

WADSWORTH ARRAYS ADMINISTRATION; AMERICAN TROOPS STOP GERMAN RAIDERS; DECATUR BANKER FACES SERIOUS CHARGES

CASHIER OF DEFUNCT INSTITUTION WILL BE TRIED ON 3 COUNTS

Official John E. Elliott Accused of Falsifying Financial Statements; Case Filed at Instigation of Attorney General's Office; Methods Were Exposed by Articles in The Bee.

John E. Elliott, Decatur, Neb., banker and ex-paperhanger and painter, whose alleged methods of high finance were exposed by The Bee, now faces criminal charges of falsifying bank statements and accepting deposits after he knew the institution to be insolvent.

ATTORNEY GENERAL ACTS. Charges involving three distinct counts have been filed in district court at Tekamah by County Attorney Herbert Rhoades of Burt county at the instigation of the attorney general's office at Lincoln.

Elliott, cashier of the defunct Farmers State Bank of Decatur, is out on \$1,000 bond.

INVOLVES BIG SUM. The total extent to which it is alleged Elliott falsified his statements is \$7,653,865.

Elliott is the man who was suddenly graduated from the job of painter and paper hanger four years ago into that of cashier of a small bank. At the end of one year of the management of the bank he announced a 50 per cent dividend, and on the strength of that got the stockholders to buy more stock and increase the capital from \$15,000 to \$25,000, while the cashier sported a succession of new automobiles throughout the year.

Declared He Was Ill. When the stat banking board finally closed his doors and began to find the accounts short Elliott retired to his home at Decatur and declared himself too ill to be seen.

It was in the case filed against Elliott that in issuing the statement of the bank's condition at the close of business August 20, 1915, Elliott listed as a part of the bank's resources real estate other than his banking house to the value of \$3,580,355, while, in fact, the bank owned no real estate other than the banking property.

It is alleged he represented balances due the Farmers' State bank from other banks as \$2,691,655, while, in fact, there was due only \$681,655.

Cash on hand, including checks and items of exchange, the cashier is charged with having represented as totaling \$4,535,92, while they totaled only \$2,385,61.

Says Already Insolvent. Cashier Elliott is charged with having accepted a deposit from Orville Richards of \$832 on February 19, 1916, though he well knew at the time that his bank was already insolvent.

The last count in the case charges that on a certain day the cashier borrowed certain funds of the bank contrary to the form of the statute.

For more than one and one-half years after the bank was closed by the state board, the authorities made no move to arrest him and bring charges against him. Attorney General Willis Reed made numerous trips to Decatur, and although he admitted that there were grounds for a criminal case against Elliott, he hesitated to bring it.

Arrested by Sheriff. Sheriff Ran Stanfield of Burt county arrested Elliott some time ago after the case had been filed in the county court by County Attorney Rhoades.

Before Judge G. A. Ireland, Elliott was bound over to the spring term of district court.

CONVICT ADMITS KILLING BOY IN SIOUX CITY, IA.

Man Serving 30-Year Sentence in Colorado Penitentiary Confesses; Clears Up Old Murder Mystery.

Canon City, Colo., Feb. 5.—Harry Hartman, a convict serving cumulative sentences in the Colorado state prison aggregating 30 years, confessed to Warden Thomas Tynan that on October 20, 1912, he killed a boy in the railroad yards in Sioux City, Ia., and buried the body in an ice house.

The confession, which was made to the warden Sunday, was announced today.

Hartman told the warden, it was announced, that two months after the murder the boy's body was found in the sawdust in the ice house, where he had buried it and that the crime had remained a mystery in Sioux City.

Hartman was sentenced by Judge Ben Lindsey in Denver on March 21, 1915, after conviction on several counts of mistreatment of boys.

According to the confession, as announced by Warden Tynan, Hartman said he had enticed the boy into the railroad yards at Sioux City and later killed him.

U. S. SPENDS SEVEN BILLION IN FIRST 10 MONTHS OF WAR; DAILY AVERAGE 24 MILLION

More Than Four Billions Loaned to Allies; Liberty Loans Have Financed Large Portion of War Expense; Total is Less Than Original Official Estimates.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Ten months of war have cost the United States about \$7,100,000,000—at the rate of \$710,000,000 a month, nearly \$24,000,000 a day.

LOANS TO ALLIES. Of this sum \$4,121,000,000 has been paid as loans to the allies and the balance, about \$3,000,000,000, represents America's outlay for its own war purposes, exclusive of more than \$600,000,000 for ordinary governmental expenses.

OUTLAY INCREASING. The war's toll in money is increasing at the rate of more than \$100,000,000 a month and indications now are that the two remaining months of the first year will run its war bill to nearly \$10,000,000,000, of which \$5,000,000,000 will be for allied loans and about the same amount for the army, navy, shipping board and other war agencies.

These figures compiled today show that, although the country's expenditures are running into totals never before dreamed of, they are below the official estimates made early in the war.

Total Below Estimates. Most of the war expenses have been incurred since July 1 and the total outlay since then has been \$6,500,000,000, in a little more than seven months, as compared with estimates of \$18,431,000,000 for the year.

DECISIVE BLOW TO BE FOUGHT ON WEST FRONT, SAY GERMANS

U. S. Artillery Fire Breaks Up Attempt to Rush First Line Trenches With "Silent Raid."

With the American Army in France, Monday, Feb. 4.—German plans to raid the American trenches were frustrated early this morning.

The American artillery put down a heavy barrage in front of and on the German lines, which are believed to have been filled with men and officers awaiting the signal of attack.

USE GAS SHEELS. It was discovered at a certain hour that the Germans intended to carry out a "silent" raid.

Fifteen minutes before the time set all the American guns concentrated their fire where, according to the information, the enemy was massed.

It is believed heavy casualties were inflicted on the Germans.

There has been a general increase in the artillery activity for the last day or so all along the American front.

The Germans are still unable to occupy the first line trenches which were caved in by the American artillery fire. They have now constructed another line of trenches at that point.

American patrols have worked their way over No Man's Land and inspected the damaged trenches as well as they could.

Using Gas Shells. The Germans are using gas shells freely and endeavoring to envelop one of our battery positions with gas, but without success.

They have dropped a number of shells in the roads behind the American lines.

Two men were reported wounded today by shells. The visibility remains bad.

Fuller reports from the first line show that great courage was exhibited by the troops during the heavy German bombardment of Saturday.

American Are Wounded. A number of men who were wounded slightly by shell splinters were treated in the lines with their first-aid packets and insisted on remaining at their posts until the fight was finished.

One man who was carried to a field dressing station returned to his comrades in the line after his wounds had been attended to, and remained.

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Von Hindenburg Says He Will Be in Paris April First

The Hague, Feb. 5.—Travelers from Germany bring an account of a recent conference at Berlin at which Field Marshal von Hindenburg received the editors of 30 German newspapers and discussed the food situation with them.

The editors told Von Hindenburg that by next May there would be no food in Germany.

"My reply is," said the field marshal, "that by next April I shall be in Paris."

Army Waiting for Word From Von Hindenburg, Declare Leaders; Teuton Press Bureau at Work.

Amsterdam, Feb. 5.—Advisement of what Germany is planning to do on the western front before American military power can be put into the conflict continues to be a conspicuous feature of the German newspapers.

"The next six months will be the deciding period," says the Frankfurter Zeitung.

"During that eminently important period the central powers with absolute certainty will have the strategic superiority, for the hopes of the entente for American help cannot possibly be fulfilled within that time."

READY FOR BLOW. "The central powers will concentrate their whole strength on the west front for a decisive blow."

"French soil, whose fertile, flourishing fields already have suffered so cruelly and have the scene of a final struggle which will far surpass the fiercest struggles of the last year."

"If we do not share the light-heartedness with which the problem of American military help is often set aside, we also consider it certain that the United States cannot in the next few months increase the very great moral and economic support which they have given the allies."

All Eyes on West. The Deutsche Tages Zeitung, in an article declaring that all eyes are now focussed on the west, declares that the greatest battle of the war is now about to begin there.

"We must not allow the belief to arise, however," it says, "that the increase in our strength in the west will force the French to lay down their arms or the British to run away."

"It may come to this, of course," and Hindenburg said a year ago, "we are already doing it, my children."

"Our emperor, the supreme war lord, has said that the decision is not to be sought. Will to victory and readiness for peace are combined in his words. If the enemy does not wish peace, we must bring peace to the world by breaking in the gates of those who do not want peace, with mallet fist and flashing sword."

Major von Olberg, head of the war press bureau, writes in the official (Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

PACKERS' PAPERS SEIZED BY U. S. COURT'S ORDER

Federal Investigator Charges Documents Will Prove Concern Guilty of Committing a Felony.

Chicago, Feb. 5.—Francis J. Heney, general counsel for the federal trade commission, appeared before Federal Judge Kenesaw M. Landis today and obtained an order to take possession of certain papers in the offices of Henry Veeder, attorney for Swift & Co., wanted in connection with the government investigation of the packing industry.

The order directed the search of the offices occupied by Veeder, charging that "therein were letters, documents and papers of Swift & Co." tending to prove the commission of a felony.

The offense as charged in the petition for the search warrant included the allegation that the packers had sought to control supplies and had attempted to fix prices for meat, butter, eggs, canned fruits and other edible commodities.

False Entries Charged. Another allegation was the complaint that false entries had been made in books and records of Swift & Co. which were subject to inspection by the federal trade commission.

Conspiring with Armour, Cudahy, Wilson and Morris packing interests to arrange among themselves for bidding on contracts for furnishing the United States government with military supplies, which included leather as well as meats, was also charged.

United States Marshal Bradley immediately took possession of the Veeder offices.

Mr. Heney accompanied a deputy United States marshal to Mr. Veeder's office, where Veeder insisted that Judge Landis' order did not include a small safe in the vault.

"This order permits me to go through everything, with dynamite if necessary," asserted the government attorney.

He sent for a locksmith and stated that he would use force, if necessary to get what he wanted.

While waiting for the locksmith, Mr. Heney and his helper moved about the vault at leisure. Reams of letters were placed in a heap, and there were many neat little packets bound in tape which Mr. Heney placed aside for closer inspection.

Mr. Veeder retired to his private office, leaving a clerk in the vault. It was a curious scene, electric with the antagonism developed.

In the outer office visitors came and went unaware of the unusual proceedings within, where for the first time in history a government representative was penetrating what he considered the very core of the inner circle of alleged packing house secrets.

Unlawful, Says Veeder. "His proceedings are illegal," asserted Mr. Veeder. "There is nothing important to the case in the little safe, but I would not open it and thus abet an illegal act."

"Quite a job, may take several days," observed Mr. Heney, as his eye roved over the great tiers of indexed files.

SENATOR FROM NEW YORK SAYS WAR MACHINERY IS HOPELESSLY ENTANGLED

Declares War Cabinet is Absolute Necessity; Claims Thousands of Lives Have Been Lost by Lack of Preparedness; Radical Action Required if United States is to Win War.

Washington, Feb. 5.—America's war-making machinery was pictured as a "conglomeration of ambition and scattered agencies, incapable of teamwork," in an address in the senate today by Senator James W. Wadsworth of New York, republican member of the military affairs committee.

BREAD RATION ORDER LIMITS EATING PLACES

Food Administrator Issues Instructions Placing Country on Same Basis as England.

Washington, Feb. 5.—A two-ounce bread ration was ordered by the food administration today for patrons of hotels, restaurants and dining cars.

This allowance is about that now observed in England.

Telegrams went out today to the food administration's hotel representatives in every state designating the new ration.

Two Ounces of Bread. Not more than two ounces of wheat bread may be served to any one at any one meal except when rolls or bread made from corn, oatmeal, or bran, are served, and when only one kind other than wheat bread is ordered, a portion may consist of four ounces. Rolls may not weigh more than one ounce each.

Public eating places are now licensed under the new bread regulations and the bread ration rule is issued under this authority.

Hotel representatives have been instructed to see that immediate observance is given in hotels for Monday and Wednesday as wheatless days, Tuesday as a meatless day; Saturday as a porkless day and that there is one wheatless meal and one meatless meal every day.

RAILWAY MANAGERS OPERATE ROADS SO AS TO DISCREDIT GOVERNMENT WAR CONTROL

Present Traffic Congestion Due to Desire to Misrepresent Wisdom of U. S. Operation, Declare Union Leaders in Wage Hearing; Hope to Influence Public for Private Ownership.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Traffic congestion throughout the country was blamed on the railroad managements today at the railroad wage hearing by union leaders, who said the managements desire to discredit the operation of the eight-hour law and more lately to make government operation of the roads a failure.

W. G. Lee, president of the Railway Trainmen, said he had evidence that veteran railroad men were replaced by inexperienced employees at important gateways; that engines had been allowed to freeze up over night and that train crews had been called out and kept waiting until the 16-hour law overtook them before being sent out of the terminal.

Asked by Chairman Lane of the railroad wage commission who was responsible for these things, Mr. Lee said he believed he could trace it back to about four banks in New York City, which control railroad financing, if he wished to seek the real cause.

"I have facts to prove that experienced railroad men are not permitted to operate as their training dictates," said Mr. Lee.

RENEWALS DEBATE

The speech renewed the debate over war efficiency which occupied the senate all day yesterday after Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, a democratic committeeman, had delivered a similar arraignment of the lack of co-ordination in the government's activities.

RADICAL ACT NECESSARY. Without detailing army conditions revealed by the military committee's war inquiry with which he said the country is now fairly familiar, Senator Wadsworth continued himself largely to an argument for the proposed legislation for centralization of war-making agencies.

President Wilson cannot co-ordinate these agencies, he said, and with a long war in prospect, radical steps to unify the nation's efforts are necessary.

Lack of System. "That great things have been done cannot be denied," he declared.

"That other great things have been left undone must be admitted.

"The credit for things accomplished can be assigned to several individuals.

"The blame for shortcomings ought not to be laid upon any individual.

"Criticism should be directed against our system, or rather the lack of cohesive system."

Recounting the difficulties arising through indiscriminate priority orders and competition in the purchase of supplies, delays on account of departmental "red tape" and the absence of power in the Council of National Defense, the senator continued:

"Mind you, I do not attempt to lay the blame upon one man or any one department. I insist that this painful situation has resulted from an utter lack of planning—from a lack of vision."

"The plain fact is that we have no agency in our government today charged with the duty of projecting its visions far into the future, anticipating the emergencies which may arise and laying the plans by which we can meet and overcome them."

Powers of President. "No one in his senses would propose that any other office be created to take away from the president the powers the constitution confides to him."

"It cannot be done. It is unthinkable.

U. S. CONTROL OF OIL INDUSTRY IN EFFECT TODAY

The fuel administration has established in the past a list of preferential consumers, whose demands for oil will be granted precedence in distributing the supply.

Railroads and ships using oil for fuel held the priority list.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Government control of the oil industry became effective today under a proclamation of President Wilson authorizing Mark L. Requa, chief of the oil division of the fuel administration, to establish a licensing system for all manufacturers or distributors whose gross sales are in excess of 100,000 barrels annually.

The proclamation does not extend to gasoline or kerosene, but licenses in these commodities probably will be required soon.

SAVE YOUR TIME

Time saved is money earned. We will accept your want-ad over the telephone, and at our new cash rate, the same rate and courteous attention you receive when calling at our office.

The Weather

Table with weather data for Omaha, including temperature, wind, and precipitation for various times of day.

Table with comparative local record for various cities like St. Louis, St. Paul, and Chicago, showing temperature and precipitation.

L. A. WALSH, Meteorologist