

of the state of Nebraska is going to stand by the American army and the American government in its fight for democracy, or whether it is going to complete its surrender to the kaiser and continue the retreat that was ordered by the members of the state senate Monday at the dictation of the Hindenburg forces? The people of Nebraska should read carefully the official instructions printed by the German-American alliance, through its president, to the German voters of Nebraska and also compare the names of the men who were endorsed by the German-American alliance, and who were elected last fall, with the names of those who voted in the state senate for the Hindenburg resolution denying the state senate the right to consider the national prohibition constitutional amendment that was submitted by two-thirds of the congress of the United States and to the state legislature as a war measure, and which was adopted with only seven dissenting votes in the lower house of the Nebraska legislature.

The German-American alliance official endorsement has disgraced eighteen members of the Nebraska legislature, and the governor, and compelled them to take a stand against the American government and the American soldiers.

ELMER E. THOMAS.

H. F. CARSON.

Members Dry Legislative Committee.

A NEBRASKA CLEAN-UP

The adjournment of the special session of the legislature leaves Nebraska with its next political task clearly outlined. The state government must be reclaimed and brought into keeping with the character and sentiment of the state. It has been dramatically proved at the special session that the present political control of the state is defiantly misrepresentative of the state.

Nebraska has not been in full control of its state government for nearly ten years. Since the liquor issue reached major importance there has always been some branch of the government, one legislative body or the other or the governorship which certain sinister interests were able to control. The liquor forces captured the house in the Dahlman campaign of 1910. In each election since, they and their allies have won control of the senate and the governor. Nebraska was a state of clean, intelligent people, not subject to liquor control nor the control of the metropolitan interests allied with the liquor machine. It was puzzled to know how, in spite of its contrary intentions, it kept electing a liquor senate of general reactionary character and governors in keeping therewith.

The secret has been lately revealed. We find it in the trail of the German-American alliance in Nebraska politics. "As it has ever been so now it must be our chief concern to re-elect men of approved and liberal dispositions to the state house," says the German-American alliance instruction to German voters. And again: "It is therefore of the utmost importance to elect state senators who oppose nativistic ideas." And also this: "Since most of the republican candidates for state office are outspoken prohibitionists, we recommend the election of most of the democratic candidates, and above all others, of Keith Neville, democratic candidate for governor." The mystery is revealed. We see now how an "army of maneuver" was maintained with notions imported from Germany to turn the scale in Nebraska politics for liquor and what goes with it. We have just seen a

tremendous exhibition of the results of that organization in a governor and a state senate standing rigidly against Nebraska opinion in loyalty to the program of the German-American alliance which had fought and won for them their political victories.

As it is through the democratic party, in the main, that this Hindenburg line was formed and its work performed, the democrats of Nebraska have the greater humiliation and the greater duty. A very moderate attention from republicans, who had the good fortune to lose most of their liquor members a year ago, will result in the nomination of candidates whose sole loyalty is to their constituents, and not to German propagandists and brewers. The democrats have a harder fight. The Hindenburg line will try with old zeal to win the senatorial nominations. It will fight for the senate as Hindenburg is fighting for Amiens. It will have its candidate for governor again. It will be no small job to resist the plunges of the Hindenburg line in the democratic party. Yet that must be done or the name of democrat will be a stench in Nebraska nostrils as long as men remember what has been done in Nebraska in its name.—Nebraska State Journal, April 10.

THE SPECIAL SESSION

The great disappointment to the average citizen of Nebraska must have been the action of the senate majority in refusing to even permit the senate to vote for or against the congressional amendment for the utter overthrow of the liquor traffic in America. The congress and President Wilson had approved the amendment as a war measure for the conservation of food grains. Nebraska's vote for ratification would not put the amendment in force, but it would be a step in that direction. But there was no show to get a vote in the senate. The same senators who were denominated as the wet majority in the regular session one year ago were in full control at this special session. Strong appeals were made to them to ratify the congressional amendment, and thus save for our soldiers the grain which now goes into the brewery vats. Many persons have challenged the loyalty of those senators who refused to ratify the amendment. I do not challenge the loyalty of any member of the senatorial band which made such a strong fight for the brewery programme, but I do sincerely challenge the good judgment of any man who refuses to grant the request of his government in time of war. Let us not forget that this amendment had been passed by congress and approved by President Wilson not alone as a moral measure, but also as a war measure. I fear it will be extremely difficult for those senators who voted in harmony with the wishes of the American brewers to explain the grounds upon which they voted against the wishes of President Wilson and the American congress — difficult for them to explain to their home people why they refused to help the government save food grains for our soldiers over the sea. I did all I could to induce the senate to ratify the amendment. I sincerely regret that the senate majority could not view the situation as I viewed it. Why, I could not have cast a vote against ratification of the amendment. My tongue would not have been able to frame a word in opposition. I do not say that any senator who voted against ratification knowingly voted in favor of sending to the brewery vats grain which will soon be needed as food for our soldiers, but I do say that if I had cast a vote against ratification my companion through the years would

be the haunting fear that I might some day have pointed at my face a finger of scorn, raised by a hungry boy wearing the uniform of my country on the fields of France.—Edgar Howard, Lieutenant-Governor of Nebraska and editor of the Columbus Telegram.

STATE SENATE CONDEMNED

A York, Ncb., dispatch, dated April 7, says: Resolutions were adopted by the churches of York today regarding the action of the governor and senate on the national prohibition amendment:

We are greatly humiliated by the action of the majority of the Nebraska state senate and our governor respecting the national prohibition amendment. The majority of 30,000 for prohibition at the last election leaves no room for doubt regarding the will of the people of Nebraska.

The action of the senate majority respecting their own salaries exposes their own insincerity regarding their power to act on any question not included in the governor's call. Therefore be it

Resolved, First—That we commend and thank the Nebraska State Journal for its exposure of the real motive of these men under the dominance of the German-American alliance and the liquor interests.

Second—That we extend our thanks to our own senator, C. E. Sandall, and his patriotic associates in the senate and house for their loyalty to the people's will.

Third—That we have been pleased with our governor's attitude toward the enforcement of our state prohibition laws, but are greatly shocked by his autocratic refusal to submit the national prohibition amendment to the legislature. We now entreat him to respect the will of the overwhelming majority of the people of our beloved commonwealth by submitting this measure to the legislature now in session.

Fourth—That we unqualifiedly condemn the action of those senators who so grossly misrepresent the people of Nebraska and serve the sinister influences of hypocrisy against which our boys are dedicating their life blood in France.

Fifth—That we entreat the senate to reverse its decision on this question, so vital to victory for the allies in conserving food, money and human life, and give Nebraska her rightful place of honor in history.

SCORES GOVERNOR AND SENATE

[From the Nebraska State Journal, April 7.]

The First Baptist church congregation passed a resolution Sunday morning condemning Governor Neville and the state senators for their stand on the ratification of the national prohibition amendment. Dr. E. Arthur Carr spoke briefly before the resolution was voted on. He urged the passage of the resolution.

At the midweek service of the church Wednesday, E. E. Bennett, C. C. Flansburg and John S. Bishop were appointed a committee to prepare and submit resolutions in regard to the action of the governor and certain state senators in preventing the ratification of the prohibition amendment to the federal constitution. The following resolution was reported by the committee at the morning service yesterday and was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the entire congregation:

"Resolved: That we denounce the action of Governor Keith Neville and the state senators who prevented ratification, at this time, by Nebraska, of the national prohibition constitutional amendment, as contrary to the expressed will of the majority of the people of this state, a shame-

less repudiation of the pre-election pledge of Mr. Neville that, if prohibition carried and he was elected governor, he would support its enforcement, a violation of their duty as representatives and servants of the people and as disloyal and unpatriotic because it weakens and diminishes the ability and resources of our nation to prosecute the war and gives aid and comfort to our enemies."

URGE SENATE TO ACT

[From the Nebraska State Journal, April 8.]

The ministers of Lincoln went on record Monday morning as urging the senate to do its share towards ratifying the national prohibition amendment to the constitution.

At the meeting of the Lincoln ministerial association held Monday morning the following resolution was introduced by Rev. E. A. Tompkins and adopted by the members at the meeting:

Resolved, That the Lincoln ministerial association go on record urging the senate to conform to the house in a favorable consideration of the ratification of the national prohibition amendment.

WOMAN'S CLUB ACTS

[From the Nebraska State Journal, April 9.]

"Resolved that the 1,911 members of the Lincoln Woman's club denounce the action of the state senate and the governor of Nebraska in refusing to ratify the prohibition amendment. This proposed resolution from Miss Helen Seeley, which was passed unanimously at the meeting of the club Monday afternoon, met with a storm of applause and seconds from the crowded Temple theatre. When Mrs. T. J. Doyle, incoming president of the club, undertook a word of intervention for the governor, hisses arose all over the first floor and gallery.

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