GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

THIRTY-SECOND YEAR | GREAT FALLS, MONTANA, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 4, 1919. | PRICE, FIVE CENTS

ECONOMIC WEAPON FOR FUTURE WARS

U-Boat May Be Abolished as Warship by Peace Congress

PREDICTS FALLS ELEVATOR MAY MAKE CITY RIVAL OF MINNEAPOLIS

U. S. Grain Supervisor From Spokane Is at Helena With Tips.

SAYS PLANT WILL SPUR COMPETITIVE BUYING

By WARREN W. MOSES.

Helena, Feb. 3.—That the proposed state-owned terminal grain elevator for Great Falls should prove of great benefit to the grain grower of the state, if only to foster competitive buying, is the belief expressed upon that subject by G. K. Landers, of Spokane, grain supervisor in charge of the 33rd supervisory district of the department of agriculture, composing western Montana, eastern Washington and the panhandle of Idaho.

Mr. Landers is in the city on instructions from Secretary Houston for the purpose of giving to the Montana legislators the benefit of his experience in the grain business in the drafting of measures bearing upon that subject. In talking for The Tribune, today, Mr. Landers stated that the terminal elevators in Washington had proved of vast financial benefit to the farmers of that state, in that they enabled the operation of independent grain dealers who were without facilities for the mechanical handling of grain and who, by taking advantage of the cleaning, storage and loading equipment of these elevators, frequently handled grain on the carload basis at a margin of no more than a half a cent on the bushel.

Means Race to Buy Montana Wheat.

He prephesied that competition in the purchase of Montana wheat would be greatly fostered by the erection and operation of a state-owned elevator, such as is proposed, and for which the question of method of operation is now perplexing the Montana legislators. Mr. Landers will give to the joint senate and house committee on terminal elevator what information he has at hand upon the subject and will undoubtedly advise with the members in the preparation of a bill for submission to the house or senate.

As to the operation of a state-owned elevator, Mr. Landers said it must be largely experimental, as he knew of no direct state-owned plant in the country and that the one proposed would be an innovation in that line. He was satisfied that the first requisite would be placing it in charge of a competent man. In his experience, he has seen disaster follow the placing of similar elevators in the hands of men not thoroly competent and who have always been replaced by higher-priced and more experienced men. It is understood that the bill in preparation for the operation of the Great Falls elevator fixes the salary of the manager at $5,000 a year, a figure which the men who understand marketing conditions believe is none too high.

Means Small Charges.

In his experience in the state of Washington, Mr. Landers has been given ample opportunity to witness the operation of the big port district terminal elevator at Seattle, which has a storage capacity of one million bushels, but he does not desire to hold that up as an example of successful operation for the reason that, during the past two seasons, it has been greatly handicapped in its scope thru the fact that virtually all Washington wheat was shipped east, due to the inability to obtain ships on the Pacific coast for the loading of grain from that point.

Accoring to Mr. Landers, there is a great contrast in the elevator charges for the handling of wheat in Washington and Montana. Altho he was not prepared to quote Montana prices, he stated that thruout the country elevators in Washington the charge for the handling and storage of sacked grain, the one method in which wheat has been handled in that state up to the present, has been $1 per ton, or about 3 cents per bushel, from the time of harvest up to the end

(Continued on Page Five)

NATIONS LEAGUE PLANNERS START WORK ON DETAILS

Find They Need French Text of Scheme and First Meeting Adjourns Till Lack Is Supplied; Commissions Organize.

The economic weapon is to be the means of offense in any future wars, according to talk at the peace conference. It is to take the place of all other weapons.

For defensive purposes, some armament, to be decided upon by the league of nations, will be retained.

But it will not include the submarine. That form of weapon is to be abolished.

While President Wilson and the other members of the commission on the proposed league of nations are working upon the details of the scheme, the Italians have proposed an indemnity pool and measures to put the entente on an economic balance with Germany as to labor.

Paris, Feb. 3.—(By The Associated Press.)—President Wilson presided at the opening meeting of the league of nations commission which was held in Colonel House's apartments, this afternoon, and lasted from 2 to 5 o'clock.

Special interest attached to the meeting, owing to the feeling that the action of the council on the matter of the former German colonies required the early presentation of a definite plan on the constitution of the league. There were present, for the United States, President Wilson, Colonel House and Mr. Miller, technical expert; for Great Britain, Lord Robert Cecil and General Smuts; for France, Leon Bourgeois and Ferdinand Larnaude; for Italy, Premier Orlando; for Japan, Baron Chinda, as well as delegates from Belgium, Serbia, Brazil, Portugal and China.

President Wilson greeted the members and took a leading part in the discussion. This was no longer general, but specific, as the meeting had before it the printed text of the agreed plan for the formation of the league. The text was in English, as had been decided upon at a recent meeting between President Wilson, Lord Robert Cecil, General Smuts and Premier Orlando.

As some of the members of the commission do not speak English it was determined to defer full discussion until the French text could be presented, when the debate will proceed article by article. This probably will be tomorrow night.

Altho the agreed text seeks to bring together the views of all quarters, there are three other plans which will also be considered. The following official communication was issued on today's meeting:

"The commission met to compare views on procedure and to arrive at a method which will facilitate progress. It was agreed that an accord in principle had been reached by the resolution previously passed by the conference, and that the discussion should proceed accordingly at the next meeting, which is called for 8:30 o'clock Tuesday evening at the Hotel de Crillon."

Lansing Responsibility Chairman.

Robert Lansing, the American secretary of state was unanimously elected president of the committee on responsibility for the war which held its first meeting today at the foreign office.

In proposing Secretary Lansing's name, Captain Andre Tardieu, the French member of the committee, said that before instituting a peace of justice, it was necessary to impose penalties upon the authors of the aggressions which had brot death to millions.

The work of the committee, he explained, would be first to study the facts which would establish the guilt of those responsible for premeditated violation of treaties and international law, and second, to fix the penalties which would be defined and applied.

(Continued on Page Two.)

FRENCH HONOR WILSON SPEECH; STAND THRUOUT

Refuse to Sit Down, Tho Asked to by Embarrassed President.

Paris, Feb. 3.—(By the Associated Press).—President Wilson delivered an address in the chamber of deputies this evening, having as his auditors President Poincare, the presidents of the chamber and the senate, and large numbers of members of both houses of parliament and the personnel of the French cabinet.

The president was accompanied to the Palais Bourbon by President Poincare, Premier Clemenceau and M. Dubost. Paul Deschanel received the party on the steps of the building.

Military honors were rendered by the republican guard, resplendent in new uniforms and their full regalia. The presidential party entered the chamber amid a fanfare of bugles and the rolling of drums. The band played the American national anthem and "The Marseillaise."

The chamber was tastefully decorated with French and American flags and was packed to its limit.

President Wilson, President Poincaire, M. Clemenceau and M. Dubost were given seats facing the presidential chair, which was occupied by M. Deschanel, who opened the sitting.

Mrs. Wilson, Madame Poincare and Madame Deschanel had seats in the presidential gallery, while the diplomatic section was filled with many distinguished personalities, including David Lloyd

(Continued on Page Two.)

STATE MILITIA BILL'S PASSAGE LOOMS IN HOUSE

Committee of Whole Reports It Back Favorably Amended.

By WARREN W. MOSES.

Helena, Feb. 3.—Spectators who packed the galleries of the house this afternoon at the reconvening of that body after the Sunday recess, in anticipation of a spirited fight against the state militia measure, house bill 111, which had been made a special order of business for 2 p. m., were subjected to disappointment. The anticipated opposition, although it made its appearance upon the surface, did not carry with it the fire it had been credited with bearing, and the bill received the approval of the large majority of the house and was favorably reported for passage.

The bill, which in its printed form consists of 47 pages, was read by title and section number only and open to amendment. The only opposition to the measure developed when that section which prohibits any society or organization from discriminating against any member of the militia in relation to his membership in such society or organization was sought to be amended by Jones of Cascade.

Jones moved that this section be stricken from the bill entirely, upon the grounds that, under its provisions, a labor union could be forced to accept as a member a man who belonged to the national guard, regardless of the fact that he might not be desired as a member of the union for other and valid reasons. Jones stated that he had taken this matter up with the governor, attorney general and adjutant general, and they had informed him there was no objection upon their part to its elimination.

Dunn Cites Colorado.

Rasmussen, chairman of the committee, said the committee would not object to striking out the section, but McCormick spoke strongly against the amendment, upon the grounds that, if properly interpreted, it would not interfere with a labor union or other organization in getting rid of a member who was objectionable, providing those objections were based upon reasons other than of his affiliation with the militia. He held that "any organization that is too dignified to admit to its membership a member of the national guard has something in its composition that is not becoming to the peace and dignity of the state."

Dunn of Silver Bow, who had been counted upon for a virulent speech in opposition to the bill, supported the amendment proposed by Jones and made a talk of several minutes, in which he brought out the statement that it had been the history of state militias that they had always been utilized to protect property

(Continued on Page Two.)

U. S. IS INVESTIGATING VAUDEVILLE MANAGERS

New York, Feb. 3.—The federal trade commission today began an investigation here into charges that the Vaudeville Managers' Protective association, an organization comprising a majority of the owners and operators of the country's vaudeville theaters, is a monopoly in restraint of trade and that it oppressed and "blacklisted" vaudeville actors who violated its regulations. Charles B. Moore of Washington presided at the hearing at which witnesses testified.

Patrick Casey, general manager of the defendant organization, called to the stand, identified a list shown him as one prepared in his office at his direction, containing the names of actors. This list was sent to various booking agencies, Casey testified, to advise them that the persons named "were irresponsible and could not be depended upon to fill any contract they might enter into."

Another list shown the witness was one which he said bore the names of the White Rats, or actors' union, which at the time the list was made up was agitating for a closed or union shop in theater employment, notwithstanding that the actors' strike had ended.

Casey was shown a contract between one of the association's member theaters and an actor. This document bore a rubber stamp reading: "A member of the national vaudeville artists and not a member of the White Rats," and gave the theater privilege to cancel the contract if this was found to be untrue. The witness explained this was placed on the contract at the time the union was fighting the "White Rats" during the strike.

BIGGEST HOTEL IN THE WORLD IS OPENED

The Pennsylvania hotel in New York.

The largest hotel in the world, the Pennsylvania, located in New York on Seventh avenue, opposite the Pennsylvania terminal, was opened recently. The hotel has 27 floor levels, including the sub-basements. Twenty-four are above street level, including the mezzanine floors, of which there are really three. There are 2,200 rooms, each with a private bath and running ice water. The main dining room, a tea room, men's cafe and buffet are on the Seventh avenue level, while the grill and lunch room are on the floor below and a roof garden on the top floor. Twenty-five hundred guests were entertained the opening night.

ITALIANS DEMAND INDEMNITY POOL FOR FOOD OR CASH

Would Regulate It Thru Raw Materials, So That Enemy Could Not Retain Advantage of Labor and Ready Plants.

Paris, Feb. 3.—(By The Associated Press.)—Proposals for establishment of a single financial front for the allies have been submitted to the entente ministers here by Signor Crespi, member of the Italian delegation, according to a statement by him today. After saying that the central powers must compensate the allies for the damage suffered during the war, Signor Crespi said:

"On the other hand, all the allies have suffered immense losses and they must all benefit from the indemnities which the enemy is to pay. Each one should receive in proportion to the effort it has made. Thus, smaller states that have spent more than large ones in comparison to their wealth, ought to receive larger indemnities in proportion.

"The simplest way to carry out the actual distribution would be to put the entire fund into a common pool, which could be periodically apportioned among the different nations. The fund should be augmented by taxes of a universal character levied on all states—enemy, allied or neutral, the last named having benefited from the sacrifices made by the allies. Such a tax would not weigh more heavily on one state than on another, since it would be universal. It would merely have the effect of raising prices on some certain particular products in all countries alike.

"The enemy should be forced to pay off as soon as possible the allies' debts. The international tax would furnish interest on the rest and a sinking fund for paying it off eventually. In my opinion, the enemy ought to be allowed to pay, not only in gold, but in raw materials and finished products. Part of their debt might be covered by bonds,

(Continued on Page Two.)

NAVAL SHARK IS TO BE ABOLISHED

Partial Disarmament Is Expected to Pay Interest on War Debt.

London, Feb. 3.—The abolition of submarines as warships may be decided upon by the league of nations committee during the coming week, according to the Paris correspondent of the Mail. It is said that this was one of the several understandings which were reached during the conference on Friday between President Wilson and Colonel House, General Smuts and Lord Robert Cecil, and probably will be proposed among the first planks of the platform at the sessions this week, during which it is hoped the league's constitution may be definitely formed.

British and American delegates, representing the biggest naval powers, are said to have sounded all naval opinion on this point. It was suggested by some that the submarine might be used defensively within the three-mile limit of territorial waters, but the overwhelming sentiment was that the U-boat must be abolished outright.

"After scrapping the submarine," the correspondent says, "it is understood that recommendations will be made that the economic weapon take the place of all other weapons in future wars. Respecting disarmament, the league will endeavor to work out a scheme by which the armaments of all nations will be gradually curtailed to a point decided upon as being necessary for defense. The league will try to arrange this early enough to insure that the financial savings thus gained will pay the interest on the world's war debt."

GENERAL STRIKE SET AT SEATTLE

Workers Begin Agitation for Spreading It All Over State.

Seattle, Feb. 3.—All immediate hope of averting a city-wide strike of the majority of 152 labor organizations, involving the greater part of 70,000 workers, Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, was abandoned late today when Attorney George Donworth, chairman of a citizens' industrial relations committee, announced that the committee had discontinued its mediation sessions.

The general sympathetic strike has been called in support of 25,000 striking metal trades workmen who left the shipyards and contract shops here Jan. 21.

Other strike developments today included: Campaign begun by the Metal Trades council for a state-wide strike and a walkout of ship metal workers thruout the country; refusal of the longshoremen's union to obey an order of International President T. V. O'Connor instructing the union not to strike; A. E. Miller, chairman of the conference strike committee of the Metal Trades council, called to explain the strike situation to the ministerial federation.

TACOMA ASSURED LIGHT AND WATER SUPPLY

Tacoma, Feb. 3.—A general strike at Tacoma will start at 10 a. m. Thursday, Feb. 6, if at all, the Central Labor council at a special meeting today advancing the proposed hour from Tuesday to con-

(Continued on Page Two.)

OIL LAND LEASES ON ROYALTY BASIS UP TO CONGRESS

Conferees End Four-Year Disagreement on Legislation by Agreement Still to Be Ratified by Houses; Would Open More Than 50,000,000 Acres.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Long existing controversies in congress over a policy looking to the opening and development of oil, gas and coal lands in western states and Alaska were adjusted, today, with the reaching of a final agreement by house and senate conferees upon the oil leasing bill.

Under its provisions, more than 50,000,000 acres of oil, gas, coal, phosphates and sodium public lands may be opened for prospecting under a leasing and patent sytem, which, according to Senator Pittman, chairman of the senate managers, also will bring about settlements of the dispute over the development of the California and Wyoming naval oil reserves.

The principles involved in the bill have been under discussion in congress for four years and have been the subject of constant disagreement between the house and senate and representatives of the various executive departments who would be called upon to administer the act.

Prospecting Lease First.

Under the agreement, the secretary of the interior would have authority to grant a prospecting permit for lands outside of the naval reserves to an applicant for 640 acres located within ten miles of any producing oil or gas field, or 2,560 acres beyond that distance. Upon discovery of oil, the prospector would be permitted to obtain a lease upon one-fourth of this land, with a preferential right to lease the remaining unpatented lands embraced within the limits of his permit. In each case he would pay the government as royalty of not less than one-eight of the gross value the oil or gas produced. Prior to obtaining a lease, the prospectors would be required to pay a royalty of 20 per cent. The lease would be for twenty years, at a rental rate of $1 per acre.

The house provision affecting the naval oil reserves was adopted by the conferees. Under its provisions, upon the surrender of claim of title to land within these areas, the claimant would be given a lease. This provision has been one of the bones of contention in the bill, navy department officials opposing legislation that would permit the opening of the naval oil reserves.

Leases Within Naval Reserve.

The bill provides the following relief for claimants within the naval reserve:

"That, as to all such claims situated within petroleum reserves, the producing wells thereof only shall be leased, together with an area of land sufficient for the operation thereof upon the terms and payment of royalties for past and future production as herein provided for in the leasing of claims. No wells shall be drilled in the land subject to this provision within 660 feet of any such leased well without the consent of the lessee. Provided, however, that the president may, in his discretion, lease the remainder of any such claim upon which such wells have been drilled, and said claimant or his successor shall have a preference right to such lease. And provided, further, that he may permit the drilling of additional wells by the claimant or his successor within limited

(Continued on Page Thirteen)

CZECHS FAMISH AS LACK OF COAL CRIPPLES ROADS

Allied Commission Reports on Conditions in Middle Europe.

25,000 TONS OF FOOD RELIEF GETS TO PRAGUE

Paris, Feb. 3.—(By the Associated Press.)—The food administration, today, announced that the American relief administration has received at Prague a shipment of 25,000 tons of food from Trieste for the Czecho-Slovaks.

It is stated that the food situation in Czecho-Slovakia is now extermely serious, and that, inasmuch as Czecho-Slovakia has no port of its own, it is necessary to traverse the old state of Austria in order to reach this new nation.

As an incident to the arrangement of railway transportation and access thru Austria, the United States Grain corporation arranged to sell to the city of Vienna, for cash, 1,000 tons of flour. The disorganization of the railways necessitates that each train should be accompanied by a few allied soldiers in order to prevent pilfering from the cars.

Hugh S. Gibson, Captain T. T. C. Ferguson and other representatives of

(Continued on Page Two).

ATLANTIC FLEET WILL RETAIN ALL OF BATTLESHIPS

Leaves for Guantanamo Today for Maneuvers; Air Force With It.

OLD CRUISERS ASSIGNED TO PACIFIC AND ASIATIC

Washington, Feb. 3.—With the Atlantic fleet ready to depart, tomorrow, from Hampton Roads for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for its first maneuvers since the nation entered the war, the navy department, tonight, made public a detailed statement, showing the re-organization of the force, together with the composition of the Pacific and Asiatic fleets. Attached to the Atlantic organization are a cruiser squadron and a great fleet of destroyers, as well as submarine and mine squadrons, a large supply train and an air detachment.

Battleship force No. 2, commanded by Vice Admiral H. B. Wilson, is the main fighting force of the nation and in it are the dreadnaughts now in commission—15 in number. A sixteenth, the Tennessee, soon to be completed, also is attached, making four divisions of four ships each.

In battleship force No. 1, under Vice Admiral A. W. Grant, are 24 of the older battleships of the navy, ranging from the

(Continued on Page Ten)

TWIN CITY LABOR FIGHTS PROPOSED MOTORIZED MINNESOTA MILITIA

St. Paul, Feb. 3.—Representatives of labor organizations of the Twin Cities appeared in large numbers at the committee hearing in the house chamber at the capitol tonight on the proposed state motor corps bill, which would reorganize and expand the motorized home guard units in service in the state during the war.

The motor corps legislation is the first effort to reconstitute the former national guard organization of the state, to replace those units federalized soon after the declaration of war.

Jeers and hisses from a crowded gallery interrupted the first speaker, J. R. Histed, soon after he began. The sergeant-at-arms was at first unable to maintain order in the galleries, until labor leaders warned the galleries that if proponents of the bill were interrupted, the opponents could not be heard by the committee.

President E. G. Hall of the State Federation of Labor declared he feared "there is something going to be put over by this measure." Ex-Mayor Thomas Van Lear of Minneapolis declared the bill "the most pernicious offered in this legislature." Mr. Hall asserted that "when there are organizations stirring up trouble over the country among laborers, organized and unorganized, we are fearful that the motor corps proposed by this bill will be used against us."

The motor corps has had at its disposal a considerable quantity of motor equipment, including two airplanes, which were to have made flights today, to Duluth and Moose Lake, but bad weather interfered. The airplanes were planned to be forest fire scouts, among other duties.

Several prominent citizens from the forest fire district around Duluth appeared to advocate the bill, telling of the work of rescue and relief accomplished by the motor corps in the big forest fire last fall.