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shall cheerfully perform, but not for any consideration, directly or indirectly. I do not desire any interest to be carried for me or on my account with a view to any present or future profit to myself."

Cunningham preceded this letter with the statement:

"As soon as I became aware that coal lands could not be taken in Alaska under the mineral laws, Mr. Heyburn informed me in person that he could not act under said agreement."

Glavis testified that on May 2, 1908, he was ordered to discontinue the Alaska inquiry and take up the Oregon cases, but he had declared that the investigation should not be dropped at that time.

Reading from Attorney General Wickersham's report to the president on the Glavis charges, Attorney Brandeis quoted this sentence: "He (Glavis) might have added he has never taken any action whatever to bring those criminal prosecutions which he advised the land office must be brought before October, 1908, to escape the bar of the statute of limitations."

"Is that true?" demanded J. R. Brandeis of the witness.

"It is not," Mr. Glavis answered. "In May or April I took the Alaska cases up with United States Attorney Todd at Seattle. He afterwards wrote to me saying he had laid the matter before the department of justice, as there was some doubt in his mind whether he should lay the cases before the grand jury in Seattle, where the claimants lived, or in Alaska, where the claims were located.

"In June, 1908, I prepared a report on this subject to Commissioner Dennett, but learning that he was to be in Oregon soon, I did not send it. When he came to Oregon we talked the matter over, discussing the entire situation. Dennett said he did not think there should be any criminal prosecution; that he thought it was sufficient if the claims should be cancelled."

Representative James: "What criminal offense had the claimants committed?"

"Conspiracy to defraud the United States."

Representative James: "And that involved perjury?"

"Yes."

Representative James: "But Dennett took the view that if they were kept out of the land that was sufficient?"

"Yes."

Glavis said he was ordered back on the Alaska cases in November, 1908, but did not actually take them up until March, 1909. He was busy on other matters. He could have assigned one or two agents to the case, but he preferred to give it his personal attention, as it involved mil-

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lions of dollars. If he had not been taken off the work in May, 1909, Glavis declared he would have final reports in the land office in the fall of that year.

Washington, January 28.—"The American republic can't stand forever this sort of thing being rung into the people's ears—these anarchistic statements," angrily declared Representative Smith of California today, addressing Herbert Myrick, representative of the agricultural press league, a witness before the house committee on postoffices and postroads, at its hearing on the subject of increasing the postal rate on second class mail matter. He was referring to an editorial which Mr. Myrick acknowledged came from one of the publications which he represented.

"I protest that farmers of this country are not anarchists, and I protest that I am not a traitor," hotly returned Myrick, who shortly before had been further alluded to as being responsible for traitorous utterances. Mr. Myrick was the principal witness before the committee. After Representative Smith had made severe reflections upon Mr. Myrick's views, the latter said he was a farmer himself, and owned a farm in Mr. Smith's district in California.

"COME AND HELP US"

Washington, January 28. — Representative Dwight of New York, republican whip of the house; Representative Dalzell of Pennsylvania and Representative Boutell of Illinois called at the White House to see what assistance the president would lend in stemming the tide of insurgency which is said now to threaten the existence of the committee on rules. The last cause for alarm on the part of the "regulars" was the Fowler resolution, deposing the speaker as a member of the committee on rules and trebling its membership.

TAFT WITH CANNON

Washington dispatches say that President Taft made it known to members of the Ohio delegation that he would not take part in the effort to eliminate Speaker Cannon from the committee on rules.

Before the Ballinger investigating committee Louis R. Glavis testified that Representatives McLachlan of California, and Kinkaid of Nebraska were interested in Alaska claims and that Mr. Ballinger, after becoming commissioner of the land office, has acted as attorney for Kinkaid. It developed further that H. H. Schwartz, chief of the field service, had sent, August 12, 1909, a telegram addressed to N. M. B. McEnerney, special agent at Denver. This telegram was sent from Washington and was as follows:

"Get into scareheads tonight and Associated Press, if possible, that secretary and commissioner have secured evidence showing unlawful combinations of several hundred coal entries, and that general land office is assigning its best coal engineers and lawyers to Seattle to assist in the coming trials.

"That commissioner general land office while in Denver, had expressed confidence that several hundred entries would be cancelled; that government is making every effort to secure speedy action on these cases, as all coal entries in Alaska have now been suspended for over four years; that government is anxious to clear these lands of bad entries that it may get coal for its coaling stations in the Pacific; that special agents say coming hearings will reach some of the largest interests yet uncovered, and that Ballinger has made it plain that he will stand behind them to the finish; that several of the railroad corporations owned by eastern capital are making indirect efforts to delay the hearings, hoping that next congress will pass further remedial legislation or permit greater consolidation, but it is the position of the commissioner that such entries are fraudulent as the law now stands, and should be cancelled at once, and criminal liability developed before statute bars action.

"Follow somewhat above ideas. I understand slanderous newspapers attack about to be made on commissioner of the general land office, secretary of the interior and Assistant Secretary of the Interior Pierce in Alaska coal. I wish to forestall. Treat the source of your information secret, as I have consulted no one. After putting this out, until advised further, avoid interviews in this matter."

KEEPING IT QUIET

A Commoner reader writes: "One of my neighbors denies that Mr. Taft ever made an order forbidding government employes from giving out information. Please say whether this

order was really made or was it just a newspaper story."

The order was made. It will be found in several government bulletins. The following copy is taken from the Official Postal Guide of January, 1910:

The following order was issued from the office of the postmaster general—Frank H. Hitchcock, postmaster general:

Government Employes Prohibited from Soliciting Legislation from or Furnishing Information to Congress, except as Authorized by Heads of Departments.

December 1, 1909.

Order No. 2791.

Under date of November 26, 1909, the president issued the following executive order, which is hereby promulgated for the information of the post office department and the postal service:

"It is hereby ordered that no bureau, office or division chief, or subordinate in any department of the government, and no officer of the army or navy or marine corps stationed in Washington, shall apply to either house of congress, or to any committee of either house of congress, or to any member of congress, for legislation, or for appropriations, or for congressional action of any kind, except with the consent and knowledge of the head of the department; nor shall any such person respond to any request for information from either house of congress, or any committee of either house of congress, or any member of congress, except through, or as authorized by, the head of his department."

This Postal Guide may be found at any postoffice—unless the postmaster has orders to "keep that quiet," too.

A PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

O thou great father of the weak, lay thy hand tenderly on all the little children on earth and bless them. Bless our own children who are the life of our life, and who have become the heart of our heart. Bless every little child friend who has leaned against our knee and refreshed our soul by its smiling truthfulness. Be good to all children who crave in vain for human love, or for flowers and water, and the sweet breast of nature. But bless with a three-fold blessing the young lives whose tender shoulders are already bowed beneath the yoke of toil and whose glad growth is being stunted forever. Let not their little bodies be utterly sapped, and their minds given over to stupidity and the vices of an empty soul. We have all jointly deserved the millstone of thy wrath for making these little ones to stumble and fall. Grant all employes of labor stout hearts to refuse enrichment at such a price. Grant to all the citizens and officers of states which now permit this wrong the grace of holy anger. Help us to realize that every child in our nation is in very truth our child, a member of our great family. By the holy child that nestled in Mary's bosom, by the memories of our own childhood joys and sorrows, by the sacred possibilities that slumber in every child, we beseech thee to save us from killing the sweetness of young life by the greed of gain.—Walter Rauschenbusch in the American Magazine.

THE PARAMOUNT TOPIC

We do not know what Nineteen Ten
Will bring to cheer us on our way;
We do not know what headlines large
Will catch our eyes, from day to day,
But, as we scan the paper o'er,
The while we drain our breakfast cup,
This much we're pretty sure to read:
"The cost of living 's going up."

Some say too many live in town,
And not enough stick to the farm;
And others say we eat too much—
'Tis gluttony that does the harm;
Men differ when they argue o'er
The price we pay for bite and sup,
But always comes this sad refrain:
"The cost of living 's going up."

'Tis said the farmer does not raise
As much as science bids him grow,
The railroads get their share of blame
Because of hauling they are slow;
'Tis paramount in people's talk,
From Sagebrushville to Spotless Town;
On Nineteen Ten, please change it thus:
"The cost of living 's going down."
—Arthur Chapman in Denver Republican.