

## Mr. Bryan in the South

### IN TEXAS

[From Dallas News, Oct. 3, 1915.]

In talks devoid of any personal political reference whatever, or any allusion to his withdrawal from President Wilson's cabinet, William Jennings Bryan spoke yesterday afternoon at Hillsboro, last night at Dallas, and informally at intermediate towns during interurban stops, eloquently advancing his peace ideals to enthusiastic audiences.

This was Mr. Bryan's first visit to Dallas and Texas since his retirement from the cabinet. His appearance had been awaited with much interest and there had been some expectation of political developments. Both in public and private talks the visitor eschewed this subject, declining to discuss with interviewers the possibility of his ever becoming a candidate for office again.

Mr. Bryan discussed the European war, the false philosophy that made it possible, and voiced a fervent plea that America be not stirred to that "preparedness" which, he declared, "provokes and does not prevent war."

In personal conversation the former secretary of state said he made no reference to his resignation either in his speech or interviews because he thought he has already made that matter sufficiently clear by formal statements issued shortly after the incident. He took occasion, however, in each speech, to pay specific and unstinted tribute to President Woodrow Wilson's handling of the peculiarly trying conditions of the last year and to congratulate the country upon having had such a man in the presidential chair during this time. These utterances provoked long applause.

### Warm Welcome Everywhere

The warmth of welcome shown at Dallas yesterday morning and again last night, the rousing receptions all along the interurban route between Dallas and Hillsboro, and the gathering of more than 5,000 people at the Hill county fair—cheering his peace arguments to the echo—brought undisguised satisfaction to the distinguished visitor. He expressed his delight at being in Texas again and his regret at being unable to remain longer and meet more of his friends. Those who saw and heard him yesterday found "the Commoner" as eloquent, as powerful on the platform, as of yore, as fresh and vigorous in appearance as in former days—with smile as broad, changing, upon occasion, into the same tight-lined expression of determination.

"He's the same old Bill Bryan!"—as a man yelled when the interurban was pulling out of Waxahachie.

### FALSE PHILOSOPHY CAUSE OF WAR

[From the Dallas News, Oct. 3.]

"The whole cause of the war in which the nations of Europe have been struggling for more than a year is based on the false philosophy that might makes right."

This statement was made by former Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan in a stirring plea for peace at the First Presbyterian church yesterday afternoon. His subject was "The Causeless War." The church was packed from platform to entrance and many were unable to obtain seats. For nearly two hours Mr. Bryan spoke, and the tense, quiet atmosphere of the place bore witness to the interest with which the audience followed every word of the address. The speaker was introduced by Rev. Edward Stubblefield, pastor of the First Baptist church.

Mr. Bryan arrived in Galveston unannounced. Only Colonel W. L. Moody had been apprised of his coming, and that more were not turned away for lack of seating room was probably due to the fact that so few knew of his presence in the city. The former secretary of state arrived at 9:40 o'clock yesterday morning and was met by Colonel Moody. He went immediately to the Moody residence, where he was a guest at lunch, and received several friends before going to the church to speak at 3 o'clock. Mr. Bryan left on the 6 o'clock interurban for Houston, where he spoke last night.

In an interview before the address, Mr. Bryan, in speaking of the prospective loan by American financiers of \$500,000,000 to the allies, said such a course is unwise.

### PEACE VIEWS APPLAUDED

Staff Special to the Dallas News.—Hillsboro, Texas, Oct. 2: As William Jennings Bryan stepped to the red, white and blue covered platform, facing the crowd that filled the Hill county fair grandstand, and crowded in all the space about it, standing in the sun to hear his speech, a booming salute sounded in the field behind. Half a dozen or more rockets soared high aloft, exploding with a shell-like roar. With each detonation, instead of war's ruin and waste, there came from the fragments of casing up above, a parachute made of American flags, fluttering the national emblem, in the downward flight to earth. This extraordinary apt and ingenious compliment affected Mr. Bryan visibly. He leaned far over the platform, watching eagerly the course of each Star and Stripe parachute, emerging from the cloud of powder smoke and swaying bravely in the gentle afternoon breeze. When the last one had fluttered to the ground he turned to those upon the platform. "That is one of the finest things I have ever seen," he said simply.

Other unique features characterized the Hillsboro reception. When the special interurban car arrived from Dallas, Mr. Bryan was placed in an automobile beautifully decorated with roses and white doves, typifying peace, of course, mounted upon the windshield and radiator. Miss Mary Catherine Walter drove this "peace car" at the head of the procession that escorted Mr. Bryan to the Wear hotel.

### ADDRESSES BIG DALLAS AUDIENCE

[From the Dallas News, Oct. 3.]

Speaking under the auspices of the Dallas Press club, President M. W. Florer presiding, William Jennings Bryan addressed an attentive and frequently demonstrative audience at the Fair Park Coliseum last night. At first it was planned to have him talk at the city hall, but the advance reservation indicated a demand in advance of its capacity, and it became necessary to secure the auditorium.

Seated on the platform were Acting Mayor Otto H. Lang, Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Rosser, J. W. Mahan, Dr. George Gilmour, M. H. Wolfe, Dr. E. H. Cary, John Davis, Judge E. B. Perkins, J. J. Collins, J. J. Simmons, Gilbert H. Irish, Colonel S. E. Moss, George A. Harmon, Congressman Hatton W. Sumners, George McBlair, Dr. S. P. Brooks of Waco, John Jester, Wilford B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Moore, George W. Owens Jr., M. W. Florer, president Dallas Press club.

### Audience Welcomes Bryan

The audience of 3,000 at the Coliseum welcomed Mr. Bryan with a

prolonged storm of applause when he came out on the platform at 8:45 o'clock.

General M. M. Crane introduced the speaker of the evening and congratulated Dallas people in the peace that this country enjoys. He paid tribute to Mr. Bryan, calling him "the greatest living orator in America," and referring to his continuous efforts on behalf of peace.

### AT HOUSTON

[From the Houston Post, Oct. 4.]

One of the largest crowds that ever entered the city auditorium was on hand Sunday night to greet William Jennings Bryan, former secretary of state, and to listen to his address on "The Lessons of the War." Before the distinguished guest arrived the seats were all occupied and many people crowded into the aisles, on the stage and the vacant places in the building, while many others were turned away from the doors.

Despite the intense warmth and attendant discomfort the crowd listened with close attention to the remarks of the gifted orator and applauded his logic or laughed when Mr. Bryan relied on some witticism to bring out a strong point.

Especially was there much applause when towards the end of his speech he vigorously denied the right of a handful of citizens to involve this nation in war by taking ships into the danger zone during the war. He did not say that the passengers had no right to go on such ships, but that they should not.

Mr. Bryan spoke of the propaganda that is now on foot spreading the doctrine of preparedness as a means of preventing war. "I believe that if this country had been as well prepared when the war started as they now want us to be, our country would have been in this war long ago. The men who are preaching this doctrine are trying to confuse the issue.

### Paid Compliment to the President

"Think what trouble we would be in today if we had a 'jingo' in the White House, looking for an opportunity to get into trouble. At this time we have reason to be grateful that we have in the White House a man who loves peace and who is trying to find a peaceful solution of every problem."

### PLEASED AT CITY'S CONDITION

[From the Galveston News.]

After seeing Galveston by automobile, former Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan, who came here to speak on "The Causeless War," declared that he was much surprised to find the damage from the Texas coast storm of August 16-17 so slight.

"I am very much gratified," said Mr. Bryan "to find the damage done Galveston was really a great deal less than I had been led to believe from reading press reports. The seawall stood the test admirably, and the fact that so few frame houses were damaged shows that the injury was much less than information contained in the papers."

Mr. Bryan was a guest of Colonel W. L. Moody while in the city. He said he has been coming to Galveston every two or three years for nearly twenty years, and each time wishes he might stay longer.

### MR. BRYAN IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, William Jennings Bryan will deliver an address in the Columbia opera house this evening.

To speak of Mr. Bryan as an orator is not necessary in Columbia. There is no one, whether follower or critic, who, hearing him, has not enjoyed the experience and we think there are few who, listening to him

with open mind, have come away without a broader and more generous view of whatever subject he discussed. One may sharply disagree with him in one or another point of public policy, but there is no intelligent and informed lover of his country not ready to say that without his influence during the last quarter of a century that country would have been the worse.

Mr. Bryan has been the steadfast friend of South Carolina and of the south and he is among old friends when he is in this capital city for a few hours.

There will be and there should be a great throng present this evening to welcome and to hear this great citizen of the republic.—Columbia (S. C.) State, Sept. 22.

### THE APOSTLE OF PEACE

William J. Bryan's lecture at the auditorium last night did not show him as a peace-at-any-price man. It did show him as a man who is thoroughly convinced that war comes too high and who is not willing to buy war at what it costs unless it becomes absolutely necessary to have it. It did not show him as the idealist who believes that war, at this time, can be entirely eliminated from the world. It did show him as the practical man who would use care and diligence to avoid war. Above all things, it did not show him as a man who is laboring in opposition to the president in the matter of averting war or of sustaining war if it became inevitable. It did show him as a man who has labored and is still laboring with the president in the interest of peace. "Woodrow Wilson's name and my name," said Mr. Bryan in connection with the peace treaties. Woodrow Wilson's work and W. J. Bryan's work. That is what it means.

Mr. Bryan's utter condemnation of the jingoes must have the hearty commendation of all thinking people. It is almost unbelievable that American men should desire war, and yet that is exactly what the severest critics of Mr. Bryan profess.

There are two particulars in which Mr. Bryan is doing an inestimable service by his labors. The first is in allaying whatever tendency there may be toward a war fever in the body of the people. If, by any chance, the public mind should become infested with jingoism, bringing about a general demand for war, the results would be disastrous. In such a circumstance, it would be practically impossible to keep the country out of war, but, even if war should be even then averted, the effects of such a state of mind would be almost as bad as war. Mr. Bryan's work is of the greatest efficiency forestalling the development of that sort of disease.

The second particular in which his work is of particularly great importance is in tempering the preparedness movement. There is no purpose here to say whether Mr. Bryan is right or wrong in all of his ideas as to national preparedness. But one thing very certain is that there is danger just now of the country's going to the extreme on the idea of preparedness. Possibly we needed arousing, but it is entirely probable that we might be aroused too much. Mr. Bryan is exerting a sobering influence. He is not uprooting the idea that a measure of preparation for possible war is necessary, but he is cooling the perfervid enthusiasm of those who would otherwise be led on to dangerous lengths by the jingoes.

Just as Mr. Bryan says, when the time arrived that a friend may interpose to settle the quarrel of the belligerents in Europe, the United States will be the friend upon whom that duty will fall. And when the United States undertakes the performance of