

THE PRODUCERS NEWS

A PAPER OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE
Continuing the OUTLOOK PROMOTOR

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FRIDAY, JULY 12, 1918,

Slow Footed Justice

Tardily the state supreme court of Minnesota has come to the rescue of justice in that state, and has ordered the lower court of Martin county to dismiss the indictments for "discouraging enlistments" preferred in that county under a state law against A. C. Townley, as president, and Joseph Gilbert, as organization manager, of the National Nonpartisan league.

The indictments against Townley and Gilbert were based, it has been told in the dispatches, on a pamphlet issued and circulated some months ago by the Nonpartisan League. Never yet has it been told generally in the press that the contents of the pamphlet were resolutions framed and passed at a conference of League members and union labor held in September of last year, and that they were heard and adopted by several thousand persons.

It was on the utterance of these several thousand persons that these League officers were indicted as a political trick on the part of a notoriety seeking small town prosecutor in southern Minnesota. The supreme court of the state of Minnesota has now examined in detail the statements made in the resolutions and circulated in the pamphlet and it now officially certified in an opinion written by a justice who comes from the same county in which the indictment originated that there is not one syllable in the resolution or the pamphlet even open to question on the ground of disloyalty or intention to discourage enlistments.

No sane person could read the pamphlet and come to any other conclusion. The thought in the mind of those who caused the indictment to be brought was, of course, that few people would get an opportunity to read the pamphlet on which the indictment was based, but that many would be influenced by the news that the head of the Nonpartisan League "had been indicted for sedition."

The conspiracy has been worked to its fullest extent in every state in

which the activity of the Nonpartisan League is an issue. On this slender basis were built wholesale charges that "the leaders of the League are disloyal."

While the court delayed the character assassins were busy in North Dakota as well as in Minnesota. These false and silly charges—this flagrant attempt to contort language used with the highest patriotic intent into something which might be made to appear disloyal—were used to the utmost extent by the infamous political masters of the puppet Burnquist in their fight to retain political power in Minnesota. Their use of it shows how barren was their cause without it.

It is not likely that those who have thus used the bare fact of the indictment against Townley to convey an outrageous falsehood will have the decency to apologize for the shameless way in which they have thus insulted justice in Minnesota and used the courts as a tool in their political trickery. Nor is it likely that one-tenth of the persons who have been led to believe that there is the stain of a charge of disloyalty against the leaders of the League will ever learn the truth of the matter.

There is hope for Minnesota, however, in the fact that though the most ordinary rights of citizens are denied in that state and the courts themselves are flouted by executive power, yet conscience and honesty remain in one arm of the government and may, in the end, be brought back into power.

Certainly few independent citizens of Minnesota will want to vote for Burnquist for governor again after they learn the truth about this Martin county case and learn what use was made of it in the campaign of Burnquist—the "loyalty candidate"—who has repeatedly interfered with the Federal government and sought to usurp its functions.—Fargo Courier-News.

American Rights Will Prevail

Assuming that accuracy of statements appearing in the daily press from time to time, relating to the barring of Nonpartisan speakers from both public and private halls, the deportation of organizers, and in some instances the application of tar and feathers to supporters of the Nonpartisan League, by cowardly mobs, it must be apparent to any right thinking person that the time has arrived for real Americans to assert themselves and put a stop, once and for all, to the exercise of Prussian prerogatives by an element in this country which serves not the cause of America or democracy, at this or any other time.

Americans, and we speak here both of the native-born and the naturalized, are patient, long-suffering, slow to wrath, that is history, and recent history at that. But once aroused, once convinced that the use of force is necessary to the maintenance of the rights guaranteed to them by the constitution, they act, and act decisively.

In characterizing the people who have been engendering the mob spirit in the northwestern states in recent months, for reasons not in the least related to those for which America is expending lavishly of its best blood in France, we say without hesitation, that nowhere in the confines of Germany, in Austria or Turkey, nor behind the walls of any penal institution in the world, can there be found humans more bereft of all manhood, more lacking in all that Americans hold dear, than those who, parading under the guise of loyalty,

seek to gratify their insatiable desire to gain mere wealth than they are honestly entitled to.

The opposition to the Nonpartisan League is not prompted nor paid for by the realization of democracy in Germany or anywhere else on earth. Far from it.

The opposition to the Nonpartisan League in the northwestern states is actuated by the same motives and the same desires which animate the Prussian junkers.

The newspapers (and we have them here), which daily flaunt the news of some mob's activity against an individual, which brazenly chronicle the denial of constitutional rights by some official with a festering brain, are not opposed to the German junker class and its system. Each espouse the same principle—but differ only as to the division of the Principal.

The creatures who, for a daily wage, inflict such news on the public, insult the intelligence and outrage the manhood and womanhood of any community. They are the limit in sycophancy, the extreme in mental perversity.

American rights were wantonly violated by the German junkers, and if necessary, millions of lives will be sacrificed to vindicate those rights.

And in addition, the constitutional rights of American citizens within their own borders have been outraged, and lives will be expended without limit to maintain those rights.

Make no mistake about it.—Butte Bulletin.

Up To The Auditor

The County Attorney says that the County Commissioners pulled off the Sheridan County printing contract "deal" without consulting the County Attorney's office: an office maintained by the people for the purpose of advising the board on matters of law.

Probably in a few days a warrant will be presented to the County Au-

ditor for payment by the Pioneer Press for work done under the scandalous contract.

This contract the Board of County Commissioners has not had the "Guts" to ratify as yet, yet we suppose the county work is being done as though it had been ratified.

The people of Sheridan County are now watching the Auditor to see

what he will do about it. These warrants will be illegal. If the Auditor consults the Coun-

Petition Will Be Filed

A Grand Jury will be petitioned for.

At several points in the county citizens have met and arranged to take the steps necessary to call this body together.

It is universally agreed that the conditions are such in this county to justify the taking of this action.

The calling of this Grand Jury is not a political play, but a move that is made absolutely necessary by the disregard for constituted law and authority that has grown up in this

ty Attorney's office he will probably be advised not to honor the same. We await his actions with interest.

county, little by little, until the entire body politic is sick and deceased. In drastic cases, drastic and unusual remedies are necessary. This is one of those cases. There is no use putting the operation off any longer.

Nothing can be gained by delay. When there has been a thorough investigation and needed precautions, there will be a healthier condition in the body politic in Sheridan county.

This desirable condition will more than offset all the costs.

AN APPRECIATION OF MISS RANKIN

Outlook, Mont., June 15, 1918.

Hon. Miss Jeanette Rankin, Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Rankin:— I take this opportunity to thank you for the year book you sent me, also for the speeches on various measures before congress.

I take great pride in living in a state that's got a woman representing them in congress, and wish there were more of your type that really represents the people and we would soon have a democracy that would be worth copying by the rest of the world.

It is to be regretted that journals of special privilege do not display your name very prominent except when they think they can hurt your name, which is proof you have become an enemy to the sinister class and a champion of the common people.

I can assure you that the people in this community feel that they are pretty well acquainted with Miss Rankin and know you to be their representative.

I think the people will soon realize that they must organize and stand back of their representative if their voice is going to be heard in the halls of congress. Alone in congress, yes or a dozen, will not have much effect unless it is backed up by an organization along effective lines, matters not whether it is composed of "hog sloppers or mechanics."

Wishing you success in your good work, I remain,

Yours truly, Charles Lundeen.

Copy to Producers News.

MORE BOYS CALLED

Following are a list of the boys called to the colors last Saturday:

- 1332 John E. Peterson, Wolf Point.
- 1411 Noble E. Catcarth, Coalridge.
- 1716 Gilbert R. Harmer, Flaxville.
- 1810 Fred L. Flowers, Aberdeen, S. Dak.
- 2171 H. G. Roiston, Marshalltown, Iowa.
- 2301 Gideon Saurageau, Belfield, N. Dak.
- 2303 Theodore S. Hanson, Westby.
- 2304 Alvin C. Dawson, Bainville.
- 2309 Howard L. Kay, Joplin, Mont.
- 2310 Morris S. Egger, Outlook.
- 2313 John Odegaard, Buxton, N. D.
- 2319 Amos Roberts, Glasgow.
- 2330 Ole T. Halverson, Tolna, N. D.
- 2331 Bernt K. Iverson, Wolf Point.
- 2341 David E. Farley, Little Falls, Minn.
- 2344 Frank McCabe, Froid.
- 1415 Forrest Hughes, Homestead.
- 3487 Axel E. Johnson, Med. Lake.
- 2347 E. W. Heathman, Scooby.
- 2351 Raymond O. Berke, Westby.
- 2352 Roman W. Borley, Med. Lake.
- 2353 John Anderson, Dagmar.
- 2354 Cecil P. Shorley, Dontien.
- 2355 Lewis Linner, Expanse.
- 2356 Simon G. LaBrandt, Flaxville.
- 2358 Edward Reiter, Homestead.
- 2361 Alvin Nelson, Mora, Minn.
- 2362 Nello Blair, Poplar.
- 2364 Erwin A. Luff, Big Stone City, S. Dak.
- 2368 Herman Luehne, Redstone.
- 2383 Lyman E. Moore, Waubun.
- 2376 Abraham Muiatrae, Helena.
- 2382 Waldo S. Davis, Froid.
- 2384 Fred Whitaker, Froid.
- 2385 Elmer Ward, Flaxville.
- 2387 Emil C. Carlson, Rosholt, N. Dak.
- 2390 Walter E. Rowe, Madoc.
- 2393 Gus Gunderson, Buxton, N. D.

GUILTY OF MISDEMEANOR

Peter Lutness Fined Two Hundred Dollars, Which He Paid.

The famous case of the State of Montana versus Peter Lutness on the charge of Sedition occupied one day of the time of the District Court this week. This young man was supposed to be a dangerous Pro-German agitator, according to the rumors that were circulated, but after the trial the only verdict the jury could find was that he was merely guilty of a misdemeanor and

imposed a fine of two hundred dollars.

County Attorney Onstad and Deputy Greer represented the state of Montana, while David E. McLaughlin defended Mr. Lutness.

Many persons believed that Mr. Lutness should have been acquitted but in view of the fact that so small a fine was imposed and the charge found was merely a misdemeanor no appeal will be taken and Mr. Lutness paid the fine.

The maximum penalty which can be imposed under the Sedition law is twenty years at hard labor in the state prison and a fine of \$20,000.

WHAT THE EDITORS

.....SAY.....

PROFESSOR DESCRIBES PATRIOTEERS

Madison.—"If in Wisconsin or any other state loyalty is less universal than it should be, it is because sober and responsible patriots have had to give way to the insistence of violent and unwise patrioteers," writes Professor Joseph Jastrow, University of Wisconsin, to The New Republic.

"The press is notably responsible; councils of defense are responsible; wild public speaking is responsible; managers of political campaigns are responsible, for these are the actual powers that prevail.

"Fortunately this too confident assertion of the superiority of their own brand of loyalty, like the arrogant Prussian high-handedness upon which it is modeled, has often overreached itself and brought down upon its none too innocent and often malicious head the worthy rebuke of worthy men. It is always a difficult task for a free and easy democracy to place the proper men in responsible positions; it is a peculiarly important matter in times of war that there should be few mistakes.

"The greatest obstacles to a worthier, more tolerant and responsible patriotism is the disturbing noise and at times the authoritative voice of a patriotism sincere in its limitations, but lacking depth and poise."

Ed. Note.—We are with you professor.—The Organized Farmer.

A great many of the farmers are wondering what connection there is between loyalty and yellow paint; also between loyalty and the destruction of property in destroying auto banners, strewing tacks in the road and kindred roughneck law-breaking? Loyalty is a far greater virtue than to bring forth evidence of lawlessness. The insidious motive back of all such dastardly deeds is hate, and a fear that control of politics is going to pass out of the hands of those who cause such terrible things to be done.—Norman County (Minn.) Post.

HOW MINNESOTA HELPED

League leaders who are closely in touch with every section of North Dakota through their speakers and from letters received daily at League headquarters, say that the Minnesota election has had the effect of putting North Dakota in a frame of mind to nominate every Nonpartisan League candidate by a bigger majority than two years ago.—Fargo Courier-News.

ANTI-LEAGUE PATRIOTS

It is reported that the gang of hoodlums at Foley that tried to mob some members of the farmers' Nonpartisan League at Foley took several United States flags and copies of President Woodrow Wilson's book, "The New Freedom," from their automobiles and burned them in the street. That is the kind of patriots that are fighting the farmers' organization.—Milaca, (Minn.) Times.

FARM MOVEMENTS ALWAYS OPPOSED

The farmers at Martin, N. D., call-

ed a meeting at the operahouse in that town on May 17 to organize a cooperative grain elevator company. When they got to town they found that the local grain dealers had got control of the opera house and refused to let them meet there. They managed to get an empty building and held their meeting anyway. It doesn't seem to matter what the farmers attempt to do in the way of getting together, they always seem to find somebody opposing them. The fellows that shut them out at Martin did not have the gall to pose as loyalists.—Kenmare (N. D.) Journal.

HANDWRITING ON THE WALL

The outcome of the primary election in Minnesota last Monday, although not agreeable to many in more than one sense of the word, was like the handwriting on the wall and that one of the dailies in St. Paul after the results were known pronounces the Nonpartisan League dead, only emphasizes the fact how shallow and superficial is the judgment of these sheets. Whoever studies the figures of the election returns

must admit the astounding success of the young organization. That Lindbergh did not receive nomination was due to entirely different factors than the fact that was the candidate of the Nonpartisan League.

The only way the Nonpartisan League or any organization of similar character can be killed is if the old parties and their politicians in a way that will all the people a square deal. St. Paul Booster.

The St. Paul Dispatch, the lickspittle of Minneapolis, the Paul Big Business and hypocrite, is a tax dodger, a partisan Leader alleges and expects. Like a mad dog about barking and trying to bite other people's loyalty and taxes that should be its own need. Every time you see of these hypocritical liars you find them at bottom or mud-sprayers.—Parshall

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