

THE LACLEDE BLADE

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A. J. CAYWOOD.

Friday, March 23, 1917

Proceeding Deliberately

Everywhere the arming of American merchantmen is interpreted as meaning war. Yet no nation ever set out upon such a venture more calmly than America is going into the pathway of hostilities. To those of us who can recall the feverish days of 1898 and to that fewer number who remember the excitement of 1861, there is something uncanny about this. The military condition of the country, to sure, not such as to excite enthusiasm. Quite the contrary. And we hope that the calm seriousness with which we are apparently marching into war means that the real mind of the nation is finally concentrated upon our needs with a determination to go through to the end with whatever is necessary.

The Mission of Mr. Taft

The problem as to what to do with our ex-presidents is solved, so far as one of them is concerned. Mr. Taft solved it for himself. He is a man with a mission. That does not mean that he is a hobby-rider; far from it. He was never designed for a crusader. His eye does not roll in fine frenzy and he indulges in none of the extremes of utterance which so often get first-page position in the papers. He would rather be right than bright. He would rather be sensible than president. His mission is so common sense. He is qualified for the task by wide experience, by careful study of men and affairs and by possession of a mind that is as penetrating as it is honest. Furthermore, he is as disinterested as any other human being. He says what he thinks when he thinks it out to be said, without hope of reward or fear of punishment.

His St. Louis speech Saturday night showed him at his best. He discussed preparedness and patriotism, not as a swashbuckler or as a pacifist, but as a statesman, familiar with both facts and principles. The "sweet reasonable" which is characteristic of his style was never displayed to better advantage than in his convincing argument in behalf of a full year's military training for all American youths not exempted for proper reasons. It was not a plea for militarism, but quite the reverse. Coupled with it was a defense of the League to Enforce Peace, which he has studied in all its implications. One by one he disposed of the objections raised to both of these proposals by opposite schools of thought. He showed the same fairness and the same devotion to American interests in his references to our foreign relations. It was a notable and a timely address, which only one of the greatest of Americans could have delivered. The country is fortunate that Mr. Taft has selected such a mission at a time when extremists are abroad, apparently seeking notoriety or personal aggrandizement instead of striving to enlighten the people for the country's good.

Stone Stays

Many newspapers in many parts of the country have made an effort to have Senator Stone displaced from the chairmanship of the committee on foreign relations. Many citizens and organizations have also tried to get this change made. But all to no avail. That partic-

lar Stone will remain about the neck of the committee.

A Friendly Warning

From Cleveland, Ohio, Press. We want to warn the kaiser of his new Von—that latest addition to his Prussian junkers, Von "Gum Shoe Bill" Stone.

He isn't to be trusted kaiser. Don't depend on him. As chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations, Von Stone was President Wilson's personal representative on the floor of the senate. He deserted the president in the face of the enemy.

As chairman of the foreign relations committee, he was let in on the secret of our navy plans to arm American ships. As you know yourself by this time, kaiser, he revealed that secret to you in a public speech in the senate.

Don't depend on the Von Stone, Mr. Kaiser. In Missouri, from which state he comes, the crafty ones say:

"We all suck eggs, but 'Gum Shoe Bill' hides the shells."

All Will Cooperate

The prompt compliance of the newspapers with the administration's request for silence regarding the movement of ships is proof that all the forces of the country wish to co-operate in any course which really looks to genuine defense of the national rights and that the criticism which newspapers have made of the administration's policy have been founded in opposition to inaction rather than in fear of action. Now that Mr. Wilson has taken a definite step and assumed a well-defined position, he finds a united country behind him.

Japanese Products For Banquet

When the Tenyo Maru, a liner of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha company of Japan, sailed from Yokohama last Saturday a part of its cargo consisted of three tons of Japanese products to be used in the making of the elaborate "Made-in-Japan" banquet which will end the journalism week of the school of journalism of the University of Missouri at Columbia, May 7. The nature of the shipment is being kept secret. The decorations which have been chosen by expert decorators of the country will give a transplanted view of a real Nipponese dinner, excluding, of course, the geishas. The decorations will be in charge of a Japanese decorator of the United States. The food will consist of all the delicacies of the Japanese Empire and will have an Oriental flavor. The souvenirs will be representative of the industries of the Island Kingdom of the Far East.

Bulletin On Swine Feeding

How to employ self-feeders in the fattening of swine and their construction is the subject matter of a bulletin, "Self-Feeders for Fattening Swine," (Bulletin 144) which has recently been issued by the college of agriculture of the University of Missouri. A series of four experiments with self-feeders are summarized by L. A. Weaver, professor of animal husbandry and plans and directions for the construction of feeders by E. W. Lehmann, professor of farm engineering, are contained in the bulletin. It may be obtained from the College of Agriculture, Columbia, Mo.

Collection Notice

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The Owl Pharmacy

CONDENSED OFFICIAL STATEMENT

—OF THE—

TWENTY-ONE BANKS OF LINN COUNTY

Close of Business, March 5, 1917.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts, personal and real.....	\$3,310,542.02
Overdrafts.....	25,658.60
Bond and stocks.....	52,716.25
Real Estate.....	48,713.10
Furniture and fixtures.....	14,674.81
Cash in vault and due from banks.....	1,094,961.91
Total.....	\$4,547,266.69

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock.....	\$ 569,000.00
Surplus.....	447,221.11
Undivided profits.....	74,691.39
Bills Payable.....	97,400.35
Deposits.....	3,358,953.84
Total.....	\$4,547,266.69

1895

H. C. LOMAX, President

1917

E. B. STANDLY, Vice-President
H. W. LOMAX, Cashier

Lomax & Standly Bank

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$20,000.00

We thank you for past patronage and trust that we may still have the continuation of your business, which will receive our best confidential service. Our vaults are always open to you to use for your valuable papers.

E. E. BENSON, President

M. P. BENSON, Cashier

BENSON BANKING CO.

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C. S. HOTALING

At Abstract Office.

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