then serving; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable that the important work should be divided equally among all the members of the Commission; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Meat Packing Investigation now under the supervision of Commissioner Davies be assigned to Commissioner Murdock for his supervision from this time forward.

The Secretary called the attention of the Commission to the importance of considering the annual report, and especially possible recommendations to Congress in connection therewith.


September 26, 1917.
September 27, 1917.

The matter of preparation of the estimates of appropriations necessary for the fiscal year 1919 was also brought up by the Secretary and briefly discussed.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Thursday, September 27, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 27, 1917, 10:30 a.m.

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

Mr. Murdock moved the reconsideration of the resolution of yesterday transferring the meat packing investigation from Mr. Davies to Mr. Murdock. Motion seconded by Mr. Colver, and after discussion it was agreed to lay the matter over for consideration at the next meeting of the Commission.

Mr. Colver presented a rough draft of report on the

September 27, 1917.

costs of production of lead and zinc, which was considered by the Commission. It was agreed to grant a hearing to representatives of the companies interested on September 29, 1917.

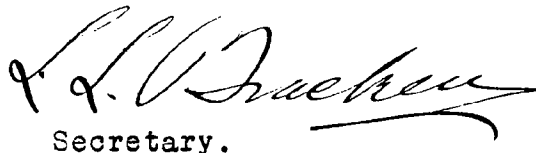
ORDERED, That Henry F. Cochems be subpoenaed to appear before the Commission in connection with its lead and zinc hearing to be held September 29, 1917.

Mr. Murdock moved that the Commission begin its hearings on the cost of production of petroleum at 10 o'clock October 5th, and continue such hearings until their conclusion, without intervening motion or business.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet Friday, September 28, 1917, at 10:30 a.m.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 28, 1917 - 10:30 a.m.

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

Mr. Murdock's motion to reconsider the resolution offered by Mr. Davies, transferring the meat packing investigation from Mr. Davies to Mr. Murdock, was duly seconded and carried, and upon reconsideration it was unanimously determined to rescind the action of the Commission transferring the meat packing investigation to Mr. Murdock.

The Secretary called attention to the necessity of preparing the estimates of appropriations for the fiscal year 1919. After some discussion, on motion of Mr. Davies, the matter of preparing estimates for consideration by the Commission was referred to a committee consisting of the Secretary, Acting Chief Counsel, Chairman of the Joint Board of Review and the Advisory Economic Board.

ORDERED, that the salary of Everett M. Hawley, Special Attorney, be increased from \$2280 per annum to the rate of \$2400 per annum, the same to take effect on October 1, 1917.

ORDERED, that the salary of E.O. Merchant, Special Agent, be increased from \$3300 per annum to \$3600 per annum, the same to take effect on October 1, 1917.

September 28, 1917.
September 29, 1917.

On motion of Mr. Davies, the Secretary was requested to advise the Acting Chief Counsel to be prepared to appear before the Commission at an early date and report the present status of the several formal complaints heretofore issued by the Commission.

Thereupon, at the hour of 1:45 p.m., the Commission adjourned to meet at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, September 29, 1917.


Chairman.

Attest:


Secretary.

MEETING OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

September 29, 1917 - 10:00 a.m.

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

A number of gentlemen interested in the investigation of the Commission into the cost of producing lead and zinc appeared before the Commission, and were heard with reference to conditions in the industry and the costs of producing lead and zinc. (see file Docket - General 40-1-13-1)

The Commission recessed from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.
