

# ABSENTEE CAN VOTE BY MAIL

## BE SURE YOU FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS IF YOU ARE VOTING AWAY FROM YOUR HOME PRECINCT.

Owing to the distressing conditions prevailing in many counties throughout the state, many voters have been compelled to leave home and seek work in order to carry their families thru the next winter in fit shape to get a start in the spring. Others have been drafted into the army or navy, while still others have felt called upon to enter organizations which are supplementary to the actual war activities, but which call them away from home. These conditions should not be allowed to interfere with the business of casting your ballot, as no matter where you are or what business you are at it is your duty as a citizen to assist at the election of those who are to make laws and carry on business of administration for the nation to which you belong. In order to overcome in some measure the absentee problem, the Absent Voters law was enacted, which we have taken the trouble to look up and boil down for our readers. Here are the vital features, you will do well to study them.

(1) Any qualified elector who has registered may use the Absent Voters law.

(2) Any time within 30 days before the election the absent voter shall make application for an official ballot to the county clerk of the county in which he resides and is an elector.

(3) Application must be made on a blank furnished by the county clerk. The application must be witnessed and sworn before a Notary Public or Justice of the Peace.

(4) The voter on making application shall transmit to the County Clerk thirty cents, which shall be treated as official receipts.

(5) Electors cannot receive ballot on election day or unless his application is made before the delivery of the official ballots to the judges of election.

(6) As soon as the ballots are printed the Clerk shall mail the applicant the ballots and an envelope which shall carry the name and office address of the County Clerk and an affidavit on the other side, which must be filled in and sworn to before a Notary Public or Justice of the Peace. The elector shall in the presence of this officer mark his ballot so that the officer shall not see for whom he votes. He must then fold it in such a way as to conceal his vote and then place it in the envelope without detaching any of the stubs. Then seal the envelope. Then the officer will place his seal on it, when the elector will send it post prepaid to the County Clerk of his home country, that is, where he votes.

(7) YOU MAY VOTE AT HOME IF YOU ARE THERE WHEN THE OFFICIAL BALLOTS ARE PRINTED AND THINK YOU WILL BE GOING AWAY BY ELECTION TIME. GO TO THE COUNTY

# CLERK, NOTARY PUBLIC OR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AND HAVE HIM ADMINISTER THE OATH, AND VOTE IN HIS PRESENCE.

(8) If you have voted while you are away and return home before election day, you can vote in person, providing your BALLOT HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN PUT IN THE BALLOT BOX.

(9) If you have marked your ballot as an absent voter and you return home before election or on election day, you may have the envelope opened in your presence or you may ask for a new ballot, in which case your previous ballot would not be counted. SHOULD YOUR ABSENTEE VOTE BE REJECTED AS DEFECTIVE YOU MAY STILL VOTE IN PERSON IF YOU ARRIVE AT THE POLLING PLACE IN TIME.

## WAR SERVICE ABSENTEE VOTE

Soldiers or sailors and others in war service have been provided with the means of voting by an amendment to the former act.

(1) Any person who has registered and who is in actual military service of the state of Montana or the U. S. Army or navy or who is in the actual SERVICE of the National Red Cross or Y. M. C. A. or Y. W. C. A. or Knights of Columbus or similar auxiliary organizations and recognized by the United States government, may vote under this act.

(2) Your County Clerk will send to the Secretary of State a list of such absentees as are known to him to be serving in any of these forces, with envelopes printed in such manner as the law prescribes. They carry an affidavit which must be filled out in due form, but not of necessity before a Justice of the Peace or Notary; any of the following may perform the act: A commissioned officer in the army or navy of the U. S., any person in charge of a section, camp or detachment of any of the organizations mentioned above in the state or the United States.

War workers MAY CAST THEIR BALLOT ANY TIME BEFORE 6 P. M. OF THE DAY ON WHICH THE ELECTION IS HELD WHEN THEY WILL SEND BALLOT TO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR MONTANA.

You are too late after the fourth Monday in December, and on that day all ballots arriving after election day will be finally dealt with. If your ballot arrives after that date it will not be counted. THIS APPLIES TO WAR WORKERS AND NOT TO ORDINARY ABSENTEES.

Don't Forget to Register! Some of the fellows on the fence are beginning to appreciate Mr. Townley on account of the enemies he has made in North Dakota and Minnesota, and the friends he has made—at Washington.—CANDID, (N. D.) RECORD.

Don't Forget to Register! A New Yorker threatens to run for congress on an anti-collar platform. He desires to sit naked-necked in the national councils. Of course the amalgamated laundrymen are in favor of lynching him.

Don't Forget to Register! For your future peace of mind, attend to your war savings pledge. That sacred pledge you signed last June. Make it good. Live up to it.

# MONEY TRUST TRIES TO BLUFF FARMERS

## WALL STREET FINANCIERS IN BOLD CONSPIRACY AGAINST NATION'S FOOD PRODUCTION—THREATEN MONEY SHORT-AGE.

In a circular letter addressed to customers, a bank at Kenmare, N. D., says: "Political conditions in this state have had a great deal to do with the financial situation, and eastern money men have refused to loan another dollar until these conditions become normal." In other words, the money trust is going to practice sabotage on the people of North Dakota until these people consent to anti-farmer domination. The trust is entirely willing to interfere with the vital food production of the allied nations for special political purposes. We have laws against sabotage and against conspiracy to interfere with the war. These laws do not exempt particular classes, and the people should watch to see whether our law enforcement machinery will allow men of millions to get away with what small men are serving time for. Here is an acid test of American democracy.

The situation is made more clear by the fact that no financier in America can point to a single move made by the government of North Dakota (that in any way weakens the security for North Dakota loans. The feed and seed act, for instance, by giving drought-stricken farmers means to plant a crop, greatly strengthened the mortgage securities.

## WAR FINANCE CORPORATION

Aside from securing relief from this financial sabotage by bringing the silk-hat anarchists and secessionists within the law, the federal government has a war finance corporation, the special work of which is to supply capital to war industries which find it hard to get the necessary funds at fair rates of interest. This corporation can and should, unless it wants to play the game for the money trust, throw its strength against any conspiracy of the money trust. It can and should supply the farmers of North Dakota through the North Dakota banks with sufficient funds to carry on their essential war industry to take the place of any credit withdrawn by the place of any credit withdrawn by the Wall street interests. Let the government match every skunk Wall Street dollar withdrawn with a real dollar without political strings attached. The simple announcement of such a policy would call the bluff and give the farmers the credit needed.

## FUND LACK MEANS DISASTER

The same letter quoted from above also states: "We want to state at this time for your information and protection that we can not promise to renew or extend any of your obligations to this bank which become due this fall. Money at the present time is the tightest in the history of North Dakota." The tighter the money the less there can be of farm production, for in farming, like other forms of business, current production is carried on very largely by means

# Maxwell Proves Townley's Worth

Editor Leader: Oliver, Montana.

It is both interesting and instructive to read and think about the many sided attacks of the interests on our organization, and it would appear that the Rev. Maxwell thinks he is entitled at least to the box seat that J. B. Benson has been occupying at the Big Elk side-show.

It only needed this Maxwell Babcock to prove beyond any doubt that A. C. Townley was the right man in the right place, for it does not require a very bright brain to see that if Mr. Townley could be brought back the interests would have paid him any price that could be mentioned, for it is easy to be seen by the kind of campaign and the length of time they have been at it, that even all the BIG that the League has obtained would not cover their expense account. Now the last hope of the enemies of the League is to get a Maxwell, or some one of his traitorous character in control of the League so that these enemies may be able to buy them and that can only be accomplished by breeding dissension within the League and that is the end that is sought by the big interests by the lavish expenditure of money and Maxwellism.

But, the farmers of this generation will not be as easily misled as were their forefathers of the days of the Farmers' Alliance, and there is no man in the great state of Montana that should be more productive for the League than Oliver county. It has been controlled from the early days by the cattle barons who have organized themselves into a political machine and established two camps for round up purposes, one called the Republican and the other the Democrat, and these in their turn have been subsidized by the Amalgamated Copper Co., which concern has always controlled the politics of the state. Of course the Oliver county outfit was only a suburb of the real big camp on the sixth floor of the Broadway building at Butte, where the plans are made and the orders issued.

The Oliver county branch have always thought themselves above the law and do yet and act accordingly. They hate and despise the farmer and have nicknamed him Hon. Yorker, yet these same farmers, year after year, elect one of the ring to represent them in the state and wonder after each session of the legislature why there were not some laws made to protect the farmer.

Yours Very Truly,  
A. J. SMITH.

Way up in the northeastern corner of the state, in Sheridan county, near Navajo, lives a man who belongs to a family, many members of which have done their bit for the government in the time of war. L. R. Longacre, who runs the Fairweather ranch with two brothers served in the Spanish-American war, from the start to the finish and were in the service in the Philippine islands during that little mixup. One of the brothers, at the age of 42 years, is back in the present war and there are three other brothers of the Navajo man fighting for the government and the allies at the present time.

In all six sons of Joe Longacre, who was a Pennsylvania farmer have given a service of 30 years to the U. S. army since 1898.

# ARMY GETS MANY OUT OF ONE MONTANA HOME

The man who gave the information to the Leader about the service of the Longacre family remarked during the course of the conversation: "Of course these are very common Americans and hail from a farm in Pennsylvania and so are in the class, the farmers class, which Big Business is trying to brand as unpatriotic, but they are in the class that do the hard knocks and get the swift kicks, or have been getting them in the past, but now, thru the work of the Nonpartisan league they are coming into their own and will in the course of a short time be getting a square deal.

Overheard on the elevator in a St. Paul office building—"I have tried to get the Dispatch to print it for a week, but the editor won't do it."

Second business man—"He's afraid he'll hurt Lonnie Hill's feelings."

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# What The Nonpartisan League Has Done In North Dakota

BY A. B. GILBERT

Although hampered by a reactionary, holdover senate which did its best to prevent the enactment into law of the platform adopted by an overwhelming majority by the people at the previous election, the former government in North Dakota has, nevertheless, a splendid record of democratic legislation to its credit. With its legislative record must also be considered the fact that democratic state administration has made possible the appointment of men to carry out the laws who have acted for the common people rather than for special interests. So far as was possible, the most important of the League promises were entirely fulfilled, namely, the restoration of the state government to the common people. This return of popular rule became more important than ever with the declaration of war, not only to the people of North Dakota but to the whole nation, for it made possible unusual steps to promote war efficiency expressive of the patriotism of the common people. Other states as well as North Dakota have done their bit in loan subscriptions, Red Cross work, and in sending their sons to the front, but no other state can point to such vigorous steps to promote internal efficiency as the seed and feed bonding act, the moratorium of the common people, and the opening of the "stacker" acres to crops. Again North

Dakota is not only using the Ford plan of getting cheap tractors to farmers, but it made arrangements whereby all the tractors held for sale in the state could be put to immediate use.

## LEGISLATION FOR FARMERS.

In the largest amount of legislation put through by the present government of the state in the direct interest of the farmer, and therefore 80 per cent of the people of the state, we find: 1, all but 5 per cent of farm improvements exempted from taxation or all that could be exempted without amending the constitution; 2, an elevator license and inspection system which really gets at the evils of local elevator practice and at the same time protects co-operative elevators; 3, state laws on co-operation amended in the interest of co-operators and the way prepared to remove constitutional limitation to effective co-operation; 4, laws passed to protect dairying and especially co-operative creameries as a means of encouraging diversified farming; 5, important steps taken toward equalization of taxation as between the people and the large corporations and absentee land owners, and the collection of back taxes from utility corporations; 6, adequate preparation made for constitutional amendments to be submitted to the people preparing the way for real state hall insurance, for making state funds

available for farm mortgages, and for state-owned elevators and mills; 7, township dipping tanks provided for; 8, counties permitted to bond themselves to supply seed and feed to their needy farmers that there might be maximum production in time of war and to save these worthy farmers; 9, Torren's system of land registration adopted which in time will remove practically all the cost now incident to the transfer of real estate titles; 10, protection and support for Dr. E. P. Ladd, the farmers' grain expert, and for the agricultural school.

## SUPPORT FOR LABOR.

The present government of North Dakota has been so loyal to city labor as to the people on the farm. It can say that every pre-election promise made to labor has been fulfilled; labor is now again united with the farmers for the coming political campaign.

More than legislation, labor deserved impartial enforcement of the law without the favoritism to the interests of large employers under which it had suffered, and the administration and courts elected by the people have at all times given an even-handed justice. Millionaires as well as men without a bank account have gone to jail.

Railroad employees were given a legal right to semi-monthly pay, and mechanics were given a prior lien over chattel mortgage. A public well-

## RURAL EDUCATION PROMOTED.

Educational experts of independent judgment all over the nation are following North Dakota's new rural education policy closely. They are surprised by what is being done there because the state, unhampered by reactionary government, is striking out boldly in the solution of the problem of making first-class education available to the rural child. Consolidation of rural schools, improvement of the district schools, emphasis on the kind of education needed by an agricultural population, the building of teacherages (houses for the teachers), and other measures dictated by the best thought of the twentieth century on rural education are being carried out rapidly. State aid to local schools was increased at the same time so given as to spur the local school officials to greater activity. Equally important with the legislation was the appointment of school administrators with vision and without attachments to the special interests.

## GENERAL MEASURES.

A model highway commission was established, road construction standardized and to be kept up. The building of North Dakota highways was pushed and railroads compelled to furnish sidetracks and cars to all mines alike. Railroad discrimination against grain elevators and that compensation should be paid to those wrongfully imprisoned.

No other state government has ever done half so much in two years for the common people. In addition to the splendid record noted above, many bad laws were repealed and the people protected from further vicious legislation which undoubtedly would have been imposed had not the farmers made their great organized effort toward democracy. Great as that effort was it has been repaid many times in material benefits and in the satisfaction which the common people have had for the first time in a generation in taking their proper part in state government, according to the principles of American democracy.