

Debs Released From Prison by U. S. President

Sentences of Socialist Leader And 23 Other Wartime Prisoners Commuted—Five 'Lifers' Pardoned.

(Continued from Page One.)
violation of the espionage act; Thomas Coffey, convicted at San Francisco for violation of the espionage act, serving a two-year sentence; Joseph M. Caldwell, convicted at Providence, R. I., for violating the espionage act, serving three years; Mojick Fierion, convicted at Detroit under the espionage act and sentenced for 20 years but already given a commutation of sentence to five years by President Wilson.
Claus Freese, who was sentenced at El Paso, Tex., to five years at Leavenworth for departing from the United States unlawfully in time of war in an attempt to join the German consulate in Mexico plans of a new gun similar to those designed for use by the United States army; Ed Hamilton, convicted at Chicago August 30, 1918, and sentenced to 10 years under the espionage act; William J. Healy, sentenced at Chicago, Ill., in 1917 for violating the espionage act.
Gustave H. Jacobsen, convicted at Chicago and sentenced to three years for attempting to set on foot a military enterprise in India against Great Britain during the war; Mrs. Idell Kennedy of Los Angeles, sentenced to 10 years for attempting to cause insubordination and refusal of duty among selective service men.
Chicagoan Freed.
Jack Law, convicted at Chicago for violating the espionage act, and sentenced to 10 years; John L. Murphy, sentenced to five years at Sacramento, under the espionage act; Walter Phillips, convicted at Oklahoma City for hindering the selective service law and sentenced to 10 years, though he was released on parole January 10, 1921, by President Wilson.
Jose Prado, sentenced to two years for bringing aliens into the United States unlawfully in time of war; Albert B. Prashner, sentenced to 10 years in 1918, after conviction at Chicago for violating the espionage act; Wilhelm Schumann, convicted at Fort Dodge, Ia., under the espionage act and sentenced to five years; Joseph A. Schur and Maurice L. Smitkin, both serving six-year terms to which they were sentenced at Indianapolis in 1918 for violations of the espionage act.
Anthony J. Stopa, sentenced to 20 years after conviction at Detroit on charges of obstructing enlistment, and H. L. Trelez, convicted at Fargo in 1919 of espionage law violation and sentenced to two years.
Mainly War Prisoners.
"The list in the main," said an executive statement given out at the White House, "is made up of those who opposed the war in one way or another, and it is made up of less than a third of I. W. W. prisoners, and these have either expressed full penitence or are booked for deportation. The Department of Justice has given no recommendation in behalf of the advocates of sabotage or the destruction of government by force and the president let it be known he would not consider such cases. In addition to the five soldiers on the list, many other cases are under consideration."
"No comment was made by the president on the case of Debs. The president and the attorney general had given very extended consideration to the Debs petition, and it is known that the fact that he had twice been the presidential nominee of 1,000,000 voters, had its influence in reaching a decision favorable to his release."
"The president expressed the wish that it be stated that the grant of clemency in the cases acted upon does not question the justice of any action of the courts in enforcing the law in a time of national peril, but he feels the ends of justice have been fairly met, in view of the changed conditions."
Indictments Still Pending.
"The vast majority of so-called political prisoners still imprisoned are the I. W. W. group, are rarely American citizens and have no good claim to executive clemency. A number of convicted citizens have never been imprisoned, owing to appeals under bond. There are also many thousands of indictments under war legislation still pending. These do not come under executive consideration."
A supplementary White House statement on the Debs case further amplified the view taken by the president.
"There is no question of his guilt and that he actively and purposely obstructed the draft," this statement said.
"In fact, he admitted it at the trial, but sought to justify his action. He was by no means, however, as rapid and outspoken in his expressions as many others and but for his prominence and the resultant far-reaching effect of his words, very probably might not have received the sentence he did. He is an old man, not strong physically. He is a man of much personal charm and impressive personality which qualifications made him a dangerous man, calculated to mislead the unthinking and affording excuse for those with criminal intent."
One Woman Pardoned.
One woman, Mrs. Idell Kennedy, convicted at Los Angeles of hindering the selective service act by arranging with an oculist to furnish national army men with eye glasses which distorted their vision and made them unfit for army service, was included in the list, with a notation that President Wilson previously had reduced her sentence from 11 to three years on condition that she be placed in a sanitarium for the insane.
Claus Freese, who was convicted at El Paso, Tex., in 1918, the summary said, attempted to sell to a German consul in Mexico, plans of a gun which the American army was expected to use, although he contended that the plans were impracticable

and that he was "trying to play a Yankee trick" on the diplomatic agent.
Joseph Schur, formerly a practicing attorney at Indianapolis, and Maurice L. Smitkin were two cases coupled together in President Harding's commutations, both men having been involved in a conspiracy to sell exemptions to young men who had been summoned for army service in New York. Each was sentenced to six years in prison, but were released on parole, August 25.
Writer Released.
Among the I. W. W. prisoners released was Charles A. Spleigh, a writer of poetry and speaker who has served two years of a 10-year term and will be deported to his native country, England. Giovanni Baldazzi of Chicago, who was manager of "Il Proletario," an Italian paper conducted by the I. W. W., was also released for deportation, although a fine of \$30,000 had been added by the court to his 10-year term prison sentence. These were the only two members of the organization who had attained any prominence to obtain release, it was said.
Wilhelm Schumann, a German Lutheran minister at Pomeroy, Ia., was convicted of having preached a sermon during the war, urging punishment for all enemies of Germany and his release was ordered today.
Mojick Fierion, formerly an officer in the Austrian army, who was convicted at Detroit of obstructing the selective service act and sentenced to 20 years, was given his final release by the list, President Wilson having acted previously to reduce the sentence to five years. Among the miscellaneous cases were those of two Oklahoma farmers, who joined early in the war in a general rebellion against the selective service act, which was quickly suppressed. Gustave H. Jacobsen of Chicago, also named for release, aided a conspiracy during the war to

raise a native rebellion against British rule in India, insofar as he allowed his house to be used for a meeting place by those concerned, but the statement issued today said he was "not shown to have been in reality an enemy of the United States."
Jack Law, another member of the I. W. W., convicted at Chicago in 1918, the summary said, reported "one of the cases wherein it is earnestly claimed by many persons that there was no evidence at the trial to show that the applicant was guilty of any disloyal act, during the war."
Released Christmas Day.
Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 23.—Expectation that Eugene V. Debs would be released today from the Atlanta federal penitentiary, brought his brother, Theodore Debs, David Karster, New York socialist, and others to Atlanta, but at the penitentiary early tonight it was said no official word had been received, while Washington dispatches said the prisoner would be released Christmas day.
Debs had said some time ago that when he did leave the prison he expected to go directly to his home in Terra Haute, Ind., and make his future plans there after a reunion with his family and probably some of his close friends.
As far as could be learned, no demonstration in his behalf was planned on his release here, but a group of friends, including his brother, his local attorney and others, were ready to welcome him and to arrange for his trip home.
Not even his brother saw him today, however, and J. E. Dyche, warden at the penitentiary, reiterated tonight that no word had come from Washington. The order for Debs' release would come by mail, it followed the ordinary procedure, and it was expected it would reach Atlanta sometime late Saturday.

Three Battle for Soldier's Policy

"Fiancee" and "Foster-Mother" Contest With Attorney-Munger and Uncle Sam.

When Lucien Murat died in the service June 10, 1918, he left an insurance policy for \$10,000 with "mother" as the beneficiary.
Yesterday in federal court a suit brought by Mrs. Maria Brown, claiming to be the foster-mother of Murat, began. Mrs. Brown is suing for the insurance, and Attorney Arthur Munger, who claims Murat left a will in which he was named sole heir of the estate, is the defendant.
Mrs. Brown's daughter, Dorothy, is a witness in behalf of the Brown claim. She asserts she was Murat's fiancee and that he left everything to her mother because he wanted to remember her.
Will Reopen Beatrice "Y"
Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 23.—(Special.)—The sum of \$5,000 has been raised by subscription for the reopening of the Y. M. C. A. at this point, which has been closed for the past year. A membership drive will be started December 30.

Governor Comments On Special Session Statement of Wray

Lincoln, Dec. 23.—(Special.)—Governor Lickelie commented today in rather incisive language on the statement given out by Arthur G. Wray of York, relative to the special session of the legislature which the governor has called. Wray was a candidate for governor last November and is expected to be the standard bearer of the new third party organized at Grand Island.
"Of course we might expect that sort of statement from Mr. Wray," he said. "Being a single taxer, he would have all of the taxes laid on the land. His comment on the gasoline tax merely emphasizes his well-known single tax proclivities."
"As an alleged progressive, Mr. Wray harks back to his support of Theodore Roosevelt some years ago. Yet Governor Joe Dixon of Montana, who was Roosevelt's campaign manager in 1912, was one of the most enthusiastic advocates of the tax on gasoline with whom I talked at the governor's conference. He believes some of the taxes should be taken off the land instead of putting on more."
Cholera Kills Hogs
Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 23.—(Special Telegram.)—Dr. Stewart, superintendent of the feeble minded institute here, reported the loss of 20 more pure-bred Poland-China hogs from cholera. In all, 82 have died this week.

Stuhr Warns of State Laws on Slaughtering

Lincoln, Dec. 23.—(Special.)—Owing to the revival of local slaughtering of meat animals in Nebraska, because of high freight rates and transportation costs on packing house products, Secretary Stuhr of the department of agriculture calls attention to the fact that this must conform to the sanitary regulations in force in this state.
Killing should be done under the supervision of inspectors.
There is no desire to curtail local slaughtering, Mr. Stuhr said, but the state is interested in seeing that only properly inspected meat is placed on the market. There is a heavy fine provided for violation of the food ordinances.

Attorney for Fields Seeks Rehearing

Lincoln, Dec. 23.—(Special.)—Dr. Leslie S. Fields of Omaha, convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to a term of one to 10 years in the penitentiary for performing an illegal operation on Ruth Ayer of Hayes Center, today filed a motion for a rehearing in the Nebraska supreme court. The high court recently affirmed the findings of the Douglas county district court in the Fields case.
Attorneys for Dr. Fields also filed a brief in support of the motion for rehearing, setting forth practically the same objections as were urged when the appeal from the Douglas county district court was heard.
Error is claimed in that the trial court admitted letters written by Miss Ayer to her sweetheart, Watson Alexander, who some time after the girl's death accidentally shot and killed himself.

Governor Asks Views On Special Session

(Continued from Page One.)
the bank guarantee bill will better adapt it to the needs of the present time. I have in mind amendments similar to the South Dakota law, which enables the state to take over banks with depleted reserves and run them as public institutions instead of liquidating them through receiverships. In this way, the minimum draft is made upon the guaranty fund and the number of actual failures is reduced to the minimum.
Capitol Building Open.
"Fourth. There should be some question about the amount of balance in the capital building fund from the last biennium being available without being appropriated. If it appears that there is any real doubt about this, the special session may reappropriate this amount."
"I shall be glad to have your opinion upon these and any other subjects that you might have in mind to be considered at such a special session, bearing in mind, of course, that the duration of the session must be as brief as will be admitted by the absolute necessities of the occasion."
"I have thought of calling this session February 1, but I should be glad to call it on January 18 or 25. I shall be glad to have your expression of your preference regarding the date."
Having an abraded surface, a new kitchen implement, the skin from potatoes, which sharpened point picks out their eyes.

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Rhinestone Buckles, \$2	A Fox Scarf, \$29.75
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Trefousse Two Clasp, \$4.50	Jap Mink Choker, \$12.75
A Colored Umbrella, \$1.50	Hudson Seal Coat, \$397.50
A Man's Silk Muffler, \$2.50	A Velvet Negligee, \$75
A Black Jet Girdle, \$5.50	Slipon Silk Sweater, \$15
An Imported Vase, \$2	An All Wool Scarf, \$1.95
Narcissus Bulb and Bowl, \$2	Madeira Lunch Cloth, \$15
Sewing Work Basket, \$1.25	Dozen Madeira Napkins, \$10
Spanish Lace Scarfs, \$19.50	Hand Embroidered Hankies, 85c
Crepe de Chine Scarfs, \$3	Glove Silk Bloomers, \$5
Corsage Bouquets, \$1.75	Black Silk Teddy, \$7.75
A Madeira Kerchief, 85c	A Glove Silk Vest, \$3.50
A Feather Fan, \$21	A Gold Framed Motto, 65c
Ribbon Pin Cushion, \$3.50	An Organdie Collar, 75c
Black Carriage Boots, \$8	Lace Clocked Hose, \$4
Djer Kiss Toilet Set, \$1.98	Hand Clocked Wool Hose, \$4
A Satin Camisole, \$2.85	A Motor Robe, \$15
A Satin Bandeau, \$2.50	Ribbon Camisole Sets, \$3.75
A Parchment Motto, \$4	A Woolen Sweater, \$15
A Man's Bathrobe, \$8.50	Fancy Pillow Slips, \$2.50
A Pongee Negligee, \$25	A Georgette Blouse, \$15

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