

proper encouragement but knowing that commercial intercourse rests for its value as well as for its permanence upon mutual advantage he will insist that American business men shall carry into the countries to the south of us the highest conceptions of honor and good faith and that in their dealings they shall give a dollar's worth of service for each dollar that they collect as compensation.

There should be an intellectual exchange between the American republics as well as an exchange of commodities. The intellectual life of all the countries should be quickened by acquaintance and a comparison of views. Every effort should be made to stimulate an interchange of thought and an inspection of methods of instruction should be invited. A part of that increasing stream of travel that has fertilized the old world should be diverted to the south. Especially should our instructors be urged to give some of their vacations to a study of the institutions, conditions and possibilities of the republics of Central and South America.

There already is throughout the United States a marked increase in the study of the Spanish language and there should be a still greater increase in the future. This language, rich in literature, is one of the most rapidly-growing of the languages. It is destined to be a century hence the spoken word of a much larger number than use it today.

Why not bring instructors from the Latin-American countries? They would not only quicken the interest of students but they would bring with them an increasing number of students from their own countries and thus multiply the bonds of unity which would unite the Pan-American nations.

The American union is considering an extension of its work in this very direction and I wish to give to the proposition my most cordial support. The Canal Zone should be made a meeting-place for those who would acquaint themselves with the peoples and ways of the other American nations—a clearing house where intellectual exchanges can be made.

Closer acquaintance and more intimate relationship will enable us to profit by each other's experience. Dedicated to the doctrines of popular government these republics can, by their experiments, help each other, each borrowing what others have demonstrated to be good.

In the matter of ideals, too, we can aid each other. The ideal is the one thing of value which can not be monopolized. If anyone has a higher ideal than we it is our own fault, for it can be ours at our will. It is fortunate for us that this most valuable of possessions can pass freely from nation to nation, unvexed by custom laws.

But no matter what phase of the subject we consider we find ourselves returning to the one basic proposition—namely: That we must deal with each other sympathetically. The consciousness of this relation—of this kinship, if I may describe it as such—is the first step toward friendly relations between individuals and between nations.

And after all, it is the controlling force which will shape the future. Carlyle, in the closing chapters of his "French Revolution," said that thought is mightier than artillery parks and at last moulds the world like soft clay; and then he added a supreme truth when he said that behind thought is love.

There is no great thought which does not come from the heart; love is the only weapon for which there is no shield—in time it must overcome all opposition.

In proportion as we bring ourselves into harmony with this fundamental and universal law we shall contribute to each other's advancement and hasten the coming of that day when our highest rivalry will be that of honorable effort to see which can hold highest the torch that lights all to higher ground.

THE GREATEST OF SHIPS

Mr. Bryan's toast at the farewell breakfast given at the Army and Navy club on the morning of May 13th, to the commissioners from Great Britain and Canada, assembled to formulate plans for the celebration in 1914 of the century of peace between Great Britain and the United States, said:

Mr. Chairman: I have delivered three addresses of welcome to our visitors but will have but one word of farewell, and that is in keeping with the environment which surrounds us this morning.

We are met in the building of the Army and Navy club and the fact that we are the guests of those who represent these two arms of the

government suggests the thought which I present in bidding you adieu.

While we are the advocates of peace we are really engaged in the construction of a battleship which is to be the very culmination—the climax—of the seaman's art. Man has been engaged in the construction of water craft since the flapping sail first whispered its secret of strength to the voyager. He has designed vessels for pleasure, for commerce and for war. We have had the galley, the Viking's ship, the frigate, the iron-clad, and the dreadnought. But no limit can be placed to the ambitions of man as a builder and I ask you to join me in proposing a toast to a ship, more potent than any which man has thus far employed in war—a ship with whose coming man's highest hopes will be realized, for there is nothing beyond.

Here's to the greatest of ships. Its compass is the human heart. Its shells are bursting with good-will. Love is the smokeless powder that impels the projectiles which it sends forth. The Prince of Peace is its captain. I propose as the consummation of our desire the enduring, the indestructible battleship, whose armor nothing can pierce—FRIEND-SHIP.

The breakfasters arose and joined a Canadian delegate in the sentiment—"We all enlist among the crew."

THE PRESIDENT'S BOLD STAND FOR THE RIGHT

President Wilson has little regard for a precedent where its observance happens to be in the way of accomplishing something important or essential to the public welfare. In the precedents he has broken since he has been the chief executive of the nation he has been generally indorsed, as it was in his mind to do something that would be of valuable service to the public.

"There isn't much chance of placid, rocking chair comfort for people that worry about precedents and traditions," says the New York Press. "These are 'viewing with alarm' the invasion of New Jersey by Woodrow Wilson in an effort to arouse public sentiment to the point where it can force the legislature to pass the jury reform legislation, declaring that the public is more interested in the measure than the manner, and that the bill ought to pass—"its defeat is inexorable. The old Jersey method of jury-drawing makes the jury system a mockery," and, continues that paper, "If President Wilson can force the passage of such a measure by intruding his national prestige into New Jersey, power to his elbow. May he do a lot of elbowing, anywhere and everywhere, in behalf of good causes."

The New York Evening Post, in an editorial commendatory of the president's course, says that he is determined to prevent, if possible, the return of that system of sinister control in New Jersey which for years sank the democratic party of that state into defeat and disgrace, saying further that "the ears of the New Jersey 'jims' must have tingled as he was speaking."

The New York World says that every word uttered by President Wilson in denunciation of the corrupt democratic bosses of New Jersey should be read by the voters of New York, as the situation in New York is worse than it is in New Jersey, the power of Murphy and Barnes being greater than the power of Smith and Nugent. "Boss domination of the New York legislature is more complete and shameless than boss domination of the New Jersey legislature." Speaking further in commendation of the president, the World says:

"The democracy of New Jersey is greatly fortunate in one respect, and the people of the state are fortunate with it. It has the president of the United States for a leader, and this president never minces words when he is dealing with the party bosses. In his New Jersey speeches Mr. Wilson wasted no time on glittering generalities. He described the men he was after in unmistakable terms. He left no hearer in doubt of their identity.

"That is the way to deal with them, and that is the way the New York bosses must be dealt with. Their sinister power at Albany will never be broken until the court of public opinion leaves them hanging on a gibbet of infamy."

The Springfield, Mass., Republican says that the New Jersey speeches made by President Wilson have a national application in the solemn warning conveyed to the democratic party concerning its opportunities; that if the party now fails to meet the country's expectations, it may never be given another trial; that the preaching of that idea was worth while, and that all the

democratic "gangs" around, whether in New Jersey or in other states, or in congress, need to have such words hammered into their consciousness.

President Wilson's attitude toward bossism in New Jersey should be accepted as fair warning to the bosses in the other states, where machine politicians are dominating and controlling public affairs, as the bold stand the president has taken against corrupt politics in New Jersey may reasonably be concluded to be the attitude he will take on similar matters in other states, and it may be imagined with what alarm the bosses will look on a general policy along the lines employed to turn the rascals out in New Jersey.—Nashville Tennessean.

PEACE

St. Louis Republic: Secretary Bryan's appearance at the peace conference may prove to be an event of international importance. Europe is attending closely to what he says, in the belief that his peace plan may result in bringing about a wider restraint upon war than has yet been achieved.

So far as his plans have been revealed the secretary hopes to secure agreements between the United States and other nations under which there shall always be a period of deliberation and investigation before any war is declared. There are treaties in force now which provide for the arbitration of certain classes of disputes. They do not cover questions of national honor and matters affecting the vital interests of the country. The United States senate has refused to surrender its power to say whether a question is of that character or not.

The secretary does not propose that there shall be a radical change in the position of the United States upon that point, but he does propose that, as to matters not specifically recognized as arbitrable, there shall be agreements supplementary to the treaties of arbitration which shall provide for commissions to investigate and report upon the facts and law involved in disputes. He would have such agreements provide sufficient time for such investigations, and during that time it would be understood that neither of the nations threatening war should make preparation for war. The report of the commission would not be binding upon either nation.

Deliberation and a clear knowledge of the facts are the two things which the secretary hopes to interpose between the closing of diplomatic relations and the beginning of a war. Both of them are powerful agents for the prevention of war. If Secretary Bryan should succeed in negotiating the treaties he contemplates he will have achieved a diplomatic triumph of the first importance.

GOOD WORDS

P. J. Sheridan, Pa.—Enclosed find list of Commoner subscribers and check for \$7.50 to pay for the same.

W. A. Woodworth, Denver, Colo.—Will you kindly send The Commoner to the following nineteen yearly subscribers; these are all students of the Woodworth Shorthand college. Enclose find money order for \$11.40 to pay for the same, at your net clubbing rate of 60c a year for The Commoner. It gives me great pleasure to do this for the paper. I wish I had more time and strength to do more.

FLOOD PREVENTION

President Wilson held a conference with Governor Cox of Ohio and made it known that he intended to order a complete investigation and report by army engineers on conditions along the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. The president intends to take up the work of flood prevention in a characteristic way. It is safe to say that the all too long delayed work of protecting the people from floods will be carried to successful conclusion under the democratic administration.

Mr. Bryan's Selected Speeches. Revised and arranged in a convenient two-volume edition. These books present Mr. Bryan's most notable addresses and orations, and cover the chief important phases and features of his career as an orator and advocate. A familiarly intimate and interesting biographical introduction by Mary Baird Bryan, his wife, opens Volume I. The two volumes, bound in cloth, sent to any address prepaid on receipt of price, \$2.00. The half leather edition, 2 vols., sent for \$3.00, prepaid. Address The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.