SOUTHERN GROCERS' CONVENTION BACKS LEAGUE MARKETING PLANS

WASHINGTON LETTER

Chain Stores Threaten Merchants—Sinclair Lauds North Dakota's State Ticket—Labor-Hating Congressman Asks Slush Fund—Bryan to Battle Profiteer Politicians—Shoe Prices, and Who ets the Profits.

Washington, D. C.—Congressman Baer of North Dakota is receiving from every corner of the country a great mass of letters of indorsement and thanks from the wholesale grocers and other dealers for his bill prohibiting gambling in necessaries of life. He has now returned from the annual convention of the Southern Wholesale Grocers' association at St. Louis, where he spoke for an hour to 5,000 grocery men, who not only applauded him at every point in his argument but adopted resolutions approving his bill and pledging their active support of the measure until it shall become law.

Baer pointed out to the grocers that there are three significant tendencies in their field today. First is the demand that the price paid the producer by the dealer shall be stamped on all articles offered for sale, in order that the consumer may know how heavily he is paying for the distribution of the article. Second is the demand for public ownership and operation of marketing facilities as a protection of the people against the speculators and other profiteers. Third is the swift and menacing growth of "super-business" corporations, which are running ahead of the public ownership sentiment with their formation of chains of retail stores that get along without the wholesaler.

"The Whelan-Duke tobacco interests have launched the monster retail store enterprise that is going to secure them all the most favorable sites throughout the country," said Baer, "and you know enough about the other chain store enterprises to know that they will run their own wholesale departments without your help. They are buying up, for instance, the buildings formerly occupied by saloons, and are preparing to put their retail stores in these locations. I believe the Du Ponts are going into the merchandising business on a great scale. These big profiteers of the war period realize the trend toward public ownership of marketing facilities and they plan to get on the ground first with an organization that eliminates the waste of old-fashioned competition between many independent dealers, but which will crush out all competition only in order to raise prices to the consumer."

One of the wholesale merchants in this convention proposed that Asiatic immigration should be again permitted in order that production in this country may be increased. Baer called to his attention the influx of Syrian and Greek competition into their own field, and suggested that it would be wiser to see that profiteers and gamblers be put to work for the benefit of the present population of the United States than to leave the profiteers alone and encourage the coming of an element that will live at a still lower level than do the immigrants from the Balkans and the Near East. This suggestion was adopted.

"These merchants have opened my eyes to one thing," said the congressman on his return to the capital. "They are just as radical as the farmers in their opposition to those who are getting rich without rendering any service to society. And they see the chain store corporation coming, with its crushing private monopoly. They are going to fight. They see that the program of the Nonpartisan league, for public ownership of certain marketing facilities, is the only safeguard to honest business."

In the opinion of Congressman Sinclair of the third North Dakota district, the state ticket named at Fargo by the Nonpartisan league convention is strong in the places where it is necessary that it be strong in order that the industrial program of the League may be carried out in good faith and despite all its enemies.

"In the renomination of Governor Frazier, and in the renomination of Commissioner Hagan," he said, "the convention showed the good sense expected of it. And in choosing as the nominee for attorney general the man who has been counsel for the industrial commission, as well as for the League which produced this program, the convention has made the harmony and effectiveness of the industrial commission absolutely certain. William Lemke has been largely responsible for the program, and will defend and advance it, through thick and thin. Frazier, Hagan and Lemke will be an ideal industrial commission."

Among the other state nominees for whose election Sinclair congratulates the convention is Senator Cahill, chosen for secretary of state, who was Sinclair's chief rival for League indorsement for congress two years ago. The enemy later approached Cahill with extravagant offers of support if he would turn traitor, but he kept faith with the farmers who elected him.

Congressman Thomas L. Blanton of Abilene, Texas, whose interruptions, ELEVEN outbursts, points of order and speeches of denunciation of progressive ideas appear in almost every issue of the Congressional Record, has a resourceful campaign manager in his relative, William W. Blanton. As Blanton has capitalized his hatred of trade unions in his speeches, and has drawn the fire of Sampel Gompers and other labor officials for his reckless statements regarding them, he or his manager conceived the idea of passing the hat for "campaign funds" among the anti-labor employers in the east. A circular letter was issued by Manager Blanton, describing Congressman Blanton as a "very poor man," and saying that "I am of the impression that you could down a privilege to contribute to his campaign, and I am writing this letter only to a few business men who have evidenced a special interest in his work."

Incidentally, Manager Blanton says that Congressman Blanton was largely responsible for turning back the railroads to private hands, thus "saving the government from bankruptcy," and that because of this and other patriotic service the American Federation of Labor, the "pernicious Plumb Plan league, the IWS head of Federal employees, the I. W. W.s and other organizations" will spend $100,000 if necessary, to defeat him.

Other members of the Texas delegation say that Blanton is not poor, that his family is conspicuously well-to-do, that the opposition candidate has no strength nor support worth mention, and that the fight is largely located in Blanton's imagination.

A congressman's salary is $7,500 a year. The other day Blanton put into the Record affidavits declaring the cost of his campaign efforts thus far, and they run at the rate of over $6,000 a year for printing and addressing speeches alone.

What about Bryan and McAdoo at San Francisco? Administration Democrats are worrying over the recent Bryan statements as to the choice of Homer Cummings by the national committee to act as temporary chairman of the convention, and the neat and workmanlike flaying which the Commoner administered to Governor Cox in that connection. The wise old leader from the Platte is just commencing the quadrennial housecleaning, with the slogan: "No embezzlement of political power! Prison for the public official who betrays his trust!" They don't like that, at all.

At first glance Bryan seems to be aiming his gun at the "wet" candidate, Governor Cox, and at such other Democrats as may try to use their freedom from instructions to commit the party to a return of the beer and wine traffic. But a second survey gives one the suspicion that Bryan has looked over the field, found McAdoo the only candidate with any large following among the delegates, and has decided to put the president's son-in-law to the test. For, after all, McAdoo is a mere newcomer in political crusading, compared with Bryan, and his ideas are virtually unknown.

Bryan would like to know, therefore, whether McAdoo, if nominated, intends to appoint a man as his campaign manager who will furnish guarantees to the producers in this country that the profiteers and gamblers are to be put out of business. The Nebraskan knows, far better than McAdoo ever will know, how nearly universal is the resentment of the people toward Woodrow Wilson for his keeping Palmer and Burleson in the cabinet. These two agents of the Wilson administration personify, to the Bryan following, the "embezzlement of power," for which Bryan says a prison sentence is the just reward.

McAdoo is trying, apparently, to evade the direct issue, but at every turn he finds the Bryan challenge meeting him. Bryan will head the resolutions committee that will report the platform. Either that platform will represent Bryan's principles or it will be fought on the floor of the convention by the Commoner. And if Bryan is defeated there he still has his appeal to the people. What the administration politicians are trying to estimate is the probable amount of Democratic revolt that would follow a steam-rolling of Bryan and Bryanism at San Francisco.

W. Jett Lauck, continuing economist for the railroad brotherhoods and unions, has filed a brief with the railroad labor board, showing that "a skilled worker received an income of $3.00 an hour during the year on a panel of shows, labor received only 15 cent.

"The retailer's profit is by far the largest, amounting over one third the price, but it does not show so large an increase as the packers' and tanners' profits. At the largest tanneries are indirectly a part of the big packers, earned income, [illegible] and without danger of contradiction that their profiteering is largely responsible for the high price of shoes."

MONTANA WHEAT ACREAGE SHORT

Alfalfa and Winter Wheat Killed Badly—Spring Wheat Looking Fine, Much Stubbled In—Increase in Flax Acreage Because of Late Spring.

Helena, May 24.—Reports from 19 counties in the state for the week ending May 15, received by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Publicity, indicate that spring seeding was actively pushed during the week. In a number of counties from 50 to 75 per cent of the seed has been planted, while in others the percentage is considerably smaller. From two or three counties there comes reports of killing of winter wheat, and from one a report of alfalfa killing, but taken as a whole the loss from winter killing is not extensive. Fall planted rye came through the winter in good shape. Where there has been a reduction in the planting of spring wheat an increase is noted in the planting of forage crops, every county reports pastures in good shape and livestock getting along fairly well. A shortage of [illegible] is reported [illegible]

[illegible] Season [illegible] two to three weeks late. [illegible] marriage of [illegible] grain will be [illegible] place [illegible] delayed [illegible]

scarce.

Custer—Seeding progressing steadily; about 65 per cent completed. Early planting all coming up in good shape. Alfalfa badly killed throughout the valleys. 60 per cent or more damaged. Livestock gradually improving.

Rosebud—Spring wheat 90 per cent planted and all coming well. Winter wheat beginning to stool. Corn planting and summer fallowing now in progress. Estimated at least 30 per cent of winter wheat killed. The balance is not as far along as it should be at this time of the year. Oats 75 per cent planted. Grass everywhere making very rapid growth and live stock doing fairly well.

Yellowstone—The safe date for planting spring wheat has passed with but little seed in the ground. Winter wheat all looks promising and very little winter killing is reported. The season has discouraged wheat planting and encouraged the planting of forage crops. A large acreage of corn and millet and other forage will be planted. Grass is growing well.

Musselshell—Winter wheat and rye in excellent condition and good growth now beginning. Spring seeding about half done. Labor scarce and high priced. Farmers generally seeding only acreage they can care for themselves.

Hill—There is considerable poor soil preparation this year on account of the poor condition of work stock and scarcity of feed. This will also reduce the acreage somewhat. Moisture condition is very good. Early grain is up with good stand. Grass is coming on slowly. A large percentage of the winter wheat fields must be reseeded but the rye is looking thrifty.

Toole—Nearly one-half total wheat seeded, some oats in and also a few acres of flax. Grass growing rapidly. Livestock in fair shape.

Chouteau—Weather conditions generally ideal for seeding, work and seeding has progressed rapidly. Insect damage is now reported in both winter and spring wheat. Condition of livestock is improving as the pasture is starting well. Some corn and potatoes planted. Winter wheat and grass doing fine.

Teton—It is estimated that not over 30 per cent of the seeding is completed. Farmers as a result are considering an increase in the flax acreage. Winter wheat appears to be in good shape. Range conditions are improving rapidly.

Cascade—Rains during the fore part of the week hindered plowing and seeding operations.

Roosevelt—Spring work in full swing. Wheat crop about two-thirds planted. Much is being stubbled in. Early seeding is coming through the ground in good shape. Farmers are only sowing what they can with their own labor. More corn and feed crops will be planted this year than was anticipated.

Ravalli—Rain first four days of the week. Over half of the seeding is done and some fields are already green. Feed situation is improving and stock is getting along nicely. Compared with the central and eastern part of the state this county is at least three weeks in advance. Labor conditions about normal, there being a surplus of men rather than a shortage.

PIONEER CITIZEN OF MADOC DIES

Flaxville Democrat—Angus M. Morrison of Madoc answered the call of the death messenger when he passed peacefully away at his home last Thursday, May 13th, at 11 o'clock. Mr. Morrison had been failing in health the past three years and his death, though expected, was a heavy blow to his family and a large number of friends.

Mr. Morrison came to Madoc in 1910 from Calvin, N. D., and located on a homestead, one mile west of Madoc with his family. He was 69 years of age. He was a firm believer in the fertile soil of Montana and a great booster for Madoc and its community and one of the first to settle in the town. Mr. Morrison was manager of the Black & Orr Lumber Co., and that firm disposed of the business. He has many friends and acquaintances who will be grieved at his death, his presence will be ever missed from among the old settlers of that community for "Dad" as he was familiarly known was of a kindly disposition, a congenial friend to all, and ever ready to assist in community advancement.

Funeral services was held at the farm home last Sunday attended by the Masonic Lodge of Scobey, of which he was a member. His body was laid to rest in the Scobey cemetery, accompanied by his Brother Masons.

The services was most impressive and appropriate. Many beautiful flowers and wreaths were in evidence, while friends from Scobey, Madoc and Flaxville were there to pay their respects and manifest the high esteem in which Mr. Morrison was held by all.

To mourn the loss of a beloved husband and cheerful father, he leaves a wife and six children, four of whom were in attendance at the funeral: George from Malta, James B., Angus M. Jr. and William, all of Madoc. A daughter, Mrs. James I. Robbins of Whitefish, was unable to attend on account of sickness and another married daughter, who was detained by poor train connections until last Monday.

Scobey Ball Team Rounding Into Shape Rapidly

Scobey Sentinel: The Scobey ball team is practicing diligently these days and the various members of the organization are rounding into form for the season's play. The Sentinel has been unable [illegible] as to the arrangements for games that have been made with other [illegible] but it is understood that a series has been [illegible]

The Producers News—$3.00 a year.

FILIPINAS GET BALLOT BEFORE AMER. SISTERS

Senora de Veyra Describes Status of Women in the Philippines.

The Filipino woman is destined to be in the world's spotlight more than ever before as a result of the news just received by cable from Manila to the effect that the Philippine senate has passed the equal suffrage bill giving women full political rights with men. This would indicate that the Filipina may beat her American sisters to the ballot box.

The Filipina has many admirers who predict she will make good if she gets the vote, just as she has made good in the very important role she has occupied in the family and business life of the Philippines ever since the introduction of Christianity in the islands three centuries ago.

"America's advent in the Philippines discovered a wonderfully interesting, responsive little being, the Filipino woman," writes one American concerning

MRS. JAIME C. DE VEYRA,
A Filipina who is doing important work for her people in the United States.

the Filipina. "Mothering the only Christian people in the far east, she holds a place of authority, love and respect in family and social life that is not accorded to women in countries neighboring the islands, or in India, China or Japan."

A Filipina who is doing an important work for her people in the United States is Mrs. Jaime C. de Veyra, wife of the resident commissioner from the Philippines. Not only has she frequently addressed the wives of members of congress in Washington relative to conditions in the new Philippines, but she has visited various cities speaking before women's clubs. The sisters wears, in dining her talks, over the beautiful gowns of her native land, a delicate pineapple fabric, hand-woven and hand-embroidered, she is like a gauzy winged butterfly.

"In many ways the pride of the women of the Philippines is crazy," says Senora de Veyra. "Laws made by her have read and the best of American and Spanish precedents and she has come into her own with far less struggle than either her American or her Spanish sisters. Married women may hold property in severalty. They are guardians of their own children. These are vested rights and cannot be taken away from her.

"Professional opportunities are as good for women as for men in the land from which I come. The Filipina is by custom the dictator in the home. She is usually the keeper of the family treasure. Practically all of the small shops in Manila are conducted by women. Women are already members of the Philippine Bar Association—a thing still impossible in Great Britain. They are also successful as physicians."

Life is really a fifty-fifty proposition for women in the Philippines, according to the senora, who has taken such a prominent part in women's work there that she has sometimes been referred to as "the little mother of them all." She was the assistant matron of the Normal Hall Dormitory for Girls when she married. She speaks English daintily and puts her little talks over with real tact. She has [illegible] children. An evidence of her [illegible] was her action last year in [illegible] so she [illegible] to [illegible] this end at [illegible] she wishes to discuss a [illegible] or a speech."

WILSON HALTS PLAN OF THE ALLIES TO LET UNITED STATES ASSUME DEBTS

Washington.—President Wilson and his cabinet have decided that the allies and Germany must work out their own financial recovery unaided further by the United States. This important decision is understood to have been made at the cabinet meeting on Tuesday of last week.

It was believed to have been precipitated by the financial agreement reached by Premiers Lloyd George and Millerand at their recent conference. This agreement would heavily involve the United States.

The following provisions of the agreement regarded as "inconceivable" by this government are:

That inter-allied debts, such as the French debt to Britain of billions, will be liquidated only as Germany pays off her indemnity. This system would react against the United States, it is held, holding up liquidation of Britain's debt to the United States of billions of dollars.

That there would be a "capitalization" on Germany's indemnity obligations, presumably through the floating of a German bond issue, the bonds to be discounted by the United States in order to given Germany the funds necessary for the resumption of her economic life and to prevent the spread of Bolshevism throughout central Europe.

Both these proposals, it is believed here, in effect would put the United States in the position of underwriting the German indemnity, which is said to have tentatively been set by the allies at $30,000,000,000.

Meeting the Demand

Meeting the demand for more efficient telephone service is just as difficult as meeting the demand on any other public concern--whether it be an over-crowded grocery store, a popular ticket window, a bargain counter or anything else where supply is running short.

Conditions are unusual throughout the entire manufacturing, mercantile and domestic world. Deficiencies in telephone service which have been quite obvious for some time are directly due to these abnormal conditions.

Materials are scarce--manufacturers are not able to meet the demand--telephone supplies cannot be had--the war diverted all activities in other directions, and they are just beginning to come back. Until the normal level is struck, there is bound to be shortage of supplies and this means unavoidable deficiencies.

The telephone service is probably no better or no worse than the general average of the business and domestic routine.

The telephone management is in a vigorous campaign to get its service back to the old standard of speed and accuracy. Patience and co-operation on the part of the public will greatly aid in bringing about mutual satisfaction.

The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co.

CURTAIL EXTRAVAGANCE

SINGLE
JUST ONE EXTRAVAGANCE
TO START WITH!

We Venture the Assertion That You'll Get Along Just as Well, Perhaps a Whole Lot Better Without It.

**SINGLE IT OUT AND CUT IT OUT!
BANK THE SAVINGS!**

'Twill be worth while in a little while.

Sheridan County State Bank

Plentywood Montana