

### HIRAM JOHNSON REPUDIATES JOB BRINTON'S HELP

#### Californian Denies Even Know- ing Townsley Who Linked Up With Him

#### DECLARES STORY IS FALSE

#### Asserts He Never Has Had Un- derstanding With Any Clique in Dakota

Washington, Feb. 19.—Despite the request of the North Dakota republican convention Tuesday that republican presidential candidates file no primary petitions there Senator Johnson of California announced today that he desired to have the people of the state pass directly on his candidacy and that he had no present intention of withdrawing the petitions he has filed.

In a telegram to R. S. Wilcox, Johnson manager at Bismarck, Senator Johnson said:

"I am not willing to have my candidacy abide the ultimate determination of delegates who say they are unpledged. I want the people themselves to pass on my candidacy."

The telegram denies that there had been any agreement between Senator Johnson and North Dakota politicians for control of the state.

"I have been astonished to read this morning in the Washington Herald that at some gathering yesterday in Bismarck a letter was read from parties of whom I have never heard asserting there was an agreement between me, McCumber, McKenzle and Townsley to control North Dakota," Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California yesterday wired his North Dakota state manager, Richard Selden Wilcox.

"Of course there is not a word of truth in any such statement. I have had no communication with anybody in North Dakota except yourself, and those you represent. I am in receipt this morning of a long telegram signed by Fraire and Gallagher quoting a resolution adopted yesterday asking that presidential candidates keep out of your state. I do not understand the politics of your state nor the actuating motive of the various gatherings recently held. I would greatly appreciate if you would wire me in detail just the situation exactly what is transpiring.

"As you know, I have filed my petition as a candidate under your law. I have had but one purpose in view—to present to the good people of North Dakota the candidates for which I have stood in my state and the nation for more than a decade and to appeal for their support upon these principles. My candidacy in North Dakota as elsewhere has been open and above board, dependent upon the people themselves and the friends who believe as I do.

"I resent such a false charge as according to the Washington Herald was made in your gathering yesterday. I am not willing to have my candidacy abide the ultimate determination of delegates who say they are unpledged. I want the people themselves to pass upon my candidacy. I insist that the people of North Dakota decide how their delegates shall vote. Please wire me at once and tell me also who Brinton is and what his past political affiliations or activities have been.

—HIRAM W. JOHNSON.

P. V. Collins, former publisher of the Northwestern Agriculturist and Bull Moose candidate for governor of Minnesota in 1916, is held responsible for the Washington Herald story. Collins is here representing The Herald, and he apparently failed to grasp the tenor of Brinton's letter to William Lemke which was read by Treadwell Twichell of the republican state central committee at Tuesday's convention. This letter clearly declares that the McCumber-Shea faction of the republican party in North Dakota was committed to Wood, suggested that as a result the Young-Bacon faction, active in Tuesday's convention, would espouse Lowden's candidacy, and that this would make Johnson a good man for Brinton to tie to. Brinton carefully avoided endorsing Johnson, but declared the Californian the strongest republican presidential candidate in North Dakota aside from Governor Frazier, and intimated that Brinton, by endorsing Johnson's policies, could in the event of a split in the republican ranks be elected national committeeman by the Nonpartisan vote in the March primaries.

"CLIMBING BAND-WAGON"

"This is either a clear attempt to frame on Senator Johnson or an effort upon Brinton's part to clamor over the Johnson band-wagon," said R. S. Wilcox, Johnson's state manager, today. "As Senator Johnson says, he does not even know Brinton; there has never been any suspicion of an understanding between Johnson and Brinton or any of the element which Brinton represents. Brinton has lost face even with the league, and I doubt very much that he could be elected national committeeman, even should there be a split in the republican ranks, and should Brinton succeed in availing himself of Johnson's popularity."

JOHNSON COMING

Johnson has announced that he will come to North Dakota next week to personally defend himself from the charges made. It is expected that he

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### JOHNSON COMES TO NORTH DAKOTA NEXT WEDNESDAY

Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California will invade North Dakota next Wednesday speaking that evening at Grand Forks, Thursday noon at Devils Lake, Thursday night at Minot, Friday night at Bismarck and Saturday night at Fargo. Advice to this effect was conveyed to Richard Selden Wilcox, state manager for Johnson, in a message from Senator Johnson received last night.

### WORKMEN AND TROOPS FIGHT ABOUT GENOA

#### Serious Disturbances Reported in Factory District Over Wage Reduction

London, Feb. 19.—Serious fighting between working men and troops in the industrial region about Genoa is reported in a Central news dispatch from Rome. Many casualties occurred during the disturbance. The trouble took place at the Ansaldo factory and at factories in San Pier d' Arena, Cornigliano, Sestri Levante and other places where the workmen fought the police and soldiers all day long. The troops eventually gained the upper hand, cleared the factories and established armed guards except at the Ansaldo factory where the workmen still are in possession.

The trouble apparently arose through the announcement of the owners that wages would be temporarily reduced. The workmen refused to accept the proposal and the owners closed the factories.

### RAISIN STILL SPIRITED AWAY FROM REVENUER

#### Agent of Prohibition Enforce- ment Act Has it and Then He Hasn't

"Revenuers" already are busy among the moonshine hills of western North Dakota, and they are reporting a fair degree of success. H. C. Davison, an agent of the federal prohibition enforcement department, came up from Sioux Falls last week, dropped down into Mercer county, and in an hour or two had mosed out a copper wash-boiler still which was turning out raisin whiskey in five-gallon lots. Two bachelor homesteaders were operating the distillery, and they advised Mr. Davison that their product sold readily for \$5 per quart, which netted them a handsome profit. The evidence was confiscated and the moonshiners placed under arrest. The same evening someone broke into the jail and expropriated the evidence. As a result the moonshiners have been discharged with a promise of more stringent treatment hereafter. Mr. Davison expects to spend some time in the Slope.

### QUESTION OF ELIGIBILITY IS EXPLAINED

Legal authorities, taking cognizance of the question raised following Tuesday's convention as to Miss Minnie J. Nielson's eligibility to serve as a committeeman to the republican national convention, state that it is not because Miss Nielson is a state officer, as Chairman J. H. Fraire of the convention and Chairman Frank Hyland of the nominating committee suggested, but it is the fact that Miss Nielson is not herself an elector which will prevent her qualifying as a delegate.

Had Miss Nielson been nominated for a presidential elector, a member of the attorney general's staff says, there would have been no question as to her eligibility, under the North Dakota statute extending limited suffrage to women, but this right was not made to include voting for or serving as delegates to national conventions, although it might well have been.

### WILSON GOES TO STUDY DAILY TO HANDLE BUSINESS

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Wilson has improved so much, Rear Admiral Grayson, his physician said today, that he goes to work at his desk in his study every morning at half past nine. Dr. Grayson said the president had not resumed using his typewriter, but that he probably would do so soon.

### MAY BE AMBAS- SADOR TO ITALY



ROBERT U. JOHNSON

Washington—Considerable interest follows the announcement that President Wilson will send to the Senate the nomination of Robert Underwood Johnson of New York as the new ambassador to Italy. Johnson has long been interested in Italian affairs and is the originator of the Keats and Shelley Memorial in Rome. He holds the decoration of Cavalier of the Crown of Italy.

### DESCHANEL WITH WILSON ON LUCK OF NUMERAL "13"

Paris, Feb. 19.—Another famous statesman has come forward to keep President Wilson company in claiming that thirteen is a lucky number. This new follower is also the president of a great republic. He is M. Deschanel, newly elected chief executive of France. Just after the election Deschanel remarked: "My life is simplicity itself. I was born on the thirteenth; I was married on the thirteenth; and it was on the thirteenth that the chamber declared me a candidate for the presidency."

### FARMER AND THREE CHILDREN CREMATED

Peoria, Ill., Feb. 19.—Oscar Willamson, a farmer residing three miles from here, near Mossville, and his three children were burned to death when the family home there was destroyed by fire early this morning reports here say.

### DUCHESS A REAL DEMOCRAT



London—A marriage which shocked the ultra-society circles of Great Britain, has been followed on the part of the Duchess of Winchester and her husband, Captain John Fitzpatrick Lewis, by a very demure and un-conventional honeymoon. The duchess, who was Miss Cornwallis-West secured a divorce from the Duke of Winchester about a year ago.

### WORKER BUREAU USES BUT TENTH OF ITS BIG POT

#### Collects \$489,000 in 7 1/2 Months and Spends \$48,000 of It

#### SCHEDULE IS TOO HIGH

#### Employers Will Ask That Cost of Production Be Reduced to Normal

North Dakota employers have paid \$489,831.21 into the workmen's compensation fund during the 7 1/2 months in which the states compensation act has been in operation, and the compensation bureau has paid out for all purposes, including expenses of operation and compensation, \$48,456.12, leaving in the fund at this moment a balance of \$441,375.09 deposited with the Bank of North Dakota in the credit of the workmen's compensation bureau. Of this balance \$300,000 is distributed among various member banks on certificates of deposit and \$141,000 is held in the Bank of North Dakota as an open account.

North Dakota employers generally have been converted to the theory of workmen's compensation, but they insist that the fact that in 7 1/2 months less than ten percent of the fund collected has been paid out to cover all expenses of the workmen's compensation bureau, and probably less than seven percent of the whole in compensation to injured employees is proof that the schedules of the bureau are too high, as has been contended by Associate Justice Robinson of the North Dakota supreme court and others who have come into this matter.

The \$48,656.12 which has actually been paid out by the compensation bureau includes \$9,000 with which the state's general fund was reimbursed. It covers the salaries of two commissioners and of a large staff of clerical help; rentals, the preliminary expense of furnishing the offices and of printing a large supply of blanks and forms. The cost of wiring and remodeling the quarters occupied by the bureau in the Northwest hotel building also came out of this sum.

Employers who are endeavoring to get a line on the operations of the bureau have announced that they will demand from the next assembly legislation which will fix a much lower scale for the schedules to be charged for the insurance of employees. They will also ask, it is stated, that some provision be made for the auditing of the accounts of the bureau. Under the present act the supreme court held that the bureau may check directly against its fund, without the formality of an audit by the state auditor, or the state auditing board, and that the state auditor shall not have access to the books of the bureau.

### REPUBLICANS DENOUNCE RED LEGISLATION

The republicans in state convention here Tuesday denounced legislative action and inaction in the recent special assembly in resolutions which follow:

The Republican party, having since its birth stood as a defender of the rights guaranteed our citizens by the constitution, and having at all times opposed all political movements and legislative measures inimical to American traditions and ideals, we, the Republicans of North Dakota in convention assembled, feel that we would be derelict in our duty if we did not on this occasion call attention to the un-American laws that will soon become operative in this state unless defeated by a referendum vote.

We would therefore urge our citizens to take immediate action in support of the movement already inaugurated to secure the required number of signatures to obtain a referendum on House Bill No. 48, known as the "Smelling Committee Bill," on House Bill No. 56, known as the "State Sheriff Bill," and on Senate Bill No. 9 known as the "Absent Voters' Laws."

As a further step towards checking red radicalism and also for the purpose of incalculating sentiments that transcend any partisan issues, we would urge all loyal citizens to immediately join in the work of securing the required number of signatures on a petition to initiate an anti-red flag law.

We condemn the majority members of the legislature for defeating such a measure at the last regular session and also at the recent special session. We are fully sensible to the fact that the attitude displayed by the majority faction in the legislature has caused our state to be discredited throughout the nation.

We are firmly convinced, however, that the attitude shown by the legislature on this question is not in harmony with the prevailing sentiment in our state and that if given an opportunity to express themselves through the ballot, the people of North Dakota would declare by an overwhelming vote that the only banner that should be unfurled in our commonwealth is the one that today is the hope and the inspiration of the entire world, the Stars and Stripes.

### TREATY FIGHT TO DRAG WHILE RAILS ARE UP

Washington, Feb. 19.—Leaders in the treaty fight indicated today that the controversy would be permitted to drag on indefinitely while the senate is considering railroad and other important legislation. There was doubt, however, whether the issue would command attention on the floor or "play possum" for several weeks as it did yesterday when it was not mentioned at all as nobody was ready to speak. Compromise negotiations are being continued informally.

### 37 REPUBLICAN MEMBERS TO BE NAMED ON BOARD

#### State Central Committee Short That Number of Anti- Townleyites

#### ONLY TWELVE RETAINED

#### Stark and Morton Only Slope Counties Favored With Representation

Thirty-seven new members will be appointed to the republican state central committee of North Dakota in accordance with action taken at a state convention of the party here Tuesday, according to a statement issued last night by Treadwell Twichell of Cass county, who is in charge of the reorganization.

Mr. Twichell stated that 12 members of the committee as heretofore organized, had been selected as "real republicans" and would be retained in its total membership of 49. Those eliminated from the committee's personnel include William Lemke, Fargo attorney, who has been its chairman, Mr. Lemke is vice president of the Nonpartisan league.

In addition to reorganization of the state central committee, Mr. Twichell announced that changes would be made in county chairmanships and precinct committees. He estimated that from 25 to thirty new county chairmen would be appointed.

NINE REPUBLICANS TO ACT

Mr. Twichell's statement relative to reorganization was in part as follows: "The convention authorized the nine republicans on the state central committee at present in the state to immediately file the committee by appointing thirty-seven men who are Republicans to succeed thirty-seven departed Townleyites, also instructed them to appoint a county chairman in every county in the state where the chairmanship is held by a Townleyite and to see that all precinct committees that are Townleyites are disposed and real Republicans substituted."

Mr. Twichell explained that three of the 12 members retained for the state (Continued on Page Three)

### PROTEST AGAINST WAGE PROVISION IN COMPLETED WAGE BILL WILL BE MADE BY RAILWAY ORGANIZATIONS

#### Letters to President Wilson and Director General Hines Now Being Framed at Headquarters of American Federation of Labor —Administration Would Continue Present Schedule Until September 1—Esch and Cummins Compromise on New Agree- ment—Congress Surprised

Washington, Feb. 19.—Protests against the wage provision of the completed railroad bill will be made in letters to President Wilson and Director General Hines which representatives of the railroad union organizations and officials of the American Federation of Labor were framing today at conferences at the federation's headquarters.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Wages established by the railroad administration during the war would continue in effect until September 1 under the railroad reorganization bill, the conference report on which was presented today in the house and senate.

Under the wage provision, the redrafting of which created more surprise in congress than any other change made in the compromising of the Esch bill of the house and the Cummins bill of the senate, pay of railroad workers would be stabilized at the present level for six months after the railroad properties are returned to private control and operation. The bill as reported today also seeks to stabilize rates for the same time, providing that prior to September 1 no rates may be reduced unless approval of the interstate commerce commission is obtained.

The restriction on wage increases was looked upon with especial interest by members of congress, railroad officials and union leaders in view of the recent demand of the more than 2,000,000 railroad workers for an advance in pay. President Wilson in supporting the contention that no increases could be granted on the eve of return of the railroads, told the union leaders that their demands would be considered by a commission to be created by law if such a provision were included in the railroad bill or be appointed by his own initiative if no legal provision were made.

### DAKOTA BANK'S BUSINESS NOT PUBLIC MATTER

#### Supreme Court Sustains Nuessele in Holding Institution Private One

The status of the Bank of North Dakota as a semi-private banking institution rather than a public department of the state government was established in a four-to-one opinion of the supreme court handed down Wednesday, sustaining Judge Nuessele of the Burleigh county district court in his refusal to issue to State Auditor Karl Koszky a mandatory order giving him entry to the books of the bank.

The supreme court upholds the contention made by the bank in the litigation that the bank is a private institution, and that the state industrial commission, who argued that the bank stood in a confidential relation to its clients, and that such confidence would be violated were the state auditor given access to the books for the purpose of making an audit.

This controversy originated when the state auditor, acting under instructions from the banking board, took possession of the bank, sealed the vaults, and set his staff at work making an audit. Proceedings were promptly halted by Director General Cahoon and Manager Waters, who denied the state auditor's authority to invade the bank. The auditor then appealed to district court for an order, which was denied, whereupon he appealed to the supreme court.

The banking board's instructions to the state auditor advised that the files of the Scandinavian American bank of Fargo, then in a receiver's hands, had disclosed a copy of a letter from Cashier P. R. Sherman to the Bank of North Dakota indicating that a large amount of postdated checks and notes which the banking board regarded as questionable collateral had been forwarded to the Bank of North Dakota as collateral for a loan. This loan the Bank of North Dakota contended, was never made, and the collateral was returned to Cashier Sherman in person.

### DESCHANEL BECOMES TENTH PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

Paris, Feb. 19.—Paul P. Deschanel on Wednesday became tenth president of the French republic succeeding Raymond Poincaré who laid aside the robes of office after one of the most critical periods in the history of the country. The formal transfer from the old to the new regime occurred this afternoon.

### WELL KNOWN CENTER WOMAN PASSES AWAY

Center, N. D., Feb. 19.—Center was shocked this morning by the sudden death of Mrs. John Fields, aged 32, wife of the well known Center blacksmith, who passed away after a brief illness. Mrs. Fields is survived by her husband and three small children. Mrs. Mollie of Yucca, a pioneer of that section of the country, is mother of the deceased. Her brother, Harry M. L. Fields, is in Center this morning from Yucca to assist with the funeral arrangements.

### TO BE TAKEN UP SATURDAY

Chairman Esch of the house managers announced today that the conference report would be taken up in the house Saturday and Chairman Cummins of the senate managers expects to call it up in the senate at a later date. Despite the expected opposition to new wage section, republican leaders of both the house and the senate expressed belief that the conference report would be adopted and the bill sent to the president with little change.

The outstanding points of the measure as finally agreed upon are:

Compulsory submission of labor disputes to a permanent federal board appointed by the president and composed of nine members equally divided between the employes, employers and the public. No provision is made for enforcing the board's decision.

Adjustment of rates by the interstate commerce commission so as to yield to carriers a return of five and a half percent upon the aggregate value of their property with another half of one percent for improvements.

### DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME

Distribution of half the net railway operating income in excess of six percent of the property value equally between the carriers, reserve fund and the federal railroad contingent fund which will be administered by the commission for the assistance of weaker roads.

Government guaranty to railroads against a deficit during the first six months after the roads are turned back.

Permissive consolidation of railroads in accordance with a general consolidation plan to be prepared by the interstate commerce commission. Appropriations of \$500,000,000 to be used as a revolving fund from which to make loans to carriers and pay claims growing out of federal control. Unexpected funds now in the railroad administration's hands are also re-appropriated for that purpose and an appropriation of \$50,000 for the federal labor board is provided.

As finally agreed upon the labor section provides that "it shall be the duty of all carriers and their officers, employees and agents to exert every reasonable effort and adopt every available means to avoid any interruption to the operation of any carrier growing out of any dispute between the carrier and the employes or subordinate officials."

### DERAILMENT OF FREIGHT TIES UP NORTHERN PACIFIC

Valley City, N. D., Feb. 19.—Traffic on the Northern Pacific railway was blocked for almost five hours as the result of the derailment of a west bound extra freight train at Alta, six miles east of Valley City early Wednesday morning. Two dead engines in the train and three cars left the rails. An open switch is believed to have been the cause. No one was injured.

### FIVE MEN DROWN WHEN BARGE SINKS

Washington, Feb. 19.—Five enlisted men were drowned in the sinking of a naval barge yesterday off the Cuban coast the navy department was advised today and two others lost their lives in the capsizing of a motor dory from the United States ship Hovey last Sunday at Harwich, England. No details of the sinking were given but Admiral Knapp said that a motor dory could investigate the sinking of the dory.