

EMPEROR WILLIAM TO MAKE PEACE OFFER

PETITIONS OUT REFERENDING GAS FRANCHISE

Business Men Who are in Favor of Local Capital are Behind Move.

THIS ONLY ISSUE SAYS JOHN HOMAN

Six Petitions Circulated Secure Requisite Number to Suspend Ordinance.

Petitions were circulated today to referend to a vote of the people the gas franchise granted Monday evening to Frank Ployhar, Valley City. Six of them were placed in the hands of tax payers by the friends of John Homan, who desire that if a franchise is to be granted that it be given to local capital.

Secure Names Fast. Early last evening it was understood that enough names had been secured to suspend the ordinance. It is now optional with the city commission to call a special election or let the matter go until the next general election.

Mr. Homan explained yesterday that the petitions were inspired by business men in Bismarck who believe that local capital should be given an opportunity to bid in competing with outside money in bidding for franchises.

No Special Hurry. "I made an offer to the city commission Monday evening," said Mr. Homan, "which was rejected without cause. There is no hurry to grant the franchise now, as work cannot begin until spring. I offered to submit a proposition within a week or ten days, but the action of the city commission eliminates me entirely and the only recourse is the referendum."

Only One Issue. "It is not a question as to whether Bismarck shall have a gas franchise or not. The entire issue revolves around the question whether these franchises are to be given to local people or non-residents.

"Let the people decide whether they want their franchises peddled abroad or kept at home."

"This is the only issue. A few more than 100 signatures are required to referend the act."

LUSITANIA CASE DISCUSSED TUES.

By German and American Diplomatic Agents. U. S. Adverse to Arbitration.

Washington, Nov. 23.—A series of conferences between Secretary Lansing and Count von Bernstorff has failed thus far to bring the United States and Germany to an early settlement of the issues which grew out of the sinking of the Lusitania, with a loss of more than 100 American lives.

Germany is Obdurate. In German circles the belief was expressed that a satisfactory agreement could not be reached without arbitration. Officials of the state department were more optimistic, however, the opinion seeming to prevail that ultimately Germany would come into the American way of viewing the situation.

Agree Not to Talk. Secretary Lansing and Count von Bernstorff have an agreement not to talk about the subject of their last conference. It is taken for granted in official circles that the Lusitania case was one of the matters discussed. It is stated on good authority that no offer has been made to indemnify the families of America's loss in the disaster.

Do Not Want to Arbitrate. The point of view of the United States government is that the German government must disavow the sinking of the Lusitania and indemnify families of American citizens lost in the disaster. The United States is opposed to taking the question of indemnity to the Hague.

German Counsel Admits Having Spent More Than Two Millions of Dollars

New York, Nov. 23.—According to witnesses who testified in the federal court here, Capt. K. Boyd, German naval attaché with headquarters in the German embassy in Washington, played a leading role in the alleged conspiracy of the several Hamburg-American line officials to deceive and defraud the United States by sending neutral relief ships with coal and other supplies to German men-of-war in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans at the beginning of the war.

Gave All Orders. One of the witnesses swore that Capt. Boyd personally directed the expenditure of approximately \$750,000, which, unsolicited and unexpected, had been deposited to the witness' credit in a New York banking house early in September, 1914. Of this money the witness testified, \$250,000 was telegraphed to the Nevada National bank in San Francisco in one lump sum; \$213,000 was paid in several amounts, to the North German-Lloyd steamship line here. About \$75,000 was paid to the Hamburg-American line here by cables and money orders in Hamburg, and some of the remainder is still on hand. All of these disbursements the witness asserted were made by order of Capt. Boyd.

Sent Warships Supplies. This witness, Gustave S. Kulenkampf, a German importer and exporter, with offices here, and others testified in the trial of Dr. Karl Bueze, Adolph Hachmeister, George Kotter and Joseph Poppingbaum, all officials of the Hamburg-American line, who are charged with conspiracy in having directed the loading and dispatching of 16 vessels to the relief of a half-dozen warships isolated from supplies in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Ruthfully Violated U. S. Laws. The testimony which virtually opened the government's case followed a short address to the jury by Roger B. Wood, assistant U. S. district attorney, in which Mr. Wood said that the

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U. S. MAN WEDS RUSS PRINCESS; IS MAJ. GENERAL BY C.



Dr. Philip Newton of Washington is now General Newton of the Russian army. At the outbreak of the war he joined a Red Cross unit bound for Russia in order to forget his grief at the drowning of Miss A. V. Dorothy Nixon, his fiancée. He was placed in charge of a hospital, Kiev. There he met the Princess Shakhovskaya, of Petrograd, a volunteer nurse. They were married. Now he has been made surgeon of the czar's sixth army corps, with the rank of general, the highest given any American with a European army.

Central Powers Claim 100,000 Prisoners Taken on the Near East Front

London, Nov. 23.—Instead of the declaring a general blockade of the Greek ports, the Allies have, according to a statement issued by the British foreign office, today, withdrawn or threatened to withdraw the special privileges which Greek commerce has enjoyed since the outbreak of the European war.

Stricken From Favored Few. What these special privileges are is not specifically stated, but as an example Greece has been allowed to draw her supplies of coal from Welsh collieries. To do this Greek merchants were required to secure special permit as the export of coal from the British Isles is allowed only under a special license. There are many other commodities the export of which is allowed only to certain countries. Invariably when orders have been issued against the exporters of the commodities Greece has been among the countries excepted. Now, unless she concedes the de-

PRESIDENT IS PROPOSED FOR INTERMEDIARY

This Plan is Contingent Upon Central Powers Entry Into Constantinople. AUTHENTIC REPORT COMES FROM BERNE. Peace Propagandists Will Rejoice Over Startling Information Just Received. London, Nov. 23.—A dispatch to the Pall Mall Gazette from Berne says: "There is declared to be undoubted foundation for the report that Emperor William will make an open offer of peace through President Wilson after the emperor's coming state entry into Constantinople. Germany is Defeated. "So far as the western front is concerned, Germany is beaten," said John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalist party, just returned from a visit to the army in France, in an interview in London today. GREEKS FRIENDLY TO ALLIES. Saloniki, via Paris, Nov. 23.—In view of the complication in the relation of Greece and the Entente powers, especially in the event that the French cabinet, abandoned his proposed trip to the front and left yesterday aboard a Greek cruiser for Athens. Not to Intern Allies. From a person who is in a position to be fully informed on the situation, the Associated Press correspondent learned that King Constantine assured Earl Kitchener, the British secretary for war, that he had never considered disarming or internment the Entente allied troops who might take refuge on Greek soil, though a number of Austrians, including several officers, are now interned in Greece. Only Misunderstanding. Concerning the friction that has arisen between Greece and Great Britain, and the coercive measures which the British insist, in no sense constitutes a blockade, it was stated. The king regards this situation the result of a misunderstanding and easily remedied. At Mercy of Bulgarians. Greece is ready to assure the Entente allies that her only purpose of maintaining troops in Macedonia is the legitimate necessity of self-preservation, especially in the event that the Allies decide to abandon their Balkan expedition, leaving Greece and Macedonia at the mercy of the Bulgarians with their army all ready in the field. MOVING PICTURES IN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL. Fargo, Nov. 23.—Will C. Macdonald, inspector of consolidated rural schools, arrived in the city last night from the northern part of the state. Mr. Macdonald has visited schools in Ramsey, Nelson and Towner counties for the past two weeks and attended several directors' meetings. He says he found one really up-to-date rural school in Nelson county, a school where moving pictures were part of the equipment. Inspector Macdonald took exception to the statements that have appeared in a number of state papers in connection with "Appreciation" week booster editions, in which it is stated that there are now 63 consolidated schools in North Dakota. These figures were correct two years ago, but today they are slightly misleading, to say the least. As a matter of fact, the latest report by the inspector shows that there are now 132 such institutions in the state, 80 in the graded list and 52 in the high school class. RESIGNATION UNEXPLAINED. Special Agents Can Find Nothing Wrong With Clerk's Accounts. Minot, N. D., Nov. 23.—The element of mystery injected into the actions of J. H. Schwartz, an employee of the Minot postoffice, who disappeared when a checking up of his accounts was commenced by postoffice special agents, has been deepened by the report of the postal agents, revealing all accounts in perfect condition. Schwartz's friends declare he became angered at the postal agents and just decided to quit.

"A SALOON FOR EVERY 45 PEOPLE"

Has Now Become History as East Grand Forks Closed All Thirst Parlors Last Night.

East Grand Forks, Minn., Nov. 23.—Scenes of revelry mark the passing tonight of the 33 saloons of East Grand Forks, known for years as the "wettest city in Minnesota." The liquor establishments were voted out in a recent county option election, after being in existence since the city's foundation in 1889, since North Dakota went dry. At one time there was one saloon to every 45 inhabitants. Only a short bridge separates this town from Grand Forks, N. D., and it was from that city and many other towns from this section the revelers came.

AERO SQUADRON IN LONG FLIGHT

Four Machines Lost for Two Hours in Misty Atmosphere. Arrived Safely.

Austin, Texas, Nov. 23.—The aero squadron of the United States army encountered and solved many new problems in their flight from Waco to Austin, part of the cross-country trip from Ell, Okla., to San Antonio, Tex. All six of the machines reached Austin safely, but not until four of them had been lost for nearly two hours in a haze, in which several of the machines listed nearly 50 miles to westward of their course. The squadron expects to resume the journey to Fort Sam Houston to San Antonio.

VILLA TROOPS LOOT CANANEA, IN MEXICO

Douglas, Ariz., Nov. 23.—The plan of Gen. Alvaro Obregon, Carranza commander-in-chief, to capture Cananea and the Villa forces of Gen. Jose Rodriguez have failed. The capture of Cananea, which Obregon now holds was an empty victory. It was ultimately Carranza circles, for Rodriguez, eluding Obregon, escaped.

American Killed. In making his escape, Rodriguez is reported to have killed an American engineer named Bean, who aided in the escape of the retreating army. The body of Bean, who was forced to drive the train from Cananea on which the forces of Gen. Rodriguez escaped, was found today, eight miles from Puertoctos. It was riddled with bullets. Details of his death have not been received here. Looted Cananea. Reports of looting at Cananea on Saturday were received today. American Consul Montague was forced, it was reported, to yield up the contents of a small bank entrusted to him by the Cananea Consolidated Copper company. Various details of the report are being sought.

PRESIDENT WILSON OUTLINES CONTENTS OF ANNUAL MESSAGE

National Defense Will be Theme. Revenue Measures Likely to be Revised. WANTS ARMY OF 400,000 SOLDIERS

Washington, Nov. 23.—President Wilson's next annual address to congress, it was learned definitely tonight, will be devoted primarily to a discussion of national defense and the subject of revenues, also it will refer to other legislative questions which the President expects congress to act on during the coming session. Cabinet Approves Message. The contemplated annual message proposed by Secretary Garrison was the training of 400,000 citizen soldiers in the next three years, in annual contingent of 132,000, is to be strongly supported. Plans for Navy. The navy plans also will be carefully drawn up, after consultation with experts and after taking notes of the lesson taught so far by the European war. The necessity of providing men, munition and equipment will be declared as necessary as the building of war ships. RECKLESS DAKOTA AUTO DRIVER KILLED. Ellendale, N. D., Nov. 23.—Potter, a veterinarian, was killed in an accident near here yesterday while answering a call. Potter's car tumbled over a high grade when he lost control. Two companions left the car 20 minutes before the mishap, fearing to travel further because of the big speed. BELIEVE BOYS BURGLARS. Minot, N. D., Nov. 23.—Young boys of the city are believed to be responsible for a robbery at the Williams candy store early Sunday morning. About 3 o'clock Officer Meisner found the back door of the store had been broken down. He roused Mr. Williams and a search revealed about \$2.50 in change was missing from the cash registers and some candy and other stock gone. No other places were molested.

MINING COMPANIES PAY HIBBING \$750,000

Hibbing, Minn., Nov. 23.—Complete settlement of the controversy between Hibbing and eleven mining companies was effected here tonight in a conference between members of the village council and W. J. West of the Oliver Mining company, acting on behalf of the company. Results of the conference were announced at a mass meeting of the citizens.

Pay Over Large Sum. By the terms of agreement, the mining companies agree to pay at once in cash \$750,000 over-due, less \$50,000 which will be withheld to satisfy half the village warrants the companies have received as half consideration for their share of help in constructing the new water system. The village council, on its side, agreed to restrict itself to \$24,500 a month, for village expense as suggested by the mining companies months ago.

JANE ADDAMS WANTS CONFERENCE OF NATIONS

New York, Nov. 23.—Five thousand telegrams addressed to women's clubs and organizations of all kinds were sent out by the woman peace parties tonight. The telegrams, which are to be followed by others until \$10,000 has been expended for the purpose, calls upon women to telegraph President Wilson urging him to call a conference of neutral nations to settle the European war. The messages bore the signature of Jane Addams.

KIDDER SCHOOLS INDUSTRIAL WORK

Chapter Illustrative of Things Being Done by Pupils in Educational Institutions.

The school children in Kidder county have been interested in industrial contest work. These have included alfalfa, corn and potato growing, sewing and bread and butter making. In the alfalfa contest each boy or girl was furnished a small package of seed by the county superintendent of schools. Seventy qualified for the contest and had their patches judged. It is difficult to estimate the boost that these 70 patches will give alfalfa growing. Most of the fathers of the children having these patches are going to sow a field of alfalfa next year as a result of the little patch and a number of the neighbors have also been convinced through the alfalfa patch that it is the crop to grow. Many Meetings Held. Meetings were held at Tittle, Robinson, Pettibone, Tappan, Dawson and Steele for judging the entries in the other contests. Good entries were made of corn, potatoes, butter, sewing and bread at each place. The judging was done by Miss Newton and the editor of the North Dakota Experiment Station. They also made talks at each place, explaining the judging of the exhibits. The schools at each place gave a program, consisting of recitations, songs, dialogues and drills by the pupils.

RAILWAY WILL DREDGE LAKE

Devils Lake, N. D., Nov. 23.—An undertaking by which the west end of Sweetwater lake will be dredged, creating a great reservoir, will be started in a few days by the Great Northern railway in order to protect, at least temporarily, the water supply for engines in this city. A dragline will be used in excavating a ditch 1,000 feet in length, 150 feet wide and 20 feet deep, from which water can be pumped six miles in the treating plant maintained by the Great Northern in Devils Lake. What effect the reservoir will have on the remainder of Sweetwater lake, which receded several feet this year, is a question which is being asked by farmers and sportsmen in the vicinity of the lake. It is on this lake that the L. W. Hill duckpass, where millions of birds have been killed, is located.

BASTON ELECTED CAPTAIN.

Minneapolis, Nov. 23.—Albert Baston, of Hopkins, Minn., for the past three years left-end of the University of Minnesota football team, was elected captain for 1916 at the annual football men's banquet tonight. Football letters were awarded to 14 players.

PRISONER GIVEN HIS FREEDOM BY KAISER

Berlin, Nov. 23.—Out of consideration for his father, Sir William Edward Goschen, former British ambassador to Germany, the government had authorized the release of Lieut. Gerard Goschen, who was wounded and captured in the early stages of the war in France. Lieut. Goschen's war experience virtually has been as a prisoner. He was captured, wounded, immediately after joining his regiment. The wounds from which he suffered are in the head and affect his memory. He has been in a special sanatorium for several months.

4,000,000 MEN BY NEXT SPRING

Paris, Nov. 23.—Earl Kitchener, the British secretary for war, in conversation with Greek officials on his recent visit to Athens, is reported to have declared that England will have by next March 4,000,000 men under arms and will be in a position to arm and provision 6,000,000 Russians, and that consequently it would show great stupidity to think the war would end otherwise than in complete defeat for Germany. This information is contained in an Athens dispatch to the Havre agency.

TWO-YEAR-OLD IS FATALLY SCALDED

Jamestown, N. D., Nov. 23.—The 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Kemrowski was fatally scalded while at play at the home of his parents at Sanborn. The mother was preparing to scrub and had placed a tub of hot water on the floor. The unfortunate child was pulling out a sliding door which, when it came free, knocked him backward into the scalding water. He was terribly burned and died within 24 hours after the accident.

MINOT'S TAG DAY.

Minot, N. D., Nov. 23.—The tag day for the Associated Charities, which was conducted by the ladies of the city Saturday, netted the splendid sum of \$448.11, according to the final count. There was plenty of enthusiasm among the workers and the public responded generously to the appeal for help for those who are so unfortunate as not to be able to help themselves.

REGIONAL BANK WILL NOT CLOSE

Reports Emanating From Twin Cities are Denied—No Foundation to the Rumor.

Minneapolis, Minn., Nov. 23.—There is no official foundation for the reports appearing in one of yesterday's papers that the Ninth Federal Reserve bank will be closed, and still less for reports that it will be consolidated with the Seventh Reserve bank at Chicago, and a branch of that bank established in Minneapolis. I have made no comment upon these reports before, but believe that it is proper to say that the Ninth bank will continue its operations, just as it has during the past year, without abandonment or consolidation. Gossip the Source. These reports probably originate from gossip in unofficial quarters at the national capital. The subject has never been before the Federal Reserve Board or any of its committees. If it has been mentioned at all, it has been by individuals, and such mention has not more seriousness than any other personal comment. Wisconsin Case Pending. The Wisconsin bank case, involving changes in the southeastern boundaries of the Ninth district, is not yet decided. My impression is that no change will be made. This, so far as I know, is the only point on which reports of this character could find basis. Bank Business Improving. The business of this bank has been steadily improving for many months. It is making its expenses and a reasonable margin of profit in addition. Its showing as compared with reserve banks outside the cotton territory in the south, is very good. It is doing exactly what it was established for, and the federal reserve board has never shown any disposition to criticize it, nor has it at any time suggested any changes in its policy. We believe its course has the full approval of the board in Washington, the member banks, and the public in this district. Under these conditions, reports of changes, closing the bank, or consolidating it with the Chicago bank, serve only to create misapprehensions.

HURT PLAYING FOOTBALL.

Valley City—Arthur Adamson is having trouble with blood poisoning, being confined to his bed this week for infection in his foot, which originated in a slight injury received while playing football.

THE WEATHER. North Dakota: Unsettled Wednesday. Thursday cloudy and cooler. *****