

U. S. MAKES RAID ON RUSSIAN CLUB

Hunt for "Slacker Mill" Leads to Citizens' League

KANE WARNS OFFICERS

Draft Boards Complain Aliens Are Advised to Evade Service

Federal agents investigating the existence in this city of an alleged "exemption mill" raided the headquarters of the Russian Citizens' League, at 505 Reed street.

Officers and some of the members of the league were taken before United States District Attorney Kane yesterday and sharply questioned concerning their alleged activities in instructing Russian aliens in the southern section of the city how to escape military service under the draft law.

Draft officials in Washington were responsible for the action by the Federal agents here. So many reports of appeals for exemption have reached Washington from men already ordered to report for service in the National Army, that the officials there instructed the heads of various South Philadelphia draft boards to begin an investigation.

Heads of the local boards took up the subject with the American Protective League, an organization of patriotic business men formed to wipe out pro-Germanism. Following an investigation by the league the Department of Justice conducted the raid.

According to officers of the local draft boards at Fourth street and Snyder avenue, Moyamensing avenue and Dickinson street and Seventh and Carpenter streets, Russian aliens who had previously expressed willingness to the boards to be inducted into military service have returned to the boards and have filed appeals for exemption on the ground that, as aliens, they should not be made to serve in the National Army.

The treasurer of the organization was summoned to appear with several others at District Attorney Kane's office for examination. He failed to show up and the police were ordered to arrest him. He has not been located.

Another officer of the League is charged with having been active in approaching prospective draftees on their way to the various draft boards to register for service.

The league officers and members summoned to the Federal Building were permitted to go free after Mr. Kane had warned them to stop their exemption practices.

EXTENDS TIME LIMIT ON DRIED FRUIT SALES

Food Administrator Puts Ban on White Potatoes as Wheat Flour Substitute

Howard Heinz, State food administrator, today issued an order extending the date of prohibition of contracts for the sale of dried fruits from May 1 to June 1. The purpose of the order is to prevent speculation in dried fruits.

It was also announced that dealers would not be allowed to sell white potatoes to householders as a substitute for wheat flour. Substitutes allowed include barley flour, cornmeal, hominy, rice, soy beans, buckwheat flour, oatmeal, rice flour, corn meal, corn flour, corn grits, feteria and meal, potato flour, rolled oats and sweet potatoes.

Prof. Fred Rasmussen, State College expert said today that the 500 being born trained in farm work at the college, many of whom are from Philadelphia, will aid materially in alleviating the shortage in farm labor.

Camden Workman Falls Dead

George Bennett, fifty years old, 419 North Second street, Camden, fell dead today at his place of employment in the lumber yard of Senator David Baird, at Delaware and Pearl streets, Camden.

Coroner Pratt signed a certificate of death due to apoplexy.

VARES OFFER WOMEN FIFTY-FIFTY BACKING

Will Support Suffrage if Suffragists Will Support Scott's Candidacy

If women suffragists in Pennsylvania will support the candidacy of Congressman John R. K. Scott for Lieutenant Governor, the Vares organization throughout the State will in turn bring its influence to bear upon Senators Penrose and Knox in behalf of the federal suffrage amendment, and endeavor to have the Pennsylvania Legislature ratify it.

This was the counter-proposal offered by Senator Edward S. Vares today, when representatives of the Woman's party, the Equal Franchise Society, Good Government League and the Woman's Trade Union called upon him at Republican campaign headquarters in the Lincoln Building with a formal request that he support their cause. The suffrage amendment, already passed by the House will be voted on in the Senate tomorrow.

The women urged Senator Vares to send telegrams to the Pennsylvania Senators in Washington asking them to support the amendment. This he agreed to do, but told them that such action on his part would accomplish little. Earlier in the day the women called to see Mayor Smith, but found that he had left Director Wilson to receive them. Mr. Wilson was noncommittal.

"Stand by Your Friends" "The question," said Senator Vares to the visiting delegation, "is just this: You wish us to support you in gaining a national amendment for woman suffrage. Then the amendment will have to be ratified by the Pennsylvania Legislature. Do you want a man in the influential position of Lieutenant Governor who is opposed to you? If Heddleman is elected, he will be against you. In the defeat of the suffrage bill of 1913 he was a force in opposition, while Congressman Scott, who now opposes him, was and is your friend.

"Stand by your friends. Help those who help you," Congressman Vares, who was present, said.

"We are willing to send a telegram to Senators Penrose and Knox, saying, 'Twenty-five women called on us today asking us to urge the passage of the suffrage amendment tomorrow. We heartily endorse the movement. The issue has been postponed too long.'

The spokesman of the women's delegation was Miss Mary Ingham, president of the Woman's Trades Union League. She pointed out that the woman suffrage movement was non-partisan. As soon as the women receive the vote they will decide who their friends are, she said.

Seek Democratic Help

Between their calls on the Vares and at the Mayor's office in City Hall, the women also visited Democratic headquarters, Tenth and Walnut streets, where they were received by Edgar W. Lank, chairman of the Democratic City committee. He promised to comply with their request that the committee send telegrams endorsing the suffrage amendment to three Democratic Senators whose attitude on the amendment they consider doubtful, and another telegram to President Wilson, urging him to use his influence for its passage by the Senate.

Miss Mary Burham, president of the Good Government League of Philadelphia, acted as spokesman for its 2000 members when the delegation was received at Democratic headquarters. Others who spoke were Miss Wilfrid Lewis, president of the Equal Franchise Society and president of the Woman's Medical College, and Mrs. Harry Lowenberg, chairman of the legislative committee of the National Woman's party.

CITY POSTS ARE FILLED

City appointments today include James Sullivan, 40 North Thirty-ninth street, fromman, Bureau of Water, \$1000; Martin Morrissey, 808 South Hancock street, caretaker, Board of Recreation, \$900; James Dougherty, 212 Watkins street, carpenter, Bureau of City property, \$4 a day; J. J. White, 2074 Ann street, apprentice, Department of Transit, \$480; William Anderson, fireman, Bureau of Water, \$1000; and Morris Covington, 622 North Fifty-sixth street, auto driver, Bureau of Highways, \$2 a day.



MAN, 51, FAKES BRIDE, 60 The wedding bells rang today for Sebastian Weisman and Regina Neef, who were married at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Fifth street and Girard avenue.

MAY SAVE ACCUSED MAN

Juror Objects to Death Penalty, Mistrial Ordered

A juror who at the last moment changed his opinion about capital punishment caused a mistrial today in the case of William Bates, a negro, 3532 Nice street.

Bates is charged with the murder of Mrs. Serna Conrad, 2553 North Fifteenth street. Today's developments may result in the discharge of the prisoner.

Selection of a jury was begun Wednesday in the Court of Oyer and Terminer. Eight talesmen had been accepted this afternoon, and the selection of the remaining four was proceeding when James C. Herr, 156 North Eleventh street, the eighth man of the panel, announced he had conscientious scruples against capital punishment. He said that he had not understood the law's requirements in this respect when he had previously been examined. The prosecution immediately challenged his fitness to serve, and Judge Johnson, after questioning Herr, ordered a mistrial and excused all jurors from further service.

Counsel moved for the discharge of the prisoner, contending that his life had already been blighted in summary and, therefore, he could not again be tried for the same offense. This motion denied, the defense announced that an appeal would be taken to Quarter Sessions Court.

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CLEAN-UP WEEK WORK HELD UP BY SLACKERS

Fines of \$50 Will Be Invoked by City to Obtain Co-operation

"Clean-up week" is proving "satisfactory," but, compared with other years, there is a lack of enthusiasm and co-operation by individual householders and large property holders, according to city officials. Reports from ash and rubbish collecting contractors show an increase in debris removed from the usual sections but nothing like the totals hoped for.

So noticeable has been the lack of interest that announcement has been made that "clean-up slackers" are liable to a fine and that officials of the Bureau of Health next week will make the rounds to give up on failures to co-operate. At the street cleaning and ash and rubbish collecting forces have been augmented for the week and have been early and late "on the job," but this has had no very noticeable effect on individuals.

Between 1200 and 1300 carloads of rubbish have been collected in the daily routine and collections have increased to a point well above the usual average. The districts are being visited according to the regular schedule of days and some of the most productive sections are yet to be reported.

Collections in those sections of the city lying south of Poplar street and between the two rivers and in southwest Philadelphia have been the largest. South Philadelphia was the section of the city most bitterly complained of and here the improvement is said to have been greatest. The contrast for collections here is held by Senator Vares.

The warning to "slackers" includes the information that health inspectors will enter cellars and yards next week and those guilty of neglect will be liable to fines ranging from \$5 to \$50, according to the seriousness of the offense. Director Krusen, of the Department of Public Health and Charities, and Director Foreman, of the Department of Public Works, are co-operating in their effort to accomplish more appreciable results during the closing days of the week.

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SHIPPING BOARD MADE THOROUGH PORT STUDY

Plans for Big Improvements Here Followed Survey by Experts

In line with the Government's announced plans to make this port one of the greatest in the country, it was learned today that the port commission of the shipping board had recently made a complete survey of Philadelphia and surrounding country.

During the port commission's survey, several committees visited Philadelphia and covered the ground up and down the Delaware River, on both the Pennsylvania and New Jersey sides, from Easton to Bristol. They also covered the territory bordering the Schuylkill River and made a thorough examination of Philadelphia's railroad facilities.

It is believed that the port commission will have to work as a unit with the railroad administration and the military committee, which controls the directing of traffic, if the port is to be used to capacity. Philadelphia at present has something like 2000 cars of export freight waiting shipment, some of which has been here for a long time.

Materials are sent abroad on order of the military committee having this matter in charge. They are destined to a certain port for shipment. On order the



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