

in confidence before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs recently, the members were so profoundly impressed with his observations that they unanimously concluded that the President ought to ascertain the general's views first hand. Accordingly, Senate Thomas, a Democrat and a loyal supporter of the Administration, was detailed to present the compliments of the committee to President Wilson and suggest that he send post haste for General Wood. The Senator performed his mission and there the matter ended. The President had evidently decided to await the return of Mr. Baker for reliable information from the front.

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LENROOT'S LESE MAJESTY.

WHAT no one has had the temerity to question the loyalty of Irvine L. Lenroot since his election to the United States Senate is most surprising indeed. Strange, isn't it, that Vice President Marshall and J. Ham Lewis have had nothing to say of late—these two intrepid champions of the Administration's peculiar brand of Americanism, who at somebody's behest were so quick as to set aside their senatorial responsibilities for a time and hustle off to Wisconsin to stump the state in behalf of the Democratic candidate. Why their silence? They did not hesitate to assail Mr. Lenroot's Americanism then; why do they hesitate now? It is possible that they sense a mistake, or has the new senator from Wisconsin suddenly become a patriot? Their silence since the election is most eloquent.

To tell the truth, we rather expected that one or the other would carry the Administration's fight against Mr. Lenroot straight into the Senate and challenge his right to sit in that body, the expressed wishes of the electors of Wisconsin notwithstanding. That would have been the consistent thing to do, granting that the President and his distinguished henchmen were acting in good faith in opposing the Republican candidate during the campaign. We take it in all seriousness that the charges they preferred against the gentleman from Wisconsin before election were of sufficient importance to invite the earnest concern of the Senate, providing there was the slightest likelihood of their being substantiated before an impartial jury. That Senator Lenroot should be permitted to take his seat without challenge is a reflection upon the personal honesty and political integrity of Messrs. Marshall and Lewis and whoever they happened to be taking orders from. They should have renewed their charges when the senator-elect appeared to be sworn in, or else one of them should have promptly taken the floor of the Senate and in the name of the Administration openly acknowledged the duplicity of its opposition to the new member, and humbly begged his pardon. That would have been the decent thing to do.

As to the patent and probable results of the recent election in Wisconsin: The signal victory of Mr. Lenroot in a three-cornered fight, and in the face of the determined opposition of the national administration, has furnished political observers with much food for speculation. All agree that the Badger state has decisively acquitted herself of the charges of disloyalty. Aside from this, the critics are far from being unanimous in their deductions. The Republicans "point with pride" to the fact that they have gained one more seat in the Senate and are disposed to see in this a sure sign of success at the fall elections. The Democrats, on the other hand, are seeking to minimize the result on the grounds that Wisconsin is normally a Republican state. You can take your choice.

As we view the situation, the outstanding feature of the election rises above all political considerations. Whatever one's political preferences, he cannot help but view the marked independence manifested by the citizens of Wisconsin with extreme satisfaction. They refused to be stampeded by the cry "The President wants Davies." They insisted upon the exercise of their own good judgment in taking the measure of the men who were bidding for their support. The threats of the spell-binders who were speaking for the Administration held no terrors for them. They resented intervention in their own affairs, asserted their constitutional rights of self government, and thereby evidenced a remarkable degree of sanity and unadulterated courage of convictions. The whole nation is indebted to Wisconsin for showing such steadfastness to the old American ideals and traditions.

We are likewise indebted to Senator Lenroot himself for drawing a very fine but definite line of demarcation between our manifest duties as good citizens of the Great Republic. During his candidacy he declared in substance that loyalty to one's country does not impose upon any American a blind subserviency to any administration; that to "stand by the President" does not embody the same supreme obligation as to "stand by the country." Asserting it to be his manifest duty to stand by "my country right or wrong," he nevertheless insisted that it was his duty to stand by the President only when he was right. Partisans of the Administration will no doubt take a contrary view, but sober-thinking citizens whose line of vision rises above all selfish political considerations will heartily subscribe to Lenroot's doctrine. It is easy to see the line of demarcation if one honestly desires to see it, and to our way of thinking the gentleman from Wisconsin has thus clearly defined the paramount issue of the approaching campaign. It may be lese majesty, and then again it may be simply an old-fashioned American ideal stated in terse but timely manner.

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THE LATE SENATOR STONE.

IN company with millions of his fellow countrymen, we feel constrained to overlook all the unpleasantnesses of the past and are moved by some strange impulse to bear a spray of sentiment and genuine affection to the bier of the dead senator from Missouri. William J. Stone was a man's man, a statesman of superior ability and an American of uncompromising character, notwithstanding his unaccountable attitude during the past year on matters of the most vital concern to the honor and dignity and general welfare to the nation. Although he chose to differ vigorously with a majority of his countrymen, we have never doubted the honesty of his attitude or were disposed to question the courage of his convictions. Many of the animosities that arose to mar an otherwise splendid public career were directly chargeable to an unfortunate misunderstanding of the late senator's blunt and uncompromising characteristics, and it is to be regretted that he was not spared until his better qualities had time to reassert themselves and again set him aright in the estimation of his fellow Americans.

That death should strike him down while he still wore the harness and was hard at work was an impressive climax to his long and stormy career. Had he been allowed a choice, he would have willed to die with his boots on. He was the aggressive type of man that appeals most strongly to Americans—a red-blooded, hot-headed, double-fisted fighter who dearly loves to be in the very thick of the dispute—and how he came to acquire the sobriquet "Gumshoe Bill" has ever been a conundrum to those who have followed his career from a distance. Nor was he a "Me Too" statesman; he always stood stoutly upon his own position and was content to take the consequences. This was his most striking characteristic and was, perhaps, more than all else responsible for his inglorious fall from grace. Stone would take orders from no man; he insisted upon shaping his own course of action; and while his unbridled and impetuous spirit prompted him to make many a mistake in judgment and action, he nevertheless exemplified a high order of independent and self-assertive statesmanship, such as is rarely to be found in either house of Congress today.

Who knows but what it was the very constraints that have been forced upon Congress during recent years that fanned his fiery temperament to a fever heat and aroused his feelings of resentment until they broke all bounds and swept him beyond the extremities of safe and sane statesmanship? Our firm belief is that we have not to take a fair measure of the late senator's intrinsic worth as an uncompromising representative of the people and as a fearless champion of the traditional rights of the Senate, and that as we come to view the stormy close of his career in its true light, we will learn to cherish his memory.

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A part of the peace treaty between Germany and Ukrania provides that a portion of the boundary shall be established on ethnological lines. Of course, the decision will be left to some distinguished German ethnologist.—Minneapolis Tribune.