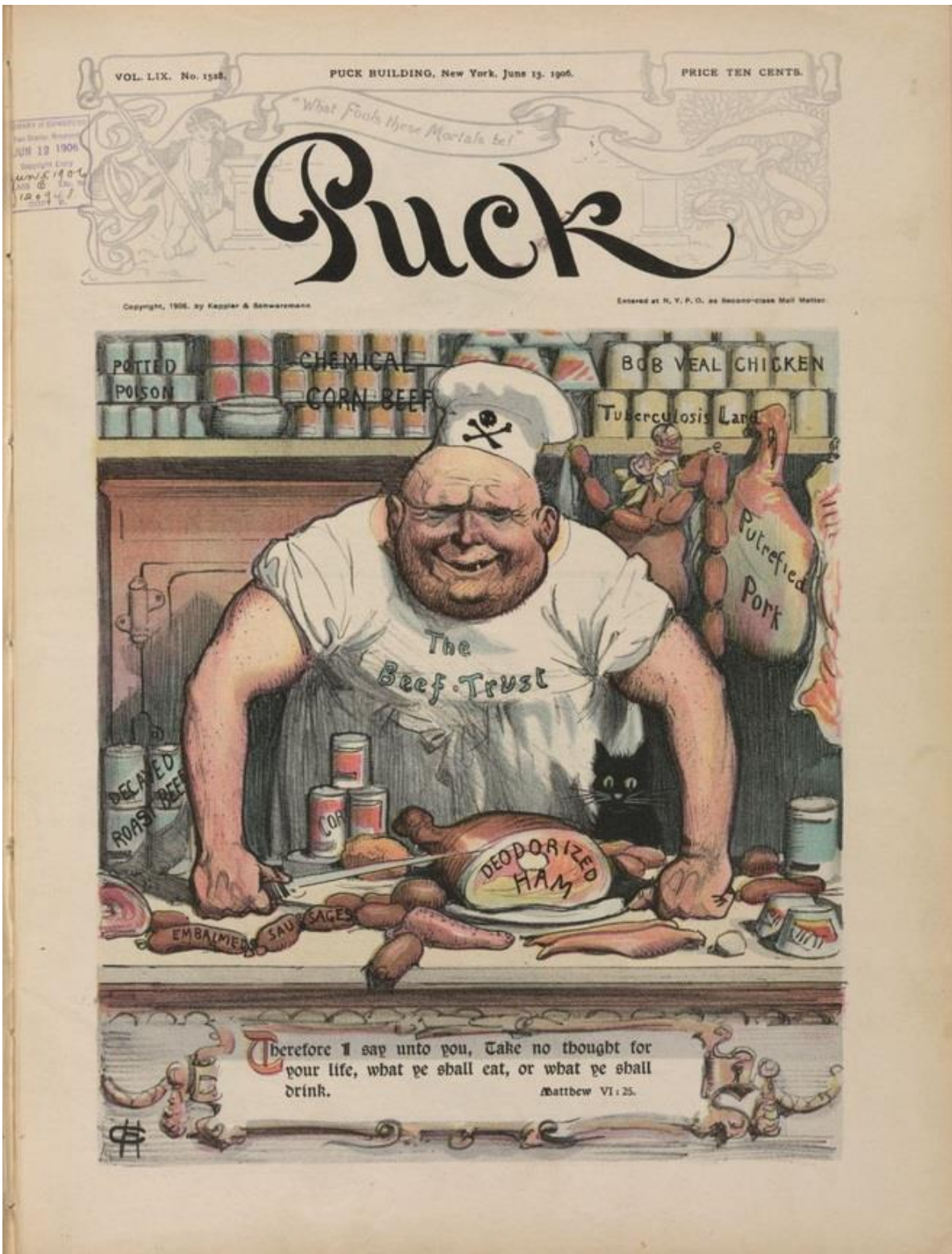


Kansas Historical Society Lesson Plans



[Political Cartoon, The Meat Market, page 1 of 2]

Title The Meat Market

Kansas Historical Society Lesson Plans

Collection Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

Description

The illustration shows a butcher labeled "The Beef Trust" standing behind a counter in a butcher shop, around him are meat products labeled "Potted Poison, Chemical Corn Beef, Bob Veal Chicken, Tuberculosis Lard, Decayed Roast Beef, Deodorized Ham, Embalmed Sausages, [and] Putrefied Pork". A verse from the Bible appears below the counter: "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink. Matthew VI:25.

Creation Date: 1906-06-13

Creator: [Hassmann, Carl, 1869-1933](#)

Citation (Chicago Style): [*The Meat Market*]. June 13, 1906. Prints and Photographs division. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.

theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Research/Digital-Library/Record.aspx?libID=o278545. Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library. Dickinson State University.

Analyzing The Meat Market

Sourcing

Title _____

First published in _____

Date of publication _____

Analysis

Use the Observe, Reflect, and question method of analysis provided by the Library of Congress (either on paper—

loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/resources/Analyzing_Political_Cartoons.pdf or electronically— loc.gov/teachers/primary-source-analysis-tool/)

Follow-Up

1. Think about the point the cartoonist was trying to make with this cartoon. Were you persuaded?
Yes No Why or why not?

Group Work

1. Share your cartoon with the other members of the group.
2. Compare the three cartoons by identifying the different methods used by each cartoonist.

symbols

allusions

exaggeration

words

[Political Cartoon, The Meat Market, page 2 of 2]



[Political Cartoon, Watch the Professor, page 1 of 2]

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Title Watch the Professor

Collection Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

Description

Illustration shows an oversized man labeled "Beef Trust", with skeleton face, performing a magic trick on a stage by taking "Diseased Livestock" and pushing them through a tube labeled "Packingtown" to produce packaged "Pure Meat Products". A diminutive man, "The Prof's Assistant", wearing a cap labeled "Inspector" is standing on the stage on the left. Caption: A monstrous and amazing feat of magic.

Creation Date 1906-05-23

Citation (Chicago Style)

[*Watch the professor.*] May 23, 1906 Prints and Photographs division. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Research/Digital-Library/Record.aspx?libID=o278540. Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library. Dickinson State University.

Analyzing Watch the Professor

Sourcing

Title _____

First published in _____

Date of publication _____

Analysis

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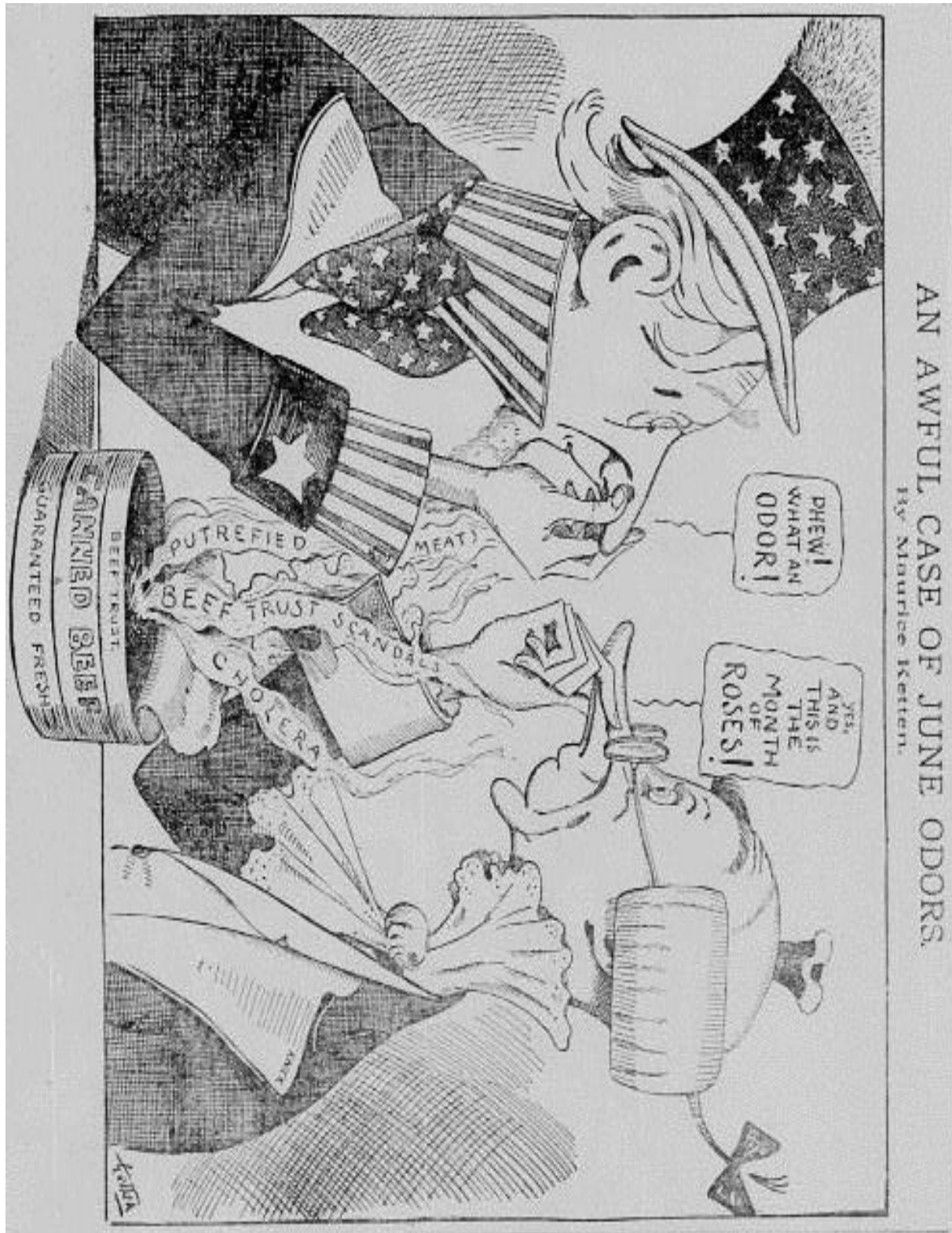
symbols

allusions

exaggeration

words

[Political Cartoon, Watch the Professor, page 2 of 2]



[Political Cartoon, An Awful Case of June Odors, page 1 of 2]

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Title An Awful Case of June Odors

Collection Chronicling America

Description

This political cartoon by Maurice Ketten is from page 3 of *The World*, [New York, N.Y.] evening edition. It is included on a page dedicated to a series of articles written by Upton Sinclair in which he discussed how he had researched the information for his book, *The Jungle*.

Creation Date 1906-06-09

Citation (Chicago Style)

The World. [New York, N.Y.] evening edition, 09 June 1906, page 3.

About The evening world. (New York, N.Y.) 1887-1931 Image provided by: The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundation.

Analyzing An Awful Case of June Odors

Sourcing

Title _____

First published in _____

Date of publication _____

Analysis

Use the Observe, Reflect, and question method of analysis provided by the Library of Congress (either on paper

loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/resources/Analyzing_Political_Cartoons.pdf or electronically-- loc.gov/teachers/primary-source-analysis-tool/)

Follow-Up

1. Think about the point the cartoonist was trying to make with this cartoon. Were you persuaded?
Yes No Why or why not?

Group Work

1. Share your cartoon with the other members of the group.
2. Compare the three cartoons by identifying the different methods used by each cartoonist.

symbols

allusions

exaggeration

words

[Political Cartoon, An Awful Case of June Odors, page 2 of 2]

Kansas Historical Society Lesson Plans

Background Information

Appeal to Reason: (1895-1922). This newspaper was first published August 31, 1895 in Kansas City, Kansas by Julius A. Wayland. The newspaper was moved to Girard, Kansas a year later and Fred Warren was hired as co-editor. Warren, a well-known Socialist, persuaded many of American's leading reformers to contribute articles to the paper. These writers included Upton Sinclair, Jack London, Mary "Mother" Jones, Stephen Crane, Eugene Debs, Kate Richards O'Hare and Helen Keller all of whom helped to increase the circulation of the paper. The paper was known for supporting the Farmer's Alliance and People's Party movements and the Socialist Party of America. In 1902 the circulation of this Kansas newspaper was the fourth highest of any weekly publication in the United States, reaching 150,000 subscriptions.

In 1904, Warren commissioned Upton Sinclair to write an investigative piece about the condition of immigrant workers in the Chicago meat packing houses. He gave Sinclair a \$500 advance. Sinclair spent several weeks researching life in the packing plants and Packingtown. The exposé soon turned into a novel. *The Jungle* was first serialized in the *Appeal to Reason*, appearing in each issue from February 25 to November 4, 1905. During this time the circulation of the weekly increased to 175,000. By 1910 the paper had one of the largest weekly circulations in the United States. At that time, it had 450,000 subscribers and printed 550,000 copies weekly which were shipped across America from the Girard, Kansas depot.



newspapers.com /image/66992068



kansasmemory.org/item/211131

[Background Information, page 1 of 4]

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Upton Sinclair (1878-1968).



<http://www.biography.com/>

During his lifetime Sinclair was a prolific writer. Throughout his lifetime he wrote more than 90 books, 30 plays and numerous serial articles. He began with exposés for magazines and newspapers such as *The Appeal to Reason* along with dime novels.

His first literary success was *The Jungle*. The exposé turned novel originally was first published in the *Appeal to Reason* and then picked up by many other newspapers. The novel, itself, was turned down by many publishers as being too scandalous. Finally in 1906,

Doubleday agreed to publish it after sending investigators to the Chicago packing plants to confirm his charges. The book quickly became a world-wide best seller and was translated into seventeen languages. One of the thousands of readers was President Theodore Roosevelt.

Although Sinclair had written the book to reveal the plight of laborers working in the packing plants and living in Packingtown, it was his description of the unsanitary conditions of the meat plants that caused great public outcry both from Americans and foreigners who purchased canned meat from the packers. *The Jungle* ultimately led to the passing of two new federal laws, the Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act of 1906.

This quote from Sinclair best expresses his thoughts on the impact of the book, "I aimed at the public's heart, and by accident I hit it in the stomach." *The Jungle* is still read today, providing readers of a realistic picture of conditions in the meat-packing industry in the early 1900s. Many compare *The Jungle* with Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in showing the power of fiction to move a nation.

Chicago Packing Houses Because railroads had connected Chicago to the urban markets on the East Coast and the Midwestern farmers raising livestock, the city grew into the chief meat packing city in America. In 1865 when the Union Stock Yard opened, the meat packers began to build large plants near the stockyards. The packing plants were located in Packingtown, on the outskirts of Chicago. The plants developed ice-cooled rooms, steam hoists to elevate carcasses and assembly lines to assist in the year-round butchering of cattle and swine. The packers preserved meat in tin cans, developed a butter substitute, oleomargarine, and turned discarded parts into glue, fertilizer, glycerin, ammonia, and gelatin. In 1900 the Chicago plants alone had 25,000 employees.

The workers in the packing plants were mostly unskilled immigrant men who worked long hours doing backbreaking and dangerous work. The plants were poorly lit, lacked adequate ventilation, and were hot in the summer and unheated in the winter. The men stood for long hours on floors covered with blood, meat scraps, and dirty water. Women and children over 14 worked at meat trimming, sausage making, and canning. An average work day was 10 hours, six days a week. The pay for most was just pennies per hour. They lived in tenement apartments or rented rooms in Packingtown. Making rent payments and buying food for their families was often impossible when workers were laid off due to job cuts or disabled while working in the plants.

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The largest plants were Armour, Swift, Morris and National Packing. Because of their size they could influence livestock prices, feed growers, and therefore the subsequent price of meat products. Livestock raisers had previously called on the federal government to investigate the packers control of cattle prices, and foreign governments had asked for pork inspections as early as 1890, but little if anything was done. It was Upton Sinclair's novel, *The Jungle*, which brought the anger of American citizens and the ire of President Theodore Roosevelt to push for the Meat Inspection Act of 1906. This placed federal inspectors in packing houses whose products were transported interstate or to foreign commerce. Throughout the years since, Congress has continually made changes to protect the consumer.

President Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) Theodore Roosevelt is remembered for his foreign policies, corporate reforms and ecological preservation. Roosevelt became a hero during the Spanish-American War where he was the lieutenant colonel of the Rough Rider Regiment and led the charge at the battle of San Juan. In 1898, Roosevelt, a Republican, was elected governor of New York. Later he became the Assistant U. S. Navy Secretary and eventually in 1900 was persuaded to be a running mate as William McKinley campaigned for his second presidential term. He became the youngest person to be president of the United States when McKinley was assassinated in 1901.

Many historians agree that Roosevelt changed the presidency from simply being an executive to taking the lead to get congress to act on foreign policies, corporate reforms and ecological preservation. He paid close attention to the needs and interests of the citizens. He revolutionized the presidency by using the newspapers to promote his programs. During his terms as president, he accomplished many things. He helped to pass the gold standard, protective tariffs, lowering of taxes and enforcement of the anti-trust law to break up large monopolies among other achievements.

In December 1905, Roosevelt presented Congress with his to-do list. On his list of items was the need to clean up the packing plants and protect Americans' food that was often adulterated and injurious to those who consumed it. As with many of his other suggestions, Congress made no effort to act. It was after reading *The Jungle*, that Roosevelt had the opportunity to "jump on the band wagon" of public outcry. He invited Sinclair to the White House to discuss the evils that were revealed in the book. He appointed investigators to confirm Sinclair's claims. Throughout the next few months he continued to press for the passage of both the Pure Food and Drug and the Meat Inspection Acts of 1906. The Meat Inspection Act authorized inspectors from the U. S. Department of Agriculture to stop any bad or mislabeled meat from entering interstate and foreign commerce. It was this law that greatly expanded federal government regulations of private enterprise giving the government a wedge to expand federal regulations of other industries.

Newspapers of the early 1900s At the turn of the 20th century people received their news primarily through newspapers. They were inexpensive and available in not only the large cities but also in small towns and rural communities. In 1900 there were 20,000 different newspapers published in the United States. They were daily, weekly, monthly, or even quarterly publications. The largest newspapers were found in the nation's largest cities for instance New York and Chicago. The newspapers often clearly labeled themselves politically—Democrat, Republican,
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Independent, or Socialist. Others were often aimed more at special interests.

At this time newspapers shared news with one another. In 1850 the Associated Press had been formed which brought together news-gathering cooperatives. The major stories would be investigated by and reported in some of the largest newspapers and then cabled to affiliated newspapers which would run them simultaneously. It is also at this time that reporters began to develop their stories with more background and perspective. This had changed journalistic writing more toward realism and thus reporting perceived corruption.

Discussion questions:

1. Explain Sinclair's meaning when he said, "I aimed at the public's heart and by accident I hit it in the stomach."
2. Compare the impact of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* with *The Jungle*.
3. People in the early 1900s wanted to be aware of what was happening in other places. The newspapers helped this to happen by sharing their news and even the entire articles to be printed in faraway places like small town, Meade, Kansas. Today few people subscribe to newspapers, yet they can be just as informed in Meade as in New York City. How is this possible? What are some similarities and differences between the early 1900s and today?

[Background Information, page 4 of 4]

Appeal to Reason (Girard, Kansas) · March 10, 1906 · Page 4

HORRIBLE CONDITIONS IN STOCKYARDS

Upton Sinclair in Novel, “The Jungle,” Charges Many Illegal Abuses—Packers Violate Health Regulations With Impunity, Asserts the Writer.

From the Chicago Record-Herald of Feb. 26, 1906

EXTRACTS FROM UPTON SINCLAIR’S NOVEL, “THE JUNGLE.”

Then there was the condemned meat industry with its endless horrors. The people of Chicago saw the government inspectors in Packingtown and they took that to mean that they were protected from diseased meat and they did not understand that these 163 inspectors had been appointed at the request of the packers, and that they were paid by the United States government to certify that all the diseased meat was kept in the state.

There were some cattle with broken legs, and some with gored sides, and some that had died, from what cause no one could say and they were all to be disposed of here in darkness and silence. “Downers” the men call them and the packing house had a special elevator upon which they were raised to the killing beds where the gang proceeded to handle them with an air of businesslike nonchalance which said plainer than words that it was a matter of everyday routine.

There was never the least attention paid to what was cut up for sausage. Thousands of rats would race over the meat. These rats were a nuisance, and the packers would put poisoned bread out for them; they would die and then rats, bread and meat would go into the hoppers together.

Horrible conditions and illegal abuses, said to exist with impunity at the Chicago stockyards, are the theme of a daring novel called “The Jungle,” published today by Doubleday, Page & Co. The author, Upton Sinclair, lived for a time among the workingmen in Packingtown, and his book is meant to be a searching and comprehensive indictment of the way things are done there.

THE PUBLISHERS SAY THAT BEFORE THEY ACCEPTED THE MANUSCRIPT THEY HAD THE CHARGES INVESTIGATED BY A COMPETENT LAWYER, WHO CONFIRMED THE TRUTH OF THE AUTHOR’S STARTLING STATEMENTS.

The hero of the novel is a Lithuanian immigrant named Jurgis, who comes to this country with his family to find liberty and justice, and who finds only slavery, injustice and death in the stockyards slums. According to Mr. Sinclair, the corporation that employed Jurgis “was nothing but one gigantic lie from top to bottom.” In the course of his story he charges that the reckless abuses of the packers are protected by the city government through graft.

“The packers had secret mains,” he says, “through which they stole billions of gallons of the city’s water. The papers were full of the scandal—once there had even been an investigation and an actual uncovering of the pipes, but nobody had been punished, and the thing went right on.”

Used Condemned Meat.

The most serious charges are those as to the packing of diseased animals and spoiled meat. Jurgis is employed in various slaughter-houses and comes in contact with unsavory secrets, which the author reveals in many pages of revolting details.

“And then there was the condemned meat industry,” he says, “with its endless horrors. The
[Horrible Conditions, page 1 of 3]

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people of Chicago saw the government inspectors in Packingtown, and they all took that to mean that they were protected from diseased meat; they did not understand that these 163 inspectors had been appointed at the request of the packers, and that they were paid by the United States government to certify that all the diseased meat was kept in the state. They had no authority beyond that, for the inspection of meat to be sold in the city and state and the whole force in Packingtown consisted of three henchmen of the local political machine.

“And shortly afterward one of these, a physician, made the discovery that the carcasses of steers which had been condemned by the government inspectors, and which, therefore, contained ptomaines, which are deadly poisons, were left upon an open platform and carted away to be sold in the city, and so he insisted that these carcasses be treated with an injection of kerosene—and was ordered to resign the same week.

Graft in Diseased Cattle

“So indignant were the packers that they went farther and compelled the mayor to abolish the whole bureau of inspection; so that since then there has not been even a pretense of any interference with the graft. There was said to be \$2,000 a week hush money for the tubercular steers alone, and as much again for the hogs which had died of cholera on the trains, which you might see any day being loaded into box cars and hauled away to a place called Globe, in Indiana, where they made a fancy grade of lard.

“There were cattle which had been fed on ‘whiskey malt’, the refuse of the breweries, and had become what the men called ‘steerly’—which means covered with boils. It was a nasty job killing these, for when you plunged a knife into them they would burst and splash foul smelling stuff into your face. It was stuff such as this that made the ‘embalmed beef’ that had killed several times as many United States soldiers as all the bullets of the Spaniards; only the army beef, besides, was not fresh canned, it was old stuff that had been lying for years in the cellars.”

Using Cattle Already Dead.

Among the curious things that Jurgis noticed on the first day of his employment in “Durham’s” slaughter-house was “the sharp trick of the floor bosses whenever there chanced to come a ‘slunk’ calf.” The author goes on to describe how cows in a condition unfit for food are regularly slaughtered with the rest.

“It was the law that cows of that sort came along with the others, and whoever noticed it would tell the boss, and the boss would start up a conversation with the government inspector, and the two would stroll away. So in a trice the carcass of the cow would be cleaned out, and the entrails would have vanished; it was Jurgis’ task to slide them into the trap, calves and all, and on the floor below they took out these ‘slunk’ calves and butchered them for meat, and used even the skins of them.”

One day Jurgis had to take the place of a man who had hurt his leg, and after the inspector and nearly all the workmen had gone, a select gang was set to preparing the dead cattle that had been gored or died of disease on the train. This is described as follows:

“‘Downers,’ the men called them, and the packing house had a special elevator upon which they were raised to the killing beds, where the gang proceeded to handle them with an air business like nonchalance which said plainer than words that it was a matter of everyday routine. It took a couple of hours to get them out of the way, and in the end Jurgis saw them go into the

[Horrible Conditions, page 2 of 3]

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chilling rooms with the rest of the meat, being carefully scattered here and there so that they could not be identified.”

Mr. Sinclair’s description of the meat that is put into cans is sufficiently unappetizing, but his accounts of how sausages are made are still more so.

“There was never the least attention paid to what was cut up for sausage,” he says, “there would come all the way back from Europe old sausage that had been rejected and that was moldy and white—it would be dosed with borax and glycerin, and dumped into the hoppers, and made over again for home consumption. There would be meat that had tumbled out on the floor, in the dirt and sawdust, where the workers had tramped and spit uncounted billions of consumption germs.

“There would be meat stored in great piles in rooms, and the water from leaky roofs would drip over it and thousands of rats would race about it. It was too dark in these storage places to see well, but a man could run his hand over these piles of meat and sweep off handfuls of the dried excrement of rats. These rats were a nuisance, and the packers would put poisoned bread out for them; they would die and then rats, bread and meat would go into the hoppers together. This is no fairy story and no joke; the meat would be shoveled into carts, and the man who did the shoveling would not trouble to lift out a rat even when he saw one—there were things that went into the sausage in comparison with which a poisoned rat was a tidbit.” . . .

newspapers.com/image/66993745/

[Horrible Conditions, page 3 of 3]

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Meade County News (Meade, Kansas) · 7 June 1906, Thu. · Page 3

UPTON SINCLAIR STRIKES BACK

Author of "The Jungle" Faces Prince of Packers with Awful
Array of Facts Calculated to Destroy the
Infamous Industry.

In a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post Mr. J. Ogden Armour makes the assertion that the government inspection of the beef trust slaughter-houses is an impregnable wall protecting the public from impure meat, and that not an atom of diseased meat finds its way into the products of the Armours. Mr. Upton Sinclair, author of "The Jungle" (a terrific statement of packing house conditions), studied the meat industry for two years, including much time spent in the Chicago stockyards as a workman; he is the best equipped outside authority on stockyard conditions. In Everybody's Magazine for May Mr. Sinclair makes a startling and convincing answer to Mr. Armour's assertion. Commencing with the statement that J. Ogden Armour is the absolute and not the nominal head of the great packing house industry which bears his name, Mr. Sinclair says: "I know that in the statements quoted, Mr. Armour willfully and deliberately states what he absolutely and positively knows to be falsehoods."

That he might be properly equipped to describe conditions in "Packingtown" Mr. Sinclair worked for a period as a laborer in the plant of Armour & Co., and he tells of sights of filth and horror such as he hopes never to see again, but the strongest coincidence of the truth of the claim that meat unfit for human food is put on the market comes from a man for years superintendent at Armour & Co.'s Chicago plant, Thomas F. Dolan, of Boston. Mr. Sinclair in his article says:

"At the time of the embalmed-beef scandal at the conclusion of the Spanish war, when the whole country was convulsed with fury over the revelations made by soldiers and officers (including Gen. Miles and President Roosevelt) concerning the quality of meat which Armour & Co. had furnished to the troops, and concerning the death-rate which it had caused, the enormity of the 'condemned-meat industry' became suddenly clear to one man who had formerly supervised it. Mr. Thomas F. Dolan, then residing in Boston, had, up to a short time previous, been a superintendent at Armour & Co.'s, and one of Mr. Phillip D. Armour's most capable and trusted men. When he read of the death-rate in the army, he made an affidavit concerning the things which were done in the establishment of Armour & Co., and this affidavit he took to the New York Journal, which published it on March 4, 1899. Here are extracts from it:

"There were many ways of getting around the inspectors—so many, in fact, that not more than two or three cattle out of 1,000 were condemned. I know exactly what I am writing of in this connection, as my particular instructions from Mr. W. E. Pierce, superintendent of the beef houses for Armour & Co., were very explicit and definite.

"Whenever a beef got past the yard inspectors with a case of lumpy jaw and came into the slaughterhouse or the 'killing-bed,' I was authorized by Mr. Pierce to take his head off, thus

[Sinclair Strikes Back, page 1 of 3]

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removing the evidences of lumpy jaw, and after casting the smitten portion into the tank where refuse goes, to send the rest of the carcass on its way to market. "I have seen as much as 40 pounds of flesh afflicted with gangrene cut from the carcass of a beef, in order that the rest of the animal might be utilized in trade.

"One of the most important regulations of the bureau of animal industry is that no cows in calf are to be placed on the market. Out of a slaughter of 2,000 cows, or a day's killing, perhaps one-half are with calves. My instructions from Mr. Pierce were to dispose of the calves by hiding them until night, or until the inspectors left off duty. The little carcasses were then brought from all over the packing-house and skinned by boys, who received two cents for removing each pelt. The pelts were sold for 50 cents each to the kid-glove manufacturers. This occurs every night at Mr. Armour's concern at Chicago, or after each killing of cows.

"I now propose to state here exactly what I myself have witnessed in Philip D. Armour's packing-house with cattle that have been condemned by the government inspectors.

"A workman, one Nicholas Newson during my time, informs the inspector that the tanks are prepared for the reception of the condemned cattle and that his presence is required to see the beef cast into the steam-tank. Mr. Inspector proceeds at once to the place indicated, and the condemned cattle having been brought up to the tank room on trucks, are forthwith cast into the hissing steam-boilers and disappear.

"But the condemned steer does not stay in the tank any longer that the time required for his remains to drop through the boiler down to the floor below, where he is caught on a truck and hauled back again to the cutting room. The bottom of the tank was open, and the steer passed through the aperture.

"I have witnessed the farce many times. I have seen the beef dropped into the vat in which a steam-pipe was exhausting with a great noise so that the thud of the beef striking the truck below could not be heard, and in a short time I have witnessed Nicholas bringing it back to be prepared for market.

"I have even marked beef with my knife so as to distinguish it, and watched it return to the point where it started. . . .

"Of all the evils of the stockyards, the canning department is perhaps the worst. It is there that the cattle from all parts of the United States are prepared for canning. No matter how scrawny or debilitated canners are they must go the route of their brothers and arrive ultimately at the great boiling vats, where they are steamed until they are reasonably tender. Bundles of gristle and bone melt into pulpy masses and are stirred up for the canning department.

"I have seen cattle come into Armour's stockyards so weak and exhausted that they expired in the corrals, where they lay for an hour or two, dead, until they were afterward hauled in, skinned, and put on the market for beef or into the canning department for cans.

"In other words, the Armour establishment was selling carrion.

[Sinclair Strikes Back, page 2 of 3]

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“There are hundreds of other men in the employ of Mr. Armour who could verify every line I have written. They have known of these things ever since packing has been an industry. But I do not ask them to come to the front in this matter. I stand on my oath, word for word, sentence for sentence, and statement for statement.

“I write this story of my own free will and volition, and no one is responsible for it but myself. It is the product of ten years of experience. It is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God.

THOMAS F. DOLAN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this first day of March, 1899.

ORVILLE F. PURDY,

Notary Public, Kings County, N.Y. “Certificate filed in New York County.”

“The significance of this statement as Mr. Sinclair notes, is heightened by the fact that, published as it was in a newspaper of prominence, whose proprietor is a man of immense wealth and could be reached by the courts, Mr. Armour made no move to institute suit for libel, practically admitting that the statement was true.”

Mr. Sinclair makes assertion, and gives abundant proof, that the worry incidental to the “embalmed beef” scandal during the war with Spain caused the death of Philip D. Armour, and that millions of dollars were spent by the packing interests in the effort to keep concealed the truth about the matter. The awful mortality from disease among the soldiers during that few weeks’ campaign was distinctly attributable to the meat rations supplied to the army. There seems small reason to doubt that meat as little fit for human food is still being placed on the market. How much disease and death has been the outcome may be imagined.

Summing up the entire facts of the situation, Mr. Sinclair concludes:

“Writing in a magazine of large circulation and influence, and having the floor all to himself, Mr. Armour spoke serenely and boastfully of the quality of his meat products, and challenged the world to impeach his integrity, but when he was brought into court charged with crime by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, he spoke in a different tone, and to a different purport: he said ‘guilty’. He pleaded this to a criminal indictment of selling ‘preserved’ minced ham in Greenburg, and paid the fine of \$50 and costs. He pleaded guilty again in Shenandoah, Pa., on June 16, 1905, to the criminal charge of selling adulterated ‘blockweirst’; and again he paid the fine of \$50 and costs. Why should Mr. Armour be let off with fines which are of less consequence to him than the price of a postage stamp to you or me, instead of going to jail like other convicted criminals who do not happen to be millionaires?”

newspapers.com/image/79825908

[Sinclair Strikes Back, page 3 of 3]

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The New York Times (New York, New York) · 26 May 1906 Sat. · Page 2

Packers Scared—Sinclair. Tried to Influence the President's Investigators, He Alleges.

Special to The New York Times

PRINCETON, N. J., May 25.—Upton Sinclair, the young author whose book, "The Jungle," was instrumental in awaking the interest of President Roosevelt in the Beef Trust investigations, commented upon the situation this afternoon.

"The 700 telegrams that have been received from the stock raisers protesting against the bill proposed by Senator Beveridge are easy to explain," said Mr. Sinclair. I have information from Chicago that the Beef Trust is frightened at the impending legislation, and has simply dropped the prices so as to scare the stock raisers and make it appear that a large element of the population which is supposed to be against the Beef Trust is at the same time opposed to the bill. It is clever scheme, but easy to see through, and I have no idea that these packers' telegrams will make the least difference to President Roosevelt in his action.

"It is quite evident that the cattlemen have not cause to love the trust, and their present action must be forced. The story of Dr. M. K. Jaques, Professor of Bacteriology at the Illinois State University and head of the Chicago Inspection Service is to the point. He claims that the Inspectors are on the pay rolls of the packing houses and that they quarantine large numbers of perfectly good cattle and sell them out in secret deals with closed bids.

"Commission men are also members of the Standard Slaughtering Company and allow perfect cattle to be condemned and sold at cheap rates to this company so as to rake off the graft."

In speaking of the investigation by the President's two confidential agents, he said: "I have received letters from interested workmen saying that the packers got wind of the private commission and were well prepared when it arrived. They kept the men working at night to get things in cleanly order. Even then the Commissioners obtained many compromising facts for their report, and I happen to know that the Beef Trust sent a representative to the Commissioners to try to get them by some means to suppress part of the unpalatable findings.

newspapers.com/image/20435604

[Packers Scared—Sinclair, page 1 of 1]

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Appeal to Reason (Girard, Kansas) • 21 April 1906 • Page 3

THE PRESIDENT'S IRE AROUSED BY THE APPEAL'S GREAT STORY!

From the Chicago Tribune, April 10th

PRESIDENT "CALLS" "JUNGLE" AUTHOR

Must Prove Charges Against Government Inspection at Stockyards or Admit He Writes Libels.

STIRRED BY HORRID TALES

Roosevelt Sends Commission to Investigate, Which Declares Book is Based on Untruths.

By Raymond.

Washington, D. C., April 9.—Special to Chicago Tribune.—President Roosevelt is in deadly earnest in his desire to get after the "Men with the Muck Rakes." He has not hesitated to use the legitimate agencies of the United States government to run down stories in which the officials of the government were assailed.

The first and most conspicuous object of the president's wrath is Upton Sinclair, and his book, "The Jungle," which deals with the alleged conditions in the Chicago stockyards and which has harrowed up the feelings of thousands of readers over imaginary episodes in the great packing houses. This book and its charges have been made the subject of an official investigation by experts from the department of agriculture, sent out by direct order of the president.

Author Is in Queer Position

The author of the book in question was entertained at the white house the other day at luncheon and was questioned generally by the president as to the facts which he alleged in his sensational novel. The book charges corruption on the part of government officials, and Mr. Sinclair repeated these stories to the president and vouched for their truth.

He probably was unaware of the fact that at that very time there was here in Washington the sworn official report of two of the best and most scientifically trained men of the bureau of animal industry, who had been sent to Chicago expressly to run down the "Jungle" stories. Their report contradicted the statements in the book at every turn, and upon this basis the president probably will feel justified in including the author and his novel in the "Muck Rake" speech which he is to make next Saturday in this city. That Mr. Sinclair is one of the writers included in the president's striking characterization was learned tonight beyond contradiction.

President Roused by Book.

It was about a month ago that some of the extraordinary statements contained in "The Jungle" were called to the attention of the president. Mr. Roosevelt is an omnivorous reader. He can get through a heavy history or sensation novel with equal facility. It did not take him long to get at the gist of "The Jungle," and it can be said safely that this book shares the honors with three or four recent magazine articles of having roused the president to a point where he decided it was necessary for him to undertake something in the nature of a public denunciation of the irresponsible writers who attack the honesty of government officials without producing any evidence.

He found that in "The Jungle" not only were conditions in the packing houses at Chicago painted in the most startling colors, but it was asserted that the government inspectors whose

[President's Ire Aroused, page 1 of 4]

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duty it is to look after the purity of the meat were contemptible grafters, who, for a few dollars of personal gain, were willing to put in jeopardy the lives and daily health of thousands and tens of thousands of innocent American people, and of foreigners as well, who were dependent upon the stamp of government approval.

The president determined, therefore, that he would use the great power at his disposal to do one of two things. Either he would send those unfaithful public servants to the penitentiary or by holding him up to public approval as a man who was willing to attack the character of responsible officials without being able to make good.

In a recent address the president took strong ground on this subject. He insisted that the professional reformers, the uplifters, the graft writers, and magazine fault-finders who have occupied so large a share of public attention of late either should prove some of their charges of corruption, in which case he would guarantee to send the guilty men to the penitentiary, or else be convicted before the public of befouling the good name of the republic and scandalizing us before the peoples of the earth.

Roosevelt Gets Busy at Once

With President Roosevelt to see and to know always is to act. He called at once upon Secretary James Wilson, who is at the head of the department of agriculture, which has direct charge of the inspection of the meat products at the packing houses in Chicago and elsewhere. A complete summary of the charges in the novel was prepared.

There were allegations that rats and babies, and grown people as well, occasionally got into the vats and were sold to the public as prime sausages or lard or something of that sort.

The real thing with which the government had to do, however, was the clearly expressed charge that the government inspectors, whose duty it is to examine and to tag the meat intended for export, were dishonest—that they connived with packers in permitting condemned meat to be sold to the public, and that they did not properly attend to their duties. Furthermore, it was alleged that certain packing houses were kept in such filthy shape it was impossible to produce sanitary meat products.

Armed with instructions from the president of the United States to strike and spare not if they found anything wrong at Chicago, and with a parting word from the secretary of agriculture that the packers were being prosecuted and not protected by the government, the investigators started for Chicago on March 12. The commission consisted of Dr. Dorset, Dr. John R. Mohler, head of the pathological bureau of the department of agriculture; Dr. R. P. Steddon, head of the inspection division of the agricultural department; George B. McCabe, solicitor for the department of agriculture; Dr. U. G. Houck, traveling inspector; and Irvin W. Pew, official stenographer.

“Jungle” Tales Found False

Each one had, beside his official instructions, a copy of “The Jungle,” and they were told to consider it in the light of an official complaint and investigate everything in it which was definite enough to be looked into.

The investigators worked until April 21 and made a most thorough examination. They failed to verify a single important statement made in the book.

They expressed the opinion that, while certain packers and certain inspectors might at certain times conspire together to violate the law and permit the sale of unfit and uncondemned meat, it would be extremely difficult to continue such operations for any length of time.

[President’s Ire Aroused, page 2 of 4]

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The report shows that a number of statements made by the author of "The Jungle" referred to certain incidents which happened long years ago. For instance, a man once did fall into a vat of condemned cattle, and, of course, he never came out alive. His body was recovered, however, and was given a decent burial, and the material in the vat into which he fell was drawn off and was sold as a food product.

According to the report of the special inspectors there were some rooms which were not as clean as they might have been and there were some places covered with a coat of whitewash where paint should have been used. There was offal in many cases which should have been removed, and here and there were unpleasant conditions which might have been bettered by more active supervision.

Only One Case of Filth Found

In only one case, however, did the special investigators find filthy conditions which amounted to anything dangerous to health. In that particular case, the department immediately ordered that the government inspectors should be withdrawn. This was in the abattoir of H. Guth, a small cattle and sheep packer, whose plant is at Thirty-ninth and Halsted streets, outside the yards.

Here the privilege of government inspection was removed, which puts this particular firm out of business so far as the export trade is concerned.

That is absolutely the only penalty the United States can inflict upon a packing house. It has no more control over the actual manufacture of meat products than it has over the creation of a horseshoe nail or the printing of books.

The actual health conditions in the Chicago packing houses are solely under the control of the health department of the city of Chicago and of the general sanitary authorities of the state of Illinois. The United States government has nothing to do with these cases except when the filth exists to a point where it injures the food products. And also its inspectors may refuse to give the certificate which is necessary for exportation.

Chicago Inspectors High Grade

According to the report submitted to Secretary Wilson the inspectors at Chicago and elsewhere are of an unusually high grade. The report finds they were scientifically competent to perform the duties to which they were assigned. While it is possible that some of them may have connived at dishonesty, it is explained in the report that the system of inspection is so complete that dishonesty of this character must be extremely difficult to conceal and must be of intermittent operation under any possible circumstances.

That any such wholesale conditions of fraud as were set out in "The Jungle" could exist is impossible in the opinion of the experts sent out by Secretary Wilson.

[President's Ire Aroused, page 3 of 4]

The Day After.

Mr. Roosevelt decided yesterday, as per this special dispatch, to pulverize Mr. Upton Sinclair. The day after, things looked different. Here is an extract from the Chicago Tribune's special dispatch, from Washington, which will indicate why the president is not quite so belligerent. Read it carefully:

There is a possibility that Upton Sinclair's statements may be found to be reasonably justifiable. The preliminary reports of the investigators sent out do not justify this supposition. They insist the novel only tells the truth in patches. Their report declares the author has picked up incidents here and there, each of which might be true in itself, but he has woven the whole into a consistent mass of horrible accusations, perverting a case of isolated facts into a continuous condition of awful import.

And yet the book, after all, may tell enough truth to reveal a shocking condition, which public sentiment ought to correct if the law is unable to do so. A patient investigation at the stockyards may develop a condition of affairs which the preliminary inquiry scarcely hinted at. If that be true the packers will be the guilty persons, and they, in turn, will be held up in some public manner to the contempt of the people, and, if possible, a legal process will be discovered to punish them or to prevent a repetition of the shocking offenses.

This is the crisis up to which President Roosevelt is leading. He proposes to show, if he can that "The Jungle" is reasonably false or reasonably true. Something will be sure to drop with the investigation now in process is completed. The president has no notion of dropping his campaign over "The Jungle." On the contrary, he considers everything done thus far merely preliminary, and the investigation into conditions at the stockyards, instead of being discontinued, is to be given a much wider scope.

newspapers.com/image/6699394

[President's Ire Aroused, page 4 of 4]

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Note: This transcription includes only President Roosevelt letter to the House of Representatives. It was read to the members then referred by the speaker of the House to the Committee on Agriculture along with the first section of the Neill-Reynolds report.

The New York Times, New York, NY June 5, 1906, Page 1-2

PRESIDENT'S THREAT WITH MEAT REPORT

May Stop the Use of Labels That Sell Packer's Products.

REVOLTING CONDITIONS SHOWN

Neill-Reynolds Report Tells of Astonishing Uncleanliness in the Packing Plants.

Special to the New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 4— "President Roosevelt's Letter to Congress" . . .

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

The Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith the report of Mr. James Bronson Reynolds and Commissioner Charles P. Neill, the special committee whom I appointed to investigate into the conditions in the stock yards of Chicago and report thereon to me. This report is of a preliminary nature. I submit it to you now because it shows the urgent need of immediate action by the Congress in the direction of providing a drastic and thoroughgoing inspection by the Federal Government of all stock yards and packing houses and of their products, so far as the latter enter into Inter-State or foreign commerce.

The conditions shown by even this short inspection to exist in the Chicago stock yards are revolting. It is imperatively necessary, in the interest of health and of decency, that they should be radically changed. Under the existing law it is wholly impossible to secure satisfactory results.

When my attention was first directed to this matter an investigation was made under the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. When the preliminary statements of this investigation were brought to my attention they showed such defects in the law and such wholly unexpected conditions that I deemed it best to have a further immediate investigation by men not connected with the bureau, and accordingly appointed Messrs. Reynolds and Neill. It was impossible under the existing law that satisfactory work should be done by the Bureau of Animal Industry. I am now, however, examining the way in which the work actually was done.

Before I had received the report of Messrs. Reynolds and Neill I had directed that labels placed upon any package of meat food products should state only that the carcass of the animal from which the meat was taken had been inspected at the time of slaughter. If inspection of meat food products at all stages of preparation is not secured by the passage of the legislation recommended, I shall feel compelled to order that inspection labels and certificates on canned products shall not be used hereafter.

The report shows that the stock yards and packing houses are not kept even reasonably clean, and that the method of handling and preparing food products is uncleanly and dangerous to health.

Under existing law the National Government has no power to force inspection of the many

[President's Threat—Message, page 1 of 2]

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forms of prepared meat food products that are daily going from the packing houses into Inter-State commerce. Owing to an inadequate appropriation the Department of Agriculture is not even able to place Inspectors in all establishments desiring them.

The present law prohibits the shipment of uninspected meat to foreign countries but there is no provision forbidding the shipment of uninspected meats in Inter-State commerce, and thus the avenues of Inter-State commerce are left open to traffic in diseased or spoiled meats. If, as has been alleged on seemingly good authority, further evils exist, such as the improper use of chemicals and dyes, the Government lacks power to remedy them.

Inspect from Hoof to Can.

A law is needed which will enable the Inspectors of the General Government to inspect and supervise from the hoof to the can the preparation of the meat food product. The evil seems to be much less in the sale of dressed carcasses than in the sale of canned and other prepared products, and very much less as regards products sent abroad than as regards those used at home.

In my judgment, the expense of the inspection should be paid by a fee levied on each animal slaughtered. If this is not done the whole purpose of the law can at any time be defeated through an insufficient appropriation; and whenever there was no particular public interest in the subject it would be not only easy but natural thus to make the appropriation insufficient. If it were not for this consideration I should favor the Government paying for the inspection.

The alarm expressed in certain quarters concerning this feature should be allayed by a realization of the fact that in no case, under such a law, will the cost of inspection exceed 8 cents per head.

I call special attention to the fact that this report is preliminary, and that the investigation is still unfinished. It is not yet possible to report on the alleged abuses in the use of deleterious chemical compounds in connection with canning and preserving meat products, nor on the alleged doctoring in this fashion of tainted meat and of products returned to the packers as having grown unsalable or unusable from age or from other reasons. Grave allegations are made in reference to abuses of this nature.

Let me repeat that under the present law there is practically no method of stopping these abuses if they should be discovered to exist. Legislation is needed in order to prevent the possibility of all abuses in the future. If no legislation is passed, then the excellent results accomplished by the work of this special committee will endure only so long as the memory of the committee's work is fresh and a recrudescence of the abuses is absolutely certain.

I urge the immediate enactment into law of provisions which will enable the Department of Agriculture adequately to inspect the meat and meat-food products entering into inter-State commerce and to supervise the methods of preparing the same, and to prescribe the sanitary conditions under which the work shall be performed. I therefore commend to your favorable consideration and urge the enactment of substantially the provisions known as Senate Amendment No. 29 to the act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, as passed by the Senate, this amendment being commonly known as the Beveridge amendment.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.
The White House, June 4, 1906

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[President's Threat—Message, page 2 of 2]

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Bismarck Daily Tribune, Bismarck, North Dakota, July 11, 1906. Page 1

ROOSEVELT

Tells British Grocers That Under New Law Canned Meats Are Good

Sheffield, Eng., July 11.—The Grocers' Federation, whose conference is proceeding here, has received a communication from United States Ambassador Whitelaw Reid, enclosing a message from President Roosevelt, as follows:

“You are at liberty to inform the Grocers' Federation that under the new law we can and will guarantee the fitness in all respects of tinned meats bearing the government stamp. If any trouble arises therewith protest can at once be made not merely to the sellers of the goods but to the United States government itself.”

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85042242/1906-07-11/ed-1/seq-1/

[Roosevelt Tells British Grocers, page 1 of 1]

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The New York Times (New York, New York) · 26 May 1906 Sat. · Page 2

**Packers Answer President.
Favor Government Inspection and Sanitary Regulation of Plants.**
Special to The New York Times

CHICAGO, May 25. —Chicago packers today declared that they would welcome any practical inspection that would tend to improve conditions at the yards. That was their answer to the criticism by President Roosevelt of the alleged unsanitary conditions there, followed by his promise to see them remedied and the old buildings torn down as soon as possible, as published this morning.

At the same time the packers contended that the large houses were already clean and sanitary. They called attention to the “present strict Government inspection” and to the fact that the packing houses are always open to public inspection, and have been visited by millions of people from all over the world, who have commended the huge meat-packing establishments for the cleanliness and order, as well as for their remarkable system of organization.

While resenting the criticism as being unjustifiable, except, perhaps, in the case of smaller houses, of which there are thirty in the yards, most of them slaughtering only for the Chicago trade, the packers did not apprehend that it would injure their business to any serious extent except, perhaps in foreign countries.

Following a conference, official statements were made by Armour & Co., Nelson, Morris & Co., Swift & Co., and the National Packing Company to the effect that they were in favor of Government inspection and sanitary regulation of packing plants as contemplated in the Beveridge bill, with possibly, some modifications.

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[Packers Answer President, page 1 of 1]

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Chicago Daily Tribune, Chicago, Illinois • June 9, 1906 • Page 2

SCRUB BRUSHES AND SOAP WORK WONDERS IN PACKINGTOWN SINCE NEILL WAS THERE.

Washington, D.C. June 8—President Roosevelt today sent to Congressman Wadsworth, chairman of the house committee on agriculture, a letter from Chicago, proving that a great wave of cleanliness is sweeping through the Chicago packing houses. He also enclosed the report of the inspection made by John R. Mohler and other members of a commission appointed by the department of agriculture on April 5 and 13.

Commenting on the effect of the several investigations, President Roosevelt adds:

“To show the immediate and extraordinary change for the better which the mere fact of their investigation is already bringing about in the condition of the packing houses in Chicago, it is only necessary to instance the following portions of a letter received from a most competent and trustworthy witness in Chicago, whose name I will give the committee if it so desires:

Chicago, Friday, June 1.—On Monday I began to tour of all the great packing houses, going first to Libby’s, then Swift’s.

On Tuesday all the morning discussed changes that ought to be made and caught a glimpse of the awakening at Armour’s. In the afternoon visited the plant with the superintendent.

On Wednesday I rested and contemplated the “awakening of Packingtown.” It is miraculous. On Thursday did Nelson Morris, with the superintendent. . . . Nelson Morris has done much to make things better. By the time the next inspecting party arrives they will have still more new lavatories, toilet rooms, dressing rooms, etc. Cuspidors everywhere and signs prohibiting spitting. In most the awakening seemed to come by force from without. There was the slightest indication that the “still small voice” was at work also.

Everybody Cleaning Up.

At Armour’s, at my suggestion, I made no pretense of making an investigation, but frankly announced my desire to see things for myself, and to get a fresh impression of conditions, as I had not seen the plants since before the strike. On every hand there was indication of an almost humorous haste to clean up, repave, and even to plan for future changes. Brand new toilet rooms, new dressing rooms, new towels, etc., etc.

Swift’s and Armour’s were both so cleaned up that I was compelled to cheer them on their way, by expressing my pleasure at the changes. The sausage girls were moved upstairs where they could get sun and light, they to have dressing rooms, etc. I asked for showers and lockers for the casing workers at Armour’s and got a promise that they would put them in. The canning and stuffing room, chip beef and beef extract at Armour’s seemed really quite good. In all of these rooms the girls work.

At Libby’s the girls are to be put into a blue calico uniform, which they will buy at half price. They are putting in toilet rooms, which they say are temporary, and that when the building is remodeled they will have these put in a better place. The haste toward reform would have been amusing if it were not as nearly tragic.

They tried to win my help on the ground that loss of foreign trade would mean hardship for the workers in my neighborhood, and I must say I do share this fear, but I cannot see the wisdom

[Scrub Brushes and Soap, page 1 of 2]

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of my coming out publicly and saying that I saw indications of any awakening, for I want the changes to be radical and permanent, even though we all have to suffer for the present.

More Disclosures to Come.

The president concludes his letter to Chairman Wadsworth by saying:

“I wish to repeat that my investigations are not yet through. I am not prepared to make a final statement either as to so much of the complaints as concern the management of the bureau of animal industry, or as to certain of the graver charges in connection with the adulteration of meat products as well as other matters. But enough has been developed in my judgment to call for immediate, thoroughgoing, and radical enlargement of the powers of the government in inspecting all meats which enter into interstate and foreign commerce.

“Unfortunately the misdeeds of those who are responsible for the abusers we design to cure will bring discredit and damage not only upon them but upon the innocent stock growers, the ranchmen, and farmers of the country. The only way permanently to protect and benefit these innocent stock growers, the farmers, and ranchmen, is to secure by law the thorough and adequate inspection for which I have asked.”

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[Scrub Brushes and Soap, page 2 of 2]

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New York Times, New York, New York, June 5, 1906, Page 2

SAVE FOREIGN TRADE, THE PACKERS PLEAD

Resent Charges Made by the President's Investigators.

AN INQUIRY BY PROFESSORS

Two Found Nothing Repugnant to Cleanliness or Wholesomeness in the Plants.

CHICAGO, June 4.—Eight meat packing establishments of Chicago tonight issued a joint statement, replying to the charges made in the Neill and Reynolds report of their investigation of the packing plants and President Roosevelt's message to Congress.

In this statement the packers declare that their plants are kept clean, their methods of manufacture are sanitary, their products wholesome, and that for years doctors, chemists, sanitarians, and official investigators from nearly every civilized nation on earth, who have made examinations, have been entirely satisfied in every instance with the conditions existing in this industry. Despite this fact, the packers assert that they stand ready to adopt any practical suggestion in the line of improvement.

The packing companies who affixed their signatures to the statement are: Armour & Co., Swift & Co., Nelson Morris & Co., G. H. Hammond Co., Omaha Packing Co., Anglo-American Provision Co., Libby, McNeil & Libby, and Schwarzschild, Suizberger & Co. The statement declares:

"Every pound of meat in our packing houses comes from animals which are inspected and passed by trained veterinary agents of the Department of Agriculture. This is the absolute fact. We are not interested in animals condemned before slaughter. We do not buy them. Every animal bought by us is inspected both before and after slaughter in accordance with the strictest inspection regulations ever devised in any country, not even excepting Germany. Every animal or carcass that does not pass this rigid inspection is condemned and disposed of under the personal supervision of the agents of the United States Department of Agriculture.

"The Administration at Washington knows the facts. The writers of the Neill-Reynolds report know them. That these are the facts is reluctantly admitted in their report, but even this slight reassurance to the public is almost buried in the tail end of what they have written.

"We have been believers in rigid animal and meat inspection since the inspection was first begun. We have shown our belief in it by shouldering, for the benefit of the industry, an annual loss of approximately \$1,000,000, our loss on animals which are bought as healthy and condemned on inspection after slaughter. And now, in spite of persistent misrepresentation, we are heartily in favor of making this inspection more efficient, if that can be done and of extending the operation of the law to cover the sanitary conditions of the packing houses.

"It is to be regretted that Messrs. Neill and Reynolds did not get a practical light on their subject before writing a report in which it is apparently assumed that blood, grease, and every day incidents of animal slaughtering are dirt. In contrast with their view we call attention to a report on packing house conditions by Prof. T. J. Burrill, Ph. D., Vice President and Professor of Bacteriology of the University of Illinois, and Prof. H. S. Grindley, Professor of Chemistry at the same institution."

[Save Foreign Trade, page 1 of 2]

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This report by Profs. Burrill and Grindley, which recites the results of an investigation made within ten days, is offered by the packers as their commentary on the detailed allegations of Messrs. Neill and Reynolds. After going into details in their investigation and asserting that the general conditions in connection with the meat-packing industry are as good as could be expected under the circumstances, the professors' report says:

“Our observations make it impossible for us to believe the horrible stories recently appearing in print or that anything approaching the described conditions in this industry really exists. It was apparent to us that the work of the Government Inspectors was done in strict accordance with the regulations issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry. The condemned carcasses or parts of carcasses are followed by these officials, notwithstanding statements to the contrary, to the rendering tanks, and these tanks are sealed and unsealed in their presence, and only in their presence.

“We paid particular attention to the charges that the employees spit on places which come in contact with the products. We saw only one man expectorate during our entire investigation and he was a Government official. The packing business is for butchers, and anyone having any connection with the actual work has no use for dress suits or kid gloves, as it is not milliners' or jewelers' work. We did not find anything seriously repugnant to cleanliness or wholesomeness in the operation or procedures, but we did find a desire on the part of all the employees we came in contact with to avoid unclean practices. “

Continuing their statement, the packers say:

“In the light of what we are doing, we have a right, we believe, to protest against hasty and empirical judgments that serve only to put weapons into the hands of foreign competitors of the American live and meat producing industry. This phase of the question cannot be evaded.

“When investigation by Messrs. Neill and Reynolds was undertaken we assumed that its purpose was to forward improvement in packing house conditions, if improvements could be devised, rather than to gather ammunition for an attack upon the livestock and meat producing industry. Acting upon the belief, we invited from these investigators and from President Roosevelt any practical suggestions they could make for the improvement of packing house conditions, and at the same time we guaranteed that their suggestions would be carried out.

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[Save Foreign Trade, page 2 of 2]

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The Leavenworth Times, Leavenworth, Kansas, 10 June 1906, Page 1.

“JUNGLE” AUTHOR IS TURNED DOWN.

COMMITTEE DECLINES TO HEAR SINCLAIR.
HIS BOOK IS REPORTED ON
COMMISSION PRONOUNCES IT FULL OF WILLFUL EXAGGERATIONS.

Asked that Permission Be Granted Him to Appear and Furnish Sensational Information—Refused
by Vote of 15 to 4.

(Special to Chicago Tribune.)

Washington, D. C., June 8—Upton Sinclair, author of “The Jungle,” knocked today at the door of the agricultural committee of the house and was denied admission.

Sinclair telegraphed to Representative Wadsworth, chairman of the house committee on agriculture, requesting that he be granted a hearing today, indicating that he would be able to furnish sensational information of importance. His message was hotly debated by the committee in executive session, and by a vote of 15 to 4 it was determined not to permit him to testify.

The ground upon which this was taken was that Mr. Sinclair had been discredited by the government experts and commissioners and that his testimony would be valueless. The members of the committee who were willing to hear him were Representatives Adams of Wisconsin and Davis of Minnesota, republicans, and Bowie of Alabama and Lever of South Carolina, democrats. Mr. Bowie explained that the only reason why he favored granting Sinclair’s request was that he did not want it said that the committee sought to suppress facts. Others declared they would not believe Sinclair if he were to testify and could see nothing to be gained by his appearance.

Anxious to End Hearings.

While undoubtedly the committee does not place any faith in Sinclair, in this respect partaking of the view of the President, who wrote the author a sharp letter in regard to his exaggerations, there is no question that a strong disposition has grown up to end the hearings as soon as possible. Friends of the packers claim the hearings were necessary in order to prevent the enactment of legislation which would ruin the meat industry of the nation. But they have come to the conclusion that by insisting upon the taking of testimony they have added fuel to the agitation, which is blazing so merrily that it is difficult to say where and how it will end.

Sinclair is not the only man who wanted to be heard. Others who claim to have information bearing upon packing house conditions believed the committee should permit them to give testimony.

Representative Scott of Kansas offered a resolution that the hearings close tomorrow, but it received a tie vote. There is no doubt, however, that this action will be taken upon the conclusion of the examination of Dr. Melvin, chief of the bureau of animal industry; S. H. Cowan of Texas, the representative of the live stock exchanges of the country; President Thompson of the Colorado Live Stock association, and Secretary of Agriculture Wilson.

[“Jungle” Author Turned Down, page 1 of 2]

Discredit “The Jungle.”

The Mohler commission’s report on “The Jungle” was studied by members of the committee with special interest. It declared that careful precautions are taken to prevent reclamation and sale for food of hogs which had been tanked. “It is the custom,” it continues, “to inject a curing solution into ham, shoulders, and other thick portions of meat, which hastens the process of curing. The committee was informed that sour hams were classed as such and sold at reduced price. No carcasses having putrefactive changes or unnatural odors were placed in the retention rooms; they are tanked at once. It is said if tuberculoe bacilli were present they would spread by the boots of the workers, wheels of the trucks, etc. But the only place where a carcass is temporarily placed upon the floor is on the cooling bed before the skin is removed. The inference that carcasses which are dressed are laid on the floor is deliberately incorrect. It is possible to distinguish inspectors by the dress, in contradiction to the statement made in “The Jungle.”

“The meat sold to the people of Chicago, which comes from the establishments having federal inspection, receives precisely the same careful examination which is given to meats exported to Europe.

“The committee was unable to find any evidence of collusion or bribery among federal inspectors. To carry out such a scheme would require crooked work by a considerable number of federal employees on account of the nature of inspection by which two or more inspectors pass independently upon the same process and on account of the system of changing inspectors from one establishment to another.

“It is impossible to remove condemned meats which have been consigned to the rendering establishment at Globe, Indiana.

His “Atrocious Exaggeration.”

“After careful inquiry, only one instance is reported of a man falling into a vat with fatal results. This happened several years ago. The body was recovered and buried. In view of the fact that the commission could discover but one occurrence of this kind of atrocious exaggeration of the author’s statement is apparent.

“To some of the killing rooms the description of the author may be applied without exaggeration, but it is apparent that, in his anxiety to be as sensational and as yellow as possible, the author has, not only in this statement, but all through his book, selected the worst possible conditions which could be found in any establishment as typical of the general conditions existing in all Chicago abattoirs; and has willfully closed his eyes to establishments where excellent conditions prevail.

“The committee was unable to find any rat dung on meat in any of the twenty-three establishments inspected. In no cases did it find that poisoned bread or other poisonous substances was used to kill rats. The committee agrees with the author that the statements concerning the rats are no ‘fairy story and no joke,’ and believes them to be willful and deliberate misrepresentation of facts.”

newspapers.com/image/76777564

[“Jungle” Author Turned Down, page 2 of 2]

Chicago Daily Tribune, Chicago, Illinois • June 9, 1906 • Page 2

MEAT INSPECTORS NOT IN HARMONY

Federal and Chicago Officials Do Not Always Agree on Diseased Cattle.

APPEAL TO MAYOR DUNNE

City's Executive Orders Health Department to Conform to National Rules.

Washington, D.C., June 8. —[Special.]—

One section of the Mohler commission's report on the Chicago packing houses goes exhaustively into the clash of authority between the federal, state, and city inspectors. This feature of the report says:

"The meat inspection force of the city is composed of six men, two veterinarians and one physician, all being under the supervision of a director of the laboratory, who is an assistant to the commissioner of health of the city. Two of the city inspectors look after the retail meat stores and commission houses in the loop district, the remaining four, including veterinarians, are located at the stockyards to inspect meats in the slaughter and canning establishments of that district.

Rejected Without Cause.

"A case is cited in which a number of lumpy jaw cattle had been rejected on ante-mortem examination and eleven of the carcasses passed by the federal inspector were condemned by the two city inspectors. These eleven carcasses, together with the viscera, had been retained and the commission visited the abattoir in which they were held and made a careful examination of all the lesions."

As a result of this examination it was found that there was no reason for condemning ten of the eleven. In order to find out what the basis of the city inspection for lumpy jaw was the federal inspector wrote Dr. Whalen, the Chicago city health commissioner, to learn what their regulations were. No reply was received, and then a letter was addressed by Solicitor McCabe to Mayor Dunne himself, suggesting a conference. This meeting was arranged March 19, in the mayor's office.

The mayor was told of the action of the city inspectors in condemning carcasses which had been passed by the government inspectors and that if this practice was continued it would discredit the government inspection in the minds of foreign governments.

It was suggested that the city harmonize its regulations with those of the bureau of animal industry. Mayor Dunne agreed to this. He instructed Dr. Whalen, the health commissioner, to investigate the matter with the committee. As a result of all this it was agreed that the two departments should endeavor to cooperate and work in close harmony.

Reports Do Not Agree.

The mischief caused by not providing and requiring federal inspection for all establishments slaughtering for the interstate trade is illustrated by a paragraph of the report which shows a wide
[Meat Inspectors Not in Harmony, page 1 of 2]

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discrepancy between the number of animals rejected on ante-mortem inspection and the number of these rejects slaughtered, and also by the statements made to a member of the commission by a responsible employee of the bureau of animal industry of Chicago, to the effect that two men to his knowledge had made fortunes by buying animals which were rejected by government inspectors on the ante-mortem inspection and slaughtering them in establishments which did not have federal inspection.

That the packing house interests recognize that they are not required by the law to submit their products to federal inspection is evidenced by the statement of one of the largest packers that the inspection is not compulsory on the packers in the strict legal sense of the term. It is more binding than if it were compulsory.

Can't Condemn Meats Legally.

The question of the legal right of the department to condemn tainted meat found in canning establishments, which meat is part of carcasses which had, therefore, passed the post mortem inspection by federal inspectors and had been duly marked as having so passed, is, in view of the lack of a sufficient appropriation to do the work, largely academic.

The commission is unable to find any authority of law for the microscopic inspection and the certification of pork for exportation to foreign countries, except a provision which provides that the secretary may use so much of the sum appropriated as he deems necessary for the promotion of foreign markets for dairy and other products.

The commission states that the force of the department at Chicago is doing its full duty intelligently, squarely, and unflinchingly, but that the force employed is as a whole inadequate numerically to inspect and supervise properly the work of slaughtering, rendering, packing, canning, and other various processes.

newspapers.com/image/28648622

[Meat Inspectors Not in Harmony, page 2 of 2]

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The New York Times (New York, New York) · 26 May 1906 Sat. · Pages 1-2

MEAT INSPECTION BILL PASSES THE SENATE Added without Debate to Agricultural Bill as a Rider.

ITS ADOPTION UNEXPECTED

Direct Consequence of the Disclosures Made in Upton Sinclair's Novel, "The Jungle."

Special to the New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The Senate today furnished another surprise in the line of radical legislation by passing the Beveridge Meat Inspection bill. Fifteen minutes before it was passed not a Senator would have admitted that the bill had a ghost of a chance to become a law—certainly not this session. Its passage is the direct consequence of the disclosures made in Upton Sinclair's novel, "The Jungle".

The Indiana Senator only introduced the bill three days ago, and it had been referred to the Committee on Agriculture without any notion that it would ever see the light of day again. But Beveridge saw his chance to put it on the Agricultural bill as an amendment, and he offered it in his abrupt and incisive way just as the bill was about to be put on its passage. Proctor, who was in charge of the measure, expressed surprise, but in courtesy he could hardly object to the reading of his bill, which was a long one.

The reading had not gone far before it was apparent that the amendment had been drawn with care and was a good piece of work. There were possibly twenty Senators present when the amendment was offered, but in the number were three or four to whom the President had said within the last few days that he would send to Congress and make public the special report by the Commissioner of the Labor Bureau, Charles P. Neill, and Assistance Secretary of the Treasury James B. Reynolds, on the condition of things in Chicago unless something were done to correct the evils complained of in the conduct of the packing business.

When the reading clerk had finished the bill the vote was put at once without debate. There was no call for division. The amendment was adopted.

The amendment provides for the inspection of every packing house in the United States in a post mortem examination of all cattle, sheep, swine, and goats slaughtered for human consumption. Every carcass thus prepared at any packing house must bear a tag showing the date and place where it was slaughtered. All carcasses or parts of carcasses found to be unfit for eat are to be destroyed and the penalty for violation or evasion of the law is a fine of \$10,000 and imprisonment for two years. The cost of inspection is to be paid by the packing houses. All meat foods found to have been dyed or colored artificially in any manner so as to be unfit for food are also to be destroyed. The law applies to canned meats and all forms of prepared meats as well as to fresh meat shipped in cold storage.

After Jan. 1, 1907, packers who claim the right under State law to deny the Government inspectors access to their packing houses will be barred from inter-State or foreign commerce. No packer or business firm can alter or fail to use any mark, stamp or tag used in the

[Meat Inspection Bill Passes Senate, page 1 of 2]

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inspection on the meats by Government officials. The inspection is to be carried on in the night time as well as day time.

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to arrange the fees for inspection, which must be uniform throughout the country. No vessel having a cargo of meat for foreign ports shall be allowed to clear until satisfactory evidence is given the port officers that the cargo has been duly inspected and the proper tags and certificates have been given showing that the meat is sound and wholesome.

Any firm or person offering a bribe to an Inspector is liable to a fine of \$10,000 or imprisonment for three years. The Government official who takes a bribe from a packer is liable to imprisonment for three years and a fine of \$1000.

The act especially excepts from its provisions farmers who slaughter on their farms, but carcasses that they may send from one State to another in inter-State traffic cannot enter packing houses unless inspected.

The disclosures made in Upton Sinclair's novel, "The Jungle," which led to the passage of the measure, astounded President Roosevelt when he read the book. He could not believe they had any foundation of truth. He put Sinclair in the muck-rake class, and it was some time before he was persuaded to regard his book as having any basis. He then sent Mr. Sinclair an invitation to come to Washington and tell him how he got his information.

The author became the President's guest and told him how he had gone and lived in Packingtown with his family, had joined the Socialist societies there, and had got acquainted with men who saw and had a part in the horrible things described in "The Jungle." He told how diseased hogs and cattle were slaughtered at night and the Government Inspectors baffled in tracing the carcasses. He described how the men were unclean in their habits and took no pains to keep clean in their handling of meats, and how the packing houses were overrun with rats, that were sometimes caught and shoveled into the hoppers to be converted into canned meats.

The President saw that he was dealing with a man who knew what he was talking about, and he told Labor Commissioner Neill and Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Reynolds to go to Chicago and make an investigation. They did so, and it is said that they found Sinclair had not exaggerated the actual conditions. Their report in a preliminary form has been in the hands of the President for several days and would have been sent to Congress had not the Beveridge bill been passed.

Several Western Senators at the request of certain packers and livestock men asked the President not to make public the Neill report. To one Senator who so urged him, the President wrote a letter saying that if the Beveridge bill were passed there would be no occasion to make the report public.

newspapers.com/image/20435604

[Meat Inspection Bill Passes Senate, page 2 of 2]

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The Chicago Daily Tribune (Chicago, Illinois) • 30 June, 1906, Saturday • Page 4.

CONGRESS PASSES THREE BIG BILLS.

....Senate Yields on Meat Bill.

With respect to the meat inspection amendment the senate did exactly what it was expected to do when it originally disagreed to the house substitute for the Beveridge amendment. Senator Proctor, chairman of the senate conferees, entered the senate late this afternoon, and asked that he and his colleagues be authorized to recede and accept the house measure. There were protests from Senators Beveridge, Nelson, and Simmons, the sensational speech being that of Nelson, who said he would go home “like a whipped cur, whipped by the packers and the range cattlemen.”

These protests produced no stiffening of the backbone of the senate, which was willing to abandon the position it had taken, and it promptly gave the instructions Senator Proctor desired.

Senator Beveridge said tonight that the bill as passed restores every vital provision of the senate bill, all of which the house committee at first eliminated, with two exceptions—namely: the date on the cans and the cost of inspection to be paid by the packers instead of by the government.

“The senate maintained,” said Senator Beveridge tonight, “that the packers should pay the cost of inspection and the house maintained that the government should do so. The senate wanted the expense of the inspection put upon the packers chiefly because it is almost impossible to get a sufficient appropriation to pay the cost of inspection. For example, at the present time there is only \$750,000 appropriated for this purpose, the inspection does not cover one-half of the establishments in the country, and only extends in an imperfect way to carcasses and to no food products whatever.

“The house answered this by making an annual appropriation of \$3,000,000 permanently, that is to say, unless there is any action of congress repealing this law \$3,000,000 is payable to the department of agriculture for the purpose of this inspection every year without any further action of congress.”

House Carries One Point.

“The senate wanted the date of inspection placed on the can containing meat food products because the senate holds that the people have a right to know what kind of meat they are buying and how old it is. The house objected to the date being placed on the cans for the reason that it claimed that canned meat is as good when 5 years old as it is when only a day old.

“In view of the fact that the house had yielded on every other point to the senate and had restored every one of the senate provisions which the house had first taken out of the bill, and in view of the fact that the house by an overwhelming vote proposed to kill the bill rather than yield to the senate on the question of dating the cans and putting the cost of inspection on the packers, the senate, in order to save the bill, yielded these two points to the house.

[Congress Passes –Senate Yields on Meat Bill, page 1 of 2]

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“As stated by each one of the senate conferees, the senate will bring in a bill on the first day of the next session to supply both these points.

“In the history of reforms which have been enacted into law there has never been a battle which has been won nearly so quickly and never a proposed reform so successful in the first contest as this bill had been. Usually such a measure requires two or three years to pass, and then it passes, in a modified and mutilated form, and for many years thereafter the defects are remedied by additional legislation.

“In the present case we have secured nearly everything we went after in a fight which has lasted less than a month and a reform which is most important to the lives and health of the people of any since the civil war.

“It ought to be said further that but for the agitation caused by this fight the pure food bill would not have had the slightest chance of passing at this session of congress.”

newspapers.com/image/28650130

[Congress Passes –Senate Yields on Meat Bill, page 2 of 2]

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The New York Times, New York, NY, June 5, 1906, Page 2

LONDON VIEW OF MESSAGE.

Englishmen Urged to Avoid American Meats, Pending Sweeping Reform.

LONDON, June 4—President Roosevelt's message on the meat scandal, substantially confirming some, if not the worst, of the charges against the packers, is the subject of general editorial discussion in the London newspapers this morning. It is used as a warning to British consumers to avoid all American products of the kind until a sweeping reform is established.

The papers urge the public to pay no attention to assertions that meat products for export are any better inspected than those for American consumption. While the President's courage in attacking the scandal is highly praised, the public is counseled to purchase only British or colonial products.

The Chamberlainite organs are not slow to see their opportunity to press the advantages of the Chamberlain colonial scheme as applied to this particular instance. The Daily Telegraph, products will be restored for many a long year," advocates a preferential duty to be imposed on all imported dead meats, canned or otherwise, in favor of the Colonies on condition that the Colonies permit imperial inspectors to vouch for the proper handling of canned goods, adding that such a scheme might easily prove the starting point for an imperial policy of colonial preference.

The Standard also insists on the soundness of Canadian and Australian products, and asks whether the most zealous Cobdenite would wish the people to eat tuberculous beef and cholera-smitten hogs in the sacred name of free trade.

Incidentally, the dressed beef revelations seem destined to provoke an inquiry into the conditions of British food preparations. Dr. Cooper, Liberal member of Parliament for Bermondsey, in a letter to the Daily Mail says:

"Let us not forget while throwing stones at the Americans, that we ourselves live in glass houses. If the truth were known about the preparation conditions of much of the food eaten in this country the British public would have an unpleasant shock."

Dr. Cooper goes on to complain of defective inspection in Great Britain, declaring that there is no scientific training in meat inspection such as there is in Germany, with the result that much more unsound meat is sold in England than in Germany.

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[London View of Message, page 1 of 1]

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The New York Times, New York, NY June 5, 1906, Page 2

SOLDIERS POISONED—MILES.

Told Seven Years Ago of the Meat
Canning Frauds

KANSAS CITY, June 4.—Gen. Nelson A. Miles, on his way to Colorado, last night said: “The disclosures about packing house products now being exploited are no news to me. I knew it seven years ago. I told what I knew then. Had the matter been taken up at that time thousands of lives would have been saved.

“I believe that 3,000 United States soldiers lost their lives because of adulterated, impure, poisonous meat. There is no way of estimating the number of soldiers whose health was ruined by eating impure food.

“I have a barrel of testimony on the subject in the way of affidavits that I collected when I made my investigation seven years ago. The Investigating Committee closed the case and refused to hear 2,000 witnesses whom I had ready. At that time I could have secured the testimony of 100,000 men that the canned beef sold to the army was impure, adulterated, and unwholesome.

“In my investigation of ‘embalmed’ beef during the Spanish-American war I found poisons were used to preserve meat. My first intimation of the practice came to me in reports from commanding officers to the effect that the rations were not wholesome and were making the soldiers sick. I ordered an investigation, and learned from the reports brought to me that canned meats had been sold to the army that had been for months in the warehouses of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and at the docks in Liverpool.

“This meat had been relabeled and sold to the United States for soldiers’ rations. I turned the reports over to the War Department, and a whitewashing investigation was instituted and successfully carried out. The official report was that a ‘colossal error’ had been made. As a matter of fact, it was a colossal fraud and the persons who perpetrated it and were interested in it should have been sent to the penitentiary.”

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[Soldiers Poisoned, page 1 of 1]

[Soldiers Poisoned, page 1 of 1]

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Note: This transcription includes only portions of the Neill and Reynolds preliminary report directly related to the processing of meat under the Meats and Prepared Food Products section. The report was presented to Congress by President Roosevelt.

The New York Times, New York, NY June 5, 1906, Page 2

PRESIDENT'S THREAT WITH MEAT REPORT

May Stop the Use of Labels That Sell Packer's Products.

REVOLTING CONDITIONS SHOWN

Neill-Reynolds Report Tells of Astonishing Uncleanliness in the Packing Plants.

Special to the New York Times

Washington, June 4—

THE NEILL-REYNOLDS REPORT.

The President:

As directed by you, we investigated the conditions in the principal establishments in Chicago engaged in the slaughter of cattle, sheep, and hogs and in the preparation of dressed meat and meat-food products. Two and a half weeks were spent in the investigation in Chicago and during this time we went through the principal packing houses in the stockyards district, together with a few of the smaller ones. A day was spent by Mr. Reynolds in New York City in the investigation of several of its leading slaughter houses.

During our investigation statements of conditions and practices in the packing houses, together with affidavits and documentary evidence, were offered us from numerous sources. Most of these were rejected as being far from proving the facts alleged and as being beyond the possibility of verification by us. We have made no statement as a fact in the report here presented that was not verified by our personal examination. Certain matters which we were unable to verify while in Chicago are still under investigation. The following is therefore submitted as a partial report touching upon those practices and conditions which we found most common and not confined to a single house or class of houses. A more detailed report would contain many specific instances of defects found in particular houses. . .

I.—Condition of the Yards.

II.—Buildings.

VENTILIATION—

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.—

III.—Model Slaughterhouse in New York. . .

IV.—Meats and Prepared Food Products

UNCLEANLINESS IN HANDLING PRODUCTS.—An absence of cleanliness was also found everywhere in the handling of meat being prepared for the various meat-food products. After killing, carcasses are well washed, and up to the time they reach the cooling room are handled in

[The Neill-Reynolds Report, page 1 of 6]

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a fairly sanitary and cleanly manner. The parts that leave the cooling room for treatment in bulk are also handled with regard to cleanliness, but the parts that are sent from the cooling room to those departments of the packing houses in which various forms of meat products are prepared are handled with no regard whatever for cleanliness.

In some of the largest establishments sides that are sent to what is known as the boning room are thrown in a heap upon the floor. The workers climb over these heaps of meat, select the pieces they wish, and frequently throw them down upon the dirty floor beside their working bench. Even in cutting the meat upon the bench, the work is usually held pressed against their aprons, and these aprons were, as a rule, indescribably filthy. They were made in most cases of leather or of rough sacking and bore long accumulated grease and dirt. In only a few places were suitable oilcloth aprons worn.

Moreover, men were seen to climb from the floor and stand, with shoes dirty with the refuse of the floors, on the tables upon which the meat was handled. They were seen at the lunch hour sitting on the tables on the spot on which the meat product, was handled, and all this under the very eye of the Superintendent of the room, showing that this was the common practice.

Meat scraps were also found being shoveled into receptacles from dirty floors, where they were left to lie until again shoveled into barrels or into machines for chopping. These floors, it must be noted, were in most cases damp and soggy, in dark, ill-ventilated rooms, and the employees in utter ignorance of cleanliness or danger to health, expectorated at will upon them. In a word, we saw meat shoveled from filthy wooden floors, piled on tables rarely washed, pushed from room to room in rotten box carts, in all of which processes it was in the way of gathering dirt, splinters, floor filth, and the expectoration of tuberculous and other diseased workers.

Where comment was made to floor superintendents about these matters, it was always the reply that this meat would afterward be cooked and that this sterilization would prevenet [sic] any danger from its use. Even this, it may be pointed out in passing, is not wholly true. A very considerable portion of the meat so handled is sent out as smoked products and in the form of sausages, which are prepared to be eaten without being cooked.

A particularly glaring instance of uncleanness was found in a room where the best grade of sausage was being prepared for export. It was made from carefully selected meats, and was being prepared to be eaten uncooked. In this case the employee carted the chopped-up meat across a room in a barrow, the handles of which were filthy with grease. The meat was then thrown out upon tables and the employee climbed upon the table, handled the meat with his unwashed hands, knelt with his dirty apron and trousers in contact with the meat he was spreading out, and, after he had finished his operation, again took hold of the dirty handles of the wheelbarrow, went back for another load, and repeated this process indefinitely. Inquiry

[The Neill-Reynolds Report, page 2 of 6]

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developed the fact that there was no water in this room at all, and the only method the man adopted for cleaning his hands was to rub them against his dirty apron or on his still filthier trousers.

As an extreme example of the entire disregard on the part of employees of any notion of cleanliness in handling dressed meat, we saw a hog that had just been killed, cleaned, washed, and started on its way to the cooling room fall from the sliding rail to a dirty wooden floor and slide part way into a filthy men's privy. It was picked up by two employees, placed upon a truck, carried into the cooling room, and hung up with other carcasses, no effort being made to clean it.

TREATMENT OF MEAT AFTER INSPECTION.--The radical defect in the present system of inspection is that it does not go far enough. It is confined at present by law to passing on the healthfulness of animals at the time of killing; but the meat that is used in sausage, and in various forms of canned products and other prepared meat foods goes through many processes, in all of which there is possibility of contamination through insanitary handling, and further danger through the use of chemicals.

During all these processes of preparation there is no Government inspection and no assurance whatever that these meat-food products are wholesome and fit for food—despite the fact that all these products, when sent out, bear a label stating they have been passed upon by Government Inspectors.

As to the investigation of the alleged use of dyes, preservatives, or chemicals in the preparation of cured meats, sausages, and canned goods we are not yet prepared to report. We did look into the matter of sanitary handling of the meats being prepared for the various food products. The results of our observations have already been partly given. Other instances of how products may be made up, and still secure the stamp of government inspection are here given.

In one well-known establishment we came upon fresh meat being shoveled into barrels, and a regular proportion being added of stale scraps that had lain on a dirty floor in the corner of a room for some days previous. In another establishment, equally well known, a long table was noted covered with several hundred pounds of cooked scraps of beef and other meats. Some of these meat scraps were dry, leathery, and unfit to be eaten; and in the heap were found pieces of pigskin, and even some bits of rope strands and other rubbish. Inquiry evoked the frank admission from the man in charge that this was to be ground up and used in making "potted ham."

All of these canned products bear labels of which the following is a sample:

ABBATOIR NO. ---.

The contents of this package have been inspected according to the act of Congress of March 3, 2891.

QUALITY GUARANTEED.

[The Neill-Reynolds Report, page 3 of 6]

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The phraseology of those labels is wholly unwarranted. The Government inspectors pass only upon the healthfulness of the animal at the time of killing. They know nothing of the process through which the meat has passed since this inspection. They do not know what else may have been placed in the cans in addition to “inspected meat.” As a matter of fact, they know nothing about the “contents “ of the can upon which the packers place these labels—do not even know that it contains what it purports to contain.

The legend “Quality Guaranteed” immediately following the statement as to Government inspection is wholly unjustifiable. It deceives and is plainly designed to deceive the average purchaser, who naturally infers from the label that the Government guarantees the contents of the can to be what it purports to be.

In another establishment piles of sausages and dry, moldy canned meats, admittedly several years old, were found, which the superintendent stated to us would be tanked and converted into grease. The disposition to be made of this wholly optional with the superintendents or representatives of the packers, as the government does not concern itself with the disposition of meats after they have passed inspection on the killing floor.

It might all be treated with chemicals, mixed with other meats, turned out in any form of meat product desired, and yet the packages or receptacles in which it was to be shipped out to the public would be marked with a label that their contents had been “Government inspected.” It is not alleged here that such use was to be made of this stuff. The case is pointed out as one showing the glaring opportunity for the misuse of a label bearing the name and the implied guaranty of the United States Government.

Another instance of abuse in the use of the label came to our notice. In two different establishments great stocks of old canned goods were being put through a washing process to remove the old labels. They were then subjected to sufficient heat to “liven up “ the contents—to use the phrase of the room superintendent. After this, fresh labels, with the Government name on them, were to be placed upon the cans, and they were to be sent out bearing all the evidence of being a freshly put up product. In one these instances, by the admission of the superintendent, the stock thus being relabeled was over two years old. In the other case the superintendent evaded a statement of how old the goods were.

V.—Treatment of Employees.

VI.—Government Inspection.

We observed carefully, the inspection before slaughter, the inspection after slaughter on the killing beds, the more minute examination of animals tagged on the killing floors, and the microscopic examination for trichinosis.

INSPECTION BEFORE SLAUGHTER.--

Inspection before slaughter appears to have little value in most cases. That undue advantage of this inspection is taken by outside parties is charged, and opportunities for such are abundant,

[The Neill-Reynolds Report, page 4 of 6]

but no specific evidence was presented to us. That this unimportant and superficial examination should be compulsory under the present law, whereas the more scientific examination after slaughter is only permissive, indicates a serious defect in the law.

INSPECTION AFTER SLAUGHTER.—Inspection after slaughter appears to be carefully and conscientiously made. The Government veterinarians maintain that it is adequate, insisting that a passing examination of certain glands, of the viscera, and of the general condition of the carcass is sufficient to enable an expert, engaged constantly on this work, to detect at once the presence of disease or of abnormal conditions. On the slightest indication of disease or abnormal conditions the carcass is tagged and set aside for a later and more careful examination. There should, however, be more precautions taken to insure that the instruments used be kept antiseptically clean.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION.—The microscopic examination of hogs to be exported to Germany appears to be made with great care, and it may fairly be asked why the same inspection is not made of hogs killed for the American market. The statement that ham, pork, and sausage, that are frequently eaten raw in Germany, are not so used in America is not strictly true. Large numbers of our foreign-born population eat ham and pork comparatively raw, and hence need this protection; and further, much of this pork goes into sausage to be eaten without being cooked.

NUMBER OF INSPECTORS.—The present number of Inspectors is certainly inadequate, as the Secretary of Agriculture has often complained. We noted that some large establishments had an obviously insufficient force. A few small concerns have no inspectors at all, and may sell uninspected meat wherever they please in the United States.

VII.—Legislation.

1. Examination before slaughter is of minor importance and should be permissive instead of mandatory. Examination after slaughter is of supreme importance and should be compulsory.

2. Goats, now exempt from inspection, intended for foreign or inter-State commerce, should be included in the list subject to the inspection of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and should be equally controlled by the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture.

3. The examination of all meat products intended for inter-State commerce at any stage of their care or treatment should be consigned to the Bureau of Animal Industry, and no mark or sign declaring that inspection has been made by Government officials should be allowed on any can, box, or other receptacle or parcel containing food products unless the same has been subject to Government inspection at any and every stage of the process of preparation and all such labels should contain the date of issuance, and it should be a misdemeanor to erase, alter, or destroy any such labels. Meat products and canned, preserved, or pickled meats, when sent from any packing or canning establishment, if returned to the same, should be subject to such further inspection, regulations, and isolation for other meat products as the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe.

[The Neill-Reynolds Report, page 5 of 6]

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4. Power should be given to the Secretary of Agriculture to make rules and regulations regarding the sanitation and construction of all buildings used or intended to be used for the care of food products for inter-State or foreign trade, and to make such regulation as he may deem necessary to otherwise protect the cleanliness and wholesomeness of animal products, prepared and sold for foreign and inter-State commerce.

5. It should be forbidden to any person, firm, or corporation to transport or offer for transportation from one State to another any meat or meat-food products not inspected and labeled.

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS. –

1. The number of Inspectors should be largely increased, so that special assignments may be made for night inspection, for the examination of animals at the platforms of stock yards, for the following of dead animals to their alleged destination, and for other special work.

2. Special Government inspection should be carried on continuously, to prevent violations of the law and general abuses in the trade, and to secure evidence when necessary.

3. A careful study of the standards of inspection in other countries should be made, and the results of the study should be published and circulated for the public information.

4. Consideration should be given to the question of specific labeling of all carcasses sold as fresh meat, which, upon examination after slaughter, show signs of disease, but are still deemed suitable for food.

JAMES BRONSON REYNOLDS,
CHARLES P. NEILL.

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[The Neill-Reynolds Report, page 6 of 6]

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Chicago Daily Tribune, Chicago, Illinois June 30, 1906, Page 4

LEADING FEATURES OF THE THREE BIG BILLS THAT ARE SOON TO BECOME LAWS OF THE LAND.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 29—[Special] The three conspicuous measures that have been before congress, on railroad rates, beef inspection, and pure food finally have been passed and sent to the president for signature. Jointly they comprise the most important legislation in the recent history of the country.

BEEF.

FIRST INSPECTION— Before any cattle, sheep, swine, or goats are taken into any establishment for slaughtering and preparation for market they must be examined while alive for any signs of disease, and if such are found they are to be slaughtered separately and the carcasses given a special examination.

TAGS—All carcasses are to be carefully inspected and if sound, healthful, and fit for human food will be tagged, “inspected and passed,” and if not, will be tagged “inspected and condemned” and in the latter case must be destroyed in the presence of the government inspector.

SECOND INSPECTION—After this first inspection another Inspection of carcasses or parts of carcasses may be had to see if the meat has become unfit for human food since the first inspection.

THIRD INSPECTION—An Inspection must also be made of all meat food products, and this inspection will follow the product into the can, pot, canvas, or other receptacle into which the same is put until the same is sealed.

LABELS ON CANS—Any meat or meat food products put into can, pot, canvas, or other receptacle, must have a label attached to it under the supervision of a government inspector, which shall state the contents.

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS—All establishments which prepare meat for interstate or foreign commerce must be inspected by expert sanitary inspectors, and kept in perfect sanitary condition according to rules and regulations provided by the government.

RIGHT OF ENTRY—Government inspectors are given the right to enter any part of any establishment at any and all times.

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