

# HOUSE WILL VOTE GERMAN RELIEF BILL MONDAY

## ARGUMENTS FOR LOWER RAIL RATES IN WEST RESUMED

### EXONERATED BY RICKARD'S TESTIMONY, DAUGHERTY SAYS

### I. C. C. Allots Three Days for Hearing

Nebraska Included Among Nine States Which Are Seeking Freight Reduction to Aid Farmers.

Cut Is Necessary—Reed

Washington, March 20.—Representatives of nine western states today brought their demand for decreases in the railroad freight rates on grain, grain products and hay to the final stage of argument before the interstate commerce commission.

Clyde Reed, chairman of the Kansas Utilities commission, which initiated the proceeding and has since been joined by the state governments of Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Nebraska and North and South Dakota, presented a summary of the arguments of agricultural shippers for a decrease in the rates, and representatives of western carriers were ready to appear in opposition. Three days have been allotted for the arguments.

**Reduction Justified.**  
The economic condition of western agriculture, unreasonableness of present rates and ability of western railroads to stand decreased earnings, Mr. Reed contended, justified the proposed reduction.

"We have told of bank failures," Reed said, "frozen credits, inability to liquidate indebtedness, increase in chattel and real estate mortgages, foreclosures and transfer of property from debtor to creditor without the necessity of legal proceedings, of decreases in bank clearings and bank resources.

**No Relief Since War.**  
"Transportation at reasonable rates is absolutely essential to the very existence of the western grain growers. On a production for which he receives his prewar price he is paying freight rates from 40 to 95 per cent higher than before the war. The traffic will not stand it."

"As compared with the prewar freight rates, those on grain and hay have been increased in the same percentage as those on other commodities which range from 50 to 150 per cent in value above the prewar price."

Reed argued that the valuation of \$3,100,000,000 fixed by the commission as a rate-making base in the western district in 1919 was "1,200,000,000 too high." He added that the "fair return" rate of 5.24 per cent on the \$3,100,000,000 valuation would enable western roads to earn about all expenses and taxes \$465,750,000 annually, which he declared was "too high."

### Doheny Faces Court in Harbor Lease Case

Los Angeles, March 20.—E. L. Doheny, oil magnate, went before the county grand jury today on a subpoena in connection with a harbor pier lease held by one of his companies, the Pan-American Petroleum and Transport company.

### York Commercial Club Plans Style Show April 11

York, Neb., March 20.—York Commercial club, retail trade commission, is planning an elaborate style show to be held April 11. The very latest in women's and men's styles will be shown and commodities of local merchants displayed. Two shows will be held in the afternoon and two in the evening, each about an hour long.



### Bricton Freed of Mail Fraud

Case Taken From Jury by Judge Elliott Who Says No Criminal Intent Shown.

Federal Judge Elliott late yesterday afternoon ordered a directed verdict of "not guilty" in favor of Ole Bricton, who stood indicted "with using the mails to defraud."

Judge Elliott contended that there was no criminal intent on the part of Bricton when he moved his tire factory from Brookings, S. D., to Omaha, and later began to sell stock that totaled about \$325,000. The company had 800 stockholders.

Bricton, the jurist stated, according to the evidence, came to Omaha with a substantial business and had confidence in it. There is nothing in the record of the case that justifies the claim that Bricton paid himself to defraud as set forth in the indictment, he said.

### Coolidge Club Formed by Stromsburg Residents

Stromsburg, Neb., March 20.—Coolidge club was organized here by J. A. Dunlap, executive secretary of the Coolidge league. Following officers were elected: President, E. C. Nordlund; vice president, E. P. Pike; secretary, Mrs. B. F. Clifford; treasurer, Mrs. W. A. Burke.

### The Day in Washington

Plans for a naval base at Alameda, Cal., was disapproved by the house naval committee.

Harry F. Sinclair was summoned to appear tomorrow before the senate oil committee, which held only a brief session today.

A resolution calling upon Secretary Weeks for full information about sale of arms to Mexico was adopted by the senate.

Charges of dishonesty in the internal revenue bureau were inquired into by the senate committee investigating the bureau.

President Coolidge made plans to confer with house republican leaders tomorrow night in his drive to speed up legislation.

### Alameda Base Rejected.

Washington, March 20.—Plans of the Navy department for a naval base at Alameda, Cal., were disapproved today by the house naval committee. The vote was 6 to 13.

### McKelvie Flays Oil Probe Leader

Character of Witnesses Assailed by Ex-Governor in Banquet Address.

Lincoln, March 20.—While William Jennings Bryan was flaying the republican party in the city auditorium, former Governor S. R. McKelvie, a banquet speaker Wednesday evening, upheld republican principles.

McKelvie declared that much of the oil investigation in Washington was prompted by politics.

"The probe is supposed to concern the validity of certain oil leases," the speaker said, "yet about one minute was given over to oil."

McKelvie declared that former Secretary of the Navy Denby was forced from office without a shadow of proof of actual connection with any crooked dealings, and that Denby's only crime was that he was too trustful in other men.

The former governor questioned the character of the witnesses used in the investigation, citing Gaston B. Means, under five indictments, and certain women of Washington, as the type of witness employed.

### Married in Council Bluffs.

The following persons obtained marriage licenses in Council Bluffs yesterday:

Hert Callaway, Omaha	24
Gertrude Martin, Omaha	19
Paul Miller, Lincoln, Neb.	24
Margaret Fisher, Lincoln, Neb.	18
W. Wynn, Omaha	24
Edith Cunningham, Omaha	24
Lill Jones, Omaha	24
Kenneth Johnson, Union, Neb.	27
Florence Peterson, Union, Neb.	27
Eddie Wills, Madison, Neb.	28
Anna Lee, Jennings, Neb.	28

### Maryland Senator Admits Taking Drink

By International News Service.  
Washington, March 20.—In a tilt over prohibition, Senator Bruce, democrat of Maryland, this afternoon admitted in the senate that he had accepted "several drinks" offered him at a recent banquet.

"It was offered to me and I accepted it and I told them I hoped for many happy returns," said Bruce.

Bruce cited this instance to Senator Walsh, democrat of Montana, to prove a contention that "prohibition was not supported by a majority of the people."

### Outlook Growing Brighter in West Part of Nebraska

Business Upturn Indicated by Confidence of Traders and Optimism of Farmers and Banks.

Scottsbluff, Neb., March 20.—The financial depression that has hampered western Nebraska for the last two years seems to have reached its lowest ebb, and business is now on the uptick. That this is true is evidenced by the more confident tone of business men, the more hopeful conversation of farmers and the more optimistic predictions of bankers.

As one prominent and successful banker expressed it: "The period of liquidation is rapidly nearing the end. The greater part of it already is accomplished. Bankers and business men have written off their losses, and many farmers have seen the wisdom of doing the same thing. To many it will mean beginning all over again, but that is better than struggling along under a burden of debt without hope of ever being able to get even. The outlook is growing brighter every day, and one good crop will see western Nebraska again on the high road to prosperity."

**Solution in Hand Work.**  
One of the most interesting facts brought out in conversation with scores of men of all walks of life, is that there is a growing feeling that too much dependence has been put upon political action; too much reliance placed on legislative enactments, and that the solution of most of the economic problems is in co-operation, hard work and scientific diversification of farming. Dairying is being given more attention right now than it has ever had before. The farmers, however, are not going into this without careful consideration and intensive study.

Right here the real leaders in the dairy cow movement are sounding a warning. Unscrupulous men are already taking advantage of the dairying propaganda to unload upon unwary farmers a class of dairy cows that will be a liability from the start. These men pretend that they have been delegated to distribute high class dairy cows in furtherance of the campaign and their fast, underbred, scrawny cows upon their victims, and at fancy prices. The men who are promoting the dairy campaign in Nebraska plan to see to it that these unscrupulous men are brought to book, and that some method be devised whereby farmers who want to embark in the dairy business on a moderate scale may obtain really good cows at reasonable prices.

### Brighter Outlook.

One evidence of the aroused interest in dairying is the organization of a company in this city to build and operate a cheese factory. There is a big creamery here now.

Talking everything into consideration, the outlook in western Nebraska is brighter than it has been for several years and confidence is returning.

### Hastings Army Officer to Be Buried at Beatrice

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.  
Beatrice, Neb., March 20.—The body of Major Lawrence Jones, formerly captain of company C of this city, who died at Omaha, will be brought here Saturday afternoon from his home at Hastings, accompanied by Captain Crosson, who will act as a military escort.

### Nebraskan Gets Consular Post in Dutch West Indies

Alexandria, Neb., March 20.—Oliver Axtell of Alexandria has been assigned to duty in the consular service at Willemstad, island of Curacao, Dutch West Indies, and will leave for that place soon.

### Promoter 'Bunked' on Film Deals

Testified He Was Promised Enactment of Law Legalizing Transportation of Pictures.

Washington, March 20.—More reels of the famous fight film "deal" were run off today before the Daugherty investigating committee by Tex Rickard, promoter, and Thomas G. Spelacy, a former Department of Justice agent.

Their testimony partly corroborated and partly conflicted with previous stories told the committee. In his nightly statement summing up the day's development, Attorney General Daugherty declared that Rickard had "exonerated" him from failure to prosecute film exhibition, and that Spelacy's testimony mainly was "hearsay."

Rickard, in two lively hours on the stand, told of his part in the contract for widespread exhibition of the Dempsey-Carpenter fight films in 1921, but said he had been "bunked" by his associates, had made little money and had been twice fined for his part in the exhibition.

Spelacy confirmed generally the statement of Rickard, and another former Department of Justice agent, regarding the story told them by Jap Muma, and its involvement of a Daugherty, Edward M. McLean, the Washington publishers, and others.

Muma became an even more interesting figure tonight through futile efforts of the committee to locate him. He failed to respond today when his name was called, although Senator Wheeler, democrat of Montana, in charge of the testimony, said Muma's lawyer had promised his appearance. Process servers now are on a fresh hunt for him, and Senator Wheeler expects him before the committee shortly.

Rickard said that Muma, telling of "influences" in Washington, suggested exhibition of the fight films upon assurances that a law would be passed forthwith, making their display legal. This action could be secured in two weeks, Rickard said he was assured, but said that on this, as well as other promises, he was "bunked."

"I got bunked, that's all," was his only explanation of the promises of legislation, when senators expressed amazement that he considered them seriously.

### RICKARD PRODUCES WRITTEN AGREEMENTS.

"They did not do anything for us," he said, regarding Muma and his associates. "We got no protection and got nothing and they got their money without doing anything."

Rickard said he had nothing to do, except receive his share of the profits, with the film exhibitions outside of New York and Illinois, where he was fined \$1,000 and \$500, respectively. He denied any "conspiracy" in the agreement, but presented two contracts corroborating the agreement previously testified to. He and Fred C. Quimby, New York film producer, were the parties on one side, with Muma, Ike Martin and Will A. Orr on the other, each group receiving 50 per cent of the profits on bond.

### Coolidge Retains Lead in North Dakota

Fargo, N. D., March 20.—Calvin Coolidge tonight clung to his plurality of around 14,000 as belated returns came in from the republican presidential preferential contest of Tuesday in North Dakota.

The "mopping up" of scattered returns in the rural districts also served to entrench Senator Robert M. La Follette in second place, more than 3,500 votes ahead of Senator Hiram Johnson, who had been runner-up in earlier returns.

When 1,780 of the state's 2,058 precincts had reported the president had a plurality of 114,836 in a total vote of 111,321, the polling showing: Coolidge, 48,240; La Follette, 33,404; Johnson, 29,677.

### Report Thomas Will Refuse Dry Post Is Denied

Nebraska Senators to Take No Further Action Until Attitude of Man Recommended Is Learned.

By P. C. POWELL.  
Washington Correspondent The Omaha Bee.  
Washington, March 20.—Senator R. B. Howell received telegrams from friends in Omaha this afternoon denying a report that Elmer E. Thomas would refuse to accept the position of federal prohibition director for Nebraska. Early in the morning the senator received a report that Thomas had declined the position and had urged the appointment of J. Dean Kinger.

There will be no further steps taken by either Senator Norris or Howell until they learn definitely whether or not Thomas will accept. As yet neither senator has sent any word directly to Thomas concerning their appointment to prohibition director Haynes.

"Undoubtedly that will be done," Howell said. "I have not heard from Mr. Thomas."

Director Haynes had not received the official resignation of U. S. Rohrer to the recommendation of Mr. Thomas late today. As Rohrer has announced through the press that his resignation will not become effective until April 1, there will be no need for hurry on the part of Haynes in appointing Thomas or anyone else decided upon.

### Former Creamery Head to Escape 6-Months' Term

Circuit Court Overrules Penalty Invoked on LeRoy Corliss by Federal Judge Woodrough.

Sentence of six months in the county jail imposed on LeRoy Corliss, formerly head of the defunct Waterloo Creamery company, was reversed by decision of the circuit court of appeals in St. Louis today, according to telegraphic information received this afternoon.

Corliss was sentenced, according to his attorney, William Frazer, by Federal Judge Woodrough because he refused to answer certain questions put to him while on the witness stand during Waterloo Creamery company litigation.

The questions, according to Frazer, were put to the former creamery head by the referee in bankruptcy.

### Relief Bill to Provide \$10,000,000

Republican Leaders Determine Upon Fish Resolution Preliminary to White House Conference.

Debate Limited to 1 Day

Washington, March 20.—The first resolution to authorize a \$10,000,000 appropriation for the relief of German women and children will be put to a vote in the house Monday. This was determined upon today by republican leaders, preliminary to a conference on the legislation situation with President Coolidge at the White House tomorrow night.

Speaker Gillett, Representative Longworth, the party leader; Chairman Snell of the rules committee, Chairman Madden of the appropriations committee, and members of the house republican steering committee have been asked to participate in the discussion.

**Vote Monday Assured.**  
The German relief resolution, introduced by Representative Fish, republican, New York, and reported by the foreign affairs committee, will be brought up under a rule limiting debate to one day, insuring a vote Monday.

Leaders believe the naval appropriation bill will be disposed of this week, and plan to take up the army bill Tuesday. It will be followed in turn by the independent office appropriation which is considered one of the controversial supply measures, by the Johnson immigration bill and the other appropriation bills.

Longworth said today that a house vote would be had this session on a resolution proposing a child labor amendment. Such a resolution, he predicted, will be reported next week by the judiciary committee. He said that the house probably would vote on the Norris resolution, approved Tuesday by the senate, which would advance the date for the inauguration of presidents and the convening of congress.

In agreement with President Coolidge that congress should adjourn before the June convention, Longworth said that so far as the house is concerned there would be nothing to prevent. He said he was firmly opposed to a recess over the convention period if unable to adjourn sine die before then.

He made an effort to speed up its program the house tomorrow night will meet at 11 instead of noon, and will be in session tomorrow night to pass on bills on the private calendar.

### Motorist Hurt on Jinx Bridge

Removal of Signs Fails to Halt Accidents—Bluffs Man Is Injured.

Within a few hours after workmen removed the signs which the Sprague Tire company had placed upon the middle span of the Thirteenth street bridge over Indian creek on Broadway, Council Bluffs, A. L. Goldsberry, 222 Eleventh avenue, Council Bluffs, was seriously injured when his automobile wrecked itself against the steel girders which form the span.

### Mother-Daughter Banquet Staged by Camp Fire Girls

David City, Neb., March 20.—The Franklin Camp Fire Girls of this city celebrated the 12th anniversary of the national organization with a Mother and Daughter banquet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Shranck. Following the repast the mothers witnessed the Camp Fire ceremonial staged by the girls.

### Midland Wesleyan Stage Open Forum Dual Debate

Fremont, Neb., March 20.—An open forum dual debate between Midland college and Nebraska was held at Fremont and University Place. The question was the league of nations issue. Midland's negative team debated the Wesleyan affirmative team at Fremont.