

W. F. McCOMBS TO GO AS CHAIRMAN

Democratic Leader Says He Cannot Direct Next Wilson Presidential Campaign.

F. B. LYNCH IS MENTIONED

Business Reasons Are Assigned for Withdrawal, but Party Is Declared to Be Loyal and United for Campaign.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Choice of the man who will manage President Wilson's campaign for re-election, becoming chairman of the Democratic National committee to succeed William F. McCombs, who notified the President today that he would retire after the St. Louis convention, lies between Fred B. Lynch, National committee man from Minnesota, and Homer S. Cummings, of Connecticut, vice-chairman of the committee. It is regarded as more than probable that the task will fall to Mr. Lynch, now chairman of the National committee's executive committee, and in charge of the preliminary work for the coming campaign.

Mr. McCombs' decision that his personal affairs demanded that he give up the chairmanship after five years of active service was communicated to the President in a letter which was made public today with the President's reply. Business Reasons Are Given. Mr. McCombs wrote this letter to the President: "I have just formed a new partnership for the practice of law, which will become effective on the first of May. The change will necessitate my devoting substantially all my time to my profession. My political activities must be largely curtailed. My arrangements, however, will justify my proceeding through to the end of the convention at St. Louis.

"In view of the party precedent that the nominee for President is requested to indicate his preference for the chairmanship of the National Committee, and in view of the unity of sentiment for your renomination, I am writing you at the earliest moment to let you know that I could not under any circumstances assume the leadership of the coming Democratic campaign. I am happy in the thought, however, that there are many patriotic true men who can very readily take my place.

Party Declared Loyal. "The Democratic organization is loyal to your policies and purposes. We all feel assured of a triumphant result for you and for the party nominees throughout the country in November. "For five years now I have been in the active service of the party and it is with a keen feeling of regret that I am forced to conclude that my activities are of necessity to be more limited. If, within the limit of my time, I can be of assistance, be assured that I am always available.

The President replied as follows: "I have your letter of April 20 appreciating the offer of your resignation to retain the chairmanship of the Democratic National Committee for the approaching campaign. "I fully appreciate the necessity you feel yourself to be under to resign after five years of service. It has been held in reserve for you and you have not been re-elected such a decision had not your new business relations made it unavoidable. I do not feel at liberty, therefore, to urge you to make any sacrifice that a retention of the chairmanship in the circumstances would involve. You have made many and great sacrifices already for the party, and I know that I am speaking the sentiments of all loyal Democrats when I express the very deep appreciation I have felt of the great services you have rendered.

Joseph P. Dumulty, secretary to the President, also has been mentioned as a possible successor to Mr. McCombs.

PASTOR TO BE TRIED AGAIN. Rev. Madison H. Slaughter Case to Be Started in Oroville Today.

OROVILLE, Cal., April 24.—Rev. Madison H. Slaughter, of Chico, Cal., will go on trial here tomorrow for a second time, charged with attacking 15-year-old Gertrude Lamson, also of Chico. The trial will be on the same indictment as that on which the first trial, which ended in a disagreement by the jury, was held. The indictment charges the pastor with a specialty offense, which is said to have taken place on November 14, 1915.

6656 Registered in Coos County. MARSHFIELD, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—County clerk Watson has announced the total registration for Coos County, which is 6656, divided as follows: Republicans, 4174; Democrats, 1881; Socialists, 484; Independents, 190; Prohibition, 77; Progressive Republicans, 5; Non-Partisan, 11; Progressives, 29; refused to state, 35.

Dr. Koo Gives Formal Dinner. WASHINGTON, April 24.—Secretary Lansing was the guest of honor tonight at the first formal dinner given by Dr. Wellington Koo, the new Chinese Minister. Many officials, diplomats and members of Congress were present.

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OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

Turkish. CONSTANTINOPLE, via London, April 24.—The following official communication was issued today: "On Thursday night hostile attacks on our positions at Beizsea were easily repulsed. "From Friday until noon Saturday the enemy intermittently bombarded our positions at Pezalie on the left bank of the Tigris. About noon the bombardment increased and the enemy attacked immediately afterwards with troops estimated at half division. "Our reserves, however, directed a strong counter attack on the enemy columns and after two hours of bayonet fighting the enemy was obliged to retreat to his own trenches with a loss of some 2000 dead. "The enemy's losses in Saturday's fighting were more than 3000. Our losses were insignificant. "At Kut-el-Amara the situation is unchanged. "Caucasian front—On the right wing there is nothing to report. In the center we surprised an enemy detachment of some 100 men, who were killed and 18 men were killed. The others fled. "On the same sector an enemy attack with two battalions was repulsed by our counter attack, in which half the enemy was engaged. "On the left wing in the coastal sector, isolated enemy attacks were successfully repulsed. "Near Suddul-Bahr (Dardanelles) two enemy vessels opened an ineffectual fire and some aeroplanes appeared at a great height, dropping bombs, which fell into the water. "On the coast of Smyrna two enemy motor boats were engaged, one of which was destroyed. Later they withdrew."

French. PARIS, April 24.—The French official communication issued today follows: "The artillery was active in the sectors of Westende and Steenstraete. "In the Argonne we concentrated our fire on the region of Malancourt. "West of the Meuse the enemy violently bombarded during the afternoon our positions in the region of Le Mort Homme. "East of the Meuse and in the Woerwa the artillery activity was intermittent. "There is nothing to report on the rest of the front. "Aviation—Last night our aerial squadron carried out several bombing operations. Twenty-one shells and eight incendiary bombs were dropped on the railway station at Longwy. "On the station at Stenay, 12 shells on bivouacs east of Dun and 22 shells on bivouacs in the region of Montfaucou and the station at Nantillois."

Russian. PETROGRAD, via London, April 24.—The official communication today reads: "His Imperial Majesty, the Commander-in-Chief of the army, observed part of the Holy Week religious exercises in union with all the members of his staff. "Enemy aeroplanes threw bombs on Dvinsk. Our aircraft threw 13 bombs on the station southeast of Friedland. On the remainder of the front there was only an exchange of fire. "Caucasian front—In the coast region the enemy made attempts to advance toward Trebizond. These were all frustrated by our advance guards. "In the region of Aeshkala the fighting continued. We stopped the Turkish offensive in the direction of Kharput."

German. BERLIN, April 24.—The official statement today says: "Western front—The artillery along the entire front has shown greater activity than during the past few days. Successful German patrol operations took place at several points. "South of St. Eloi British detachments were repulsed. "In the Meuse sector minor French hand grenade attacks yesterday against our forest positions northwest of Avocourt were repulsed. "Weak enemy advances during the night east of Dead Man's Hill failed. "A strong attack in the neighborhood of Thunoy, France, broke down completely in front of our line. "A British biplane was put out of way from Portland to Hood River and beyond.

Despite the advisory board's recommendation that the state should aid in building the Glendale cutoff on the Pacific Highway, instead of favoring improvement of the highway via Glendale, the Commission adhered to its former attitude of favoring the longer route. Otherwise Glendale would be eliminated from the main route of the Pacific Highway.

S. Benson argued that the board should regard the wishes of the majority of persons who would travel the highway rather than the 200 residents of Glendale. Governor Whyte said that when funds were available the cutoff could be constructed.

REALEY BOARD FORMED. GRANTS PASS DEALERS COMBINE TO PROTECT BUYERS. Property-Holders Said to be Listing Land at Reasonable Prices With Many Sales Resulting.

GRANTS PASS, Or., April 21.—(Special.)—In anticipation of the renewed activity in real estate sales in Grants Pass, due to the building of the Twohy road to the coast, the sugar beet factory, and a number of allied industrial developments, the real estate men of Grants Pass have organized the Grants Pass Realty Board.

The object for which the association is formed is improvement of the condition of the real estate business in Grants Pass, and protection of prospective purchasers from fraud and misrepresentation. It is also sought through such an organization to eliminate demands for excessive commissions, and to prevent the listing of property for sale at fictitious, unwarranted, or inflated prices.

The real estate men of Grants Pass are determined that the sane, conservative growth of the city shall not be prejudiced by boom prices, and that prospective investors shall not be deflected from their investments by demands for double or excessive commissions. The board is to meet for lunch every Monday, when questions pertinent to the building up of a conservative, honest salesmanship will be discussed.

Landholders declare themselves as pleased with the new organization, and are listing their properties freely with members at conservative values, with the result that a considerable number of sales are being made. The members of the new organization are: E. T. McKinstry, W. B. Sherman, E. L. Churchill, Isaac Best, R. P. Heath, A. A. Launer, Joseph Moss and P. B. Herman.

Firing a number of simultaneous blasts is estimated to be about 25 per cent more effective in breaking rocks than by firing the blasts singly.

BRITISH IN AFRICA SWEEP ENEMY BACK

Lines Are Pushed Farther On and Several Towns Are Occupied by Troops.

GAINS MADE IN EGYPT. Small Force of Yeomanry Returns From Quatia When Attacked by Superior Column, Which Is Defeated Later.

Belgian. PARIS, April 24.—The Belgian communication tonight follows: "Last evening and during the course of the night there was violent artillery action in the sector of Ramscapelle. "In the afternoon of April 23, the bombardment was resumed with intensity in the same region as well as in the direction of Dixmude and Steenstraete."

Monday's War Moves. ARTILLERY bombardments alone are talking place on the French and Belgian fronts, the scene of the greatest activity being the region of Le Mort Homme and in the Argonne forest, with the Germans the aggressors in the former and the French in the latter sector.

French aviators in squadron formations have dropped large numbers of shells on German positions at Longwy, Stenay, Dun and near Monte Faucon.

The fighting between the Russians and the Germans and Austrians along the eastern front continues at various points, but no important changes in the desert are reported in the neighborhood of Dueddar. A strong attack by about 500 of the enemy was made at S. M., on the post held by us at that place.

Enemy Repulsed and Harassed. "The attack was beaten off after reinforcements had been brought up and the enemy withdrew, leaving 30 prisoners. Their known casualties amounted to 40 killed. The enemy was harassed during his retreat by a column of Australian troops, acting in concert with aeroplanes, and suffered heavy casualties both from the fire of the troops and from bombs and machine gun fire from aeroplanes.

Quatia village, which was held by a small force of yeomanry, was attacked simultaneously with Dueddar by a hostile column, 2000 strong, with three field guns. After a severe engagement, our troops withdrew from the village."

Marriage at 14 Is Failure. ALBANY, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—That she became a bride when only 14 years old and that her marriage resulted from over-persuasion is an allegation of Elva M. Silvers in a complaint she filed in the State Circuit Court here yesterday asking for a divorce from Charles F. Silvers. They were married at Kearney, Neb., February 5, 1910. The wife alleges her husband deserted her a few months after their marriage.

Oddfellows Will Celebrate. KLAMATH FALLS, Or., April 24.—The 98th anniversary of the foundation of Oddfellowship in America will be celebrated by the local members of the order here Wednesday night. Members of Prosperity Rinkah lodge have been invited to assist. The evening will be spent in games and dancing, and refreshments will be served.

England has received another visitation from Zeppelins, three of the airships having dropped incendiary bombs on the eastern coasts.

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PAIR IN FORGERY NET

H. N. Ford and Woman Caught on Canadian Farm.

OREGON DEMANDS RETURN. Indictment Here Charges Disposition of \$12,000 Property, in Which Mrs. Ford No. 1 Claims to Have Half-Interest.

WINNIPEG, Man., April 24.—(Special.)—H. N. Ford and a woman companion, said to be posing as Mrs. Ford, were arrested at Marchand, Manitoba, a few miles from Winnipeg, on a charge of forgery and brought into Winnipeg today. They are wanted at Portland, Or., and information was supplied to Manitoba authorities by Sheriff Hurlbut.

The pair was established on a farm at Marchand, where they had been for several months. It is reported that they were separated from her husband a good deal of the time, but finally he came to Oregon. When Mrs. Ford found him, after an unexplained absence, in Vale, Or., he was conducting a hotel and stage line there and was "married," she says. Mrs. Ford No. 2 was Miss Elizabeth Frary, Mrs. Ford No. 1 declares.

Ford's property in Oregon stood in his name and that of his wife. It was valued at about \$12,000. With Miss Frary signing as Mrs. Ford, Ford sold this property, leaving Mrs. Ford without means. It is alleged.

Hearing Given Candidates. KLAMATH FALLS, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—Thirty-three candidates met the voters of the Midland district south of this city at the schoolhouse Friday night, when three-minute speeches were made. Refreshments were served, the proceeds of which went to the Parent-Teacher Association to be used in beautifying the school grounds.

There are 250 FBI agents.

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