THE COLUMBUS COMMERCIAL
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VARDAMAN'S MERIDIAN SPEECH.

Senator Vardaman delivered an address at Meridian in behalf of his candidacy for re-election last Friday night, and while he was greeted by a large audience, the crowd having been variously estimated at from 2,500 to 3,000 people, his speech seemed to create no enthusiasm, as it was devoted largely to abuse of those who have criticised him and furnished no adequate defense of his own record.

Senator Vardaman, according to newspaper accounts of his speech, endeavored to show that he was not antagonistic toward the administration because he had supported several bills favored by the President. He did not, however, give what he deemed a logical reason for having voted against a declaration of war when the determination of Germany to enter upon a ruthless submarine campaign demanded such action. His only excuse was that President Wilson was elected for a second term because he had kept us free from foreign entanglements; but the people could not foretell in the fall of 1916 what developments the next few months would bring forth.

Neither did the junior senator, so far as newspaper accounts of his speech disclose, explain the interview in which he said or implied that the United States was "stabbing Germany in the back." This, in our opinion, is one of the most serious accusations that has been brought against him, and unless he refutes it, which seems impossible, he is not entitled to the confidence of his constituents.

The speech, so far as we can see, was nothing but fustian and bombast, and set forth not a single good reason why the people of Mississippi should keep Vardaman in the Senate.

The Commercial favors a rigid enforcement of all statutory laws; but believes that they should be enforced without fear or favor and the fact that two prominent young men were recently arrested because they had a small amount of whiskey in their possession seems to indicate that discrimination is being displayed. It is commonly reported that a limited coterie of men have been allowed to sell liquor for years without interference on the part of local authorities, and that there is good foundation for the report is indicated by the fact that a recently published list of holders of revenue licenses includes the names of these men.

Automobilists who traverse the streets of Columbus at night ought to be required to use their mufflers, as the noise made by the cars disturbs citizens and robs them of needed sleep. Many complaints regarding the noise made by automobiles at night have recently reached the Commercial, and local municipal authorities ought to look into the matter.

COTTON CLIMBS UPWARD.

The recent report of the crop reporting board of the United States department of agriculture showed a marked deterioration in cotton during the month of July, and naturally had a bullish effect upon the market, prices having advanced materially since the report was issued.

Advances varied all the way from 53 to 124 points for the new crop months, and the New York market was approximately $10 a bale above values as they stood before the bureau report was published.

While the cotton crop, as a whole, has deteriorated, there has been no marked deterioration in this immediate section, and local farmers will therefore enjoy the double advantage of big prices and abundant yields.

The general deterioration in the crop resulted from lack of moisture, and as there have been frequent rains in this section no damage has ensued. Local farmers are facing the most prosperous season they have experienced in many years, and as prosperity for planters in this territory always means prosperity for Columbus, her merchants can confidently expect liberal patronage during the coming fall and winter.

What people in other states think of our junior senator is evinced by the following editorial paragraph, which appeared in a recent issue of the Birmingham Age-Herald: "The Ninth district, with little grace, laughs at the state which commissioned Vardaman. Both should redeem themselves in coming primaries." It is pertinent to add that loyal citizens of the Ninth Alabama district are now doing everything in their power to encompass the defeat of Congressman George Huddleston, whose tactics in the House were almost identical with those pursued by Vardaman in the Senate.

That Americans are quick to learn is evinced by the fact that they have become so proficient in modern military tactics that members of Gen. Pershing's forces are hereafter to serve as instructors for new units which are to be organized in this country. Up to a recent date Uncle Sam was compelled to rely on British, French and Italian officers for work of this character, but it will hereafter be performed by members of his own army.

Ty Cobb, one of the stars of the diamond, has announced that no matter what the ultimate fate of baseball may be, he will not be in the game next year, as he has definitely decided to go to war. Cobb is a native of Georgia, and with the innate chivalry characteristic of all true sons of the South, is not content to remain at home while his country needs him on the field of battle.

Late reports are to the effect that Field Marshal von Hindenburg is still alive, but if the Allies keep up the rate at which they have been going during the past he and all the German soldiers under his command will soon be "dead ones."

Pressure is being brought to bear on the War Department to have moving picture actors included in the "work or fight" order, and many of the screen stars may soon be forced to get out and perform some useful work.

Another Liberty loan drive will soon be upon us, and things will again seem natural and home-like.

105 VOTERS SIGN IT.

We, the voters in Lauderdale county, who have heretofore voted for Vardaman, will not vote for him again for the following reasons:

1. Because all pro-Germans, and all Socialists, and all persons who are against the war, and all persons who are against the government are supporting Senator Vardaman.

2. Because he has lost out at Washington, and has no influence except when voting with the Republicans.

3. Because he has used his official power to overthrow and destroy the Wilson administration. President Wilson said that "a little group of willful men representing no opinion but their own have rendered the great government of the United States helpless and contemptible." Senator Vardaman was one of the "little group of willful men."

4. Because we do not believe that Senator Vardaman is in sympathy with the American government in its great struggle against Prussian autocracy for the preservation of our government and the freedom of the world.

5. Because so far as we have been able to ascertain Senator Vardaman has never spoken one word of sympathy for poor robbed and raped Belgium and brave patriotic and bleeding France.

6. Because F. D. Lander a German propagandist, who published the Hattiesburg News and who left Hattiesburg on account of his pro-Germanism and opposition to the American government, went to Washington, in the same city with Senator Vardaman, and from that city has occupied the front page of The Issue, Senator Vardaman's campaign organ, with his propaganda.

7. Because a recent examination of the files of the Hattiesburg News, of which Lander was editor, uncovers a veritable nest of pro-Germanism, and yet this man Lander is still poisoning the minds of the people of the State, through Senator Vardaman's campaign organ, The Issue.

8. Because after we entered the war, Senator Vardaman flooded the State, under his official frank, with the speech of LaFollette, a Republican, and the arch German propagandist of America, in order to poison the minds of the people of the State against the Wilson administration. The literature disseminated over the State by Senator Vardaman carries a tribute to him by a great unnamed senator. Why did Senator Vardaman not let the people of Mississippi know who this great senator is? Is he ashamed to let the people know the company he has been keeping in Washington? If the witness is either of his confederates, LaFollette or Reed, then we hold that the evidence is incompetent to go before red blooded Mississippians.

9. Because we feel mortified that a Senator from Mississippi find it necessary to come home and tour the State to deny the charge of disloyalty and pro-Germanism, based altogether on his official acts and declarations at Washington, which were made at a time when the duties to his office, and his duty to the people of Mississippi, required of him the highest order of American patriotism. The public press reports him as saying at Amory that "there are men in this State who, in order to encompass my defeat, would traffic in the virtue of their homes." We bow our heads in shame that a candidate for the Senate could so disgrace Mississippi.

10. Because we feel and believe that the re-election of Senator Vardaman would be a condemnation of the Wilson administration, a condemnation of the American government, and a justification of Germany and her bloody and brutal warfare.

Signed by Hon J. M. McBeath, Judge C. W. Cochrane and more than [illegible] hundred prominent citizens of Meridian and Lauderdale county.

666 cures by removing the cause.

Buy War Savings Stamps!

MICKIE SAYS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES—One cent a word per issue. No advertisement taken for less than 25 cents the first time.

WANTED—From 8 to 15 acres land near Columbus. Cash proposition. Apply in writing to X., care of this office.

FOR SALE—Thoroughbred Jersey bull; weighs about 1,100 pounds; 4 years old. Also four milch cows and five yearling heifers. Telephone 680. A. J. Fuqua. 8-8-1mo

FOR SALE—Three desirable rooms for light housekeeping in lovely home. All modern conveniences. Phone 695, or call at 419 North 9th Street.

FOR SALE OR LEASE—One of the best prairie places in Noxubee county, Miss. 1100 acres. For terms address Mrs. S. M. Walker, Columbus, Miss.

WANTED—A good outdoor position by young married man, in Class 4. Would consider an indoor job. Apply to S., care this office.

FOR RENT—Large family residence on North Third avenue and Tenth street. Apply to J. Burt Wilbourne.

FOR SALE—Buick-Six, with new cover. 1917 model; good shape. Will take Ford as part pay. Address J. M. Wells, Star Route.

FOR RENT—Storehouse. 410 Main Street. Now occupied by Cox and Son. Possession given Sept. 1st. H. F. Simrall. 7-7-tf.

FOR RENT—Three furnished rooms for housekeeping. Convenient to town. Price reasonable. Apply at 402 Seventh street, south. 7121-2t.

MEHLIN PIANO—Cicassian Walnut, upright, rebuilt piano. Beautifully designed with handsome carvings. This piano cost new $750.00. First check for $200.00 gets it. Cash or credit. L. E. Lide.

FOR SALE CHEAP—Or would consider trade on Columbus property small well improved farm in Pickens county, having 8-room bungalow; 2 barns; 600 rods hog wire. Plenty of water. Telephone 543. R. Scofield.

FOR SALE—Have quite a number of delta plantations for sale cheap. Price and term can be arranged. In fine state of cultivation, and will produce bale of cotton to acre. Located in heart of Mississippi delta. See W. P. Stribling.

FOR SALE—Hudson Super-Six. In perfect condition. A bargain. L. E. Lide.

WANTED—Thoroughly competent bookkeeper and office man desires position. Capable of managing office. Only wth large business or corporation. Address "Office Man," care the Commercial.

FOR RENT—Six room house with kitchen. All improvements. Corner 2nd avenue and 6th street North. Possession September 1st. Apply to J. M. Street. Phone 145.

FOR RENT—The B. E. Mustin residence, 521 6th street 6th ave. S. All conveniences. Possession given September 1st. See Gid D. Harris.

WANTED—A few more milk and butter customers. Morning delivery. Your orders appeciated. Phone 393. I. V. Dotherow. 8-4-1mo

FOR RENT—One 8-room house and one 5-room house one block from car line. Both close in. All conveniences. Also room for light housekeeping. See us quick. Foreman and Roberson.

FOR SALE—6 acres of land at the terminal of the Highland street car line. Well adjusted for an orchard and vineyard. Would make a fine poultry farm. A rare opportunity for any one wanting a small place of this kind. C. F. Sherrod. 8-4-1 mo

FOR SALE—A small 5-acre tract of land located a half mile East City Water Works. Convenient to live on to work from the city. C. F. Sherrod. 8-4-1m.

FOR SALE—Everything on my leased farm, one mile north of courthouse, at junction of New Aberdeen and Waverly roads, consisting of growing crops of corn, sorghum, cow peas, peanuts and sweet potatoes; also oats in loft; nice young cow; all purpose mare, buggy and harness, wagon and harness; plows, implements and household furniture. Circumstances compel my return to Kentucky and I am determined to sell at your price if I can't get mine.
J. M. TANNER,
3t R. F. D. No. 5.