

CLIFTON, OF LAFAYETTE, MAY BE DEMOCRATIC OPPONENT OF ELLIOTT

CONNEERSVILLE, Ind., Jan. 19.—That Fayette county may have two candidates for congress is indicated by the boom that has been started for James A. Clifton, mayor of Conneersville, as a candidate for the Democratic nomination. His name has been mentioned frequently and his friends over the district have been busy in his behalf.

In speaking of the reports today, Mr. Clifton stated that he is not an active candidate at the present time, the matter of furthering his candidacy being entirely in the hands of a number of his closest political and personal friends, who have suggested him for the place.

"I am not an active candidate for the nomination," Mr. Clifton said. "Some of my friends, it seems, have been advocating my making the race, and, although I have made no decision to announce my candidacy, I do not feel inclined to protest against their action. The sentiment of the voters of the Sixth district will decide the matter, I am sure."

Mr. Clifton has been making a number of visits to various parts of the district recently due to the fact that his services as a speaker have been much in demand. At a recent speech in Union county, before the Jefferson club, he was honored by a unanimous resolution urging him to be a candidate for representative. Interest is also being shown in other parts of the district, it is said, and his nomination next May will not be a surprise.

The Theatres

MURRAY
"Who am I?" a new National picture, is the attraction at the Murray theatre.

The production is an elaborate and highly dramatic screen play with the element of suspense predominating.

The story tells of the efforts of a young and beautiful girl to discover the identity of her parents. One day her search comes to an end, but this only tends to complicate matters, for it is revealed that her father was a professional gambler, and the girl has fallen heir to his establishment, and also to some heavy debts incurred by her father.

The situation of an innocent girl suddenly thrust among the class of people that frequent houses of chance is a most critical one, especially when a keen, unscrupulous gambler marks her for his own. How she extricates herself from the danger that impends and gets on the road that leads to future happiness is presented in a manner that immediately creates interest and sympathy and holds the attention of the spectator until the end.

Henry Kolker directed the production, which has in its cast of players Claire Anderson, Niles Welch and others of prominence. Katherine Reed adapted the story to the screen from an original one by Max Brand.

MURRETTE
Although his name does not appear on the screen when the production is shown at the Murrette theatre, Captain Clyde Balsley, the famous American ace, was an important factor in the production of "The Beautiful Liar."

Katherine MacDonald's latest Associated First National feature, "The Beautiful Liar," some months ago married Miriam MacDonald, the youngest sister of "the American Beauty," and has been of invaluable aid in the production of Katherine MacDonald features. Balsley wears the tiny button-hole ribbons of the Croix de Guerre and the Medaille Militaire, and was a member of the famous Lafayette Escadrille, the air fleet of the French army in which were a large number of American flyers even before America entered the war.

Captain Balsley was wounded during the battle of Verdun while engaged in a fight with several enemy planes. An explosive bullet injured him so severely that it was thought he would never recover. For more than a year he lay in the American hospital just outside Paris and after undergoing 15 different operations has been restored to normal health.

RICHMOND
When screen stars are required in the performance of their roles to battle for the preservation of their lives, honor or personal rights, it is often done listlessly, but seldom so in Paramount pictures. The invariable rule of the Paramount directors is to be realistic, so that when a fight is scheduled by the story, it is a real battle and no make-shift affair.

Thus it happened that when Agnes Ayres, Paramount star and featured player with Rudolph Valentino in

the production of "The Beautiful Liar," Katherine MacDonald's latest Associated First National feature, "The Beautiful Liar," some months ago married Miriam MacDonald, the youngest sister of "the American Beauty," and has been of invaluable aid in the production of Katherine MacDonald features. Balsley wears the tiny button-hole ribbons of the Croix de Guerre and the Medaille Militaire, and was a member of the famous Lafayette Escadrille, the air fleet of the French army in which were a large number of American flyers even before America entered the war.

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The Case of Alaska

By FREDERICK J. HASKIN

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—That the resources of Alaska are not being properly developed, and that the methods and conditions of federal administration in that territory are in part responsible, is a statement which has been emphatically made in connection with the proposal to take the bureau of forestry out of the department of agriculture and place it in the department of the interior.

This, of course, would give the interior department control of the great national forests in Alaska, and would make the department the chief federal arbiter of Alaska's industrial destiny, as the interior department already has the administration of other public lands in Alaska.

Curiously enough, the conservationists in and out of the forest service, who are all opposed to the transfer of the forest service, agree with the opponents that Alaska is in a bad way industrially and that federal administration is in part the reason for this. These conservationists claim that the move to place the Alaskan forests under the administration of the department of the interior, is part of a general plan for the abandonment of the Roosevelt conservation policy in Alaska, and for a freer use of her natural resources.

Such a policy is demanded by many persons financially interested in Alaska, and a vigorous lobby in favor of such a policy has long been maintained in Washington by such interests.

These interests say that Alaska is not developing and that the federal policy of careful conservation is responsible for the lack of development. The conservationists agree that Alaska is not developing as it should, but claim that every one of its natural resources is open to development.

This is hindered, they claim, to some extent by the long-range methods of federal administration, which should be abandoned in favor of administration on the spot, but mainly by the fact that Alaska is far from markets and has poor transportation facilities.

Our Last Frontier
The great American public is indifferent to and ignorant of the whole matter. That is, in a sense, the most serious and unfortunate part of the situation. Alaska is the last American frontier. Ninety-nine per cent of the area is public land. It is almost the only part of the territory of the United States where true pioneer conditions still obtain—that is, where the individual may obtain land and other natural resources free or at nominal cost.

Such a frontier country should be a valuable overflow land for our excess population, as the frontier west long was. Alaska should be the haven of the hardy and adventurous man who has no capital, but wants a chance to win a place of his own on the face of the earth. To some extent Alaska has been that, and to some slight extent perhaps it still is. But this last frontier of ours is certainly not functioning as it should.

No doubt a harsh climate in many parts of it has something to do with it. Also, there is not a great deal of farm land in Alaska, and the establishment of a profitable farm there is a difficult business. The one-man placer mining is largely a thing of the past. All observers seem agreed that the development of Alaska is largely a task for organized capital. It never will be the land of individual opportunity that the old west was. But it is far more a land of individual opportunity than the greater part of the states, and should be even more so than it is. There is rich land to be taken up. Fur farming is a profitable business there, and one where little capital is needed. Small capital has many chances in Alaska.

Needless to say, conservation favors the development of Alaska as a place where the "little fellow" has a good chance, and the demand for a less strict conservation policy springs chiefly from men of large capital. The timber on the national forests of Alaska can be cut, but only under forest supervision, so that they are not destroyed. They are being cut, and at the same time being conserved to furnish the paper supply of the future for the United States. Without any federal restriction they could undoubtedly be exploited more rapidly and more profitably for the men doing the exploiting, but it is claimed by the conservationists that such exploitation of the people of the United States as a whole cannot afford.

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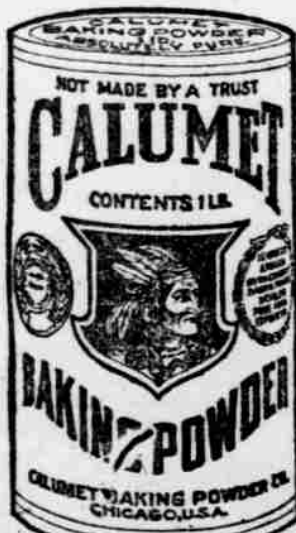
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SHE WOULD OPEN WAY TO EXECUTIVE WORK FOR WOMEN



Miss Mary Van Kleeck.

"The biggest question for women now is not how to open up more occupations for women, but how to open the way to executive positions," is the idea of Miss Mary Van Kleeck, formerly director of the Woman's Bureau of the department of labor, Washington, and now head of the industrial research of the Russell Sage Foundation. Miss Van Kleeck believes that business opportunities came to women from the change in business methods more than from a few women knocking at the doors and pioneering in the profession.

The coal and oil leasing bills have been passed, these resources may be developed under the new laws, which are certainly lenient enough. All of the other resources of Alaska—fish, minerals, water power, like her agricultural land, timber, coal and oil, are accessible to development.

In spite of this fact, Alaska has suffered a severe slump during the war. Her population is said to have declined one third. Nome has only 10 per cent of the population of its palmy days. The government railroad reach-

ed Fairbanks, say the wags, just in time to take out the population. The salmon packing industry is not making the huge returns it once made. The production of gold has dropped 45 per cent since 1916, and the number of men employed in placer mining has been cut in half.

Government interference, conservation and red-tape are brought forward by one side of the controversy as the cause of it all. "Give us a free hand to do anything we like with the resources of Alaska, and we will make the land hum," say the business men.

The conservationists reply that Alaska's slump is part of the slump which has hit the whole world, and which is being felt in every part of the United States. They say it is not remarkable that Alaska, handicapped by her distance from markets and her limited carriers, should suffer most. They say that each of the phases of the Alaskan slump can be definitely traced to a cause in the present prices which she is able to get for her commodities.

At the same time, they agree that long-range federal administration is a nuisance in Alaska. Some 30 govern-

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