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THE ABERDEEN WEEKLY

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NO. 36

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Vardaman on the Stone Resolution

The Weekly prints below the speech of Senator James K. Vardaman delivered on the Stone resolution in the Senate chamber on February 7th.

The resolution endorsing the course of President Wilson in severing diplomatic relations with Germany was before the Senate for adoption.

Mr. Vardaman did not vote for that resolution and his speech lucidly explains to the country why he did not. His was a courageous position occupied on lofty and humane grounds.

His enemies have garbled, playing upon such parts of that speech as would serve their purpose, and have colored it so as to do him unfair political justice. They have held up his disagreement with President Wilson on a policy affecting the national welfare as a disloyal act, and, in this way, have sought to brand him as a deserter of his party and a traitor to his country. Nothing could be more obviously false than this characterization of Mr. Vardaman. His disagreement with the President does not involve the question of patriotism at all, but is of deeper concern. It does not comprehend alone the ethics of upholding the personal executive dignity, but bears the greater concern of statecraft to conserve the national peace and happiness of the American people, if not of the whole world.

Patriotic men differ as to the best methods of conserving the national welfare; one may favor war, another may counsel forbearance to reach the ends of peace and happiness—the motive actuating their positions is the only safe guide to judge of their patriotism.

The motives of both President Wilson and Senator Vardaman, though the two men differ, are equally patriotic in this instance—The Weekly would as soon question the patriotism of the one as the other—and it questions neither.

The words of Mr. Vardaman printed below vouch for his patriotism and that without surrender of his conscientious convictions:

Mr. Vardaman. Mr. President, a grave responsibility rests upon every member of this body in the consideration of the delicate question before the Senate. It is a responsibility which can not be avoided, however disagreeable it may be to meet the issue. That the members of the senate will rise equal to the demands of the solemn situation the heroic past of our common country bids me hope. The way to meet a grave issue is not to blindly follow the president or anybody else. The responsibilities of the Senate are equal and co-ordinate with the responsibilities of the executive. If I could be true to my constituents and have the consent of my own conscience and avoid the responsibility of meeting this question by simply referring it to the President, I should be very happy; but I can not do that. I have a duty to perform which I alone can perform. Nor can any other Senator do it and be true to the obligations of his place. To paraphrase the language of another:

The American people honor the Senator wisely taught

That serveth not another's will; Whose armor is his honest thought, And simple truth his utmost skill.

In that spirit I shall try to meet the duties of the moment.

Mr. President, if in the mysterious providence of an All-wise God war shall occur between the United States and Germany, there will be no division of sentiment or break in the ranks of patriotic Americans in defense of the Nation's flag. I shall do all within my power consistent with honor and national self-respect to avert calamity of war. I am sure Germany does not desire war with the United States, and I know the people of the United States do not wish war with Germany, unless there is greater provocation for war than has yet been given. But if war must come, there will be no faltering on my part nor on the part of those whom I have the honor to represent in this chamber in the performance of our duty to the nation.

The country is the common parent of us all, and it matters not what the cause of the quarrel may be, when war is on we shall ask no question, but rather, inspired by a sense of heroic obligation to our country, present a solid, invincible

front to the common enemy. I shall vote to give the President men and money to the last, soul and dwindling farthing to be used in the Nation's behalf; but I can not vote for this resolution for the reason that it does not express my sincere and best judgment. I do not believe that the president's course was wise, prudent, justified at this time by the facts and for the best interest of the American people and the peoples of the world.

I do not in any sense condone murder upon the high seas, of which Germany may be guilty; nor do I in any way extenuate Great Britain's insolent, cruel and persistent violation of international law and her contemptuous disregard of the rights of neutrals upon the high seas. Both of these nations are culpable. Their crimes differ only in degree. The motives behind their every act are identical. Cruel selfishness that would crucify truth and immolate justice to promote a personal end is the impelling purpose. Nor would I be understood as questioning the correctness of the president's interpretation of the cold, technical letter of international law. He is, in all probability, correct in his statement as to what the law is today, but—

New conditions teach new duties; Time makes ancient good uncouth.

And I think that the time is at hand and the circumstances demand that America, occupying a position of such commanding advantage should write a little international law—law with heart and soul in it, adaptable to the new conditions, placing the rights of man and the human element above the increment of commerce. Such a law would vastly promote the welfare of humanity throughout the world and better protect the interests of the American people.

I admit that American citizens have the technical right, under international law, to enter the danger zone. It will not, on the other hand, be denied that their forbearance to exercise that right or privilege at this particular time would redound gloriously to the peace and permanent prosperity of the world. I submit that it would be the highest evidence of perfect neutrality if the United States Government should see to it that our citizens forbear the exercise of such a right. For our country to be drawn into this vortex of blood and plunder to satisfy the greed and cupidity of those who would coin the blood of the murdered soldier and the tears of the broken-hearted women into dollars or perhaps to gratify the desire and vanity of a few daring spirits bent upon a bold and venturesome enterprise, would be a calamity, aye, more, a blunder on the part of this administration, the cruel consequences of which the president as well as countless generations yet unborn must sorely suffer.

I trust that God's loving providence may save our common country from further implication in this world disaster, this inexcusable, horrible and heartless slaughter of human beings; but I am afraid that only through Divine intervention is there basis for such a hope. The men of Europe are mad, the brain reels with a suffusion of hot blood, and the passions of hate poison the heart. They are, as wild beasts following the instinct of self-preservation, fighting for existence. In this state of mind I am afraid that something may be done without intending to offend the American people to justify the president of the United States from his own sense of duty in doing what he has said he would do in the event that Germany persists in her threat to blockade the ports of Great Britain with her submarine fleet. The traffickers in the spoils of war, the sharers of enormous profits of international commerce, have done their pernicious work in the creation of an unhealthy, abnormal, pernicious sentiment in favor of war which seems to have temporarily dethroned the reason of men the world over and poisoned the very current of human love.

God give us pause to contemplate the consequences that will inevitably flow from the things we are about to do. Let prudence, love, fortitude and truth characterize our deliberation today.

THE RAILROAD AND THE BANKER IN THE DAIRY BUSINESS.

Boy's and Girls' Dairy Clubs—Calf Clubs.

The Illinois Central Railroad is very desirous of securing the co-operation of the bankers with the railroad and the farmers in order to promote and foster the dairy interests in their respective communities. Believing that one of the best means to insure the greater expansion and development of the dairy industry is to get the boys and girls interested, the Illinois Central Railroad, co-operating with the bankers

and citizens of Martin, Tenn., organized in March, 1916, what is known as the Boys' and Girls' Dairy Club, whose slogan is "Efficiency in Dairying." The bankers of Martin loaned each member of the club sufficient money at 6 per cent. interest to purchase a Holstein cow, the boys and girls in turn giving their notes for same, endorsed by their parents. Fifty members were enrolled in the club when organized, which number has been increased to about seventy-five. The cows were purchased in Wisconsin, and as a result of the organization of this club the farmers in the vicinity of Martin are buying cows and going into the dairy business on an extensive scale.

Similar clubs are now in process of organization at Mayfield, Kentucky, and Hazlehurst, Miss. While the formation of these dairy clubs was inaugurated by the Illinois Central Railroad, were it not for the spirit of hearty co-operation of the bankers in financing the propositions the boys and girls would have been unable to purchase the necessary cows, and it is hoped the bankers in other parts of the Mississippi Valley will lend this substantial encouragement to the boys and girls in their respective communities.

Another illustration of this club movement is the formation of Calf Clubs in Illinois.

Mr. Thomas F. Chamberlain, cashier, First National Bank, at Brighton, Ill., purchased in Wisconsin last March 84 head of heifers in age from 6 to 16 months. These calves were shipped to Brighton and sold to school children in that vicinity at actual cost, the bank taking the child's note hearing 6 per cent. interest. They paid an average of \$43 per head for these calves, delivered at Brighton, with the understanding that in less than one year they were to be brought to Brighton and sold at public auction. The difference in what they paid, plus 6 per cent. interest and what the heifers brought at the sale, was the profit the child made on the transaction. The sale was held Dec. 8th, 1916, and eighty four heifers were sold for cash at public auction to the highest bidder, and brought an average of \$92.30 per head, a total of \$7,749. The notes given by the children totaled \$3,612, leaving a total of \$4,137.00. This sale was the first of its kind held in this country, and afforded convincing evidence of the practicability of the Bank Calf Club Movement in Illinois.

This movement has resulted in the organization of many more Calf Clubs throughout Illinois for the purpose of interesting children in the dairy industry.

At Centralia, Ill., one of the first Calf Clubs was organized by the President of the Centralia Trust & Savings Bank, Mr. J. F. Mackey, who gives his views regarding this organization as follows:

"I have been in the banking business for twenty years, and I believe that this has been the greatest advertisement we have ever undertaken. We are confident the movement will ripen into a great deal of good and permanent business for our institution."

Practical work of this kind will undoubtedly go much farther in encouraging the boy and girl to remain on the farm than any other method. Of course the banker must invest some money for a time, but there is practically no risk, and with the united efforts of the banker and the railroad, co-operating along these lines for the greater development of the dairy industry, there is bound to be brought about a new era of prosperity, together with a happier and more contented citizenship.

A little pamphlet entitled "The Railroad and the Banker in the Dairy Business" has just been published by the Illinois Central Railroad, copy of which can be secured by addressing J. C. Clair, Industrial and Immigration Commission, Illinois Central Railroad, Chicago, Ill. (Adv.)

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NEW ORLEANS

The following schedule will take effect Sunday, May 2nd, at 12:00 a. m., 1917.

No. 50—Leaves Aberdeen	8:00 a. m.
No. 52— " " "	10:10 a. m.
No. 54— " " "	3:50 p. m.
No. 56— " " "	6:10 p. m.
No. 51—Arrives Aberdeen	9:00 a. m.
No. 53— " " "	11:05 a. m.
No. 55— " " "	4:25 p. m.
No. 57— " " "	6:40 p. m.
No. 50—Arrive Moulton	8:05 a. m.
No. 52— " " "	10:40 a. m.
No. 54— " " "	3:00 p. m.
No. 56— " " "	6:20 p. m.
No. 51—Leaves Moulton	8:05 a. m.
No. 53— " " "	10:55 a. m.
No. 55— " " "	3:55 p. m.
No. 57— " " "	6:50 p. m.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURES at MOULTON

No. 1—Leaves Moulton	11:05 a. m.
No. 3— " " "	10:55 a. m.
No. 5— " " "	5:55 p. m.
No. 7— " " "	3:55 p. m.
No. 8— " " "	12:15 p. m.

All passenger trains stop at Moulton, Miss.

For folders and other information regarding rates, routes, etc., apply to S. P. McMILLAN Ticket Agent, Mobile & Ohio R. R., or write G. E. Allen, District Passenger Agent, Jackson, Tenn. R. V. TAYLOR, C. RUDOLPH, Mobile, Ala. Local Passenger Agent, ST. LOUIS, MO.

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OVER SIX YEARS LATER Mr. Elkin said: "My back has never given me any trouble since Doan's Kidney Pills cured me."

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