

Slavs Accept Berlin Peace

Continued from Page One

leaded German prisoners in Siberia, who are declared to be well armed and to be under the command of a German general, is very grave. Not a single official here today made an effort to disguise the seriousness of the outlook. It is of course accepted that Germany will have a free hand everywhere in Russia. She can be expected to seize what supplies she wants and to take over the pick of the warships of the Baltic and Black Sea fleet. And she can be depended on to go right ahead with her original plan of establishing a vast empire in Central Asia and to be in a position to dictate if not control China's affairs.

25 Americans Get War Honors

Continued from Page One

Rapid, Mich., who though badly wounded in the leg, exhibited coolness and bravery during an attack.

L'ARTIGLIERIA ATTIVA AL FRONTE ITALIANO

Le Batterie Italiane Bombardano Efficacemente le Retrovie del Nemico

Published and Distributed Under PERMIT No. 341

Authorized by the act of October 3, 1917, on the part of the Postoffice of Philadelphia, Pa., by order of the President.

A. S. BURLESON, Postmaster General.

Roma, 15 marzo.

Le notizie giunte dalla fronte di battaglia recano che violenti e continue azioni da parte delle artiglierie si verificano lungo tutte le linee delle montagne e specialmente sulla fronte del Trentino.

Le batterie italiane sono attive e compiono efficaci bombardamenti contro le retrovie del nemico.

Il loro fuoco sulle linee di comunicazione avversarie, per impedire o ostacolare le operazioni militari e principalmente gli spostamenti delle truppe austro-tedesche.

Varie ma limitate combattimenti si sono verificati in parecchi punti della fronte di battaglia tra i reparti di incursione e le pattuglie di esplorazione e durante questi combattimenti gli italiani sono riusciti ad ottenere notevoli successi.

Gli aviatori sono instancabili e tanto quelli italiani, quanto gli aerei, compiono continuamente incursioni sulle linee nemiche sorvegliando tutte le posizioni, bombardando le opere di fortificazione e riducendo a zero il contributo alle operazioni dell'artiglieria, localizzando le truppe nemiche e risultando così il giusto tiro con i risultati.

Durante le incursioni compiute dagli aviatori alleati, in questi ultimi tempi, il nemico ha subito danni gravissimi, specialmente negli aerodromi. Aviatori austriaci catturati hanno dichiarato che gli aerei italiani ed inglesi sono di un'andatura maravigliosa e che hanno compiuto una vera strage di aeroplani austriaci. Si calcola che in poco tempo gli aviatori italiani ed inglesi hanno abbattuto o distrutto circa ottanta aeroplani nemici.

Dispari giunti a Londra dalla Macedonia recano che in quel fronte il nemico è attivissimo e che si crede imminente una offensiva.

Corrispondenti di guerra dal fronte macedone constatano che dopo la pace con le Potenze Centrali alla quale è costretta la Germania, questa dovrà smobilizzare circa mezzo milione di uomini e perciò è necessario considerare la posizione della Grecia, della Serbia e del Montenegro. Detti corrispondenti sostengono che la situazione prossima grande offensiva alle truppe occidentali non rappresenta altro che un'operazione per mascherare le vere intenzioni della Germania, la quale intende tentare il collaudo al fronte italiano nelle linee del Piave, ed al fronte Macedone.

A Napoli hanno avuto luogo i funerali delle vittime della recente incursione aerea compiuta sopra quella città dagli aerei austriaci. I funerali sono stati fatti a spese del municipio e sono risultati imponentissimi.

I carri che trasportavano le salme delle vittime erano letteralmente coperti di fiori, corteo funebre percorso, in principali vie della città in mezzo ad un'enorme folla piangente.

Al funerali presero parte tutte le autorità civili, militari, ecclesiastiche, deputati, senatori e spiccate personalità.

Lane Denies Charge of Land Juggling

Continued from Page One

that was four years ago and a permanent leasing policy was to be decided upon.

"But that was four years ago and a permanent leasing policy was not yet decided upon. In the meantime two interpretations of the temporary relief act have been made: one by the Department of Justice and one by the Department of the Interior. Since we have the best land lawyers in the world in our land office, it is natural that I should accept their view and act upon it."

JAPAN AWAITS U. S. OFFICIAL ATTITUDE

Tokio, March 15.

Japan is now awaiting a statement of the official American attitude toward intervention in Siberia before taking any steps in that direction. It was declared here today that the Japanese Government will not act without giving the United States information as to its plans, but the belief is held that the dispatch of an expedition into eastern Russia is only a matter of time.

One development which has aroused considerable interest is the return of the Japanese ambassador to China. It is supposed that the ambassador came from Peking to confer with the Foreign Office upon the situation.

BOLSHEVIKI SPLIT ON RATIFYING PACT

Petrograd, March 15.

Representatives of professional unions quit the party following the Bolshevik vote ratifying the German-Bolshevik pact.

The Bolshevik faction of the Pan-Soviet Congress voted 453 votes in favor of accepting the treaty, with eight members not voting. There were 100 delegates to the Congress in Moscow.

The attitude of the social revolutionaries of the left has not been determined, but it is expected that they will support the former Foreign Minister Leon Trotsky.

Former Foreign Minister Leon Trotsky has been named War Commissary.

Priglasie, the former Foreign Minister, has been arrested and is held by the commissary of the northern front in connection with the pact to set up a separate government in Siberia, with Japanese aid.

As there are 100 delegates to the Pan-Soviet Congress at Moscow, the vote of 23 members of the Bolshevik faction did not actually represent a majority of the Congress. This fact makes it clear that their action was not a record of the entire Congress.

Washington has an official report of the ratification of the treaty by the entire Congress yesterday.

TROTSKY'S NEW MOVE BIG POLITICAL INDEX

New York, March 15.

Leon Trotsky's appointment as Commissary for War by the Bolshevik Government is the most significant indication of its future policy that has come from Petrograd since the peace negotiations with Germany reached the climax.

Germans cannot trust Trotsky to follow any peace terms imposed at Petrograd, the Bolshevik faction in the Bolshevik Government. His retirement from the head of the Foreign Office and his acceptance of the Commissaryship of War came at a time when the Russian Foreign Office's interests must be considered.

It is believed that Trotsky will so far remove himself from domestic affairs as to consent to becoming war commissary.

Rather he would insist upon having an administrative post giving him an opportunity to practice his revolutionary doctrine. It is for this that Trotsky is a revolutionist. But domestic reform cannot be undertaken until Russia has a real peace.

Trotsky, therefore, in all probability believes further revolutionary warfare must ensue against Russia's external enemies before serious attention can be concentrated on Russia's internal reconstruction.

Thus, if the Pan-Soviet congress votes in favor of immediate peace, the decision must not be accepted at its face value. When in the midst of the Pan-Soviet delegates, Leon Trotsky suddenly heads the Russian War Office, that fact is more important than a paper peace.

25 Americans Get War Honors

Continued from Page One

Rapid, Mich., who though badly wounded in the leg, exhibited coolness and bravery during an attack.

Sergeant James West, who helped organize a detachment which routed an enemy patrol, capturing some prisoners. Sergeant Pearl Edwards, of Centerville, who organized the detachment.

Corporal Holmes Britton, who, having captured a German, struck it on his head after the German tried to shoot him. Britton was compelled to fire in self-defense.

Charles Gordon, of Centerville, Ia., who was wounded while in the performance of his duty. Gordon was engaged in a counter-attack against great odds against a German patrol.

Sergeant Warner Hall, who met an enemy patrol while on patrol duty, but gave combat, bringing back prisoners to the American lines.

Second Lieutenant Howard G. Smith, who led a counter-attack and occupied a first-line German trench, which the Americans succeeded in holding temporarily.

Captains Marvin Dunn, of Des Moines, Iowa; Lewis Simons, of Waterloo, Iowa (or Reno, Okla.); and Russell Lewis, of Red Oak, Iowa, who were wounded on March 5 while combating enemy stragglers.

Private Percy Breeze, of Red Oak, Iowa; Charles Meffard and John Goltz, of Woodbine, Iowa, who were seriously wounded in retelling an enemy counter-attack on March 5.

Medical Sergeant Thomas Peterson, of Minneapolis (dead), who was installed in an emergency dressing station in an advanced position, where he worked under fire until wounded.

Private Lawrence Wenzel, of Minneapolis, who was killed while accomplishing an important mission under heavy fire.

Second Lieutenant Henry A. Peterson, who, after the crew of a trench mortar had all been killed, except himself, continued working the piece in the face of an enemy attack until the ammunition was exhausted, shattering the German storming columns that were trying to advance.

Frank Osmond, of Centerville, Iowa, who was wounded in the leg while in the performance of his duty in a valorous manner.

AWARD TO MACARTHUR PLEASES WASHINGTON

Washington, March 15.

Award of a war cross to Colonel Douglas MacArthur for bravery in action during the Philippine campaign.

MacArthur was on the general staff here at the outbreak of the war. His knowledge of the situation and his vigorous action attracted the attention of superiors and gave him the chief of staff post. In addition to his other work he served as press censor and, contrary to the general rule with censor, endeavored himself to the War Department correspondents as a whole.

MacArthur comes of fighting stock—the son of General Arthur MacArthur.

controversy seem clearly aligned with the Secretary of the Interior.

One prominent member of the committee said today that Kearful's contentions "were entirely new and astounding to the committee."

The controversy today was brought to the attention of the public for the first time. President Wilson may in the end be called upon to adjust the difference between the departments.

Lane Explains Course

"Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge. "In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

controversy seem clearly aligned with the Secretary of the Interior.

One prominent member of the committee said today that Kearful's contentions "were entirely new and astounding to the committee."

The controversy today was brought to the attention of the public for the first time. President Wilson may in the end be called upon to adjust the difference between the departments.

Lane Explains Course

"Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge. "In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

Nothing is it" was Secretary Lane's answer to this charge.

"In no case has the department entered agreements where the present claimant is charged with fraud," he said.

"There may be cases where more has been taken out in good faith tracts whose previous claimants were charged with fraud and they therefore are technically guilty. But morally they are not guilty at all and it is no reason why operating agreements should not be entered with them pending final decision as to title by the land office."

"Linked with Kearful's first charge was one to determine the truth of the charges of fraud and violations of the withdrawal order were made by special agents after investigations by the land office and hearings were ordered to determine the truth of the charges. Operating agreements were entered with these men by Secretary Lane, Kearful said. That he believed, "justified his statement that under the House bill the same thing would be done."

</