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FIGHT OVER PLAN FOR CIVIL SERVICE

BEHRMAN OPPOSES PLAN ON GROUND MATTER IS PURELY LEGISLATIVE.

WILL CONSIDER ORDINANCE

Sub-committee is Appointed To Review Proposition For New Orleans —Methods of Primary Elections Up For Consideration.

Baton Rouge, La.—Charles Rosen and former Mayor Behrman of New Orleans led opposing sides in a four-hour debate recently before the committee on municipal and parochial corporations of the Constitutional Convention on the subject of civil service for New Orleans. The Rosen side was victorious, the committee finally adopting the following motion by Colonel John P. Sullivan, president of the Orleans Democratic Association:

"Be it resolved, that the subject matter of the Rosen civil service ordinance be and is hereby declared to be a proper subject for consideration by the Constitutional Convention and said ordinance shall be hereafter considered by this committee."

This was followed with the adoption of a motion by Rene A. Viosca, of New Orleans, that a sub-committee of five be appointed to consider the proposition of civil service for New Orleans.

Chairman Wilson Peterman immediately named this subcommittee as follows: Mr. Rosen, Mr. Behrman and Judge Charles F. Claiborne, of New Orleans; Allen Sholars, of Monroe, and E. P. Lee, of Mansfield.

Mr. Behrman told the committee that he did not wish to be understood as opposing civil service, but that he held that it was purely legislative and had no place in the constitution. He was supported in this by W. H. Thompson, of Winnsboro.

Mr. Thompson's motion that the Rosen ordinance be returned to the convention with an unfavorable report "because it is totally legislative," was defeated, Mr. Behrman and only one or two other members of the committee voting for it.

Mr. Rosen, Esmond Phelps, Ivy G. Kittredge and Colonel Sullivan urged that the subject matter of the Rosen ordinance belonged in the fundamental law, and Mr. Behrman and Mr. Thompson asserted that it was purely legislative. A dozen other members of the committee participated in the melange of verbal cross-fire, which reached such a point of intensity that Chairman Peterman used a heavy hammer as a gavel.

The engaging of Mr. Rosen and Mr. Behrman in debate recalled the campaigns of the last eighteen months, and the verbal clashing of these two political foes attracted many convention delegates to the office of Fred J. Grace, registrar of the state land office, where the committee sessions were held.

Messrs. Rosen, Phelps and Kittredge called for the abolition of the "spoils system" of which their political faction, the Orleans Democratic Association, is now in control. They spoke with a frankness that was amazing in political annals. With Colonel Sullivan, they are regarded as the leaders of the anti-ring political organization which defeated the New Orleans machine last September and ousted Behrman from the chair of mayor which he had held for 16 years.

They told the committee plainly that if a strict civil service was not es-

tablished in New Orleans that their organization would be formed in the next campaign to "swing the patronage club" which the old ring used to maintain itself in power for a quarter of a century. They urged that their organization and any other political organization be prevented from following such tactics and that the best method of preventing it was by the appointment of a civil service commission by the governor for long terms.

The Rosen ordinance proposed a commission of three men with overlapping terms at salaries of \$5,000 a year, one to be appointed for six years, one for nine and one for twelve years, and at the end of their respective terms the succeeding appointments to be for twelve years each.

"The methods of running primary elections in this state are a public scandal, and the present system of permitting the use of slush funds in political campaigns is debauching the electorate and should be stopped by a constitutional provision with teeth in it," J. Flood Madison, delegate from Morehouse parish, asserted in a statement before the suffrage committee of the Constitutional Convention recently.

Mr. Payne of Natchitoches introduced an ordinance designed to obviate the necessity for a multiplicity of elections by permitting a general election to take the place of a primary in certain cases. Its provisions are:

"All candidates for offices made elective in this constitution shall be nominated by a primary or primaries to be held by the several political parties as shall be provided by law; provided that where seventy-five per cent of the number of registered voters in the state or in any district or parish or municipality thereof, shall be affiliated with any one political party, there shall be no primary election in the state, or in the district, or in the parish, or the municipality as the case may be, and in such a case may be, and in such a case the legislature shall provide for election of such officials at the general election by first and second choice voting."

An ordinance was introduced by Mr. LaFarge of Avoyelles covering the distribution of public school funds. It provides:

"There shall be free public schools for the white and colored race, separately established by the Legislature throughout the state for the education of all the children of the state between the ages of six and eighteen years; provided, that where kindergarten schools exist, children between the ages of four and six may be admitted into said schools. All funds raised by the state for the support of public schools, except poll taxes, shall be distributed to each parish in proportion to the number of children there is between the ages of six and eighteen years."

The plan of the State Bar Association, more generally known as "the Spencer Plan," for reorganization of the judiciary system of the state, was introduced by Mr. Sholars of Ouachita. The ordinance is in the same form approved by the Bar Association meeting at New Orleans, February 26, with two changes. One change keeps the present judges of the Appellate Courts in office. It provides:

"The chief justice and associate justices of the Supreme Court and the judges of the several courts of appeals now in office or hereafter elected to, but not yet inducted into office, shall be respectively chief justice and associate justices of the Supreme Court and judges of the Courts of Appeals hereby created."

The other change relates to the retirement of judges. It provides:

"Any judge of the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal and District Courts may also be retired either (1) upon his own application, after having reached the age of 70 years and after having served continuously fifteen years in a judicial capacity immediately prior to his application for retirement, and provided proceedings for his removal have not been initiated.

CRISIS IS NEAR IN BRITISH INDUSTRY

GREAT COAL STRIKE IS DRIFTING INTO A DETERMINED STRUGGLE.

WILL USE STERN MEASURES

Industrial Works Plan To Close Down—Nation Awaits Word From Railroad Workers As To Joining Miners.

London.—Signs point to the dispute between the coal miners and the government drifting in the direction of the most serious industrial crisis in recent years.

It is rumored that the government has plans under consideration which are likely still further to inflame the miners, while further emergency regulations will be issued in addition to orders in council giving the various governmental departments which are affected most unlimited powers to take possession of mines, lands, buildings, gas, electric and water supplies, horses, food and forage, and to requisition all kinds of transport, including tramways and light railways, to close ports or harbors, control shipping and cargoes, fix prices of coal and prohibit or regulate the sale and supply of motor fuel.

Much may depend upon the attitude of the government as revealed by the debate in the House of Commons and will decide whether the other sections of the "triple alliance," the railway men and the transport workers, will strike in support of the miners.

The railway men strongly favor a strike, on the ground that when the railways are taken out of government control a similar situation may arise and unless they support the miners now they cannot expect their support should they need it at that time.

Moderate opinion is concentrating in favor of the suggestion offered recently by Alfred Bigland, coalition Unionist, that the so-called de-control bill should be rescinded and the time limit for control fixed for May 30, instead of March 31, thereby giving time for discussion and arrangement of the wage question and the educational position at home and abroad.

John Robert Clynes and Arthur Henderson, the most independent of the Liberals, intend to press this suggestion upon the government.

Germans Threaten Reprisal.

Berlin.—The Berlin hotel proprietors are threatening a boycott of the wines, liquors and cigars produced by former enemy countries, as a reprisal for the occupation of German cities by the allies and the application of the other penalties decided upon at the London reparations conference.

Textile Crisis Grows.

Barcelona.—Textile manufacturers have issued a note declaring that the crisis in that industry is increasing. One hundred and forty factories in Catalonia have closed, says the note, involving the dismissal of 20,000 workers, while 420 more plants are working only three days per week.

Coal Rationing Ordered.

London.—The Board of Trade has issued orders rationing and reducing coal for the British Isles. It is reported streets signs are prohibited, the regulations being virtually identical with those issued during the strike in 1919.

Miners House Wrecked.

Birmingham, Ala.—A house occupied by a white miner at the Coal Mont mines of the Brookside-Pratt Mining Company, 2 miles south of Birmingham, was partly wrecked by dynamite recently.

Mexico To Oust Reds.

Mexico City.—The arrest here of Llan A. E. Gale, American radical and editor of the International Monthly, was made at the personal direction of President Obregon, it was said.

Gen. Haller Fired On.

Warsaw, Poland.—Gen. Joseph Haller, commander-in-chief of the Polish armies, narrowly escaped a bullet fired through the window of a railway car recently, says the Warsaw Gazette.

Wood May Visit Japan.

Washington.—Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood was authorized to accept the invitation extended him by the Japanese government to visit that country after his visit to the Philippines.

Jews Are Persecuted.

Vienna.—Excesses upon the Jews of Budapest, in which a large number were wounded, are reported to have taken place recently according to dispatches received from the Hungarian capital.

Western Electric Prospers.

New York.—Total sales of the Western Electric Company during 1920 amounted to \$206,112,000 as compared to \$206,112,000 as compared with \$135,722,000 for 1919.



GERMANS RELEASE NEUF AND ZIMMER

AMERICANS ARE GIVEN FREEDOM BY ORDER OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT.

Mosbach, Germany.—Carl Neuf and Franz Zimmer have been released from imprisonment here. The sentences of Neuf and Zimmer, both attached to the American army of occupation and under confinement here for their attempt to arrest Grover C. Bergdoll, the American draft evader, have been remitted by the Baden government.

The German authorities said the release was effected at the request of the German federal government, and that it is dependent upon the good behavior of the men. Both the Americans are expected to reach Coblenz in a few days, where neither the Baden nor the federal government will have any authority over them. Suspensions of the sentences are regarded practically as pardons.

The release of the men has aroused great interest in German circles, and already, it is said, a member of the Nationalist party will make it the basis of interpellations when the Reichstag convenes after the Easter recess.

The action of the Baden government in releasing the men was due to representations made by Brig. Gen. H. T. Allen, commander of the American general staff, to the government through a member of the General Staff, who went to Berlin recently and conferred with the German authorities.

Neuf's wife returned to Coblenz from Mosbach, where the two men were jailed, and was delighted by the news of their release. The Rhineland doughboys are preparing for a big welcome and ovation for their comrades, who will be brought by automobile to Coblenz.

Mutiny Charge Dropped.

New Orleans.—United States Commissioner Browne has discharged from custody Philip Bender, Henry Elpan, Hans Rudin, L. Kuprezuff and D. Dorsh, charged with mutiny in connection with a disturbance aboard the Shipping Board vessel City of Alton near Rio de Janeiro.

To Govern Canal.

Washington.—Col. Jay J. Morrow, who has been acting as governor of the Panama Canal Zone, was formally appointed to the governorship recently by President Harding. The president appointed Capt. Sumner E. W. Kittelle of the navy governor of the Virgin Islands.

Lead Price Raised.

New York.—The American Smelting and Refining Company has advanced the price of lead from 4 to 4.10 cents a pound.

Gen. Haines Returns.

Hoboken, N. J.—Brig. Gen. Haines, adjutant of the United States marine corps, has returned here on the steamship Colon after a seven weeks' inspection of marines in Hayti and Santo Domingo.

Is Appointed Consul.

Washington.—Wesley W. Frost, foreign trade adviser of the State Department, has been detailed as consul at Marseilles, France. W. W. Cumberland has been designated acting trade adviser.

Greek Repel Attacks.

Athens.—The Greeks have captured Axghin and held it against 22 Turkish counter-attacks, says the official communication issued recently. Kovalitza also has been taken by the Greeks.

Box Plant Is Burned.

Newbern, N. C.—Fire of an undetermined origin destroyed the Neuse Veneer & Box Co. plant here, entailing a loss to building and stock estimated at between \$75,000 and \$100,000, with \$30,000 insurance.

Berry Records Broken.

New Orleans.—All records have been broken by this spring's shipment of strawberries to Northern markets from the berry-growing parish of Tangipahoa.

FORMER EMPEROR ATTEMPTS RETURN

AUSTRIA CLOSING HER FRONTIERS AGAINST EX-EMPEROR CHARLES.

Vienna.—The entire Austro-Hungarian frontier has been closed by joint action of the two governments pending the final disposition of former Emperor Charles. The Spanish minister here has asked the government for a pass to enable the ex-ruler to cross the country, and it is reported that Charles intends transferring the entire former royal family to Spain.

Semi-official advices from Budapest say the Hungarian regent, Admiral Horthy, is using the attempt of Charles to regain the throne to strengthen his own position as dictator. Admiral Horthy already has arrested several army leaders who appeared inclined to place themselves in the service of the former emperor, the advices say.

The Austrian government is taking every possible precaution to prevent Charles from re-entering the country from Steinamanger, West Hungary, where he has taken refuge. Armed guards from various organizations have been stationed along the frontier to intercept the former emperor should he attempt to recross into Austria. Armories of the association of former officers are under heavy guard to prevent the removal of arms, and homes of all generals in the old imperial army are under police surveillance. It is reported that many officers of the old army are hurrying in groups to towns adjacent to Steinamanger.

Meanwhile the "little entente," comprising Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia and Rumania, has served notice on the Austrian government that troops will be marched into Austria at the slightest indication that former Emperor Charles is to be permitted to remain in the country.

Uneasiness and nervousness prevail among all classes in Vienna, where the situation is considered one of the utmost gravity.

Charles visited Budapest recently, with the idea of taking possession of the Hungarian throne, but was unable to induce the Hungarian government to fall in with his plan, it has been learned from unofficial but excellent sources. The former ruler came to Budapest, accompanied by two friends. He arrived at the palace at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and invited Admiral Horthy, the regent, to turn over the reigns of government to him.

The regent, however, refused and induced the ex-monarch to promise to return to Switzerland.

Steamer Service Resumed.

Washington.—Regular steamer service between Mediterranean and northern Brazilian ports has been begun by the Italian National Navigation Company.

Oklahoma Solons Quit.

Oklahoma City.—By a concurrent resolution adopted by the Senate and House, the eighth session of the Oklahoma legislature has adjourned sine die.

Huge Wireless Station.

Washington.—Work on a wireless station at Shanghai, to be the largest in the world, will begin soon under an agreement between the Chinese government and the Federal Telegraph Company, an American concern, it was announced.

Churchill Is Recalled.

London.—According to the London Daily Express Premier Lloyd George has wired Winston Churchill to leave Egypt immediately for England.

Women Made Eligible.

Nashville, Tenn.—The Tennessee Senate, with one dissenting vote, passed a bill introduced by Mrs. Parks Worley, Tennessee's only woman legislator, making women eligible for public office.

Locomotive Blows Up.

Denison, Texas.—Engineer Perdue is dead and Fireman Went is not expected to live as the result of Missouri, Kansas and Texas freight engine No. 555 blowing up near Cumby, Tex.

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