

GERMANS PLAN TO STARVE NEUTRALS

American Troops Occupy Vital Enemy Positions

TOWNLEY MAKES BITTER REPLY TO RECENT ATTACKS

Asserts Governor Burnquist of Minnesota Insulted Organized Farmers.

DISLOYALTY CHARGE HIGHLY RIDICULOUS

Admits Now That Principle Idea of Non-Partisans Is to Aid War.

Fairmont, Minn., March 14.—Judge C. M. Tift, in district court will rule at 9 a. m. tomorrow on a demurrer entered by A. C. Townley and Joseph Gilbert, president and manager of the Non-Partisan league, seeking to quash the indictments against them on the ground that the facts as stated do not constitute a public offense.

Arguments on the demurrer consumed practically all of today's court session. Arthur Le Sueur, attorney and executive secretary of the league, spoke for three hours in support of the demurrer and County Attorney A. R. Allen, an hour and a half against it.

Answering assertions of Le Sueur that the league, its officers and literature are thoroughly loyal, the county attorney declared that the resolutions adopted by the organization at the La Follette meeting in St. Paul last fall, "reek with treason," and that to argue that they are patriotic "stultifies the good judgment of the court."

Mr. Allen objected to a request of the league attorneys to the court that in the event that the demurrer is overruled to certify the case to the supreme court without letting it go to the jury. He called his plan to delay a decision until next fall or later, while the doctrines are further spread throughout the state.

President Townley issued the following personal statement today in reply to the recent criticism of Governor Burnquist on the league and its acts:

Attacks Governor. "Statements made by Governor Burnquist, in reply to an invitation of the Non-Partisan league to address its convention to be held in St. Paul this month must be disappointing to thousands of his friends and to the farmers and organized labor of the state. Governor Burnquist has lowered the dignity of his office by stooping to the tactics of the ordinary politician. His letter to the Non-Partisan league is a slap in the face and direct insult to over 100,000 organized farmers and their friends in Minnesota and 50,000 members of organized labor in the cities of the state.

Charge Ridiculous. "Charges of disloyalty hurled at the organized farmers and workers of this state are too ridiculous to demand denial. Their subscriptions to the Liberty loan, the Red Cross and other war relief agencies are well known. The farmers, short-handed, as they are, are now preparing to work harder than ever and raise greater crops to feed the United States and its allies and support their own sons who have gone 'over there.'

"A large part of Governor Burnquist's letter dealt with matters familiar to North Dakota farmers, who have asserted their voice in the government of that state. Attacks by politicians are common."

(Continued on Page Three.)

The Weather

Forecast—Fair Friday and Saturday; moderate temperature.

LOCAL OBSERVATIONS. Maximum 54 Minimum 22 6 a. m. 22 6 p. m. 42

Yesterday was a marvel. Spring fever was prevalent and Missoula's population yearned for the golf links, the fishing holes, gardens and fields. Not a cloud marred the face of Old Sol from the time he appeared over Mount Jumbo in the morning until he disappeared behind the Mission range. Come again!

FROM OTHER POINTS.

Table with 3 columns: City, Min., Max. Rows include Bismarck, Duluth, Huron, Moorhead, Omaha, St. Paul, Williston, Denver, Havre, Helena, Portland, Spokane, Calgary, Edmonton, Medicine Hat, Minnedosa, Winnipeg.

Non-Partisan Organizer Is Highly Loyal

Lewistown, March 15.—The Non-Partisan league meeting which was placed on the program for today between morning and evening meetings of the state tax conference was held this afternoon, the Judith theater being packed with people anxious to hear R. B. Martin, the league lecturer, who was not permitted to speak at Columbus and Big Timber.

Those who expected some questionable utterances, from Mr. Martin were surprised by the fervid and sweeping patriotism of his speech. He announced that he agreed fully with the opening declaration of the chairman, A. A. Franke, superintendent of schools, that whoever spoke one disloyal word or was guilty of one disloyal act at this time, deserved to be branded as a traitor. Mr. Martin called President Wilson the world's greatest statesman and our foremost patriot and called upon all to support him and to support our efforts in the war to the very limit of their ability.

ESTHER CLEVELAND MARRIED. London, March 15.—Esther Cleveland, daughter of the late Grover Cleveland, president of the United States, was married Thursday in Westminster abbey to Captain W. S. B. Bosanquet, D. S. O., of the Coldstream guards, and son of Sir Albert Bosanquet, according to the Daily Graphic.

HUN RAIDS FAIL. Paris, March 14.—There was shelling all along the front today, according to the war office announcement. Three German raids failed.

Marks First Advance of U.S. Forces

With the American Army in France, March 14.—10 p. m.—By the Associated Press.—American troops in the Luneville sector have occupied and are holding enemy trenches northeast of Badonvillers, which they forced the Germans to abandon through recent raids and concentrated artillery fire.

The trenches have been consolidated with ours. This, though a small forward movement, marks the first permanent advance by the American army in France. The consolidation of the trenches enables the Americans and French to operate from higher ground than heretofore.

The Germans made only feeble attempts to retake the position, and each time were repulsed.

YANKEE GUNNERS FOIL GAS ATTACK

American Artillery Blows Projectors to Pieces by Accurate Fire. With the American Army in France, Tuesday, March 12.—By the Associated Press.—Four groups of German gas projectors, in addition to the group of 200 projectors already reported destroyed, have been discovered and likewise blown to pieces by the American artillery. Probable German plans for gas attack on a comparatively large scale against the American positions northwest of Toul have thus been upset.

The new groups of projectors were discovered from aerial photographs taken by American observers in French airplanes. The effective action taken against them was due to the quick work of the observers, the intelligence officers and the artillerymen in turn.

Artillery Active. The American artillery on this front has been more active than ever in the past 15 hours, and its shells also found lodgment in a number of ammunition dumps, which were blown up. Many extensive explosions are reported. The correspondent, standing on a hill, witnessed one dump situated in a wood go up in a brilliant flash and a great puff of whitish smoke, a tremendous report following a few seconds later. Explosions and fires also were caused by our shells in villages and a number in the woods behind the enemy front.

Levels Trenches. The American artillery also tore great gaps in the enemy wire and levelled various portions of the first and second line trenches, forcing the enemy virtually to abandon them.

ANGRY MOB DRIVES NON-PARTISANS OUT Organizers Severely Beaten and Forced Out of Town. Sioux Falls, S. D., March 14.—A Non-Partisan league meeting scheduled to be held at Gregory, S. D., yesterday was prevented and five league organizers were beaten and driven out of Gregory county, across the Nebraska line, according to the five men who arrived here tonight.

Huge Boulder Derails Pennsylvania Express. Philadelphia, March 15.—Reports received at the general offices of the Pennsylvania railroad here, were that a huge boulder rolling down the mountain side had struck train No. 19, wrecking three, or four sleepers. The Masonic home at Elizabethtown, the reports stated, has been thrown open for the care of the injured. The number has not yet been ascertained. Neither is it known whether anyone was killed.

ALLIES TO DRAFT ALL DUTCH SHIPS HELD IN HARBORS

Million Tons of Holland's Vessels to Be Taken by Powers at Once. NETHERLANDS TO GET JUST COMPENSATION

Action Forced by Attitude of Germany Towards All Neutral Shipping. Washington, March 14.—A million tons of Dutch ships, now held in ports the world over through Holland's fear of Germany's threat to sink them if they venture out, will be brought into the service of the United States and Great Britain on March 18.

Unless the Netherlands government braves the menace of Germany's pressure and voluntarily accepts an agreement under which the ships would be put in trade, the United States and Great Britain will take them over under international law availing themselves of a sovereign right which Germany herself has hitherto exercised under the same authority.

Formal Notice Given. Formal notice has been presented to The Hague by the American and British diplomatic representatives of the allied governments' intention. As a result today the Netherlands minister, August Phillips, acting under instructions of his government, made a final and personal appeal to President Wilson to at least modify the decision.

The Associated Press is enabled to state that the president saw no reason for altering the decision and that unless the ships are turned over by next Monday a presidential proclamation will be issued taking over the ships in American ports of which there are about 80. Many more, however, are in British or other allied ports on the seven seas.

Forced by Germany. From the American official point of view, the action is one into which the allied governments have been forced by the German duress of Holland, which may now see her ships in trade again and can point out to Germany that they were taken through no will of her own.

Coming at a time when the dire need of the allied cause is for ships, this acquisition of a million tons is of tremendous importance. Every arrangement has been made for the compensation of the Netherlands for the ships. They will be insured and armed, and if any be lost they will be replaced, besides material compensation for their use, the United States will permit the export of breadstuffs and cattle foods, which Holland needs sorely for her own people and in addition will restore the interrupted trade of Holland with her colonies by guaranteeing bunkers for her ships in that trade.

Leave Holland Ships. Under this arrangement Holland still is left enough ships for her own needs and has been notified that plentiful supplies of food await her if she sends bottoms to carry it. By this arrangement officials point out, further responsibility for food shortage in the Netherlands will rest on Germany, if continued threats coerce Holland into keeping her shipping harbors.

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Who's Who in Campaign for City Offices

IV—William J. Moore.

The following article is the last of a series dealing with the several candidates for the city commission-ership at the primary election next Monday. Each of the candidates has been discussed in order, and each has submitted a brief statement of policy. The subject of today's article is William J. Moore.

William J. Moore, candidate for the police commissionership which is to be held by the councilman elected this spring, has lived in Missoula for 11 years. Since January 1, 1915, he has been a member of the city police force, serving part of the time as acting chief of the department.

Came Here as Railroader. Mr. Moore was born in Canada, but his parents moved to Michigan while he was still very young, and it was in that state that he received his education and early training. He came to Montana 11 years ago, locating in Missoula. He was then in the employ of the Northern Pacific railroad in the train service and worked for the company for three and one-half years.

Mr. Moore left the railroad service to work for P. H. Kinley in the Smoke House on East Cedar street. He worked there for two years and then entered the employ of the Missoula Street Railway company as a motor-man. After working for the transit company for several years he entered the municipal civil service as a patrolman. This was on January 1, 1915.

Good Record on Force. Mr. Moore's record as a police officer has been good. In his first year on the force he made arrests which resulted in 13 penitentiary sentences. He served, also, as acting chief of police under two administrations, first under Dale Hodson and then under Thomas Kemp, the present commissioner of public safety.

Mr. Moore is 31 years of age. He is married and has one son, five years old. He lives with his family at 637 Sherwood street.

SOLONS PREPARE FOR CRUM TRIAL

Case Will Be Heard Despite Resignation of Rosebud County Judge. Helena, March 14.—When the impeachment trial of Judge C. L. Crum, of the Fifteenth district is begun next Wednesday before the state senate, the defendant will not be present, according to report brought to the senate committee on the trial and the board of managers of the house who met here today and perfected rules of procedure and practice and arranged for the subpoenaing of witnesses.

Judge Crum last Sunday night left Forsyth and his friends assert that he has gone to Oklahoma, his former home and will not return to the state for some time. The address of the jurist is unknown to the committee, it was announced.

Trial to Proceed. The trial will proceed even if the defendant is not present, for service has been made upon him by a sergeant of arms of the senate, notifying him of the impeachment proceedings instituted by the house after testimony had been taken of a number of witnesses testifying to alleged expressions of disloyalty and efforts made to obstruct the selective service law.

The resignation of Judge Crum was filed with Governor Stewart several days ago and the conference of the senate committee and the board of managers of the house who will prosecute the jurist was held to consider whether the resignation should be accepted or rejected. Members of the committee nearly all of whom are lawyers, said the resignation need not be accepted, to make it effective and the law was quoted to show that the office is vacant. The indictment had been returned by the house and the senate committee only had to concern itself on the rules of practice and procedure, which are formed after the rules of the United States senate in impeachment trials.

Rules Adopted. The rules were adopted by the senate committee, Parker, Annin, Morris, Jones and Hogan at a meeting held last night.

During the meeting of the committee a petition signed by 75 representative residents of Forsyth-Crum's home was presented asking that the impeachment trial be not delayed or discontinued, believing it for the best interests of the state that the senate shall determine whether or not the charges are true.

Russians Wage Guerrilla Warfare Against Germans. Petrograd, March 15.—The peasants in the Polotsk district are conducting guerrilla warfare against the Germans. (Polotsk is in the district between Dvinsk and Vitbsk, on the Dvina river.)

The Russian staff on the west front has been removed to Moscow from Smolensk. It is that command of the Baltic fleet has been offered to Admiral Razvozov.

REVEAL EFFORTS TO CUT SUPPLIES FOR SCANDINAVIA

United States Shows Latest Campaign of Kaiser for Obtaining Power.

WOULD STOP FOOD TO NORTHERN COUNTRIES

Trying to Weaken Neighbors to Reduce Competition After War.

Washington, March 14.—Germany's latest campaign of ruthlessness against neutral shipping is attributed by the war trade board in a statement tonight to a deliberate plan for cutting off the north European nations from American and allied food supplies and thereby reducing them through starvation to political and economic dependence upon the Teutonic war lords.

The board's statement throws interesting light upon the situation, which led to this decision. The hope is expressed that the neutrals will contrast the respective attitudes of the United States and Germany toward the problem of feeding them.

Following is the statement: Plan Starvation. "Germany's war leaders are using the submarine war weapons to prevent fulfillment of American agreements to feed and relieve European neutrals. A mass of cumulative evidence and indications in the possession of the war trade board show that Germany is employing the submarine menace to prevent neighbor neutrals receiving any food or favors at the hands of the United States and its associates in the war and to coerce these neutrals through starvation into political and economic dependence upon Germany quite as much as to strike at the communications of its opponents—Germany's ostensible aim in proclaiming the ruthless submarine campaign.

"Further indications tend to show that the submarines are being used along similar 'dog in the manger' lines to destroy neutral shipping without regard to its employment in order to weaken prospective neutral competitors after the war and to drag down neutral tonnage as far as possible toward a position of equality (or inferiority) with the German merchant marine, which has lost between 40 and 50 per cent of its ocean tonnage, so that the neutral trader may be equally as badly off as his German rival for tonnage in the after the war race for commerce.

Torpedo Neutral Ship. "No other interpretation can be placed, for example upon the reported instances of destruction of neutral Danish ships on voyages between Iceland and the Danish mother country entirely outside of the war zone, nor upon the multitudinous 'mistakes' whereby Dutch and other neutral ships clinging to the precarious narrow way left open through the prohibited zone are torpedoed outside the zone by U-boat commanders, whose word that the vessels were within the zone is later accepted unquestioned by the German prize courts. Prominent ship owners in Scandinavian countries have stated their belief that many sinkings were inspired only by the intention to get rid of neutral tonnage, so as to increase the relative value of German shipping available at the end of the war. Examinations of the captains of torpedoed ships before the marine courts in these countries bear out this belief, the testimony repeatedly showing that the vessels were attacked far outside the zone.

Threaten Scandinavia. "The present campaign of threats and intimidation against the Scandinavian neutrals now carried on in the semi-official North German Gazette and other organs of the German press is obviously intended to frighten the neutrals from completing agreements which benefit the neutrals quite as much as the United States and its associates.

"Now success of the earnest efforts of the United States government to rush shipments of bread grain to Switzerland is threatened by the action of German submarines, which, according to now fully confirmed reports from Switzerland, have made a start on a new policy of ruthlessness by sinking the neutral Spanish steamer Espinacero, secured with great difficulty to carry food to that country. The torpedoing of the Sardinia, carrying nearly 4,000 tons of cereals for Switzerland, can be by no stretch of the imagination be brought within the scope of Germany's proclaimed submarine policy, since the vessel was engaged not in an enemy, but in a supposed safe trade for a neutral state, was en route to a port to which Germany has explicitly promised to leave open the passage and was torpedoed outside the prohibited zone."



WILLIAM J. MOORE.

Platform William J. Moore States His Policy.

- By William J. Moore. 1.—I will be the active chief of police; I know from experience, that better police protection can be had at the present expense or less. 2.—In addition to my duties as chief I will do all in my power, as a commissioner, to curtail all other expenses and lower the present excessive taxes. 3.—I will enforce the laws and ordinances as applied to the police department throughout the entire city, (not in spots or favored localities), without reference to politics or parties. 4.—I know, after three and one-half years' actual experience as a police officer, that politics in the police department is and has been a curse, lowering its efficiency, and I will not tolerate politics and favoritism in that department. 5.—I will use all the machinery of the department in assisting our government in expediting and bringing to a final, successful conclusion the great war against autocracy, and promptly arrest and vigorously prosecute any person who interferes.

CONGRESS WILL HEAR ALL ABOUT CONDUCT OF WAR

Washington, March 14.—The administration formally embarked today on a policy of taking congress completely into its confidence as to the progress of war preparations and developments on the fighting front in Europe. At the invitation of Acting Secretary Crowell, members of the senate military committee were in session at the war department for nearly two hours with the full membership of the war council, and beginning next week will meet with that body every Saturday morning.

Members of the house committee will meet with the council tomorrow and a similar arrangement for weekly meetings will be made with that committee. Probably a large room will be obtained later so that the committees of both houses may be received in joint session.

Thus the war department meets the insistent demand of congress for a greater share in the conduct of the war and removes the real cause which led the senate committee to prolong investigation of the army with its attendant bitter criticism. It is pointed out today that members of congress now would know first hand about current developments, instead of getting information months late through the examination of witnesses, and could make their criticisms at a time when they would count.

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Today's Form Chart of Entries

HOW THE ODDS STAND FOR THE COMMISSIONERSHIP RACE.

Table with 4 columns: Candidate, Win, Place, Show. Rows include Houston, Moore, Cain, Kemp.

Houston—A well known racer in this community, who has been a frequent winner in past appearances. Lost his last race in a driving finish, but has been well groomed for coming run.

Moore—His first race; has been trained carefully and to the minute. Has shown wonderful speed in private tests and has a large following among the political race track adherents.

Cain—A strong, fast candidate for honors, who is making his first appearance on a public track. Is a stong finisher and a likely choice in a grueling finish.

Kemp—A tried racer of great endurance and a consistent winner of races of this character. This candidate should be well up the track before the stretch is reached.