

CONSTERNATION AT THE HAGUE

Sinking of Dutch Flotilla by German Submarine Agitates Capital.

STATEMENT BY MINISTRY

The Hague, Netherlands, Feb. 24.—(Via London).—Consternation was caused here by the announcing of the torpedoing and sinking by German submarines of seven Dutch cargo vessels, two of which, the Noorderdijk and the Zaandijk, grain-laden and bound for a home port, belonged to the Holland-American line.

The foreign ministry today made the following announcement:

"When a restricted submarine war was proclaimed the Netherlands government not only protested against it, but insisted that the German government should take care that no Dutch ships then enroute to or from Dutch ports should be victims of the new measure. Germany declared its willingness to do this, but added that it was impossible to guarantee absolute safety."

The statement says further that the seven ships which have been torpedoed availed themselves of a German offer to sail on February 22.

They were to sail together on a westerly course, out of the danger zone, and then proceed to their destinations. The report then mentions the dispatch received from the Dutch minister in London announcing the disaster, which adds that the ships were torpedoed without examination of their papers. The communication ends with the statement that it is believed all the crews were saved.

Ships' Captains at London.

London, Feb. 24.—About noon the officers and crews of the seven Dutch ships which had been torpedoed by German submarines were marshaled at the Dutch consulate, where they filled every inch of space, for a conference with H. S. J. Maas, the consul general of the Netherlands, which lasted for several hours. The officers made affidavits as to the circumstances of the sinking of their boats while full versions given by the members of the crews were taken by a squad of Dutch stenographers.

Consul General Maas said: "The Dutch government has instructed the officers and crews of these ships not to say anything for publication. I regret I cannot give out details of the sinkings, having myself received similar instructions." It was noticed there were many negroes from the West Indies among the crews.

PUBLIC DANCE AND POOL HALL SCORED BY JURY

(Continued From Page One.)

hauling and cleaning up was recommended.

The grand jury rapped the police department, the report averring that "after a careful investigation we believe that the police of the city of Omaha have been derelict in their duty through the non-enforcement of the laws and not properly investigating vice conditions. The city commissioners should at once instruct the police department to become more efficient and see that the laws are enforced without fear or favor."

The inquirers reported that they "investigated gambling in Douglas county and could unearth no direct evidence of professional gambling houses or gambling clubs now being operated in the county." The report stated, however, that "we believe that petty and social gambling is being openly carried on in all pool halls, many hotels, and, in fact, practically every place where tobacco in any form is retailed."

Want Roulette Wheel Smashed.

Under the caption of "gambling" the report said that "from evidence produced before we are convinced that gambling paraphernalia secured in former raids has not been destroyed by the sheriff's office in accordance with the statutes. We recommend that immediate action be taken to this end."

Liquor law violations came in for several paragraphs in the report. The jurors reported that "we find the principal violators of liquor laws are not only some of the saloons operating under proper licenses, but also bootleggers, cafes and drug stores, some of which operate under government license only, and many under no license whatsoever."

"In view of the fact that on and after May 1 the regulation of the liquor question will be placed absolutely under state control, we believe that with the proper co-operation on the part of Douglas county and city officials this matter should be satisfactorily adjusted.—Meanwhile the existing laws should be rigidly enforced to the fullest extent possible, and we demand of the proper officials that the same be done."

Recommendations that the Albert law, as applied to metropolitan cities along lines that will confine prostitution to a restricted district, be modified were made.

Delinquency Increases.

"Conditions relative to prostitution are most serious," the report said, "and evidence submitted indicates that since the passage of the Albert law delinquency in connection with this traffic is rapidly increasing, due largely to the fact that, since the abolition of the old segregated district its denizens are now scattered in assignment houses throughout the city, and thus more rapidly come into contact with and influence younger persons in other walks of life."

The grand jury said that they felt these conditions are also largely responsible for the periodical existence of various road houses scattered throughout the county.

Pool Halls a Menace.

Cigarettes were touched upon in the report, the adjoining body expressing the belief a law prohibiting the sale of the little paper smokes to minors and also forbidding minors from having them in their possession would, to a large extent, obviate the evil.

The grand jury characterized pool

Believes in Omaha and Will Open New Shoe Store on Douglas Street

Omaha is a bright, sparkling gem on the retail map of the middle west, according to Sol Panor, owner of nine big shoe stores. The latest gem in the crown of this modern business king is right here in Omaha, and its formal opening will be announced shortly.

His belief in the present and future prosperity of Omaha as a business center is best evidenced by Panor's choice of this city as the best location for the newest store in his chain of establishments. He has fitted out a beautiful and attractive salesroom and store front at 1512 Douglas street.

Underselling will be the watchword and policy at Panor's. The idea is to sell high grade footwear at prices lower than are asked elsewhere.

Besides being president of his chain of stores, Sol Panor has a number of banking and property interests, among which he divides his time. His brother, Fred B. Panor, formerly manager of the two Panor stores at Sioux City, will manage the new store here. Other Panor stores are located at Des Moines and Lincoln.

Ever since he was 15 years of age, Sol Panor has been in the shoe business. He entered as a clerk in his father's store at Des Moines, where he was paid such a small salary that he quit and started a shoe store of his own. From that beginning, his enterprise and modern methods rap-



SOL PANOR.

idly built up the chain. He is still young—only 35—and finds time for golf and motoring in spite of his numerous business interests. Mrs. Panor is also an ardent motorist.

star chamber body had carefully investigated the instructions given by the court when the jury members reported January 20 and had endeavored to the best of its ability to comply with the same in every respect.

Mr. Haverstick reported that forty-three indictments were returned for various crimes and personal investigations made of the various county and city institutions.

Greater power should be concentrated in the office of the county attorney, the report said in thanking County Attorney Magney and his assistants for their advice and counsel.

That the county attorney's office should be held to strict accountability for the enforcement and investigation of all violations of the law, was the opinion of the disbanding jury. "In order that the necessary investigation of law violations may be prosecuted we would recommend that a proper fund be placed at the disposal of the county attorney to be used at his discretion for this purpose," the report said.

Swearing Witnesses.

The manner of swearing witnesses was sharply criticized. Present custom requires that the witness be sent to the district court's office, two floors below, which, besides delaying the jury in the conduct of its work, gives undue publicity. If the foreman of the grand jury were authorized to swear witnesses it would expedite matters considerably.

The quarters provided for the grand jury when in session were commodious, but not convenient. No connecting room for the use of witnesses was furnished, resulting in the persons who were summoned to appear before the jury being obliged to wait in the corridor, where they were subject to prior investigations by newspaper men, etc. For this reason, it was with difficulty that secrecy regarding the subject we were investigating was maintained.

We are advised that no power is vested in a grand jury permitting the investigation of the conduct of institutions controlled by private parties or religious organizations. The statutes should be so amended as to give authority to grand jurors or to the proper state and county officers to at any time make such investigations of these institutions as they may deem necessary.

The county hospital and poor farm were condemned, but no more so than has already been done by Omaha institutions and Omahans in general. Semi-detached buildings were recommended when a new institution is erected.

Lieut. Patterson to Stop Here On His Way to China. Lieutenant David C. Patterson, jr., United States navy, arrives Monday on his way to China to take up his duties as aide to Admiral Knight, commander of the Asiatic squadron.

Lieutenant Patterson comes from duty on the destroyer Sampson and will only be here a few days to visit his relatives, as he sails from San Francisco March 5.

Best Would Oust Bedford By Quo Warranto Route

Frank C. Best, defeated for county commissioner at the last election by Jeff W. Bedford, has filed quo warranto proceedings in district court in an attempt to oust the successful candidate for the office. In his petition Mr. Best contends that under the four-year law, passed in 1905, no election should have been held in 1916. He says that elections should have been held in 1909 and 1913.

Big New Building for Lower Business District

A \$200,000 fire-proof building will be erected in Omaha by the Hoagland Lumber company, its president, George A. Hoagland, announces. Construction will begin within two months.

The structure will be six stories high and will occupy the site of the company's present offices at Ninth and Douglas streets. Thomas R. Kimball is the architect. Mr. Hoagland has a prospective tenant for the new building, but declines to name him until all arrangements are completed.

Friendship Club Holds Second Dance and Social

Two hundred persons, hungry for society, attended the second meeting of the Friendship club held Friday night in Metropolitan hall. It was an enjoyable gathering. More than 100 persons have signed intentions of joining the club roster of permanent members.

Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey

Honey soothes the irritation, Pine Tar cuts the phlegm, relieves constipation, soothes the raw spots. 25c. All druggists.—Advertisement.

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