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ROB POSTOFFICE BY MISUSING THE FRANKING RIGHTS

Arrest of German Agents Disclose Their Subversive Work Carried on at Govt. Expense

CONGRESSMEN BLAMED

For years the rattle heads of this country have been reading and quoting one George Sylvester Viereck, a German who has lived in this country for many years and posed as a great literary man. He came to America at the age of 11, became a citizen, and continued to serve Germany in his speeches and writings, first the Kaiser, and now Hitler. Last week he was arrested by FBI men and brought before a grand jury and his case is still pending. Also arrested was one Prescott Dennett, a partner of agent of his. Viereck has received a great deal of money for his work and it turns out that much of it was done through the use of the franking privilege of congressmen. A lot of this mail was recently discovered.

The sacks of franked mail, each of them filled with approximately 100 pounds of Congressional Record matter, all sealed and ready for addressing and mailing under postage - free congressional franks, represent the latest instance of a system that has cried for reform for years, the giving of franking privileges to congressmen who, in turn - in effect if not officially - farm out the privilege of re-mailing their material all over the country.

Loss in Millions

The Post Office records shows 45,000,000 pieces of free mail were carried under the franking privilege for the last year recorded. If this mail had been paid for in red and blue two and three cent stamps, it would have cost the senders over \$1,200,000. As it was, they sent it all free. It was free, that is to everybody but the taxpayers. Furthermore, Congress did not even bother to tick the stamps.

In the case of the material now being investigated, in connection with the Viereck-Dennett inquiry, bundles of isolationist material were made available, it appears, a good deal like over-the-counter merchandising at grocery stores, for distributing and mailing by interested parties over the country, who in effect had the franking privilege extended to them in connection with distributing these articles.

It is charged that Mr. Viereck himself prepared or wrote some of these articles. Who paid Mr. Viereck for pro-Nazi activity remains to be disclosed. It is charged that he got Congressional friends to incorporate his material in speeches, and put them into the Congressional Record. They could then be sent out, postage free.

How Racket Works

The congressmen sending out Den-Viereck articles or other material inserted in the catch-all of the famous 'Appendix' of the Congressional Record, did not send the whole Record.

With the insertion of an article, 'Senator Smith' or 'Representative Jones' comes in to another privilege. He can have these articles reprinted by the Public Printing Office at, or below, cost. As the Post Office figures show, millions of copies of such articles and speeches are reprinted. They are mailed, postage free.

The law specifically states that the franking privilege may not be farmed out to an outside group, but the congressman gets around this. Another section of the law states that a congressman may frank out packages of his speeches to be addressed, and mailed, item by item, by the recipient. The way it works in practice, as currently revealed in the present investigation, is that the member orders the material and pays for it, and is then in turn reimbursed by the distributing agency.

The use of the franking privilege is by no means confined to isolationist congressmen, who are in the spotlight right now. It has been employed for years by nearly all of Congress, mainly around election time. It is one of the instruments by which a sitting congressman attempts to maintain himself in office.

An incumbent can circulate his whole constituency in theory at least, and charge it to the taxpayer and the Post Office, while his unfortunate rival has to print his own speeches and buy his own postage stamps, at his own expense.

Congressmen have been jealous of their privilege, and even the present exposure by which the government hopes to trace a connection between foreign propagandists and the misuse of the frank is hardly likely to reverse the system.

In the present case, Mr. Fish denies knowledge of the 20 sacks of franked mail. He says that his secretary, George Hill, was asked by Mr. Dennett whether Mr. Fish could use copies of his own speeches, and the offer was accepted. But instead of his own speeches, a dozen mail bags containing about half a ton of speeches and other postage-free matter, of other congressmen appeared outside his locker. Mr. Hill was subpoenaed to appear before the federal grand jury investigating the whole matter.

Others Drawn Into Case

Other Congressmen's names have been brought into the issue. It is understood that there is evidence before the grand jury here that Mr.

PEACE FROM ONE SOURCE ONLY

Defeat of Russia Cannot Bring It, For Hitler Can Never Stop

(AN EDITORIAL)

If Russia is overcome by Germany will there be peace? There can never be peace, not even if Russia were to surrender as absolutely as all the other countries that have been overrun have surrendered. It is inconceivable that Russia, no matter what peace treaty were made, would consent to stay willingly under the domination of Germany. Large stretches of Russia have already gone into German possession, and Dr. Walter Funk, the economic minister, has announced plans for the continued possession and operation of that territory.

Under such circumstances Germany cannot withdraw her armies of occupation from Russia. The same thing applies to all the other territory taken. Collaboration with Germany in these countries means the continued subserviency of their people to Germany. None of them will ever willingly collaborate by wiping out their own nationality, culture and aspirations, the demand made by the New Order of Germany. So Hitler must keep his armies in occupation of these countries. Italy is no better than conquered territory and Spain will become so. The continued possession of Europe by Hitler means the continued support of his armies.

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State of Mecklenburg

WILD LIFE PICNIC

Hinton James, state commissioner of game and inland fisheries, has accepted an invitation to be a special guest at the monthly meeting of the Mecklenburg Sportsmen's Wildlife club Friday evening at Dinty Moore farm at Hahn station, near Newell. Members will be accompanied by their

held for the sinking fund account so that the money obtained may be reinvested in national defense bonds of the federal government.

Already the county has invested some money in the sinking fund account in national defense issues. The transactions in addition to being patriotic, have netted the county government a nice profit, so for years it has given local service free to those who deemed worthy. His will distributed \$3,000,000, more than a million directly to charity. The will states: "I have made for my wife and my daughters provisions larger than will be required for that simple living which we have practiced from conviction and which I assume each will continue. I have done this because I desire that each of them shall have ample means to carry forward or otherwise aid the public work in which she may from time to time be interested. This will, I believe, best insure the wise application of the surplus to public purposes."

INAUGURATION AT DAVIDSON

A chorus of 100 college and university presidents and deans will attend the inauguration of Dr. John R. Cunningham as 13th president of Davidson this weekend. Dean John C. Bailey, in charge of arrangements for the distinguished guests, has announced that many acceptances of invitations.

Presidents of practically all colleges and universities in the Carolinas, and of other institutions all over the country will be present to see the induction of Davidson's new president. The honor guests will assemble for the first time at the formal banquet in Chambers dining hall Friday night and will be recognized at the inaugural ceremonies Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

NEW THANKSGIVING

Dr. Theodore M. Greene of Princeton University will speak at the banquet Friday, Governor J. M. Broughton will be the main speaker at the annual Homecoming Day luncheon Saturday at 12:30 just before the Davidson-Y. P. I. game. Harlee Branch, Jr., of Atlanta, president of the Davidson Alumni association, will preside over the luncheon.

SOLDIERS PLENTIFUL

The city newspapers and others who estimated or guessed the number of soldiers who would visit the city on last weekend, have since that time revised their figures. They first said ten to fifteen thousand. Now they say fully 6,500 men in uniform were here during the weekend. Of course no one knows how many there were nor how many there will be this weekend and on subsequent ones.

All the towns in the area are doing their best to entertain the boys and Charlotte, being the only large city in the locality, gets far more than any other.

THE CIVILIAN DEFENSE COUNCIL

Members of the judging teams who will go to Raleigh for competition at the State fair Friday were announced by L. B. Barber, assistant farm agent and Miss Helen John Wright, home agent for Mecklenburg.

Poultry team: Marie Parks and Francis and Barbara Medlock of Steele Creek; seed Paul Cook, Clovis Baker and Robert Massey of Sharon; livestock: Billy Tevebaugh of Moore's Chapel; William Ewart and David McCord of Ramah and Erwin Pendleton of Steele Creek.

The dress made by June Allen of Mecklenburg will be on exhibit at the Fair as the winning outfit from the southwestern district of North Carolina. Betty Jane Alexander will have a canned foods exhibit.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The county commissioners have authorized sale by the county government of \$24,000 in Greensboro, and Tarboro municipal and school bonds

Human Interest

THE LOST CHILD FOUND

Pamela Hollingsworth, a five year old child, remained lost in a mountain in New Hampshire for eight days. On September 28th she walked away from a picnic in the woods. She was wearing only light overalls and sneakers and her hair was braided. The days and nights passed, two days of rain and night of cold. A thousand volunteers tramped the woods in search of her and the men from a CCC camp joined in. Whole companies of men went with military precision over the woods and hills, stopping at regular intervals and calling her name. Rangers from the forest reserve helped, and radio messages were constantly sent out. When the rains came and the cold settled down at night they said, "How can she live through this?" After eight days they found her huddled near a brook, alive and unafraid. She had not cried, she said, because she knew daddy would find her. She had lost eight pounds and her feet were frost bitten. Many, many theories were advanced as to how she had held out and remained alive. The scientists say one thing and another. Her parents and others who had been praying all the while, said that God preserved her.

MAKES US TAX CONSCIOUS

Somebody has said that the new automobile tax next year is for the purpose of making the people tax conscious. With all the other taxes it is more likely to make some of us entirely unconscious. The tax goes into effect next February and is a United States tax. It is five dollars on every automobile owned, whether it is a new one, or one just limping to the boneyard. The first payment will be for the period from February first to July first, and after that for a full year at the time. If this thing keeps up automobiles are going to be expensive. On them you pay a sales tax, a property tax, a county and city license tax, an oil tax and a tax of seven and a half cents on every gallon of gas, a tire tax, and Lord only knows how many more.

THE WILL OF MR. BRANDIES

Associate Justice Louis D. Brandeis, who had recently retired from the supreme court, died a few days ago. He was a great Jewish lawyer and philanthropist, appointed to the court by President Wilson. Before he went on the bench he had made a good deal of money, though for years he had given local service free to those he deemed worthy. His will distributed \$3,000,000, more than a million directly to charity. The will states: "I have made for my wife and my daughters provisions larger than will be required for that simple living which we have practiced from conviction and which I assume each will continue. I have done this because I desire that each of them shall have ample means to carry forward or otherwise aid the public work in which she may from time to time be interested. This will, I believe, best insure the wise application of the surplus to public purposes."

HY WOMEN DO THE WORK

Trust the Gaggy editors to solve all problems. Beth Williams writes in to the Quimby Free Press and asks, "Why does one have to work for a living?" And Olin Miller of the Atlanta Journal answers thus: "Why, haven't you heard, Beth? We have to work our way through life because Eve ate an apple and, coyly using her feminine wiles to a mean advantage persuaded Adam to do likewise. And the manner in which work is divided between the sexes isn't fair, either. Eve was 90 per cent responsible for the transgressions which resulted in mankind being kicked out of the Garden of Eden and sentenced to hard labor; consequently, in all fairness, women should be required to do 90 per cent of the world's work."

GOOD WHEN YOU CAN GET 'EM

Next time you find a pearl in your oyster stew, don't rush to a jeweler only to be told that it would have been worth a lot if it had not been cooked. For the pearls built up by edible oysters are as worthless as so much chalk. Dr. T. C. Nelson of the New Jersey Board of Shellfisheries, told disillusioned participants in the General Electric Science Forum in Schenectady. And pearl oysters, incidentally, don't grow in every oyster backyard; the only bed in American waters is at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Dr. Nelson also spoke of another oyster fallacy last week, tracing it to the first colonists. Back where they came from, he said, all summer long oysters tasted as if they were full of sand because of the shells of baby oysters they contained, thus giving rise to the "R-less month" ban. But the colonists wronged the American oyster in assuming its habits were the same—it is good the year round, and oystermen have been trying to overcome the public delusion for years.

AMERICA IN THE WAR

People are fussing over helping Russia because they don't like communism. Senator Bailey said if he saw a convict trying to kill a mad dog he would be glad to give him a gun. And that's the view of sensible people about helping Russia to kill the Hitler mad dog. Even congress takes this view for it turned down a proposed amendment to the lend-lease bill saying that help to

Concludes Ardrey Diary and Will Begin Life of Caldwell

In the paper today Mr. Red Buck Bryant concludes his story of the diary of Capt. William E. Ardrey. In producing the series of extracts from this remarkable manuscript Mr. Bryant has done a job most interesting as well as valuable. Capt. Ardrey was a modern Samuel Pepys, and his set down everything that took place in his own neighborhood and much of everything that transpired in the county, state and nation from day to day over his long life.

The Ardrey diary is a voluminous document and Mr. Bryant was able to produce only a part of it. Not only is it the most valuable day-by-day record ever produced in Mecklenburg county, but it is a production from which the historians may glean illuminating sidelights on the life and custom of the times. The whole diary should be safely deposited with some historical institution. We understand that the University of North Carolina is very anxious for it to come into its possession. The portion selected for use by Mr. Bryant began with the

close of the civil war. Before that time Capt. Ardrey had set down his observations and experiences in his war itself. Mr. Bryant, mostly as a labor of love, is giving a great deal of time in producing articles thru this paper of local and historic interest. He never tires of writing about the Mecklenburg that he knew, the seeds of which were planted far back before his day, and the fruits of which are ripening for the present and the future.

Now Mr. Bryant, in the next issue of the paper, begins his life of Capt. Joseph P. Caldwell, the North Carolina editor who made such a deep imprint upon his time. Devoted to Mr. Caldwell in his life and now cherishing his memory as one of the precious things of his own life, Mr. Bryant is performing this labor of love at a time when the memory of Mr. Caldwell is still in the hearts and minds of thousands of Charlotte and North Carolina people who will read the record with pleasure and deep gratitude to the author.

During his busy life Captain William E. Ardrey met many interesting people, and enjoyed their friendship.

As a member of the Legislature he extended his acquaintance to all parts of the State. Recovering from a serious illness in 1900, he went to Raleigh, arriving there January 18th, 1901, still very feeble.

"I went directly to Mrs. Badger's," his diary says, "to board with Captain S. B. Alexander, Messrs. F. M. Shanahan and C. H. Dule, Judge Graham, Mr. Gattis and Mr. Nicholson.

"Senator John S. Henderson of Rowan and myself are the only two of the session of 1876-1877 members now. Some I was with in 1885 and 1871 are still here. I am improving in health and Mrs. Badger is so kind to me, I am enjoying my stay in Raleigh."

Despite the fact that he was busy helping to make laws, Captain Ardrey never failed to be interested in home news.

January 30 he wrote: "The old sow had pigs."

February 2: "Attended the Edenton Street church; Dr. John C. Kilgo, president of Trinity College, preached, from the text I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." He is one of the finest preachers I have ever heard."

Their First Affliction.

March 5: "Received a telegram from Lucius saying his baby, Lucius Lee Ardrey, cannot live. March 6: The baby died; their first affliction and great sorrow in the family. So sad, away from their relatives; only Miss Belle Harris and I with them, but the people of the town are so kind and good."

March 9, 10 and 11: "The closing scenes of the Legislature the most impressive I ever witnessed. The Hon. Mr. Jenkins, member of the Senate and orator, made an address and all sang old and stirring songs, Judge Frank D. Winston, Lock Craig, and others leading."

July 6 and 7: "Quarterly conference at Harrison. Fine preaching by Presiding Elder Rowe. His text on Sunday was 'Resist the devil and he will flee from thee.'

Dr. Rowe was eloquent. Once, when reporting in Charlotte, I asked him if he paid any attention to rhetoric when he spoke, and his answer was: "Sometimes I use rhetoric, sometimes I don't; most often I cut right across the field."

September 6: "President McKinley shot at Buffalo, New York, by Leon Czolgosz, an anarchist. He died from his wounds. The nation is grief. He was truly a great and good President, and the loss is great to the entire United States."

December 18: "Dr. J. L. Spratt and Miss Emma Ardrey, daughter of Captain Ardrey, were married. About 60 persons were present. Rev. Mr. Spratt performed the ceremony. Mollie had an excellent supper. December 19: Reception at Mr. Spratt's. Charles Elliott, Alice Ardrey, Billie and Bobbie Cunningham, attended."

December 25: "Another year has rolled around and we are all alive and thankful for all the blessings the good Lord has given us."

Smallpox at Pineville.

Captain Ardrey missed very little news in reporting events of the time and community.

In 1902 various North Carolina communities had smallpox scares, if not the disease. Great excitement prevailed.

January 31 Captain Ardrey wrote: "Smallpox at Pineville; everybody being vaccinated."

February 3: "Our free rural delivery mail route to start; Mr. Kimball the carrier. February 4: No mail for four days, on account of swollen creeks."

May 19: "Mr. L. Shirley died. A great loss to the community. May 1: Mr. Shirley's funeral. The large was greatly beloved and honored. He had a very fine school of 90 pupils."

Mr. Shirley was a real asset to Providence township, and the section of South Carolina, where he resided. He had a teaching gift, and knew how to manage boys and girls. I never realized his worth until I was middle aged, and had been about the country. His rural schools were excellent.

May 13: "We gathered 40 quarts of strawberries from our patch. Brother John Ardrey and wife, Mr. Spratt and wife, and Mrs. Massey spent the day with us and enjoyed the berries."

May 22: "Mr. Calvin Hall died at the age of 84; he was a good man and leaves a large family. May 23: Mr. Hall buried at Harrison."

July 1: "Mr. Bob Stevens of Monroe called on us; he is hunting a cow."

August 12: "Picnic and reunion at Providence church, a grand success and a good