

PAROCHIAL DISPUTE IS COMPROMISED

LEGISLATORS HAVE AGREED ON SCHOOL REGULATION

OTHER LEGISLATIVE DOINGS

A Brief Digest of Other Important Legislation Being Considered by the Nebraska Legislature

Lincoln.—Contending forces in the legislature have reached an agreement so far as the parochial school bill is concerned. It is still known as H. R. 64 for the regulation of private and parochial schools, but it is a rewritten bill and the senate recommended it for passage. It now includes denominational schools, and contains some new matter and a complete revision which leaders of the two legislative branches agreed upon. By many it is now called a compromise bill, but Senator Peterson of Lancaster, one of the legislators who presented the substitute measure, made it plain that it is a substitute and that it is not a compromise bill. "It does not represent a compromise of conviction on the part of either house," said Peterson in the senate, "but it represents a clarified statement of the position of the house and of the senate."

Under the compromise effected all private and parochial schools in Nebraska and all teachers employed or giving instruction therein shall be subject to and governed by the provisions of the general school laws of the state so far as the same apply to the grades, qualification and certification of teachers and promotion of pupils. All private and parochial schools shall have adequate equipment and supplies and shall be graded the same and shall have courses of study for each grade conducted therein substantially the same as those given in the public schools where the children attending would attend in the absence of such private or parochial schools. No person shall be employed to teach in any private or parochial school, who has not obtained a teacher's certificate entitling such teacher to teach corresponding courses or classes in public schools. All public and private parochial schools shall give in the proper grades such courses in American history and in civil government, as will give the pupils a thorough knowledge of the history of our country and its institutions and of our form of government and shall conduct such patriotic exercises as may be prescribed from time to time by the state superintendent. The county or city superintendent where such private or parochial school is located, shall inspect such schools and report to the proper officers any evidence of the use of any text book, or of any activities, instruction or propaganda therein subversive of American institutions, a republican form of government or of good citizenship. Section 3 provides that nothing in the act shall be construed as to interfere with religious instruction in any private or parochial school.

Final enactment of a law to check advocacy or use of violence or other bolshevik methods in accomplishing industrial or political ends in Nebraska was forecast when the lower house advanced to third reading, Senate File No. 200. The vote was unanimous. The bill defines criminal syndicalism as "the doctrine which advocates crime physical violence, arson, destruction of property or sabotage as a means of accomplishing or effecting industrial or political ends or for profit." It then forbids the commission of such acts, or their advocacy either by word of mouth or by writing or publication. The penalty is imprisonment for from one to ten years or a fine of not more than \$1,000. The use of any building for a meeting for such purpose is also prohibited.

The lower house has adopted the committee recommendation for the general file of House Roll No. 121, by Jacobson, which provides that railroad companies must act upon claims of shippers within sixty days after receipt.

The senate indefinitely postponed House Roll No. 292, by J. Reid Green, which provided that if a discharged employe was not paid when discharged, salary should continue until payment might be made.

The senate committee on highways reported out H. R. 298 without amendment. This is the general road law designating and locating roads to be built at this time with state and federal aid. The committee had reopened the bill for hearings and listened to protests but made no change in roads as agreed upon by the house and the joint committee on highways. This means a fight will be made in committee of the whole to attach amendments.

The senate not only followed the lead of the house in approving bills appropriating \$100,000 for each of two hospitals, one to be erected at the home for soldiers at Grand Island, and the other at the soldiers' home at Milford, but it added \$25,000 to each bill and amended each so as to call for \$125,000 for a building and equipment. The original bills were silent as to equipment. The senate committee held a hearing and after listening to friends of both soldiers' homes and officers of the G. A. R., department of Nebraska, decided to place both bills on the general file

Although both house and senate of the legislature have rejected every proposed amendment to the primary election law, the committee on privileges and elections of the lower house decided to make still another effort. It recommended for passage House Roll No. 323, in much amended form. As supported by the committee, the bill wipes out the nomination of candidates for state offices below that of governor, excepting those nominated on a partisan ticket. In place of the primary, it re-establishes the state convention for those offices.

The bill provides for the election of delegates to a county convention in each county. These delegates are to pick from their number the county's delegation to the state convention. Members of the county central committee, one man and one woman from each precinct or township, are also to be elected by the voters at the primary. This last is a plan proposed by Robert Smith, clerk of the district court of Douglas county, designed, he said, to wipe out machine and boss control of county committees. In view of the general legislative attitude toward legislation affecting the primary, it is doubtful if the bill will be approved, at least insofar as it removes minor state officers from the primary.

Very few, if any, changes are probable in the four big road bills, which have already passed the lower house, when they are eventually passed by the senate. During the progress of these bills in the house, the senate committee on highways and bridges attended and labored with the house committee in working out amendments, and giving public hearings to people from various parts of the state who are interested in the routing of the 2,400 miles of highway which has been surveyed and mapped out by State Engineer Johnson.

Two of these bills have been reported out by the senate committee with no change from the way they passed the house. House Roll No. 299, providing for a \$10 automobile tax for machines weighing 2,000 pounds and a tax of 50 cents for each additional 100 pounds is one of the bills reported out, and will probably pass the senate without change. It is estimated that the average tax will be approximately \$15 per automobile which will bring into the road fund around \$2,000,000 per year, effective after July 1, 1919. The other bill reported out is House Roll No. 300 which provides the 3-mill levy to match the government appropriation, and which will amount to approximately \$1,546,000 per year, or with the government appropriation will amount to something over \$3,000,000 per year.

The house committee of the whole decided that the carrying out of the highways program should not be entrusted to men of meager salary. S. F. 50 and 51, originally drawn to benefit Lancaster county alone, had been broadened in senate standing committee to embrace the entire state and it was because of this broadened sphere that some objections were raised. Both measures were advanced to third reading after attempts to postpone had been abandoned. S. F. 50 raises the salaries of surveyors in counties having less than 50,000 population to \$3 a day, and increases certain fees from fifty to eighty cents. County boards may, however, in counties having less than 50,000 population put the surveyor on a flat salary basis not to exceed \$1,800 a year. In counties of less than 8,000, S. F. 51 provides that highway commissioners shall not receive to exceed \$8 per day. In counties of from 8,000 to 20,000 and in counties having 20,000 to 50,000 population \$1,800. If 13 counties having less than 50,000 population, the county surveyor is made highway commissioner, the aggregate salary shall not exceed \$2,400.

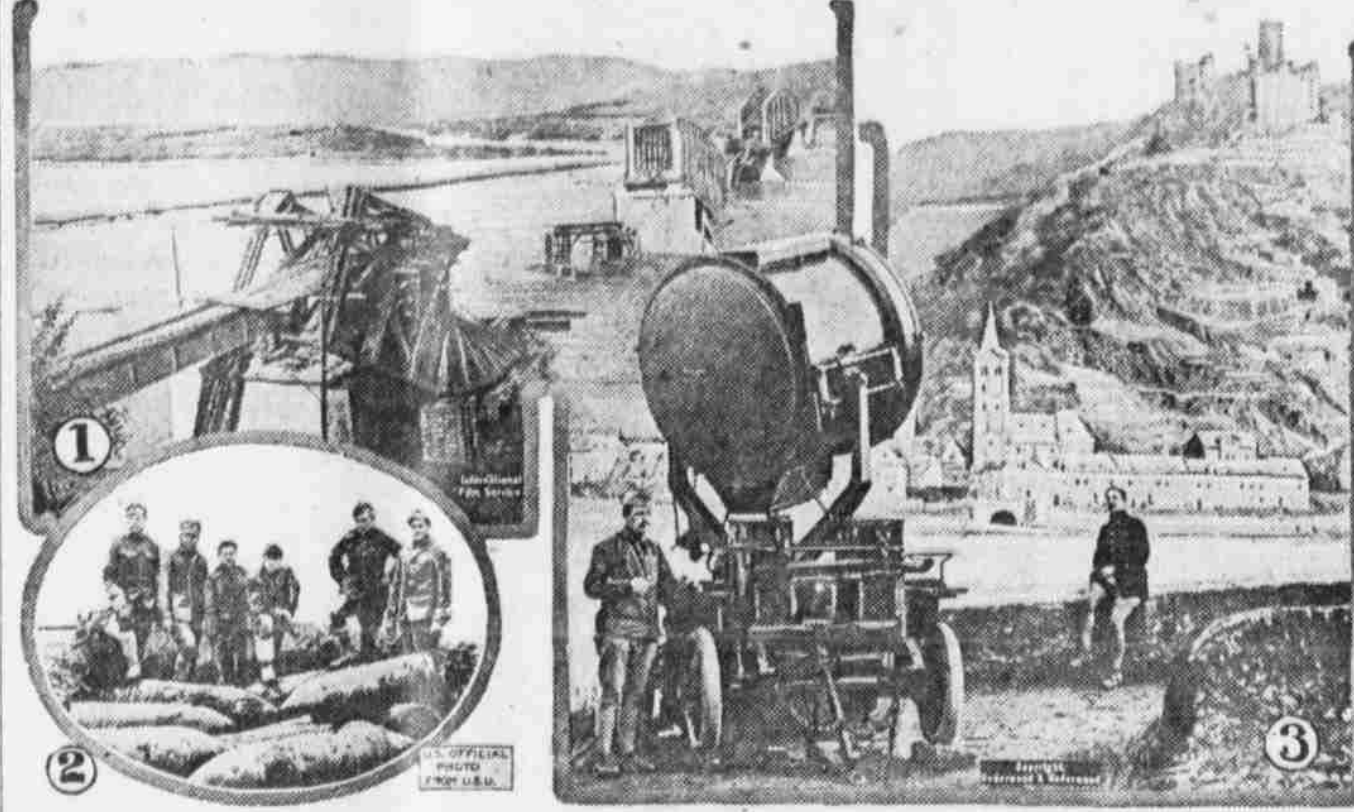
The joint committee of house and senate looking into coal purchases and other items of the activities of the state board of control wends its way along from day to day with almost continued hearings and many witnesses. During the week inquiry into the discipline enforced at the Industrial Home for Girls at Geneva has been under scrutiny, bringing out the fact that corporal punishment is at times administered.

Chairman Cordell of the committee on judiciary, filed a report placing on general file H. R. 345 without amendment. This is the grain exchange bill desired by the farmers' union for the purpose of admitting co-operative associations to membership upon the Omaha grain exchange with permission to cut commissions or rebate earnings to local organizations or to patrons who may not be members of co-operative organizations.

The country school district will be reorganized to include greater territory, encourage consolidation, and make a stronger district, under H. R. 354, which received the approval of the house. It provides for a standard district of about twenty-five miles—based on the best interests of the community served. Twenty-five per cent of the voters of a proposed district may protest to the state superintendent. The decision shall be by the voters of the district at an election.

S. P. 169, a bill providing that taxes on real property within the corporate limits of cities of the metropolitan class shall be and become a first lien thereon from and including May 1 following the levy, was killed. Some members expressed the belief that the bill was being fostered by those who might desire to purchase and sell property between October and May, without being liable for taxes.

House Roll No. 27, by Sandquist, providing that assessors collect poll tax at the time of making assessment, instead of the regular way of paying the county treasurer, was defeated



1—Railroad bridge near Ufa, Russia, which was blown up by the bolsheviks, cutting the town off from the outside world. 2—German 15-inch shells about to be exploded by the reclamation and demolition men of the American field ammunition force. 3—Giant French searchlight on the Rhine facing the historic village of Welnich and the famous old Mouse castle.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Hungary in Grip of Bolshevism and Other Parts of Central Europe in Ferment.

PEACE DELEGATES STARTLED

Speed Up Work on the Treaty, Which Germans Say They Will Not Sign—League of Nations Covenant Being Amended.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Matters in Europe last week moved swiftly toward a climax. Bolshevism was gathering itself for its greatest efforts, and made a start in that way that alarmed the civilized world. It fastened its clutches on Hungary, or at least on the government and on Budapest, the capital, and soviet rule was established in place of the republic that was headed by Count Karolyi. Revolution broke out in Galicia, starting in the oil districts; a soviet government was set up, the Lemberg soviet declared a general strike, and Polish troops sent to combat the revolution joined in the movement. Bessarabia was proclaimed a republic and its directorate began military operations against Roumania's army, defeating a part of it. The Bessarabian movement undoubtedly was directed by the Russian bolsheviks and supported by the Ukrainians, the idea being to establish communication between Moscow and Budapest by breaking through Roumania. Efforts to turn Czechoslovakia and German Austria over to the bolsheviks have been so far unsuccessful.

Frank critics of the peace conference lay the blame for much of this on those idealists who undertook to remodel the entire world and bring about the millennium at once, instead of first making peace and permitting the belligerent nations to resume the ordered activities of civilized existence. That the gentlemen gathered in Paris have recognized their error is apparent in their present haste to complete the peace treaty and have it signed. They will, accordingly, include in the treaty a formal statement concerning the league of nations, because Germany will be required by the treaty to surrender her colonies to mandatories of the proposed league, but it is not unlikely that the adoption of the full constitution of the league will be deferred. The first treaty, which was being considered last week by Wilson, Lloyd George, Clemenceau and Orlando, it was said, was sufficiently firm in its terms to insure a lasting peace, would simplify the international food problem and pave the way for industrial and financial reconstruction. The principal aims of the proposals under consideration were: (1) To insure ample security for the future protection of France, especially on her eastern frontier; (2) to establish a strong Italy, with a formidable northern barrier against aggression; (3) to create a strong Poland; (4) to found a league of nations pledged, on material as well as moral grounds, to the preservation of world peace.

The "Big four," as they are called in Paris, were said to have decided to make peace with all four of the enemy nations at once. This plan presents some difficulties, one of the least of which is the fact that the United States never was at war with Turkey and Bulgaria. Most troublesome will be the fair assessment of the pre-war debts of these two nations and of Austria-Hungary among the various provinces, and the fixing of the boundaries they must accept.

It is believed Germany's new boundaries have been virtually fixed by the peace delegates, though no announcement has been made. A financial commission has been working fast to settle the re-empowerment of Germany's public debt, the question of

German State property in territories to be ceded by the peace treaty and the order in which the obligations of Germany shall be imposed. As for the reparation to be demanded of the Huns, the economic experts have found the amount of damage inflicted by the Germans was between \$35,000,000,000 and \$45,000,000,000, but as this is beyond the ability of Germany to pay, the sum is being sealed down and probably will be less than \$30,000,000,000.

If the treaty with Germany is such as it is supposed to be, Germany will refuse to sign it. Anyhow, that is what the press and many of the leaders say. Doctor Dernburg of unsavory memory, declares the German people will not accept a treaty of peace that is not inspired by impartiality, justice and a spirit of reconciliation and that does not contain a league of nations into which Germany is admitted with full rights. Doctor Schiffer, minister of finance, says he has taken a solemn oath that the government will not surrender one inch of German territory. The Prussian national assembly has voted against the relinquishment of any of the Rhine territory, especially the Saar basin. All over the country meetings are being held, organized by Foreign Secretary Brockdorff-Rantzau, to protest against an "enslaving peace." This movement, in which all factions are joining, is being used to reawaken the national spirit, and the threat of spreading bolshevism if the demands of the German people are not met is being used by the leaders to intimidate the inter-allied peace delegates. The latter, however, do not seem especially worried, evidently taking it for granted that Germany will have to accept any treaty they formulate. If the Germans do submit to bolshevism, it will be of their own free will, and mainly in spite and not because they prefer that form of "government."

With Hungary the case is different, and it may well be that that country's new soviet government will refuse to sign any treaty with the allies, if it survives. At the end of the week there were evidences that the allies were about to take decided action against the Hungarians. The French were urging that an army be sent to occupy territory between Russia and Hungary, and General Mangin was recalled from Mayence in this connection. Italian troops were reported to have occupied Pressburg, Hungary, only 35 miles from Vienna. Allied gunboats were hurriedly sent up the Danube for the purpose of protecting the French and British missions in Budapest. The members of those missions are believed to have escaped safely.

Bela Kun, as foreign minister, is bossing the bolshevik job in Budapest, and he and his associates are nationalizing everything and ordering the severest of penalties for any form of resistance. Count Karolyi is variously reported to be executed and in prison. The outbreak of the revolution in Hungary at this time is ascribed to the action of the French military mission in establishing a neutral zone between Roumania and Hungary in a way that led the Hungarians to believe their country was about to be dismembered. The Czechoslovaks, it was understood, went into action against the Hungarian bolsheviks at once, some of their troops having captured Raab, on the Danube, interrupting communication between Budapest and Vienna. Large Hungarian cannon factories are situated in Raab. The premier of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Karl Kramarsky, now in Paris, declares his country is too strong to yield to bolshevik temptations, though he admits it is in dangerous proximity. If bolshevism is victorious in Russia, he predicts that country will inevitably fall under German influence.

Here is a peculiar contradiction of opinions. For many months we have been assured that the one sure thing that would check the spread of the bolshevik poison in Russia and elsewhere, was food; and consequently Mr. Hoover has been making strenuous efforts to feed central Europe. Now an enterprising newspaper correspondent who has been long in Russia and is at present in Petrograd,

writes that if the bolsheviks can bring food to the hungry people there they can retain their control; that if they fall there will be another revolution. Is it true, then, that hunger is the food on which bolshevism thrives? When the Hungarian revolutionists made overtures to the people of German Austria, the latter replied they could not adopt bolshevism because they were dependent on the allies for their food—the inference being that if they were not thus dependent they also would set up a soviet government.

Another contradiction is to be found in the stories that come of conditions in Russia. American commissioners, and most of the press reports, have led us to believe that there was little to be found there but murder, anarchy, riot and starvation. Agents of the French government returning from Russia report that wholesale massacres have ceased generally, that order prevails and industries are being resumed. It is said that even the railroads are returning to something like normal service, trains being run between Moscow and Petrograd on scheduled time. Conservative influences are making themselves manifest in every direction in Russia, it is said, and officials in power appear to realize the necessity of recognizing individual rights to property in order to maintain their authority.

A bolshevik commissioner told the correspondent mentioned above that if the allies would withdraw their support from those who are opposing the soviet government the civil wars would end in thirty days, the granaries of Siberia would be opened, the army demobilized, the factories started again and the present want and misery ended.

Dispatches from Paris indicate that the allied peace delegates are slowly changing their opinion concerning the Russian situation, though not in the least minimizing the threat of bolshevism to the rest of the world. Stephen Pichon, foreign minister, told the French chamber of deputies that the policy of the allies in Russia was not "war" but a "pacifying" policy and designed to save Russia from the grip of Germany.

The league of nations commission, with President Wilson in the chair, completed its consideration of the covenant of the league Wednesday night. It was turned over to a drafting committee which was to go over it carefully and return it to the commission for final consideration before it was reported to the executive committee of the peace conference. Many proposed amendments to the original plan were considered, including seven suggested by Charles E. Hughes and those drafted by former President Taft. It was understood that Mr. Wilson had deferred the presentation of amendments safeguarding the Monroe doctrine and exempting domestic questions from the league's jurisdiction. No amendment has been incorporated that specifically meets the demands of Japan for recognition of the equality of nationals.

Among the amendments adopted was one providing that the offices of the league are open to women as well as to men, and one permitting the withdrawal of a member on two years' notice, but not until such member has filled its international obligations.

The industrial situation in Great Britain has been greatly alleviated by the report of the committee appointed by the industrial conference that met last February, consisting of thirty employers and thirty trades unionists. The committee recommends that a legal maximum working week of 48 hours be established, that systematic overtime be discouraged, and that legal time wage rates of universal applicability be fixed. To meet the problem of unemployment and the care of the unemployed, it suggests state development of new industries, the raising of the age limit for child labor, more generous sick benefits and old age pensions. A national industrial council of 400, and a standing committee of 50 are proposed. It is believed this plan, possibly with modifications, will be adopted by the government.

TO FACE HIGH COURT

EX-KAISER AND OTHERS WILL BE TRIED AS CRIMINALS.

TREATY NEARS COMPLETION

President Wilson Expected to Speed Up Work—Preparing to Receive Enemy Delegates...

Paris, April 2.—The commission on responsibility for the war has decided: First, solemnly to condemn the violation of neutrality and all the crimes committed by the central empire; second, the appointment of an international tribunal to judge all those responsible, including the former German emperor.

Signs that the directing forces of the conference look for the early completion of the first peace treaty are found in the preparation now going on at Versailles for a meeting of the peace conference or its representatives with the German commissioners.

Growing defiance of Germany finds an outlet in the reiterated threat to sign no peace treaty that is not wholly satisfactory, and in refusal to permit Polish troops from France to land at Danzig.

Delegates are discussing steps to be taken if Germany refuses to sign the treaty. Belief prevails that the allies will first exert economic pressure, and then undertake military operations, if necessary.

It is reported that the indemnity which Germany must pay for the damages of the war has been fixed at a figure between \$150,000,000,000 and \$250,000,000,000. The yearly payments will increase as Germany's economic life revives.

Speeding Up Work.
Persistent efforts of American delegates, but seconded for the most part by the British and Italians, to speed up the work of the various councils and commissions preparing the details of the peace treaty, resulted in better progress during the closing days of the past week.

It is learned that there has recently been a revival of certain propositions and arguments, which has tried the patience of some of the participants in the deliberations. But apparently new ideas have been exhausted and there are signs of the rapid approach of the end of the discussions. Therefore, it is expected that President Wilson, whom some of the French newspapers as well as some influential British papers, have held responsible in a measure for the delays is about to exercise the power which goes with the responsibility to make an end to the delays.

The most stubbornly contested subject was that of reparations and it is suggested that the delay in this case cannot be charged up to the Americans, but rather to the pre-election promises of Premier Lloyd-George and Premier Clemenceau to make the Germans pay the whole cost of the war, which have led to some embarrassment because of the patent inability of the enemy to pay more than a fraction of the enormous indemnity that will be required for that purpose.

Demand Red Regime Quit.
London, April 2.—The allies have demanded the resignation of the Hungarian soviet government. They demand the election of a national assembly under the supervision of allied troops. All work in Budapest has been stopped, and the government is taking an inventory of shops, banks and factories. All property, real and personal, has been sequestered. Houses have been seized by the state, arms requisitioned, and numerous prominent persons arrested.

Interested in Japan's Action.
Washington, D. C., April 2.—Officials were greatly interested in the announcement in Mexico City that concessions to exploit agricultural lands in lower California had been granted to Japanese corn corporations. It was stated that no advices had reached the department and in the absence of such advices, high officials declined to comment on the Aguirre announcement.

The state department recently called attention of a Los Angeles real estate company, reported to be planning to sell land in Southern California to Japanese, that the attitude of the United States was opposed to such acquisition.

100,000 Are Injured.
San Francisco, April 2.—Demonstrations throughout Korea are growing stronger; 32,000 persons have been imprisoned; 100,000 have been injured, including children and girls, and Christian churches, schools and stores have been closed, according to a cablegram received at the headquarters of the Korean National association here from Rev. Hyun Soon, special representative of the Korean Independent union at Shanghai.

Referendum in North Dakota.
Fargo, N. D., April 2.—The North Dakota referendum election on laws passed by the last legislature, was assured when Theodore G. Nelson, secretary of the North Dakota Independent Voters' association, announced receipt of petitions containing 23,114 names. "The referendum is spreading life wildfire in the fact of drastic efforts by Nonpartisan league leaders, to prevent the people of the state from voting on the laws enacted by the last legislature," Nelson said.