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## HOSTILE SPEAKERS TAKE STUMP SOON

### DELIBERATE DISTORTION OF QUAMME'S REMARKS RAISES HIS IRE;--HE COMES BACK Says, Likes N. Dakota Plan

President Quamme of the St. Paul Federal Land Bank says:

"I am not against the rural credit system of North Dakota. I am for it and I want everybody to know it. North Dakota needs a rural credit system. There are lots of farmers in the state that we can't reach for one reason or another. That is true of every farming state and I'd like to see rural credits like North Dakota's established in all those states."

The Bismarck (N. D.) Tribune and other anti-farmer papers have been printing recently stories intimating that E. G. Quamme, president of the Federal Land Bank of St. Paul, has been attacking the Bank of North Dakota, established through the action of the recent North Dakota legislature.

These newspaper stories have borne heads like "Farm Bank Replies to Attacks on Farm Loan Bank," etc. Shown one of these articles last week by a representative of the Minnesota Leader, Mr. Quamme said: "There is absolutely no foundation for such a lying article and such misleading heads. They are trying to make me say that I am against the rural credit system of North Dakota. I am not against the rural credit system of North Dakota. I am for it and I want everybody to know it."

Explains the Plot. Mr. Quamme went on to explain how the Bismarck Tribune, which originated the story and spread it to other anti-farmer papers, tried to draw him into a trap and get him to give a purported "interview" which then was to be twisted into an attack upon the North Dakota bank plan.

George Mann, publisher of the Bismarck Tribune, first wrote a letter to Mr. Quamme, asking the latter to explain the amount of loans made to North Dakota farmers, the rates charged for loans and other questions having to do with the federal land bank system. Mr. Mann intimated that the federal land bank was criticized somewhat for not having loaned more money.

Mr. Quamme, in a letter, gave the information desired, showing that \$14,000,000 had been loaned to North Dakota farmers at 5 and 6% per cent interest and stating that this progress of the federal land bank system should be considered satisfactory and not slow, as Mr. Quinn intimated.

Mr. Quamme got another letter from Mr. Quinn requesting permission to print the information Mr. Quamme had given. This permission was given.

Trap Is Sprung. Then Mann sprung his trap. He picked up a portion of an editorial from the Fargo Courier-News. The Courier-News pointed out what is true that the \$14,000,000 loaned by the federal farm loan bank has only reached about 5 per cent of the borrowers of North Dakota, that the Bank of North Dakota will be enabled to make rules more liberal than the government's rules and that the state bank will thus reach borrowers that can not get the benefit of the cheap government money.

Mann printed a portion of the Courier-News editorial and then printed Mr. Quamme's statement, stating in black type above Mr. Quamme's statement: "Quamme Makes Reply," to carry out the impression that the federal land bank president was replying to the Courier-News editorial. Then an attack, written by the editor, on the Bank of North Dakota, was added at the end of Mr. Quamme's statement, to make it appear that Mr. Quamme was attacking the state bank.

When a representative of the Minnesota Leader called upon Mr. Quamme he had copies of the Bismarck Tribune article lying on his desk.

"There is absolutely no foundation

in the statement I wrote to Mr. Mann for such a lying article," Mr. Quamme declared heatedly. "They are trying to make me say that I am against the rural credit system of North Dakota. The article is misleading and unfair. I merely gave a statement of the work of the federal land bank in North Dakota."

"I am not against the rural credit system of North Dakota. I am for it, and I want everybody to know it. Of course, I permitted them to print my statement. There is nothing in the statement that I wouldn't say again, but I object strenuously to having such an interpretation put upon my words as the editor of the Bismarck Tribune put upon them."

"Need State System." "North Dakota needs a rural credit system. There are lots of farmers in the state that we can't reach for one reason or another. That is true of every farming state, and I'd like to see rural credits like North Dakota's established in all those states." "For instance, the federal land bank doesn't lend money on unimproved land. The farm must be a going concern before we are permitted to make a loan. That is the place for the state to step in. North Dakota needs that sort of rural credits to help these men get on their feet. When they have got on their feet, and a farm, as we consider farms in the federal land bank system, established, they can obtain a loan through our system and release the state money for another man who is just beginning to establish a farm."

Story Is "Rot." "I want you to tell your farmers out in North Dakota not to believe any such rot as that published in the Bismarck paper and peddled to the Twin Cities newspapers to discredit the North Dakota rural credits. I want them to know I am for their rural credits bank all the way, and I am very much interested in seeing it succeed."

The Courier-News editorial pointed out, just as Mr. Quamme pointed out, that the federal land bank is unable to reach all the farmers of the state who need loans, and who are unable for some reason or another to get the money from the federal land bank. The article is in no sense an attack on the federal land bank system. The Nonpartisan league has at all times been a warm supporter of the federal farm loan system and it is a recognized fact that there must be a state agency to supplement the federal system.

Glendive, Mont., May 4, 1919. Montana Loyalty League.

Dear Sir: Yours of recent date entitled "Who Is Who in the Nonpartisan League." Sorry to say that I have read these misrepresenting statements quite frequently in the Kept Press, consequently you are running shy of ammunition to fight the organized farmers. However, I wish to state there is no need of sending any more pamphlets until you can furnish some real facts and at least a little truth.

Respectfully yours,  
H. W. BOHLSSEN,  
P. S. The above is a copy sent to the State League.

Please send me two of those petitions for the referendum. I will get a neighbor to take one of them. The farmers have as much right to say who shall be our officers as any body and those rascals who are fighting the League so hard, ought to be put on a homestead with money enough for about a month's provisions when I am sure they would feel different toward the farmers organizing, before the first year was out, especially if they had a crop failure.

I am tired of these daylight thieves robbing me every year I have anything to sell and if I started in I could tell a tale of experiences such as few have thought possible. I farmed seven years in Missouri, working early and late and I only had \$250, more than I started with after selling my farm for \$2,000 more than I paid for it.

I have had much the same experience so far, having farmed two years and had one crop failure while the one I did get did not pay expenses. I am in the League to stay, I read my league papers and give them to my neighbors who read them and return them so I can pass them on again. As a result I have got six League sympathizers who I think will vote the League ticket straight next election. We'll stick.

R. H. Forsythe, Mont.

### GREAT MEETING ON REFERENDUM AT MANN HOUSE Ferris & Krogman Talk

A rousing community meeting was held at the Mann school house about 20 miles northwest of Great Falls to protest against the action of the last legislature in trying to take from the people of the state the Primary Law.

A number of striking speeches were heard amongst which the efforts of Col. J. C. Ferris commander of the Grand Army and Organizer Krogman of Miles City fame stood out with sharp definition.

Colonel Ferris.

Colonel Ferris spoke at length on the political situation and urged the farmers to get out and sign the petitions. "For," said he "Democracy is in danger. The thing we old fellows fought so stubbornly for years ago, and for which so many young lives were given, will be lost if we do not all fight now. The Blue and Gray, were enemies then, but today all that is forgotten, we are all merged in one great army. The Grand Army of the New Democracy. Now the fight is on and like good soldiers we must deploy our forces in such manner that victory will perch upon our banners. Let us organize, let us be educated, let us act!"

Krogman Speaks.

Organizer Krogman's remarks were confined almost entirely to organization and the necessity of registering but that did not prevent him from developing a little about the platform and principles of the League. He dwelt at some length with the proposed storage elevator at Great Falls and pointed out how the thing was likely to fizzle after all. Speaking along the line of the League Platform, Krogman said, "The state must own and control its flour mills, elevators, packing plants and other public utilities, before any real relief can come from the economic troubles which afflict us."

### PEOPLE TO HEAR ALL ARGUMENTS ON PRIMARY REQUESTS FOR SPEAKERS DELUGE STATE OFFICE WHICH PLANS TO PICNIC ENTIRE TREAS. STATE

Hundreds of Meetings will be Taken Care of Says Secretary

DEAR LEAGUERS:

The people of Montana are rushing to the rescue of the Primary Law in a manner which is cheering the hearts of those who organized the movement and filling them with renewed courage to push on to greater accomplishments.

Day after day the requests pour in, for petitions, for instructions for speakers, coupled with offers of help and encouragement of every shape and form. The state is aroused as it never was before. The armies of Democracy are forming into line and all indications point to a splendid victory for the progressive forces. The officials of the Referendum Office are burdened with work but are going about their heavy tasks with a cheerful smile for they too fight the battle of the right and so fight with redoubled vigor.

The petitions are still going out and many are yet to go, the pressure of work makes it imperative that those who applied first get served first, so do not complain if your petition seems late in coming, it leaves this office not more than 24 hours after we get your application, and will reach you as fast as the U. S. Mail will operate, then it is up to you. You are doing your part, we are doing ours, the result will be--defeat for the Old Gang in the near future.

Every meeting also will be cared for in its turn.

REFERENDUM SECRETARY

The approach of June brings the next turn in the campaign against the copper crowd's convention law into view. This is nothing less than a great state-wide picnic plan. Picnics everywhere, in every locality and reaching the most remote corners of the state. A large number of well known speakers will address the great central picnics it is planned to have, and then devote their attention to points more or less remote. No request for a picnic will be ignored.

### PROFF'S PROFFER ORGANIZATION TO LABOR FEDERATION

A Professor's Union Now.

Those who have noted the way our universities are being combed by reactionary boards of trustees to weed out men of progressive ideas, may find some satisfaction in the fact that the professors of the University of Illinois have formed a union. More than this they have affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

If the rest of our universities do the same and if the people on the outside give them the proper support, there is still some chance of maintaining decent higher education for our young men and women. What the people outside can do is well illustrated in the recent case of Dr. Louis Levine. The University of Montana fired him for publishing a book which showed that the big copper companies were not paying their fair share of taxes. So many organizations

running brooks, but in town and city as well. The labor people are working with the League and large meetings all over the industrial portions of the state are planned. The coal camps will be visited and the lumber mills. No corner will be overlooked, no one slighted, every request--and they are now piled up in the State Office by the hundred--will be attended to and speakers dispatched to the place on the day of the meeting. Thanks to the magnificent response of the people a vast campaign of publicity has become a certainty.

and papers took up his defense, however, that the University of Montana had to take him back.

Our state universities at least ought to be freed from the special interest taint. Their professors ought to be free to teach the truth and thus exert a wholesome influence on the general public. As it is now their professors are less free than those of private colleges. The boards of trustees or boards of education are made up of prominent large interest men or lame ducks who have been defeated in election, and the Rockefeller board working through the department of agriculture brings still further pressure against all independent thought.

It is not an accident that the agricultural college of North Dakota alone dares to champion the farmers where there is conflict with anti-farmer interests.

Westby, Mont., May 3, 1919.

The Montana Nonpartisan.

Dear Sir: I saw in your paper that the grafters and packers are passing a law what they want us farmers to let our grain shell while we vote in September, this year, but I'll circulate a petition against that. If you will send me about four petitions, I'll pass them along to others who would be glad to spend a day to get the right thing.

That was about the slickest law, I believe Montana has ever tried before, but it is just like the man said once, "there are tricks in all trades" and I suppose that is what it is.

I live only one mile from the North Dakota line, so you see I can visit a good state often and let us stick here in Montana so that we can get Montana on the map too. We will stick and we will win.

Yours very truly,  
P. S. Hope to get those petitions by return mail.

You Must Register To Sign A Petition.  
If you Did Not Vote Last Election--You Must Register Again.  
Go And Register Now! Democracy Is In Danger!