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MUCH SWINDLING THROUGH MAILS

\$129,000,000 TAKEN FROM THE PUBLIC BY MAIL FRAUDS.

IS RECORD OF TWO YEARS

Many Schemes to Defraud the Public Are Operated Through the Mails.

Washington.—Loss of \$129,000,000 in two years by the unsuspecting public through swindling operation carried on by use of the United States mails has stirred the postal authorities to a drastic campaign against fraudulent schemers. Wholesale use of government's right to deny the mailing privilege to persons or firms whose operations may be tainted with "get rich quick" and other false promises is the weapon to be employed.

An effort to stop this swindling by reliance upon criminal courts has proved ineffective, according to W. H. Lamar, assistant attorney general for the postoffice department, whose annual report was made public on the first.

"Criminal proceedings are necessarily slow," says the report, "and by means of appeals and other methods the execution of sentence are deferred for long periods, during which the concerns and individuals engaged in such fraudulent business continue to reap a harvest through their fraudulent enterprise. In some instances, the penalty being merely a fine, there was nothing to prevent the parties from continuing their schemes except fear of subsequent fines. These they could easily afford to pay in view of the large revenue derived from the business."

Mr. Lamar points out that a fraud order immediately cuts off the source of supply of funds upon which the scheme largely depends for its continuance and puts many prospective victims on their guard.

Postmaster throughout the country, the report says, daily ask rulings on various lottery schemes which cause the department no end of worry. Numerous concerns located abroad continue to mail their advertisements of foreign lotteries into the United States. Fraud orders were issued against 74 such firms during the year.

CIVIL COURTS UNDER TROOPS

West Virginia Authorities Arraigned for Conduct During Strike.

Washington.—A severe arraignment of the authorities who administered martial law in West Virginia from September, 1912, to June, 1913, when the Cabin Creek and Paint Creek coal mine strike troubles were in progress is contained in a subcommittee report made public by Senator Borah, member of the senate committee that conducted an investigation into all phases of the West Virginia disturbance.

The report does not bear the formal indorsement of the full senate committee, but was given out as the "statement of facts," prepared by Senator Borah as the member charged with preparing that section of the report bearing on courtmartial trials and alleged violations of law by military courts.

Senator Borah's statement holds that the military authorities, acting under the direction of the governor, superseded all constitutional courts in West Virginia, imposed sentences not authorized by any standing laws, and took over all the duties of the civil courts of the district; and that at the time such martial law was being enforced there was no evidence that the civil courts had been intimidated or that they would have failed to perform their duties faithfully.

Five Persons Killed in Collision.

Memphis, Tenn.—Five persons were killed and several injured when a train of freight cars struck a street car at a grade crossing here. The accident occurred in the southern outskirts of Memphis where a belt line and the street railway tracks cross. The street car was crushed and the bodies of the dead badly mangled.

Negro Is Lynched in Louisiana.

Shreveport, La.—Dave Lee, a negro, was taken from the Marion county jail at Jefferson, Texas, by a body of masked men and hanged to a bridge nearby. The mob compelled the jailer to give up his keys, quickly secured the prisoner, executed him and quietly dispersed. Lee was charged with shooting and wounding Constable Matt Taylor, while resisting arrest. It is said there were but fifteen men in the lynching party. No arrests have been made.

JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS



John Skelton Williams of Richmond, Va., at present assistant secretary of the treasury, is the choice of Secretary McAdoo for controller of the currency.

BATTLE FOUGHT IN MEXICO

REBELS ATTACK THE TOWN. MANY ARE KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Red Cross Workers Find Two Hundred Corpses on the Battlefield.

Laredo, Texas.—With the dead variously estimated at from 150 to twice that number, and the wounded several hundred, both armies fought for possession of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, the Revolutionists under Gen. Pablo Gonzalez less than a mile from the town and the Federal forces entrenched within Nuevo Laredo.

The government commander at Nuevo Laredo admitted that at least fifty of his troops had been killed, including Captain Francillas. Official reports from the attacking forces place their dead at 100, including Capt. Ezequiel Parars. Red Cross workers who crossed to Nuevo Laredo during a lull in the firing reported that they found more than two hundred dead on the field.

Fighting, which began at daybreak, lulled at noon, but was reopened three hours later by a machine gun squad who drew away from the main body of Revolutionists and poured a hail of bullets into the Federal stronghold. Undaunted by the bursting of shells, the gunner, said to be a Frenchman named Brien, trained his gun with deadly accuracy whenever a sufficient number of Federal targets appeared.

Many bullets fell on the American side of the river. Narrow escapes were numerous, but no deaths.

UNCLE SAM GUARDS HEALTH

Patrols From Ocean to Ocean to Keep Down Disease.

Washington.—Uncle Sam's health patrol is catching its breath on New Year's day in anticipation of the biggest year's work it ever has undertaken. The summary of the last 12 months of its work contains a record of heroic fights against disease, opposition to the invasion of foreign maladies and excursions into new fields of medical exploration which has had no equal in the history of the organization.

Experts working under the directions of Surgeon General Rupert Blue and Assistant Surgeon General Rucker have during the last year covered every nook and corner of the country, routing out unknown diseases, cleaning up infested places, teaching communities and individuals how to guard against disease and protecting the American public against disease immigrants, itinerant "carriers" of disease, unhealthful surroundings, infected rats and polluted drinking water.

New York Tops London.

New York.—New York City leads London in population by 1,000,000, according to figures made public by Dr. W. H. Guilfoyle, statistician of the board of health. He fixes New York's population at 5,376,966, a total based on the city's presumptive growth since the last count was made. This comparison, however, does not include as part of London that city's large suburban area. While New York is gaining rapidly in population, the city and county of London is retrogressing.

LARGER EXPORTS THAN EVER BEFORE

1913 EXCEEDED BEST EFFORTS OF THE PRECEDING YEARS.

FOREIGN COMMERCE GROWS

1913 Imports Show Decrease, Due to Big Reductions in the Cost of Certain Articles.

Washington.—The foreign commerce of the United States in the calendar year 1913 approximated one and three-quarter billion dollars of imports and two and a half billion of exports. The imports of the eleven months ended with November were \$1,609,000,000; should the December imports equal those of November the total for the full year would be \$1,756,000,000. The exports of the eleven months ended with November were \$2,251,000,000; should the December exports equal those of November the total would be \$2,497,000,000. This estimate would make the excess of exports over imports approximately \$740,000,000.

The figures of exports and of excess of exports over imports will exceed those of any earlier year. The largest export in any preceding calendar year was that of 1912, which showed a total of \$2,399,217,993; and as the eleven months ended with November are \$1,020,000,000 in excess of the corresponding period of the preceding year the estimate of approximately two and a half billion for 1913 seems to be justified. The excess of exports over imports in the eleven months ended with November was \$642,000,000, and for the single months of November \$97,000,000, thus apparently justifying the estimate of \$740,000,000 excess of exports for the full year.

In imports the total for 1913 will be less than that of 1912, but larger than that of any year preceding 1912. This decline in imports in 1913 is due in part to reduction in prices of certain articles imported. While the quantity of sugar imported in the ten months ended with October exceeded that of the corresponding period of 1912 by 368,000,000 pounds, the value of this larger quantity imported during the 1913 period was \$22,000,000 less than that of the corresponding period of 1912.

PLAN TO DROP CORPORATIONS

Men of Affairs Decided to Line Up With Spirit of Times.

New York.—The withdrawal of J. P. Morgan & Co. from more than a score of great corporations and the statement shortly afterwards by George F. Baker, an almost equally dominant figure in American finance, that he soon would take similar action, gave Wall street generally a thrill that almost brought trading on the stock exchange to a halt.

While it probably is true that many prominent bankers had information foreshadowing this momentous move toward ending interlocking directorates, the public and brokers had no advance knowledge of what was taking place in the inner councils of the greatest of all American houses of finance. Wherever telephone and ticker flashed the news about the street, groups of men gathered to discuss what was the all-absorbing topic.

Mr. Morgan, departing from his firm's traditional policy of silence, made a public statement announcing the withdrawal of five members of J. P. Morgan & Co. from the directorships in twenty-seven corporations and the intention to withdraw from more.

Exports to South Africa.

Washington.—Success that has marked the efforts of American manufacturers to establish markets for their exports in the union of South Africa, long considered to be exclusive province for foreign traders, refutes any assertion that competition is driving Americans from the field of trade, according to a statement made public by the department of commerce.

Lower Express Next Month.

Washington.—Lower express rates throughout the country will become effective one month from now by the terms of the recent interstate commerce commission order. Not only will the rates be reduced materially, but the companies will comply with regulations for improved methods of service. Experts estimate the average reduction in charges will approximate 17 per cent. One official of a large express company said that the business for 1913 was 25 per cent. less than it was in 1912.

MISS MAUDE O. MINAHAN



Miss Maude Olive Minahan of New York City, who has been voted by the students at Wellesley college, Massachusetts, to be the most beautiful girl at the college.

CREAT CHANGES PAST YEAR

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL LEGISLATION DURING 1913 IMPORTANT.

New Era in Relations of Government and Big Corporations—Foreign Relations Eventful.

Washington.—Twelve months of 1913 wrought changes in the American government—political, economic and financial—probably more far-reaching than any other year of the last quarter century—this year was apparent in a backward glance over memorable events of the past year in all branches of governmental activity.

A Democratic administration in national affairs came to power in this twelve months with a Democratic president and a Democratic congress at his back for the first time since Grover Cleveland occupied the white house.

The first constitutional amendments since 1870 were perfected, providing two radical changes in the fundamentals of government—an income tax and the direct election of United States senators.

BANKS ACCEPTING SYSTEM

In One Week 767 Banks Apply for Admission.

Washington.—Seven hundred and sixty-seven banking institutions, scattered over forty-five states and having an aggregate capital, exclusive of surplus, of approximately \$300,000,000, have informed the federal authorities of their intention to enter the new currency system. This was announced by the treasury department a week after the currency reform law was enacted.

The department's statement said: "Six hundred and ninety-five applications have been received from national banks with an aggregate capital of about \$250,000,000, so that up to this time national banks representing approximately one-fourth of the total national banking capital of the country already have signified their intention to enter the system."

"Of the national banks 69 have a capital of \$1,000,000 or more; 142 have a capital of from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000; 270 have a capital of from \$100,000 to \$250,000 and 214 have a capital of less than \$100,000."

\$250,000 Ransom Will Be Paid.

Chihuahua.—Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in gold has been agreed upon by General Villa, rebel military chief, as the ransom he will accept for the release of Luis Terrazas, son of the wealthy Mexican land owner. Terrazas has been imprisoned here for five weeks on the charge that he had supported the federal administration. The money is to be paid by Luis Terrazas, Sr., who has been negotiating from El Paso for his son's release. The prisoner is to be brought to the border under safe conduct.

NO WAY OF ESCAPE FROM INCOME TAX

REGULATIONS SAY EVERY CITIZEN OF NATION MUST MAKE RETURNS.

REFUSAL MEANS A FINE

Forms to Be Used By Individuals Sent Out by the Treasury Department.—March First Date Set.—Sickness or Absence Excuses.

Washington.—The form to be used and regulations to be followed by individuals in making returns of income subject to the new Federal income tax were sent out by the Treasury Department. Every citizen of the United States whether residing at home or abroad, every person residing in the United States and every non-resident alien who has income from United States investments of \$3,000 or more, must make return.

For the past year, 1913, specific exemptions will be \$2,500, or \$3,333.33 in the case of a married person, and in future years \$3,000 and \$4,000. Where the tax has been withheld on part of the income at the source, or where part of the income comes as dividends upon stock of a corporation, taxable under the corporation tax section of the law, the regulations set forth that such income shall be deducted from the individual's total net income when computing the amount of which he is taxable.

The law imposes a tax of 1 per cent and provides that individuals who have an income between \$20,000 and \$50,000 shall pay an additional tax of 1 per cent on such amount; on all between \$50,000 and \$75,000, two per cent; \$75,000 to \$100,000, three per cent; \$100,000 to \$250,000 four per cent; \$250,000 to \$500,000, five per cent, and all over \$500,000, six per cent. Returns must be in the hands of the collector of internal revenue in district where the payee lives or district where he has his principal place of business not later than March 1, failure to observe this limit to be punished with fines ranging from \$20 to \$1,000.

Refusal or neglect to file returns, except in case of sickness or absence will result in an addition of 50 per cent to the tax assessed. In the case of false or fraudulent return 100 per cent will be added to the tax assessed and any person required to make, render, sign or verify such return, who makes a false or fraudulent statement, with intent to defeat or evade the tax, will be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not more than \$2,000 or imprisonment for one year, or both.

Thirty Perish With Steamer.

New York.—The tank steamer in trouble off Sandy Hook was the Oklahoma and twenty-two of her crew appear to have perished. Eight were saved. This was the substance of wireless messages received here.

Although several vessels were standing by the distressed tank liner, the Hamburg-American line freighter Bavaria, bound from Philadelphia to Boston, was the only one able to render assistance. She reported by wireless shortly after 9 o'clock in the morning that she had been able to take off Captain Alfred Gunter, Chief Mate Bertiverson, Second Mate Knute Dahle, Third Mate Carl Klundke, Operator William Davis, Boatman Christian Rasmussen, Quartermaster Hamilton Powell and Herman Erickson, the ship's carpenter. No mention was made of the remainder of the crew, thirty in number.

The Oklahoma was owned by the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company, was 2,795 tons net and 419 feet long.

Rev. Billy Sunday Vs. Bar Tenders.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—When Rev. Billy Sunday came here recently to "clean up Pittsburgh," the Bar Tenders' Union grew excited and offered \$5,000 for the privilege of having its business secretary debate with the evangelist on the question: "Who is getting the coin—Billy Sunday or us?" Mr. Sunday declined the challenge.

Attempt to Settle Strike.

Calumet, Mich.—Interest in the copper miners' strike in northern Michigan centered around Governor Woodbridge N. Ferris, who is coming here to endeavor to bring about a settlement of the prolonged strike called by the Western Federation of Miners. The governor arrived in the strike zone but a few hours after the departure of John B. Densmore, solicitor for the department of labor, who returned to Washington after failing to bring together the opposing interests of the strike.

DAVIDSON COLLEGE BULLETIN

New Bulletin Written By Dr. Martin Reviewing Affairs of the College.

Davidson.—A clerical force of students were busy one week recently in mailing from the administration building the latest College Bulletin, written by President Martin and giving in rapid review an account of matters relating more especially to this the seventy-seventh session of the college.

Doctor Martin notes that all the members of the faculty are full professors and all students from freshmen to seniors are in classes taught by men who took full university training at the leading universities of America and Europe. Davidson is one of the very few colleges of the land whose freshmen and sophomores are not taught, in part, at least by young men of limited experience, who hold the rank of "instructor."

The addition to the teaching force of Dr. H. B. Arbuckle, as professor of chemistry and of Dr. Charles N. Wunder, as associate professor of astronomy and applied mathematics, the promotion of Professor A. Currie to a full professorship, his department being public speaking, education and law, and the election of Mr. Frank L. Jackson to the position of treasurer, bursar and business manager, are all very properly cited as evidences of the steady growth and expansion of the institution.

The recent action of the Synods of the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida, looking to a more substantial support of Church schools and colleges and especially the resolution of the Synod of this State and of Florida, requesting that the cause of Christian education be given a place in the budget of all the Churches in their bounds, is expected to result in a decided increase in the annual contributions to the institutions concerned and a more active effort for their further upbuilding in point of enrollment. Doctor Martin has been appointed chairman of Synod's permanent committee on schools and colleges, to succeed Rev. Dr. J. B. Shearer, resigned.

An appeal is made in this issue of the Bulletin for 500 members to the Davidson College League that during President Smith's administration was so effective in bringing in an annual revenue that made possible so many additions to and so many improvements in the college plant. The Bulletin explains that contributions to the recent endowment campaign served as a reason why many temporarily demitted membership in this league, but with the payment of the pledges to the endowment, old students, parents, friends, and all who are interested in the college and the work it is doing for the Church, are urged to renew their membership and begin once again the payment of the annual contribution of \$10.

Mount Airy's Growth.

Mount Airy.—As the year has closed and the merchants have taken an inventory of stock it is well to take inventory of a town's achievements and in this respect Mount Airy has been more than fortunate for it has enjoyed marked prosperity. The town has not only increased rapidly in population but more money has been spent, in the past year, for public improvements than ever before in the same length of time. The voting of bonds for road improvement in the township has turned to the public nearly \$50,000 and nearly half that amount has been spent, inside the city, for street improvements. An up-to-date and modern filtering plant, costing \$7,000, has been installed and two tobacco warehouses, costing \$30,000, have been erected. No less than a dozen Main street stores have been remodeled with modern fronts and general improvements which cost, at least, \$20,000. At least a dozen handsome residences have been erected, two of which reached the \$10,000 mark, and a \$10,000 packhouse, has been added to the factory section of the city. This, of course, does not include the outlay at the store quarry where the payroll, in mid-summer reaches \$50,000 each month or the three large furniture factories which gives employment to nearly 600 hands. Added to these things, this is a splendid market, a large horse and cattle market and one of the largest shipping points for produce in the South.

Charlotte's New Hotel.

Charlotte.—The Mecklenburg Hotel, the elegant new \$150,000 establishment which has been in process of construction for the past eight months near the Southern Depot, has been completed and was opened January 1. Mr. W. C. Petty is general manager. Mr. A. D. Brabble, assistant manager and Mr. O. C. Andrews is chief clerk, three of the best known and most popular hotel men in the Carolinas. The hotel, which has 100 rooms of which 75 have private baths, each an outside room with windows.