

THE LACLEDE BLADE

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Plenty of Democratic Dissension

The aftermath of the voting in congress on the conscription bill is chiefly made up of democratic dissension. Champ Clark and Ambassador Gerard led off with an interchange of choice recrimination, the New York World brought in a blanket indictment of democrats who failed the president in his effort to create an army, and from Washington comes the story of multiplied personal rows among democrats in congress who split on the issue. We leave them to settle their own quarrels. All we desire is the opportunity to remind from time to time between now and November, 1918, that these democrats and others will be appearing before the voters asking for election or re-election.

High Prices For Live Stock

"Raise more live stock: there will be high prices for at least three years to come:" this is an emergency message to farmers and stock growers from G. Howard Davison, president of the International Live Stock Exposition and chairman of the executive committee of the National Agricultural Society.

Says Mr. Davison: "In my judgment there will be a scarcity of nearly all kinds of live stock for some time to come and farmers and stockmen should make their plans accordingly. This means that there should be no selling of young animals or female breeding stock merely because current prices are high. Better money can be made by working on the understanding that high prices for hogs, cattle, sheep and other live stock will rule for at least three or four years to come.

"There is no doubting this in view of the knowledge that Europe has lost over 50 per cent of its live stock—that the whole world in fact is suffering from a serious shortage in all kinds of food animals.

"There is so much concern over a possible wheat or potato shortage that the public is forgetting the meat situation. As a matter of fact, if every effort were made to increase the country's supply of cattle, it would be at least three years before solid results would be apparent. As regards sheep it would require at least two years to make any considerable increase in numbers, even though every ewe were held back for breeding purposes.

"The best possible program for the farmer from the standpoint of either patriotism or profit is to raise more live stock and to work on a three or four year program, at least."

Women Prepare For War

Realizing that food conservation is as important as food production, women in the college of agriculture and the University of Missouri are fitting themselves for home demonstration work. Dr. Louise Stanley of the home economics department is giving a series of six lectures and demonstrations in anticipation of a demand for women to enter the field as canning agents.

A few women students in the college of agriculture have returned home to take up poultry and vegetable raising, but many had no opportunity to do such work. Most of these will take advantage of the special course so that they will be prepared in case they are

needed. It is not unlike'y that a call will come for demonstrators in women's work. Many women students in the University have had preliminary training which with the special course will fit them for demonstration or canning work. The call may not come, but if it does these women will be ready, and if it is necessary to put an agent in each county in the state, they will be qualified.

The home economics department is also working on other methods of preserving foods. It is probable that cans and jars will be scarce, so that drying will be offered in the special course.

What's Doing In Washington

Representative James C. McLaughlin of Michigan has hit upon still another way in which to increase our food supply. He has prepared a bill proposing to establish game sanctuaries in our national forests, in which deer, elk, mountain sheep, etc., may be allowed to breed undisturbed and spread out into the neighboring country where they may be hunted in accordance with state laws. Mr. McLaughlin expressly states that the purpose of the proposed legislation is to "produce an increased supply by breeding under natural conditions." Congressman McLaughlin is next to the leading republican on the committee on agriculture, before which the measure is now pending, and he will exercise his great influence with the other members to secure a favorable report.

The first man in the military service of the government to lose his life in the war was Boatswain's Mate Epolucci, a son of Italian immigrants. Congressman F. H. LaGuardia, also of Italian parentage, has taken occasion to pay a glowing tribute to the memory of Mr. Epolucci and to the character of men of Italian ancestry in our army and navy. "They all stand ready," says Mr. LaGuardia, "to take their part in this war and render useful, necessary, and patriotic duty." Mr. LaGuardia has himself rendered conspicuously faithful service to the government, having been appointed to an American consulate in Austria when but 19 years of age, and after serving abroad for five years did most excellent work at Ellis Island with the immigration bureau. Although only 34 years old Mr. LaGuardia is the first republican that has come to congress from the fourteenth district of New York.

Senator William M. Calder of New York has taken the trouble to ascertain the views of a number of eastern college presidents on the subjects of conscription, believing that their opinions have a peculiar value, as nearly all the young men in their charge are nearly all subject to the draft, and a great percentage of them are now preparing themselves to enter the service of the country in some capacity. The replies that he has received are a unit in favor of raising our army by the selective draft system. Senator Caldwell contends that the views of these men, who have given years of study to the great problems of government, and are at the head of institutions where the prevailing spirit is essentially democratic, are entitled to great weight.

Exception to the published statement that Illinois leads the states in the number of enlistments in the army is taken by Congressman Harry C. Woodyard of West Virginia, who contends that in proportion to her male population his state stands at the head of the list

in the number of recruits furnished. Since war has been declared, says Mr. Woodyard, West Virginia has put two regiments in the field, one of which has seen service on the Mexican border, and when the call comes for more men that state will stand ready to furnish even more than her quota of soldiers.

Sam Jordon Employed

Saturday at Salisbury the contract with the acknowledged superior farm adviser, Sam Jordon, was signed and the distinguished scientific agriculturist will aid those who have employed him for three years in making their land yield greater and better crops. Governor Gardner declared when he learned that Mr. Jordon had been engaged by the farmers of this county, that he would refer to it and discuss the prominence the county was sure to gain by reason of it.

The county now has the opportunity to learn what our land is best suited to and the proper method of preparing the ground, planting and cultivating, and it will not let such opportunity slip away by disregarding the advice which has been so profitable elsewhere.—Chariton Courier.

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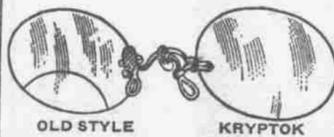
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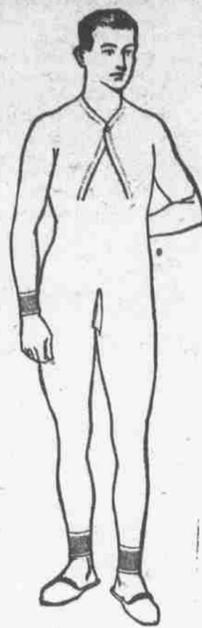
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