



3-11-1919

## Letter from Cavalier County Sheriff Fred Thompson to Attorney General Langer Regarding Rumors of Gambling and Bribes, March 11, 1919

Fred A. Thompson  
*Cavalier County, North Dakota*

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FRED A. THOMPSON

SHERIFF OF CAVALIER COUNTY

LANGDON, N. D.

3 12  
5 19  
March 11, 1919

Hon. William Langer,  
Bismarck, N. Dak.

Dear General;

I understand Marshall Phillebaun of Sarles of N. Dak. wrote you a letter sometime ago stating that George McLean of that place put up \$500.00 with the States Attorney Grimson as a guarantee that he would not allow gambling in his place of business. Mr. Phillebaun tries to give you the impression that Attorney Grimson accepted this check in settlement of this case which is not so.

The States Attorney sent me to Sarles with an injunction against George McLean, who was sick at the time, I took the matter up with Mr. Phillebaun and told him if he wanted McLean's Elevator closed we would close it but he said he did not want to do McLean any harm but wanted some kind of a guarantee from him that he would not allow any gambling in his place of business. McLean denied that he had gambled in his place of business and told Phillebaun he would put up a check with me for \$500.00 as a guarantee if that would satisfy Phillebaun and Phillebaun said it would. The Banker Grimshaw made out the check and I told him to make it out to the States Attorney, which he did. Phillebaun was entirely satisfied as this was his own settlement, Mr. Grimson had nothing to do with this settlement, now was he satisfied as he told me that I should have locked McLean's Elevator.

I am reliably informed that Phillebaun was not right on the war question, making statements such as "They ought to turn the guns on the Inside", and other statements of a Pro-German nature. McLean, I understand took Phillebaun to task about this and compelled him to buy bonds and subscribe to the Red Cross.

Yours very truly

*Fred A. Thompson*  
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Sheriff Cavalier County