

SPROUL SEEKS EFFICIENCY IN STATE OFFICES

Will Reorganize Department of Agriculture; He Discusses Some Appointments

Philadelphia, Dec. 9.—Governor-elect William C. Sproul, speaking to newspapermen, indicates that he intends to reorganize the State Department of Agriculture when he goes into office. He also confirmed the report that he considered the Workmen's Compensation Bureau sufficient importance to be a separate department by itself, with enlarged functions, and that the only possible obstacle that stood in the way was a policy that might be adopted by the Legislature of consolidating rather than separating departments.

He also announced that Harry A. Mackey would be asked to continue as chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Bureau and Charles J. Roney as manager of the State Workmen's Insurance Board.

Apparently Senator Sproul has not yet made up his mind on any of the other important commissionerships. He has been flooded with a deluge of letters written by citizens, prominent and obscure, to endorse various candidates for high posts. If the Governor-elect's mind is read clearly, these letters of indorsement have bred in him only a state of weariness. From a man in his office it was learned that in many instances these letters were proved to have been written under a sense of obligation to the candidate, and did not represent the real opinion of the writer. If any of the candidates are planning to have sent an avalanche of letters in their favor, a good tip to them would be that it will do them more harm than good.

Gives His Reasons.
The Governor-elect's views on the Department of Agriculture came in the midst of a discussion of the Dairy and Food Bureau, which is part of the department and which Senator Sproul said should fill a more important function than that of collecting fines on delinquent manufacturers and retailers, which is all it is enabled to do now. But, he said, its fate is linked up with that of the department of which it is a part. He was asked if he intended to reorganize the department.

"I most assuredly do," he replied. "It is one of the most important departments of the state government and that is where we hope to shine. The department is just hung together now with one thing superimposed on another.

"I expect the food situation to be serious for some time. This department might have some such function as to encourage the farmer to produce food, show him what will be most profitable for his market, and instruct him in the best method of handling the land he owns.

"Then we would have different results from where a man goes over his land with a shallow plow and plants it in corn to get about \$40 an acre yearly, just because his father did that before him. He might get \$500 an acre, with intensive farming applied to his own problem.

"Take Denmark, for instance. That is a country scarcely larger in population or area than the State

of New Jersey. A great deal of its land is sandy, typical of southern Jersey. Yet Denmark is able to export butter and eggs and other products to the amount of about \$200,000,000 yearly.

Mackey to Stay.
While the Governor did not announce any new appointments as he did a week ago, he declared that Harry A. Mackey, chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board, and Charles J. Roney, manager of the State Workmen's Insurance Board, would be retained.

"I will ask Mackey to remain in office under his direction the work of the Compensation Bureau has been phenomenal. I do not know another instance of where a new department, with such a comprehensive function, has been started with such efficiency and lack of friction. I do not believe there is a manufacturer in the state who would want to return to the old confused basis of compensation for injuries received in industries.

"I have known Harry Mackey for thirty years. He was at Lafayette College while I was at Swarthmore. He certainly was a roughback football player, and I imagine I have some of the marks to prove it on me yet.

"Young Roney is also an able boy. He has handled the insurance fund in good shape and he deserves re-appointment.

When Senator Sproul was asked whether he would recall the three appointments to the Public Service Commission which will come up for confirmation in the Senate during the next session of the Legislature, he said:

"It has been the general custom to recall all such appointments. There is a mess of them. The incoming Governor generally likes to recall these appointments."

"What kind of men will you select to fill the position of Banking and Insurance Commissioner?" the new Governor was asked.

"I want to get good men for these positions. I want men in them who know something about the banking and insurance business and at the same time who have had enough political experience to be able to handle an executive position, for these offices are primarily executive."

"Who will be the chief marshal of the inaugural parade?" the Governor was questioned.

"That has not been decided, but I would like to have Brigadier General William G. Price, Jr., of Chester. He made a splendid record in the service and is now in the army. If he returns in time, I hope to have him act in that capacity."

If the privilege of naming a successor to Judge John W. Kephart on the Superior Court bench falls to Governor-elect Sproul, it is understood he will elevate a Common Pleas Court Judge of wide legal training and experience. This would eliminate Senator Kline, of Allegheny, whose friends have been grooming him for the place.

William Vance, of Monongahela City, a leading lawyer at the Washington County bar, is a candidate for membership in the Public Service Commission, and it is understood is favorably considered. There is also heard the name of Lewis Sadler, of Cumberland county, in this connection.

Armenians of Chicago adopted resolutions asking the United States Government in agreement with the Allied powers, to have Armenia occupied at once by Allied and Armenian troops.

Liberty loan bonds to the amount of \$100,000 have been purchased by the Shah of Persia.

VASIL DUNDOFF ACQUITTED OF MURDER CHARGE

Steelton Youth Freed by Jury After Short Deliberation

Jurors in the case of Vasil Dundoff, of Steelton, charged with murder, returned a verdict of acquittal Saturday evening, coming into court a little more than an hour after Judge S. J. M. McCarrell had completed his charge.

As soon as the verdict was read and Vasil was discharged the jurors left their places and came over to him to shake hands and speak to him. A number of his friends who were in court when the jury came in about 6.10 o'clock on Saturday evening also crowded around him. Young Dundoff was charged with shooting "Blackberry," or James Wylie, colored, as he was named in the indictment.

Mr. and Mrs. Tascho Dundoff, an uncle and an aunt of Vasil, and his father, John Dundoff, took the youth to Steelton in the former's automobile. Many of the boy's friends had learned the verdict by telephone and when he arrived in the borough they were waiting to receive him at his uncle's home, 543 North Front street. During the evening hundreds of residents of the borough, among them a number of businessmen who knew the family, called to congratulate Vasil. Some of these men had testified in his behalf earlier in the day. Mrs. Dundoff, Vasil's mother, who collapsed on Friday evening when he took the stand, was greatly improved yesterday when he returned to his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Dundoff, the parents of the youth, conduct a grocery store and meat market at Franklin and Myers streets. On September 13 "Blackberry" came into the place and started an argument. When he was put out of the store he attacked Mr. Dundoff and then the boy shot him as he was about to slash the parent with a large knife. Self-defense was the plea made to the jury by Oscar G. Wickersham and William H. Earnest, the attorneys for Vasil, whose strenuous efforts to save him from conviction, coupled with the boy's straightforward story and the statements of many character witnesses, did much it is believed in winning an acquittal.

Vasil, who is only 20 years old, to this county when his parents came over about eight years ago. They lived in Frisap, District of Macedonia, before coming to this country with Tascho Dundoff, Vasil's uncle. The youth went to the borough schools, later leaving to help his father in the store. The Dundoffs are well known in the borough and have many friends there.

AIR TRAVEL IN GERMANY
London, Dec. 9.—Air traffic has been begun between some of the largest German towns, advices reaching here report. The airplanes are carrying parcel post matter and passengers. The fare per passenger is two and one-half marks a kilometer, or about four shillings a mile. The machines can fly at the rate of 80 miles an hour.

WOMEN POINT TO PART IN WAR AS RIGHT TO VOTE

Urge Equal Suffrage With Men in Conducting Affairs of Nation

Washington, Dec. 9.—Immediate passage of the woman suffrage amendment, in recognition of the services rendered by the women of the country during the war, was urged upon the Senate in a resolution, passed at a meeting here yesterday called by the National Woman Suffrage Association. The efforts of American women in support of the country's fighting forces were described by a number of speakers, including Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Mrs. William Gibbs McAdoo, Mrs. Josephus Daniels and Miss Jane Delano, director of the American Red Cross.

"Now the war is won," Dr. Shaw said, "there lies before us a vaster work than ever before and the cooperation and service of women is necessary to its accomplishment."

Undermyer Wires Senator He Wants to Be Heard in Hun Propaganda Inquiry

New York, Dec. 9.—Samuel Undermyer, who was mentioned by A. Bruce Bielaski, of the Department of Justice in testimony before the Senate committee investigating German propaganda in this country, sent a telegram last night to Senator Overman, chairman of the committee, saying he would be in Washington Tuesday and asking permission to appear as a witness then or at a later date or be permitted to submit a statement for the committee's record.

"I request that meantime, the message said, 'there be noted my respectful protest against the use of your records as a medium for publicity pillorying and misrepresenting loyal and public spirited citizens for having in 1915 joined a movement supported the authorities for furnishing milk to starving German babies.'"

AMERICANS TO LEAVE HUNGARY
Berne, Dec. 9.—All American, British and French citizens who were living in Hungary during the war, are now to be permitted to return to their homes, according to an official Hungarian message. The Hungarian government, it is stated, will put a special train at their service to convey them from Budapest to the Swiss frontier.

COMPEL CABINET MEMBER TO QUIT

At Point of Revolver Bavarian Minister Writes His Resignation

Munich, Dec. 9.—A crowd of armed soldiers went to the residence of the Minister of the Interior, on Friday night, and after forcing an entrance, demanded the Minister's resignation, which he conceded.

Revolutionists also stormed the newspaper offices except one. They withdrew several hours later at the earnest request of the Bavarian Premier, Kurt Eisner, who hurried to the scene.

Herr Auer, the minister whose resignation was demanded, was given two minutes to decide at the point of a revolver. He was then forced to put his resignation into writing. At first he wrote:

"I have been overcome by about 300 armed men in my dwelling and forced to resign the office of Minister of the Interior. I declare herewith that, surrendering to force, I lay down the office of Minister of the Interior."

This did not satisfy the revolutionists, who demanded a statement that the resignation was voluntary. The crowd was led by the former editor, Erich Muehsam. They proceeded from a communist meeting to the office of the Bavarian Courier and appointed a woman as editor of that newspaper. They remained in the Courier office until Premier Eisner went there with a guard.

The Neuste Nachrichten was the only Munich paper able to appear this morning.

SCIENCE OUSTS THE ICE PLANT

Columbia University Discovers Way to Increase Meat Shipping

New York, Dec. 9.—A new drying process, by which meats and fish can be kept indefinitely and then restored to their former state of freshness by the application of water and which, it is believed, will increase the world's meat shipping capacity more than twelve times by doing away with the need for refrigeration, has been perfected in the chemical engineering laboratories at Columbia University, it was announced last night.

"During a period of comprehensive tests," the statement said, "meats that had been dried and kept a year were restored to their fresh state and served in the homes of professors attached to the laboratory. A shipment of 300 pounds was sent to a camp in the South and served to the soldiers. Reports received from the camp state that those who ate the restored meat failed to discover any difference between it and strictly fresh meat."

SOLDIERS WRITE TO DAD
Paris, Dec. 9.—Three shipments of home-bound mail from the American army totaling 8,500,000 letters left France between November 26 and December 2. The previous week's mail numbered 6,000,000 letters. The increase is believed to be due to the "fathers' letters" which the men in the army had been asked to write on November 24.

FOR WEEKS A MILLIONAIRE
Duluth, Minn., Dec. 9.—Four weeks a millionaire, after a life of hard work and poverty, Max A. Anderson is dead at Two Harbors, of pneumonia. Anderson was overcome when advised that a relative in Sweden had died and left him more than \$1,000,000. He received several liberal advances on the estate and spent it rapidly.



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Maps of New Europe

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The maps and geographies of the age in which we have lived have now gone into the discard.
The histories of dynasties and principalities have been closed and laid away on the back shelves of the old world.
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