

COUNCIL OF DEFENSE MAKES STATEMENT

DEMANDS THAT SENTIMENT FOR AMERICA BE DOMINANT OVER ALL ELSE.

SCORES A DISLOYAL ELEMENT

Seeks to Arouse Patriotic Citizens of the State to a Real- ization of the Serious Situation that Confronts Them—The Council's Statement.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

The state council of defense, in a public statement makes an appeal to the people of Nebraska for an aroused public sentiment along patriotic lines, and makes a special appeal to the "men and women which comprise the Lutheran church membership to put a check on the un-American activities of some of their conspicuous and influential representatives." The statement, but speaks approvingly of the University of Nebraska and its management, but deplores the fact that some members of the faculty have persistently "given encouragement, publicly and privately, to those out of harmony with the American cause."

An explanation of the charge made against leaders of the Lutheran church a member of the state council of defense says:

"We cannot designate from our information any branch or organization of the Lutheran church. The complaints come to us from many sections of the state where different Lutheran churches exist. The charges that some of the leaders of the churches get as near actionable language as possible without going over the brink in their criticism of the country and its war purposes. We get the information directly from patriotic people of the state in the most concise manner possible when we say 'representatives of the Lutheran church.'"

The Statement

The statement follows:
"Lincoln, Neb., July 19.—To the people of Nebraska: After the most serious and solemn investigation and consideration, the Nebraska state council of defense deems it to be its duty to present certain facts to the patriotic people of Nebraska in order that they can have timely information as to the situation in this state."

"On the whole Nebraska is intensely patriotic. It has contributed generously in the way of Red Cross subscriptions, Liberty bond purchases and voluntary enlistments. But reports come from various sections of the state relating to un-American words and conduct, verging all the way from utterances of treasonable character to direct acts and words of disloyalty and embarrasments put upon the American citizenry. These reports would be unbelievable but for the fact that they come in such large numbers and from so many discreet and responsible men."

"Many cases reported by individuals were, upon investigation found to be exaggerated. The council adopted the policy of assuming that many of the so-called treasonable utterances were due to thoughtlessness and proceeded along educational lines. In a number of instances personal friends of the offending persons were assigned to call upon them for the purpose of trying to convince them of the importance of American standing united behind the government in the present struggle."

"In the meantime, complaints innumerable continued to reach the state council. When the Liberty bonds were in process of sale, a number of bankers reported to the state council that they had been threatened with withdrawal of deposits in the event they purchased Liberty bonds or participated in their sale. The council issued a warning calling attention to the fact that such threats amounted to treason and would be so treated. This warning had wholesome effect. Under the same circumstances the secretary of the state banking board wrote to the various national and state banks of Nebraska, making inquiry as to threats of this character. Several hundred of these reports were received. The larger number of banks reported that no threats had been made. A number of reports actual threats and a much larger number reported statements that amounted to implied threats. Most of these reports said that the warning issued by the state council had had, unquestionably, good effect whether upon those who were inclined to antagonize the government through thoughtlessness or from outright opposition to the government. The reports show the independent spirit of most of the banks."

"A majority make it very clear that they would not tamely submit to threats involving patriotic action. At the same time a large number of these reports showed that there exists through Nebraska a very general misunderstanding of the purpose and the necessity of this war, and the council was urged to carry on a system of education thru patriotic meetings."

"It is hardly possible to present in this statement the instances that will fairly show the real situation. In one Nebraska town an American of German birth engaged in the banking business, has been so open and pronounced in his support of the government that he has lost several thousand dollars in deposits, controlled by Prussian sympathizers. From one town comes the well attested report that while nothing has been done in that town to aid the Red Cross, efforts to hold Red Cross meetings have been openly and violently antagonized. Many instances reported by thoroughly responsible business or professional men or farmers have shown that men of common sense and influence in the community have openly expressed their sympathy with America's enemy and have persistently discouraged every effort to help America. One man engaged in the banking business stated publicly that his bank would do nothing for the sale of Liberty bonds, adding: 'I would commit suicide before I would take up arms against Germany.'"

"One of Nebraska's best known and most reliable citizens reports the seriousness of the situation in his community as follows: 'The pro-German sentiment is so strong that even some of the patriotic citizens seem to be afraid to do their duty and feel considerably intimidated.' Another reports that in another community: 'Many of the business men seem to be timid for fear they will lose business if they engage in patriotic activities.'"

"Where the complaints deal only with the treasonable or thoughtless words of a single, or of one or two individuals, it is not serious for such cases may be handled with words of warning and then educational effort. But the extracts cited above are fair samples of a very large number of reports showing where whole communities are more or less affected by the un-American attitude of influential men. These complaints have come in such number and from such responsible sources that it is impossible longer to withhold them from the public. In certain communities men working for the country's good have been embarrasmed and humiliated in some instances threatened with personal violence and in some instances promised damage to their business at the hands of men who are openly opposed to our country's cause."

"Some of the strongest support and best co-operation has come to the council from Americans of German birth or descent, and the council clearly recognizes the perfect loyalty of the large number of Nebraskans of German origin. But covert and open attack in various sections of the state upon our cause have reached such proportions that they must be given serious attention. The interests at stake are too important for the patriotic men and women of Nebraska to remain in the dark. An aroused public sentiment at this time will go toward the protection of our property, toward the conservation of food supplies and in furtherance of the effort to place Nebraska squarely in line with the national government. Covert acts of the unwillfulness of its own members at first, to take the situation seriously, the council is perfectly aware that these words of warning will be a revelation to many and that they may not be accepted by some with the seriousness to which they are entitled."

"For the reason that the seriousness of this situation has forced itself upon the council and that it has no other concern than that involving the best interests of Nebraska and the United States, the council speaks with perfect frankness with respect to serious evils that can only be cured by a thoroughly aroused American sentiment. To this end and in this spirit the council takes the liberty of referring all precedents and refusing to be controlled by an indisposition, natural among thoughtful men, to do the unusual. But the war in which we are engaged is unusual and efforts in honest support of that war must be unusual, too. The council refuses, therefore, to temporize with serious situations involving the welfare of the country."

"Disloyalty Among State Employees
"The University of Nebraska is a patriotic institution. Its efficient chancellor and most of its capable faculty are working zealously for America's welfare and so general has become their co-operation with the council that the university has come to be practically an adjunct of our organization. But several professors of the state university have so persistently given encouragement, publicly and privately, to those who are out of harmony with the American cause that the council deems it necessary and proper to publicly register its protest against these persons. It is not fair to the parents who send their boys to the front, nor to the boys themselves, that men of commanding influence in educational or official circles shall be permitted to cultivate sentiment that are detrimental to the cause for which they are fighting. When all the energy and genius of the business and agricultural interests of the state are being employed for the protection of food supplies, it is not fair that conspicuous and influential, and presumably, well-abiding, men shall preach doctrines that may encourage the vicious and lawless acts of violence."

"Church Leaders Antagonistic
"Perhaps never in history has it been deemed necessary by a public body to single out by name a great church organization and appeal to its patriotism and check the dangerous tendencies of many of the conspicuous representatives of that organization. Because of the reliable reports that may be said to come from every section of Nebraska—and come in a number by the hundreds—it is necessary that the council make such an appeal with respect to the organization known as the Lutheran church. The conspicuous representatives of the church have very generally, and it may be said almost universally, refused to co-operate with any of the several efforts made by patriotic citizens for the support of the government. On the contrary, they have, very generally, publicly and privately, discouraged the American cause, and have shown marked partiality for the cause of America's enemy."

"Depending upon the American patriotism of the men and women who comprise the Lutheran church membership, the council makes this appeal to them to put a check upon the un-American activities of some of their conspicuous and influential representatives. The council could wait until great damage had been done to this country before making its protest. Perfectly aware that its protest is unusual, but conscious of the absolute necessity for such a protest, the council makes that protest now in order that American interests may be faithfully protected. Confident that it is useless to make further appeal to the conspicuous representatives of that church, the council addresses its appeal to the rank and file of the church membership, and hereby calls upon that membership to make known on behalf of the Lutheran church, devotion to America—the country that gives it protection and religious liberty."

"In the discharge of its duty to America, the Nebraska state council of defense, intends to employ its power and authority to the limit in the effort to suppress in Nebraska any interference with the determination to push this war to a successful conclusion. It will not serve to put down every attempt to handicap or embarrass or discourage those who are grateful for the blessings they enjoy as American citizens, and trying to repay at this critical time, the great debt they owe. To this end, we appeal to every patriotic man and woman in Nebraska, regardless of birth or ancestry. (Signed)

HOWARD, Acting Governor.
ROBERT M. JOYCE,
GEORGE GOLDLAND,
GEORGE H. HARRIES,
RICHARD L. METCALFE,
GEORGE O. BISHOP,
DR. E. D. WICKER,
SARAH B. HERRICK,
CHARLES A. MCCLLOUD,
GEORGE E. JOHNSON,
T. P. REYNOLDS,
L. J. ADAMS, Adjutant General.
NEBRASKA STATE COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

Many Indians Have Enlisted
At Walthill, sixty-five Indians, fully half the company, are enrolled in one unit of the Sixth. In the personnel of Company H, Chadron, one finds such names as: Ralph Bear, Benjamin Red, Bear, Long Dog, Eagle Elk and Black Bird. In all, a dozen Sioux are in this company. At least three tribes will be well represented in the "Aristocratic Sixth"; the Sioux, the Omahas and the Winnebagos. Mitchell Red Cloud of Grand Rapids, Wis., enlisted in the sanitary detachment of the Sixth Tuesday afternoon.



1—Von Bethmann-Hollweg, who, as imperial chancellor, has been the center of a storm of dissension in Germany. 2—Practice bayonet charge over a fence in one of the training camps of the Officers' Reserve corps. 3—French ladies of Moy driven to field work by the Germans who occupied the town; the photograph was found on a captured German officer. 4—Lieut. Gen. L. G. Korniloff, commander of the Russian army in Galicia and captor of Hallez.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

President's Embargo on Foods and Other Supplies, Hard Blow at Enemy.

AMERICAN CROPS TO BE BIG

Russians, in Tremendous Drive on Lemberg, Break Through Teuton Line—Governmental Crisis in Germany May Result in Internal Reforms.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The matter of food, its production and control, is becoming more important daily as a factor in ending the war. The international aspect was brought sharply to the front last week when President Wilson proclaimed an embargo on shipments of food and certain other articles. No one has been blind to the fact that Holland and the Scandinavian countries have been shipping great quantities of foodstuffs into Germany ever since the war began. This was with their rights, but to do it and still feed their own populations, they have been importing very heavily from America. Therefore it is equally within the rights of America, certainly the part of wisdom, to shut off the exportation to neutrals of all foodstuffs beyond what they need for their own sustenance and what we and our allies can spare. It would be stupid to continue to supply food, even indirectly, to our enemy, and the United States, though slow to act, is now acting firmly. The neutral nations of course are willing, but if they are not for us they are in a degree against us and must stand the consequences.

President Wilson, being a humanitarian, insists that the neutrals named must be permitted to ship into Germany dairy products provided that they can give guarantees that such products will be consumed only by women and children and other non-combatants. This is kindly, but ignores the fact that the German women are doing most of the work in the empire, releasing all the men for fighting.

Great Crops in America.

The success of the American campaign for the increase of production is demonstrated by the highly encouraging government forecast of crops. The acreage sown was immense and the general outlook is for correspondingly immense yields of all grains except wheat, and even in wheat there will be a fair average crop. The yield of corn will be tremendous, and in a word, the United States will have not only an abundance of food grains for itself, but also great surplus stocks for its allies. The crop of potatoes will be the biggest on record, and the hay crop, also of prime importance, will be heavy.

On the other hand, Food Controller Batoeki, says Germany's fruit and vegetable harvest is far below the average and that the yield of grain will be "as good as in 1915," which was a year of drought and miserable crops in the empire.

The senate is still trying to formulate a law to regulate the distribution and use of the country's food and probably other supplies of vital importance, and has agreed to vote on the bill on July 21. The long and patience exhausting wrangle over this measure has been caused largely by the determination of the "drys" to take advantage of the circumstances and make it a prohibition law. Whether the distillation of whisky shall be prohibited, whether the stocks in bond shall be commandeered and used for munitions, whether beer and wine shall survive or perish, and a dozen other like questions have been the subjects of argument and dispute. The inclusion or exclusion of fuel, steel and other products also has been debated at length. Meanwhile President Wilson and Mr. Hoover have fidgeted and fumed and urged in vain the food speculators have been the big immense unearned

profits, and the people marvel at the stupidity of senators who are unable to comprehend the necessity for speedy action.

President Appeals to Business.

President Wilson on Wednesday issued an appeal to the business interests of the country to display true loyalty by foregoing unusual profits in selling their goods to both the government and the public. He warned them that extortion would not be tolerated, and condemned especially the ship owners who have maintained an unfairly high schedule of ocean freight rates. At the same time members of the Council of National Defense were holding important conferences with the heads of the great steel concerns to arrange for a sufficient supply of steel for war purposes.

Russia's Drive on Lemberg.

Russia's re-awakened troops, directed by General Brusiloff and commanded by General Korniloff, continued their great drive in Galicia last week and inflicted a tremendous blow on the Austro-German forces by breaking through their lines and capturing Hallez. This city is regarded as the key to Lemberg, the immediate objective of the Russian offensive, and last year was unsuccessfully attacked with Brusiloff from the north. This time he moved on it from the south and took it with comparative ease, together with a great number of prisoners. The German and Austrian armies were separated and their morale so broken that Korniloff was enabled to use his Cossack cavalry in the pursuit with telling effect.

Some distance to the north the Russians fiercely attacked in the Pinsk sector, gaining considerable ground, and the activity of their artillery in the Hiza region presaged an attempt to break that, the strongest part of the Teuton line in the east.

On the west front the Germans staged a successful drive against the British close to the Flemish coast, forcing them back across the Yser river in the dunes. British trenches were captured to a depth of 600 yards on a front of 1,400 yards. This German attack may be part of an attempt to reach Dunkirk, or it may have been made to forestall a British drive along the coast that would threaten the German submarine bases.

There was tremendous fighting in France, the Germans making desperate attacks especially along the Chemin des Dames. But the French withstood the assaults stoutly and when they were driven back anywhere, invariably recaptured the lost ground.

Germany's internal ferment is increasing, the opponents of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg are growing in numbers and boldness, and the cabinet seems to be breaking up. But all this can have no immediate effect on the prosecution of the war, for it is internal and the general staff, headed by Hindenburg and Ludendorff, dominates the entire imperial government. Changes in the ministry mean little more than the substitution of one set of puppets for another, and even the fall of the chancellor will be of only academic interest to the outside world. It would appear that the war must go on until the kaiser, the crown prince and the Prussian militaristic chiefs are eliminated, or until the German armies meet such crushing defeats that the people take matters into their own hands—which means the same thing.

The main committee of the Reichstag refused to vote a war credit unless the government declared its policy regarding peace and reform, and this the government refused to do. Since the demand of the committee is supported by a majority in the Reichstag, a ministerial crisis was inevitable. The emperor himself went so far as to issue a manifesto declaring for equal franchise in Prussia. This, if granted, will decidedly weaken the dominance of the Junkers in the Prussian government.

The attempt to restore the Manchurian empire in China met with dismal failure, and now turns out to have been financed by Germany. Another brilliant stroke of foreign policy by Zimmerman. The young emperor again abdicated and General Chang Hsun, his sponsor and the kaiser's agent, retired to the imperial city section of Peking, where he and his fast dwindling army were hemmed in by the republican forces.

The weekly report of the British admiralty on submarine activities was very gratifying, showing only 17 merchantmen were sunk, while 17 others that were attacked, escaped. During the same period arrivals in British ports were 2,898, and sailings 2,798. The American steamer Kaunas was destroyed by a German U-boat.

Getting After the I. W. W.
The Industrial Workers of the World, a generally disreputable organization that is openly opposed to the war, is making all the trouble for the country that it can by fomenting strikes and riots in those parts of the West where it is strong. It is accused of being wholly pro-German and its doings are certainly treacherous and rebellious. The war department has announced that it is ready to do its part in suppressing these disorders, and various Western communities are taking steps to rid themselves of the men who stir them up. Bisbee, Ariz., was the first town to act. The decent citizens of that mining center rounded up 1,107 I. W. W. members and sympathizers, loaded them on a cattle train and deported them. Such mild treatment helps the town that applies it, but the

NAMES NEW VIZIER

KAISER APPOINTS SUCCESSOR TO VON BETHMANN-HOLLWEG.

MICHAELIS IS CHANCELLOR

Turmoil in Germany May Make De- cided Change in Struggle—War Minister Also Quits.

London.—Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German imperial chancellor, has resigned.

Dr. George Michaelis, Prussian under-secretary of finance and food commissioner, has been appointed to succeed him.

The official report relating to the resignation of the imperial German chancellor was circulated through the wireless stations by the German government and was received by the British admiralty.

It says, also, that the emperor has accepted the resignation of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg and named Dr. Michaelis to succeed him.

Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg's successor, Dr. George Michaelis, is a bureaucrat of the old type, whose appointment can scarcely be regarded as promising much in the direction of the parliamentarization of Germany.

It is also announced that Dr. Stein, the Prussian minister of war, has resigned. The importance of his resignation lies in the fact that the Prussian war ministry is in reality the war ministry for the German empire and that General von Stein is a staunch supporter of the pan-Germans, who are the bitterest opponents of peace without annexations or indemnities.

Announcement has been made that Count Brockdorff-Rantzau will replace Dr. Alfred Zimmermann as German imperial foreign secretary.

The resignation of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, all indications serve to show, are far from being the last act in the drama. Instead it is but the beginning of far reaching developments which are bound to affect the fabric of the German empire and have momentous consequences on the progress of the European struggle. It is believed.

First Commoner Chancellor.

Copenhagen.—Germany's first commoner chancellor, Dr. George Michaelis, a bureaucrat without even a noble "von" before his name, has as yet given no indication of his policy regarding reform and peace. Neither the conservatives nor the liberals have ventured to call him their own.

German papers unite in characterizations of his energy and fair-mindedness, but are most reserved in their predictions of his probable policy.

Says World Hates Germany.

Zurich.—The Austrian Reichsrat was thrown in an uproar last Saturday when the former Czech minister, Herr Praschek, declared the hate of the entire world was not directed against Austria, but against Germany, and that Austria should detach itself from its ally.

"How are we to obtain peace," demanded Herr Praschek, "if we cling to the German side? Must we continue to sacrifice our interests to the expansion of Germany? Must we continue to submit to the German militarism that has drawn us into this war?"

The speaker declared that Czech deputies had been imprisoned for attempting to bring about an alliance of Austria with Russia and France.

Farmers Becoming Impatient.

Washington.—That the organized grain farmers of America are becoming impatient over the delay in the passage of the food control bill became manifest when the representatives of 400,000 grain farmers wrote a letter to each United States senator pressing passage. This letter was sent by J. W. Shorthill of York, Neb., secretary of the National Council of Farmers' Co-operative associations. The national council is composed of state associations of the ten principal grain growing states and represents more than 4,000 farmers' elevator companies.

Drive Foreigners From City.

Flat River, Mo.—More than 1,000 foreigners have been forcibly deported from Flat River by miners who fear that the influx of those born across the seas, attracted by the \$4 to \$6 a day wage, will lower wages.

Armed with shotguns and carrying American flags, a mob of native-born miners escorted the foreign-born miners to the depot. The miners are reported to have said that they were justified in driving out the foreigners.

Lands Huge Packing Plant.

Huron, S. D.—Huron has captured the promised million-dollar co-operative packing plant which is being produced by a number of prominent farmers and business men of North and South Dakota. Huron citizens have donated a site of 150 acres, splendidly located for the purpose, on the James river, a mile and a half from town. The business men and commercial club have promised united support of the movement. The promoters will start selling stock at once.