

GERMAN AGENTS FIGHT FOOD PROGRAM

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German Troops In Mutiny Break Rifles And Fire On Their Officers

RETREAT OF ITALIAN ARMY IS COVERED BY CAVALRY TROOPS

GERMAN AGENTS HINDERING FOOD SAVING PLANS

Pro-Kaiser Individuals in Bridgeport Employ Similar Tactics Used by Them During Liberty Loan to Make Important Work a Failure; False Reports Spread.

German agents are at work attempting to defeat the plans of the Food Conservation Committee. Employing the same tactics which they recently used in their efforts to defeat the Liberty Loan in this city, when they cancelled loan rallies by telephone, the pro-Kaiser clique has circulated among the foreign-born and illiterate classes of the city false and seditious reports and are advising them not to sign the food pledge cards.

Realizing the intense importance of the work of the 1,000,000 men engaged in the food conservation program they are covertly bending every energy to thwart the object of the campaign and the wide scope of their efforts is just beginning to come to light.

In one district the general and her captives were unable to get any answers, who were to make the house to house canvass. The work is by no means hard and the committee were so anxious to understand the inability to get answers to help, it was finally ascertained that some person or persons had been very busy spreading the news that the cards which are being put in the windows signifying that the householder had pledged herself to all in the Food Conservation work would cost ten cents apiece. Those who were asked to work replied to the committee that it would be impossible to sell those cards to the people.

PSEUDO STOCK SALESMAN POSED AS EMPLOYMENT AGENT FOR MUNITIONS PLANT MULCTING HIS COUNTRYMEN

Posing as a person with great influence in the Remington Arms Co., and asserting he was an employment agent for the munition concern, James Stoyean, pseudo stock salesman, is alleged to have mulcted a number of his fellow countrymen of sums ranging from \$30 to \$40, by telling them that he was responsible for their obtaining employment at the plant.

The defendant was arrested this morning following an investigation by the investigating bureau of the Remington Arms Co., and is held for a hearing in the city court Saturday morning in bonds of \$1,500, charged with obtaining money under false pretenses.

The case which in many ways is similar to others exposed by the police force of the Remington Co. has been under observation for some time. It is alleged that Stoyean secured employment some time ago at the factory and a few days after going to work introduced one of his countrymen to the employment agent.

Employment was immediately given the countryman. The same description covers the alleged circumstances

of a second incident and the bringing to light of a charge that Stoyean had on each occasion accepted \$40 for obtaining employment for his countrymen.

After the second incident it apparently seemed necessary for Stoyean to change his tactics and instead of sending one man to the employment bureau of the factory he sent several applicants with the hope that one of them at least would obtain a job in these instances the charge of accepting \$40 for obtaining employment for the applicant still holds good.

In addition to his activities as an employment agent it is alleged that Stoyean purchased a share of stock in the All Package Grocery Co. and upon securing his stock certificate constituted himself a stock salesman and attempted to sell stock in the company to many of the employees of the Remington Co.

Stoyean is the proprietor of a grocery store at 437 Water street. The All Package Grocery Co. is a reputable company and conducts a chain of stores in New York city and several smaller towns in the immediate vicinity.

WEBSTER TAKES PLACE ON STATE DEFENSE COUNCIL

Hartford, Oct. 31.—The first change in the personnel of the Connecticut council of defense since its organization on April 8 came today when William R. Webster of Bridgeport took his place in the council, succeeding Richard H. Robinson of Bridgeport, who resigned to take up government work under the direction of the federal shipping board.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED WITH ITALIAN CAMPAIGN

North, Oct. 31, via London.—The council on the Italian front is developing in accordance with the intention of the Austro-German leaders, who are

PRINTERS CONDEMN ACTION OF C. L. U.

Resolutions supporting the President and the government and condemning the action of the Central Labor union in approving the actions of U. S. Senator LaFollette were passed at a meeting of the local typographical union last night. Many of the members of the union were considerably aroused over the action of the central body at its recent meeting and did not hesitate to state their position in the matter.

HURT IN FACTORY

John Muddy of 250 Church street was taken to the Bridgeport hospital today for observation, suffering from lacerations of his leg and shock. He was working in the yard of the Armstrong Manufacturing Co. and a pile of steel bars fell upon him.

KING TO LINE UP WITH DRYS AT 11TH HOUR

Tense Situation in Republican Party is Causing John T. King Much Anxiety—Kirk Strongly Favored in Wet and Dry Camps.

The promise of John T. King to support the Prohibition movement in this city at the coming election, a pledge which he made at a public meeting last summer and later repeated, has resulted in the threatened loss to the Republican machine of both the wet and dry forces.

King's failure to make good his pledge to the Prohibitionists has incensed them and the fact that he favored the dry forces has turned the wet vote against him. Today it is reported in Republican circles that the acuteness of the political situation and the apparently overwhelming sentiment in favor of King by both wet and dry camps, has caused King to decide to make an 11th hour stand with the Prohibitionists and win their support at least.

His failure to pursue any other course he figures will cost him the votes of both factions, whereas he is reported to have stated that if he comes out openly for the Prohibitionists they at least will support the machine ticket.

Since his most recent statement expressing favor to the dry several weeks ago King has been silent, apparently under the impression that "it is better to let well enough alone."

Party leaders and followers of the Republican machine freely admit that King acted unwisely by taking sides with the Prohibitionists and admit that unless he does announce a definite stand immediately he will cause more serious losses to the Republican ticket. King privately pledged his support to members of the Manufacturers' association in addition to other advocates of a "bone dry" city.

Members of the Liquor Dealers' Association, commenting on the situation today said, "The liquor question is all that interests us, but if King's forces are going to the polls to put us out of business, there is nothing left for us to do but vote the Democratic ticket." He admitted that many persons had told him of King's stand on the liquor question and that workers for the association are passing the news.

After it was made public—against King's wishes—that he was an interested worker for the anti-saloon advocates, King sent word to the district clubs that the workers should be informed that he was not against the saloon keepers. His double-edged policy failed to impress the saloon men or their followers.

The same situation followed on the opposite side when the dry learned that King had violated his pledge to them. It is reported that King was called to account and told them that "things are just as they stood."

It is also reported that the manufacturers have prevailed upon him to make public his stand with the wet forces. With the loss of both factions starting him in the face there is nothing left for King to do except to abandon his two-edged policy and take a stand with one side or the other, and, apparently, it is most likely to be with the Prohibitionists.

U. S. AVIATORS ARE CITED FOR GREAT BRAVERY

Paris, Oct. 31.—Nine flights in the course of a two hour patrol fight is the record established by Sergeant David McKay Peterson of the Lafayette escadrille. Sergeant Peterson, whose home is in Honesdale, Pa., drove one of his adversaries to earth, following him down and continuing to fire as long as the German remained in sight. The German machine probably was destroyed.

Lieut. Raoul Luffery of Wallingford, Conn., has just been cited in orders to the fighting group to which the Lafayette squadron belongs for his fine work on Oct. 26, when he drove two German machines down which landed in their own lines, with the pilot of one of them apparently killed.

SEVEN KILLED IN \$4,000,000 BLAZE ON B. & O. PIERS

Two Piers Completely Destroyed, Together With Merchandise Valued at a Million and a Half—Fire Spreads to British Steamer—Believed to Have Been Incendiary.

Baltimore, Oct. 31.—A disastrous fire, which wrecked two of the finest of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad terminal piers in Locust Point and spread to a British steamer that had just docked at one of the piers for loading, broke out last night, causing the probable loss of seven lives and a financial loss estimated at between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000. Five of the missing men were members of the crew of the steamer. Among them were two of the ship's officers and the chief gunner of the British naval crew aboard.

Vice President J. M. Davis of the Baltimore & Ohio said it was the belief of the railroad officials that the fire was of incendiary origin, as credible witnesses said that they saw flames leap from piers 9 and 8 and five points almost simultaneously. Already the police in their investigation have arrested one man.

The piers represented a value of \$1,500,000; the merchandise stored on them \$1,000,000; and the steamer and cargo \$500,000.

The steamer will be towed into shallow water and scuttled in order to extinguish the fire, which was still burning in her hold at 11 a. m.

Chief of Police Leigh of the Baltimore & Ohio began an investigation immediately of the report of the pier watchmen that he saw five or six men jump from pier No. 9 just as the flames broke out. The piers have been under armed guards for several months.

Several months ago a quantity of dynamite was found in a loaded grain car in one of the elevators of the railroad in Locust Point. The grain was intended for one of the Allies. The car was traced to its loading point in the central yard and was found to have been loaded by Austrian stevedores.

Pier 10, loaded with wheat for export, was in danger of being burned today and only a fire wall stood between the fire and this pier and two others. Baltimore and Ohio officials felt confident of saving these piers.

Several department of justice operatives were reported to be on the scene several hours after the fire was discovered.

The custom house authorities saved their records on pier 8, but those on pier 9 were destroyed.

MUNGER DENIES BEING AGENT OF GERMAN KAISER

Denying the charge that he is a German despite the fact that letters written in German, from the German Embassy, were found on his person, and also that he had a quantity of stationery of the U. S. Department of Commerce in his possession, Walter Munger, alias Mansfield, admitted that he had stolen a number of tools from the factory of the Locomobile Co.

Munger while possessing a pronounced German accent claims that he is of Scotch descent. This statement is shattered by the developments in the case which show that Munger was born in Switzerland.

It has been ascertained by Federal agents that he has never been in Germany, and there is nothing to show he has ever acted as a German agent. He explains the stationery by saying it came into his possession while he was a member of the United States Coast Guard service on light tender.

QUARTETTE HELD PENDING PROBE
Peter Morris of 31 Roosevelt street, New York, Angelo Vichers of 299 Grant street, Bridgeport, and Florence Wilson, and Florence Franklin, of South Amboy, N. J., are held by the police pending investigation to the circumstances of their coming to Bridgeport together last night. All came in on a late train from New York, and were arrested by Policeman Smallwood upon information furnished by railroad officials. They are technically charged with breach of the peace.

THE GIRLS GIVE THEIR AGE AS 18, although they look younger. The Franklin girl claims to have lived in Black Rock some time ago. The age of the girls leads to suspicion that they were brought here for improper purposes.

THE WEATHER.
Connections: Fair tonight, continued cold tonight and Thursday; fresh northerly winds.

Italian Military Leaders Confident in Gen. Cadorna's Ability to Safely Handle Perilous Situation—Austro-German Drive A Political Maneuver—Teutons Attempt No Recovery of Positions Lost To British.

Amsterdam, Oct. 31.—According to the newspaper Les Nouvelles a serious mutiny has occurred among German soldiers of the Beverloo camp in Belgium. The men, it is said, refused to go to the front and damaged their own rifles in some cases, while others fired on their own officers, several of whom were wounded.

The mutineers were finally mastered and removed on cattle trucks. The frontier guard at Brouhout, according to the same authority, deserted on Oct. 15.

London, Oct. 31.—No official announcement of the appointment of Count von Hertling as German imperial chancellor has been made, according to special dispatches from Amsterdam, but it is believed to be certain. The Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin and the Neueste Nachrichten of Munich say the count has accepted, while the Deutsche Tages Zeitung says he will accept and that Dr. Michaelis will become premier of Prussia.

London, Oct. 31.—The Germans made no attempt during the night to regain the ground won yesterday by the British on the Ypres front.

Rome, Oct. 31.—There were various hill and canal engagements between the Italians and the invading Austro-German troops yesterday, says the war office announcement today. The Italian covering units and cavalry permitted the other troops to continue to move toward their new line.

London, Oct. 31.—Confidence that Gen. Cadorna will be able to hold his own is felt in the Italian military quarters here. The capture of Udine caused no surprise, as it is pointed out that the Italians evacuated Udine some days ago.

The Austro-German drive, according to news received in London from Italy, is as much political as military.

It is pointed out that for weeks the Austrians have been inundating the Italian lines with bombs filled with leaflets. Number of pamphlets and all sorts of literature were dropped from aeroplanes as well as quantities of pictures showing Italy under the power of Great Britain and France. The soldiers were urged to follow the Russian example and retreat, and then separate peace might be made.

CANADIANS WREST VICTORY

British Front in Belgium, Oct. 31.—The forces of Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria yesterday suffered another stinging defeat when the British reached out across a sea of mud and wrenched away still more of the few remaining defenses in the enemy's Passchendaele system. It was another proud day for Canada. Her troops yesterday afternoon were sitting almost at the gates of Passchendaele and from their positions astride the Broodseinde-Passchendaele highway along the ridge they could see, only 400 yards away, the great church which stands in the center of the village.

While the Canadians were battling their way forward here in the face of (Continued on Page Two.)

HIGH PRICE OF FLOUR RE-ECHOED IN COURT CASES

Echoes of the high price of flour last spring are still heard in the superior court through suits filed for breaches of contract in delivering flour at prices agreed upon before the sensational advance took place. Several such suits have been filed, and a new one was added to the list today.

In one count a contract made March 28, 1917, for 305 barrels of flour at \$9 a barrel is alleged, none of the flour having been delivered, and the plaintiff claims a loss of \$222.50. In the other count a contract made April 2, 1917, for 550 barrels of flour is alleged to have been defaulted, with a loss to the buyers of \$1,025.00.

Washington, Oct. 31.—American ship yards will complete 1,000,000 tons of ships by March 1, Chairman Hurley of the shipping board told a conference today of Atlantic coast builders and government officials, called to discuss speeding up the ship building program.

"In the whole of 1916," said Mr. Hurley, "we turned out a little more than 750,000 tons. We will achieve in the next four months far more than we achieved in 12 months. We are confronted with a new goal of our expectations, and we cannot achieve this by ordinary methods, by normal energy, or by ordinary initiative. This is an extraordinary period in the country's history. We are confronted with a new goal, and we must apply a new method. Every ounce of our energy and initiative must be directed toward the achievement of the greatest task ever imposed on a nation."