

# INVESTIGATION OF AIR PROGRAM URGED IN SENATE

Charges of Conspiracy Indicate Misuse of Hundreds of Millions of Dollars of People's Money.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, May 2.—Investigation of the army aviation situation with a view to criminal prosecutions was urged today in the senate.

Gross extravagance and misuse of appropriations for the aviation program were suggested and, in spirited speeches, several senators declared further investigation should be made as to any criminal or civil liability of those responsible.

Senator Brandegee of Connecticut, republican, who recently referred to suppression of the aviation report made to President Wilson by Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor, brought up the subject and suggested that the senate military committee should continue its inquiry, with a view to determining if criminal prosecutions should be brought.

**Charges of Conspiracy.**

Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, acting chairman of the senate military committee, said the committee was ready to act, but contended that the Department of Justice should make any criminal inquiry.

Senator Knox of Pennsylvania, republican, suggested that civil as well as criminal responsibility in expenditure of the aircraft appropriations should be fixed.

"There are charges of conspiracy," he said, "that indicate misuse of hundreds of millions of dollars of the people's money."

**Baker's Statement Branded False.**

A report on the aircraft situation, compiled by the investigating committee of the Aeronautical Society of America, was filed in the senate today by Senator Wadsworth of New York.

It reviews statements on the progress of the building program attributed to Secretary Baker and brands them false and misleading. The report does not attempt to fix responsibility for delays and failures, but in a general way supports the published charges made by Gutzon Borglum.

It charges that more than 5 percent of the facilities for building aircraft have been utilized and that recruiting and training of men for flyers has slowed down.

"Practically all statements by officers of the government regarding the execution of the aircraft program must be absolutely neglected as untrustworthy," said the report. "Inventive genius was left unutilized, so the 1919 program is imperilled unless steps are radically taken to combat this evil."

The report also concluded that production of fighting planes "is lagging through lack of co-operation of departments" and that delays will increase with the rate of production.

The Liberty motor, basically of good design, said the report, was credited by exaggeration of high officials and its production unnecessarily delayed the high altitude type.

## AMERICANS QUICK TO LEARN FRENCH FIGHTERS' TRICKS

Paris, May 2.—"The end will show which weighed most in the balance, Austrian cannon as reinforcements to the enemy, or the battalions which crossed the Atlantic to support the defenders of right," says a special dispatch to the Temps, describing a visit to the American troops at the front.

"The Franco-British liaison has been rightly described as intimate; the Franco-American is, if possible, still closer. It is real fusion. Every document of one of the French divisions touching the Americans is immediately translated and communicated to the allies. There are two uniforms, two languages, but one army."

The correspondent asked a French artillery colonel, who is well known in Washington, what he thought of his American allies. The colonel replied:

"We value them highly of course. There are lots of tricks which we learned—at what cost!—which we can hand on, but I am astonished at their faculty of assimilation."

"Take my arm of the service. One of the greatest difficulties in artillery is the utilization of observation points. You can hardly imagine the work involved in properly using the information collected at these points. Our American comrades have succeeded splendidly in this delicate work."

## GERMAN BOOKS IN GRETNA HIGH ARE DESTROYED

Gretna, Neb., May 2.—(Special.)—German books used in the high school here were destroyed Friday or Saturday night. Someone entered the school house, ransacked the desks and bookcases and removed practically all of the German books.

The school was well stocked with German books, which were valued at many hundred dollars. The school had enough German song books to supply every pupil in the high school. Last year, up to the time when war was declared, German songs were sung at high school assembly every week.

Feeling against teaching German in the school has been high for the last few months. Latin is not taught and in order for the graduates to get any college credit in foreign languages it has been necessary for them to study German, as no other foreign language is offered.

The pupils of the school recently received a mysterious message, telling them that if they left their German books where they could be reached they would be destroyed.

Instructors warned the pupils to take good care of their books.

## LUDENDORF APPALLED BY LOSSES



GENERAL LUDENDORF.

The enormous losses inflicted on the Germans by the British have caused General Ludendorff to change his tactics. He has ordered that no more massed attacks be made by German troops. He issued the following order, dated March 30: "The idea of forcing success by the employment of masses must be abolished absolutely. It only leads to unnecessary losses. The effective use of weapons, not of numbers, gives the decision."

## GIANT "SAUSAGE" BURSTS IN HANGAR; SOLDIERS BURNED

(Continued From Page One.)

dent could not have happened in damp weather, they declared.

**Many Inhale Flames.**

Last winter, according to the same authority, the signal corps lost a balloon in Oklahoma from the same cause. No one was injured in that explosion. Since then care has been taken to prevent the generation of static current around the balloons.

So sudden was the explosion that it was impossible for the men in charge of the balloon to escape. The two who were killed outright died from shock and burns, and the dangerously injured are said to be suffering from inhaling the flames.

About 30 members of the Fourteenth company were in charge of the balloon. Several of those who were near the entrance to the hangar were literally blown from the building and escaped with only scratches and minor injuries.

**Think No Officers Injured.**

An Omaha army officer stated that in all probability none of the officers or cadets was among the killed or injured. He declared that the cadets leave the baskets as soon as the balloons reach the ground. The big bags are then placed in the hands of enlisted men who take them to the hangars. This is called in army parlance, putting them to bed.

The soldiers who care for the bags are in charge of an officer, who generally is a commissioned cadet. If the officer in charge happened to be in the hangar when the explosion happened his name probably will be found in the list of killed or injured today.

**First Fatality Here.**

The Fourteenth company is one of the older organizations. It has been known as one of the "overseas companies," and has been daily expecting to entrain for the front.

The operation of the captive balloons in Omaha has been extremely successful and frequently eight balloons have been in the air at the same time. Flights have varied in altitude from 2,000 to 3,500 feet. This is the first fatality recorded since the establishment of the balloon school at the Omaha fort, officers declared.

First news of the disaster reached the city when unexpected intermissions came in all the theaters and orders were read from the stages instructing all enlisted men in the audience to return immediately to the balloon field.

Lew Kelley, playing at the Gayety, had barely concluded his brief experiences in London in a patriotic talk, when an enlisted man handed him a note. The announcement was made that a serious explosion had taken place at the camp in which two men were killed.

Following this a number of soldiers left the theater for Fort Omaha.

**Bodies Horribly Burned.**

The clothing of both dead men was burned from their bodies. Only a fragment of the shoes clung to their feet. The bodies were charred and the skin was entirely burned away.

A lock of red hair was the only recognizable feature on Beal's body and a small band ring still clung to the remnant of Davis' left hand.

The features of both men were baked into a mass.

The position of the bodies when found after the explosion indicated a struggle, the arms being extended and the hands clinched. A deep gash appeared in the center of Davis' forehead.

**Upland Passes Quota.**

Upland, Neb., May 2.—(Special.)—Upland, with a Liberty loan quota of \$56,000, has subscribed \$73,300 and still going.



**NO WASTE IN A PACKAGE OF POST TOASTIES**

says Bobby

**Corn Food Good To The Last Flake**

## SEDITION BILL'S OPPONENTS RENEW FIGHT IN SENATE

Measure Agreed to in Conference Would Restrict Freedom of Speech and Liberty of Press, They Declare.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, May 2.—Opponents of the sedition bill with its drastic penalties for disloyal acts and statements argued in the senate today that the measure as agreed to in conference would restrict legitimate freedom of speech and liberty of the press. Action on the conference report was deferred until tomorrow.

Criticism centered on the provision authorizing the postmaster general to decide what is non-mailable and the action of the conferees in eliminating the senate amendment which would exempt truthful statements made with good motives from the bill's restrictions.

Senators Borah of Idaho and Hardwick of Georgia led the attack. Senators Walsh of Montana and Nelson of Minnesota declared the apprehensions presented unfounded.

**Borah Attacks Censorship.**

"You enable the postmaster general to say what newspapers may live," said Senator Borah. "I have seen newspapers and magazines excluded from the mail during the past six months as disloyal and I confess that I have been unable to see the disloyalty that the postoffice department found in taking the action. This section would put a censorship over the people of the United States until public opinion could not be declared to exist."

Senator King of Utah said he conceded that the power to shut out innocent mail is given the postmaster general. "The section was written in," he added, "because there are certain criminal anarchists in the United States, the I. W. W. for instance, to whom money is sent by mail and when men like William D. Haywood are prosecuted large funds are raised by contributions sent through the mail. The authority is desired to shut that out and make the transmission ineffective."

Senator Nelson declared "this disloyal propaganda that goes in sealed packages must be stopped."

Senator Smoot of Utah replied that if the section were confined to first class mail he would vote for it.

## President First National Bank of Hastings Is Dead

Hastings, Neb., May 2.—(Special Telegram.)—A. L. Clarke, late president of the First National bank of Hastings, died today. The funeral will be held at the residence Friday, May 4, at 3:30 p. m.

## Russ Can "Come Back" If Allies Will Aid

London, May 2.—Captain Jean Seba of the Czech-Slovak army, who has just reached London from the Russian port on the Murman coast, has been engaged for several months in organizing a Czech-Slovak army in Russia, composed mainly of men who were formerly in the Austrian army and became prisoners in Russia.

In an interview with the Associated Press, he said:

"Our army in Russia is so far a small one, but the men having been formerly in the Austrian army, are well-trained and are thoroughly acquainted with the organization and methods of the enemy."

"My observation in Russia during the last few months convince me that for the present, Russia is like a sick person, who needs breathing space and a rest cure. I am sure it will again come into the war."

"With the help of the allies, Russia can be brought back. All over the country there are local soviets and other organizations which will never give in to German influences."

## HAIG RESPONDS TO QUEEN MARY'S LETTER TO ARMY

London, May 2.—Queen Mary's recent letter to the troops has been published in a special order for the information of the troops in France, with the following telegram to the queen from General Haig:

"The message your majesty sent to the army and air force in the name of the women of the British empire will inspire with new strength and fresh determination all those brave men from every part of the empire, who on the battlefields of France and Flanders are fighting so gallantly for all they hold most dear."

"They who with their own eyes daily see the women and children homeless and once peaceful and prosperous villages and towns ruined and in flames have resolved that their own loved ones and homes shall not share that suffering. No peril can be too great, no suffering too extreme, to save their country from such a fate."

"Side by side with our gallant allies, whose wrong we feel as our own and are determined to set right, we will persevere in the fight against all odds until victory is at last achieved. In this great struggle we are heartened by the love and confidence of the women of the British empire, of which your majesty's most gracious message has given such moving expression."

**Esther Fullerton Is Granted Divorce From 'Tardy' Hubby**

Tardiness in keeping dates with his wife was one of the grounds alleged in a divorce suit tried before Judge Troup. Esther Fullerton alleged that James H. Fullerton had kept her waiting for him on the streets in Denver for several hours; that he had an over-developed passion for card playing and a dwarfed sense of decency. She was granted divorce and alimony.

## FIVE MEN KILLED IN FLYING STUNTS

Exhibition Program Carried Out at Hicks Field in Honor of General Greble After Double Fatality.

Fort Worth, Tex., May 2.—Falling 150 feet in a straight nose dive this morning, Lieutenant James S. Ennis, jr., of New York City, and Cadet Paul Herriott of Oakland, Cal., were killed.

The accident happened at Hicks field an hour before General Greble and staff of Camp Bowie arrived to witness some stunt flying.

The accident did not prevent the day's program from being carried out and General Greble witnessed many thrilling "stunts."

**Followed Many Pursuits.**

Oakland, Cal., May 2.—Paul Herriott, killed today in an aviation accident at Fort Worth, Tex., was 32 years old, unmarried, and a graduate of the University of California of the class of 1904. He had been a bricklayer, cow puncher, college student, newspaper reporter, member of the State Board of Control and secretary to Senator Hiram W. Johnson. He

## German Smokes "Fade" Under Rigors of War

Amsterdam, May 2.—For some time past, the cigaret in Germany has been growing thinner and thinner until at present the weight of tobacco is little greater than of paper.

The pre-war cigaret in Germany, when sold by the ounce, ran about 16 to the ounce. Since the early part of this year the cigaret has "faded" until it makes more than 35 of them to make an ounce.

was a son of Rev. C. C. A. Herriott, a Presbyterian clergyman of St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Dropped While Making Turn.**

Dayton, O., May 2.—Major Oscar A. Brindley and Colonel Damm, two expert aviators men from the McCook federal flying field here, met death at the Moraine City aviation field here today. The machine dropped 400 feet while making a turn in the air.

**Observer Instantly Killed.**

Lawton, Okla., May 2.—Lieut. William Dean Thompson of the 253d field artillery, student observer at Post field, was instantly killed and Lieut. Foster Bailey, pilot, was injured severely today when their plane fell 300 feet.

## MAJOR AMOS THOMAS VISITS WASHINGTON

Omaha Officer in Capital on Way Back to Camp Dodge After Taking Soldiers to Camp Mills.

Washington Bureau of The Omaha Bee, 1311 G Street.

Washington, May 3.—(Special Telegram.)—Major Amos Thomas, now with the national army, stationed at Camp Dodge, was at the capital today returning to his post from Camp Mills, where he went with a large contingent of soldiers who will sail for France next week.

Major Thomas was a luncheon guest of Congressman Lobeck, Senator Hitchcock and D. H. Mercer also being of the party.

The major left for Iowa tonight. Representative Stephens will return to Nebraska shortly before May 15, having accepted an invitation to address the National Manufacturers' association in Chicago on that date. After a speaking date in Indiana he will go to Kearney, where he will deliver the commencement address to the graduates of the normal school.

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The Fashion Center for Women



## Double Brim White Milans for \$5

A May Sale Event

You'll like the fine quality of Milan in these fashionable sailers. Because they constitute a special purchase the low price is possible. Besides white, black and colors are included.

## Friday's Price \$5

Second Floor.

## The Blouse Store

Some of the most strikingly attractive new blouses are in batiste, cotton, voile and sheerelene for \$2.50 \$3.50 and \$5.

Also there are several unusually good values in Georgette and crepe de chine for \$5.

Thompson Belden Blouses add distinction to costumes

## Toilet Articles

Rit washes and dyes at the same time. It will not stain the hands or leave the materials streaked. Comes in various shades—10c each. Rubber Cushion Hair brushes double bristle style Friday 98c

## Warners Corsets

You will like these new models. We guarantee that they will fit properly—be comfortable, fashionable and that they will not rust, break or tear

\$1 a pair upwards.

Third floor

## Pattern Table Cloths Reduced in Price

Foresighted women will buy these fine pure linen cloths because they are bargains from every viewpoint.

Both are 2x2 yards  
\$6 cloths Friday only \$5.19  
\$6.75 cloths Friday only \$5.89  
Odd half dozens of all linen napkins will also bear special low prices

## Silk Boot Hose \$1

Silk boot with tops and soles of lisle, black, white and all popular shades. A very dependable quality, one that has a host of friends \$1 a pair

## Sale of Remnants Of Wash Goods

Dress ginghams, percales, voiles, tissues, batiste and other new fabrics in remnants of various good lengths. All from our regular stock.

Very much less than usual—Friday

Basement

## Womens Housewear

Wonderfully good looking gingham dresses are \$5 \$7.50 \$10.25.

Aprons of every desirable sort are shown in excellent selections 79c to \$1.69

Basement

## Beautiful Tailored Suits for \$35 and \$45

Featuring Unusual Values

Two groups that are better than any values we have ever offered so early in the season. They are typical Thompson Belden qualities

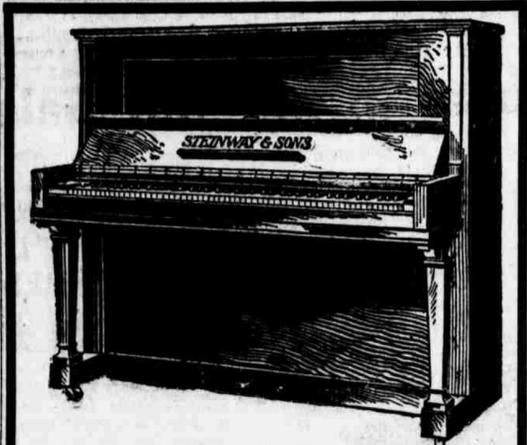
## For \$35

Fashionable models in gabardine, Venetian cloth, Poret twill and serge. Excellent tailoring is a feature.

## For \$45

Suits of silk jersey and taffeta in sizes 16 - 36 - 38 and popular wool fabric suits in all sizes

THESE ARE VALUES YOU'LL APPRECIATE NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR ALTERATIONS



# 2-DAY PIANO SALE

FRIDAY — SATURDAY

This Piano Sale Positively Closes Saturday Evening.

Just glance over this list—judge for yourself whether they are real bargains or not! Never in the history of our business have we conducted such a sale. Practically every well known make is represented, and at prices far below their value. These pianos have been turned in by May 1st movers as part payment on new grands and players. Many cannot be distinguished from brand new. All are in first class condition and guaranteed by Schmolzer & Mueller, "The largest music house in the west." Come early tomorrow morning if you would have first choice of these wonderful bargains.

**UPRIGHT PIANOS**

\$225 Story & Camp... \$ 75  
\$250 Kohler & Chase... \$ 85  
\$275 Kimball... \$100  
\$325 Emerson... \$110  
\$380 Baus... \$125

\$350 Cable... \$185  
\$375 Price & Teeple... \$195  
\$400 Chickering... \$215  
\$650 Steinway... \$225  
\$475 Steger & Sons... \$235

**GRAND PIANOS**

\$550 Smith & Nixon... \$290  
\$800 A. B. Chase... \$310

\$800 Chickering... \$450  
\$1,000 Steinway... \$375

**PLAYER PIANOS**

\$550 Steger & Sons... \$195  
\$550 Mansfield... \$250  
\$600 Universal... \$275  
\$650 Brinkerhoff... \$395

Many other prominent makes are included in this sale, but for the lack of space are not listed. Be sure to come and see them.

Remember this is the only store in Omaha where you can buy New Steinway, Weber, Hardman, Emerson, Steger & Sons, McPhail and Schmolzer & Mueller Pianos, also Genuine Aeolian Pianola Pianos. We rent pianos for \$3.50 per month.

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The best and most practical trunk made.

The padded top prevents clothes from falling off the hangers.

The lift top makes all garments equally easy to get.

Outside construction of trunk is supreme in trunk building.

Priced no higher than ordinary trunks.

Just more detail and thought put into the trunk for your comfort.

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By motorizing the Fire Department and maintaining it on a 100% efficiency basis, he has given the taxpayers and citizens of Omaha the best fire protection in the United States. As a result, fire insurance rates were reduced in Omaha. He has given ample protection to the large Packing Industries that are furnishing millions of pounds of meat to our soldiers and the Allies.

Vote for your own interests by voting for

**CHARLES H. WITHNELL**