

Ryan Denies Ever Writing The Famous Dick to Dick Letter

En Route to Washington to Testify Before Probing Committee Richard S. Ryan Makes Series of Denials.

Not Even on "Speaking Terms" With Taj's Brother--Only Tried to Get Alaska Lands by Square Dealing.

By Associated Press. New York, July 19.—Richard S. Ryan, promoter of the Controller Bay railroad, while preparing to go to Washington today in answer to a subpoena issued by the house committee investigating the Alaskan controversy, made a flat denial that he had written the "Dick to Dick" letter.

Mr. Ryan said he did not know President Taft's brother nor did he know former Secretary of the Interior Ballinger well enough to address him except by his formal title.

Mr. Ryan said the firm he was identified with had no connection with the Guzenheim interests, either directly or indirectly so far as he knew.

"We want land in Alaska that we were willing to improve at our own expense," said Mr. Ryan, "and there was nothing to suggest a grab in our possession."

There was never a time that I tried to get one foot of ground at Controller Bay in Alaska that the request was not absolutely on the level. I never tried to use one bit of senatorial, social or any other influence in advancing my requests. Everything was based on pure justice.

And now one last word: I never wrote such a letter, such a postscript or such an address. I can't know Secretary Ballinger well enough to address him by any name except his formal title. I don't know President Taft's brother even by name and could not possibly refer to him. This note made public by this man seems to me to be something more than a lie.

HEAT WAVE STRUCK ALASKA YESTERDAY--CAUSES FLOOD.

By Associated Press. Valdez, Alaska, July 19.—A heat wave struck Alaska yesterday, the temperature in Valdez rising to 80 degrees. The warm weather is melting the glaciers and the streams fed by them are unusually high. Gangs of men are working to save the bridges leading to the mines.

BOTH BRANCHES OF CONGRESS IN SESSION TODAY

By Associated Press. Washington, July 19.—Both branches of congress were in session today. Canadian reciprocity speeches by Messrs. Brown, of Nebraska and Works, of California, were the regular order in the senate and Senator Stone of Missouri, who had expected to speak yesterday in advocacy of the agreement, may have the floor today or tomorrow.

HOSTILE FLEET PLANS TO "DESTROY" N. Y.

By Associated Press. New York, July 19.—The city awoke and went about its business today untroubled by the knowledge that a hostile fleet was trying to steal or fight its way past a squadron of naval militia and a flotilla of torpedo boats defending the approach through Long Island Sound.

Until the naval officials in charge of the maneuvers made their report to the navy department the movements of the opposing fleets will be largely a matter of conjecture. Wireless messages are forbidden and the engagement probably will occur beyond the range of observers on land.

It is believed, however, that the first encounter occurred last night. Aided by the fog that hung over the eastern end of the sound the attacking fleet of 17 battleships and one cruiser put out to sea yesterday, with the intention of slipping past the guardians of the city.

In anticipation of the success of such a move the guards at the forts along the sound were doubled last night. If any of the "enemy" were sighted within range they were theoretically blown to pieces, for under the rules of the naval war game a warship has not a chance against the stationary guns and shore battery.

Sounds of firing were heard about midnight off Block Island, but they soon ceased and it is possible that they meant only the discharge of signal guns.

The whole eastern end of Long Island Sound is picketed by torpedo boat destroyers and submarines. The little craft were sighted during the night at various points along the Connecticut and Long Island shores, but nothing was seen of the majestic fleet of the enemy.

The battleships are to make two attacks, one by night, the other by day, and the war game must end by Friday. The defensive line to be penetrated miles off Gayhead, Mass., at the south-east end of No. Man's Land, six miles off Gray Head, Mass., at the south west extremity of Martha's Vineyard through Block Island to Montauk Point.

War on Block Island. Block Island, R. I., July 19.—Mimic war broke out around this little island a few hours after dawn today when nine battleships of the attacking blue fleet, steamed in from the southeast and were met by five torpedo boat destroyers and a half dozen submarines.

Whether the battleships were theoretically sunk or the defending craft destroyed will not be known for some time. Naval experts will not announce their decision until after the reports have been made on the "battle."

Rock Island, July 19.—Dawn revealed a few of the defending fleet. Over towards Montauk Point could be seen a couple of destroyers, while to the eastward there were a few ripples on the smooth surface of the sea, showing that the submarines were on guard.

A couple of hours later the defending fleet began to assemble off Sandy Point, at the north end of the island, and at 7 o'clock the southeastern horizon became blackened with the smoke of the attacking battleships. An hour later nine fighting ships came steaming in from sea in line of battle, passing the eastern side of the island shortly after 8 o'clock and brushing aside the defending fleet.

Condition of John W. Gates. By Associated Press. Paris, July 19.—Dr. Gros states that he found further improvement in his patient when he visited John W. Gates today.



LUCILLE MARCEL, THE AMERICAN PRIMA DONNA, AND FELIX WEINGARTNER

Paris, July 19.—Lucille Marcel, the American soprano, whom Jean de Reske converted from a struggling aspirant for fame into a successful opera singer, is now in Paris and may shortly visit her own country.

Only a Few More Hours And Pony Contest Will Be a Matter Of History

All Ballots Must be in By 10 p. m. Tomorrow

Ballot Box Closes at Ten Sharp And Any Votes Not in at That Time Cannot be Counted--Be on Time.

Miss Ruth Solomon Makes Big Gain in To-day's Standings, Passing the Hundred Thousand Mark.

Tomorrow is the day of days, the close of The News pony contest. At 10 o'clock tomorrow night the last ballot must be in and as soon after as possible the count will be made and the prize winners decided.

From the looks of things in the past few days it is easily seen that the real contenders for the pony outfit and other prizes have come to a full understanding of what sort of campaigning they must do during the last few hours of the competition.

There is still time enough left in which to secure more subscriptions and every moment should be taken advantage of. You cannot afford to overlook any possible source that may yield a subscription, and you have a mighty short time left in which to go after them. Make every minute count.

Ten O'Clock Sharp. Absolutely and finally we wish to impress upon the minds of all contestants and their supporters that the contest will close at 10 o'clock tomorrow night. Not 10:10 or 10:05 or even 10:01, but 10 o'clock sharp. If all subscriptions are not in and the ballots in the ballot box at 10 o'clock sharp they will absolutely not be counted and can only be saved as reminders of what might have been.

DEMOCRATS IN HOUSE WATCH THE SENATORS

Washington, July 19.—Democratic leaders in the house are closely watching developments in the senate as the time approaches for action on legislation introduced in the lower branch. The expressed position is that Senator LaFollette's wool bill is now likely to be tacked to the farmers' free list as a rider and that the senate democrats will keep the bills separated.

The democratic leaders contend that the LaFollette bill is not really a revenue raising measure in the same sense as the Underwood bill. House democrats have taken the view that they would rather have the Underwood bill defeated than to accept the LaFollette bill. In that event the democrats claim they would be in a good position to go before the country on the defeated measure.

Health Officers of Entire Country May Be Asked to Fight Cholera Invasion

New York, July 19.—The health officers not only of New York, but of the whole country, may be asked to help repel threatened invasion of Asiatic cholera. The discovery of live "cholera carriers" among the 600 immigrants undergoing bacteriological examination at quarantine emphasized what Health Officer Doty has said about the difficulty of confining the disease to the quarantine hospitals of ports of entry.

Dr. Doty is conferring with Surgeon General Wyman, head of the United States Marine hospital service, to plan how the country may be protected against "carriers" who harbor the germs while themselves free from their ill effects. A system of general observation is contemplated, so that even after the "carrier" is released from quarantine, the health authorities of the place where he settles may watch for possible transmission of the disease.

Wickershams Stand On Regulation Of All Corporations

AN ENORMOUS DEATH TOTAL FROM PLAGUE

By Associated Press. London, July 19.—According to figures received in this city the deaths from the plague in India have reached the enormous total of 650,600 for the half year ended June 30.—The disease has taken such a hold on that country that its ravages are little heard of except through the occasional official plague statistics.

Newsboys Keep Strike Going

By Associated Press. New Orleans, July 19.—After a mass meeting yesterday afternoon in which the newsboys voted to continue the strike against the afternoon papers because of an increase in price the boys sallied forth from their meeting place and kept the city cleaning department busy sweeping torn newspapers from downtown streets. Many news stands unguarded by police were raided.

Headed by a brass band they paraded the streets last night taking up collections to aid in maintaining the strike. The Item and States issued statements this morning explaining that the increase to 3 cents was made in the interest of the boys, who are thereby enabled to make a profit of a cent and a half on each paper sold, whereas only a penny profit was possible at the old price.

FRANCE STILL IS EXERCISED OVER ARREST

By Associated Press. Paris, July 19.—The press continues exercised over the arrest of M. Boisset, the French consular agent at Alcazar, Morocco, by a Spanish patrol and demands that Spain make immediate reparation and publicly apologize.

NAVY APPEALS TO AMERICANS

By Associated Press. Washington, July 19.—Possibly the navy is more attractive to the average young American than the army, but the fact is that the recruiting officers find little difficulty in obtaining as many recruits for the naval service as they need. At the present the enlisted force is only about 600 short of the full quota allowed by law, which is 47,500.

The recruiting department has adopted the policy of refraining from filling up the quota, keeping a number of vacancies to provide places for the trained veterans who are discharged on the expiration of their terms of enlistment with the understanding that they may re-enter the service at any time within four months.

ANOTHER BOY DROWNED IN CATAWBA RIVER

Earl Rock, son of W. D. Rock, was drowned in the Catawba river near Rozzells Ferry this afternoon. A messenger came in to report that "a boy, named Rock was drowned."

That was all he knew. Chief Orr and Mr. O. L. Barringer left at once in an automobile for the river. The boy was seen to leave own this morning on a bicycle and carrying a kodak. It is said he went to join a picnic party. The boy is about 17 years of age. His father lives near the Country Club. News of the distressing event reached Charlotte just as the News goes to press. No particulars could be learned, of the distressing affair.

Declared for a Government Commission to Regulate Great Industrial Organizations Same Way Interstate Commerce Commission Regulates Railroads.

Speech Was Little Short of Sensational--Law of Supply and Demand no Longer Controls Prices he Says--His Speech.

By Associated Press. Duluth, Minn., July 19.—Attorney General Wickersham, before the Minnesota state bar association here this afternoon took an advanced stand on the further federal regulation of corporations and declared for a government commission to regulate great industrial organizations in the same way that the interstate commerce regulates railroads, was certainly most desirable and it might be absolutely necessary.

Mr. Wickersham's speech was little short of sensational in many of its features. He declared it was a matter of serious consideration whether it would be practical to give to the proposed interstate corporation commission the power to fix prices. He said to do this would simply require an extension of the principle by which the interstate commerce commission controls the rates on railroads.

How Prices Are Controlled. The law of supply and demand, Mr. Wickersham said, no longer controls prices in the United States. For years, he declared, the prices in all the great staple industries have been fixed by an agreement between the principal producers and net by a normal play of free competition. An interstate commission, the attorney general added, would prevent violations of the anti-trust act and aid business men to maintain a continued status of harmony within the requirements of the law.

Many of Mr. Wickersham's declarations were the most radical he has made since his entrance into official life. There was nothing in the speech, however, to indicate how far the attorney general reflected the views of President Taft. On several occasions in the last year he has been regarded as the spokesman for the administration.

The attorney general discussed what further regulation of interstate commerce is necessary or desirable from a broad point of view and said he had not attempted to express a conclusion but merely to state the elements of a great problem.

"That some further regulation of corporations carrying on commerce among the states is necessary," he said, "is coming to be a matter of current comment. It has been openly advocated quite recently by representatives of some of the larger combinations of capital, probably as a means of salvation and to preserve under government supervision great organizations whose continued existence is menaced by the recent interpretation of the Sherman act, that disintegration would necessarily be attended by much loss. To such it is a case of 'any port in a storm.' Better continued co-operative life even under a powerful master than dissemination of properties and segregated activities without constant governmental supervision."

"But there are other reasons for such regulation. The federal department of justice is not organized or equipped to maintain constant supervision and control over business organizations. It deals only with cases of violation of the law. The activities of an administrative board or commission would be directed to preventing such violations and in aiding business men to maintain a continued status of harmony with the requirements of law."

"Whether or not such a federal industrial commission should have power to regulate prices, of course, is a matter for serious consideration. The interstate commerce law prescribes as a legislative rule that prices for transportation by rail or wire, or pipe line, shall be reasonable and that no unjust discrimination shall be made between individuals or localities similarly situated. A similar rule might be declared by congress with respect to the prices of commodities handled in interstate commerce."

"We have become accustomed to the regulation of rates of transportation but the suggestion that prices of commodities be regulated by congress seems novel and radical."

"Yet the principle on which the regulation of transportation rates is based is simply that when property is used in a manner to make it of public consequence and effect the community at large it becomes clothed with a public use and may be controlled by the public for the common good."

"The conduct of the great commerce in staple articles among the states is becoming a matter of public consequence and the courts have upheld legislation regulating it and prescribing some of the conditions under which it may be carried on. To require as one of these conditions that prices for commodities dealt in interstate commerce must be reasonable, only involves a new application of the same principle."

"The anti-trust legislation of the United States and most of the several states have been passed in the same way. Continued on Page Nine."