



PACKERS

at ATLANTIC CITY

SOME SNAPSHOTS TAKEN AT ATLANTIC CITY



*Thomas E. Wilson
and his son, Ed-
ward. Mr. Wilson
has been elected
President of the
Institute for the
coming year*



*E. W. Penley, Au-
burn, Me., another
"big" packer*



*Some of the younger mem-
bers go for a stroll on the
Board Walk*



*Retiring President James
B. McCrea (at extreme
right) greets several of his
friends*

THE INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN MEAT PACKERS assembled at Atlantic City this year for the 1919 annual convention. Practically all of the two hundred packing firms which make up its membership were represented when Mayor Bacharach extended a cordial welcome and the key of the city.

The mayor's address was an invitation to become acquainted with Atlantic City, where, he said, only 100 per cent Americans are royally received.

James B. McCrea, President of the old American Meat Packers' Association, joined his valedictory with a theme of the new vigor which he said was carried on through the Institute.

"I am delivering to my successor," he told the members, "a revived and rejuvenated organization over which he is in the future to preside. The Institute of American Meat Packers will concern itself very largely with our relations with the public, and it has the great advantage of commencing work upon the solid foundation laid by the old association."

After the treasurer's report had been read by Max N. Agger, the Chairman of the Institute, Thomas E. Wilson, took for the text of his address, "The Packer and the Public."

"We have plenty to talk about," said Mr. Wilson. "Our story is a wonderful story, if you will stop just a moment and consider what the industry did during the war. You can take it from the mouths of the Government officials themselves.

"The story has not been appreciated by the American people, but it will be appreciated. The time is coming, gentlemen, when the packing industry will receive the grateful thanks of the people of this country." Mr. Wilson read extracts from the report of Mr. Chase, statistician of the United States Food Administration, showing what the packing industry did in critical times of the war.

In the latter part of his address he bespoke a better understanding between producer, packer and public, and forecast the service to be performed by the Institute.

The convention listened with attention and interest to C. W. Price, general manager of the National Safety Council, who outlined the horrors of peace—the accident problem with its casualty lists of industry. He suggested some features of a workable plan to safeguard workmen and to

make factories and packing plants absolutely safe.

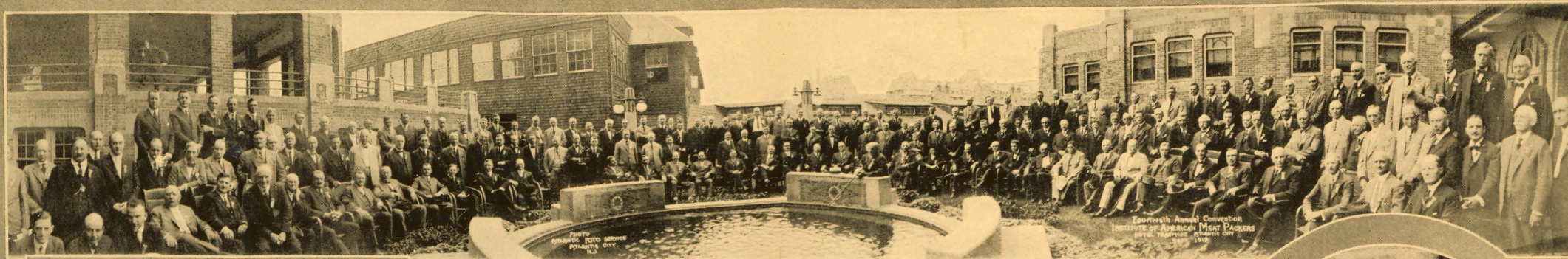
Presenting the report of the Executive Committee, Charles H. Ogden, retiring chairman, narrated the steps which led to rebirth of the old Association in the new Institute.

Mr. Ogden told the convention that enough beef and pork were exported during the war years to give every person in Atlantic City 11,712 pounds of pork products and 35,705 or enough to keep him going on the former for 1,294 years and on the latter for 453 years.

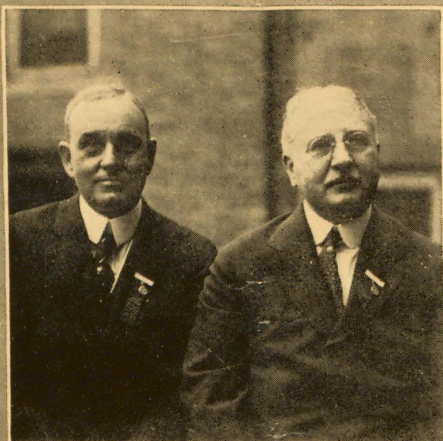
His account of the packing industry at war made vivid the stupendous accomplishments which won approval from the War Department and from all those who



G. F. Swift, Jr.



THIS PANORAMA CONTAINS 182 FACES. THE MEMBERSHIP OF
THE INSTITUTE COMPRISES ABOUT TWO HUNDRED FIRMS



One of the corner-
stones of the indus-
try, Jack Smith
(right) of Swift &
Company

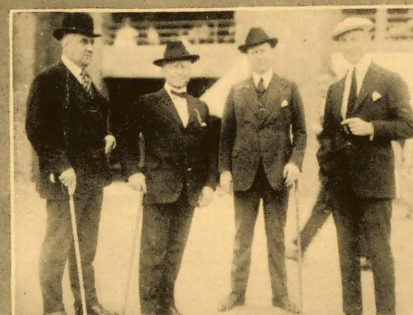


D. C. Robertson
(left), vice president
of Miller & Hart,
Chicago



Two men long prom-
inent in the packing
industry, J. C. Dold
of Buffalo and Al-
bert Schenk of
Wheeling, West
Virginia, are shown
seated in this picture

John J. Felin of
Philadelphia, presi-
dent of J. J. Felin
& Co., one of the
most active packing
firms in the East



The photographer was im-
pressed with this group of
genial, substantial gentle-
men, so he snapped 'em

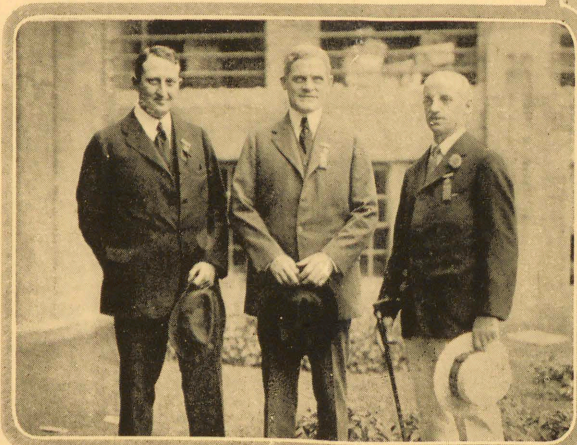
Chairman James S. Agar and Treasurer
John T. Agar, with their right and left bowlers



This picture is notable for its good presentation of J. C. Dold of Buffalo (shown in the center); to the right his son, Ralph S. Dold, and just above, Albert Rohe of New York. Others prominent in the industry appear in this group

Two of the younger members, Fred Wilson and P. A. Dett, on the Board Walk

E. S. Waterbury, of Morris & Co., John T. Agar and Glenn McKnight



G. F. Swift, Jr., Thomas E. Wilson and Chairman Louis Burk of the Dinner Committee



were in the thick of directing the battle against Germany.

Convening on the afternoon of September 16, the Institute began its second session by listening to Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Husbandry. Dr. Mohler announced as his subject, "Bettering the World's Best Meat," and under this heading he marshaled a history of disease eradication, meat inspection, systematic attempts to improve methods and products, production and distribution.

C. B. Heinemann, Secretary of the National Live Stock Exchange, was introduced, and said that he would present the viewpoint of the live stock producer.

"As commission men," Mr. Heinemann said, "our members more closely represent the rank and file of live stock producers than is the case with any other similar association. Where benefits have been derived from the development work of the packers, due credit shall be given them, and where criticism seems justified I shall unhesitatingly suggest the corrective measures which should be applied."

John G. Imboden, producer, was the next speaker. He said, "The motive of my coming and attending and sitting with you in a convention might be questioned at home by my friends and fellow producers. And while I am president of the Illinois Live Stock Association I do not appear before you as President of that Association.

"But our interests are so closely interwoven, the interests of the producer and the interests of the packer, that we cannot ignore the rights of each industry and cannot intelligently consider the problem of this industry without knowing more of each other's business."

Mr. Imboden's remarks were received with applause and he was thanked by the Institute.

Secretary Gould introduced Hon. Arthur B. Hayes, the Association Counsel, who said, "The American Meat Packers' Association did a most wonderful work for this industry. Now, gentlemen, it seems to me that there are three important things to be accomplished by this organization under its reorganization."

Mr. Hayes suggested that false impressions must be counteracted, that ill-considered legislation should be opposed, and that efforts should be made to cope with the great problem of social unrest.

Through Charles Grismer, National President of the United Master Butchers of America, the retail butcher made friendly speech with the packers. He was accorded a thorough welcome.

C. W. Hunt, producer of Iowa, seconded in his remarks the spirit of co-operation and interlocking interest of producer and packer which had been moved by Mr. Imboden. He brought forth laughter from his audience by narrating how a home town crowd was about ready to mob him for saying he did not believe packers controlled the market.

James G. Cownie, of the Jacob Dold Packing Co., Buffalo, appeared at the convention only a few hours after docking at New York on the good ship Cedric from Liverpool.

Mr. Cownie's main thought, he said, was to get back to Buffalo, where a cordial wireless had assured him he would find a wonderful welcome.

"However," he continued, "on getting into New York yesterday, I saw a man beckoning to me, and he handed me a telegram and a letter from the boss asking me to come down to Atlantic City, and I will only say that while my thoughts were in Buffalo I was very glad to come down and meet you all."

And the Institute was very glad to meet Mr. Cownie.

The session was concluded with reports from various committees and more or less routine of business.

Routine, however, was far away when the packers came together in the submarine grill of the Hotel Traymore for their annual banquet. The occasion was ushered in by a presentation to the retiring president and a chorus of the Institute which ran like this:

"He's all right."

"Who's all right?"

"Jimmie McCrea."

Another Jimmie, Mr. McCase of Philadelphia, sang "Dannie Boy" and tunes of kindred spirit. And E. J. Cattell, toastmaster, was introduced as the father of Pennsylvania. His speech kept the packers gleeful with the stimulus of such tales as that of an egg which was boiled long enough—but not soon enough.

Mr. Cattell, who is really City Statistician of Philadelphia, introduced Hon. Edward C. Stokes, ex-Governor of New Jersey.

Said Mr. Stokes, "The chief product of the meat packer is in providing nourishment for our politicians. They are our sure and best allies. When we politicians run out of issues, whenever we grow stale, we become the tribunes of the people and pack the meat packers,

and we always count on the Federal Trade Commission to help us virtuous politicians out."

In more serious vein Mr. Stokes interested the Institute in remarks which touched upon "the penalty for achievement" and some threats to democracy.

Following Mr. Stokes, Howard B. Lewis, Philadelphia lawyer, held the attention of the diners with an American speech mostly about America and Americans.

Then came T. A. Daly, whose daily ditties have made him loved, and he recited the ballad of Kitty's Graduation, which was the brightest day in John Casey's life. And he told also of "Two 'Mericana Men" and "Da Sweeta Soil," and ran through a repertoire of Irish jokes and a few Italian jokes which made the evening merry.

This concluded the banquet. The smoker, held on Monday evening, was made historic by the presence of the ladies. John R. Livezey, Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, kept the affair full of enjoyment. A cabaret performance continued from nine until after midnight.

Enthusiasm and vigor characterized the convention from first to last, and a definite purpose shaped from it all to build up instead of tearing down.

