

MANY RELATIVES OF LAWMAKERS PAID BY U. S.

Senators and Representatives Keep Much of Clerk Hire Cash 'in Family.'

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER
United Press Staff Correspondent

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WASHINGTON, April 23.—Congress is getting off fairly easy in the agitation for government economy because nobody, not even President Hoover, can investigate that distinguished body of the people's representatives.

But if congress should ever break down and tell all, as Senator Elmer Thomas (Dem., Okla.) has done to the United Press, the result would be informative, if nothing more.

It would show—not graft, heaven forbid—but senators and congressmen putting their wives, daughters, sons, brothers, brothers-in-law, nieces and stepchildren on the congressional pay roll as secretaries and clerks.

It would show that many of these favored relatives actually work.

It would show that others do not, except on pay day.

One senator from a farm belt state would be revealed bringing in a niece who, with six months' business college training, was placed on his office pay roll last summer at a salary higher than was paid to veteran stenographers in the same office.

Representative John E. Rankin (Dem., Miss.), chairman of the World War veterans committee of the house, would be shown maintaining as secretary of that committee a capable young man, who until recently was also serving as a newspaper correspondent in Jackson, Miss. He came back to Washington a few days ago.

Even the genial Senator Pat Harrison (Dem., Miss.), whose satirical speech about the "Lone Bull Frog" described in a government pamphlet has provided the one bright spot in the economy debate, maintained a daughter on the pay roll last summer, but she has since been dropped.

Last summer congress was in recess. There was no session for nine months. Many senators looked their offices and had their mail forwarded. Business was at a minimum.

Yet Senator Park Trammell (Dem., Fla.), whose business never is heavy, maintained his four clerks, two of them, Trammells, one a brother, on the office pay roll. This is not to single him out. He traveled in numerous companies.

Each senator is allowed four office employees at fixed salaries ranging from \$1,800 up to \$3,000 a year. Most often the relatives get the higher salaries and a Washington girl is hired to carry the heavier load of work. If it isn't a relative, then it is a political healer from back home who is apt to get the big money.

Many, during the slack season, put members of the family on the pay roll and keep only one working clerk to watch the office and forward mail.

Senator Thomas had his wife on the pay roll as his secretary until Nov. 30. She drew the highest salary, \$3,900 a year.

"She worked, though she wasn't a slave and didn't punch a time clock," Thomas explained. "I realize it looked bad to have Mrs. Thomas on the pay roll as my secretary, but it was done only as a matter of necessity."

He explained that he had used part of Mrs. Thomas' salary to supplement salaries of two of his other clerks when his quarters were small, and they were compelled to carry a much heavier load.

When he obtained larger offices last fall, he said, Mrs. Thomas was taken off the pay roll and another clerk was added in her place. The senator says he now has two extra temporary employees, who are costing him about \$50 a week out of his own pocket.

Speaker John N. Garner's wife has been his secretary for years and she has given the government full and overflowing value for every dollar she has drawn.

SUNSHINE GARDENS BUS LINE SALE IS APPROVED

Commission O. K. Given Purchase by William and Emily Schenk.

Purchase of the Sunshine Gardens bus line by William and Emily Schenk from Stuart Reed was approved by the public service commission Friday.

The line operates via Bluff road and Harding street to Sunshine Gardens.

Abandonment of local street car service at Jeffersonville will be permitted the Public Service Company of Indiana.

Michigan City municipal water plant was authorized to increase its minimum monthly rate for 7,500 gallons from 50 to 75 cents.

Lease of the United Transit Lines service between Kokomo and Marion and between Indianapolis and Columbus by the Denny Motor Transfer Company was approved.

HAILED AS CORN KING

DeKalb County Farmer Is Declared Best in Country.

CITY OF LAFAYETTE, Ind., April 23.—"Corn growing champion of the United States" is the latest title being claimed for Herman Pankop, DeKalb county farmer, whose official yield of 156.2 bushels of corn an acre in 1931 won for him the title of five-acre corn king of Indiana.

A check by officials of the Purdue university agricultural experiment station, who co-operate with the Indiana Corn Growers' Association annually in conducting the five-acre corn club project, has failed to reveal a record anywhere in the United States that equals Pankop's unusual yield.

Indiana Woman Kills Hawk

M. VERNON, Ind., April 23.—A hawk that had a wing spread of four and one-half feet was killed by Mrs. Sarah Axton, Poseyville farm woman, when the bird swooped to seize a chicken and became entangled in blackberry bushes. The bird's talons inflicted a deep wound in Mrs. Axton's arm.

OIL MEN SAVE THEIR INDUSTRY

Production Curbed, Ruin Averted by Drastic Methods

The new economic order in the oil industry which has been marked by the cent price increase to \$1 a barrel, has pointed a way out of the depression for other lines of business.

This—the final story in a series of five on the new era in the industry—tells how oil is meeting the problem of over-production that faces many other lines of business.

BY ROBERT TALLEY
NEA Service Writer

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TULSA, Okla., April 23.—Out of the depression and the huge oversupply of nearly all commodities that floods the market to the detriment of business today may come the economic theory that unrestricted production is bad for public welfare.

In other words, if production is geared too high for market needs, then the federal government or the states should curtail production to a level akin to the demand, under this new theory.

Supreme Court Justice Brandeis, one of the foremost liberals of the day, sought to apply this theory in a recent dissenting opinion.

Though overruled by a majority, he upheld an Oklahoma law which had the effect of preventing an increase in the number of ice companies in the state.

Waiving hairy constitutional considerations, Justice Brandeis defended "the right of the people to meet changing economic conditions of the machine age."

He expressed alarm as to whether economic theory was or morally right that men should be permitted to add to the producing facilities of an industry already suffering from overcapacity."

Long before Justice Brandeis expressed this view, the oil industry had taken the same position and applied this policy.

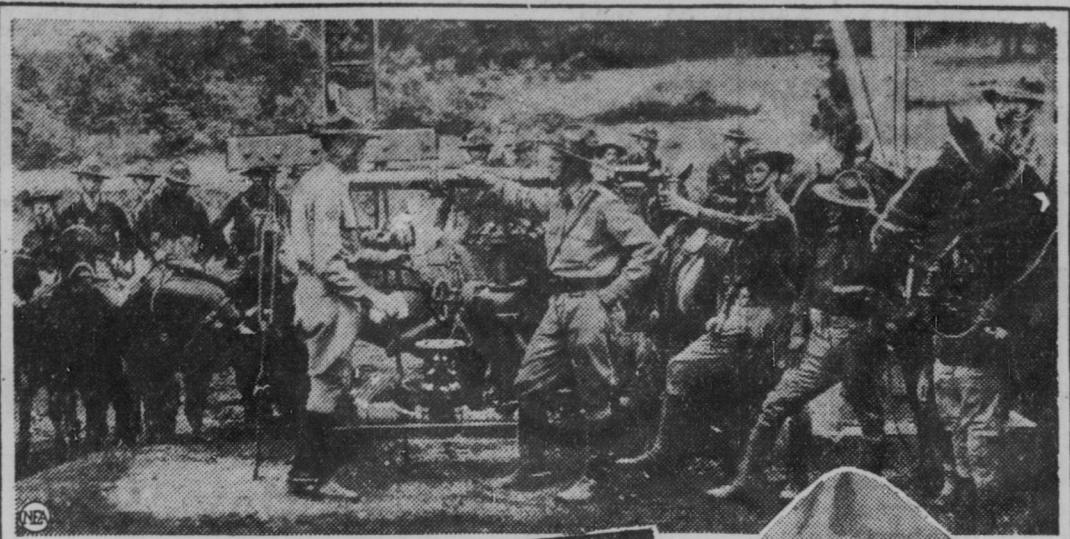
Menaced by a tremendous oversupply, it suddenly curtailed its surplus production, with the result that prices have risen from 10 cents to \$1 a barrel and oil is showing other industries a path out of the wilderness of depression.

Oil men did not begin it themselves. State conservation laws, given more teeth after the disastrous price crash of last summer, did it for them. Now they have seen the wisdom of balancing production with market needs.

THE recent 15-cent price increase that brought oil to \$1-a-barrel, the first advance since last November, meant an additional income of \$200,000 a day for producers in the mid-continent area.

It did not mean the return of prosperity, but it is possible in most cases to break even on \$1 oil and in some cases—where production costs are low—to make a little money.

Although hundreds of additional wells have been drilled since that time, state proration laws are



dous losses in the industry's history, even though \$1 doesn't approach the \$2, \$2.50 and \$3 prices of a few years ago."

The movement for restricted production had its start in the great debacle of last summer, when a new field in east Texas, described as "the world's largest," came roaring in with huge surplus production and oil broke from \$1 to 10 cents a barrel.

Governor "Alfalfa Bill" Murray of Oklahoma and Governor Ross Sterling of Texas, seeing a great industry being carried towards destruction on a flood of surplus oil, hurriedly sent troops to shut down the wells.

Out of this emergency move came stricter state proration laws limiting production. The wisdom of this course proved, the oil men said.

It was hard to convince landowners eager for royalties on the oil leases, who wanted to produce as much oil as possible.

Eventually, however, they saw the wisdom of getting more money for less oil and the recent price increase is taken as an indication that the big purchasing companies have become reconciled to this changed viewpoint.

There is today, as there was then, the wisdom of getting more money for less oil and the recent price increase is taken as an indication that the big purchasing companies have become reconciled to this changed viewpoint.

In the big Oklahoma City field, which Governor Murray shut down with troops last summer, production is now restricted to 120,000 barrels a day, a fraction of the possible output.

AND so oil has met its problem of overproduction by reducing its output and the industry has found that, under these conditions, less oil can be made to produce more money.

In this, it points the way to better times for other lines of business now burdened with tremendous oversupplies to the consequent depression of prices.

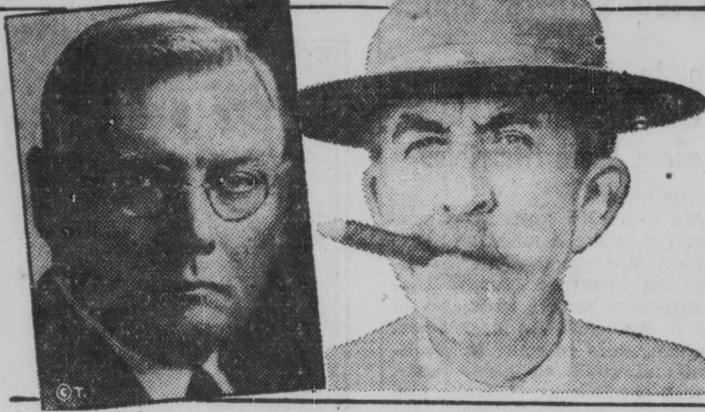
This east Texas field that nearly wrecked the industry when it was running wild still exerts a tremendous influence on the market.

An oil man told me this: "If east Texas were permitted to run wide open again, oil would crash again to 10 cents a barrel or even less; if this great field should magically vanish, oil prices would drop to wealth as it discovered a vast new field."

Their day is done. With the oil business stabilized and 85 percent of it now in the hands of big companies thoroughly equipped to defend themselves against competition, the chance for the newcomer has faded.

And if a "wild-catter" should discover a vast new field today, state proration laws would restrict his production to save the industry from being drenched with a surplus of oil far beyond the market's requirements.

THE END



Stern military measures by the governors of Oklahoma and Texas stopped crashing oil prices that dropped to 10 cents a barrel last summer and started them back to the \$1 price that obtains in the mid-continent field today.

The above picture shows troops as they shut down wells in the great east Texas field. Below are Governor Ross Sterling of Texas, left, and Governor "Alfalfa Bill" Murray of Oklahoma.

As a result of this change from an era of reckless gambling to one of hard-headed business methods, the oil industry has lost two of its most colorful figures—the unknown newcomer who became an oil king almost overnight and made millions and the lucky "wild-catter" who struck it rich and soared to wealth as he discovered a vast new field.

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A Flat Note

By United Press

CHICAGO, April 23.—Officers Richard Kenney and Louis Berg were unable to get into a speakeasy where they had been sent to quell a fight.

Neither had a nickel so they gave this message to the telephone operator at a pay phone to transmit to the police station.

"Strong door is holding us. Send an ax so we can break in and get our men."

The police station received the message in this form:

"Send men to help police men who are held in a flat by a man with an ax. Break down door."

A few minutes later, a riot squad of seventeen officers armed with sub-machine guns and drawn revolvers stormed up to the speakeasy door.

Inside were Kenny and Berg calmly questioning an attendant who let them in after they succeeded in convincing him they were officers.

ROBBERS LAY IN WAIT AT GARAGE, GET \$100

Trio Believed Seeking Grocery Re-
cipes They Thought Victim Had.

Three robbers obtained nearly \$100 in loot early today when they held up Bernard Risk and C. B. Edwards, at a garage in the rear of 1923 Park avenue, where Edwards lives.

Risk, 26, who lives at 2371 Stewart street, keeps his car with Edwards in the garage. They told police they went to the garage about 1 this morning to get their cars and encountered the robbers. Risk was robbed of an automatic pistol, a \$50 watch and \$20, while \$9 was taken from Edwards.

The vote follows: Chamberlain, 241; A. Jack Tilson, 33; Cox, 160; James E. Deery, 114; Stark, 150; John O. Lewis, 115, and Wilson, 274.

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED

Engineering and Pharmacy Schools of Purdue Plan Event.

5,234 SAVING IN CITY WATER BILLS SHOWN

March Figures Less Due to New Rate, Say Officials.

Saving of \$5,234.59 in city water bills for March, as compared with February, was the result of the public service commission's water rate readjustment order, was announced today by city officials.

The February hydrant rental bill was \$38,393.33, the March bill being only \$33,007.16.

A loss of \$151.58 was shown in the \$689 March bill for metered water in public buildings, due to the increased rate for heavy water consumers under the commission order.

"Jockey" Robs Benefactor

By United Press

CHICAGO, April 23.—When a shivering youth, who said he was a jockey, stopped Walter Ellingsham, San Francisco, on the street and asked aid, Ellingsham let him sleep in a room of his hotel suite. In the morning Ellingsham found the "jockey" gone, also \$61, a revolver and a \$100 watch.

Five Suspects Are Nabbed in Robber Drive

FIVE SUSPECTS ARE NABBED IN ROBBER DRIVE

Negro Is Caught in Act of Breaking in Store, Police Claim.

Five thief suspects were captured, two robbers were routed and several others are sought by police today in connection with seven burglaries Friday night, in which loot totaled nearly \$400.

Nabbed by police as he crouched in the interior of the William G. Miller Dry Goods Store, 2626 Northwestern avenue, early Saturday, James Gardner, 30, Negro, of 2433 Martin-dale avenue, was arrested on a burglary charge.

Police said they recovered several hundred dollars' worth of loot at the store.

A police squad in charge of Lieutenant Ralph Dean sped to the store when a burglar alarm sounded shortly after midnight. They found Gardner clutching a wrecking bar as they entered, they said.

Captured After Chase

Sped away as a police squad in charge of Clarence Griffin drew beside his parked car, Jack Melvin, 44, of 1945 North Dearborn street, was captured after a chase of several blocks in the vicinity of 1600 North Beville avenue, Friday night. He was arrested on a vagrancy charge and ordered held under bond of \$2,000 in connection with recent auto accessories.

Patrolman Kenneth C. Downs chased and captured William Dunbar, Negro, 41, of 315 Indiana avenue, after an alleged attack on Fred Papas, 3558 West Sixteenth street, as the victim walked near his home late Friday night. He is charged with vagrancy.

Companions Escape

Two companions of the suspect escaped.

Forced to flee from an alleged stolen car when pursued by two 15-year-old boys, was captured late Friday at Twenty-fifth and Martindale avenue.

Winfred Louden, 56 North Audubon road, and Harry Weaver, 308 North Layman avenue, the boy's captors, told police they recognized the car as one stolen Monday night from Butler university. Louden and Weaver are Butler students.

As a police squad returned from investigating the robbery in which Gardner was captured, they saw a Negro with two auto tires after breaking into the Dunlop Rubber Company at 909 North Capitol avenue.

Rout Two Prowlers

Giving chase, they captured Frank Graves, 36, Negro, address unknown, who admitted the thief, they said. Graves was arrested on a vagrancy charge and is held on \$2,000 bond.

Returning to their apartments at 20 North Oriental street, late Friday night, P. G. Ralston and Ralph Randall, occupants of adjoining apartments, routed two prowlers in the act of looting both residences. Nothing had been taken, Ralston and Randall told police.</