

THIRTY-NINTH YEAR

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA,

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1920

PRICE FIVE CENTS

OPERATORS SAY CONTRACT ENDS WHEN WAR DOES

Single Reservation Insisted Upon By Coal Men in Accepting Award

CONTRACT IS HELD FINAL

Action of Commission in Itself Binding on Both Parties, Says Counsel

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12.—Mine operators in the central competitive field today told the commission named to settle the bituminous coal strike that they would accept with a single reservation any award the commission might make.

QUESTION OF PRICE-FIXING The operators said they would not be a party to the fixing of coal prices beyond the period of effectiveness of the Lever law, the war time measure under which the government has controlled food and fuel prices. Ralph Crews, counsel for the central operators, explained that without making this reservation the operators could not legally join any price-fixing agreement. He also said the operators would not make their acceptance of the commission's award contingent upon the preparation of answers to a series of questions which the operators yesterday asked the commission.

In accepting the commission's authorization, the operators, Mr. Crews said, understood that the commission's award should "of itself constitute a final contract between the miners and operators for the period of time fixed by the commission."

President Robinson reminded him that President Wilson's letter creating the commission authorized it only to make an award which might be used "as a basis for a wage contract." He asked if the operators would not modify the language in their acceptance accordingly, and Mr. Crews finally agreed that the commission should determine that point.

HAGEN PLEA FOR NEW TRIAL WILL BE UP THURSDAY

Judge M. J. Engliert to Hear Convicted Scandinavian-American Head

Fargo, N. D., Jan. 12.—The petition of H. J. Hagen, president of the Scandinavian-American bank of Fargo, for setting aside the verdict of the jury which declared him guilty of violating the banking laws of the state, will be heard by Judge M. J. Engliert of Valley City on Thursday.

Hagen was convicted early in December of violating the state banking laws in connection with the handling of the affairs of the Fargo bank that was closed for a time recently by the state banking board. He obtained a stay of sentence pending his application for a new trial.

POLISH JEWS FLEE BEFORE RED ADVANCE

Paris, Monday, Jan. 12.—(French Wireless Service)—Polish Russian Jews are fleeing at the approach of Bolshevik bands, according to reports from Warsaw. At Czeremka there are some 15,000 of these refugees who are in a pitiable condition. The same state of affairs exists at Okrow, where the inhabitants and officers of the Polish army are doing their best to care for the sufferers.

COMMITTEE TO TELL HUNGARY WHERE TO SIGN

Paris, Jan. 12.—Consideration was given by the supreme council this morning to a plan for the appointment of a committee of ambassadors to complete the details for the presentation and signing of the Hungarian peace treaty and to carry through other unfinished business of the peace conference. The decision, however, was left to the heads of the principal powers.

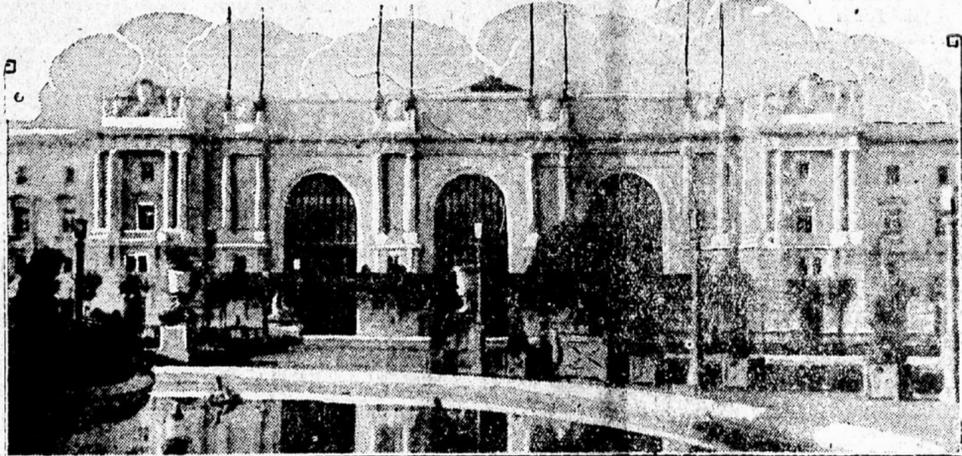
GOING TO CHINA

C. F. Seifert, bookkeeper at the local offices of the Standard Oil Co., will resign his position here to accept a similar one with the New York Exportation Co. He has been commissioned by the firm to go to Shanghai, China, where he will act as a correspondent accountant. He expects to leave about January 15.

HONORED IN DEATH BY CITY WHICH REJECTED HIM WHEN HE WAS ALIVE

George S. Loftus, founder of the Equity society, is to be honored with a hospital as a permanent monument in New Rockford, a town which is said to have treated Loftus most unkindly in the early days of the Equity movement. Some of the same citizens who are said to have conspired to prevent Loftus from being heard in New Rockford are strong supporters of the George S. Loftus Memorial Hospital association, which plans to build a hospital in New Rockford in mem-

WHERE THE DEMOCRATS WILL MEET JUNE 28th



The Exposition Auditorium of San Francisco, where the democratic national convention will be held beginning June 28, is grouped, with the city and public library, around a plaza, forming the civic center. The building was erected at a cost of \$2,000,000 and has a seating capacity of 12,000. There are also numerous halls which can be opened into larger rooms to accommodate conventions of any size.

RAILWAYS' TAX SUIT DRAGGING ITS WAY STILL

Hearings at Chicago and Bismarck Necessary Before Conclusion

SETTLEMENT MAY RESULT

Assistant Attorney General Packard has returned from St. Paul, where he spent several days in examining witnesses and in personally testifying in the railways' suit for relief from 2 1/2 percent of the taxes assessed against them in North Dakota in 1917 and 1918. The sum involved is \$2,500,000. Evidence of the engineers and controllers was taken at St. Paul before Miss Neiman, special examiner appointed by U. S. District Judge Amidon. There will follow another hearing here, where Packard will be cross-examined and some new findings on valuations entered, and then the trial will move to Chicago. There evidence as to the valuation of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul will be taken February 2 and 3. That is expected to be the final clean-up of litigation which has dragged for two years, which has cost the state and the railways and the federal governments thousands of dollars, and which has deprived the state of the use of \$1,250,000, which the railways now express a willingness to pay, providing the counties and the state will abate an equal amount, equivalent to 1 1/2 percent, which the railways insist they will pay only on order from the United States courts.

SUPPORT TAX COMMISSION

The railways' proposition to the counties for the payment of 5 1/2 percent of the amount in suit providing the abatement, should each of the 53 counties reach this agreement with the railway companies, the understanding will then come before Tax Commissioner Wallace for ratification. Inasmuch as he was a member of the three-man commission which originally fixed the valuations at the figures which the railway's action now confirms, it is predicted that Wallace will consider the abatement of \$1,250,000 and that the application for a permanent injunction restraining the state from collecting \$2,500,000, now pending in the federal courts, will be dropped. The state will be procured from the suit a half-hundred or more thick volumes presenting expert testimony on the valuation of every class of property in every county in North Dakota.

MEASLES SCOURGE FRIGHTENS GOTHAM

New York, Jan. 12.—An increase in the number of cases of measles here has caused Dr. Royal S. Coneland, health commissioner, to ask Dr. W. H. Hitchcock, director of the bureau of laboratories, to undertake a serious study of the disease at once. There have been 2,221 cases reported in the last ten days.

IT WAS A PERFECTLY GOOD COMPANY TILL THE MEN CAME ALONG AND SPOILED IT; NOW IT HAS 53 CENTS IN BANK AND \$63,438 DEFICIT, AND WOMEN ARE MAD

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 12.—The Women's Federal Oil Co., organized in 1915 by women, today is in the hands of a new directorate, all men. The company began as a million-dollar corporation; its financial condition today was cash by the financial secretary—cash on hand \$17,755; balance in bank, 53 cents; deficit for the year, \$63,438. The company dealt largely in

Texas land leases. Seventy-five thousand shares were issued, and there were upwards of 2,000 shareholders. Shares formerly brought \$4.50, but today they were quoted at \$1. Mrs. H. H. Hanore, Jr., was president of the company and one of the organizers. She was the last woman connected with the concern. She said the corporation "was started with every favorable omen, but THE MEN RUINED IT."

"It was my idea to keep it a woman's affair strictly," said Mrs. Hanore. "At first we had a woman's selling organization, but later had to include men. When we turned the half-million dollar stock issue over to men brokers to dispose of we had a chance to sell our stock at a minimum cost, yet the promotion charges ran over thirty cents—much too high. The men wanted the company from the beginning. Now let them have it."

FRAZIER STARTS NEW PARTY; NOT G. O. P. CANDIDATE

Withdrawal of Governor From Race Thought to Help Hiram Johnson

SOON TO VISIT DAKOTA

Lynn J. Frazier does not intend to become a candidate in North Dakota or elsewhere for the republican nomination for president of the United States. Instead North Dakota's governor's managers are organizing a new party all of their own to be known as the People's party, and Lynn J. Frazier for governor is the first plank in the platform of this People's party. This is the hope as vouchered for by an astute league politician at the capitol. The People's party at this moment consists of one Martin F. Blank, formerly editor of Linton newspapers, and a corps of office assistants at Fargo, but Mr. Blank states that the organization is to be made nationwide, and that it intends to seek in every state an affiliation of organized labor and organized farmers. The fact that the movement is launched by a man who has been on the league payroll for some time past might indicate that it is not entirely spontaneous, but Mr. Blank anticipates this argument with a declaration that Mr. Townley and the Nonpartisan league haven't a thing to do with it, and that the People's party will not actually go out and fight the league, however, but that instead it will endeavor to tell the citizens of other states what a waste of a success the league has been in North Dakota.

MAKES JOHNSON GOOD

The most important fact in connection with this news, if true, is that Frazier's stepping down and out of the republican race will leave the People's party very largely open to Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California, at least so far as the progressive-radical section of the republican party is concerned. Johnson's friends have even learned with horror that the league managers are seriously considering endorsing his candidacy for the republican nomination, and they are said to be doing their utmost to stave off this tactical calamity. Dorr H. Carroll, state chairman of the progressives, was in Bismarck a few days ago in close conference with the governor. What Mr. Carroll's object was cannot be learned, but it is thought to have had something to do with Frazier's presidential aspirations. It is generally believed that former Bull Mooseers who have not switched entirely to the league will be for Johnson to a man, almost as popularly running mate was the Rough Rider himself, and it is said that his attitude toward the peace treaty, the war and world affairs in general have not cost him any favor in North Dakota. Johnson is now in California, and it is not probable that he will visit North Dakota en route east, as had been expected. He has promised North Dakota friends, however, that as soon as the peace treaty is disposed of he will come to the Flickertail state and reveal his innermost thoughts in connection with this document.

ROYAL NEIGHBORS MEET

The Royal Neighbors will meet at the Elks' temple at 8 o'clock Wednesday evening, when a full attendance is desired.

VIOLENT STORM KILLS FRENCH

Paris, Jan. 12.—Northern and eastern France are being swept by a violent storm, reports stating that three persons have been killed and twelve injured. Heavy damage is reported from various cities, numerous buildings having been blown down.

NORTH DAKOTA IS SIMPLY ROLLING IN REAL MONEY

State Now Has \$100,000 in General Fund, Reports Treasurer Olson

North Dakota after having been dangerously near stony broke for several months, now has \$100,000 in its general fund, reports State Treasurer Olson. This amount, says Mr. Olson, is \$200,000 in excess of the balance of last year. It is largely the result of the Standard Oil Co.'s payment of \$200,000 in taxes which it protested until the recent special session so changed the oil tax act to place the "trust" on the same basis with the independents. This means a saving of three-fourths of a cent per gallon to the company, which under the original act was assessed one cent per gallon on gasoline, while the independents paid but one-fourth cent. First receipts on oil tax came in yesterday, amounting to \$1,500. The amount levied for this year, the first of the operation of the state's new semi-compulsory oil tax law, is \$3,500,000, of which the state treasurer expects \$1,000,000 to be paid in February. Warrants have already been drawn against this fund, in which approximately 13,000 farmers will participate, and farmers in immediate need of funds have discounted these warrants, which bear six percent at their local banks or through the Bank of North Dakota.

JAP WARSHIP IS CONVOYING ARMS FOR MEX REBELS

State Department Investigating Report That Yellow Men Are Active

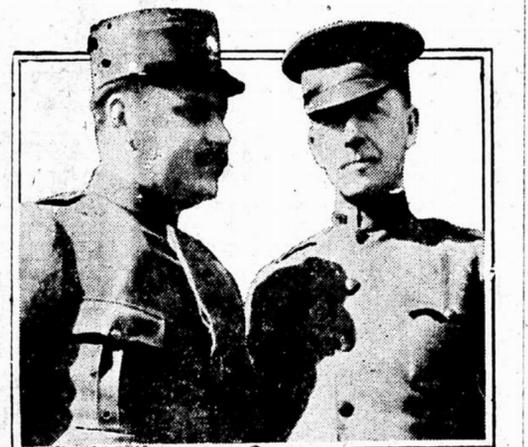
CHIHUAHUA WELL ARMED

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 12.—That a large shipment of munitions which arrived at the port of Manzanillo, Mex., December 24, last, was accompanied by a simultaneous arrival of the Japanese cruiser Yakuma is the substance of a government report, which has been forwarded to the war department. The report will be investigated by the senate sub-committee investigating the Mexican situation. According to the report the Yakuma apparently was escorting the ship bearing arms and ammunition, which had been purchased in Japan, reports indicate that federal troops in the state of Chihuahua are better equipped than they have been for some time. Considerable numbers of machine guns have recently been received, it is said.

COUNCIL OF DEFENSE IS STILL IN THE RED

It has developed that the North Dakota council of defense, which has been out of existence for more than a year, and for the payment of whose debts the sixteenth assembly made an emergency appropriation of about \$6,000, is still obligated for a number of bills. One of the claimants is said to have recently taken up his grievance with the governor's office and to have received the information that the auditing department had changed its system of bookkeeping, which might prevent the payment of the account until some further legislative action could be taken.

MEXICAN LEADER GREETED U. S. OFFICER



Juarez, Mexico, Jan. 12.—For the first time since last June American officers paid their respects to General Escobar, commander of the Carranza troops in the Juarez district. General Escobar is here shown (left) with Colonel Glover, chief of staff of the El Paso military district.

JURY DIVIDES OVER GUILT OF STATE SPANKER

Seven out of twelve jurors who heard the evidence in the assault and battery action brought against Carl R. Kostitzky by C. K. Gummerson, capital correspondent of the Courier-News, decided that the state auditor did not feloniously assault the young newspaper man, whom he was alleged to have taken over his knee for a spanking. The other five jurors thought the assault was felonious, and that Mr. Kostitzky was guilty as charged. That was as close as the jury could come to an agreement, and it was discharged Monday evening after several hours' deliberation.

TUMMY-ACHE IS EPIDEMIC OVER THE SOUTHWEST

Intestinal Troubles First Reported at Skiatook Seem Spreading

MUSKOGEE IS HARD HIT

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 12.—Whether the serious intestinal malady which has appeared in Kansas and Oklahoma exists in other communities of the southwest was a matter of much speculation here today. Meantime officials of the two states in which the disease has been found were making efforts to identify it and to employ means for checking its spread. At Muskogee, it is said, there are about 300 cases. No fatalities were known to have occurred at this place, and the death list from the malady remained at four, at Skiatook, a little town where it was first noted, reported the condition under control.

OLD-TIME FIRST REGIMENT MAN BACK IN TRACES

Major Harold Sorenson Becomes First Assistant Adjutant General

Major Harold Sorenson of Fargo, who shares with Adjutant General Fraser the honor of having been active in North Dakota national guard affairs for more than a quarter of a century, reported at the capitol yesterday for his new post as assistant adjutant general, to which he was appointed by General Fraser last week. Major Sorenson joined the First North Dakota in 1894, fought with it through the Philippine campaign, the Mexican border campaign and the world's war, and is now in a position where he can play an important part in the reorganization of this famous old command, which ranks so high in the esteem of every North Dakota man who ever has served with it. General Fraser reports that Flickertail towns which formerly had companies in the Fighting First are making good progress with the reorganization of their units. A minimum of 100 men is required, and several of the cities hope to have reached this goal before the end of the month. Should any of the old towns fall down within a reasonable time, his company will be assigned to some other point, but there is no indication as yet that this will be necessary.

GERMANY MUST BEGIN PAYING ALLIES' BILLS

Teuton Must Put Up Twenty Million Dollars Till Amount Is Fixed

INSTALLMENTS ARRANGED

Deutschland Must Cough Up in Lots of Forty Billion Marks in Gold Bonds

Paris, Monday, Jan. 12.—(French Wireless Service)—With the opening on Saturday of the period during which Germany must pay her debt to the Allies it is announced that the commissions on reparations must fix the amount due by Germany before May 1, 1921. In the meantime the commission will see that Germany carries out her obligations. Until the amount of reparation payment has been fixed, Germany will have to deposit \$20,000,000,000 in gold or its equivalent in materials, ships, supplies or coal. As an acknowledgment of and security for this portion of the debt which is payable immediately, the German government will have to hand over gold bonds representing the full amount. In addition a sum of forty billion marks in gold bonds, negotiable, will be exacted, and another sum of forty billion marks in gold bonds, which the commission will negotiate as it may deem Germany in a position to handle the obligation.

FIRST MEETING WORLD COUNCIL CALLED MONDAY

Session Fixed By President Wilson For 10:30 A. M. Next Friday

WILL NAME COMMISSIONS

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12.—The first meeting of the council of the league of nations will be held in Paris Friday, beginning at 10:30 o'clock. The call for the assembly, which went out late yesterday, was issued in accordance with the terms of the Versailles treaty by President Wilson, whom the treaty-makers designated for that duty. It went to the ambassadors of the entente nations which have ratified the treaty and will not be made public until it has been received from them by their governments. The most important business to come before the initial meeting of the council will be that of settling up the various commissions upon which will devolve the task of carrying out certain provisions of the treaty.

BRINTON BROTHERS PAY CITY A VISIT

Presence of Members of Family May Concern 'Press'

C. M. Brinton, editor of the Wells County Farmers' Press, and Will Brinton, formerly an organizer for the Townley chain stores, were here Monday, strengthening the report that their brother, J. W. Brinton, intends to take over personally the Burleigh County Farmers' Press, official league organ in this county, and that C. M. Brinton is to have sole connection with the editorial management. C. M. and J. W. Brinton are said to own more than half the stock in the Wells County Farmers' Press, which will, it is said, remain in the family.

GRAIN GROWERS OF SOUTH DAKOTA TO DISCUSS FINANCES

Watertown, S. D., Jan. 12.—Problems of finance will be discussed at the annual convention of the South Dakota Corn and Grain Growers' convention which is to be held here February 4, 5 and 6.

Governor Peter Norbeck will discuss farm financing from the viewpoint of the state and C. M. Henry, chairman of the rural credits board, is to discuss the same subject. It is expected that L. M. Corey, of the federal land bank of Omaha and E. D. Chassel of the Bankers' Farm Loan association also will speak on credits. There will be an exhibit of corn and grains, a feature of which will be exhibiting products raised by members of Boys and Girls clubs throughout the state.

ASBESTOS WRAPPERS REQUIRED FOR RED FLAME, CITIZENS' LEAGUE TOLD

The third edition of "The Red Flame," a periodical which the Citizens' Economy league is publishing in its light on Townleyism, and which is said to be as warm as its name indicates, was being prepared for the mails yesterday when the telephone rang at league headquarters. State Auditor Kostitzky, who chanced to be at league headquarters answered: "Have you heard the new postoffice ruling?" asked a voice. "No, what is it?" asked the state auditor, quite excited. "The department has ruled that 'The Red Flame' can only be accepted in asbestos wrappers," replied the voice. "Three mail sacks burned up this afternoon between here and Fargo," and he rang off. The state auditor reports that this copy of The Red Flame will have an international circulation, going into Mexico, Canada and the British Isles. Agencies, he declares, have been established in fourteen northwestern states. The circulation of the December number is reported to have reached 20,000 copies. A feature of the publication is its cartoons, which are said to be inclined to treat the Townley movement rough.