

BERGER, ON STAND, DEFENDS LOYALTY

Socialist Congressman-elect Denies He Worked Against U. S. Interests.

OPOSED THE RADICALS

Told His Editors, to Print "Berlin Lies First and Then Allied Lies."

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Victor L. Berger, Congressman-elect from Milwaukee, took the witness stand in his own defence at the opening of to-day's session of the trial of himself and four other Socialist leaders on charges of conspiracy to violate the anti-sedition law.

Berger told the story of Socialism in America and of his own anti-war activities as a leader of the party. He spoke with a strong German accent, which was explained by his opening testimony to the effect that he was born in Austria and was 29 years of age when he came with his parents to the United States.

He settled at Bridgeport, Conn., and followed various occupations, including that of a metal polisher. He went to Milwaukee for the first time for nine years when he became a public school teacher. Later he became a writer for Vorwarts, a German language Socialist paper. He said his conversion to Socialism took place in 1881. He traced the development of the Socialist movement from 1880 to 1897.

Organized Parties.

In the latter year, he said, he and others organized the present Socialist party. In 1910 the Socialists carried Milwaukee and Berger was elected to Congress, being thus the first Socialist to attain this success. The witness said he was received cordially in Washington by both Democratic and Republican leaders. While a Congressman he fled impeachment proceedings against Federal Judge Hanford, who later resigned. This statement was met with a question from Judge Landis, who requested that "if you have done anything about any crooked judge let us hear about it."

The Milwaukee Leader, of which he is publisher, the witness said, was founded in 1911. Great difficulty was experienced in financing the publication, he said, and most of the securities are owned by workmen. For the benefit of the jury he sketched the international socialist movement, and insisted that on several occasions threat of the socialists to call a general strike had averted war. He related the unsuccessful efforts of international socialists to avert the war just closed. He said he was not pro-German.

Says He Printed News.

Berger's opinion of the war news of 1914-15, he said, was expressed in his instructions to his sub-editors, who were to "lead with the Berlin lies, and follow with the French and English lies." His orders, however, were to print all the war news all the time. Berger considered himself a conservative socialist, and said he worked to have the movement develop along peaceful, rational, legal lines. Socialism, he said, is the same as the word "over," which means the differences being as to methods of procedure.

"I have never," he said, "been one of those radicals who believe that the world could be turned upside down overnight. I believe in evolution, rather than revolution. It may be slower, but the results are more permanent. Human society is an organism which must be gradually altered as it grows."

Discussing the Socialist war programme adopted at St. Louis in 1917, in which the party expressed opposition to the entrance of the United States into the war, Berger said he did not approve the language of the document.

There were three shades of opinion at the meeting, he said, the conservative, which he shared; the radical and the ultra radical. Berger said he did not address the convention. At this meeting Spargo accused the party of pro-Germanism and resigned from the executive committee. Spargo was an Englishman, who came to this country in 1892, but did not become a citizen until three years ago.

Berger declared the Prohibition party platform was essentially a strong anti-war war as the Socialist platform were read in court. Witness said he had observed that the fewer Socialists there were in a community the more radical they were.

Milwaukee Conservative.

In Milwaukee, he said, with 30,000 Socialists, there was a much more conservative view as to the war than in New York. He said he had frequent open meetings and discussions. Berger said he did not approve the Young People's Socialist League and that he had always regarded it as a patriotic. He said he never knew of any code letters or of an underground route to Mexico for strikers. He said the counsel of defense in Milwaukee was organized by Socialists and became a model throughout the country. Of Professor Carl Hesser, who is serving a 12-year term because he refused to don a soldier's uniform, Berger said:

"He is a noble fellow, but too zealous. I tried to persuade him to comply with the law but did not succeed." The Milwaukee Leader was excluded from the mails in 1917 and Berger told of efforts to have the ban raised. Berger said he had always regarded Hesser as a patriot. He told the jury he had purchased some of every issue of the Red Cross for many years. He said I. W. W. defense fund in 1917, he said it was because he knew they had no money and he thought they should have a fair trial.

CABLE ADDRESSES ALLOWED.

Registrations May Be Made, Beginning To-day.

Any person or firm in the country not already having a registered cable address will be permitted to register one with the telegraph and cable companies beginning to-day, according to an announcement by the chief cable censor at Washington. Effective to-day, registration on the use of cable addresses registered since July 1, 1914, and prohibition of the use of those registered since January 1, 1917, are removed. All registered addresses, irrespective of the date of registration, may be used in telegrams from countries with which the use of registered addresses is permitted. No change is made in the existing rules concerning these countries. It is stipulated that but one registered address may be used by one person or firm.

Strike Plans Fall in Uruguay.

Montevideo, Uruguay, Dec. 31.—As a result of precautions taken by the military authorities the effort by Maximalist agitators to inaugurate a general strike here have been abandoned.

15 Reasons Why First Mortgages Guaranteed, by this Company Are the Best Investment for Prudent People.

If the principal falls due and is demanded, it is paid within a reasonable time without discount of any kind and without the risk of the investor having to foreclose and possibly buy in the property at foreclosure sale.

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12,000 MORE TROOPS COMING IN SIX SHIPS

First Is Due Here Next Sunday and the Last on January 14.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Departure from France of six additional transports, carrying approximately 12,000 homecoming soldiers, was announced to-day by the War Department. The first of the ships, the Agamemnon, which sailed December 28, should reach New York January 5, and the last of them, the Eastern Queen, carrying only a few officers, is due at Baltimore January 14.

The transport Finland, which sailed December 29 and is due at Newport News January 10, brings Brig.-Gen. Martin of the Eighty-seventh Division, the Second Battalion of the 345th Infantry and Headquarters of the 173d Infantry Brigade of the same division, all en route for Camp Dix. The transport Madawaska, which sailed December 28 and is due at Newport News January 8, carries the additional units of the Thirty-seventh Division, casual Companies 113, 114, 115, 401, 402 and 409 and Headquarters of the 174th Infantry Brigade, all en route to Camp Dix.

More Wounded Are Coming.

The Madawaska also carries 1,155 sick and wounded officers and men, while the Finland has 849 sick and wounded officers and men and these additional units: Casual Companies Nos. 416, 417, 418, 419, 405, 406, 407, 410 and 411, and Chemical Warfare Service Casual Company No. 2.

The Agamemnon carries the 318th Trench Mortar Battery, Companies A, B, C, D, I, K and L of the Thirty-first Infantry, Third Battalion Headquarters, Machine Gun Company, and 230 sick and wounded.

The Louisville has on board Casual Companies 1,068, 1,069, 1,088, 1,069, 1,070 and 1,071 and a number of casual officers and 73 sick and wounded. The Santa Maria, departing December 27 and due in New York January 8, is bringing 112 casual officers and one officer and 12 men of the First Field Artillery.

Gen. Pershing notified the War Department to-day that additional units, with a total strength of approximately 12,000 men, had been assigned for early conveyance home. They include the 320th and 330th Infantry of the Eighty-third Division, with a strength of more than 50 officers and 3,400 men each, and the Fourth Regiment, Air Service, including about sixteen aero squadrons.

Aero Squadron in the List.

The Fifty-fourth Field Artillery, with 160 officers and 2,423 men, and the 116th Engineers and train, 26 officers and 1,600 men, also were among the units designated for early return.

Aero squadrons included are the Twenty-first, Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Thirty-second, Thirty-third, Thirty-seventh, Forty-third, 162d, 191st, 257th, 184th, 483d, 489th, 490th, 469th and 440th. Air service mechanics included the Seventeenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth, companies.

The organizations of the Fourth, Fifty-fifth and Fifty-seventh Pioneer Infantry, represented by one officer and one man each, and the 164th Field Hospital, two officers and 65 men, also are designated, as is a casual company from the air service and one from the chemical warfare service.

Texan Aviation Field Closed.

Port Worth, Tex., Dec. 31.—Carroll Field has been ordered closed and all planes and aviation stores will be transferred to Barron Field, which it was announced here to-day, will be made a permanent flying station.

FUND SMOKES GREET NEW YEAR ON RHINE

Soldiers Enjoying Gifts of Homefolks While Keeping Vigil at Frontier.

MORE FETES DUE SOON

Empire Cat Show, Postponed for Week, Will Be on 14th and 15th.

To-day is the first of 1919 in Coblenz as much as it is in Chicago. In that German city where the storied Rhine flows more rapidly than the sullen Chicago river there is billeted a great American army made of soldiers, mainly young men who, if they could choose, would prefer to be sitting beside the American stream. How many of them are indulging in smokes with a passing thought of gratitude to THE SUN Tobacco Fund and its donors?

It is safe to say many of our soldiers have the tobacco to smoke which was furnished them by this fund. The ambition of fund and all its donors was to provide soldiers with a means of escape from the monotony of their being so far away. From the first holiday which the smoke fund tried to cover reports of its success have come back and cards telling about how the soldiers fared for smokes on Christmas will soon be here. The New Year report, of course, is a week further off. But THE SUN Tobacco Fund is hopeful because its work for all three holidays was done enthusiastically and the fundfolk, appreciating its necessity, answered nobly to the call. Meanwhile the task of sending more smokes over has not lost any of its importance. Several entertainments soon will materially help its fulfillment. The Empire Cat Show, to occur in the second week of January, is one of these, and earlier in date is the cabaret show at the new Bal Tabarin.

Manager Bogus of the Bal Tabarin, which is situated over the Winter Garden, has been offered the assistance in getting up the biggest show of its kind on Broadway by Messrs. Salvin and Thompson who, with himself, are influential in the direction of the Palais Royal, Moulin Rouge and Rector's, a chain of cabarets being, in fact, under his control. None of these will be drawn the most popular features to augment the programme outlined for smoke fund night.

Thanks Sent Back.

Soldiers, whether in billet or hospital, continue to send cards of thanks back to the donors of the fund in which they more than hint that the good work should not be permitted to slacken. Here is a card from an Illinois boy, A. Chalfant, who was on December 18 in Base Hospital 131: "THE SUN Tobacco Fund, I had the pleasure of sharing in the holiday remembrance sent over to us boys in France. The cigarettes were faithfully distributed by our chaplain, G. J. Glipatrack, and we had a fine time smoking them up. There will not be many left for Christmas, but we're hoping. Wishing the fund that has done so well by the soldiers a merry Christmas and with many thanks."

To a donor comes this chorus of thanks: "This card was found in a carton of smoking tobacco by me some time ago while at the front, and the boys wish me to thank you. American tobacco has been scarcer over here since the war ended than it was before, and to have some makes us feel very rich and happy. Thanking you again, we remain the staff—Sergeant R. E. Cline, Lieut. E. V. Schockley, Sergeant W. J. O'Neal and P. J. Padden, and Corporal James W. Page, all of Company B, Sixty-fourth Infantry."

On December 12 Sergeant F. G. Dana, of Company B, Supply Train Motor, wrote to the New York Club: "I received the carton of cigarettes of which you were the kind contributor. It is a surprise and a joy to know the donors, through the New York Sun, are still mindful of us. We certainly need the smokes, but should not have been surprised if they had stopped, to know that they have not and will not be assured."

Company M, 350th Infantry, were on December 13 at Givrauvail, Meuse, which they called being at "at home." There is a canal from this village connecting the Meuse with the Rhine. It is a peaceful spot now and the 350th spent Christmas there undoubtedly. Previous to December 13 Company M had a generous donation of smokes through the smoke fund, and the men had plenty of leisure in which to write back a thanks to the donors whose cards were included. They did write gratefully and amply.

In the day's list of contributions is one from Samuel Newburger & Co., the members of the Cotton Exchange, who bought in the bale of cotton at the Hotel McAlpin party recently given for the fund. This house was the original do-

nor of the bale, which was the first to reach the city of the Georgia cotton crop of 1918. It has more than done its bit for the winning of the war. Auctioned on the steps of the Cotton Exchange it brought over \$1,000 for the Belgian War Relief, and was then bought in by Mr. Newburger and presented to THE SUN Tobacco Fund. The bale was first sold at a party for the fund given by the Waldorf-Astoria and brought \$450 for smokes for soldiers and then returned to the fund by the successful bidder to be sold again for the same object. It has figured in auctions at three parties held for the fund since the Waldorf party, and at the last of these went back to its original owner. No single item presented to the fund has worked more faithfully or accomplished more than this famous bale of cotton.

Awakens Sad Thoughts.

Another contribution listed to-day awakens sad thoughts in the mind of THE SUN Tobacco Fund, as it receives the generous offering for the soldiers from a lavish contributor from the beginning. The present donation of \$100 is made in memory of Lieut. F. J. F., who paid in France the supreme sacrifice of duty to country. The Empire Cat Club, which had announced its annual show for the 8th and 9th of this month, has for unavoidable causes postponed the affair for a week. It will be held on January 14 and 15 at the Hotel McAlpin and intends to give its net proceeds to the smoke fund.

The Empire club is the largest and most important of these societies and from the number of entries already received the coming show promises to be an old-fashioned Empire success. Entries will continue to be received throughout the present week. A dance to be called "Victory Dance" conducted by Miss E. Lelner and H. Eager will be the feature of the show. Eighty-third street has already been noted in this column as a benefit for THE SUN Tobacco Fund. All proceeds will come to the fund. The women smokers are selling tickets for 25 cents each, and between 400 and 500 have already been sold. Coupons and certificates given with purchases of tobacco at the Sobute and United cigar stores are still being turned in to THE SUN fund boxes and adding to the fund which supplies smokes to the American soldiers abroad, who haven't any definite idea of when they will be sent home.

How the Fund Stands To-day.

THE SUN AND THE EVENING SUN \$5,000.00 United Cigar Stores boxes, including special 1 per cent. of gross sales day 10,473.57 Cigarettes included 66,942.74 New contributions 80.75 Total \$82,377.06 Shipped and paid for 187,243.34 Cash balance 5,314.34 Received through the Sobute Cigar Stores 36,692.42 Grand total \$231,027.12 New contributions are \$120,074.71 G. W. Goodman 28 Clinton st. Brooklyn 1.00 A. M. Levy 105 and 1168 Broadway, Brooklyn 1.00 Perth Amboy Hardware Co., Perth Amboy N. J. 10.00 Derwater Coal Co., for donations from employees payroll for the first half of December, 1918 20.25 Brook Run Coal Co., for amount deducted from employees' earnings on payroll for the first half of December, 1918 2.00 In memory of Lieut. F. J. F. 100.00 Kincaid, Equipped to slaken 15.00 Ethel Lyon, Boston 15.00 Adolph Lewishin & Sons, employees of General Electric Co. and Tom C. C. 34.00 Samuel Newburger & Co., 66 Beaver 100.00 J. E. Way of R. Thomas & Sons Co. H. Haverstraw, West Haverstraw, N. Y. 25.00 H. Haverstraw, West Haverstraw, N. Y. 5.00

GRAND JURIES MAKE RECORD.

Rivalry Results in 681 Indictments in New York County.

Friendly rivalry existing between the regular New York County Grand Jury and the additional Grand Jury resulted in the filing during December of the largest number of indictments in the history of the county. District Attorney Swann announced yesterday that 335 indictments had been handed down by the regular Grand Jury, of which John Burlington of 2823 Broadway is foreman, and 346 by the additional Grand Jury, of which Hugo Hahlo of 111 Broadway is foreman. "The two Grand Juries put in three hours a day. Instead of the customary two hours, for twenty days and accomplished more work than I thought possible," the District Attorney said yesterday. "When the number of witnesses examined is realized and the fact that all the rules of evidence had to be observed in every case, the extent of the task before these two bodies will be seen."

MRS. HUMISTON LOSES SUIT.

Woman Lawyer Sought to Free Randall's Island Patient.

Justice Bartow S. Weeks in the Supreme Court yesterday dismissed Mrs. Grace Humiston's suit for a writ of habeas corpus to release Mrs. Ada Erickson Hum from the School for Mental Defectives on Randall's Island. During the hearing on Monday Mrs. Humiston made a protest to the court that led the Justice to say that lawyers who wear skirts should be as respectful to the court as male attorneys and that only her dress saved her from commitment for contempt of court.

Stern Brothers West Forty-second and Forty-third Streets

The January Sale of WOMEN'S UNDERGARMENTS Continues To-morrow on the Second Floor

Large, fortunate purchases—many consummated months ago at most favorable prices—enable us to provide most extraordinary values:

- Nainsook Night Gowns, \$1.10 to 2.75
Envelope Chemises, 98c to 2.65
Nainsook Combinations, 1.25 to 2.85
Plain Chemises, 93c to 2.25
Nainsook Drawers, 78c to 1.65
Nainsook Corset Covers, 75c to 1.69
Cambric Top Petticoats, 95c to 2.50
Nainsook Bloomers, 85c to 1.45

Women's Crepe de Chine Night Gowns at \$3.75, 4.50 to 6.75 Tailored and lace-trimmed models; remarkably low priced.

- Women's Crepe de Chine Envelope Chemises at \$1.95 to 3.95
Women's Crepe de Chine Bloomers at \$2.50 to 3.90
Women's Washable Satin Underbodies at \$1.25 to 1.95

Women's Philippine Gowns and Envelope Chemises Hand-made; all elaborately hand-embroidered; regularly sold for \$4.50 to 5.95 each, at \$2.75

Annual Sale of High-Grade Corsets

Continues to offer the most desirable models and materials, at most substantial price concessions.

- Lily of France Corsets at \$3.35 Regularly sold up to \$6.00
Lily of France CORSETS at \$3.95 Regularly sold up to \$8.50
Reliable Corsets at \$2.45 Regularly sold at \$3.50

HOUSEKEEPING LINENS

Below Present Wholesale Cost During January

- Irish Linen Weft Table Cloths Full bleached, at these attractive prices: \$2.25, 3.50 and 4.25
Irish Pure Linen Table Cloths Full bleached, heavy weight, round and square designs, at \$6.50, 8.25 and 9.75
Irish Pure Linen Satin Damask Table Cloths full bleached, heavy weight, Special \$3.50
Napkins to match, 22 by 22 inches, doz. \$5.75
Irish Linen Weft Napkins, dozen - \$4.25 and 5.25
Napkins to match, 22 by 22 inches, doz. \$5.75

Irish Linen Satin Double Damask Table Cloths and Napkins

Full bleached, handsome circular designs, heavy weight. CLOTHS, 2 by 2 yards, at \$7.50; 2 by 2 1/2 yards, \$8.95; 2 by 3 yards, \$11.50. NAPKINS, 22 by 22 inches, \$6.75; 24 by 24 inches, \$8.50; 26 by 26 inches, \$9.75.

- Irish All Linen Satin Damask Full bleached, handsome designs at \$1.65 yd.
Dimitry Bedspreads, hemmed \$2.25, 2.50 and 2.95
Crochet Bedspreads, hemmed \$1.95, 2.25 and 2.50
Satin Finish Bedspreads, \$3.95, 4.95 and 5.75
Irish All Linen Huck Towels Hemmed, at \$5.90 doz.
Mosaic Tea Napkins Hand embroidered, hemst'd, assorted corner designs, at \$6.50 doz.

- Irish All Linen Huck Towels Hemstitched; very soft and absorbent, at \$5.90, 6.75 and 7.75 doz.
Huck Towels, hemmed, doz. 2.95, 4.75, 5.90
Turkish Bath Towels, hemmed, dz. 5.40, 6.50
Irish Linen Sheets, hemst'd, pr. 9.85, 12.00
Irish Linen Pillow Cases, " \$2.50, 2.95

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West 42nd Street (Between 5th and 6th Avenues) West 43rd Street

Final Clearance Sale Thursday.

Cut Lengths of Foreign and American

SILKS AND VELVETS

at 45c to \$3.50 yd.

DISCONTINUED weaves in plain and fancy silks—also velveteens and corduroys—suitable for Frocks, Blouses, Negligees, Linings and other purposes. Main Floor.