

FARMERS' LEAGUE SPY SPASM IN SEEKS ABOLITION CONGRESS BRINGS FOOD GAMBLING DRASTIC LAWS

New Nonpartisan Political Organization Opens National Campaign Against Exchanges That Make People's Food More Costly, as Bill is Introduced in Minnesota House.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb. 27.—"Make it a crime to gamble in food!" That will lower the high cost of living, says A. C. Townley, president of the National Non-Partisan League, the new farmers' movement in the northwest. "Food gamblers, more than anything else, are responsible for the fact that farmers get so little for their crops, and consumers have to pay so much," Townley asserted. "The president has just ordered another investigation into the high cost of living. That probably will result as other investigations did—in mere reports and no action. "District attorneys and the department of justice talk a lot about preventing this man or that, and once in a while they do, but they never get down to the system. "Demolish the system. "It's the gambling system that we propose to demolish—gambling in grain, meat and every other food product. "With the opening of national headquarters in St. Paul, the Nonpartisan League begins a nation-wide campaign to drive the food gambler out of business, to do away with the trading in "futures" in the great food markets of America. "A nonpartisan member of the Minnesota legislature has introduced a bill to make it a crime to buy or sell imaginary wheat, or any grain the buyer and seller trade in on paper only. It prohibits the man who hasn't wheat from selling any, and the man who buys it must take the grain and not the paper profits. "Plan of Campaign. "In this way the league hopes to end grain gambling on the floor of the Minnesota chamber of commerce, the largest flour-wheat market in the United States. "These grain gamblers get rich," Townley explained, "by taking toll from both producer and consumer. Every loaf of bread now costs more than it would if the gamblers' profits hadn't been added to the wheat at the time the flour miller bought it. "The league's slogan, "Make it a crime to gamble in foodstuffs," will be carried into every state in which the league is organized among the farmers. That means in every agricultural state. "By next December the league will have a thousand or more organizers in the field. We will be south as far as Texas, west to Colorado, and in the southeastern states. "A National Issue. "In the 1918 campaigns we will refuse endorsement to those legislative candidates who favor gambling in foodstuffs, and the league members will go out of their way in the elections to defeat the food gamblers' candidates. "It was announced at national headquarters that the league would be strong enough by the next presidential election to force the food gambling issue into the platform of at least one big party, and that it would pledge congressional candidates to enactment of an anti-food gambling law. "The league feels that while it may do much good by state legislation against food speculation, it cannot get at the foundation head of wheat and meat gamblers, the Chicago board of trade, without federal legislation.

Life Imprisonment and \$10,000 Fine Provided Under Overman Law for Editors Who Expose Army and Navy Scandals—Definition of Spy Includes Reports Ship Movements.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Quick! the camphor and smelling salts! Congress has gone into hysterics and is making an exhibition of herself! Spies! That terrible word has thrown the poor old body into spasms, and unless something is done at once she will not have a rat of self-respect left on her body! The old party who quitted down the folding bed and then looked under it for burglars was rational and consecutive compared with Overman and his fellows in the senate who have just passed S-8178—the "Spy Bill." These old dears have apparently taken leave of the last glint of their common sense. They have gone stark staring mad on the subject of spies. They have worked themselves into such a nervous sweat that they see a lurking horror behind every tree-top; and—the pity of it—they seem to think they can drive away the shadows by passing legislation. "Life Imprisonment for Spies. "Life imprisonment for the spies! They cry. And then they define a spy vaguely as any person who "in time of war, shall by any means or in any manner, spread or make reports or statements, or convey information, with intent to cause dissatisfaction or to interfere with the operations, or success of, the military or naval forces of the United States." Which might be anyone from a newspaper reporter to a Quaker elder. "The situation, while most ludicrous, is really terribly serious. These frightened old ladies are the legislative representatives of the American people and their hysterics are not their private affair. The legislation they pass will be on the statute books and will come up to plague generations unborn. "Passes the Senate. "The so-called Overman "spy bill" passed the senate, after a brief debate, Tuesday, February 26th, by a vote of 66 to 16. Senators Cummins, LaFollette, Weeks and Lee had done what they could to call attention to its dangers and its futility, but they might as well have tried to argue with the east wind. "Under the Overman "spy" law, life imprisonment and a ten thousand dollar fine would await the newspaper editor who exposed "Embattled beef." He would be "spreading reports" or "making statements" which, in the judgment of some military poppets, would "interfere with the success of the military or naval forces of the United States." "Under the Overman "spy" bill a newspaper reporter, who, in time of peace might seek to inquire into the state of our military defenses, would be subject to life imprisonment and the ten thousand dollar fine. "A Blow at Liberty. "Under the Overman "spy" law, a newspaper editor or owner or correspondent who might attempt an exposure such as Lord Northcliffe made of the failure of the British war office to furnish shells to the army, would be subject to this threat of life imprisonment and fine. "Funeral Notice. "MARGREITER—The funeral service of John R. Margreiter will be held at Peck's Chapel at 2 p. m. Wednesday, Rev. Carstens officiating. Burial in Jacksonville cemetery. "Notice to Wood Dealers and Contractors. "School District No. 49 will receive sealed bids at the office of the Clerk, until 7:30 p. m., Feb. 27th, 1917, for 300 yards of wood, the same to be first growth, body wood, either red fir, black oak or hursel. Same to be delivered at the school grounds, between April 1st and Aug. 1st, 1917. All wood must be cut from live trees. Each stick to be four feet long and not less than 6 inches or more than 12 inches in diameter. Wood to be so piled that it can be easily measured at the school grounds, and all measurements to be made by the department of weights and measures of the state and such measurement to be satisfactory to both parties. "The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. "DR. H. R. SHELLEY, Chairman. "H. S. STINE, Clerk.

CITY RAISES FUND FOR FAMILY OF PASTOR WHO SAVED WOMEN



Family of the Rev. Buford: Top row, left to right, Mrs. Buford; Frances, 14; Rev. Buford; bottom, left to right, James, 16; Gaston, Jr., 10; Evelyn, 12.

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 27.—All Atlanta is paying honor today to the martyrdom of the Rev. Gaston B. Buford, young pastor of the Midway Memorial Presbyterian church, who was shot dead by a manne while trying to save the lives of three women. One of the women also was killed; another was wounded and the third escaped before the assassin was overpowered and shot dead by another man. Buford and his wife were passing the home of Mrs. M. Zahn, a widow of 60, when they heard shots. Buford,

obeying that instinct of service to others which dominated his life, rushed in and found H. Claude Anderson, 45, armed with two revolvers and threatening the lives of Mrs. Zahn, Mrs. W. J. Zahn, her daughter-in-law and Mrs. Anderson, the assassin's wife. The next shot struck Buford, who died soon after. Mrs. M. Zahn also died from her wounds, and Mrs. W. J. Zahn was wounded in the cheek. Atlanta is contributing a fund for the Buford family, consisting of Mrs. Buford, James, 16; Frances, 14; Gaston B. Jr., 10, and Evelyn, 12.

SENATE BILL AUTHORIZES SHIPS TO USE ARMS

(Continued From Page One.)

Senators and representatives began receiving telegrams today from the Emergency Peace Federation protesting against granting to the president the authority he asked yesterday from congress. It was announced here that a delegation headed by Jane Addams of Chicago would seek an audience tomorrow with the president and the foreign affairs committee of congress to protest against steps being taken, which the announcement described as "contemplated towards war between the United States and Germany."

To Re-draft Bill. The senate committee had decided to re-draft the whole bill to make it more explicit. The right to arm ships, it was said, would take the form of authorizing the government to supply arms and gunners for this purpose. All members of the foreign relations committee were practically agreed, however, that a measure giving the president authority to arm merchant ships, defend the neutrality of the United States and to give him further authority to safeguard the property and rights of Americans on the high seas would be worked out. The committee has under consideration a law passed in 1915, relating to piracy, in which it authorized the president to convoy ships for their protection in an emergency. Statute Provided. The first section of the statute provided: "That the president of the United States, and he hereby is authorized and requested to employ so many of the public armed vessels as in his judgment the service may require, with suitable instructions to the commanders thereof, in protecting the merchant vessels of the United States and their crews from piratical aggressions and depredations."

admiralty patrol. Wireless also used up to last moment. Boats scattered two or three miles in swells twelve feet high. Burned three and were picked up sometime between 3 and 4 a. m., February 26.

A second dispatch from Consul Frost, timed 8:30 o'clock this morning, says: "Deaths of Mrs. and Miss Hoy, as reported, now positively confirmed. Cedric B. Ivatt of New York, theatrical agent, probably American, is apparently lost. Add to Americans saved the following negro firemen and seamen: "List of Americans. "Douglas Adams, Newport News; Benjamin Carter, New York; Lewis Darnell, Baltimore; Xarrey Massenburg, Newport News; Ed Smith, New York; Harry Young, New York; Barney Rhettin, New York; John Williams, address unknown; William Wynn or Wynn, Baltimore; Henry Smith, Indianapolis; Joseph Lewis, Buffalo; Dan Lewis, Savannah, Ga.; Isaac Bowman, Savannah, Ga.; John Joneson, New York; Joseph Sumter, Charleston. Fifteen in all. "Total survivors landed here, 267. Landed at Bantry, 14. Total on board, 294; missing, 15, of whom five drowned and eight, including Hoy ladies, died of exposure and buried at sea. Six hospital cases, some injuries of grave. First torpedo struck shaft engine, steamer going 17 to 18 knots, engine stopped and ship turned, listing to starboard, so that most boats got off that side. Twenty minutes later, when most boats were clear, submarine fired second torpedo, striking engine room shaft.

C. P. Ivatts was a British citizen, living in London. As a traveling representative of a New York banking house, he was crossing to England to introduce American products. His wife and two daughters are in Paris, where the daughters are engaged in America hospital and ambulance service.

Thirteen Lost in Disaster. LONDON, Feb. 27.—A letter telegraph from Consul Frost gave the total number of persons landed from the Laconia as 281 out of 294 on board. Of the thirteen lost, five were drowned and eight died from exposure and were buried at sea. Six persons are in hospitals at Queenstown; the telegram said. Their condition is not serious. Consul Frost's message read: "Mrs. Mary Hoy and Miss Elizabeth Hoy, passengers on the Laconia, died from exposure. Their bodies are buried at sea." Mrs. Hoy's husband, Dr. Albert H. Hoy, who is a civil war veteran, and her son, Austin V. Hoy, reside in London. The letter called on the embassy this morning and received a copy of the message from Consul Frost. As far as the embassy knows, these

two were the only Americans lost on the Laconia. The embassy's list of American passenger survivors was: E. P. Gibson, Chicago Tribune; Mrs. P. E. Harris-wife of Colonel Harris, U. S. A.; A. T. Kirby, New York, and Rev. Joseph Waring, Baltimore. A supplemental dispatch from Consul Frost, received at noon said: "Lost was British subject. Add to American survivors M. Heyland and C. Price, negro seaman. Survivors from boat number eight from which Mrs. Mary Hoy and daughter were buried included Father Dunston Sergeant and Mr. T. Totherington, British subject, landed at Bantry."

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FOUR AMERICANS AMONG 13 DEAD ON LINER LACONIA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Increased freight rates on iron and steel from Chicago, Pittsburg and other points in the east to Pacific coast terminals for export were authorized today by the interstate commerce commission. The increases authorized are from 20 cents—the present rate—to 40 cents from Chicago, and from 42 to 45 cents from Pittsburg. The rates will become effective April 2 and apply to shipments destined for Japan, China and Manila. With the authorization of these increases the rates on iron and steel from producing points to the Orient, by way of Pacific ports, will be approximately 12 cents higher per 100 pounds than the rates by way of New York. Little, if any, diversion of this traffic from Pacific coast ports to Atlantic ports is anticipated by the commission because of the increased rate.

SWEENEY SEEKS JOB AS STATE PHYSICIAN

SALLEM, Ore., Feb. 27.—Dr. Chas. T. Sweeney, representative in the last legislature from Murphy, Josephine county, is an active applicant for physician at the various state institutions, and the situation in regard to medical services at these institutions presents some possible interesting complications in the near future. When the governor takes charge of the state penitentiary it has been generally considered that R. D. Byrd, physician at that institution now, probably will be replaced. Dr. Byrd is a democrat.

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HIGHER FREIGHT ON IRON, STEEL TO PACIFIC COAST

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commander and crew of any merchant vessel of the United States "owned wholly, or in part, by a citizen thereof, may oppose and defend against any aggression, search, restraint, deprivation or seizure which shall be attempted upon such vessels or upon any vessel owned as aforesaid, by the commander or crew of any armed vessel whatsoever."

Whether the bill under preparation would carry direction to convoy ships, senators said, had not yet been determined, but several expressed the view that there would be incorporated in it a provision similar to that of the law in 1915 which gives authority to commanders and crews of merchant ships to defend themselves. Card of Thanks. We wish to thank the many friends for the help and kindness shown us in our hour of bereavement and trouble. And for the many beautiful floral offerings and kind thoughts and offers of assistance. C. S. WEBSTER, CATHERINE WEBSTER, ALICE IRMA WEBSTER, EMMA HUDSON WEBSTER, JAMES IRVINE WEBSTER.

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