

REPORT FORM NO. 1

157115

REPORT MADE BY: CLAUDE P. LIME PLACE WHERE MADE: Cincinnati, Ohio DATE WHEN MADE: March 6, 1918 PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: Feb. 23, '18

TITLE OF CASE AND OFFENSE OR NATURE OF MATTER UNDER INVESTIGATION:
 In Re: P. Weber, - Alleged Violation of Espionage Act by Circulation of Printed Circulars. Page 4

RECEIVED
 MAR 10 1918

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS, EVIDENCE COLLECTED, NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED, PLACES VISITED, ETC.
 At Cinti, O.

This morning Mr. Dana Pinkerton and Ben Bowman, Newport, Ky., called at the Bureau office and brought in a quantity of literature, a copy of which is hereto attached. Mr. Bowman and Mr. Pinkerton are both connected with the A. P. L. Organization and with the Council of Defense of Campbell County, Ky.

Mr. Bowman states that a few days ago he was at the headquarters of the Council of Defense and A. P. L. in Newport, when Mr. Will Marshall, a member of the Council, came in with a copy of this circular and stated that he had been in A. J. Glaser's saloon, corner 8th & Monmouth Sts., and had secured one of these circulars there and understood that P. Weber, a bartender in Glaser's saloon and A. J. Glaser, proprietor, were preparing to circulate these leaflets. Mr. Bowman went with Mr. Marshall to Glaser's saloon and asked Weber where he had these circulars. Weber went with them up the backway to gambling room above the saloon and there produced several of these leaflets from a table drawer. He stated that he had a big pack of them at his house at 338 Thornton St., and would like to get rid of them. Weber stated to Mr. Bowman that these circulars had been sent to him on February 13th as Secretary of the Cooks' Union #149, and that he had been compelled to pay \$1.50 express charges on the pack. (Weber had charge of the lunch counter in Glaser's saloon and is a member of the Cooks' union because of that fact.)

Mr. Bowman and Mr. Marshall went with Weber to 338 Thornton St., where Weber gave them the entire package of these circulars and also a letter mailed in Denver, Colorado, February 16th, addressed to Cooks' union #149, P. Weber, Secretary, 338 Thornton St., Newport, Ky. which letter reads as follows:

COPY OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:
 Cinti and Denver offices.

SOURCE INFORMATION

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Case Number: 157118

Case Title: Alleged Violation Espionage Act by Circulation of Printed Circulars

Suspect Name: F. Weber

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Original data from:  [The National Archives \(http://www.archives.gov\)](http://www.archives.gov)

REPORT FORM NO. 1

REPORT MADE BY: Light.	PLACE WHERE MADE:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:
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TITLE OF CASE AND OFFENSE CHARGED OR NATURE OF MATTER UNDER INVESTIGATION:

In Re: Weber.

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STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS, EVIDENCE COLLECTED, NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED, PLACES VISITED, ETC.:

"Denver, Colorado.

Dear Friend:

"In the year 1916, one small group of trusts cleared four-thousand-millions of dollars in excess profits. Since the war began, there have been 7,925 new millionaires produced in the United States. Last year, Swift and Company's profits amounted to \$42,000,000.

"Are profiteers patriots or traitors?

"Will you kindly ask your union to write a letter per the following form?:"

"His Excellency, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, Washington, D. C.

"Dear Mr. President:

"We respectfully urge that you request Congress to conscript every income of every person and every business in the United States that exceeds \$5,000 annually, to pay current war expenses and to liquidate all indebtedness when hostilities cease.

"Yours for Justice,

"(Sign your union name here and affix seal of the lodge.)"

"After writing the above form letter, mail to The National War Profits Tax League, 303 Cooper Building, Denver, Colo. Letters from all over America are being collected at this point, they will be sent in one allotment to the President.

"Will you kindly have members of your union sign the form letter on last page of the circulars sent you and mail as directed? This law will save every member of your union over \$200.00 on the first year's war bill. The circulars were sent C. O. D. to enable us to pay for the printing of part of the remaining 2,000,000 circulars and complete the undertaking. Mr. C. O. Kitner, recording secretary, lodge No. 83, International Association of Machinists, Cleveland, Ohio, wrote us: 'Our members are heartily in favor of your proposition and you can use our endorsement if you so desire.'

Very truly yours, Tax
"National War Profits/League,
By G. M. Clark, Secretary."

Weber stated that he had never heard from this National War Profits Tax League or of G. M. Clark before and did not know what to do with these circulars. He stated that he was anxious to get rid of them. Mr. Bowman states that Mr. Marshall had heard Weber and Glaser talking in the saloon and making arrangements to distribute these circulars and that is the reason his attention was called to the matter and he desired to get hold of one of them. Mr. Bowman and Mr. Pinkerton state that they did not know just exactly how J.P. Glaser's sympathy was in this war, but stated that A. J. Glaser, a

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a brother of William Glaser, a tinner in Covington, Ky., who did a great deal of talking which did not sound as if his attitude towards this war is loyal.

Mr. Bowman states that he has a friend named B. F. James, a member of the Odd Fellows, and a good loyal citizen who has an office in the Cooper Building in Denver, Colorado, where the office of the National War Profiter Tax League purports to be. He states that Elmer Kirker, teller of the American National Bank of Newport, visited Mr. James there during the past summer.

A copy of this report is forwarded to the Denver office with a request that an investigation be made as to the nature of this Organization and copies of all the reports of the Denver office be furnished to the Cincinnati office.

COPY OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

7-471

TAX THE RICH To Pay for The War

By Ben J. Salmon

We must make Democracy safe in America.

While President Wilson was leading the line of conscripted poor men's lives down Pennsylvania avenue, the Senate was voting 4 to 1 against the conscription of rich men's dollars. Is this Democracy?

SWAT THE CONSUMER.

The slogan of our lawmakers seems to be, "Swat the Consumer."

Incomes have been taxed only slightly. Approximately one billion dollars placed against this source of revenue. War profits taxed approximately the same amount. But the things we eat and wear, with a few amusements and luxuries thrown in, must pay approximately \$19,000,000,000. Nearly nineteen times as much as war profits or incomes. Nineteen thousand millions of dollars in taxes placed upon those least able to pay.

IS THIS A WAR FOR PROFIT?

Swift and Company's net profit for 1917 was over \$42,000,000. This was nearly \$22,000,000 greater than their profits for 1916. Do you wonder why the price of meat advanced? Is Swift a patriot or a traitor?

There have been 7,925 new millionaires added to Democracy's roll of honor in the United States since the world war began.

War profits of a small group of big trusts amounted to \$4,000,000,000 in 1916. Last year, this year, and every year the landlords of America collect approximately \$6,000,000,000 for permitting us to live on God's earth. One year's legalized robbery: ten thousand millions of dollars! These are only partial enumerations of profiteering instances.

The poor man's life has been taxed 100 per cent. That is, he has been conscripted for the period of the war and, in many cases, for eternity. Why not make the rich man give everything above \$5,000 a year during the war in order to help conquer the Kaiser?

IS THEIR PATRIOTISM GENUINE?

Newspapers were largely instrumental in precipitating America's entrance into the conflict. If they are sincerely patriotic, they will gladly turn their profits over to Uncle Sam.

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The columns of newspapers are filled with exultations of patriotism. All that is required to make these proclamations dynamic is a unified demand by the great mass of Americans that the profits of all businesses above \$5,000 per year be taxed 100 per cent to prosecute the war and to liquidate all war indebtedness. The "five-thousand" per annum will enable captains of industry to discharge personal obligations without serious inconvenience.

NECESSITY DEMANDS IT.

Right or wrong, we are at war. Newspapers have been suppressed, citizens jailed for asserting their constitutional rights of free speech, peaceful assemblages dispersed by the authorities, all in the name of "war necessity." Granted that these onslaughts against Democratic institutions were necessary in order to insure success for America, how much more necessary to conscript the wealth of the inordinately opulent that an ample supply of provisions for the army and navy may be procured!

If the exigencies of war demand that ordinary privileges of the people be denied, should not the rich be denied the use of surplus gold? Especially that surplus accruing as a sequence of war.

JUSTICE.

I know of a little orphan girl in Denver who works for \$7.00 a week. She was virtually compelled to purchase a \$50.00 liberty bond. Of course, our little friend could have declined, and suffer the loss of her position, but circumstances intervened; she needs the few dollars weekly to keep soul and body together. This case is only one of thousands proximately and remotely similar.

CAN THEY AFFORD IT?

The little girl could ill afford to contribute \$50.00. But she did it. Below is a list of only a few financiers who will be more greatly benefited by the present war than the little orphan girl:

Name.	Amount of Wealth.
John D. Rockefeller.....	\$500,000,000
Andrew Carnegie	300,000,000
William Rockefeller	200,000,000
Estate of Marshall Field.....	120,000,000
George F. Baker.....	100,000,000
Henry Phipps	100,000,000
Henry C. Frick.....	100,000,000
William A. Clark.....	80,000,000
Estate of J. P. Morgan.....	75,000,000
Estate of H. H. Harriman.....	68,000,000
Estate of Russell Sage.....	64,000,000

W. K. Vanderbilt.....	50,000,000
Estate of John S. Kennedy.....	65,000,000
Estate of John J. Astor.....	70,000,000
W. W. Astor.....	70,000,000
J. J. Hill.....	70,000,000
Isaac Stephenson.....	74,000,000
Jay Gould estate.....	70,000,000
Estate of Mrs. Hetty Green.....	60,000,000
Estate of Cornelius Vanderbilt.....	60,000,000
Estate of William Weightman.....	50,000,000
Estate of Ogden Goelet.....	60,000,000
W. I. Moore.....	50,000,000
Arthur C. James.....	50,000,000
Estate of Robert Goelet.....	60,000,000
Guggenheim estate.....	50,000,000
Thomas F. Ryan.....	50,000,000
Edward Morris.....	45,000,000
J. O. Armour.....	45,000,000

Why not take as much proportionally from these and other rich men as we did from the little orphan girl and her poor sisters? We leave the poor with less than enough to pay for a meagre living; would it be wrong to leave a rich man only \$5,000 per year, or should he have as much as his avaricious temperament craves?

SLACKERS, EVERY ONE OF THEM.

Tax the land slackers, the coal slackers, the food slackers, the munition slackers, the iron slackers, the oil slackers, the copper slackers, the lumber slackers, the clothing slackers. Tax 'em all, and tax them 100 per cent, just as we tax the poor man's life 100 per cent.

IT IS ONLY FAIR.

We have forced men to join the army, it is only fair that we compel wealth to back them up.

The multitudinous taxes levied upon men of ordinary means, and upon the poor, are hindering the success of our armies in the field. Until every dollar of surplus wealth in America is conscripted and expended we should not allow one penny of taxation to inhibit our chances of defeating the Kaiser! Every time we place burdens upon industry, we make it that much easier for the Kaiser to kill American boys at the front. This is the most despicable treachery imaginable. Sending a man out to stop bullets and then tying his hands so that he cannot defend himself. The vilest form of treason!

THREATS ARE WORSE THAN USELESS.

Threatening to tax the rich will avail nothing. Suppose we merely threatened to conscript America's manhood?

Conscript the wealth of the nation, and if the rich man kicks, let him kick; we want to win this war.

WILL YOU HELP?

Please sign the letter to President Wilson printed below and mail as directed. When 2,000,000 of these signed letters are received, they will be forwarded to the President, and immediately after, a bill will be introduced in Congress providing for wealth conscription upon the basis stated. One of the Congressmen is waiting for the signal—2,000,000 signers—the news will be telegraphed to him and then the big drive in Congress will begin. Help expedite matters by signing and mailing the following letter **today**; don't mail direct to the President.

His Excellency, Woodrow Wilson,
President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I respectfully urge that you, as commander in chief of the army and navy, apprise Congress of the necessity of taxing war profits and incomes. As a matter of justice towards those who are giving their lives to America, every income of every person and every business in the United States that exceeds \$5,000 annually should be conscripted by the government to pay current war expenses and to liquidate all indebtedness when hostilities cease. If this is done, the billions of dollars thus commandeered will obviate the necessity of burdening the already overburdened poor.

Yours for America and fair play,

Name and Address.....

City and State.....

Kindly tear off at dotted lines and mail today to The National War Profits Tax League, 303 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado. Enclose a dime or a quarter to help us get more of these circulars distributed, thus hastening the completion of this undertaking. Your contribution will also help pay postage, etc., if it becomes necessary to communicate with you concerning the action of our Congressmen after the bill is introduced.

Be sure to mail your letter to the collecting point—Denver, Colorado, room 303 Cooper Building. After 2,000,000 are received there, the entire allotment will be mailed to the President's office in Washington. If you and others whom this circular reaches will act without delay, this work will be completed by the end of February.