

GERMAN PRISONERS UNDER BOLSHEVİK KILL OFF THOUSANDS

RUSSIAN RULERS STRIVE TO CAPTURE ESCAPED SOLDIERS

AUSTRO-GERMAN WAR PRISONERS KILL HUNDREDS IN FINNISH CITY CARRYING OUT ORDERS OF RUSSIAN SOVIET THAT RUSSIAN DESERTERS BE DRIVEN FROM CITY

LONDON, February 27.—Hundreds of people have been reported killed in the city of Helsingfors, Finland, in battles between Austro-German war prisoners and Russian deserters. The Austro-German war prisoners were attempting to carry out orders of the Russian soviet to rid the Finnish city of thousands of Russian deserters who had fled there for refuge from the Bolsheviki.

Washington.—Every effort by the state department to secure the release of an American citizen named Kolomatiano, condemned to death by the Bolsheviki, had been met with demands that either Eugene V. Debs or Thomas J. Mooney be exchanged for Kolomatiano. It also was said the Bolsheviki had offered to release American Consul Townsend, who was arrested some time ago, if either Debs or Mooney was pardoned.

The state department today made public this statement obtained from a man who was imprisoned with Kolomatiano in Moscow: "Kolomatiano was condemned to death by the Bolsheviki government on Dec. 3, 1918, and was incarcerated in the Kremlin at Moscow under particularly rigorous conditions. As late as Jan. 17 he was kept in a cell closely guarded by twelve soldiers of the Red army, whose conversation constantly dwelt upon revolutionary politics and particularly the expediency of slaying all foreigners in Russia."

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF N. P. A.

Successful Session Held at Lincoln, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 20-21-22

The annual business meeting of the Nebraska Press Association, which was held at Lincoln last Thursday, Friday and Saturday, was fairly well attended. Nearly all of the program as rendered was interesting to the newspaper men and visitors in attendance, and in point of real benefit to the fraternity the session was considered one of the best ever held.

The opening meeting was held at the Hotel Lincoln, Thursday afternoon, at which an address of welcome was delivered by Mayor J. E. Miller and a response by Hon. Dennis Cronin, editor of the O'Neill Frontier and state senator from Holt county.

The big event was the banquet given by the Lincoln Commercial Club, Thursday evening, at which addresses were made by Governor McKelvie and others, and music was furnished by the Doane College Ladies' Glee Club. Gov. Allen of Kansas was to have given an address but could not be present on account of being called east. His place on the program was ably filled by Hon. Addison E. Sheldon, who recently returned from the war zone in France.

The program for Friday and Saturday was interesting chiefly to editors and printers, but contained much that patrons of newspapers and job printing offices could have listened to with pleasure and profit.

Following the usual custom, the vice president was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year, it being understood that the newly elected vice president will be elevated to the office of president a year hence. It is also the custom to elect alternately a republican and a democrat to the office of vice president. Following officers of the association were elected:

Will C. Israel, Havelock, president. E. R. Purcell, Broken Bow, vice president. O. O. Buck, Harvard, secretary. W. O. Edgecombe, Geneva, treasurer.

Members of executive committee: Clark Perkins, Aurora; J. H. Walsh, Crete; Don Van Dusen, Blair; Hugh McGaffin, Polk.

Upon invitation of the people of Sterling, presented by A. B. Wood, editor of The Gering Courier, and Will M. Maupin, editor of The Gering Mid-West, it was decided, by unanimous vote, to make that city headquarters for a summer excursion, some time in August, the exact date to be left to the executive committee. John W. Thomas represented The Alliance Herald, in charge of the round table Friday afternoon.

Brief as this report is, it should state that The Nebraska Printer, so ably edited by the retiring secretary, A. D. Scott, was again made the official paper of the association.

A real live, honest-to-goodness jockey club was organized at Bridgeport last week which promises to furnish some diversion for the lovers of racing during the summer. The new-born club contemplates a three-day meet with the fastest horses in the state participating.

POTASH HIGHWAY CONVENTION HELD SENECA TUESDAY

Two Hundred Delegates Attended Annual Meeting and Banquet Tuesday at Seneca

ENTHUSIASM WAS UNBOUNDED Live Wires from Alliance Attended and Took Active Part—Excellent Reports

Nearly two hundred good roads enthusiasts from the territory along the Burlington from Grand Island to Alliance attended the first annual meeting and banquet of the Potash Highway Association, held at Seneca on Tuesday, February 25.

Speakers on the program included M. J. Cox, cashier of the Stockmen's Bank of Seneca; Dr. F. W. Bass of Broken Bow; J. L. Housekeeper of Lincoln, for the Portland Cement Association; a report by the secretary, W. D. Fisher of Alliance; a report from the field manager, W. R. Dutton of Merna; an address by S. E. Smyth, secretary of the Omaha Automobile Club; discussion led by A. F. Merritt, consulting engineer for the state highway commission; and a descriptive address by Jay Higgins, supervisor of the government forest reserve at Halsey.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were: President, J. C. Moore, Anselmo; vice president, John M. Turner, Theford; secretary, Lloyd C. Thomas, Alliance; treasurer, C. C. Campbell, Mullen.

Reports from the delegates showed that a large amount of the preliminary work for the Potash Highway had been completed and that the securing of the balance of the right-of-way and the preliminary surveys would be completed during the next few months.

During the past year the sandhill counties have been particularly active in laying their plans for the building of the highway.

The general opinion of the delegates was that the Potash Highway would be completed within four years and that it would be a hard-surfaced highway from Grand Island to Alliance, built with the assistance of the state and national government under the federal aid provisions.

Those attending from Alliance included E. G. Laing, C. E. Clough, Glen Miller, W. D. Fisher, Otto Zamzow, A. D. Rodgers, W. C. Mounts, J. M. Miller, Roy Close, C. Myers, W. T. Craven, W. R. Harper and Lloyd C. Thomas.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MAY CONVERT POLICIES

War Risk Bureau Works Out Plan for Six Kinds of Insurance Available to Soldiers

Washington.—Conditions under which soldiers or sailors now holding government life insurance may convert these policies within five years into other forms which can be carried with the government during their lifetime were announced today by Colonel Henry D. Lendsey, of the war risk insurance bureau. Rates will be made public soon and the new policies will not be available until then.

There will be six different kinds of insurance—ordinary life, twenty-payment life, thirty payment life, twenty-year endowment, thirty years endowment and endowment payable at the age of sixty-two. All policies will contain clauses providing that in case of permanent total disability of the insured man, the government will make monthly payments to him and premium payments will cease. This amounts virtually to old age pensioning and disability insurance and insures that no man who has served in the army or navy need ever be destitute if he carries the government insurance.

All policyholders will participate in dividends, and earnings of over 3 1/2 per cent from the insurance fund will go into dividends. Since the reserves will be invested in government securities, it is certain that there will be large dividends to be (Continued on Page 4.)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INITIATE BIG CLASS

Special Services in Alliance Sunday Were Followed by Banquet in Alliance Armory

At special services held in Alliance on Sunday forty candidates were initiated by the Knights of Columbus. There were a number of visitors from out of the city.

At 7 o'clock a banquet was served to two hundred people at the armory by the Cater Service of the Alliance hotel. Music for the banquet was furnished by the Alliance String Quintette. The toastmaster was J. C. Morrow, Grand Knight of Alliance council. Interesting and appropriate talks were made by Acting Mayor L. H. Highland, President J. S. Rhein of the community club, County Judge Ira E. Tash and Lloyd C. Thomas.

The program for the day was finished at Reddish hall following the banquet. There was a strong feeling of good fellowship and interesting speeches were made by both local and visiting Knights.

Ground is being broken for the new school building at Bayard. The school board is making capital of the exceptional weather and pushing the work as fast as is possible.

AN ENTERTAINMENT BY THE WOMAN'S CLUB

Alliance's Live Women's Organization Will Entertain at Imperial on March 6

The Alliance Woman's Club has been very active in war work during the months in which our country and soldiers needed help, with the result that the club treasury is now at low ebb. In order to replenish the treasury the patriotic and energetic women who compose the membership of the club will entertain at the Imperial theatre on Thursday evening, March 6, taking the time usually given to vaudeville.

The club is to receive as its share of the proceeds fifty per cent of the receipts of the evening. The members are lending every assistance to those who will take part. Officers of the club are: Mrs. W. W. Norton, president; Mrs. Lee Basye, secretary; Mrs. L. L. Smith, treasurer.

The program for next Thursday evening will be as follows: Vocal Solo—Mrs. Vernon C. Bennett of Omaha. Skirt Dance—Miriam Harris. Vocal Duet—Mesdames Rhein and Bennett. Reading—Mrs. Ray Stansbury. Vocal Solo—Mrs. J. S. Rhein. Song and Clog Dance—TOPSY.

MITCHELL PALMER IS THE NEW UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL

PRESIDENT WILSON APPOINTS CUSTODIAN OF ALIEN PROPERTY DURING WAR AS SUCCESSOR TO GREGORY—PRESIDENT TO MAKE ONE MORE PUBLIC SPEECH

WASHINGTON, February 27.—The appointment of A. Mitchell Palmer, custodian of alien enemy property during the war, as successor to Attorney General Gregory was announced today. The appointment will take effect on March 1st.

WASHINGTON.—President Wilson will make one more public speech during his short stay in this country, before his return to France on March 5th. He will speak in New York City on the night of March 4th.

LONDON.—In the sanctuary of England's honored dead, Westminster Abbey, where kings, statesmen and poets lie in their eternal sleep, there assembled today the most notable personages of the British empire to witness the most brilliant social event of the reign of King George—the marriage of Princess Patricia Connaught to Commander Alexander Ramsay of the Royal Navy. This is the first royal wedding in the Abbey in six hundred years.

PARIS.—Premier Clemenceau left his residence at 1:55 o'clock Wednesday afternoon for the first time since he was shot last Wednesday. The premier's face, which showed signs of the fever he had suffered from, bore a pleased smile in acknowledgment of the greetings of a large crowd which was watching for him.

COMPANY G SOLDIER SUFFERS IN HOSPITAL

Harvey Benjamin, Alliance Soldier Gassed in France, Is in Hospital at Fort Riley

Harvey Benjamin, aged 23 years, son of Charley Benjamin of Alliance, is seriously ill in the army hospital at Fort Riley. Harvey was one of the members of Company G and was gassed while in France. His lungs and stomach are in terrible shape, and his father, who visited him a week ago, has no hope for his recovery.

In addition to having a son in the war, Mrs. Benjamin has five nephews, two of whom were killed; one other being gassed; and one other wounded. Mr. Benjamin was in the city the first of the week looking after his property interests here. He expects soon to return to the bedside of his son at Fort Riley.

SECOND NEBRASKA ROAD INSTITUTE

The second Nebraska Road Institute will be held during the week of March 10 to 14 at the University of Nebraska. All Nebraska engineers, surveyors, highway commissioners and others interested in the improvement, construction and maintenance of Nebraska's public roads are invited. The institute was inaugurated last year with an attendance of nearly 200, and with nearly every county in the state represented. Some of the subjects to be discussed this year are: Nebraska's New Road Laws, Proposed Change of the Federal Act of 1916, Financing Hard Surface Roads, Construction and Maintenance of Different Types of Road Surfaces, Stone and Gravel Concrete Work, Location and Preservation of Corners and Land Surveys, Preliminary Surveys for permanent roads, Sand Hill Roads, and Tractors.

Willis Wolfe, son of Mrs. Emma Wolfe, arrived in Alliance Friday. He served several months with the American forces in France and has just received his honorable discharge from the army.

"EYES OF THE WORLD" AT IMPERIAL THEATRE

Remarkable Story of California by Noted Author to Be Seen in Films in Alliance

Readers of "The Eyes of the World" in book form will recall in that remarkable story of California many people and situations that should provide rare opportunities for character portrayal. For this reason many who were charmed by Harold Bell Wright's graphic and melodramatic romance of California will probably see in the elaborate film version at the Imperial theatre on Saturday and Sunday a drama of absorbing interest and strength along these lines.

As for their opportunities take, for instance, the character of LeGrange, the cynical writer, as revealed in his own words in the novel: "Workin'! Me? I don't work anywhere. I am a literary scavenger. I hunt the intellectual slaughter pens and live by the putrid offal that self-respecting writers reject. I glean the thinking materials for my stories from the sewers and cesspools of life. For the dollars they pay I furnish my readers with those thrills that public decency forbids them to experience at first hand. My books breed moral pestilence and spiritual disease. The unholy filth I write fouls the minds and pollutes the imaginations of my readers. I am an instigator of degrading immorality and unmentionable crimes. Work! No, young man, I don't work. Just now I'm doing penance in this damned town. My rotten imaginings have proven too much, even for me—and the doctors have sent me west to recuperate."

How are the funds obtained to finance the hard surfaced roads? The cost of grading and an additional \$2,000 per mile is supplied from federal and state funds. The balance of the expense is borne by the county and the property owners adjacent to the roads.

Does the present appropriation of federal and state funds provide adequate means to complete the improvement of roads as planned? It does not. Moreover, the counties are not able under the constitution to provide the money in addition to carrying on their present county road system.

How then is it proposed to raise (Continued on Page 4.)

UNITED STATES TO SAVE WORLD IS WORD OF PRESIDENT WILSON

PRESIDENT ASSERTS LEAGUE OF NATIONS TO FAIL IF U. S. STAYS OUT—BOTH SIDES STILL HAVE BIGGEST CARDS TO PLAY IN FINAL PEACE CONFERENCES

WASHINGTON, February 27.—That both sides to the controversy over the league of nations still have their biggest cards to play is the official Washington opinion today, when the discussions of the members of the foreign relations committees at the dinner Wednesday evening with President Wilson became known to both houses of congress.

The president told members of the committees that unless the United States entered the league of nations the league would fail and chaos and turmoil beyond description would result in Europe. Views of the Republican members opposing the league constitution as reported to the peace conference apparently were not changed by the conference.

The president was said to have told the senators and representatives that the league constitution adopted was proposed by Great Britain, but was not the one drawn by General Smuts, one of the British authorities on the league proposal. Drafts presented by the United States, France and Italy were rejected.

Chairman Hitchcock of the senate committee said the president held that decisions of the league's executive council on disarmament would not be binding until specifically approved by each signatory nation, and that consequently the American congress would have the opportunity to pass on the apportionment of armament for every nation concerned. The president said this section had been misconstrued.

Concerning the clause giving the right to the league to consider acts threatening world peace, President Wilson said that the clause was indefinite, and would be made more clear by writing in a safeguard which would require that every recommendation by the council should be unanimous.

It was also said that the president informed the senators and representatives that the disarmament provision would not interfere with the military training of men, but that it was evident that a trained body of men would not be a danger to world peace if their armament supplies were kept in check.

Mr. Wilson said the provision for enforcement of the determination of the council in case it was disobeyed by any nation would apply in only one case, and that where the party against whom a decision was rendered had property, including territory, in its possession, which it would not surrender.

In conceding that some sovereignty must be surrendered by membership in the league the president declared it was inconceivable that there could be any concert action by nations to eliminate war and protect the weak unless each nation was willing to give up something.

What action did the legislature two years ago take with regard to road improvement? (1) It appropriated \$219,000 to meet the first three years of federal appropriation for highway construction. (2) It pledged the state and the 1919 session of the legislature to appropriate funds to meet the federal appropriation for 1919 and 1920. (3) It authorized the state board of irrigation, highways and drainage to cooperate with the county officials in laying out a system of roads for the state.

What plan was followed by the state board in mapping out the proposed system of highways? (1) Only roads approved by the United States department of agriculture were chosen. (2) The system of roads connects all of our county seats with each other and with the main highways. (3) These roads to be improved were selected on the basis of the most benefit to the greatest number of people.

Who would be benefited by the establishment of this system of state highways? (1) Everybody in the state would be benefited indirectly through the greater general prosperity following the improvement of roads. (2) Three-fourths of the population of Nebraska would be benefited directly because 75 per cent of our people live on, or within four and a half miles of this system of roads. (3) Plans and specifications have been prepared for 952 miles of railroads. (2) Sixteen hundred miles of roads have been surveyed. (3) Contracts have been let for 215 miles of roads at an aggregate cost of \$528,678.

What kind of roads are being planned? All of the 215 miles of roads under contracts are to be of earth construction with permanent bridges and culverts, except 3 1/4 miles of sand-clay road in Hall county, and 5 1/2 miles of brick road in Lancaster county.

How are the funds obtained to finance the hard surfaced roads? The cost of grading and an additional \$2,000 per mile is supplied from federal and state funds. The balance of the expense is borne by the county and the property owners adjacent to the roads.

Does the present appropriation of federal and state funds provide adequate means to complete the improvement of roads as planned? It does not. Moreover, the counties are not able under the constitution to provide the money in addition to carrying on their present county road system.

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REGISTRATION FOR IMPROVEMENT OF STATE HIGHWAYS

Status of Road Matters Prepared by Highways Transport Committee Council of Defense

80 NEW HIGHWAYS FOR STATE

Status of Legislation Analyzed by Questions and Answers Sent Out by Educational Division

There is much discussion of the road situation in western Nebraska just now and many inquiries are made as to the status of the legislation passed by the lawmakers of the state during the past two years. The following questionnaire sent out by the Educational division, Highways Transport Committee, National Council of Defense, of which State Engineer George E. Johnson is chairman, explains the matter fully and will be read with interest by those who have become enthused with the good roads building program.

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