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May 8, 1935,

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
MR. WILLIAM STANLEY

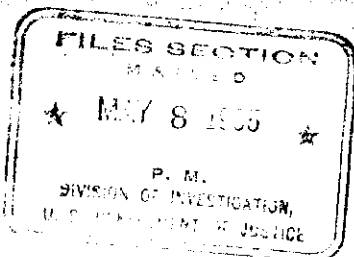
There is being transmitted herewith a copy of an anonymous communication, dated at New Orleans, Louisiana, April 27, 1935, the writer of which states that he was a member of the Jury that convicted Joe Fisher for evading the income tax law. He alleges that, as a result, his business has been threatened by the activities of the Huey Long group.

Please be advised that this is submitted for your information and that no investigation concerning this matter is being made.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Inclosure 319434



New Orleans, Louisiana.  
April 27 1935.

Department Justice,  
Washington, D. C.  
Gentlemen:

In view of the fact that this is an anonymous letter, you, in all probability, will throw it in the waste basket and pay no attention to it.

I think, however, it will pay you to read it through as undoubtedly it will give you some food for thought.

I am one of the jurors that sat on the jury that convicted Joe Fisher for evading the income tax. I have just been visited by one of the King Fish's lieutenants who threatened me with all kind of reprisals. He advised me that there were many bills recently passed by the legislature that they (Long) could use to ruin my business, and moreover Long intended making an example out of some the men who sat on this jury, in order that when future trials of this nature came up such as Jules Fisher, Seymour Weiss, Abe Shushan etc. the fear of God would be put into them thereby causing them to bring in a verdict that was more pleasing to them.

I can't afford to sign my name to this letter as I am already fearful of my life, much less the reprisals they expect to practice on me.

Long and his crowd is much more cunning than you Washington officials give him credit for, and my advise to you is when you begin the trials of these men already referred to, you better bring them to Washington for trial.

Jules Fisher and Abe Shushan are more than likely to turn state's evidence for a consideration for immunity. Their testimony is likely to show where the King Fish has been getting all his money and probably where he is keeping it in hiding.

We are living down here in Louisiana in fear and constant dread that when any of us do something that is displeasing to Long's organization that we will be punished severely for it. The press attempts to tell the world something of the conditions under which we are living here. but they don't tell the half of it.

Conditions here are not unlike those under the leadership of Hitler and Mussolini and it seems to me high time that the Federal Government came to our aid. I'll miss my guess very much if, when the trials of these other Long henchmen begins, enough evidence is brought out to unseat Long as a Senator and probably enough to cause an indictment to be made against him for evading payment on his income.

It is common knowledge down here that his tailor's bill exceeds five thousand dollars annually, His wife and two children each ride in a Cadillac car. That alone is pretty strong for a Senator's salary.

I could tell you much more but I fear it would be useless.

MAY 1 0 1935

Memo Stanley RECORDED & INDEXED

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ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION  
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

Handwritten signature

RECEIVED

FEDERAL EMERGENCY RELIEF ADMINISTRATION  
WALKER-JOHNSON BUILDING  
1734 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW.  
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1935

Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated April 18, 1935, with reference to a letter dated April 5, 1935, from your New Orleans, Louisiana, office, concerning the request of Mr. Frank H. Peterman, Federal Emergency Relief Administrator in Louisiana, to secure the assistance of the United States Attorney and the United States Marshal at New Orleans in taking over the books and records maintained by the State in connection with the administration of relief in the State of Louisiana.

Very truly yours,

*Corrington Gill*  
Corrington Gill  
Assistant Administrator

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APR 23 1935

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*Nancy C. Long*

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

JWW:DM

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

April 25, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM *J.H.G.*

Re: Request for investigation to seize and maintain possession of books and records kept by State of Louisiana, in connection with Emergency Relief Administration projects.

The New Orleans office of the Bureau advised by letter dated April 5, 1935, that Mr. Frank H. Peterman of Alexandria, Louisiana, had been appointed and took office as State Federal Emergency Relief Administrator on April 8, 1935, and that he had been instructed to contact the United States Attorney and the United States Marshal at New Orleans, with a view to securing assistance in taking over and maintaining the possession of the books and records kept by the State of Louisiana in connection with the administration of relief in that State.

The United States Attorney conferred with Special Agent in Charge D. W. Magee and expressed the opinion that the Bureau would have jurisdiction under Section 300(a), Title 5, United States Code Annotated, which provides in substance that representatives of the Bureau are empowered to serve warrants and subpoenas under authority of the United States and to make seizures under warrant for violation of the laws of the United States, and to make arrests, searches and seizures under certain circumstances.

The New Orleans office advised the United States Attorney and the State Administrator, Mr. Peterman, that the requested investigation was without the jurisdiction of the Bureau and that no assistance could be given.

The above facts were briefly outlined and forwarded to the Federal Emergency Relief Administration by letter dated April 16, 1935.

Inasmuch as no apparent difficulty has been encountered by the Government in taking over and maintaining the records and as no request has been received direct from the Federal Emergency

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Relief Administration at Washington, it is recommended that no further action be taken.

Nothing further is contemplated by the New Orleans office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. S. Egan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

J. S. Egan.

U. S. Department of Justice  
**Bureau of Investigation**

326½ Post Office Building,  
New Orleans, La.  
April 19, 1935.

DWM:cw.

*any*

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St. N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

*S*

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of Bureau letter of April 16, 1935, relative to a request for assistance received from the United States Attorney's Office at New Orleans, Louisiana, and from Mr. Frank H. Peterman, State Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, relative certain books and records mentioned in New Orleans Bureau Office letter of April 5, 1935, entitled, Emergency Relief Administration Matter.

Please be informed that inadvertently the Federal Statute referred to should have been Section 300(a), Title 5, United States Code, Annotated, instead of Title 18, U.S.C.A. The correct citation is also found in 48 Stat. 1008, Act of Congress June 18, 1934, C 595. This citation also appears in the Manual of Rules and Regulations, Section 11.

Very truly yours,

*D. W. Magee*

D. W. Magee,  
Special Agent in Charge.

*Memo Mr. Yarnum  
4/25/35 jww*

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April 16, 1935.

Mr. Corrington Gill,  
Assistant Administrator,  
Federal Emergency Relief Administration,  
1734 New York Avenue, Northwest,  
Washington, D. C.

ATTENTION: DIVISION OF SPECIAL INQUIRY.

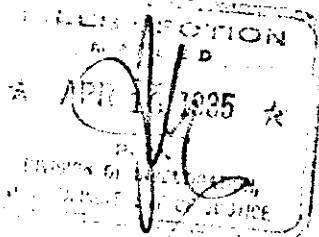
Dear Sir:

The Bureau is in receipt of a letter dated April 8, 1935, from its New Orleans office, advising that Mr. Frank H. Peterman, of Alexandria, Louisiana, was appointed and took office as State Emergency Relief Administrator on April 8, 1935; that he had been instructed to contact the United States Attorney and the United States Marshal at New Orleans with a view to securing assistance in taking over the books and records maintained by the State in connection with the administration of relief in the State of Louisiana.

It appears that Mr. Peterman anticipated that he would possibly have some difficulty in securing all of the records and that possibly the former State Relief officials would attempt to seize these records after they had come into the possession of Mr. Peterman.

The United States Marshal apparently declined to assist in the absence of any warrant or outstanding process issued in the Federal Court. It does not appear that there have been any threats or improper detention of records up to the present time. The New Orleans office of the Bureau has contacted the United States Marshal and the United States Attorney at New Orleans, as well as Mr. Peterman, and has advised them that no investigation would be made by that office.

This information is being furnished to you for such attention as you may consider appropriate.



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Very truly yours, DIVISION OF SPECIAL INQUIRY

APR 17 1935 A.M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

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26

RECORDED  
62-32509-65

April 16, 1935.

Special Agent in Charge,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.

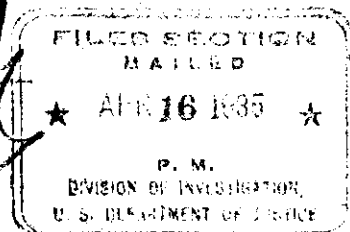
Dear Sirs

The Bureau is in receipt of your letter dated April 5, 1935, relative to the request for assistance received from the United States Attorney's office at New Orleans, Louisiana, and Mr. Frank H. Peterman, State Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, in obtaining and maintaining possession of certain books and records formerly maintained by the State of Louisiana, in connection with the administration of relief in that state.

The Bureau is unable to locate Section 300 (c), Title 18, U. S. C. A., referred to by the United States Attorney's office. It is possible that Section 338 (a) is the Section to which his office intended to refer. Please advise the proper section referred to.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.





LM

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation  
326 1/2 Post Office Building,  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
April 5, 1935.

DWM/tm  
86

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: EMERGENCY RELIEF ADMINISTRATION  
MATTER.

Dear Sir:

Assistant U. S. Attorney Warren O. Coleman, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans, Louisiana, on April 8, 1935 requested a conference concerning a matter relating to the Emergency Relief Administration.

Frank H. Peterman, former Louisiana State Senator, address Alexandria, La., was appointed and took office as Louisiana State Emergency Relief Administrator on April 8, 1935 succeeding Harry J. Early.

Harry L. Hopkins, F.E.R.A. Administrator, Washington, D. C. had requested Mr. Frank H. Peterman to contact U. S. Attorney and U. S. Marshal at New Orleans, Louisiana and endeavor to secure assistance, in case of need, to secure the records and prevent their seizure by State Administration Officers, which they considered likely, as entire control of the Administration and Unemployment Relief of Louisiana, formerly a joint venture by the State and Federal Governments, were to be handled entirely by the Federal Emergency Relief Administrator.

The United States Marshal had declined to assist in the matter in the absence of any warrant or outstanding process issued by the Federal Court. Mr. Coleman was of the opinion that the Bureau would have jurisdiction under Title 18, Section 300 a, United States Code Annotated, to issue process and make arrests if any trouble was encountered in the matter.

The writer respectfully informed Mr. Coleman and Mr. Frank H. Peterman that the subject matter was entirely without the jurisdiction of the Bureau, and that no assistance could be granted the Emergency Relief Administration in a matter of this nature without proper authority from the Attorney General or the Bureau at Washington, D. C.

No threats or improper detention of records have arisen at the present writing and the occasion for referring the matter to the U. S. Marshal and the U. S. Attorney by Mr. Frank H. Peterman, was at the instance of Federal

*07 - Louisiana  
Conditions in above  
\* Federal Emergency Relief Administration*

APR 17 1935

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION	
U. S. DISTRICT COURT OF DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA	
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*Letter FERA  
Letter New Orleans  
4/16/35 = JWW*

87

Emergency Relief Administrator Harry L. Hopkins, Washington, D. C., who apparently anticipated some form of State action through the divesting of all control or authority from the State of Louisiana officers.

No assistance or investigation will be conducted in the instant matter, and should any direct request be made of the New Orleans Bureau Office the Bureau at Washington, D. C. will be advised.

Very truly yours,

*D. W. Magee*

D. W. Magee,  
Special Agent in Charge.

HENRY F. ASHURST, ARIZ., CHAIRMAN  
 WILLIAM H. KING, UTAH  
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 DANIEL O. HASTINGS, DEL.  
 FELIX HERBERT, R. I.  
 THOMAS D. SCHALL, MINN.  
 WARREN R. AUSTIN, VT.

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Backus	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

Dear Friend:-

Your letter received. Just as soon as we can, we will make an answer to any specific question you ask. Our letters are arriving by the thousands at a time and with our limited funds we work night and day to answer them as fast as we can.

However, for the present, we must hurry the work of every community in organizing a Share Our Wealth Society. Therefore we are answering you immediately by sending the general circular on how to proceed to organize a society, which circular describes our program in general detail. It is important that when you have organized such society for one community, or part of one community, that some committee or person should be named to get around into all nearby sections to get them to organize societies there.

As soon as you have organized your society and notified us about it, we will send you such copies of other bulletins and speeches as you may need and also books and manuals so that you can proceed on all fronts.

But the immediate necessity is to hurry to get our people busy in the work. If you knew how much that the fact these societies are organizing everywhere is causing the politicians to yield here and there already, you would appreciate how absolutely necessary to our purpose it is that we get the people into a society so that they may meet and become informed, thereafter to proceed along intelligent and unified lines.

Please hurry with the work to get your society organized. Write me as soon as you have completed organization. Be sure to send in the coupon off of the circular with the names of your officers.

Yours sincerely,

*Handwritten signature*

U. S. Senator

MAR 26 1935

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 DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
 MAR 25 1935  
 TOLSON  
 BACKUS  
 TAMM  
 FILE

HPL/EJC

*Handwritten notes:*  
 HPL  
 EJC  
 MAR 27 1935

March 21, 1935.

Literature concerning the  
program of Senator Long.

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31

eat the food, they cannot wear the clothes, so they destroy it. They have it rotted; they plow it up; they pour it in the rivers; they bring destruction through the acts of mankind to let humanity suffer; to let humanity go naked; to let humanity go homeless, so that nothing may occur that will do harm to their vanity and to their greed. Like the dog in the manger, they command a wagon load of hay, which the dog would not allow the cow to eat, though he could not eat it himself.

So now, ladies and gentlemen, we come to that plan of mine for which I have been so roundly denounced and condemned by such men as Mr. Farley, Mr. Robinson and General Hugh S. Johnson, and other spellers and speakers and spoilers of the Roosevelt administration. It is for the redistribution of wealth and for guaranteeing comforts and conveniences to all humanity out of this abundance in our country. I hope none will be horror stricken when they hear me say that we must limit the size of the big man's fortune in order to guarantee a minimum of fortune, life and comfort to the little man; but, if you are, think first that such is the declaration on which Roosevelt rode into the nomination and election of President. While my urgings are declared by some to be the ravings of a mad man, and by such men as General Johnson as insincere bait of a pious piper, if you will listen to me you will find that it is restating the laws handed down by God to man; you will find that it was the exact provision of the contract and law of the Pilgrim Fathers who landed at Plymouth in 1620.

Here's what the Pilgrim Fathers said in the contract with the early settlers in the year 1620. I read you article five from that contract:

"5. That at ye end of ye 7. years, ye capital & profits, viz. the houses, lands, goods and chatties, be equally divided betwixt ye adventurers, and planters; wch done, every man shall be free from other of them of any debt or detriments concerning this adventure."

So the Pilgrim Fathers wrote into the covenant to do just exactly what the Bible said to do, that they should have an equal division of the wealth every seven years. I don't go that far; I merely advocate that no man be allowed to become so big that he makes paupers out of a million other people.

You will find that it is the cornerstone on which nearly every religion since the beginning of man has been founded. You will find that it was urged by Bacon, Milton and Shakespeare in England, by Socrates, Plato, Theognis and other wisest of men in Greece, by Pope Pius XI in the Vatican, by the world's greatest inventor, Marconi, in Italy, by Daniel Webster, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Jackson, William Jennings Bryan and Theodore Roosevelt in the United States, as well as by nearly all of the thousands of great men whose names are yet mentioned in history.

The principle was not only the main spring of Roosevelt's nomination and election, but in the closing speech of Herbert Hoover at Madison Square Garden in November, 1932, even Hoover said:

"My conception of America is a land where men and women may walk in ordered liberty, where they may enjoy the advantages of wealth, not concentrated in the hands of a few but diffused through the lives of all."

And so now I come to give you again that plan, taken from these leaders of all times and from the Bible, for the sponsoring of which I am labeled America's menace, mad man, pious piper and demagogue.

I propose: First, That every big fortune will be cut down immediately by a capital levy tax to where no one will own more than a few million dollars, as a matter of fact, to where no one can very long own a fortune in excess of about three to four millions of dollars. I propose that the surplus of all the big fortunes, above the few millions to any one person at the most, shall go into the United States ownership. How would we get all these surplus fortunes into the United States Treasury? Not hard to do. We would not do it by making everyone sell what he owned, no. We would send everyone a questionnaire. On that he would list the properties he owns, lands and houses, stocks and bonds, factories and patents, etc. Every man would place his appraisal on his property, which the government would review and maybe change on some items. On that appraisal the big fortune holder would say out of what property he would retain the few millions allowed to him, the balance to go to the United States. Say Mr. Henry Ford should show that he owned all the stock of the Ford Motor Company worth say two billion dollars; he could claim say \$4,000,000 of the Ford stock, but one billion nine hundred and ninety-six million dollars would go to the United States. Say the Rockefeller fortune was listed at ten billion dollars in oil stocks, bank stocks, money and stores. Each Rockefeller could say whether he wanted his limit in either the money, oil or bank stock, but about nine billion and eight hundred million would go to the

government. And so, in this way, the government of the United States would come into the possession of 2/5 of its wealth, which on normal values, would be say \$165,000,000,000.

Then we would turn to the inventories of the 25,000 families of America. All those who showed property and money clear of debts that were above \$5,000 and to the limit of a few millions would not be touched. Those showing less than \$5,000 to the family free of debt would be added to, so that every family would start again with homestead possessions of at least a home, the comforts needed for a home, including such things as a radio and an automobile. These things would go to every family as a homestead, not to be sold either for debt taxes or even by consent of the owner except by the consent of the court or government, and then, only on condition that the court hold it to be spent for the purpose of buying another home and comforts thereof.

Such would mean that the \$165,000,000,000 or more taken from big fortunes would have about \$100,000,000,000 of it used to provide all with the comforts of home living. The government might have to issue warrants claim and location, or even currency to be retired from such property as was claimed, but all that is a detail impractical to get these homes into the hands of the people.

So America would start again with millionaires, no multi-millionaires or billionaires; with some poor, none too poor to be denied the comforts of life. America however would still have maybe a \$65,000,000,000 balance from these big fortunes not yet used to set up the people. What would we do with that? Wait a moment I am coming to that, too.

Second. We propose that after homes and comforts have been set up for the families of the country that we will turn our attention to the children and the youth of the land, providing first for their education and training. We would not have to worry about the problem of child labor, because the very first thing which we would place in front of every child would be not only a comfortable home during his early years, but the opportunity for education and training, not only through the grammar school and the high school, but through college and to include vocational and professional training for every child. If necessary, that would include the living cost of the child while he attended college, if one should be too distant for him to live at home and conveniently attend, as would be the case with many of those living in the rural areas.

We now have an educational system, and in states like Louisiana—and it is the best one—where school books are furnished free to every child and where transportation by bus is given to every student, however far he may live from a grammar or high school, there is a fairly good assurance of education through grammar and high school for the child whose father and mother have enough at home to feed and clothe them. But when it comes to a matter of college education, except in few cases the right to a college education is determined at this day and time by the financial ability of the father and mother to pay for the cost and the expense of a college education. It don't make any difference how brilliant a boy or girl may be, that don't give them the right to a college education in America today.

Now General Hugh Johnson says I am indeed a very smart demagogue, a wise and dangerous menace. But I am one of those who didn't have the opportunity to secure a college education or training. We propose that the right to education and the extent of education will be determined and gauged not so much by the financial ability of the parents, but by the mental ability and energy of a child to absorb the learning at a college. This should appeal to General Johnson, who says I am a smart man, since, had I enjoyed the learning and college training which my plan would provide for others, I might not have fallen into the path of the dangerous menace and demagogue that he has now found me to be.

Remember, we have 65 billion dollars to account for that would lie in the hands of the United States, even after providing home comforts for all families. We will use a large part of it immediately to expand particularly the colleges and universities of this country. You would not know the great institutions like Yale, Harvard and Louisiana State University. Get ready for a surprise. College enrollments would multiply 1000%. We would immediately call in the architects and engineers, the idle professors and scholars of learning. We would send out a hurry call because the problem of providing college education for all of the youth would start a fusillade of employment which might suddenly and immediately make it impossible for us to shorten the hours of labor, even as we contemplate in the balance of our program.

And how happy the youth of this land would be tomorrow morning if they knew instantly their right to a home and the comforts of a home and to complete college and professional training and education were assured! I know

And now it is with P. W. A.'s, C. W. A.'s, N. R. A.'s, A. A.'s, J. U. G.'s, G. I. N.'s and every other dimsy combination that the country finds its affairs and business led to where no one can recognize it. More men are out of work than ever, the debt of the United States has gone up another ten billion dollars. There is starvation; there is homelessness; there is misery on every hand at the corner, but mind you, in the meantime, Mr. Roosevelt has had his way. He is one man that can't blame any of his troubles on Huey Long. He has had his way. Down any part of the country, if any man has the measles he blames that on me; but there is one man that can't blame anything on anybody but himself, and that is Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

And now, on top of that, they order war on me because early four years ago I told Hoover's crowd it wouldn't and because three years ago I told Roosevelt and his crowd it wouldn't do. In other words, they are in a rage at Huey Long because I have said, "I told you so."

I am not overstating the conditions now prevailing in this country. In their own words they have confessed all now say or ever have said. Mr. Roosevelt, and even Mrs. Roosevelt, have bewailed the fact that food, clothes and shelter have not been provided for the people. Even General Hugh S. Johnson said in his speech of Monday night that there are 80,000,000 people in America who are badly hurt or wrecked by this depression. Mr. Harry Hopkins, who runs the relief work, says the dole roll has risen now to 22,376,000 persons, the highest it has ever been. And now, what is there for the Roosevelt crowd to do but to admit the facts and admit further that they are now on their third year, making matters worse instead of better all the time. No one is to blame, except them, for what is going on because they have had their way. And if they couldn't change the thing in over two years, how bogged down worse than ever, how could anyone expect any good of them hereafter? God save us two more years of the disaster we have had under that gang.

Now, my friends, when this condition of distress and suffering among many millions of our people began to develop in the Hoover administration, we knew then what the trouble was and what we would have to do to correct it. I was the first man to say publicly—but Mr. Roosevelt followed in my tracks a few months later and said the same thing. We said that all of our trouble and woe was due to the fact that too few of our people owned too much of our wealth. We said that in our land with too much to eat, and too much to wear, and too many houses to live in, too many automobiles to be sold, that the only trouble was that the people suffered in the land of abundance because too few controlled the money and the wealth, and too many did not have money with which to buy the things they needed for life and comfort.

So I said to the people of the United States in my speeches which I delivered in the United States Senate in the early part of 1932, that the only way by which we could restore our people to reasonable life and comfort, was to limit the size of the big man's fortune and guarantee some minimum to the fortune and comfort of the little man's family.

I said then, as I have said since, that it was inhuman to have food rotting, cotton and wool going to waste, houses empty, and at the same time to have millions of our people starving, naked and homeless, because they could not buy the things which other men had and for which they had no use whatever. So we convinced Mr. Franklin Delano Roosevelt that it was necessary that he announce and promise to the American people that in the event he were elected President of the United States, he would pull down the size of the big man's fortune and guarantee something to every family—enough to do away with all poverty and to give employment to those who were able to work, and education to the children born into the world.

Mr. Roosevelt made those promises; he made them before he was nominated in the Chicago convention. He made them again before he was elected in November, and he went so far as to remake those promises after he was inaugurated President of the United States. And I thought for a day or two after he took the oath as President, that maybe he was going through with his promises. No heart was ever so saddened; no person's ambition was ever so blighted, as was mine when I came to the realization that the President of the United States was not going to undertake what he had said he would do, and what I knew to be necessary if the people of America were ever saved from calamity and misery.

So now, my friends, I come to that point where I must in a few sentences, describe to you just what was the cause of our trouble which became so serious in 1929, and which has been worse ever since. The wealth in the United States was three times as much in 1910 as it was in 1890, and yet the masses of our people owned less in 1910 than

they did in 1890. In the year 1916 the condition had become so bad that a committee provided for by the Congress of the United States reported that 2% of the people in the United States owned 60% of the wealth in the country, and that 65% of the people owned less than 5% of the wealth. This report showed, however, that there was a middle class—some 33% of the people—who owned 35% of the wealth. This report went on to say that the trouble with the American people at that time was that too much of the wealth was in the hands of too few of the people, and recommended that something be done to correct the evil condition then-existing.

It was at about the same time that many of our publications began to deplore the fact that so few people owned so much and that so many people owned so little. Among those commenting upon that situation was the Saturday Evening Post, which in an issue of September 23, 1916, said:

"Along one statistical line you can figure out a nation bustling with wealth; along another a bloated plutocracy comprising 1% of the population lording it over a starving horde with only a thin margin of merely well to do in between."

And it was, as the Saturday Evening Post and the Committee appointed by Congress said, it was a deplorable thing back in 1916 when it was found that 2% of the people owned twice as much as all of the balance of the people put together, and that 65% of all of our people owned practically nothing.

But what did we do to correct that condition? Instead of moving to take these big fortunes from the top and spreading them among the suffering people at the bottom, the financial masters of America moved in to take complete charge of the government for fear our lawmakers might do something along that line.

And as a result, 14 years after the report of 1916, the Federal Trade Commission made a study to see how the wealth of this land was distributed, and did they find it still as bad as it was in 1916? They found it worse! They found that 1% of the people owned about 59% of the wealth, which was almost twice as bad as what was said to be an intolerable condition in 1916, when 2% of the people owned 60% of the wealth. And as a result of foreclosures, failures and bankruptcies, which began to happen prior to and in the year of 1929, before the campaign of 1932, and at this late date, it is the estimate of all conservative statisticians that 75% of the people in the United States don't own anything, that is, not enough to pay their debts, and that 4% of the people, or maybe less than 4% of the people, own from 85% to 90% of all our wealth in the United States.

Remember, in 1916 there was a middle class—33% of the people—who owned 35% of the wealth. That middle class is practically gone today. It no longer exists. They have dropped into the ranks of the poor. The thriving man of independent business standing is fast fading. The corner grocery store is becoming a thing of the past. Concentrated chain merchandise and banking systems have laid waste to all middle opportunity. That "thin margin of merely well to do in between" which the Saturday Evening Post mentioned on September 23, 1916, has dwindled to practically no margin of well-to-do in between. Those suffering on the bottom and the few lords of finance on the top are nearly all that are left.

It became apparent that the billionaires and multi-millionaires even began to squeeze out the common millionaires, closing in and taking their properties and wrecking their businesses. And so we arrived (and are still there) at the place that in abundant America, where we have everything for which a human heart can pray, the hundreds of million—or, as General Johnson says, the 80,000,000—of our people are crying in misery for the want of the things which they need for life, notwithstanding the fact that the country has had and can have more than the entire human race can consume.

The 125,000,000 people of America have seated themselves at the barbecue table to consume the products which have been guaranteed to them by their Lord and Creator. There is provided by the Almighty what it takes for them all to eat; yea, more. There is provided more than what is needed for all to eat. But the financial masters of America have taken off of the barbecue table 90% of the food placed thereon by God, through the labors of mankind, even before the feast begins, and there is left on that table to be eaten by 125,000,000 people, less than should be there for ten million of them.

What has become of the balance of those things placed on the table by the Lord for the use of us all? They are in the hands of the Morgans, the Rockefellers, the Mellons, the Baruches, the Bakers, the Astors and the Vanderbilts—500 families at the most, either possessing or controlling the entire 90% of all that is in America. They cannot

happy they would be, because I know how I would feel had such a message been delivered to my door. I cannot deliver that promise to the youth of this land, but I am doing my part. I am standing the blows; I am hearing the charges hurled at me from the four corners of the country. It is the same fight which was fought against me in Louisiana when I was undertaking to provide the free school books, free buses, university facilities, and things of that kind to educate the youth of that State as best I could. It is the same battle which I heard of when I was undertaking to provide for the sick and the aged. When the youth of this land realizes what is at stake and what is contemplated, the billingsgate and the clamor of all of the Farleys and Johnsons in America will prevent the light of truth from hurling itself in understandable letters against the dark canopy of the sky. Now when we have landed at the place where homes and comforts are provided for all families and complete education and training for all young men and women, the problem is what about our income to sustain our people thereafter. How shall that be arranged to guarantee all the fair share of what soul and body needs to sustain it conveniently. That brings us to our next point.

We propose, first, to shorten the hours of labor by law so that as many as may be necessary that none will be worked too long and none unemployed. We will cut the hours of toil to 30 hours per week, maybe less; we may cut the working year to 11 months' work and 1 month's vacation, maybe more. If our great improvement programs show we need more labor than we may have, we will lengthen the hours of convenience requires. At all events, the hours for production will be gauged to meet the market for consumption. We will need all our machinery for many years because we have much public improvement to do, and further, the more use that we may make of them, the less will be required for all of us to survive in splendor. Now a minimum earning would be established for any person with a family to support. It would be such a living which one, already owning a home, could maintain a family in comfort, of not less than \$2500 per year to every family.

And now by reason of false statements made, particularly by Mr. Arthur Brisbane and General Hugh S. Johnson, I must make answer to show you that there is more than enough in this country and more than enough raised and made every year to do what I propose.

Mr. Brisbane says I am proposing to give every person \$5,000 for a home and its comforts, and he says that would mean the United States would have to be worth over trillion dollars. Why make that untrue statement, Mr. Brisbane? You know that is not so. I do not propose any home and comfort of \$15,000 to each person: It is a minimum of \$5,000 to every family, which would be less than \$125,000,000,000, which is less than one third of this nation's wealth in normal times of \$400,000,000,000.

General Johnson says that my proposal is for \$5,000 guaranteed earning to each family, which he says would cost from four to five hundred millions of dollars per year which he says is four times more than our whole national income ever has been. Why make such untrue statements, General Johnson? Must you be a false witness to argue your point? I do not propose \$5,000 income per year to each family. I propose a minimum of from \$2,000 to \$2,500 income per year to each family. For 25,000,000 families that minimum income per family would require from \$50,000,000,000 to \$60,000,000,000. In the prosperous days we have had nearly double that for income some years already, which allowed plenty for the affluent; but with the unheard prosperity we would have if all our people could buy what they need, our national income could be double what it has ever been.

The Wall Street writer and statistician says we could have an income of at least \$10,000 to every family in goods if all worked short hours and none were idle. According to him, only 1/4 the average income would carry out my plan.

And now I come to the balance of the plan. We propose:

No. 4: That agricultural production will be cared for in the manner specified in the Bible. We would plow under our crops; we would burn no corn; we would spill no milk into the river; we would shoot no hogs; would slaughter our cattle to be rotted. What we would do is this:

We would raise all the cotton that we could raise, all the corn that we could raise, and everything else that we could raise. Let us say, for example, that we raised more cotton than we could use. But here again I wish to surprise you when I say that if everyone could buy all the wheels, all the sheets, all the bedding, all the clothing, all the carpets, all the window curtains, and all of everything else they reasonably need, America would consume twenty million bales of cotton per year without having to sell a bale to the foreign countries. The same would be true of the wheat crop, and of the corn crop, and of the meat crop.

Whenever everyone could buy the things they desire to eat, there would be no great excess in any of those food supplies.

But for the sake of the argument, let us say, however, that there would be a surplus. And I hope there will be, because it will do the country good to have a big surplus. Let us take cotton as an example. Let us say that the United States will have a market for ten million bales of cotton and that we raise fifteen million bales of cotton. We will store five million bales in warehouses provided by the government. If the next year we raise fifteen million bales of cotton and only need ten, we will store another five million bales of cotton, and the government will care for that. When we reach the year when we have enough cotton to last for twelve or eighteen months, we will plant no more cotton for that next year. The people will have their certificates of the government which they can cash in for that year for the surplus, or if necessary, the government can pay for the whole fifteen million bales of cotton as it is produced every year; and when the year comes that we will raise no cotton we will not leave the people idle and with nothing to do. That is the year when, in the cotton states, we will do our public improvement work that needs to be done so badly. We will care for the flood control problems, we will expand the electricity lines into rural areas; we will widen roads and build more roads, and if we have a little time left, some of us can go back and attend a school for a few months, and not only learn some of the things we have forgotten, but we can learn some things that they have found out about that they didn't know anything about when we were children.

Now the example of what we would do about cotton is the same policy we would follow about all other crops. This program would necessitate the building of large storage plants, both heated and cold storage, and warehouses in all the counties of America, and that building program alone would take up all the idle people that America has today. But the money spent would go for good, and would prevent any trouble happening in the future. And then there is another good thing. If we would fill these warehouses, then if there were to come a year of famine there would be enough on hand to feed and clothe the people of the nation. It would be the part of good sense to keep a year or two of stock on hand all the time to provide for an emergency, maybe to provide for war or other calamity.

I give you the next step in our program:

No. 5: We will provide for old age pensions for those who reach the age of 60 and pay it to all those who have an income of less than \$1,000 per year or less than \$10,000 in property or money. This would relieve from the ranks of labor those persons who press down the price for the use of their flesh and blood. Now the person who reaches the age of 60 would already have the comforts of home as well as something else guaranteed by reason of the redistribution that had been made of things. They would be given enough more to give them a reasonably comfortable existence in their declining days. However, such would not come from a sales tax or taxes placed upon the common run of people. It would be supported from the taxes levied on those with big incomes and the yearly tax that would be levied on big fortunes, so that they would always be kept down to a few million dollars to any one person.

No. 6: We propose that the obligations which this country owes to the veterans of its wars, including the soldiers' bonus and to care for those who have been either incapacitated or disabled, would be discharged without stint or unreasonable limit. I have always supported each and every bill that has had to do with the payment of the bonus due to the ex-service men. I have always opposed reducing the allowances which they have been granted. It is an unfair thing for a country to begin its economy wide by taking away from those who have borne the burden of national defense.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, such is the Share Our Wealth Movement. What I have here stated to you will be found to be approved by the law of our Divine Maker. You will find it in the Book of Leviticus, from the 25th to the 27th chapters. You will find it in the writings of King Solomon. You will find it in the teachings of Christ. You will find it in the words of our great teachers and statesmen of all countries and of all times. If you care to write to me for such proof, I shall be glad to furnish it to you free of expense by mail.

Will you not organize a Share Our Wealth Society in your community tonight or tomorrow to place this plan into law? You need it; your people need it. Write me, wire to me; get into this work with us if you believe we are right. Help to save humanity. Help to save this country. If you wish a copy of this speech or a copy of any other speech I have made, write me and it will be forwarded to you. You can reach me always in Washington, D. C. I thank you.



# Our Blundering Government

(AND ITS SPOKESMEN)

Speech Delivered

U. S. SENATOR HUEY P. LONG

Over the network of radio stations of the National Broadcasting Co. from Washington, D. C.

Thursday, March 7, 1935

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It has been publicly announced that the White House orders of the Roosevelt administration have declared war on Huey Long. The late and lamented, the pampered ex-Crown Prince, General Hugh S. Johnson, one of those satellites loaned by Wall Street to run the government, and who, at the end of his control over and dismissal from the N. R. A., pronounced it "as dead as a dodo," this Mr. Johnson was apparently selected to make the lead-off speech in this White House charge begun last Monday night. The Johnson speech was followed by more fuss and fury on behalf of the administration by spell binders in and out of Congress.

In a far away island, when a queen dies her first favorite is done the honor to be buried alive with her. The funeral procession of the N. R. A. (another one of these New Deal schisms or isms) is about ready to occur. It is said that General Johnson's speech of Monday night to attack me was delivered on the eve of announcing the publication of his obituary in the Red Book Magazine. Seems then that soon this erstwhile prince of the deranged alphabet makes ready to appear at the funeral of N. R. A. like the colored lady in Mississippi who there asserted: "I is de wife of dese remains."

I shall undertake to cover my main subject and make answer to these gentlemen in the course of this speech tonight.

It will serve no purpose to our distressed people for me to call my opponents more bitter names than they call me. Even were I able, I have not the time to present my side of the argument and match them in billingsgate or profanity.

What is this trouble with this administration of Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Farley, Mr. Astor, and all their spoilers and spell binders? They think that Huey Long is the cause of all their worry. They go gunning for me. But, am I the cause of their misery? They are like old Davy Crockett, who went out to hunt a possum. He saw in the gleam of the moonlight that a possum in the top of a tree was going from limb to limb. He shot and missed. He saw the possum again. He fired a second time and missed again. Soon he discovered that it was not a possum he saw at all in the top of that tree. It was a louse in his own eyebrow.

I do not make this illustration to do discredit to any of these gentlemen. I make it to show how often we imagine we see great trouble being done to us by some one at a distance, when, in reality, all of it may be a fault in our own makeup.

The trouble with the Roosevelt administration is that when their schemes and isms have failed, these things I told them not to do and voted not to do, that they think it will help them to light out on those of us who warned them in the beginning that the tangled messes and noble experiments would not work. The Roosevelt administration has had its way for two years. They have been allowed to set up or knock down anything and everybody. There was one difference between Hoover and Roosevelt. Hoover could not get the Congress to carry out the schemes he wanted to try. We managed to lick him on a roll call in the United States Senate time after time. But, different with Mr. Roosevelt. He got his plans through Congress. But on cold analysis they were found to be the same things Hoover tried to pass and failed.

The kitchen cabinet that sat in to advise Hoover was not different from the kitchen cabinet which advised Roosevelt. Many of the persons are the same. Many of those in Roosevelt's kitchen cabinet are of the same men or set of men who furnished employees to sit in the kitchen cabinet to advise Hoover.

Maybe you see a little change in the man waiting on the tables; but back in the kitchen the same set of cooks are fixing up the victuals for us that cooked up the mess under Hoover.

Why do you think this Roosevelt's plan for plow up cotton, corn and wheat; and for pouring milk in river, and for destroying and burying hogs and cattle the millions, all while people starve and go naked—do think those plans were the original ideas of this Roosevelt administration? If you do, you are wrong. The whole idea of that kind of thing first came from Hoover administration. Don't you remember when Mr. Hoover proposed to plow up every fourth row of cotton? laughed him into scorn. President Roosevelt stayed in from proposing such a thing in the speech which he made from the steps of the capitol in Topeka, Kansas.

And so we beat Mr. Hoover on his plan. But when Mr. Roosevelt started on his plan it was not to plow every fourth row of cotton like Hoover tried to do. Roosevelt's plan was to plow up every third row of cotton, one-twelfth more cotton to be plowed up than Hoover proposed. Roosevelt succeeded in his plan.

So it has been that while millions have starved and gone naked; so it has been that while babies have died for milk; so it has been that while people have begged for meat and bread, Mr. Roosevelt's administration has sailed merrily along, plowing under and destroying the things to eat and to wear, with tear dimmed eyes a hungry souls made to chant for this New Deal so that even their starvation dole is not taken away, and men while the food and clothes craved by their bodies and so go for destruction and ruin. What is it? Is it government? Maybe so. It looks more like St. Vitus dance.

Now, since they sallied forth with General Johnson to start the war on me, let us take a look at this N. R. A. that they opened up around here two years ago. They had parades and fascist signs just like Hitler and Mussolini. They started the dictatorship here to regiment business and labor much more than anyone did in Germany or Italy. The only difference was in the sign. Italy's sign of the fascist was a black shirt. Germany's sign of the fascist was a swastika. So in America they sidetrack the Stars and Stripes, and the sign of the Blue Eagle was used instead.

And they proceeded with the N. R. A. Everything from a peanut stand to a power house had to have separate book of rules and laws to regulate what they did. If a peanut stand started to parch a sack of goobers for sale they had to be careful to go through the rule book. One slip and he went to jail. A little fellow who pressed a pair of pants went to jail because he charged five cent under the price set in the rule book. So they wrote their N. R. A. rule books, codes, laws, etc. They got up over 900 of them. One would be as thick as an unabridged dictionary and as confusing as a study of the stars. It would take forty lawyers to tell a shoe shine stand how to operate and be certain he didn't go to jail.

Some people came to me for advice, as a lawyer, on how to run a business. I took several days and then couldn't understand it myself. The only thing I could tell them was that it couldn't be much worse in jail than it was out of jail, with that kind of thing going on in the country and so to go on and do the best they could.

The whole thing of Mr. Roosevelt as run under General Johnson became such a national scandal that Roosevelt had to let Johnson slide out as the scape goat. Let them call for an N. R. A. parade tomorrow and you couldn't get enough people to form a funeral march.

It was under this N. R. A., and the other funny alphabetical combinations which followed it, that we ran the whole country into a mare's nest. The Farleys and Johnsons combed the land with agents, inspectors, supervisors, detectives, secretaries, assistants, etc., all armed with the power to arrest and send to jail whomever they found not living up to some rule in one of these 900 catalogues. One man whose case reached the Supreme Court of the United States was turned loose because they couldn't even find the rule he was supposed to have violated in a search throughout the United States.



# PEOPLE OF AMERICA:—

In \_\_\_\_\_ get together at once and organize a:

## SHARE OUR WEALTH SOCIETY

MOTTO:

### EVERY MAN A KING

#### PRINCIPLES AND PLATFORM:

1. To limit poverty by providing that every deserving family shall share in the wealth of America for not less than one-third of the average wealth, thereby to possess not less than \$5,000, free of debt.
2. To limit fortunes to such a few million dollars as will allow the balance of the American people to share in the wealth and profits of the land.
3. Old Age Pensions of \$30. per month to persons over 60 years of age who do not earn as much as \$1,000. per year or who possess less than \$10,000. in cash or property, thereby to remove from the field of labor, in times of unemployment, those who have contributed their share to the public service.
4. To limit the hours of work to such an extent as to prevent over-production and to give the workers of America some share in the recreations, conveniences and luxuries of life.
5. To balance agricultural production with what can be sold and consumed according to the laws of God, which have never failed.
6. To care for the Veterans of our wars.
7. Taxation to run the government to be supported, first, by reducing big fortunes from the top, thereby to improve the country and provide employment in public works whenever agricultural surplus is such as to render unnecessary, in whole or in part, any particular crop.

#### SIMPLE AND CONCRETE—NOT AN EXPERIMENT

To share our wealth by providing for every deserving family to have one-third of the average wealth would mean that, at the worst, such a family could have a fairly comfortable home, an automobile and a radio, with other reasonable home conveniences, and a place to educate their children. Through sharing the work, that is, by limiting the hours of toil, so that all would share in what is made and produced in the land, every family would have enough coming in every year to feed, clothe and provide a fair share of the luxuries of life to its members. Such is the result to a family, at the worst.

From the worst to the best there would be no limit to opportunity. One might become a millionaire or more. There would be a chance for talent to make a man big because enough would be floating in the land to give brains its chance to be used. As it is, no matter how smart a man may be, everything is tied up in so few hands that no amount of energy or talent has a chance to gain any of it.

Would it break up big concerns? No. It would simply mean that, instead of one man getting all the one concern made, that there might be 1,000 or 10,000 persons sharing in such excess fortune, any one of whom, or all of whom, might be millionaires and over.

I ask somebody in every city, town, village and farm community of America to take this as my personal request to call a meeting of as many neighbors and friends as will come to it, to start a Share Our Wealth Society. Elect a President and a Secretary and charge no dues. The meeting can be held at a Court House, in some Town Hall or public building, or in the home of someone.

It does not matter how many will come to the first meeting. Get a Society organized, if it has only 2 members. Then let us get to work quick—quick—quick to put an end by law to people starving and going naked in this land of too much to eat and too much to wear. The case is all with us. It is the word and work of the Lord. The Gideons had but two men when they organized. Three Tailors of Tooley Street drew the Magna Charta of England. The Lord says:

*"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them."*

We propose to help our people into the place where the Lord said was their rightful own and no more.

We have waited long enough for these financial masters to do these things. They have promised and promised. Now we find our country Ten Billion Dollars further in debt on account of the depression and big leaders even propose to get 90% of that out of the hides of the common people in the form of a sales tax.

There is nothing wrong with the United States. We have more food than we can eat. We have more clothes and things out of which

to get a home for those who have already lost their own.

To explain the title, motto and principles of such a society, I give the full information, viz:—

**TITLE:** "Share Our Wealth Society" is simply to mean that God's creatures on this lovely American continent have a right to share in the wealth they have created in this country. They have the right to a living, with the conveniences and some of the luxuries of this life so long as there are too many or enough for all. They have a right to raise their children in a healthy, wholesome atmosphere and to educate them, rather than to face the dread of their undernourishment and sadness by being denied a real life.

**MOTTO:** "Every Man a King" conveys the great plan of God and of the Declaration of Independence which said: "All men are created equal." It conveys that no one man is the Lord of another, but that from the head to the foot of every man is carried his sovereignty.

Now, to cover the principles of the Share Our Wealth Society, I give them in order:

#### 1. To Limit Poverty.

We propose that a deserving family shall share in our wealth of America at least for one-third the average. An average family is slightly less than 5 persons. The number has become less during depression. The United States total wealth in normal times is about Four Hundred Billion Dollars, or about \$15,000. to the family. If there were a fair distribution of our things in America, our national wealth would be three or four or five times the Four Hundred Billions, because a free, circulating wealth is worth many times more than wealth congested and frozen into a few hands as is America's wealth. But, figuring only on the basis of wealth as valued when frozen into a few hands, there is the average of \$15,000. to the family. We say that we will limit poverty of the deserving people. One-third of the average wealth to the family, or \$5,000. is a fair limit to the depths we will allow any one man's family to fall. None too poor, none too rich.

#### 2. To Limit Fortunes.

The wealth of this land is tied up in a few hands. It makes no difference how many years the laborer has worked, nor does it make any difference how many dreary rows the farmer has plowed, the wealth he has created is in the hands of manipulators. They have not worked any more than many other people who have nothing. Now we do not propose to hurt these very rich persons. We simply say that when they reach the place of millionaires, they have everything they can use and they ought to let somebody else have something. As it is, 1/10th of 1 per cent of the bank depositors own nearly half of the money in the banks, leaving 99 9/10 of bank depositors owning the balance. Then 2/3 of the people do not even have a bank account. The lowest estimate is that 4% of the people own 85% of our wealth. The people cannot ever come to light unless we share our wealth, hence the Society to do it.

#### 3. Old Age Pensions:

Everyone has begun to realize something must be done for our old people who work out their lives, feed and clothe children and are left penniless in their declining years. They should be made to look forward to their mature years for comfort rather than fear. We propose that, at the age of 60, every person should begin to draw a pension from our government of \$30. per month, unless the person of 60 or over has an income of over \$1,000. per year or is worth \$10,000, which is 2/3 of the average wealth in America, even figured on a basis of it being frozen into a few hands. Such a pension would retire from labor those persons who keep the rising generations from finding employment.

#### 4. To Limit the Hours of Work:

This applies to all industry. The longer hours the human family can rest from work, the more it can consume. It makes no difference how many labor-saving devices we may invent, just as long as we keep cutting down the hours and sharing what those machines produce, the better we become. Machines can never produce too much if everybody is allowed his share, and if it ever got to the point that the human family could work only 15 hours per

week and still produce enough for everybody, then praised be the name of the Lord. Heaven would be coming nearer to earth. All of us could return to school a few months every year to learn some things they have found out since we were there; all could be gentlemen; "Every Man a King."

#### 5. To Balance Agricultural Production with Consumption:

About the easiest of all things to do when financial masters and market manipulators step aside and let work the Law of the Lord. When we have a supply of anything that is more than we can use for a year or two, just stop planting that particular crop for a year either in all the country or in a part of it. Let the government take over and store the surplus for the next year. If there is not something else for the farmers to plant or some other work for them to do to live on for the year when the crop is banned, then let that be the year for the public works to be done in the section where the farmers need work. There is plenty of it to do and taxes off of the big fortunes at the top will supply plenty of money without hurting anybody. In time we would have the people not struggling to raise so much when all were well fed and clothed. Distribution of wealth almost solves the whole problem without further trouble.

#### 6. To Care for the Veterans of Our Wars:

A restoration of all rights taken from them by recent laws and further, a complete care of any disabled veteran for any ailment, who has no means of support.

#### 7. Taxation:

Taxation is to be levied first at the top for the government's support and expenses. Swollen fortunes should be reduced principally through taxation. The government should be run through revenues it derives after allowing persons to become well above millionaires and no more. In this manner, the fortunes will be kept down to reasonable size and at the same time all the works of the government kept on a sound basis, without debts.

Things cannot continue as they now are. America must take one of three choices, viz:—

1. A monarchy ruled by financial masters—a modern feudalism.
2. Communism.
3. Sharing of the wealth and income of the land among all the people, by limiting the hours of toil and limiting the size of fortunes.

The Lord prescribed the last form. It would preserve all our gains, share them among our population, guarantee a greater country and a happy people.

The need for such Share Our Wealth Society is to spread the truth among the people and to convey their sentiment to their members of Congress.

Whenever such a local Society has been organized, please send me notice of the same so that I may send statistics and data which such local Society can give out in their community, either through word of mouth in meetings, by circulars or, when possible, in local newspapers.

Please understand that the Wall Street controlled public press will give you as little mention as possible and will condemn and ridicule your efforts. Such makes necessary the organizations to Share the Wealth of this land among the people, which the financial masters are determined they will not allow to be done. Where possible, I hope those organizing a society in a community, will get in touch with their friends in other communities and get them to organize societies in them. Anyone can have copies of this article reprinted in circular form to distribute wherever they may desire, or, if they want me to have them printed for them, I can do so and mail them to any address for 6c per hundred or \$6. per thousand copies.

I introduced in Congress and supported other measures to bring about the sharing of our wealth when I first reached the United States Senate in January, 1932. The main efforts to that effect polled about 6 votes in the Senate at first. Last spring my plan polled the votes of early 20 U. S. Senators, becoming dangerous proportions to the financial lords. Since then I have been abused in the newspapers and over the radio for everything under the sun. Now that I am pressing this program the lies and abuse in the big newspapers and over the radio are a matter of daily occurrence. It will take a matter of time with this effort. Expect

To: HUEY P. LONG.

# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR SHARE OUR WEALTH SOCIETY

## Government Assumes the Cost and Burden to Guarantee College, Professional, and Vocational Education to All Students

Under the present policy of government the young man and young woman whose parents are possessed of means can be given a college education or vocational and professional training. There are some exceptions to this rule; that is to say, that in some few cases students can find work by which to pay their expenses through college. As a general rule, however, only those with parents possessing extraordinary means can attend college.

"All men are created equal," says the Declaration of Independence, and to all those born the constitution of our Nation guarantees "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

These provisions of our immortal national documents are not observed when the right to education rests upon the financial ability of one's parents rather than upon the mental capacity of a student to learn and his energy to apply himself to the proper study necessary for him to learn.

The "share our wealth" program contemplates that from the billions of excess revenue brought into the United States Treasury by limiting fortunes to a few million dollars to any one person, that such large sums will be expended by the Government as will afford college education and professional training to all students based upon their mental capacity and energy rather than upon the wealth of their parents. Such an education contemplates not only the scholarship but such supplies and living costs as a student may have in order to attend college.

This will transfer the youth of our land into making preparation for building a better and greater nation. It will take their surplus labor out of the ranks of employment and afford more room for others; it will mean an immediate expansion of our educational facilities and the bringing back into active service of hundreds of thousands of learned instructors whose intellect and capacities, now idle, may be used for the moral, spiritual, and intellectual uplift of the Nation. Architects, engineers, builders, material men, and craftsmen now idle would find extensive and continued field for employment in providing and maintaining such extended educational facilities in the Nation.

All in all, the program is one of national organization; it means no great or burdensome outlay because there is a surplus of the goods and things needed for the care of all students, and the consuming of the same will immediately aid our problems of over-production.

HUEY P. LONG,  
*United States Senator.*

(Reprinted from Congressional Record, February 7, 1935)

62-32509-64

AGB:MAN

62-32509-63

RECORDED

April 16, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
MR. STANLEY

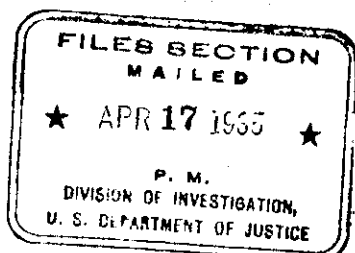
There is being transmitted herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. Ernest J. Bourgeois, President, Square Deal Association of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, dated March 8, 1935, with copies of two enclosures pertaining to that association.

Please be advised that no investigation into this matter is being made by this Bureau and that this material is being transmitted merely for your information.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure #284261



AGB:HAM

62-32509-63

RECORDED

April 16, 1935

Mr. Ernest J. Bourgeois,  
President,  
Square Deal Association of Louisiana,  
Post Office Box 1350,  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

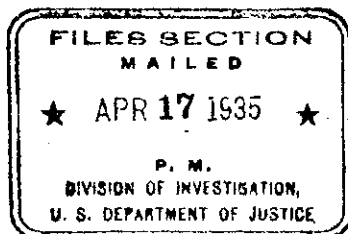
Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated March 8, 1935,  
with which you transmitted various enclosures pertaining to the  
Square Deal Association of Louisiana.

Please be advised that the contents of your communication  
have been carefully noted and that the facts contained therein do  
not appear to constitute a violation of any Federal statute within  
the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau. No action therefore  
can be taken in regard to the request for an investigation which  
you have made.

The information which you have submitted will be retained  
in the files of this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FROM: UNIT #1 & UNIT #3

1935.

TO:  Director  
 Mr. Nathan  
 Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Edwards  
 Mr. Quinn  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Unit Two

Unit Four  
 Files Section  
 Personnel Files  
 Mechanical Section  
 Chief Clerk's Office

Unit Five  
 Identification Unit  
 Statistical Section  
 Technical Laboratory

SUPERVISORS

Unit One  
 Mr. Welles  
 Mr. Lowdon  
 Mr. Bryan  
 Mr. Newby  
 Mr. Richmond  
 Mr. Thompson  
 Mr. Chambers

Unit Three  
 Mr. Joseph  
 Mr. Berens  
 Mr. Foxworth  
 Mr. Weeks

Miss Gandy  
 Mrs. Kelley  
 Miss McCarthy  
 Mr. Ward  
 M

Correct  
 Re-write  
 Re-date  
 See me  
 Send file

Note and Return

*Return yellow to me.*

E. A. Tamm - Room 5107.

# SQUARE DEAL ASSOCIATION OF LOUISIANA

411 LA. NATIONAL BANK BLDG.  
BATON ROUGE, LA.

P. O. BOX 1350  
PHONE 4506

March 8th, 1935.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Backus
Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Mr. Edgar J. Hoover - Chief  
Department of Criminal Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

My purpose in writing you is twofold -; First, to place the position and intended plans of the Square Deal Association of Louisiana simply and clearly before you; and second, to give you a bit of information that may be of interest as well as provide a lead to any investigations you might care to instigate in the event I am ever murdered.

Taking these in the order named:

1. The "action the Square Deal is engaged in at present is organization and standardization procedure required before our several detailed plans can be effectively and safely carried out. As to these plans, we have no intention - reserved or otherwise of going to war against the Louisiana National Guard, ( I happen to have had two years service with the Louisiana militia, and am at present the holder of a commission of 2nd Lt. of Infantry, ORC) of killing or assassinating anyone, or of inciting such actions by others. We do however have the full intention of bringing full pressure to bear on the state legislators who have been so bribed and corrupted as to sponsor the growth and support of a dictatorship by Senator Huey P. Long in Louisiana. This pressure is being felt now and is daily increasing in force. Our organization does not have hundreds of thousands like the fantastic Share-the-Wealth Society but our forces at present do number several thousand determined and courageous men who mean business in seeing the return of their rights and liberty as free-born American citizens. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Association also have members wherever our companies are located.

2. Our secret State Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation is manned by such type of men that it could be more appropriately named the "State Bureau of Unidentified Criminals". The shooting of Mr. George Alessi, an unarmed man at the Baton Rouge Municipal Airport on 1/26/35, was used as an attempted frame-up on me. Why were not the charges further pressed against me? Mr. George Alessi and Mr. Joe Anzalone, italians from Independence, La., can tell a lot more about this shooting and the attempt to frame me in the case. I am twenty-eight and a married man with a wife and three small children to support. We are living in a city where the police are under the domination of America's new Public Enemy Number one, Huey P. Long. Several on the force are okay but Chief King H. Strenzke, one of Huey Long's henchmen, would stop very little at underhanded work. The same thing holds true for Dr. Clarence Lorio of Baton Rouge - a henchman recently appointed a member of the Police Jury for East Baton Rouge Parish.

RECORDED & INDEXED

WE OPPOSE ALL FORMS OF GOVERNMENT WHICH DENY THE PEOPLE THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

62-32509-63

APR 29 1935 MAR 11 1935

170 SEP 10 1964

Louisiana State Bureau of Criminal Identification

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

# SQUARE DEAL ASSOCIATION OF LOUISIANA

411 LA. NATIONAL BANK BLDG.  
BATON ROUGE, LA.

P. O. Box 1350  
PHONE 4506

-2-

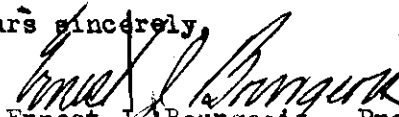
From this, if you care to believe or further investigate the truth of what I have said you can readily see that God-fearing, liberty living, upright and outspoken citizens of this city need real protection against the authorities in charge of their protection - the city police.

It is a terrible situation to be living under and bringing up a family. I fully intended leaving the state of my birth and tried to get my wife to agree to it between the time Long's persecutive tax on the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana caused me to lose my job with them on December 26th, 1934 and that eventful night of January 5th when the Square Deal Associatio was born. As it now stands, I am in it up to my neck and since I have never included the word "quit" in my vocabulary expect to be still in it, if alive, at the successful finish ! !

For the sake of my family and the cause I represent, I would like to be assured of a full and complete check-up by your department if any evil should ever befall me in this work. This is my last and final purpose in writing you.

Since I have the highest regard and appreciation for the work and integrity of the department you represent I feel the request of a reply from you is not only unnecessary but superfluous.

Yours sincerely,

  
Ernest J. Bourgeois - President  
Square Deal Association of Louisiana.

**PLEDGE CARD**

Date .....

I hereby pledge myself to give \$..... to the Square Deal Association of Louisiana, to be paid every month on or about..... This is to be credited me and used in the interest and promotion of its cause. It is understood that this pledge places me under no legal obligations and may be cancelled by me at any time.

*COPIES DESTROYED*  
**170** SEP 10 1964

Signed .....

Address .....

Phone .....

62-32509-63

43



S Q U A R E D E A L A S S O C I A T I O N  
O F L O U I S I A N A

411 La. National Bank Bldg.  
Baton Rouge, La.

P. O. Box 1350  
Phone 4506

Mr. Edgar J. Hoover - Chief  
Department of Criminal Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Friend:

"They also serve who only stand and wait" is a saying which holds true today to our several excellent companies throughout the state which formed early with the birth of the Square Deal. We know these are finding it hard to wait, and have a tendency to grow impatient but this cannot be. At State Headquarters we have been heavily loaded with work from the start, and are doing everything in our power to get things on a smooth-running basis as soon as possible. We still have most of our work to do in the way of accepting invitations to contact and assist in the formation of new parish companies. Every parish and ward of the larger cities of the state is expected to have one or more companies. The city of New Orleans now has Square Deal companies in twelve of its seventeen wards and the remaining five are expected in before the end of this week.

The "action" we are engaged in at present is organization and standardization procedure required before our several detailed plans can be generally effected. As to these plans; we have no intention--reserved or otherwise--of going to war against the Louisiana National Guard but will bring the required amount of moral suasion to bear on our legislators in order to get them to give us a square deal!!

We have been concerned with effectively financing our project--a state-wide proposition. For democratic reasons, no dues are required in the membership, and what we have done thus far has been accomplished solely on the popular contributions received. With the first burst of enthusiasm over, these have naturally dropped off and a definite financial program was required in order to enable us to continue as well as expand our organization and activities. A system of pledge-card contributions will be used in order that we may proceed with definite certainty. These pledges are entirely optional and unobligating. We are carrying on the detailed work of a State Organization from this headquarters, however, and feel justified in asking for state-wide support.

We assure you we are in this fight to win, and highly appreciate any support you offer.

DICTATORSHIP in our state must go!!

Yours sincerely,

Square Deal Association of La.

By  Pres.  
Ernest J. Bourgeois

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SEP 10 1964

62-32507-17

44

AGB:IL  
62-32509-62

RECORDED

March 18, 1935

Mrs. J. S. Roussel,  
2010 Chestnut Street,  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Dear Madam:

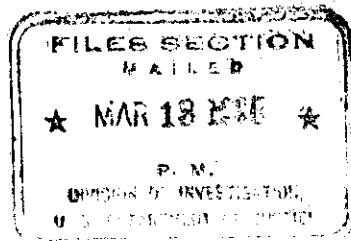
This is in reference to your communication dated March 8, 1935, in which you advise of threats made to you by an unknown individual who was allegedly in the employ of General L. W. Guerra. You also inclosed a newspaper clipping taken from the Times-Picayune of February 8, 1935.

Please be advised that the contents of your communication have been carefully noted and that it does not appear that the facts outlined by you constitute a violation of any Federal statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau. I am, accordingly, unable to comply with your request to ascertain the identity of the individual of whom you complain.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

1 yellow



*Handwritten signature*

45

2010 Chestnut St., (Home Address)

Baton Rouge, La.

March 3rd, 1935.

Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director,  
U. S. Dept. of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As President of the Women's Organization of the Square Deal Ass'n., of Louisiana, I would like to make a complaint to your Department of Justice, which I hope will not be ignored. Saturday, Feb. 2nd, the time that our President of the Square Deal Ass'n., was arrested, for no cause whatsoever, I was trying to leave our office to go to the law firm of Mr. Paul Borron, and as I walked down the hall, one of the plainclothes men, who is in the employ of General L. F. Guerre threatened to shoot me. This man was in the company of about ten men, two of whom I know as Mr. N. H. deBretton, and Carl Fisher, son of the Senator. Mr. Fisher made a remark that if he had had his way about it, he would have had me arrested for telling them what I did, but as I had nothing to be ashamed of, I talked to them, as men of their character should be talked to, as a lady. As I talked to them, they all hung their heads in shame - you could have heard a pin drop - they did listen to what I told them. An account of it is herewith enclosed.

My husband called Mr. N. H. deBretton to my house to try to get the man's name; he refused to give it to us. He told me to get an appointment with Gen. L. F. Guerre; that he would be glad to give us one. Through Major Pugh, I tried to get an appointment - I am still waiting for it. I cannot get the man's name.

However, I can identify this man at any time. I saw him again on the stairs at the State Capitol Wednesday night; right after every spectator was "driven" from the lower floor of the House of Representatives. This man was guarding one of the stairs, and as I recognized him, I pointed my finger in his face (I almost touched his nose) and said, "You are the man who threatened to shoot me, and as I cannot get any protection from Gen. L. F. Guerre, I must point you out to my husband and the men that he is with over there." The man backed against the wall and started shaking "all over". He beckoned to the militiamen to come protect him from "Those ladies". About six militiamen, with their officers came over to protect him, while I went over to my husband to point him out to him. Of course, I did not expect my husband and his friends to go after the man - it would have been suicide, of course. This man looks like an Italian. I don't think he is from Louisiana. He is the "Type" of a very unscrupulous man, I assure you. I can give you the names of all of my friends who can identify him, if you so desire.

MAR 14 1935 RECORDED & INDEXED

I appeal to you, as the Director of the Dept. of Justice to find out the name of this man, and deal with him as you see fit. I will help you in any way possible.

Yours very truly,

62-32509-6  
MAR 6 1935  
Mrs. J. D. Rousey  
46

Chk. 3/13/35; GDB

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# BOURGE

## Long Decides Square Deal Witness in

### Charging Arrests by Plain Clothes During Session

### Defendant Mrs. Russell Appeals to Roosevelt

By The Associated Press

Mrs. Bourgeois, who was in the building at the time of her husband's arrest, said she knew he was going to be arrested when he returned to Baton Rouge after doing his work in other portions and if suspected he would gladly go and would not resist arrest as he had a clear conscience and had nothing to fear.

Mrs. Bourgeois said she was with a group of people who were in the office when the plain-clothes men came for him. When the men came for him, he went gladly. I wouldn't quote as to what I think about the matter; let that be the judgment of the people.

Although I have no office in the organization, I am behind my husband in everything that is being done for what is being done for the people of the state.

### Plain-clothes Men Appear

The following statement was issued by Mrs. Russell:

"As I entered the Louisiana National Bank building to go up to our office on the fourth floor, I noticed several plain-clothes men standing in the hall. I proceeded to our office. As I reached the office, Mrs. J. M. Shaw, our treasurer, said:

"Mrs. Russell, three plain-clothes men in the hall are looking for Ernest Bourgeois, our president."

"I decided I would ask them to admit me to the Square Deal office and sit down, which I did in a very polite way. They looked at me and said, 'We do not care to sit down.' I told them that I had ordered coffee to be sent to our office and that we would be glad to treat them to some coffee."

"They refused. I went back to the room, No. 411, and rang Mr. Paul Borron to ask him if plain-clothes men could stop me from leaving our building if they had no subpoena for my arrest. I talked to one of the other lawyers in Mr. Borron's office. I then tried to leave the building to go to Mr. Borron's office."

"The witness says Mrs. Russell:

"As I got to these plain-clothes men, one of them said, 'You cannot leave this building.' I replied, 'I have no gun and I would like to leave this building on business.' He spread both of his arms out and told me that if I tried to get by him he would shoot me. He said, 'We do not want any trouble with you; but if you give it to us, we will give you plenty.'

"I tried to get by and he forcefully detained me. So there was not anything to do but to turn around and go back. I can identify him any time."

"I immediately went back to the Square Deal office and sent this telegram to our president:

Appeal to President  
Plain-clothes men in office building of Square Deal Association threaten our women. Please act."

"Then all these plain-clothes men and one or two citizens of Baton Rouge came to the room to arrest Mr. Bourgeois, who had come up to our office."

"I told the plain-clothes men that I had the plain-clothes men that

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation  
326 1/2 Post Office Building,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.  
January 26, 1935.

DWM/tm

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman.....
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

Director,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St. N.W.,  
Washington, D.C.

CONFIDENTIAL  
AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Dear Sir:

Re: Political Situation of Louisiana

A group of some three hundred armed men, bearing rifles and shot guns, seized the East Baton Rouge Parish Court House for a few hours on January 25, 1935, and evicted newly State appointed employees and officials, preventing entrance to the Court House of the State Administration, of Judges and others.

This group disbanded after about four hours occupation of the Court House and immediately thereafter the Louisiana State National Guard was mobilized and moved from various cities to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, which is now under martial law on order of Governor O. K. Allen, issued January 26, 1935.

The group temporarily occupying the Court House is an opposition group to the State Administration, and some were dismissed Parish employees at Baton Rouge. Others are reported to be members of an organization recently formed, styled "Square Deal Organization". The latter organization was formed by and from former Standard Oil Company employees at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, which company had dismissed a large number of men and curtailed production and activities at their refinery as a result of a recent Louisiana State tax law aimed at refinery processes of other State oil in Louisiana but undoubtedly passed as a revenue measure or to benefit certain individuals owning oil productive land located in the State of Louisiana not in active production.

The Governor of Louisiana, O. K. Allen, following conferences with Senior Senator Huey P. Long, Louisiana, and Standard Oil Company officials, issued an executive order rescinding the 5¢ per barrel oil tax and imposing only a 1¢ tax. Thereafter, a large number of the dismissed Standard Oil Company employees were re-employed but several remained outside employment and are the leading figures at Baton Rouge in the Square Deal Organization. This organization has spread to other cities and has been gaining considerable momentum and is reported to be founded along military lines.

The situation at Baton Rouge is tense. The Senior Senator of Louisiana, Huey P. Long, in radio speeches alleges that there was a plot to assassinate him, and names in this plot employees and officials of the Standard Oil Company, the State's District Attorney at Baton Rouge, the Office Manager of United States Congressman from the 6th Judicial District, and various Parish Sheriffs and Deputies.

The Senior Senator from Louisiana today produced a radio witness, one

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Sidney Songey, a former informant of Prohibition Agents at Baton Rouge, and the subject of an Impersonation case at this office, New Orleans file 47-471, who alleged that he had attended meetings of the plotters and furnished details of the plot to assassinate Senator Huey P. Long. Sidney Songey was arrested by State officials as a participant in the plot prior to his radio statements.

Special Agent L. A. Kindell, who is at Baton Rouge on other matters, reported tonight that large crowds are milling the street and that one man was shot five times by State Officers of the Identification Bureau for possessing an automobile load of ammunition. His name is George N. Alessi of Independence, La., a member of the Police Jury of Tangipohoa Parish, La.

The Louisiana National Guard is taking a prominent part in suppressing the situation and today dispersed and detained approximately one hundred armed citizens at the airport without display of gun fire.

The Senior Senator of Louisiana, according to reports, is leaving the night of January 26, 1935 for Washington, D. C.

I am transmitting herewith New Orleans, La. newspaper articles of January 26 and 27, 1935 which fully portray proceedings and events at Baton Rouge, La. with respect to armed opposition against Louisiana State Administration and martial law at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

No requests have been made of this office for any investigation relative this situation and should any occur I will advise you immediately.

Very truly yours,

*D. W. Magee*

D. W. Magee,  
Special Agent in Charge.

Enc.

Jan. 26.—  
The martial law proclamation, filed with the secretary of state at 11:07 Friday night, follows:

"Whereas, in the parish of East Baton Rouge and the city of Baton Rouge a situation of armed insurrection against the duly elected and appointed officials has broken out, armed men threaten to usurp the functions of orderly government in that parish, and

"Whereas, an armed body of men have taken forcible possession of the courthouse of East Baton Rouge parish, and armed assemblies assisted by some authorities have secretly conspired to do harm and violence, and

"Whereas the chief leaders and largest numbers of those exercising such violence are officers and agents of the Standard Oil company, whose officials are apprised of such misconduct and who decline to do anything to prevent the same, and

"Whereas employes of said Standard Oil company are intimidated by superior agents to do acts of violence which the said company, though informed as to same, declines to prevent.

"Now, therefore, I, Oscar K. Allen, governor of the state of Louisiana and commander-in-chief of the militia of the state of Louisiana by virtue of the authority vested in me under the constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana and inherent in the office of chief executive, hereby declare that conditions of violence, insurrection and disorder and defiance of the legally constituted authorities of the state of Louisiana exists in the parish aforesaid and I do hereby call the said militia of the state of Louisiana into service to preserve law and order in the city of Baton Rouge and the parish of East Baton Rouge and I direct the adjutant-general of Louisiana to take such steps as may be deemed necessary to enforce this order and preserve law and

order in said city and parish."

Another executive order addressed to Adjutant-General Raymond H. Fleming was filed at 9:45 a. m. directing him to "preserve law and order in the parish of East Baton Rouge and the city of Baton Rouge." It also directs him to execute the order "as circumstances require."

#### Supplemental Order

Late this afternoon, Governor Allen issued the following supplemental proclamation to make it clear that full martial law had been declared for the city and parish in Baton Rouge.

The proclamation reads:

"State of Louisiana,  
Executive Department,  
Baton Rouge.

"By virtue of the authority and discretion vested in me by the constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana, I do hereby declare martial law for the parish of East Baton Rouge and city of Baton Rouge and hereby reaffirm previous orders issued by me on the twenty-fifth day of January, 1935.

"Given under my hand and seal on this the twenty-sixth day of January, 1935.

(Signed) "OSCAR K. ALLEN"  
(Seal) "Governor.

Attest:  
(Signed) "E. A. CONWAY,  
"Secretary of State."

Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Baughman..
Chief Clerk.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Edwards.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Keith.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Quinn.....
Mr. Schilder.....
Mr. Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

*New Orleans*  
*Item Tabern*  
*1/21/35*  
*1-213*

62-32507-61

50





# COURTHOUSE 4 HOURS



- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

## SQUARE DEAL FORCE CALLED OUT AS ONE IS TAKEN BY POLICE

Members From Neighboring Parishes Join In Mobilization As Report Of Arrest Spreads; Women Serve Food And Coffee; Group Disperses After Minister Offers Prayer

By HERMANN B. DEUTSCH  
(Of The Item-Tribune Staff)

BATON ROUGE, Jan. 25.—Following a show of armed strength in which about 300 citizens bearing guns took possession of the courthouse of East Baton Rouge parish here and held it for several hours, the capital of Louisiana is once more quiet at this writing. The armed men and the wives and daughters who had brought them food and ammunition have returned to their homes, "ready to be called out again at a moment's notice."

Apparently the show of force was precipitated by a report that a man had been arrested and was held at the city jail, and would be forced to "reveal" the names of all those who had participated at a recent meeting, held at the home of a Baton Rouge citizen. It was further rumored that all those present at the meeting would be arrested and would be charged with conspiracy against the person of Senator Huey Long.

### Square Dealers Called Out

The name of the man arrested was given as Sidney Songy. He is said at one time to have been in the employ of the Federal Secret service.

The report of his arrest became current about 3 o'clock this afternoon. In various sections of Baton Rouge men went from house to house, knocking on doors and calling, "All Square Dealers out! Get your guns and go to the courthouse."

E  
D  
Y

In groups of two and three, carrying shotguns, rifles, side-arms or whatever weapons first came to hand, men began to assemble at the courthouse, which covers a city block near the old statehouse. The first two or three, carrying guns, explained that they were "going hunting." Within less than half an hour 100 or more men were gathered in the courthouse lobby, and

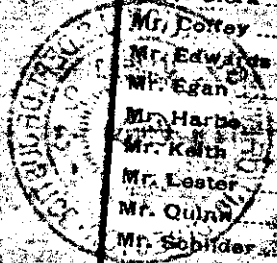
About seventy-five member

*New Orleans  
Morning  
Tribune  
1/26/35*

62-32509-61

52

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy



## Censorship Of The Press Is Ordered

(By The United Press) /  
 BATON ROUGE, La., Jan. 26.—Censorship of the press was invoked here today in the first military order of General Louis F. Guerre, commandant of Louisiana National Guard troops mobilized in the latest revolt against United States Senator Huey P. Long.

"No publication, either by newspaper, handbill, pamphlet or otherwise, reflecting in any way upon the state or its officers, or tending to influence the public mind against the state or its officers, and no article reflecting in any way upon the work of military authorities, will be permitted." read a section of the order. Other sections dealt in routine fashion with the requirements of martial law.

*New Orleans  
 Times Tribune*

*1/27/35*

*62-32509-61*

# Bared Names As Leaders

Ousted Park Head Is Ordered Held;  
Five Others Named By Man Who Joined  
Square Dealers To Find Out Their  
Plans; Senator Questions Traitor, Finds  
'Details' Of Alleged 'Ambush Plan';  
Baton Rouge Becomes Armed City  
With Militia Forces Pouring In

Martial law prevails in the city of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge parish.

A traitor to an alleged band of conspirators, betrayed details of a plot to murder Senator Long.

From the witness stand in an ex-parte hearing before District Judge J. D. Womack, administration appointee, the traitor gave the names of nine men whom he charged as conspirators.

#### Alleged Conspirator Arrested

One of the alleged conspirators, Powers Higginbotham, recently displaced by the state administration as commissioner of parks in Baton Rouge, was arrested by officers of the Bureau of Criminal Identification after he had been called to the stand.

Higginbotham denied any knowledge of the so-called conspiracy.

Among the others named were District Attorney John Fred Odom, Fred Parker, former deputy sheriff; Sheriff Henry Sherburne of Iberville; Fred O'Rourke, agent of the Standard Oil company, and a member of the executive committee of the Square Deal association; Sheriff Sidney Debroca of West Baton Rouge parish; Dallas Gross, of the office of Congressman J. Y. Sanders, Jr., Roland Kizer, an attorney, and Assistant District Attorney Fred LeBlanc.

#### Unable to Serve Others

When officers of the court were unable to serve these men, Judge Womack continued the investigation until February 1.

Senator Long said he hoped to leave for Washington Saturday, after adjournment of the hearing, "perhaps by airplane."

According to testimony today, Long's car was to have been blocked while he was en route from Baton Rouge to New Orleans Friday. The car was to have been bombarded with tear gas and Senator Long and whoever else was in the car, assassinated.

District Judge W. Carruth Jones' name figured in the testimony of Assistant Attorney-General George Wallace, the latter stating that the judge had given the permission to the sheriff to swear in an unlimited number of deputies, that six deputies were actually sworn in, among them Mr. Parker, alleged conspirator.

#### Troops Continue to Pour In

In this same connection the State Supreme court in New Orleans by a vote of four to three, signed an order nullifying Judge Jones' order granting the deputizing of citizens. The order was served.

Governor Allen's martial law proclamation puts the city of Baton Rouge under strict supervision. Troops from all over the state were pouring into the capital today. Among the many restrictions on liberty was one forbidding the publication by the newspapers of the parish of any attacks on the state government.

Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

New Orleans  
Herald Tribune  
1/27/35

62-32509-11 54

# Sheriff Enjoined Appointments Blocked

An order nullifying the appointment of six Baton Rouge sheriffs, signed by four justices of the state supreme court, was served on District Judge W. Carruth Jones Saturday.

Judge Jones and Sheriff L. Pettit, who appointed the deputies, were ordered to appear with the appointees before the supreme court and show cause why they should not comply with an act of the third special session of the 1934 Legislature, which provides that the superintendent of the Bureau of Criminal Identification must approve before deputy sheriffs can be appointed.

The order was signed by Associate Justice H. F. Brunot, A. T. Higgins, John B. Fournet and John R. Land.

### Wallace Asked Petition

Petition requesting the action was filed early Saturday morning by Assistant Attorney General George M. Wallace on behalf of Attorney General Porterie, Governor Allen, Louis F. Guerre, superintendent of the Criminal Identification bureau, and the new administration police jury of East Baton Rouge parish.

Under the special session's act, the petition alleged, the sheriff of East Baton Rouge parish may appoint deputies only with the approval of Superintendent Guerre.

The petition further stated that Sheriff Pettit had submitted a list of 13 deputies and that Superintendent Guerre had approved eight and disapproved five of the suggested deputies. Those disapproved were G. B. Cooke, G. L. Sides, J. A. Crowell, A. R. Singleton and T. S. McVea.

### Set Hearing Wednesday

On January 14, the petition alleges, Sheriff Pettit, "in disregard of the law," and "without waiting for further action of General Guerre" that Sheriff Pettit obtained an order from Judge Jones empowering the sheriff to name and appoint additional deputy sheriffs.

Under this allegedly illegal order of Judge Jones, Sheriff Pettit appointed the five deputies and one additional deputy, F. C. Parker, Jr.

In granting the plea, the supreme court set next Wednesday as the date for a hearing.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*New Orleans  
Steno Johnson  
1/21/35*

*58*

1918  
New Orleans, La., Aug. 12.—  
The city today is under martial law  
because of a rebellion of colored  
troops.

Troops rushed in from all parts of  
the state and threw heavy guards  
about all public buildings, including  
the courthouse, which was seized  
and held for four hours last night  
by 400 armed men and women.

Long said widespread conspiracy  
of intrigue, midnight meetings and  
plotted assassinations had been ex-  
posed.

#### Blames Square Deal

He blamed the Square Deal asso-  
ciation, a new politico-military force  
of citizens, organized at mass meet-  
ings all over the state, for the re-  
bellion.

General Louis F. Guerre, com-  
mander of the national guard, was  
placed in charge of the entire East  
Baton Rouge parish in which the  
capital is situated.

#### Long Takes Charge

The martial law proclamation,  
(CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

# Troops Rush In Heavy Guards On Buildings

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

signed by Governor O. K. Allen, Long's ally, said "conditions of violence, insurrection, disorder and defiance of state authority prevail. The chief leaders and largest number of those exercising such violence are officers and agents of the Standard Oil company."

Senator Long was red of face and apparently very excited when he arrived here. He shouted orders to his guards, whirled about the city in an automobile for a rapid tour of inspection, and repaired to his quarters in a downtown hotel.

"If they want a fight, they'll get one," he shouted at a reporter who inquired of his plans.

"And," he added, "there ain't gonna be no seizure of the capital or anything else."

Two bus loads of guardsmen from New Orleans arrived shortly before dawn and were immediately posted around the state buildings.

Officers issued orders barring civilians from the grounds and the commander refused to talk with reporters.

The New Orleans contingent was the first of several companies ordered here after members of the newly formed Square Deal association elected office holders from the courthouse yesterday and barricaded themselves within.

### Restricted Area

As the two buses sped up to the capitol grounds and skidded to a stop, the officers yelled "All out."

A few spectators, mostly newspaper men, were ordered to "stand back" while guard officers ordered their men to "fall in."

*M. W. O. Allen*  
*John T. Robinson*  
1/27/35  
62-32569-61

With little ceremony the guard officers set up a restricted area and ordered "everyone on the outside." The militiamen carried out their instructions to the letter.

The United Press was informed on high authority that "today is the last day for the Square Deal association."

The troops will assist civil authorities arresting all leaders of the association, particularly the leaders of 500 armed men who took over the courthouse late yesterday afternoon in the name of the organization.

### More Troops on Way

Two companies of the 156th Infantry, Louisiana National Guard, left Morgan City and Crowley early today. At the same time Troop D of the 108th Cavalry was leaving Bogalusa. Units of the Washington Field Artillery were being mobilized in Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, but had not received marching orders. The troops should arrive here at 8 a. m.

It was reported that leaders of the association would be charged with plotting to assassinate Long. They also will be charged with seeking, by yesterday's mobilization, to overthrow the government by force. Warrants for the arrest of 35 men were reported drawn and in the hands of local police. A Long controlled and dominated organization.

A close check early today revealed that all known leaders of the association remained in their homes, awaiting the showdown. They issued no statements, but intimated they were ready to face the "test of force with force."

### 500 Mobilized

Approximately 500 men, armed with shotguns, rifles and pistols, mobilized yesterday within an hour after they were called. Whether this citizen "army" would be mobilized again to face the trained military could not be surmised from the leaders' statements, but it was believed cool heads within the organization would prevent any armed defiance of the military.

Headed by Louis Bourgoise, 29, unemployed, the association has grown rapidly since its formation a month ago. Organized along semi-military lines, it has units in all parts of the state.

The Long political machine, it was said authoritatively, was alarmed by the manner in which the army was assembled and by the fact that every man not only was armed but seemed prepared to use his weapon. Everything was done with the smoothest efficiency and Long politicians viewed this as proof that the Square Deal association was well organized.

Square Deal officials themselves were silent. They understood that an attempt would be made today to arrest 35 of their members on a charge that they had plotted to assassinate Long. If this attempt is made, the army will be re-mobilized and, as one of the anti-Long

organizers, Long's close by controlled state police, which form his "private army" according to his opponents, was said to have seized Sidney Songy, Square Deal leader, and was attempting to force him to reveal the names of all persons who attended a recent secret meeting of the association. The army held the courthouse seven hours. Word was circulated that Songy had been released. The army immediately dispersed.

Square Deal leaders made it plain that they intended fighting any effort to break up their organization through "illegal arrests and brutal questionings by Long's cossacks." They tacitly admitted that the association had held many secret meetings and was secretly organized much more extensively than was generally believed.

### Silent on Incident

But neither side would discuss the incident specifically. It was learned that Long's political subordinates believed, or said they believed, they had discovered a plot to ambush Long's automobile while it was en route to New Orleans and kill him. Thirty-five men, it was hinted, would be arrested on a charge of conspiracy.

The Square Deal association is organized throughout the state for the avowed purpose of ending Long's political dictatorship. Its leaders have not hesitated to talk in terms of revolution and recently they publically assembled members in military formation.

Its first mobilization was consummated smoothly. Men went from door to door, shouting "all Square Dealers turn out." Immediately streets leading to the courthouse were spotted with men carrying shotguns and revolvers. Within half an hour 200 men had invaded the building, sent women workers home, turned out Long officials who departed quickly without protest, and were in full possession. Within an hour 400 men were there.

Another hundred arrived later from the neighboring parishes of Iberville, Tangipahoa, East Feliciana and West Feliciana.

Square Deal women appeared soon after their men. They brought huge baskets of sandwiches and pots of coffee. These were circulated, but there was no festive air. The men were silent and grim.

Square dealers were conspicuous by their absence during the morning hours. More than 30 of their leaders were understood to be marked for arrest in a general cleanup on charges of an asserted plot to assassinate Long.

The governor's troop proclamation stated that "conditions of violence, insurrection, disorder and defiance of the constituted state authorities exist in the city of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge parish."

It charged the Standard Oil company officials with "knowledge of the trouble," and stated that "the chief leaders and officers of the secret agents plotting against the state government are employees of the said Standard Oil company of Louisiana."

Excitement caused by Long's personal appearance in the city of Baton Rouge was magnified by the stir caused by announcement that a judicial tribunal would be launched in the asserted assassination plot.

Citizens gathered outside the capitol grounds to watch the spectacle unfold. Troops were on the march. Some shouted imprecations at them, but they strode steadily on.

"Murder Plot" Hearing  
The "murder plot" hearing started in the Supreme court room soon after 11 o'clock.

Judge J. D. Womack, appointed to the Supreme court by Gov. Allen, Long's ally, presided.

Long came in and started the proceedings. Attorney General G. L. Porter

Long's close by controlled state police, which form his "private army" according to his opponents, was said to have seized Sidney Songy, Square Deal leader, and was attempting to force him to reveal the names of all persons who attended a recent secret meeting of the association. The army held the courthouse seven hours. Word was circulated that Songy had been released. The army immediately dispersed.

Square Deal leaders made it plain that they intended fighting any effort to break up their organization through "illegal arrests and brutal questionings by Long's cossacks." They tacitly admitted that the association had held many secret meetings and was secretly organized much more extensively than was generally believed.

Square Deal leaders made it plain that they intended fighting any effort to break up their organization through "illegal arrests and brutal questionings by Long's cossacks." They tacitly admitted that the association had held many secret meetings and was secretly organized much more extensively than was generally believed.

He said he was "prepared to prove there was a conspiracy" participated in by four sheriffs, district attorney, and probably district judge.

In chronological order he recited purported details of secret meetings participated in by officials of a large oil corporation, the East Baton Rouge district attorney, sheriffs from four parishes and as citizens.

He said it was the purpose of hearing to "get at the bottom of and break up the damnable plot of scoundrels that ever plotted a der."

"There's going to be some men moved from office and thrown in jail for a long time," he said. "This insurrection is going to be busted up."

### Admits Being Spy

The purported "inside of the murder plot against Long," was generally outlined by Sidney P. Coker, former government secret service operative, who revealed that he was "spy" in the employ of Long.

"Fred Parker, a deputy sheriff told me had 15 men ready to shoot Long down," Songy said.

The judicial investigation into the alleged murder plot against Long adjourned at 1:15 p. m. on February 1.

After Powers Higginbotham, a former commissioner of parks and streets of East Baton Rouge parish had been interrogated regarding connection with the murder plot, Senator Long ordered the investigation continued.

Higginbotham, whose job he ordered abolished last week, made very unsatisfactory witness.

He denied knowledge of any plot and denied that he had talked to Songy. "I don't even know Songy never saw him before in my life," he said.

"You're a fine example of mentality of East Baton Rouge officials," replied Long.

The senator then ordered the former parish official held in custody of the state bureau of investigation until the hearings are resumed February 1.

"And," he said, "don't let him go to anybody."

Immediately after Higginbotham was released from the stand, the bureau of investigation officers were ordered out in search of six men who had failed to appear and testify.

"Get those rats," said Long. "I hold them until I get back to Washington."





# TROOPS CAPTURE 100 ARMED CITIZENS

## Militia In Battle Form Halts Group

Square Dealers Crouched Behind Automobiles But Surrender As They See They Are Hopelessly Outnumbered By State Guardsmen; Baton Rouge Airport Scene Of 'Near' Battle.

BATON ROUGE, La., Jan. 26.—A hundred armed citizens, after facing a heavily armed company of 50 National Guardsmen across the Baton Rouge airport for nearly an hour this afternoon, surrendered at 8 P. M.

The militiamen were advancing on the citizens, members of the Square Deal association assembled under the command of Ernest Bourgeois, president.

They had lined up their automobiles at the edge of the

square dealers crouched behind automobiles but surrender as they see they are hopelessly outnumbered by state guardsmen; baton rouge airport scene of 'near' battle.

Usual Values in

Plain corn marquisette, purple embroidered at the bottoms and hemmed on both sides, 45 inches wide and 2 1/2 yards long. Suitable for any room.

They poorly made, a blue or gold, 1 pair 1/2 and ties to match.

*Miss O. Sloan  
Ellen T. Johnson  
Jan 1/35*

62-32509-61





# Bare 'Plot' On Long Witnesses Are Quizzed

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWELVE)

you didn't want no man killed.  
Q. Did I ask you to call Mr. Parker over the phone?  
A. Yes, sir; I went to make four phone calls from the Highway commission office, where they had three extensions with other people listening in.

### "Who Listened"

Q. At what number did you call him?  
A. I forgot the first number.  
Q. Never mind, there will be others to testify as to that. Did you finally get him at his own home?  
A. No, sir.

Q. Who was listening to the conversation?  
A.—Senator Noe, and Louis Jones.  
Q.—And a stenographer?  
A.—I wouldn't know about that.

The first time I asked him how many men he had, and he said just about the same as last night but there were more coming. He was waiting on more men and when you was to leave. I told him I would call him back, and gave me another number, where I called him in about 30 minutes.

Q. And then you came up to see me again and still I doubted it.  
A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you call his home the second time?  
A. No, I called him that time at the home of Dallas Gross.

Q. Where did you find him the last time?  
A. At John Fred Odom's house.  
Q. Who answered the telephone?  
A. I couldn't say.

### "Went To See Him"

Q. Did you then go to see him again?  
A. Yes sir, and I got the two gas cans and the box of shells. I brought them to you at your room at the hotel and laid them on the bed.

Q. That was when I got serious, didn't I?  
A. Yes sir.

Q. And then what did you do?  
A. It was suggested that I go by Dallas Gross' house, so that the city officers could arrest me.

Q. In other words, if we failed to do that, we might get you killed, or either have to kill some of them. In other words, we were in a terrible sweat because we didn't have any desire to get them killed or you killed?  
A. Yes sir.

### Brought Back

Q. And we had you to take the licenses off your car so there could be grounds to arrest you?  
A. Yes sir, and they did and they brought me back to the police station.

...that the district attorney has...  
...Senator Long said...  
...then continued his questioning of the witness.

Q. What did they say about getting me?  
A. They said if they didn't get you now they'd kill you in Washington.

Q. So they were going to kill me in Washington?  
A. Yes. They said the only reason they had not already killed you in Washington was because it would be a reflection on President Roosevelt.

### Invited To Washington

Q. Did they invite you to go to Washington on the murder party?  
A. Yes they said they wanted me to go and I told them I'd be glad to make the trip.

Q. Now after 5 o'clock what did you do?  
A. I took my wife out to get some thing to eat and then we went back home. A reporter came to the house and I told my wife to tell him I wasn't home. Then I talked with Mr. Heard on the telephone and he told me he thought it might be better to put some men around the house to guard me. Later in the night some one came across the street and said there was a phone call for me and wanted me to go across the street. I didn't know who was calling me, but I later learned it was Mr. Fred Parker.

Q. Then wasn't it decided that some one was trying to take you for a ride and wasn't it decided that you had better leave there?  
A. Mr. Heard came and got me and five minutes after I left I learned that Parker and two men drove up to my house but my wife told them I had gone across the street to get a coke and that I had never returned. Then they left.

Q. Where were you kept?  
A. I was at the governor's mansion and at the police station.

### Witness "Protested"

"Your honor that is all I have to ask this witness at this time," Senator Long said. "We are going to keep him in our custody and give him as much protection as we can." "From what he has testified from this stand I should say he needs to be protected and protected well," Judge Womack replied.

Power Higginbotham, deposed commissioner of parks and streets of Baton Rouge, was the next witness called. There was considerable delay until finally Mr. Higginbotham entered the court room with an officer of the Bureau of Criminal Identification. The witness was sworn, identified himself and Senator Long began his examination.

Q. Mr. Higginbotham, where were you Thursday night?  
A. I was all over Baton Rouge.

Q. Where were you Wednesday night?  
A. I was in Baton Rouge.

Q. Do you remember any particular place?  
A. I don't keep a record of those things.

Q. Do you remember being any place at all?  
A. I don't remember.

Q. Do you know Mr. Dallas Gross?

...the witness...  
...Senator Long...  
...the witness...

Q. When Fred Parker delivered it to you?  
A. Yes sir.

Q. Did you see Sheriff J. L. Wilson of East Feliciana at Mr. Gross' house?  
A. I don't know him. I didn't see him. I don't know whether he was there or not.

Q. Was Mr. Dubrouca, the sheriff of West Baton Rouge parish there?  
A. Yes, he was there.

### Higginbotham In Custody

Senator Long then excused the witness and looked around over the courtroom, where he spied Mr. Higginbotham standing in the rear of the room. He suggested to the court that Mr. Higginbotham and his father-in-law, Mr. Harrell, be asked to leave the room as they might be called back as witnesses.

"Do you want me to leave the courtroom?" Mr. Higginbotham demanded from the rear wall, where he was standing among a group of spectators.

"Yes," replied the senator, and he added as they walked out, "but I want them kept in the custody of the state bureau of identification."

Mrs. Sydney Songy, a small woman wearing a black coat with a fur collar, was the next witness placed on the stand.

"Do you know anything about Fred Parker conferring with your husband this week," questioned Senator Long.

After some discussion over the day of the week, Mrs. Songy said that Parker had come to her home Monday night about 11 o'clock.

"What did he say to your husband," asked the senator.

"Well, I just saw him come in," she replied. "He asked Mr. Songy to go up town and see what information he could pick up."

Asked if she had seen Fred O'Rourke and Mr. Parker talking to her husband, Mrs. Songy said that she did not know Mr. O'Rourke and that she had only seen Parker that one night.

"Did you telephone Mr. Roland Kizer on the night your husband was arrested and ask him to go see him," Senator Long continued.

"No, I haven't got a telephone."  
"Did you send any one for Mr. Kizer to ask him to go?"

"No," Mrs. Songy declared, "I didn't have any one to send. I didn't know who Mr. Kizer was when he came to the house yesterday afternoon to get Mr. Songy. When he came to the door and asked for my husband, I told him that he wasn't home until he explained to me who he was."

Senator Long then asked the witness if she had accompanied her husband to New Orleans two weeks ago, where he met Mr. Parker at Mr. O'Rourke at the St. Charles hotel.

"Well, I went to New Orleans about two weeks ago," Mrs. Songy said, hesitating.

Q. And you got a lawyer that your wife phoned for?

A. She didn't phone for no lawyer.

Q. How long did they keep you there?

A. Until about 1:30, maybe later. Then the chief paroled me to Mr. Kizer, and I rode around with him for a little while, and then we parked in front of my house, and Mr. Kizer told me to keep my mouth shut because this thing wasn't over yet, they were going to get you yet.

"Made Excuse"

Q. Was anything said about your leaving town?

A. Yes, they were going to give me some money and let me leave. I notified one of the chief's men about it that night.

Q. And did Mr. Fred LeBlanc question you that night?

A. I told him to get word to Mr. Fred O'Rourke that I was in trouble and he said he would.

Q. What excuse did he make for leaving the police station?

A. He said he was going to look up some law books. Later Mr. Kizer came in, and they told me to come back about 4 o'clock, that was after I had been there in the morning. Later, Mr. Roland Kizer came to my house in a taxi and drove me to Mr. O'Rourke's house. I didn't know where Mr. O'Rourke lived, and he told the taxi driver to get the hell out and keep his mouth shut.

Q. What happened?  
A. They all patted me on the shoulder thanking me for keeping my mouth shut.

District Attorney

Q. What did the district attorney say?

A. He said he was one hundred percent for me, for me not to worry, they were going to take the police station, and he warned me not to talk.

Q. Did he tell you what might happen to them if you did talk?

A. No, sir.  
Q. What did O'Rourke have to say?

A. About the same thing.  
Q. How'd Brother Gross talk?  
A. Just about like the others. They said if they didn't turn me loose they were going to take me away.

Q. Did they discuss giving you money?

A. Yes, they said they were going to give me some money to get me out of town.

Q. What happened then?  
A. I went to the chief's office.

Money At Plaquemine

Q. What about the money?  
A. I was to meet them at the court house about 5 o'clock but Mr. Parker said they were not ready and for me to go on down to my folks' house at Plaquemine and they'd give me the money there.

At this point an officer in plain clothes entered the court room and whispered to Senator Long.

"Oh! Yes your honor, we just

see him...

He doesn't remember.

Q. Did you see him Wednesday or Thursday?

A. I don't remember.  
Q. Were you with Fred Parker Wednesday or Thursday night?

A. I don't remember.

Q. Well, let's see if I can refresh your memory. Were there any cars, four or five of them, about your house Thursday night?

A. I don't know.

Q. Is the number of your telephone 1726?

A. Yes, that is my number.

Q. Was there a sheriff's car at your house?

A. I don't know.

"I Don't Remember"

Q. Was Mr. Parker at your house that night?

A. If he was I didn't see him.

Q. Now, Mr. Higginbotham, we had your house pretty well watched that night and I'll ask you if automobiles 276-452, 180-142, 180-819, 102-885 and 200-142 were not there.

A. Number 200-142 is the number of my car. I had a number of friends drop in to see me. I know a lot of the boy's faces but don't know their names. I don't remember just who was there.

Q. Well take your time and think—see if you can't remember.

A. I don't know all of them, they just dropped in. You know this is a free country and that was my home.

Q. Yes, but can't you tell us the name of anyone who was there?

A. I don't remember.

Senator Long desisted and addressed the court. "I don't know what I can do with this witness. He just don't remember. I'm not going to make any comment except to the mentality of this man who was commissioner of streets and parks. He don't remember whether any automobiles were at his house and he don't remember the name of a single person who was there last night or the night before or the night before that. He doesn't remember anything."

Songy Recalled

Mr. Songy was then recalled to the witness stand. And Senator Long called out to a friend standing in the rear of the court room to raise his hand.

Q. Mr. Songy, do you see the gentleman with his hand raised and the man standing beside him?

A. Yes sir.

Wearing "Deal" Emblem

The man indicated was wearing a Square Deal emblem in his lapel and had been following the questioning of the witnesses with deep interest.

Q. Take a good look at that man, Mr. Songy, and see if you remember having seen him at the home of Dallas Gross?

A. I don't remember seeing him.

Judge Womack then asked the witness several questions.

Q. Mr. Songy, how many times

Following Mrs. Songy's testimony...

Senator Long then addressed Judge Womack.

"Your Honor, we can't get through with this hearing today. We are anxious to assemble the evidence as hurriedly as possible but we can't get all the witnesses here today."

Sees a Mystery

"It's a mysterious circumstance," the Senator declared, "that these witnesses can't be found. The District Attorney is gone, the Assistant District Attorney is gone, Dallas Gross is gone, Mr. Appel is gone, Fred Parker is gone."

"Under the circumstances, I think we had better ask the court to suspend the hearing at this time."

Senator Long then said that "we're not insisting on any action," and that he didn't know whether or not the court should make some provision for securing the presence of witnesses who had been subpoenaed.

"We are simply presenting the case and are letting the court do whatever it thinks," he said.

Judge Womack pointed out that all the witnesses live in Baton Rouge, and said he felt sure they could be gotten to testify.

Friday Is Set

"This court is not disposed to issue bench warrants at this time," he declared.

Senator Long then said that he also thought "we ought to be able to get them." He added, however, that "those of us who practice criminal law know that men need time to polish off their recollections and memories."

"I have to go to Washington," he continued. "I'd like to be here at the next hearing, and I'd like to make that next Friday."

The judge then set Friday, February 1, as the date for continuance of the hearing.

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

January 31, 1935

2:05 P. M.

*W  
2/2  
7*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Mr. George Garig, who stated that he was a resident of Hope Villa, Louisiana, a small township close to Baton Rouge, was referred to me and advised that he had come to Washington in an effort to see some of the "high-up" Government officials in order that he might complain to them of conditions existing in Louisiana under the present State administration. He stated that he felt if he might talk to the Director, he might secure some advice which would be helpful, and went on at some length to relate the troubles which were being experienced by a large portion of the population in that State at the present time. He intimated that he felt Senator Huey P. Long might be guilty of a violation of the income tax laws, and wondered if this Department could take any action on the matter. I informed him that he would have to see officials of the Internal Revenue Bureau in that regard, and explained to him of the Director's inability to speak with all visitors. He stated that he understood the Department could not act in the absence of violations of Federal Statutes, and added that he would probably make a complaint to the Internal Revenue Bureau.

Respectfully,

*G. N. Lowdon*

G. N. Lowdon.

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6-33509-60

FEB 5 1935

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TAMM

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**Division of Investigation**  
**U. S. Department of Justice**  
**Washington, D. C.**

January 26, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

RE: Political situation at  
Baton Rouge, La.

Time 10:45 PM

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Egan
Chief Clerk
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

SAC Magee telephoned from New Orleans and advised that Agent Kindell, who is covering the situation at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, reports the situation there as quite tense; that yesterday a group of about 300 armed men invaded the county courthouse, evicted Judges and others and held it for about 4 hours; that today the Governor called out the State militia and placed Baton Rouge under martial law; and that large crowds are milling around in the street. Tonight a man, driving a car with ammunition in was shot by the State officers and as a result the situation is very strained.

Mr. Magee stated that no violations of any Federal statutes have occurred, but that they are watching the situation closely without becoming mixed up in it in any way; that no requests have been made to have the Division conduct any investigations and in the event any such requests should be received Mr. Magee will immediately advise the Division of such.

Respectfully,

*C. E. Kleinkauf*  
C.E. Kleinkauf

RECORDED & INDEXED

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JAN 28 1935

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RECORDED

October 12, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL STEPHENS

I have just been advised by the New Orleans Office of this Division that a Federal Grand Jury at New Orleans, Louisiana, on October 3 and 4, 1934, returned five indictments charging conspiracy and substantive violations of Federal Income Tax Laws against John P., Harry B. and Willis W. Nelson, brothers and road contractors who handled a majority of the road building contracts with the State of Louisiana Highway Commission during the period of time that the senior Senator of Louisiana, Huey P. Long, was Governor of Louisiana.

This is being transmitted for your information.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

D

FILES SECTION  
MAILED



Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
326 1/2 Post Office Building,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.  
October 4, 1934.

DWM/tm

Director,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The Federal Grand Jury at New Orleans, Louisiana on October 3, and 4, 1934 returned five indictments, charging conspiracy and substantive violations of Federal income tax laws, against John P., Harry B., and Willis W. Nelson, brothers, road contractors who handled a majority of the road building contracts with the State of Louisiana Highway Commission during the period of time that the senior Senator of Louisiana, Huey P. Long was Governor of Louisiana.

These indictments are considered the opening wedge which undoubtedly will be followed by subsequent indictments against individuals closely connected with the State administration.

Local newspaper articles relative these indictments are transmitted herewith as of possible interest to the Division and the Department.

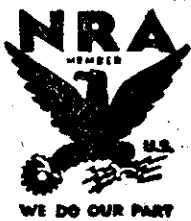
RECORDED

Very truly yours,  
INDEXED

*P. Whitley*

P. Whitley,  
Special Agent in Charge.

Enc.



# THE NEW OR

Published Week Day Afternoon at  
722 Union St. by The Item Co., Ltd.

The Oldest Afternoon Newspaper

Fifty-Eighth Year—116

Thursday Ev

# Tax Conspiracy Bill

62-32509-58



# CLEANS ITEM

South—Founded June 14, 1877

Entered at N. O. Postoffice as Second  
Class Matter Under Act of March 3, 1879.

October 4, 1934

Price, 3 Cents

Carrier  
Edition

## Hint At Big Craft

66

## Heads Tax Probe Jury



ARTHUR WATERS, foreman of the federal grand jury, which returned indictments charging evasion of the federal income tax against John P., Harry B., and Willis W. Nelson, road contractors, yesterday. The photograph was snapped as Mr. Waters left the federal building during a short recess.

# Grand Jury Again In Session With New Indictments Likely

## Highway Commission's Specifications Favored Nelson Brothers' Firm; Receipts Boomed After Beginning Of Long Regime, Records Show.

The first crack of the government's whip in its drive against alleged wholesale income tax frauds and conspiracies in state political circles revealed the enormous extent to which graft was probably paid for contracts, an analysis today of yesterday's grand jury indictments revealed, while the jury prepared to meet again this afternoon to make other charges.

The four indictments returned Wednesday indicate that the Mississippi Valley Co., Inc., manufacturers' agents of Baton Rouge, in the period between its organization in October, 1930, and June 30, 1932, paid out \$194,174.62 in salaries and commissions to persons unnamed, and then tried to cover up by filing income tax returns that showed it had paid this money to other people who did not in fact receive it.

### Money Paid

The inference is that this money was paid to persons, presumably with political positions or influence, who enabled those who did the paying to get business from the Louisiana Highway commission—practically the only outfit with which they did business.

That, stripped of legal verbage and deducting certain items in the indictments that might result from misunderstanding of the law or discrepancies in bookkeeping, is what the government charged in the indictments against John P. Nelson, Harry B. Nelson and Willis W. Nelson, organizers and sole owners of the Mississippi Valley company.

Meanwhile, the jury, scheduled to meet again at 2 p. m. today, was expected to return at least one other indictment on the basis of evidence heard during its many summer sessions, and then to adjourn until next week or later while the government's attorneys prepared other indictments against other persons reportedly involved in tax frauds with a political background.

The three Nelson brothers were  
(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY-ONE)

# Graft Is Hinted

## New Indictment Likely

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

named in yesterday's indictments with four other persons as having conspired to defraud the government of taxes amounting to \$27,555.43 up to June 30, 1932.

These four other persons were not indicted, and the assumption was in legal circles familiar with procedure in such cases, that the four not indicted would testify for the government.

These four were two other Nelson brothers—Chandler H., of Longwood, Fla., and James C. Nelson, of San Antonio; Jesse R. Terry, of Bartow, Fla., and Virgil E. Lanier, of Jacksonville, Fla., an agent for the Resiliflex Guard Rail, a product which as Louisiana agents the Mississippi Valley company sold to the Highway commission.

Specifications for highway commission projects, it was learned, were so written that only Resiliflex, guard rails and a certain type of asphalt handled by the Mississippi Valley concern could be used on state projects.

### Begin With Long

These specifications are only to be found in the commission's contracts beginning in January, 1931, when the Long administration began its first enormous road-building program, and within three months after the formation of the Mississippi Valley company.

The company was chartered in October, 1930, by the three Nelsons who were indicted, and they held all the 400 shares of no-par value stock, save one share held by Mrs. John P. Nelson, and reported when

they were chartered that they paid in capital was \$40,000.

This small \$40,000 concern immediately began to do an enormous business.

### Big Sales

From October 30, 1930, to June 30, 1931, the company sold \$396,613.01 worth of materials, on which it made a taxable profit of \$122,969.53, the government contends in its indictments.

The following year, to June 30, 1932, the government charges, the company grossed \$576,493.08, on which there was a taxable profit of \$191,373.34.

The company in filing its return for taxes for these two periods deducted \$81,635.11 from its taxable income for the 1930-31 period, as salaries, wages and commissions paid out, which the government says it did not pay to the persons the return shows received it.

The next year, it reported \$112,539.51 as having been paid this way, which the government also reports was not received by the persons the company's books show as having been paid it.

### Mixup On Salaries

This makes a total of \$194,174.62 paid in less than two years, the government contends, to someone other than the company said it paid.

Now the persons shown by the company's returns to have received this money were the three indicted Nelson brothers and the four others mentioned in the indictments. All seven paid individual income tax returns on these amounts as though they had received them.

Attorneys pointed out this morning that such a bookkeeping device has been tried in other cases of income tax returns in the past, in order to cover up the real recipients of the money, but that even if the government lost no tax by the method, an offense was committed because only a person truly receiving an income can file a return on it under the law.

### U. S. May Have Lost

Moreover, it is by no means certain, one attorney pointed out, that the government did not lose the tax, because the addition of this money to the incomes of the persons who did receive it might have put their incomes in a higher rate bracket than the incomes of those who did not receive it but did pay tax on it.

Other charges of illegal deductions from the Mississippi Valley company's returns are shown in the indictments, but those for salaries and commissions seem to be the crux of the situation. Others are highly technical, and might be resolved in the company's favor by explanation, such as the government's disallowance of some \$460 for bad debts and some \$18,000 for loss on state highway commission warrants taken in lieu of cash.

to the indictment... returned against all the defendants... indictments included one against John P. Nelson and William W. Nelson, as signers of the company's return for the 1930-31 period, and another against John P. Nelson and Harry B. Nelson, as signers of the company's return for the 1931-32 period.

### Fourth Indictment

The fourth indictment charged John P. Nelson alone as having evaded the payment of taxes totaling \$1732.67 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, when he swore the company had lost \$12,666.72, whereas the government contends the company made a taxable profit of \$12,666.54.

Business, of course, had fallen off badly during this year when gross receipts were only \$55,310.25, and it will be recalled that this period coincides with a drop in state expenditures for highways and the initiation of the method of using warrants instead of cash in payments on contracts.

While the Mississippi Valley company was doing all this business with the state direct on maintenance work—and with contractors on contract roadway construction, Nelson Brothers company, as a contracting firm independent of the Mississippi Valley, was getting a lion's share of the contracts for road building itself.

And on those contracts the partnership was buying from the Mississippi Valley company the specification-required road guard rails and asphalt, and paying commissions, presumably, to its own people for selling itself the materials.

### "Purely Political"

Yesterday in Baton Rouge, the Nelson brothers issued a statement describing the indictments as "purely political" and contending they

were a result of the government's improper policy in income tax cases.

Today Colonel Harry B. Nelson, a member of Governor Allen's staff, said at the capital that he would wait to be served formally with the indictment before coming in to make the \$5000 bond that was fixed. John P. Nelson, who also makes his home in Baton Rouge, was assumed to be going to do the same, as was Willis W. Nelson, who lives at Orlando and Longwood, Florida.

It was assumed in legal circles today that before service was made the government would wait conclusion of the grand jury's indictments against the same defendants, it being believed that a conspiracy indictment for the 1932-33 period—for which so far only John P. Nelson has been indicted—would be forthcoming.

### *Jury Service*

The present federal grand jury just began serving in May and will complete service November 19, when the November term grand jury is impaneled, attaches at the federal building said today.

Arthur C. Waters is foreman of the present group.

During the first week in November the federal court will summon 50 persons for grand jury service, and 50 for the petit jury. Of the 50 prospective grand jurors, 23 will be chosen to serve for the November term. They will take their oaths before Federal Judge Borah, November 19.



**NEW ORLEANS DAY**  
Many visitors will join with citizens here in marking New Orleans Day Friday.

# The Time

VOLUME XCVIII—NO. 253

Issued Every Week-Day Morning at 601-605 North St.  
BY THE TIMES-PICAYUNE PUBLISHING CO.  
Founded January 25, 1837

NEW ORLEANS,

## THREE BROTHERS CHARGED W

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62-32509-58

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... were not the amounts which  
... Our company has paid as much  
... federal government in

# Picayune

THE WEATHER

Louisiana and Mississippi — Partly cloudy, showers near the coast today.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1934

Entered U. S. Postoffice as Second-Class Matter Under Act of March 3, 1879.

SINGLE COPY 5 CENTS

## THE \$29,279 INCOME TAX FRAUD

...ld Possible

FEDERAL JURORS

ALLEGED EFFORT

More than a Million



consider unjust, oppressive and purely political.

Charged as Officers  
 conspiracy indictment is the  
 of the four returned against  
 three defendants.  
 by the three brothers, acting  
 officers of the Mississippi Val-  
 concern.  
 second indictment, considering  
 conspiracy indictment as the  
 charges William W. Nelson and  
 F. Nelson with attempting to  
 payment of \$14,632.55 of in-  
 tax which the government  
 was due for the period end-  
 ing by the defendant, this indict-  
 ment, began October 30, 1930.  
 third indictment names Har-  
 Nelson and John P. Nelson  
 ving attempted to evade cor-  
 a income tax payment of \$17,  
 due for the year ending June  
 32.  
 fourth indictment charges that  
 F. Nelson attempted to evade in-  
 tax for the year ending June  
 33.  
 Positions listed by the  
 Y. B. Nelson is listed by the

Not only has the company paid  
 the government in taxes during the  
 years under discussion more money  
 than it has to the stockholders, pay-  
 ing the government in each while  
 the stockholders have taken their  
 chances in getting their payment out  
 of warrants and participation certi-  
 ficates.  
 "If this is a fair example of a  
 New Deal policy, it bears out our ex-  
 perience as road builders in our con-  
 tact with other departments of the  
 government. Our experience during  
 the past year as road builders in our  
 contacts with the rules and regula-  
 tions of the NRA code has resulted  
 in almost confiscation of our private  
 property and our private rights and  
 privileges.  
 "Before any evasion, conspiracy  
 or whatnot can be proved, the gov-  
 ernment has got to prove that the  
 taxpayer was in error, and we are  
 fortified with decisions upholding  
 our position.  
 "We regret very much the action  
 taken by the government, which we

# Federal Jury Votes New Charge Against Three in Tax Case

N. O. LA. TIMES-PICAYUNE 10/5/34

### Conspiracy to Violate Statute in Connection With Corporate Payments in 1933 Alleged

A fifth indictment, supplementing the four returned Wednesday, was brought in Thursday afternoon by the United States grand jury against three Nelson brothers of Baton Rouge for income tax law violations.

The conspiracy indictment returned Wednesday alleges that the brothers, Harry B., John P. and Willis W. Nelson, conspired to evade corporate income tax payments by the Mississippi Valley Company, Inc., in which they are officers, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1931 and 1932.

Conspiracy to violate the income tax statute in connection with corporate payments due in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, is charged in the indictment returned against the three brothers Thursday.

The Mississippi Valley Company, Inc., since its organization in 1922 has had wholesale dealings with road builders holding Louisiana Highway Commission contracts. It acted as manufacturers' agent, selling gas rails and an asphaltic substance highway contractors.

The government alleged that the net income of the Mississippi Valley concern in the fiscal years ending June 30, 1931, 1932 and 1933 was \$245,136.32 greater than the net income on which the concern paid its corporate taxes.

As in the case of the conspiracy indictment returned Wednesday, the indictment returned Wednesday charges that James C. Nelson of San Antonio, Tex.; Chandler H. Nelson of Louisiana, Fla.; and Jesse R. Terry

Continued on Page Twenty-three

## NEW INDICTMENT FACED BY TRIO IN INCOME TAX CASE

### Conspiracy to Violate Statute in Corporate Payments Charged

Continued from Page One

Bartow, Fla., conspired with the defendants to make it appear that amounts paid by the corporation to persons whose names appear on its books as drawing salaries, expense allowances and commissions were much greater than amounts actually paid to these persons.

The officers, the indictment returned Thursday charges, listed items of salaries, expense allowances and commissions amounting to \$11,050.06 in their corporate income tax report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931. This amount, according to the indictment, was \$699.77 more than actually was paid to persons who the defendants represent received such salaries, commissions and expense allowances.

In their corporate return for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, the indictment charges, the defendants represented that Harry B. Nelson received \$4000.04, John P. Nelson \$2000, Willis W. Nelson \$1000, James C. Nelson \$1800, Chandler H. Nelson \$1800 and Jesse R. Terry \$430, whereas Harry B. Nelson actually was paid \$2121.12, John P. Nelson \$1112.64, Willis W. Nelson \$321.83 and the other persons named in the indictment nothing.

Chandler H. Lanier, mentioned in the conspiracy indictment returned Wednesday as having participated in the alleged conspiracy to violate the law in connection with income tax payments for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1931 and 1932, was not mentioned in the indictment returned Thursday.

No indictments were returned against Lanier, whose home is in Jacksonville, Fla.; James C. Nelson, Chandler H. Nelson or Terry. The three defendants issued a statement at Baton Rouge Wednesday night stating indictments returned against them Wednesday as "purely political."

In addition to selling large quantities of guard rail and road emulsion to other road builders, the three defendants, as Nelson Brothers' Contracting Company, headed the firm which received more road building contracts than any other when the Louisiana Highway Commission's \$78,000,000 construction program was in progress.

Seek to Dissolve Firm  
Business of the Mississippi Valley Company, Inc., according to persons familiar with operations of the highway commission, has been slack since construction money was exhausted by the commission, and its officers, the three defendants in the federal cases here, have applied for

Application for dissolution of Mississippi Valley concern was filed officially on August 28. Its officers announced that its holders, unanimously, approved action and asked for a discharge out of court, with John P. Nelson as liquidator. The three defendants show, own all but one share of stock in the corporation, on Allen's staff.

Harry B. Nelson is a colonel on the staff of Governor O. K. A. Considering the indictments returned, the three defendants charged with attempting to defraud the government of \$30,276.10 in come tax due by their corporations in 1931, 1932 and 1933.

The five indictments returned Wednesday charge and return William Nelson with attempting to evade payment of \$10,463.56 of income tax. John P. Nelson, with attempting to evade payments of income amounting to \$10,463.55, \$17,091.51 and \$1723.66, or a total of \$28,278.72. Harry B. Nelson, with attempt to evade payment of \$17,061.88 come tax.

Expenses Questioned  
The government charges that salaries, expense allowances and commissions claimed by the company to have been paid in 1931 and 1932 were \$194,174.62 in excess of expense allowances and commissions actually paid to persons listed by the company as receiving such compensation.

Figures submitted by the government in its indictments assert the company in 1931, 1932 and 1933 had a gross income of \$1,049,846.43, leaving \$402,697.86 to be accounted for by expenses of operation of the manufacturing agency.

The government claims that net income of the company, which it should have paid taxes on in 1931, 1932 and 1933 was \$22,000.00 and the indictments assert that company actually reported net income of \$61,815.00.

In 1932, the government charges the defendants deducted \$116,200 for payment of allowances and commissions to certain members of Mississippi Valley Company, some of whom are named in the indictment but not charged, whereas \$3661.45 actually was paid to persons purporting to have received the larger amount, and in 1931, according to the indictments, the company deducted \$88,689.78 for allowances and commissions, whereas only \$705 actually was paid to persons listed on the company's books for the items.

62-325



HAROLD M. STEPHENS

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

WASHINGTON  
September 14, 1934

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Cowley	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Please permit me to compliment you and your assistants upon the promptness and dependability of the reports concerning the New Orleans situation.

Each day since this matter was called to the attention of the Department you have kept me fully and efficiently informed so that, if necessary, I could advise with respect to it on short notice.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

*Harold M. Stephens*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Division of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

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September 17, 1934.

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MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL STEPHEN

For your information, I am transmitting herewith a copy of a letter which I have today addressed to the Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre, Assistant Secretary to the President, concerning the situation in New Orleans.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure #701953.

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September 17, 1934.

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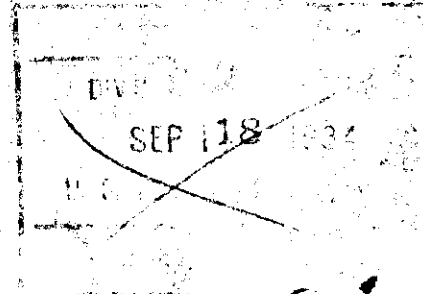
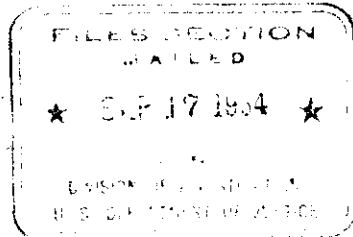
MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
MR. WILLIAM STANLEY

For your information, I am transmitting herewith a copy of a letter which I have today addressed to the Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre, Assistant Secretary to the President, concerning the situation in New Orleans.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Inclosure #701954.



*J. E. H.*

EAT-eg

September 17, 1934.

RECORDED

62-32509-56

Honorable Marvin R. McIntyre,  
Assistant Secretary to the President,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

With reference to further developments in the situation at New Orleans, I have been advised by the Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Division Office that the Legislative Committee, which has been investigating alleged irregularities on the part of the city administration in New Orleans, has adjourned subject to call at a later date, if desired. No information has been received as to when hearings might be resumed or what action, if any, will be taken on the evidence already secured relative to alleged graft.

In the absence of a specific request, no additional inquiry will be conducted in this matter at New Orleans since it appears that the circumstances necessitating the previous inquiries have now been completely removed.

With expressions of my highest esteem and best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover,  
John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Baughman.....
- Chief Clerk.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Cowley.....
- Mr. Edwards.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Keith.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Schilder.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Egan.....
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- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Schilder.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....

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DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
SEP 18 1934

*[Handwritten signature]*

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

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NL	Night Letter
LC	Deferred Cable
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R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLYER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME  
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REFERENCE DEVELOPMENTS SITUATION NEWORLEANS LEGISLATIVE

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ON PART OF CITY ADMINISTRATION NEWORLEANS HAS ADJOURNED

SUBJECT TO CALL AT A LATER DATE IF DESIRED STOP NO

INFORMATION AS TO WHEN HEARINGS MIGHT BE RESUMED OR WHAT

ACTION IF ANY WILL BE TAKEN ON EVIDENCE ALREADY SECURED

RELATIVE ALLEGED GRAFT\*

WEST HITLEY. ENGRS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE DELIVERY OF NOTES AND PACKAGES

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*Registries Office*

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September 15, 1934.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
MR. WILLIAM STANLEY

For your information, I am attaching hereto a copy of a letter which I have today addressed to the Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre, Assistant Secretary to the President, concerning the situation in New Orleans.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Inclosure #701951.

FILES SECTION  
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SEP 15 1934 \*  
F. B. I.  
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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