

Fixing the Blame for Navy Decline.

Washington, D. C., May 3.—The American navy reached its highest rank and its greatest efficiency as a fighting fleet during the administration of former President Roosevelt, and it began to decline in relative numbers and efficiency when the Democratic party obtained control of the national government.

These facts were pointed out today by the navy general board, in a report to Secretary Daniels, signed by Admiral Dewey. The board's report was made in response to a request for information presented by Congressman Butler of Pennsylvania. The board also indicated that the navy began to decline most rapidly when the Democratic party in the sixty-second and sixty-third congresses, refused to carry out the board's recommendation for the building program.

Since 1910, when the Democrats obtained control of the house, according to the board, the navy has fallen from second place to third or fourth in guns and ships and to sixth in personnel.

Up to date nothing has been done by the administration of President Wilson or the Democratic congress to stop the decline and bring the navy back to second place. The board pointed out that the adoption of the administration's five year program would not do this, although it stated the work could be done in three years if congress was willing to appropriate sufficient money and authorize an adequate building program.

With respect to Mr. Butler's request for information concerning the ability of the United States to bring the navy back to second place in a period of three years the general board said that the whole matter depended largely upon the willingness of congress to make appropriations.—Howard County Times.

The attention of our readers is directed to the following from the Dubuque Telegraph-Herald, an article which effectively refutes and disproves the charges made by partisan republican papers concerning the responsibility for our decline in naval strength.

Critics of Secretary Daniels have loved to place on his shoulders the blame for our fall from second rank as a naval power, insisting that our retrogression has been due entirely to his maladministration of affairs since he has come to office, of his pacifist notions and his refusal to advance the navy by opening certain navy yards and keeping open certain others that were necessary to maintain the height of our power.

Unfortunately for these critics the general board of the navy, called upon to explain our naval needs and their causes, has made a report to congress which deals very explicitly with the causes of our loss of position among the naval powers of the world and gives exact dates. This report declares that, on a basis of displacement of ships in commission we fell behind Germany in 1911. On the basis of displacement of ships built and building we fell behind in 1909.

Now it happens that in 1909, on March 4, to be exact, William Howard Taft became president of the United States, and nominated George Von L. Meyer to be his secretary of the navy. Before March 4, 1909, Theodore Roosevelt was president and his secretary of the navy for that time was Truman H. Newberry. In 1909 George Von L. Meyer was still holding the portfolio of the navy. Josephus Daniels, on whose head has been much oburgation, was not considered for the post of secretary of the navy until 1913. Before that time the damage had been done—and no attempt made to undo it.

Posing now as an ardent militarist and "navalist," Colonel Roosevelt may find it convenient to fix positively the date of our retrogression some time after March 4, when he retired from office, thus to save his political face by placing the blame for laxness on President Taft. But let us consider the subject more deeply than mere surface scrutiny.

A navy does not disintegrate in a single month, or a single year. Neither is it possible to build a navy in that time. Therefore long before 1909, sometime during the Roosevelt administration, at least, it must have become apparent to navy men, and secretaries of the navy and presidents as well, that Germany was about to overtake us and oust us from second place as a naval power.

There were many cataclysms during the Roosevelt administration, but memory and an ardent search through the files fails to recall any demonstration on the part of our "rough rider" president designed to fix the attention of the American people on the impending calamity. Indeed it would seem

that it was more strenuously sought to cover up and conceal our true condition against condemnation and the possible defeat of "my policies" and "my candidate."

All of which should set the American people to wondering what sort of military and naval reform they can be assured of under an administration of men who have worked so steadily to cast out the Daniels mote in President Wilson's eye while ignoring the beam which blinded their own vision when in office.—Dubuque Telegraph-Herald.

Iowa or Party First, Which?

The healthiest and most hopeful symptom growing out of the candidacy of E. T. Meredith for governor, applied to the future growth and development of the State of Iowa, is discovered in the almost universal glad acclaim from both the people and the press of the state, which greeted the announcement of his candidacy.

Almost with one voice the people of the state proclaimed their delight that a man of his probity and stature had been found who would consent to enter the service of the state in the capacity of Governor.

So genuine and spontaneous was this greeting that the meaning of it cannot be mistaken; it must be accepted that the people and the press of this state are now and will in the future make the welfare, growth and development of the state paramount to any party or partisan consideration whatsoever.

The following item from the Clinton "Mirror," republican, hardly expresses a commendable spirit:

"Meredith at the head of the Democratic delegation to the National Convention at Saint Louis foreshadows his nomination for Governor.

The whole party could not put up a more presentable man, and Republicans would gladly vote for him—if he was on our ticket."

In writing and publishing this editorial, the Mirror has not correctly sensed the temper of the people of the state; it has been so blinded by partisanship that it has failed or refused to discern the great statewide movement and sentiment to make the welfare of the state the determining factor in matters relating to state government, and the subordination of political parties and partisanship to state welfare.

The great body of the men and women of the state are patriots; they have ceased to be mere partisan pawns, offering themselves and the best interests of the state as a willing sacrifice upon the altar of a political party; they are asking themselves, "What man among all the candidates on all the tickets is best equipped to give the state the quality of service it deserves?" and they are finding the answer just as the Mirror has done in E. T. Meredith.

In times past the cry "he is not on our ticket" has been potentially effective; but in these modern days when the test of efficiency is being so relentlessly applied, it will not appeal. The people are going to, as they should, vote for the man who can best serve the state. Our problems in Iowa are non-partisan and the people are going to vote for men instead of for parties.

Treasurer

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for nomination to the office of Co. Treasurer, subject to the decision of the Republican voters at the primary election June 5th. I greatly appreciate the kind support I have previously received, and if my work merits re-nomination and election I will be pleased to accept it; if a change is desired I will as gracefully retire.

A. L. WHITE,
Cresco, Iowa.

Auditor.

I wish to take this occasion to announce that I will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for county auditor at the June primary. I appreciate the support my friends have given me in the past and hope to merit their support in the coming campaign.

E. A. HOOPMAN.
37tf

Announcement.

I hereby announce myself as a candidate on the Republican ticket for the office of County Recorder, subject to the decision of the voters of Howard County at the primary election to be held June 5th, 1916.

33-tf W. B. DAVIS.

For Sheriff.

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the office of Sheriff of Howard County, Iowa, subject to the decision of the Republican voters at the Primary Election to be held June 5th, 1916.

34-tf L. J. CAMERON.

Farm for Sale in South Dakota.

160 acres, some improvements. Located near good market. All tillable. Will sell for \$25 an acre. Write to J. J. RANCE, Agar State Bank, South Dakota.

Lydon's Stallions
Come and see our stallions at the home barn on the Vernon road, only five blocks south of the city water works. Percheron, Clyde, Belgian and two high class trotters.
38-tf M. P. LYDON.

Proposed Resolution of Necessity.

Be it Resolved, by the City Council of the City of Cresco, Iowa, that it is deemed advisable and necessary to make improvements by paving with 7-inch Portland cement concrete pavement, consisting of a 5-inch foundation and a 2-inch top course, the foundation to be prepared and the pavement to be constructed in accordance with the specifications to be prepared by the City Engineer and approved by the City Council, the following named streets and parts of streets, to-wit:

Third Avenue East from the West line of Sixth Street East to the West line of Eighth Street East. Also First Avenue West from the West Side of Second Street West to East Side of Third Street West.

The expense of making said improvements to be assessed against all lots and parcels of land abutting thereon and adjacent thereto, and including one-half of the privately owned property between the streets so proposed to be improved and the next street whether abutting on said street or not, but not to include privately owned property situated more than three hundred feet from the street proposed to be improved hereunder, in accordance with the law governing the same. And the contractor who shall make said improvement shall guarantee that the same will endure without need of repair for 3 years from the date of its acceptance by the city.

Be It Further Resolved, That the City Council will meet at 8 o'clock p. m. of the 14th day of June, 1916, at the council room in said city for the purpose of considering objections to said proposed resolution, at which meeting said resolution may be amended and passed or passed as proposed and that notice of the pendency of said proposed resolution be published as provided by law. 4012

Attest:
M. J. McARTHUR, City Clerk.

Proposed Resolution of Necessity.

Be it Resolved, By the city council of the city of Cresco, Iowa, that it is deemed advisable and necessary to make improvements by curbing with Portland cement curbing, cement to be prepared and curbing to be constructed in accordance with specifications to be prepared by the city engineer and approved by the city council, the following named streets and parts of streets, to-wit:

Third Avenue East from the West line of Sixth street East to the West line of Eighth street East.

Also First Avenue West from the West side of Second street West to the East side of Third street West.

The expense of making such improvements to be assessed against all lots and parcels of land abutting thereon and adjacent thereto, and including one half of the privately owned property between the streets so proposed to be improved and the next street, whether abutting on said street or not, but not to include privately owned property situated more than three hundred feet from the streets proposed to be improved hereunder, in accordance with the law governing the same. And the contractor who shall make said improvement shall guarantee that the same will endure without need of repair for three years from the date of its acceptance by the city.

Be It Further Resolved, That the city council will meet at 8 o'clock p. m. on the 14th day of June 1916, at the council room in said city for the purpose of considering objections to said proposed resolution, at which meeting said resolution may be amended and passed or passed as proposed, and that notice of the pendency of said proposed resolution be published as provided by law.

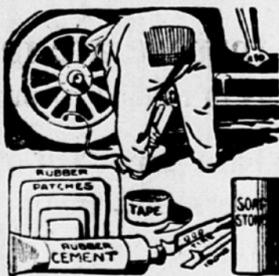
Attest:
M. J. McARTHUR, City Clerk.

Photographs

Graduation, confirmation and your baby's photos. Do not neglect any important period in your child's life.

Those who do neglect it, regret in the future. No time like the present time. Photos at popular prices.

Your Photographer,
39-2t BLOMQUIST



PATCHES

for inner tubes, especially adapted for quick repairing. They are made from regular air tube stock and are made with edges tapered very thin, so that when cemented to the tube they act in perfect harmony with the tube and do not have a tendency to come loose in use. Full line of cement, tape, soap-stone, pumps, etc.

FRED C. MILLER
Cresco, Iowa



PRINCE ALBERT

the national joy smoke

in godness and in pipe satisfaction is all we or its enthusiastic friends ever claimed for it!

It answers every smoke desire you or any other man ever had! It is so cool and fragrant and appealing to your smokeappetite that you will get chummy with it in a mighty short time!

Will you invest 5c or 10c to prove out our say-so on the national joy smoke?

R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO., Winston-Salem, N. C.

YOU'LL find a cheery howdy-do on top no matter how much of a stranger you are in the neck of the woods you drop into. For, Prince Albert is right there—at the first place you pass that sells tobacco! The toppy red bag sells for a nickel and the tidy red tin for a dime, then there's the handsome pound and half-pound tin humidors and the pound crystal-glass humidors with sponge-moistener top that keeps the tobacco in such bang-up trim all-the-time!



This is the reverse side of the Prince Albert tidy red tin. Read this "Patented Process" message-to-you and realize what it means in making Prince Albert so much to your liking.

"The Battle Cry of Peace"
Cresco Opera House, May 29th and 30th



Jacques Urlus

of the Metropolitan Opera Co., the world's greatest Wagnerian tenor, proving by actual comparison, the infallibility of Edison's new art. He is one of the many great artists who have

made the same test with the same result.

Hear Edison's Re-Creation of the voice of the great Urlus; hear Urlus himself whenever you have the opportunity—at the Metropolitan in New York, or when he is on tour.

Have you read of Thomas A. Edison's New Art—the Re-Creation of Music. Already there are more than 1000 examples of this new art on sale. New selections are being issued weekly by the Edison Laboratories.

COME TO US AND HEAR

Edison's actual Re-Creation of the wonderful voice of the great Urlus. Hear Edison's Re-Creation of the other great opera stars, and the great instrumentalities. No voice, no form of music is beyond Edison's New Art.

Don't be confused or misled by trade names or skillful publicity. There is only one instrument which actually Re-Creates all forms of music. It is

The New Edison

CLEMMER'S PHONOGRAPH SHOP
Cresco, Iowa