

# WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH BOISE? CITIZEN FEARFUL OF FUTURE

### Commercial Club Member Urges Awakening From Apparent Lethargy; Wants City to "Carry on" to Larger Things

### CIVIC UPLIFT IS NEEDED

### Says Merchants Enjoy Record Business, Yet Town Seems Without Spirit; Projects Fail Through Lack of Needed Vim

Declaring the beautiful city of Boise is merely marking time, and a victim of imaginary "dumps" since the saloons made their exit from town, a commercial club member, in a vigorous plea for an awakening, urges a regeneration, civically speaking.

The writer points out that many a worthy project has been lost to Boise because of failure to "carry on" once the proposition was launched. He cites the many conferences of the commercial club, and the plans emanating therefrom, but that seldom are projects pushed through to any definite result. The merchants, he claims, are setting new records both in volume of business and in collections, but he insists a state of lethargy exists, from which the community must awake if Boise would blossom into a better and a larger city.

The communication, a message of real thought and worth, follows:

"How much longer are we going to permit the beautiful city of Boise to stand still?"

"Ever since the state of Idaho went dry, Boise has insisted that she is in the dumps. Are we ready to admit that the growth and prosperity of Boise depended upon the liquor traffic? Does the sight of a few old

shacks, formerly occupied by saloons discourage this community?"

"Is it not a fact that the merchants are doing more business than ever before, and are not collections better than they were before we became a dry community? Then what is the matter with this old town? Have we lost any of our resources? Have we lost any of our really beneficial institutions? Not a single thing has been lost, except the saloons; and we would not have them back. On the contrary we have simply lost our spirit of enterprise. In other words we have laid down."

### LOYALTY TO SELVES.

"When the war began the whole country awoke and rallied to the support of the nation with men, money and food. Boise caught the fever and went over the top with the best of them. Now shall we be less loyal to the community and the state in time of peace? Shall we settle back into a state of lethargy that permeated us before the great conflict, or shall we go on and do things to build up our city, and the great state of Idaho?"

"The Boise Commercial club directors seem to have meetings every week, and according to the papers the attendance is good and lots of plans are made, but there doesn't seem to be much actually brought to a final conclusion. We ought to find out what is the matter, for it probably isn't their fault. Anyhow, they deserve the help of all of us."

"I recall that not long ago a high cavalry officer came to Boise in a trip over the west to recommend a suitable place for the establishment of a remount station. This officer was shown around by a committee from the Commercial club, who pointed out to him the many advantages that Boise possesses for establishing this remount station. This officer advised the committee to get up all the data relative to the climate, available horses and mules, cost of grain and forage, and send it to the war department, and to follow it up with personal representation at Washington and that he would make a strong report in favor of Boise. After a long time the report went in, and it was a good one, but there the matter rested, and has never been thought of since; I firmly believe that if we had gone after this remount station in earnest, we would have secured it. The report is probably pigeonholed in some dusty hiding place in the war department, just as Colonel McDonald said it would be if we did not follow it up."

### WHAT OF THE SOLDIERS?

"Secretary Lane is looking out for

us better than we are looking out for ourselves. He recently recommended an appropriation of \$100,000,000 for the reclamation of arid lands in the west. Idaho has more fertile land, and more water than any other three of the arid states."

"What is Idaho doing to assist Secretary Lane in this great work? What ever is done Boise should take the lead as the capital and the principal city of the state."

"What are we going to do with the boys that come back from the war, if we don't start something to give them employment? Already there are many of these brave lads looking for work. This state needs all of these boys, and then some to carry on the work of developing her dormant resources. There are plenty of rich concerns that would gladly take our bonds at a low rate of interest and we need the money, why not secure it while the going is good. We could use millions of five per cent money in Idaho at a profit."

"We need a new city and county building. The old courthouse is not only a disgrace to the county but is unsanitary and the records of the county are unsafe. Well, why not build it now while it is necessary to furnish labor for our unemployed, especially our soldier boys that must be given work. There seems to be a fear in the hearts of some Boise people that any attempt to vote a bond issue for the construction of a city and county building would be turned down by the farmers. In fact, this was done a few years ago."

"The conditions of the farmers today compared with a few years ago is entirely different. I believe that the enterprise and loyalty of the farmers of Ada county and the citizens of the towns of Meridian, Star, Eagle, Kuna and other places, is just as great as that of the citizens of Boise; and in my opinion, they will not turn down any fair and reasonable proposition."

### ARROWROCK ROAD.

"Let us get behind the proposition to build a decent road to Arrowrock dam. We have been talking about it long enough. This is the greatest piece of engineering of its kind in the world. Now that the war is over, there will be thousands of tourists passing through Idaho, ninety per cent of whom would visit the Arrowrock dam if we had a decent road. Every one of them would go back home and talk about that wonderful structure, which the government has built for the storage of water for the irrigation of tens of thousands of acres of the finest land in the world. This would cause some of the people they talk to, to come out here and buy some of that land. In other words, it would be a wonderful advertisement for Idaho."

"While we are doing this, what is the matter with building about a hundred miles more of good road in Ada county for the benefit of the farmers. They have had time to appreciate the advantages of the roads already built and I will gamble right now that they are ready to vote bonds to build more."

"You can depend on it that the rest of the country is going to get in motion. We in Boise and Ada county ought to lead off rather than lag behind or be left at the post."

"A COMMERCIAL CLUB MEMBER."

### WOMEN TO SPEAK AT THE REPUBLICAN LINCOLN BANQUET

Women prominent in the state will speak at the Lincoln banquet to be held in the orange room at the Oxy-hoe hotel on the evening of Feb. 12, and women for the first time will be generally in attendance. Among the speakers will be Mrs. M. J. Sweeley, president of the Idaho Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Emma Drake and Mrs. Carrie Harper White, members of the legislature. Other speakers will include M. A. Kiger, speaker of the house of representatives; Senators E. W. Whitcomb and M. B. Yeaman; Frank R. Gooding, Will H. Gibson, J. B. Eldridge, Will H. Hays, chairman of the Republican national committee, has been asked to attend.

### PERFECT AN APPEAL IN GOODWIN CASE TO DISTRICT COURT

The question of whether Blinn Gertrude Lewis, who has sworn she is the illegitimate daughter of H. C. Goodwin, the wealthy sheepman, killed in Oregon in September, 1917, is entitled to the estate left by her father, has been appealed from probate court to the district court, the appeal being perfected Saturday.

Former Probate Judge Dunlap, who heard the case in the low court, upheld the claim of the young woman and rendered a decision that she was entitled to the estate, valued at \$21,158.05.

24 and 25 are the telephone numbers of The Capital News.

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## DECISIVE STEP

(Continued from Page One)

tion countryside and the graves of the dead.

"These were the results of the only method nations had contrived to settle disputes," he said, "and I thought: 'Surely it is time to find another way.'"

**ORLANDO SPEAKS.**  
Premier Orlando next spoke in support of the resolution saying: "We are only doing our duty and carrying out our sacred promises. On this great historical day the rights of the people are born."

Senator Bourgeois, speaking for France, urged adoption of the resolution. It was passed at 4:31 o'clock.

When the Chinese delegate was recognized to discuss the league, Premier Hughes of Australia arose and sharply asked if he could "assume there will be an opportunity to discuss the scheme when it is completed."

Premier Clemenceau, speaking in English for the first time during the conference, said:

"Certainly there will be ample opportunity."

An extended debate relative to representation of the smaller nations on the various committees was opened by Belgium and Brazil. During the debate, Serbia, Portugal, Greece, Rumania and Czechoslovakia claimed the right to representation, especially wanting delegates on the reparation committee.

The resolution presented for establishment of the league of nations said it is "essential to maintenance of the world settlement which the associated nations are now met to establish that the league of nations be created to promote international obligations and to provide safeguards against war."

**IS INTEGRAL PART.**  
It declared that the "league should be created as an integral part of a general peace treaty," and that it "should be open to every civilized nation to promote its objects."

The committee provided for in the resolution regarding responsibility and punishment for the war makers was instructed to inquire into facts as to breaches of laws and customs of war committed by the German empire and its allies.

And to fix the "degree of responsibility for these offenses attaching to particular members of the enemy forces however highly placed." This

latter phrase was accepted as referring directly to the former Kaiser.

The committee on indemnities will determine "the amount of reparation which the enemy countries ought to pay what they are capable of paying," and the "method, the form and time within which payment should be made."

The action of the congress showed that the various questions will be whipped into shape by committees of international specialists, leaving the supreme war council free to handle only the biggest problems and make final decisions—as exclusively forecast by the United Press.

Additional committees will be appointed as fast as new questions arise. As all these bodies will be functioning simultaneously, it is evident that the work of the peace conference will be greatly expedited.

## NATION LEAGUE

(Continued from page one.)

together after the war and make such another sacrifice unnecessary.

**SOLEMN OBLIGATION.**

"It is a solemn obligation on our part, therefore, to make permanent arrangements that justice shall be rendered and peace maintained. That is the central object of our meeting. Settlements may be temporary but the action of the nations in the interest of peace and justice must be permanent. We must be able to set up permanent decision. Therefore, it seems to me that we must take, so far as we can, a picture of the world into our minds. Is it a startling circumstance for one thing that the great discoveries of science; that the quiet studies of men in laboratories; that thoughtful developments, which have taken place in quiet lecture rooms, have now been turned to the destruction of civilization? The powers of destruction have not so much multiplied as gained facilities. The enemy whom we have just overcome, had at its seats of learning some of the principal centers of scientific study and discovery, and he used them in order to make destruction sudden and complete; and only the watchful, continuous co-operation of men can see to it that science, as well as armed men are kept within the harness of civilization."

The Capital News telephone numbers are 24 and 25.

# Here's Two Great Shows

## I ADVISE YOU TO SEE THEM BOTH

Last Wednesday you saw Frank Keenan in "The Midnight Stage." Today the same great actor is present in "The Ruler of the Road."

At the Majestic is "The Riders of the Night," a story of the night riders of Kentucky—we have just received a report from Nampa where we have shown this picture that the public are requesting a return date.

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<b>FRANK KEENAN</b>	<b>VIOLA DANA</b>
IN	IN
"THE RULER OF THE ROAD"	"RIDERS OF THE NIGHT"
COMEDY	SCENIC
<b>STRAND</b>	<b>MAJESTIC</b>
TODAY ONLY	TODAY ONLY

Coming  
**DUSTIN FARNUM**  
—IN—  
"THE LIGHT OF WESTERN STARS"  
THURSDAY



## Inside Facts About the Peace Conference

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Censor's Hand Halted.

### William Allen White

Tells the story for Capital News readers. First article will appear on

**SUNDAY, FEB. 2.**

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FIRST ARTICLE NEXT SUNDAY.

**SUNDAY CAPITAL NEWS**

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