

WARD LEADERS CHARGE COERCION OF McNICHOLO AND PENROSE FRIENDS

Definite Accusations of Intimidation of Small Shopkeepers Into Supporting Vares Made

HAZLETT MAKES DENIAL

Definite charges that the police are being used to intimidate Penrose and McNichol followers and that they are coercing small shopkeepers into supporting the Vares, have been made by McNichol ward leaders.

Albert S. Henry, McNichol follower, and Republican City Committeeman from the 4th Ward, is threatening to take legal action against Police Lieutenant Johnson on a charge of intimidating small merchants. He also openly accuses Recorder of Deeds James M. Hazlett, Vares lieutenant, of coercion.

Followers of County Commissioner Robert J. Moore, leader of the 4th Ward, who is aligned politically with McNichol and Penrose, have also charged Lieutenant Echtermeyer, a Vares follower, with intimidation. They have alleged that Echtermeyer yesterday placed policemen in front of the stores of Jewish merchants along South, Bainbridge and connecting streets, and refused to permit them to make sales until they agreed to support State Senator Samuel W. Salus, who is being backed by the Vares for City Committee against Moore.

City Committeeman Henry is a candidate for re-election to the committee. His opponents for the ward leadership are State Senator William Wallace Smith and Magistrate Byron E. Wrigley.

One employee of the Recorder of Deeds office was discharged by Recorder Hazlett and another asked to resign, according to Henry, because they declined to "turn in" for the Vares.

"I charge Hazlett with coercion," said Mr. Henry last night, "and am prepared to back my statements by the testimony of James F. Moran, who lives in the 4th Ward, and Gustave F. Reinecke, who sits on the Ward Committee from the 3d division.

"I charge that Hazlett last Tuesday sent Reinecke and told him that he must stand with Smith and Wrigley against me," Gus said that he would not align himself with these Vares leaders, but that he was going with his friends. Hazlett then demanded that he resign, but Reinecke refused. "Gus" is going to report tomorrow, but is satisfied that he will be "fired." This is direct coercion, and I am going to make a fight to have it stopped.

"Moran's case is even more flagrant. He is a supporter of 'Bob' Moore. Hazlett, I charge, called him into his office and told him that he would have to turn in for Salus. As Moran refused he was 'fired' by a registered letter that arrived at his home, at Kater and Randolph streets, a few minutes after midnight yesterday morning. He was charged with neglect of duty."

Recorder Hazlett denied last night that he had demanded the resignation of employees. "Any man who says that I am coercing employees in any manner is a liar," said the Recorder. "That is plain enough, I guess."

"I discharged one man, Moran, because he had not been inside the office for three or four days and was doing no work. That's all about his case. I discuss these cases any time, too."

In the 4th Ward the Moore lieutenants charge that the little merchants are permitted to open Sundays if they do as they are told.

Several charges will be lodged with Director Wilson against Lieutenant Echtermeyer, the Moore followers say, but they do not expect to accomplish anything except to get the complaints on record.

Moore lieutenants assert, too, that recent shifts of policemen and firemen were made last week by Director Wilson on the recommendation of Echtermeyer.

All of these men shifted were charged by the "police czar" of the ward with having been in sympathy with the Penrose-McNichol faction.

In this alleged secret shift the following changes were made:

James Nelson, Falls of Schuykill; James McIntyre, 14th street and Woodland avenue; Thomas Hason, Olney; Benjamin Schad, street sergeant, to the patrol wagon of the 2d division; Sergeant Charles J. Roney, sent to street duty from the patrol wagon; Special Officer Harry Walker, to street duty, replaced by William Bozarth; Daniel Connors, turnkey, to street duty.

BREAKS WILSON'S PLEDGE

The open selling yesterday was a violation of a pledge made last week by Director Wilson to the Rev. T. T. Mutchler, president of the Philadelphia Sabbath association, according to the minister.

A director promised Doctor Mutchler that any violation of the "blue" laws would not be tolerated by the police. Director Wilson said, when his attention was called to the situation, that "there must have been a violation of order," and added that "he would look into it."

Every police official in the Vares district said that he had instructed his men to be on the lookout for violations of the law.

VITTORIOSO ATTACCO FRANCESE A VERDUN

Trincee Tolte ai Tedeschi nel Settore del Demolito Forte di Douaumont

I francesi hanno contrattaccato sabato nella zona di Verdun ed hanno conquistato 200 metri di trincee tenute dai tedeschi nel settore dell'ormai demolito forte di Douaumont. Sembra che i francesi vadano a poco a poco alienandosi all'offensiva, probabilmente per lanciarsi ad un'azione decisiva non appena è evidente che l'attacco tedesco va perdendo di intensità. Da sabato sera però non si è avuto altro che azioni di artiglieria nella zona della battaglia di Verdun, ed i tedeschi sono rimasti nelle posizioni da cui non potettero avanzare nel loro ultimo attacco.

BASEBALL CHAMPION AT WELLESLEY



Miss Dorothy Baldwin, of Philadelphia, has been presented with a cup emblematic of her prowess.

UNA NUOVA AVANZATA DEGLI ITALIANI VERSO LE ALTURE DI COSICH

Gli Austriaci Cacciati dalle Loro Posizioni a Sud-Est di Leviso, in Val Sugana

NUOVO VOTO DI FIDUCIA

ROMA, 17 Aprile. Il Ministero della Guerra pubblicava ieri sera il seguente rapporto del generale Cadorna circa la situazione alla fronte italo-austriaca:

"Vi sono stati considerevoli attivita' di artiglieria e movimenti di truppe nemiche nella zona tra la Val Lagarina e la Val Sugana. Noi abbiamo respinto piccoli attacchi contro le nostre posizioni di Soglio d'Aspio e di Millegrobo, nell'alta valle dell'Asicco.

"Nella Val Sugana noi abbiamo obbligato il nemico ad evacuare le sue posizioni del Monte Carbonile, a sud-est di Leviso, e posizioni che noi ora abbiamo avvolto in una cortina di fuoco.

"Nella Carnia si sono avuti duelli di artiglieria lungo una parte della fronte tra l'alta valle del Degano e l'alta valle del Bu'.

"Venerdi' sera il nemico diresse il suo fuoco di mitragliatrici e di fuociera contro le nostre posizioni che esso aveva vanamente assalito nella giornata di giovedi'.

"Sull'altopiano del Carso un'audace avanzata delle nostre truppe di fanteria ci ha dato il possesso di nuove posizioni avanzate ad est di Sella e di Montebasso. Noi facemmo demolire una ridotta austriaca tra la terza e la quarta sommita' del monte San Michele, a sud di Gorizia.

UN DISCORSO DI SONNINO

Ieri il ministro degli Affari Esteri, barone Sonnino, pronuncio' l'atteso discorso sulla politica estera alla Camera dei Deputati, trattandosi specialmente sul trattamento fatto ai prigionieri italiani in Austria. Egli disse che i campi di concentramento austriaci erano stati ripetutamente visitati dall'ambasciatore americano e dagli agenti della Croce Rossa, e sebbene gli internati sentano di essere prigionieri, pure essi non sono trattati male.

Per quanto riguarda i Balcani, il ministro degli Esteri dichiaro' formalmente che l'occupazione dell'Epiro e' temporanea e che non si intrattiene affatto alcuna intenzione di conquista. Egli ammise il principio adottato alla Conferenza di Londra e disse che l'ammissione dei deputati dell'Epiro alla Camera greca era in accordo con questi principi.

L'on. Sonnino, trattando la questione della partecipazione diretta del Parlamento alla politica estera, nel senso di controllarla, dichiaro' che il governo pubblica ora tutti i documenti che valgono a chiarire la situazione internazionale, dando così al Parlamento il modo di giudicare la politica del governo, ma e' necessario riservare al governo il giudizio dell'opportunità di queste pubblicazioni per impedire che informazioni utili giungano al nemico.

Il ministro disse che l'esercito serbo e' stato riorganizzato e che il principe Alessandro ed il presidente del consiglio serbo Pasich avevano fatto un viaggio a Roma per ringraziare la nazione del grande aiuto dato ai serbi.

La Camera diede ancora un nuovo voto di fiducia al Ministero, approvando con 355 voti favorevoli e 36 contrari una mozione di fiducia.

Negro Held for Attack on Child

Thomas Alexander, a negro, living at 142 North Warrcock street, who, the police say, was released from the Norris-town Insane Asylum last December, after having been confined there for eight years, was committed to prison without bail by Magistrate Penrose, at the Central Station this morning, charged with having attacked Edward Knowles, a white child, 5 years old, 1501 North Alder street.

Observe 65th Wedding Anniversary NORRISTOWN, Pa., April 17.—Jonathan M. Shalinski and wife, of Upper Merion, are celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary today. He is 28 and his wife one year younger. They received gifts and many other gifts.

FORD MAY MAKE RACE IN PRIMARY OF STATE

Agent of Auto Builder Expected to File Papers at Harrisburg

Theodore Delavigne, personal representative of Henry Ford, will probably file nomination petitions for Ford as a candidate for the Republican preferential endorsement from Pennsylvania at Harrisburg today. Delavigne is expected here today, and will hold several conferences before going to Harrisburg to file the papers.

The first intimation that Mr. Ford would file papers in Pennsylvania was heard in Washington Saturday, and it became a pretty clearly established fact here yesterday that the automobile magnate intends to do so. Ford carried the State of Michigan, and its delegates are instructed to vote for him at the Chicago convention.

After capturing the Michigan delegates Mr. Ford declared he had no intention of using them, but those back of the movement in his favor saw an opportunity of at least using his name to split the vote of any candidate of military tendencies. Should Mr. Ford file here, the presence of his name on the ticket will give anti-Brumbaugh voters an opportunity to cast their ballots for a candidate for the preferential preference for some one other than the Governor. Many friends of Senator Penrose, it is thought, probably will vote for Mr. Ford as a means of eliminating Brumbaugh. As it is now the Governor is the only candidate for the Pennsylvania preference.

Should Mr. Ford receive the popular vote for President, and at the same time not have any delegates from the districts or at large, then those elected for Governor Brumbaugh would find themselves in the dilemma of having promised to support the popular choice. Those delegates, supported by Senator Penrose and his friends, who do not promise to support the popular choice, of course would not be affected by the Ford vote.

It was learned yesterday that for some time Mr. Ford's business agents in the central part of the State have been circulating petitions for him.

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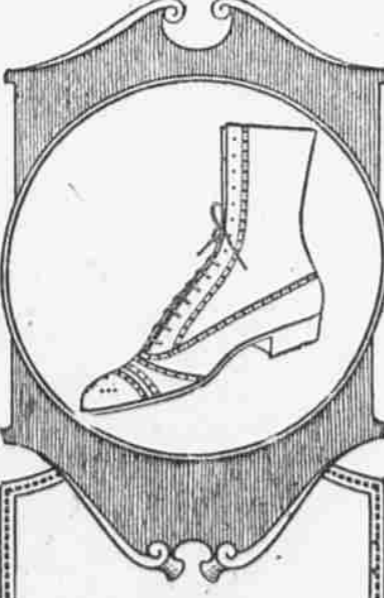
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