

THE LACLEDE BLADE

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A. J. CAYWOOD.

Friday, July 20, 1917

Winning the Respect of Europe

Every American will heartily applaud the plea made by General Pershing to his soldiers in behalf of an orderly and courteous conduct during their stay in Europe. The position of the United States in the eyes of Europe will depend no more upon feats of arms than upon the personal conduct of the men who represent this nation in the world conflict.

It is impossible for American soldiers to gain a reputation in any degree approaching that now suffered by the Germans. But it is not enough that we merely avoid an evil reputation. The conduct of the American soldier on the firing line and in the villages of any country to which they shall be sent, should be, and will be, such as to leave in the memories of all observers an impression of manly courage combined with chivalrous courtesy.

The mental pictures we have of our own American heroes were not created by records of great deeds but rather by stories of little incidents which revealed the true characters of the men. Future generations in Europe will know the typical American by the personal conduct of our soldiers rather than by the success or failure of masses of men on the field of battle.

Truth From The Stars

In a recent reading of the "horoscope" which is a popular syndicated feature in the columns of some of our exchanges we came across this prediction from the planets: "The South should benefit greatly from public enterprises, especially after August."

The stars indeed speak truly in this instance. Soon after August the great cantonments of the national army will be teeming with drafted soldiers, whose maintenance will set floods of public money swirling through the communities where these cantonments are situated.

In addition, the majority of the mobilization camps for the federalized national guard have likewise been established in southern states, and from these centers also there will well up copious streams of

public money. We have not hitherto taken much stock in the daily "horoscope" as we have seen it from time to time in the newspapers. But we must admit that this particular prophecy has made a ten-strike.

Weeds and Water Road Enemies

Every one knows that water is destructive of good roads. After rains, country roads are usually in bad condition, and then is the time for the farmer to "do his bit" and show his patriotism by repairing such damage and preventing further loss. This may be done in two ways: first, by opening up side ditches and connecting the ruts with these ditches so that showers will be promptly carried off; second, by cutting the weeds and brush between fences to let the sunshine dry up the pools that do not drain.

Every farmer should feel a personal responsibility for the stretch of road in front of his own farm, and should exert himself to do what he can to keep it in proper condition to travel. Weeds growing in the highway will scatter their seeds over his fields, and he cannot avoid responsibility for this neglect simply because they grew outside his fence lines.

Must Do Their Duty

Col. Geo. W. Bailey, president of the Linn county council of defense, calls attention to the fact that township committeemen who fail to report on crop conditions will be removed and others appointed. Our boys are marching forward to take their places in the trenches, says Col. Bailey, and it is the duty of every citizen to do his bit, and work will be required of all after the next meeting of the council. There must be no slackers in Linn county.

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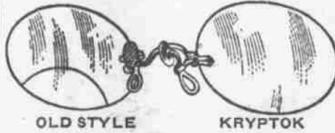
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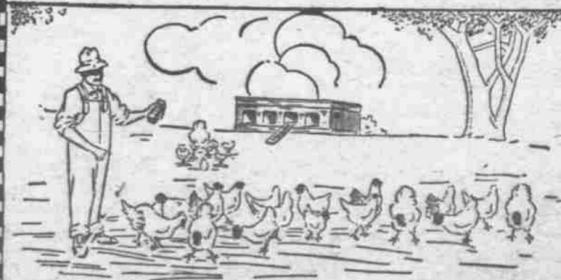
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