

MERGER OF CITIES IS THEME OF TALK BEFORE SENATORS

Delegation from Omaha and Its Suburbs Presents Both Sides of Annexation Problem to Upper House.

BREEN EXPLAINS MEASURE

Insists that Arguments in Favor of Plan Will Offset Demonstration Made.

OPPOSITION MAKES PROTEST

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, Jan. 28.—(Special.)—"We come not with the waving of flags, or the beating of drums or the shouts of people," said John Paul Breen, in opening the argument for a Greater Omaha in the hearing before the committee on municipal corporations in the senate this afternoon. "But with facts to present to this committee of men who will not be swayed by demonstrations of this kind, but will look into the matter from the broad stand of lawmakers."

The senate chamber was crowded to the doors when, after the opening ceremonies of the senate the body adjourned and Chairman Howell of the committee on municipalities took the chair. He announced that speakers against annexation would speak first and would be given one hour in which ten minute speeches could be given. The opposition were given an hour also, after which the anti-annexationists closed their argument in a half hour speech and the other side closed in the same way.

The committee took the bill under advisement, arriving at no decision. Before the hearing began James Walsh of Benson asked that officeholders be deprived of the right to speak, but he was ruled out while the crowd in the gallery applauded loudly.

Charles Hafke, deputy county attorney, speaking for Benson and against annexation, said Benson was unanimous against the bill. "Benson is five miles from the Omaha postoffice and has nothing in common with the city," said he. Largo meetings of Benson citizens had met and protested against annexation. A crowd of fifteen Benson men had declared that they were for annexation and that they represented the Benson Commercial club, but not one of them had paid their dues. "We have many things that Omaha has. We have saloons and we propose to keep them," said he in closing.

On Behalf of Dundee.

J. J. Dodds of the Dodds Lumber company of Dundee said that Dundee was in a position where every dollar paid in was spent in Dundee. He said that Omaha already had additions on the north and south which had been clamoring for recognition in the way of walks, paving, fire protection, etc., but could not get it, and he thought they better take care of what they already had instead of taking in more territory. "Annexation has not been asked for by either Omaha or South Omaha," said D. L. Johnson, an attorney of Dundee, "but a few self-constituted patriots have taken up the matter."

The galleries, which had become most vociferous in their applause, were admonished by Chairman Howell that time was limited and that applause would cut no figure in the deliberations of the committee.

Breen Explains Bill.

"For God's sake, gentlemen," said he, "don't drive the farmer out of business." John Paul Breen, an attorney of Omaha, opened the argument for the annexationists. He said that this city came to the hearing with the friendliest of spirits, with no drum beating or no flags flying and with no bluster. He said (Continued on Page Two, Column Four.)

WHERE EVERYBODY WORKS—German prisoners pushing heavy car along railway track with help of French guards.



German prisoners pushing heavy car along railway track with help of French guards.

FLEHARTY SEES PIE SOON UPON PLATES

Attorney Reports Improvement in Patronage Squabble Since Sprague's Futile Efforts.

SURE OF A COMPROMISE

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—(Special Telegram.)—Colonel H. B. Fleharty and wife of Omaha, who have been visiting relatives here for several days, will leave for Nebraska tomorrow. Colonel Fleharty came east with Arthur Sprague, secretary of the democratic state committee, for the ostensible purpose of doing a bit of laudering by ironing out the very complicated patronage situation as it concerns the Prime state.

Other unselfish persons have attempted the same thing with the same measure of success. Arthur Sprague returned to Nebraska last Saturday, considerably crestfallen over the apparent failure of his mission to bring the two distinguished democrats of this administration, Secretary Bryan and Senator Hitchcock, together on a compromise slate that would be satisfactory to the "boys back home."

Reports Improvement.

Colonel Fleharty said today that conditions are much more rosy than when Mr. Sprague struck the trail for Lincoln. He believed that a compromise would be reached in the near future, as the heads of the Treasury and Department of Justice were insisting that something should be done quickly in order that certain administration measures might be carried out by the friends of the administration. While Colonel Fleharty refused to give even a suggestion as to the probable make-up of the new slate, it being generally understood that some of the Hitchcock recommendations will have to go to insure peace and tranquility, it is believed that the positions of internal revenue collector, United States attorney and marshal will be selected finally from the following list of the faithful: Gruenther, Sprague, Swain, Dahlman, Flynn, Good of Lincoln, Thomas of Seward and Loomis of Fremont.

Two Eliminated.

This list eliminates two of Hitchcock's recommendations, Byrne and Corey, but retains Swain, who stands a good chance of being collector in view of Secretary McAdoo's decision that he must have a lawyer in that place, because of the many troublesome questions growing out of the income tax and war tax measures. Colonel Fleharty is enamored of Washington, and it is just possible a place may be found for him in the Department of Justice.

New Type of Shell Is Used by Germans

LONDON, Jan. 28.—(4:45 p. m.)—A report of recent developments in the war by the official observer attached to British military headquarters given out here today includes a description of new projectiles employed by the Germans. "In some parts of our front the Germans are firing a new type of high explosive shell, detaching with a cloud of thick white smoke," the report says. "Their mine thrower also occasionally throws a very large gray bomb, or aerial torpedo, three feet, nine inches long and nearly ten inches wide. It weighs more than 200 pounds.

"The anticipations of the enemy as to the possible duration of the war," the statement continues, "are shown by the measures they are taking for any shortage in certain classes of food. In some towns orders have been issued that all kitchen refuse not required by the inhabitants to feed to their own animals, shall be saved and handed over to the authorities. Efforts have been made also to gauge the public taste in the matter of preserved meats by selling salted beef, mutton and pork at cost price."

WILSON HOLDS ABC IS NOT A FAIR TEST; VETOES ALIEN BILL

President Declares Not Sure Americans Want to Reverse Policy of Generations of Countrymen.

EFFORT OVERRIDE PRESIDENT

Friends of Measure Will Attempt to Pass It, but Opponents Say Two-Thirds Vote Impossible.

CHIEF STRUGGLE IN THE HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—President Wilson vetoed the immigration bill today and sent a special message to congress saying he disapproved the measure because of the literacy test and other restrictive tests which it proposed as a condition of admission of immigrants to the United States.

President Wilson's message delivered to the house says in part: "It is with unaffected regret that I find myself constrained by clear conviction to return this bill (H. R. 6099), an act to regulate the immigration of aliens to and the residence of aliens in the United States, without my signature.

Closes Right of Asylum.

"In two particulars of vital consequence this bill embodies a radical departure from the traditional and long-established policy of this country, a policy in which our people have conceived the very character of their government to be expressed, the very mission and spirit of the nation in respect of its relations to the peoples of the world outside their borders. It seeks to shut close entirely the gates of asylum which have always been open to those who could find nowhere else the right and opportunity of constitutional agitation for what they conceived to be the natural and inalienable rights of men, and it excludes those to whom the opportunities of elementary education have been denied without regard to their character, their purposes or their natural capacity.

"Restrictions like these adopted earlier in our history as a nation would very materially have altered the course and cooled the humane ardors of our politics. The right of political asylum has brought to this country many a man of noble character and elevated purpose, who was marked as an outlaw in his own less fortunate land and who has yet become an ornament to our citizenship and to our citizenship and to our public councils.

Restriction Instead of Selection.

"The literacy test and the tests and restrictions which accompany it constitute an even more radical change in the policy of the nation. Heretofore we have generously kept our doors open to all who were not unfitted by reason of disease or incapacity for self-support or such personal records and antecedents as were likely to make them a menace to our peace and order or to the wholesome and essential relationships of life. In this bill it is proposed to turn away from tests of character and of quality and to impose tests which exclude and restrict; for the new tests here embodied are not tests of quality or of character or of personal fitness, but tests of opportunity. Those who come seeking opportunity are not to be admitted unless they have already had one of the chief of the opportunities they seek—the opportunity of education. The object of such provisions is restriction, not selection.

People Hope Not Spoken.

"If the people of this country have made up their minds to limit the number of immigrants by arbitrary tests and so reverse the policy of generations of Americans who have gone before them it is their right to do so. I am their servant and have no license to stand in their way. But I do not believe that they have, respectfully submit that no one can quite so lightly and so carelessly disregard the rights of the people as to propose a policy of restriction in this fundamental matter, gone to the country on it and been commissioned to control its legislation. Does this bill rest upon the conscious and universal assent and desire of the American people? I doubt it. It is because I doubt it that I make bold to dissent from it. I am willing to abide by the verdict, but not until it has been rendered, until the platforms of parties speak out upon this policy and the people pronounce their wish. The matter is too fundamental to be settled otherwise."

Will Come Up in One Week.

The reading of the message evoked applause on the democratic side and from some republicans. "At the proper time," said Representative Burnett, chairman of the immigration committee, "I shall move a reconsideration of the vote by which the bill passed the house and that it be passed over the president's veto. I do not believe snap judgment on anybody. No one who favors this bill has had any time when this message would come in. The message in itself, in its four corners, gives good reason why the bill should become law."

The veto message was referred to the immigration committee from which Chairman Burnett said he would ask for a return to the house one week from today. The veto will not come before the senate until it has been acted upon in the house.

WEST NEBRASKANS ARE PRESENTED TO WILSON

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—(Special Telegram.)—Judge Kinkaid today presented to President Wilson visitors from his district, Fred A. Wright of Scott's Bluff and A. M. Sands and James Westervelt of Gering.

Germans Report Two Important Victories on the Western Front

BERLIN, Jan. 28.—(By Wireless to London)—Victory for German troops in two important engagements along the western front is announced in an official communication from the war office today. In the region of Craonne another section of the trenches of the allies was captured, the report states, and in upper Alsace, the French retreated in disorder after suffering heavy losses in attacks on the German positions. In the eastern campaign two small defeats of the Russians are reported. The statement says: "Western theater of war: The villages of Middlekerke and Klype, on the coast of Flanders, were bombarded by the enemy's artillery. "In the heights of Craonne another 500 metres of trenches adjoining on the east of the position were captured on the day before yesterday, were taken from the enemy. French attacks were repulsed without difficulty. "The enemy has suffered heavy losses in the battles between the 25th and the 27th of January. Over 1,500 dead Frenchmen were counted on the battlefields, including those reported on the 27th, 1,500

prisoners fell into the hands of our troops. "In the Vosges several French attacks in the neighborhood of Senones and Ban De Supt were repulsed with considerable losses to the enemy. One officer and fifty Frenchmen were taken prisoners. Our losses were quite small. "In upper Alsace, along the front line, the French attacked our position at Aspach, Heitweller, Ammerweller and on the Wurzbacher forest. Their attacks were repulsed everywhere with heavy losses to the enemy. Their losses were especially large south of Heitweller and Ammerweller, where the French retreated in disorder. Five French machine guns were captured. "Eastern theater of war: Unimportant attempts of the enemy to make an attack northeast of Gumbinnen were repelled. "Near Bismunz, to the northeast of Sierpoc, near the west Prussian border in Poland, a Russian division was repulsed. Otherwise there are no changes in Poland."

FRENCH REPORT MANY SUCCESSES

Paris War Office Says Attempts to Celebrate Kaiser's Birthday Disastrous to Germans.

ALL ATTACKS ARE REPULSED

PARIS, Jan. 28.—The French War office this afternoon gave out an official account of the hostilities as follows: "January 27 was the anniversary of the birthday of Emperor William of Germany. Our adversaries announced for this day a very particular effort, but it was made by them it did not result to their advantage. "The day was a good one for us along all the front. Every German attack was repulsed, while every French attack made progress. "In Belgium the positions of the enemy were shelled and several of his trenches were demolished. To the south of the Lys the British artillery shelled the roads over which the German troops were moving, as well as the points where they were assembling. "In the sectors of Arras, Albert, Roye, Noyon and Soissons there was intermittent cannonading and rifle firing at various points. The infantry of the enemy endeavored to come out of its trenches to attack, but it was at once driven back by severe fire. "In the region of Craonne the total losses suffered by the Germans on the 25th and the 26th of January undoubtedly reached the equal of one brigade (a brigade in the German army totals 6,000 men). The German prisoners in our hands all are under the impression that they have been strongly checked. Our losses in dead, wounded and missing for these two days are about 800 men, and they can be explained by two things—first, the severity of the fighting, and second by a partial landslide in an old quarry in which two companies of French soldiers had taken shelter during the bombardment."

RUSSIAN ADVANCE IN EAST PRUSSIA

Czar's War Office Also Reports Repulse of German Offensive Movements in Poland.

BIG BATTLE FOUGHT IN GALICIA

PETROGRAD, Jan. 28.—The general staff of the Russian army today gave out a communication on the progress of the fighting with the Teutonic allies. It is dated January 27 and reads as follows: "In east Prussia fighting has continued in the region of Malwischken and Ladehnen. "On the right bank of the lower Vistula there took place again an artillery engagement and encounters with advanced parties of the enemy. In front of this river, in the neighborhood of Skempe, we were successful in forcing back several German battalions. "The night of January 26 and the day following saw no important change on the left bank of the Vistula. The Germans, however, delivered reiterated attacks against our front in the vicinity of Bolimow, but in every case they were driven back. During one of the engagements some of the detachments of the enemy who have been successful in gaining our trenches were dispatched at the point of the bayonet. "Attacks by the enemy in the vicinity of the villages of Rabskebudy and Kamion have resulted in failure. "In the course of January 28 our artillery bombarded with success the lines of the enemy and reduced to silence a German battery located at the village of...

Bunny Hug Must Go From South Dakota; Debate Nepotism

PIERRE, S. D., Jan. 28.—(Special Telegram.)—That the "bunny hug" has outlived its usefulness and must go is the opinion of Ruckman, a bachelor member of the legislature from Brown county. There are so many new dances since two years ago that all covered by that bill are forgotten. And Ruckman wants the law out of the way. The house committee has also reported in favor of the senate bill to discard another act of two years ago in the Richardson "wapping" bill, which was passed through under threat of the referendum if not enacted.

Attempt Made to Kill King of Greece

LONDON, Jan. 28.—An Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen gives a report that an attempt was made several days ago to assassinate King Constantine of Greece. This report is considered to be completely untrue by the Constantinople, which says that the authority for the report is the statement of travelers arriving at Constantinople. The attempt on the life of the king, according to the rumor, was made at Patras, Greece.

Commission Will Investigate All Transport Issues

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the federal commission on industrial relations, announced today that the commission would conduct in Chicago an investigation into the entire transportation conditions of the country, the relations between railroads and their employees and conditions among the workers. This investigation, Mr. Walsh announced, will begin within a few days after the commission concludes its hearings here, probably the latter part of next week. He said he could not at this time make public the names of witnesses who will be summoned to testify in Chicago.

LARGE ARMIES FIGHT FOR PASS IN CARPATHIANS

Great Austro-German Force is Attempting to Stem Invasion of Upper Hungary and Province of Bukovina.

TURKS ON EGYPTIAN FRONTIER

Advance Scouts of Army Advancing Over Three Routes Virtually on Edge of Suez Canal.

MANY BATTLES ON WEST LINE

The Day's War News

OFFICIAL REPORTS of the war are in such conflict that the outcome of recent hostilities, particularly in the west, is left in doubt. In Upper Alsace break fighting has been resumed and the battle of Craonne continues with undiminished severity. SEVERE FIGHTING is in progress in the Transcaucasus, where the Turks, notwithstanding their reported defeat recently, are admitted by the Russian military authorities to have assumed again an energetic offensive. An official communication from Petrograd says that the Turks made a series of attacks, but were thrown back with heavy losses. An official announcement from Constantinople, however, says that the Turks inflicted a defeat on the Russians in the Caucasian region. GREAT BATTLE has developed in Galicia along a 100-mile front skirting the Carpathians. This struggle, which is in pursuance of the new Austro-German plan of shifting the weight of attack from central Poland to the south, may mark a turning point in the campaign in the east, and both the Russians and Teutons attach the highest importance to the outcome. REPEATED GERMAN attacks were made along the Warsaw front and at one point on the Bura the attackers broke through to the Russian trenches. The Russian statement says that later they were expelled at the point of the bayonet. GERMANS have renewed their assault in the neighborhood of Solonca, where recently they won a decisive victory. In Alsace the fighting is less intense on account of the heavy snow.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The Carpathian passes in western Galicia, Egypt, and the Caucasus, by reason of the sudden offensive of armies heretofore defeated, are again to the fore today as the chief areas of interest in the military operations.

In the Carpathians a big force of Austro-Germans has been concentrated and is fighting not only to stem the invasion of Hungary, but, if possible to cut off the Russian forces occupying Bukovina to the south, in Egypt the Turkish advance appears really to have begun. In the Caucasus the shattered Turks have more or less reorganized and paused in their flight toward their own frontier and resumed the offensive.

Both Vienna and Petrograd emphasize the importance of the Austrian operations in the Carpathians. The Austrians claim the recapture of certain mountain passes and Petrograd concedes that the Austrians have thrown fresh men into this region and are evincing activity along the entire Galician front.

Turks in Sinai Peninsula.

While it is not probable that any considerable body of Turks has yet penetrated the Sinai peninsula, their advance scouts are virtually at the edge of the Suez canal, having moved along the caravan route near the Mediterranean. It is believed that another column plans to advance through the center of the

(Continued on Page Three, Col. Three.)

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Friday: For Omaha, Council Bluffs and Vicinity Fair; slowly rising temperature. Temperature at Omaha Yesterday: High 54, Low 34, etc.

Comparative Local Record.

Table with columns for date, high, low, and other weather statistics for Omaha and surrounding areas.

L. A. WELSH, Local Forecaster.

ZAPATA CAPTURES PRESIDENT GARZA

Latest Provisional Chieftain of Mexico Falls Into Hands of Southern Bandit.

CARRANZA MEN AT GUADALUPE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Roque Gonzales Garza, acting head of the government at Mexico City, whose flight from the capital was officially reported to the State department today by American Consul Hillman, has been taken a prisoner to Morelos by Zapata forces, according to advices to the Carranza agency today from San Antonio. State department advices said a number of other officials accompanied Garza in his flight and that it was the intention of the acting head of the government to establish a temporary seat at Cuernavaca, a short distance south of the capital.

Carranza Forces Near.

A dispatch to the Carranza agency from Mexico City said the Carranza troops were four miles outside the city, and that the Zapata forces were evacuating, going toward Cuernavaca. Another report said Monterey was occupied last night by Carranza forces. El Paso informed the agency that Villa forces admitted the loss of fourteen cannon and field pieces at the fall of Guadalupe.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 28.—A telephone message just received here (11:30 a. m.) announces that the advance guard of the Carranza army is entering Guadalupe, a suburb four miles north of the capital. The forces of General Zapata have retreated without fighting. The main body of the invading army is at Tixapam, seven miles south of Mexico City. The indications are that the capital will be evacuated without resistance.

Call Rule Favored Western Shippers

CHICAGO, Jan. 28.—More testimony favorable to the call rule of the Board of Trade was presented today in the hearing of the government's suit against the Chicago Board of Trade under the anti-trust act. Hiram J. Sauer, formerly a director and president of the board, testified that the call rule gave a better outlet to the market. "After the call rule was established in 1906," said the witness, "there was a broadening of the market to the advantage of the western shippers."

David H. Harris, a Board of Trade member, testified that the net result of the call rule was to raise the prices paid to shippers at least one-half cent a bushel by reason of enabling the broker to handle the grain under a small margin of profit.

PROFESSOR SHOOTS MAN HE THOUGHT WAS BURGLAR

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 28.—Prof. W. F. Allen of the anatomy department, University of Minnesota, was taken in custody by the police today pending an investigation by the grand jury into the death of Earl Nyall, who was shot and fatally wounded in an alleged attempt to enter the Allen home early today. Nyall died four hours after the shooting at a hospital, where, attendants said, he had explained that he believed it was his own home he was entering. Prof. Allen devoted his time in his cell today to making examination papers. He asserted he had ordered Nyall to "halt" as the latter started from the house, and fired only when Nyall increased his speed.

Coming—An answer to the article of Andrew Carnegie by Dr. Bernhard Dernburg, formerly in the German diplomatic service—Read it in the Sunday Bee.

Useless to you

but valuable to someone else. This means those odd pieces of furniture, carpets, rugs, musical instruments or other articles that you have lying around or stored away.

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