

THE LACLEDE BLADE

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J. B. JONES, Editor and Publisher.

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Who Did It?

It is a job for the astute Philadelphia lawyer to determine the balance of responsibility for Canadian reciprocity, in case it finally becomes an actuality through like action by parliament. It was first arranged by negotiation by a republican president with the Canadian administration, and was submitted by him to a congress controlled in both branches by his own party, and failed to pass. He then called a special session of the new congress, controlled strongly in the house by the democrats and but weakly in the senate by the republicans. The bill passed the house easily, the democrats voting for it almost unanimously, and the republicans almost equally solid against it.

The senate has just passed it by a vote of 32 democrats and 21 republicans, while the negative vote was 24 republicans and only 3 democrats. Thus more republicans voted against it than for it, while the democrats supported it almost solidly. It will now be signed by the republican president, who has been its creator and sponsor, and political prophets, who see dire disaster in it, say the people will hold somebody responsible.

But which party is responsible? A combination of a republican president and democratic representatives and senators did it. The two factions of the republican party were divided, some stand-patters and some progressives being on both sides.

The intelligent vote—which, of course, means every voter, we like to think will have difficulty in deciding whether the conservative republicans, the progressive republicans or the democrats were most to blame, or deserve the most credit, according to the point of view.

The only thing that stands out clearly is that it was conceived and put through by a republican president, who made it his chief administrative effort, and who is likely to be the republican nominee next year. This may serve, in view of the other complexities, as something definite for the voters to lay hold upon, and because of it fix the responsibility upon the republican party.

And yet—who knows? The democrats may be loudly claiming the credit themselves a year hence. It all depends on how it works and what the people think about it at that time.—St. Louis Star.

Helping the Unemployed

One of the chief benefits derived by working people from the state bureau in the three big cities is aid in securing employment. These branches were established for the double purpose of preventing labor employment agencies from imposing on persons seeking employment and to find employment for wage earners free of charge. Under the management, of Austin V. Biggs, the new commissioner of the bureau of labor and statistics, the branch at St. Louis is becoming far more effective than it has ever been. Col. Tom Johnson is in charge of it and he is making labor agencies fear the strong hand of the state in dealing with helpless laboring people, while he is finding employment for hundreds of applicants free of charge. The rooms formerly occupied have proven inadequate and Commissioner Biggs has secured

and fitted up larger quarters at 104 North Tenth Street, where the unemployed are afforded all possible assistance in securing work. The department maintains a free employment bureau at the waterworks building in Kansas City and one at 113 Felix street in St. Joseph. Both of these bureaus are now active in securing employment for wage earners. Mr. Biggs, coming himself from the ranks of wage earners, is seeking to give the unemployed the highest possible benefits of the provisions of state laws enacted in their behalf. And in doing this he is rendering useful service to employers, who are enabled to find the employees through these state agencies.

The men who are industriously warning the people of certain sections of the state that the capitol bond proposition is a graft are to be pitied for their lack of moral perception or their almost insane suspicions concerning the integrity of the officials who are to issue the bonds and approve all payments to be made from the proceeds. It is deplorable that any intelligent citizen is willing to believe or suspect that there is graft in the capitol bond proposition.

Concrete Work

Concrete work of all kinds done in a neat and workmanlike manner. House raising and foundations a specialty. Have a good stock of blocks on hand and can give you choice of faces. Let me figure on your concrete mixing. Can save you time and money and do better work than hand mixing.

WAYNE ANDERSON.

LET'S SETTLE THIS MATTER RIGHT.

One Missouri newspaper says that 3½ million dollars is too much money to be used in rebuilding the state capitol; another paper says that it's too little—and there you are. What are we to do, boys? Shall we squabble over this matter for a dozen years, being without a state home all of this time? Would it not be better to get together in a spirit of concession and go ahead and rebuild at once? Let's not lose the fine inspiration that comes from a patriotic duty promptly done. Let's not give our enemies an opportunity to pillar Missouri in the pitiless columns of ridicule as the capitolless state for a decade. We must have a new capitol; why not get together and vote to rebuild, the first dash out of the box? Come on, boys; let's settle this matter for all time to come. It's the wise, practical, sensible, economical, patriotic thing to do.

A SOUND BUSINESS PROPOSITION.

You can't figure out a sounder business proposition than that which urges the people to vote the \$3,500,000 new capitol August 1st. The law provides that only this amount may be used; that \$300,000 of it goes to furnishing the new capitol, \$200,000 to purchasing additional capitol grounds; and \$3,000,000 must rebuild the capitol complete—the state will not be liable for any added sum expended. This amount is broken up into thirteen equal parts of \$269,230 per year, the bonds running thirteen years, which is a sum so small as not to be felt by such a rich and growing state as ours. This annual payment in turn is broken up into very small parts of 2 cents on the \$100 assessed valuation and distributed among the taxpayers of the state, a sum that means only a few cents to each individual. The proposition is not only a sound one when considered alone, but is strengthened when considered in the light of the \$5,000,000 issue to be voted on November, 1912, if the August election fails to see its adoption. To carry the \$3,500,000 proposition, not only means a new state house which is badly needed and which we can not build for less, but it also means a saving of \$1,500,000 in principal and an equal amount in interest over the \$5,000,000 plan. Its good business and sound policy and wise judgment to get behind the special election proposition and carry it by the necessary two-thirds.

Chips and Shavings

Cipriano Castro is again in Venezuela with 1,000 men and a whole lot of ambition. We may expect large doings in that vicinity presently. Cip can start more trouble to the square inch than any other man in South America.

Attorney General Wickersham is determined not to permit the magazine trust to grind the faces of the poor. Why can't it be reasonable, like the sugar and beef and steel and money trusts?

A professor of chemistry stopped a runaway horse by throwing ammonia in its face. As a last resort it may be necessary to use this method on the national house of representatives.

Having run down enough testimony to get indictments, it is to be hoped that the government has greased the ways leading toward conviction in the oleo fraud cases.

One of Peary's North Pole dogs attacked a little girl the other day and hurt her badly. Wouldn't catch one of poor old Doc. Cook's dogs doing anything like that.

Gov. Woodrow Wilson says he is two kinds of a democrat. He will have to be more kinds than that if he is going to get the support of all the varieties.

It has been so long since the bloody shirt was waved in the senate that spectators didn't know at first what it was that Senator Heyburn unfurled recently.

Probably the Illinoisian who says he'd give \$1,000 to locate a man from whom he stole something thirty years ago wants to find out if the man is still "easy."

A professional life-saver at Atlantic City received three proposals of marriage in one day. The professional life-saver certainly takes desperate chances.

If some men acted half so decently when at home as they do when away from home, there would be a great deal of brightness added to domestic life.

A man who is willing to make the journey in an aeroplane is too anxious to get there.

Some of the food dopers were not so Wiley as they thought.

Hold your roasting ear in your fingers and be done with it!

Nobody ever bit off more watermelon than he could chew.

Women should pick their friends, but not to pieces.

Strain's Jewelry Store

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Brookfield

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Strain's

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Special attention to out-of-town trade

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WE DO a general banking business and solicit your patronage. Open an account with us now and pay your bills with checks. It is safer than carrying money around with you and gives you a receipt for every transaction. It will help you save money. Start an account with us now, even if the amount is small, and see how much you can have at the end of a year. Our last statement showed

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The Big Horn Basin and Yellowstone Valley

offers you wonderful money-making opportunities. This is an opportune time for you to get with me on one of my personally conducted landseekers' excursions, the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

Bumper Crops Now Growing

At this time of the year you can see the bumper crops of alfalfa, wheat, oats, barley, sugar beets, potatoes and all kinds of garden vegetables. Nowhere will the farmer, the home-maker, the merchant, the professional man or the investor, find more or better opportunities for the profitable employment of hands, brains, or pocketbook than in the Big Horn Basin, Wyoming, and Yellowstone Valley, Montana.

How to Get Land

You can file on State land under the Carey Act, homestead government irrigated land or take up a Mondell 320-acre free homestead.

OUR NEW FOLDER with large map tells about these lands. It is free. Write for it today.

D. CLEM DEEVER, Immigration Agent, 1004 Farnam Street, Omaha, Neb.

Burlington Route

The Electric-Lighted "On Time" Road

Before adjourning for the summer, the supreme court dismissed the motion for an immediate dismissal of the contest cases of Gantt, Timmonds and Gass and ordered the contestants to present before special Commissioner Culver any evidence they may wish to submit to sustain their petitions, the commissioner to present his report, with his conclusions, on the 10th day of next October. This means that the attorneys for the contestants must examine witnesses, documents and figures without further delay and lay before the commissioner whatever facts they may have in hand or may develop.

Don't try to get gay with an electric fan, no matter how much you feel like flirting.

THE ONLY QUESTION AT ISSUE

There is no question before the people affecting the location of the permanent seat of government in Missouri. The matter was settled for all time to come when the government granted land to Missouri to be used for the permanent seat of government, and it was sold to individuals with that guarantee. The only issue, and one issue, to be determined at the special election August 1, is whether Missouri will rebuild the capitol building now that was destroyed by fire February 5, or shall we procrastinate the matter indefinitely. Shall we provide a home for the homeless offices of the state now, or shall we continue to expose the state records to the mercy of every storm that blows and fire that burns? That's the one and only question to be settled at the August special state capitol election.