The Courier

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News in Brief

—A trainload of German officers being brought back from Palestine has arrived at Geneva recently. All of them were ignorant of recent events in Germany and did not know of the revolution or the former emperor's flight into Holland.

—The steamer Stephanie, of Memel, Prussia, was sunk when she struck a mine off the German Baltic coast, the whole crew of 15 being lost.

—The Alsatian Centre party, the first political group to be reconstituted in Alsace since the release from German authority, met Saturday. The three hundred members present adopted a resolution favoring the teaching of both French and German in the schools, the maintenance of the rights of the church and the adoption of special labor laws.

—General von Mackensen, who was last reported to be still in Hungary has been arrested upon orders of the entente supreme command and transported to Salonica.

—Cardinal Hartmann, of Cologne, has addressed a report to the Pope in which he says that owing to the difficulty of obtaining foodstuffs, the death rate in Cologne has risen fifty per cent.

—President Wilson has nominated Hugh C. Wallace, Seattle, ambassador to France, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of William Graves Sharp.

—The strike situation in Barcelona continues serious. More than 50,000 persons are on strike and Barcelona has been without water, light or street cars for two days. The cabinet is occupied almost exclusively with a discussion of the situation in Barcelona.

—A state of siege has been proclaimed in Bucharest, where the Roumanian anti-monarchical revolution is centred, according to despatches received. A new plot against King Ferdinand and Crown Prince Carl is said to have been discovered. The royal family is reported to have fled.

Previous despatches reported that the king was slightly wounded when the royal palace was bombarded, and that the royal family was prevented by revolutionaries from leaving the city.

(Continued on Page 5.)

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WANTED — EXPERIENCED farm laborer for 8 months. German Catholic preferred. State wages in first letter. Apply Box 40, Denzil, Sask.

The Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Convention A Huge Success

Officers and Directors Elected

The following were elected by the Saskatchewan Grain Growers at the convention:

President—J. A. Maharg, M.P., Moose Jaw, (re-elected acclamation).

Vice-president—A. G. Hawkes, Percival, (re-elected).

Directors at large—Thos. Sales, Langham; H. C. Fleming, Tate; John Evans, Nutana; J. B. Musselman, Regina.

District Directors

District No. 1—Capt. T. M. Morgan, Aquadale, and Mrs. T. M. Morgan, Aquadale.

District No. 2—C. M. Emery, Assiniboia, and Mrs. J. Bryce, Ogema.

District No. 3—E. P. St. John, Kisbey, and Mrs. J. Clarke, Shorthoaks.

District No. 4—R. M. Johnston, Pasqua, and Mrs. Ida McNeal, Expanse.

District No. 5—John Miller, Indian Head, and Mrs. E. E. Bowen, Wapella.

District No. 6—Harry Marsh, Herschel, and Mrs. A. Sanville, Smiley.

District No. 7—Capt. Flatt, Tantallon, and Mrs. H. W. Frith, Birmingham.

District No. 8—W. J. Orchard, Tregarva, and Mrs. Osborne, Dilke.

District No. 9—James Inglis, Rokeby, and Mrs. A. Wallace, Guernsey.

District No. 10—J. L. Rooke, Togo, and Mrs. J. L. Rooke, Togo.

District No. 11—D. Japp, Speers and Mrs. E. Taylor, Forest Bank.

District No. 12—A. Baynton, Carlton, and Mrs. W. H. S. Gange, Red Deer Hill.

District No. 13—P. M. McCaffrey, Rockhaven.

District No. 14—Frank Burton, Vanguard, and Mrs. John Mitchell, Neidpath.

District No. 15—M. M. Richardson, Shaunavon, and Mrs. H. Hollis, Shaunavon.

District No. 16—W. T. Hall, Surbiton, and Mrs. H. P. Taylor, Dinsmore.

More than the usual air of expectancy characterizes the delegates at the eighteenth annual convention of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association, which opened here Tuesday, February 18 with over 2,000 present. With Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta farmers already more or less committed to political action, the Saskatchewan association is at the parting of the ways, about to abandon its former policy of remaining aloof from politics, to take a more aggressive part in electing those pledged to the farmers' platform to the House of Commons.

References in the report of the board of directors to the matter of fixing the price of wheat and of dealing with the question of the organization launching into a political career were greeted with loud applause at the afternoon session of the first day of the conference.

Language Question Brought Up

The entire afternoon session was devoted to the consideration of the various reports and financial statements and discussions arising out of these reports. The one question which consumed a great deal of time was the question of the executive continuing its policy of publishing its propaganda in foreign languages for the benefit of farmers of alien birth. The discussion was precipitated by a suggestion from Walter Simpson, of Eyebrow, that this literature should be printed in no other language but English.

During the discussion, President Maharg and Secretary J. B. Musselman referred to recent attacks on the latter which have appeared in country papers and which the latter stated were appearing in circulars which were being printed and disseminated throughout the country. Mr. Musselman frankly admitted that his ancestors were Mennonites and that he learned to speak the German language at his mother's knee but he was not ashamed of that. His people had been British subjects, he declared for a hundred years before Canada had become British, having followed the flag from the United States.

The discussion on this question of language occupied considerable time but was eventually decided by a practically unanimous vote in favor of continuing the publication of propaganda in foreign languages, Mr. Simpson's being the only dissentient vote. Mr. Simpson withdrew his opposition after the vote had been taken, in order to make the decision unanimous.

The attitude of the convention towards profiteering at the expense of the western consumer was made quite clear when a suggestion was made by one of the delegates that the word "criminal" should be eliminated from the executive report as applied to the disregard of these interests for the common weal, the suggestion being greeted with tremendous chorus of disapproval.

The land settlement scheme was referred to and a proposal that a special committee take up the question of securing information as to the exact cost of raising a bushel of wheat in order that soldiers should not go into a farming venture with their eyes shut was approved, the selection of the committee being left with J. Ferguson, of Elrose, who advanced the proposal.

Canada's Challenge

Addresses by Rev. Dr. Salem Bland and Major Lavell, supplemented by two or three musical numbers, comprised the program for the evening session. The ranks of the Grain Growers were swelled by a considerable number of citizens who thronged the Metropolitan church and who were rewarded by two inspiring speeches.

Under the caption "Canada's Challenge to the Grain Growers," Dr. Bland strongly advocated the formation of a new political party with the farmers, the soldiers and the workingmen as its backbone—a party which should include everyone who wished to make an honest living and nothing more.

In the course of his remarks he scored the politician who spoke like a lion in the west but was wooed into a dovel ke spirit by the blandishments of Ottawa when he reached that goal. A new party was needed, he declaring that it would be impossible to go back to the old party affiliations.

Addresses of Welcome

Addresses of welcome by Premier Martin, Mayor Black and D. M. Balfour featured the morning session, in which Mr. Martin, amid loud applause, assured the delegates that his government, realizing that Saskatchewan was almost purely an agricultural province, stood ready as always to carry out the wishes of the farmers, and for this reason paid close attention to the deliberations of the annual convention of the Grain Growers' association. Reconstruction in Saskatchewan he thought meant readjustment. One of the first problems was more branch railways. Immigration was another, but above all stood the encouragement of agriculture, and here the fiscal question entered. The east was apt to raise the cry that the west was revolutionary when tariff matters cropped up, but there was less Bolshevikism and unrest here than in the east, and the east would find the west willing to talk tariff in a reasonable and moderate frame of mind.

E. G. Hingley, Sask. Municipal Hail Insurance association suggested the Grain Growers form a joint stock or mutual hail insurance company and get for themselves a share of the big profits which the private companies, he said, were reaping. His association would be glad to help and advice.

Reports For the Year

The opening day was devoted mainly to receiving and adopting reports. The report of the executive dwelt on the difficult business conditions of 1918 and the heavy loss the association suffered through binder twine order cancellations and stressed the need for a larger capital for the co-operative trading department. Either farmers must submit in future to taking part of the twine risk themselves in carrying stocks over or put up with paying a much higher percentage of profit to dealers who had all got a severe lesson last year.

The auditors' reports showed the association had $400,107 of merchandise and supplies on hand as per inventories submitted to them by the association. Assets of the association were given at $588,160 with liabilities of $510,887. The net loss on the trading department was $7,434.

The report of the central board referred to settlement of lands saying that the directors failed to see why assistance to those who wished to farm should be confined to soldiers only. That there was a general demand among the locals for a fixed price of wheat was stated in the report, many locals having sent resolutions favoring a fixed price and the convention would consider the question, also the farmers' platform and what action, if any, should be taken to put it in effect. Lack of funds in the organisation was mentioned, 3,000 deficit in 1917 and $5,000 deficit in 1918 being evidence that either a larger income must be secured or expenses curtailed. J. A. Maharg, the president, had a report for submission, outlining the proposal of the board relative to raising $500,000 in debenture stock for the purpose of establishing a wholesale trading warehouse here to distribute groceries and some other commodities through lesser centres among trading locals and co-operative farmers' stores. The women's section of the Grain Growers has now over 4,000 members, according to the report of Mrs. C. E. Flatt, president, and financially shows a deficit of $5.13 for 1918.

Wants English Only in G. G. Publications

Walter Simpson, of Eyebrow, precipitated a considerable discussion on the language question when he offered an objection to the Grain Growers' propaganda being printed in any language other than English, expressing the opinion that citizens of foreign extraction who after a number of years in this country had not acquired a working knowledge of the English language should get out of the country.

H. C. Fleming, of Tate, one of the directors at large, defended the action of the executive. He was of the opinion that the publication of literature in foreign languages was only a measure of British justice to these people. The older generation, he declared, was unable to learn another language and in their ranks would be found the fathers of many of the boys who had gone to the front.

While strongly in favor of every citzen of foreign birth learning the English language, Mr. Hesterman wanted to know how they could expect these people to become good citizens if they did not provide the means for them to become acquainted with the laws, customs and ideals of the association and of the country. He pointed to the example of the politicians. "You know and I know," he said, "that the politicians have their pamphlets printed in foreign languages for circulation among these people."

Mr. Hesterman contended that it did not make them any worse citizens to know a number of languages, but he insisted they should see to it that English was the principal language.

It was suggested by one of the delegates that the use of foreign languages made the dissemination of Bolshevism an easy matter, to which another delegate objected on the ground that it was just as easy to spread Bolshevism in the English language as in any other.

At this stage of the discussion Mr. Fleming submitted a motion that the executive be empowered to have propaganda printed in any languages that might be deemed advisable, provided it were done in accordance with the laws of the country.

S. Pearce, of Pleasantdale, submitted an amendment to lay the question on the table, contending that they were dealing with a dangerous topic at the present time, referring to the question as a racial matter.

The amendment was lost and the discussion resumed, in the course of which, President Maharg made reference to what he termed "carping criticism," in connection with an allegation that he held stock in certain papers, which, he declared was "all nonsense."

One of the delegates, speaking from his experience as a sub-organizer, emphasized the need for publication of propaganda in foreign languages and another declared that thousands of dollars were spent to place the Word of God in the hands of these people in their own languages in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The publication of propaganda did not necessitate teaching foreign languages in the schools which was a very different matter.

Capt. Flatt also spoke in support of the executive's attitude. He referred to the difficulty which would be encountered by the older generations in endeavoring to acquire the English language. The question was one, he said, which would automatically solve itself in the days to come. "Let time work the cure," he said, "It is a wonderful healer."

J. B. Musselman stated that a good many unkind things were being said about him in letters to the newspapers and elsewhere, things which he declared were absolutely false and deliberate misrepresentations. These allegations were all being disseminated in the form of circulars, but who was spending all this money and what for the Lord only knew.

Mr. Musselman went on to say that when he became secretary of the organization his idea was to organize the farmers of this province irrespective of race, creed, color, politics or language and he had always endeavored to adhere to this policy. In spite of this, he declared he was absolutely opposed to the teaching of any language other than English in the schools.

Personal Attacks on Mr. Musselman

With reference to personal attacks upon himself, Mr. Musselman said that his people were good honest British citizens for a hundred years before Canada became British. They had followed the British flag from the United States, yet they were Mennonites. In conclusion he wanted to know whether the British speaking members of the organization were to separate from those who spoke German, Scandinavian and other languages and whether they wished to make the association a British-born organization. He asked that they should settle the question once for all.

Mr. Fleming's motion was eventually put and passed by an overwhelming majority.

(To be Continued.)

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50c a box, 6 for $2.50, trial size 25c. At all dealers or Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

SURRENDERS OF GERMAN EQUIPMENT

LONDON, Feb. 18. — On behalf of the government it has been announced in the house of commons in answer to a question that the following equipment of the German armies had been surrendered to the British up to February. 9:

Heavy guns, 2,500; heavy field guns, 2,500; machine guns, 25,000; trench mortars, 3,000; airplanes 1,700; locomotives, 4,065; motor trucks, 1,220.

Up to February 14, the Germans had surrendered to the British 126,828 freight cars.

—Serious food riots have broken out at Palma, Majorca, one of the largest islands in the Spanish Bealearic group. The market halls were plundered and destroyed. All the stores and cafes have been closed. The populace attempted to loot the palace of a local millionaire named Marched. Cavalry, however, beat off the mob.

SOCIALISTS OF FRANCE WOULD LIGHTEN TERMS PLACED ON GERMANS

Undercurrent of Feeling That Germany Should Not Be Left to too Bitter Reflection

PARIS, Feb. 19. — The question is now being asked what voice the Germans will have in the final peace treaty. Hitherto it has been assumed by well informed observers that the Allies, after thrashing out all the differences between themselves, would simply summon the enemy states, place the program before them and ask them what they have to say before the program is put into execution. In other words, the scene would resemble less a council chamber than a court room and occupy very little time.

The Germans, however, apparently consider that the peace terms can only be enforced if they accept them. They obviously ground their position upon their interpretation of the American fourteen points, which they accepted Nov. 11, 1918 as the basis of peace. They will protest against being deprived of their colonies, against not being consulted in the formation of the League of Nations and probably against other things.

While doubtless, the Allies will pay little heed to these enemy protests, there is a certain current of socialist feeling in France and perhaps in other allied countries which feels that if the peace terms leave Germany suffering under a sense of bitter injustice the peace of the world may again be endangered. The same socialists are inclined to make certain concessions to the Germans on the colonial question. They consider that this would be a small price to pay for the elimination of lasting bitterness from the final peace.

TWENTY YEARS IN PRISON FOR BERGER PARTY

CHICAGO, Feb. 20. — A maximum sentence of twenty years in Leavenworth prison was imposed by Federal Judge Landis today on Congressman-Elect Victor L. Berger, of Milwaukee, and four other Socialist leaders, who, in final pleas, likened themselves to history's greatest martyrs. The five men, convicted of conspiracy to obstruct the draft in violation of the Espionage act, succeeded in obtaining release on $25,000, bail from Judge Alschuler, and declared they would carry their legal fight to the United States supreme court.

Beside Berger, publisher of the Milwaukee Leader, the other convicted men are: Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker, lecturer and writer; Adolph Germer, national secretary of the Socialist party; J. Louis Engdhal, editor of the American Socialist; and William F. Kruse, head of the Young People's Socialist league.

Allowed One Petition

JudgeLandis over-ruled motions for a new trial, for a stay of execution, and for bail, but granted the filling of a petition for writ of error. Counsel for the convicted men then went before Judge Samuel P. Alschuler, of the United States circuit court of appeals, and asked for bail.

William Bross Lloyd, Chicago millionaire, who was the Socialist candidate for United States senator at the last election, provided surety for the five.

IMPOSSIBLE TO END CENSORSHIP YET IS OFFICIAL VIEW

LONDON, Feb. 21. — German mark currency of Alsace yesterday was given up to questions in the house of commons. Mr. Guest, replying for the Right Hon. Winston Churchill, stated that the Allies were considering the question of the Rhinelands which were recoverable from Germany under the terms of the armistice.

Bonar Law stated that the government had decided that it was impossible at the present time to end the various censorships that still existed.

MOTHERS TO BE

Should Read Mrs. Monyhan's Letter Published by Her Permission

Mitchell, Ind. — "Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound helped me so much during the time I was looking forward to the coming of my little one that I am recommending it to other expectant mothers. Before taking it, some days I suffered with neuralgia so badly that I thought I could not live, but after taking three bottles of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I was entirely relieved of neuralgia, I had gained in strength and was able to go around and do all my housework. My baby when seven months old weighed 10 pounds and I feel better than I have for a long time. I never had any medicine do me so much good."—Mrs. PEARL MONYHAN, Mitchell, Ind.

Good health during maternity is a most important factor to both mother and child, and many letters have been received by the Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass., telling of health restored during this trying period by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

FOUND BOLSHEVIK PRESS

PARIS, Feb. 21. — Jonuent, the manager of the Liberataire, has been arrested as the result of the discovery in a secret printing plant of a block used for the reproduction of a leaflet addressed to the people of France and supporting the doctrines of Lenine and Trotzky.

GERMANY CAN PAY WAR INDEMNITIES SAYS FINANCIER

LONDON, Feb. 21. — Herbert Gibbs, a well-known banker, in an address here today, declared that, having made a special study of the subject, he was able to say that the savings of Germany were very great. Germany could easily pay £600,000,000 yearly, the burden of which, he assterted, would fall not on the wage-earners of Germany but on the people who had made the war. He believed that an allied commission should sit at Berlin to receive the money in marks at the gold rate of exchange.

It was quite possible, Mr. Gibbs said, that for the first three or four years Germany would find great difficulty in paying, owing to her economic and political condition, and he suggested that these yearly amounts should at first be received in merchant ships to the value of £500,000,000 and from the earnings of the railways.

REEVE WEBER FACES NEW CHARGES

OWEN SOUND, Ont., Feb. 21. — Reeve Joseph Weber, of Neustadt, was again remanded to Monday next when he came up before Police Magistrate Creasor here yesterday. At his trial Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, he was found guilty of uttering seditious language and remanded for sentence. On Monday he will also appear before Mr. Justice Rose, of Toronto, at the assizes, on four charges under the War Measures Act and Military Service Act.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY

PARIS, Feb. 19.—Captain Walter R. Gherardi, of the United States navy, who has been in Germany for two weeks studying economic and general conditions, has returned to Paris and reports that he found much unemployment throughout the country and a restless, fluid condition that contains a threat against the peace of the immediate future. He says that Germany's food supplies are limited to nearly exhausted reserves, which cannot last longer than next month, leaving a great gab to be filled before harvest.

The German army, Captain Gherardi says, has shrunk to insignificant figures, and is no longer formidable.

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