

could be seen. It was a spectacle to appall the stoutest heart. The wounded, shivering in the chilled November air; the heart-rending cries of the desperately wounded, and the prayers of the dying, filled me with an anguish that no language can express. FROM THAT HOUR TO THIS I HAVE HATED WAR."

THOMAS JEFFERSON'S POSITION

It is a historical fact, I believe, that up to the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt that all political parties in this country have been opposed to a big army and top-heavy navy. The father of democracy in the United States, Thomas Jefferson, wrote in a letter to Elbridge Gerry in 1799, these sterling words of wisdom and patriotism:

"I am for relying for internal defense on our militia solely till actual invasion, and for such a naval force as will protect our coast harbors from depredations, and not for a standing army in time of peace which may overcome the public sentiment; nor a navy which by its own expenses and the EXTERNAL WARS in which it may implicate us will grind us with public burdens and sink us under them."

Let us not forget that General Grant, the greatest soldier of the modern world, reduced our regular army to 25,000 men, and it was sufficient. There was a powerful and aggressive element in the north after Appomatox, clamoring for a war with England. There was a continent-

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T. R. QUOTED EZEKIEL

[From the Washington Post, Nov. 10.]

Oyster Bay, Long Island, Nov. 9.—Col. Roosevelt read in today's papers President Wilson's letter to Seth Low, in which he quoted Ezekiel, xxxiii: 2-6, to explain how he felt on matters pertaining to preparedness.

The colonel quoted the same scriptural verses in a speech he delivered at San Francisco in July last and he liked them so much that he made use of the same verses in an article which he wrote for the August number of a current magazine.

In both speech and article he commended what Prophet Ezekiel said for consideration by President Wilson.

Although it is said that the colonel chuckled upon learning that the President had the verses "very much in mind," he could not be induced to express for publication just exactly what was in his mind after reading Mr. Wilson's letter.

The White house officially denied yesterday that President Wilson's knowledge of the Prophet Ezekiel is derived from reading the works of Colonel Roosevelt. It was stated positively that the President never saw the article in which the colonel quoted the biblical injunction to prepare against war.

Mr. Wilson, it was learned, was greatly annoyed when he found that Mr. Roosevelt had enlisted Ezekiel's aid more than three months before yesterday's letter to Seth Low, quoting the identical verses, was written.

WILSON QUOTES BIBLE

[From the Washington Post, Nov. 9.]

In a letter to Seth Low, of New York city, made public yesterday, thanking Mr. Low for remarks he recently made on the merchant marine question, President Wilson states that in his attitude on national defense may well be experienced in a Bible quotation, namely, the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth verses of chapter 33 from Ezekiel. His letter to Mr. Low reads as follows:

"Thank you very warmly for your generous letter of November 5 and for your courtesy in letting me see a copy of your remarks on the merchant marine question.

"I am particularly gratified that you should so fully concur in the position I took in my speech to the Manhattan club. There is a quotation from Ezekiel which I have had very much in mind recently in connection with these important matters.

BIBLE WORDS ON DEFENSE

"It is the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth verses of chapter 33:

"Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, when I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts and set for their watchman.

"If, when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he bloweth a trumpet and warns the people.

"Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet and taketh not warning; if the sword

come and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.

"He that heard the sound of the trumpet and took not warning, his blood shall be upon him, but he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.

"But if the watchman sees the sword come and blow not the trumpet and the people be not warned; if the sword come and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his own iniquity, but his blood will I require at the watchman's head."

"Cordially and sincerely yours,
"WOODROW WILSON."

THE PRESIDENT'S BIBLE QUOTATION

When asked by the press association if he had any reply to make to the Scriptural quotation from Ezekiel used by President Wilson and ex-President Roosevelt in support of preparedness, Mr. Bryan said:

"I have read the quotation. It is not surprising that Mr. Roosevelt should consult the Old Testament rather than the New, because he would class Christ with the mollycoddles, but why should the President, a Presbyterian elder, pass over the new Gospel, in which love is the chief corner stone, and build his defense upon a passage in the Old Testament written at a time when the children of Israel were surrounded by enemies?

"But even if the passage came from the New Testament it would not support the President's plan. The words quoted by him have reference to an ACTUAL ATTACK. The passage says that that watchman must sound the trumpet 'WHEN HE SEES THE SWORD COME UPON THE

LAND.' The sword has not come upon the land and no enemy is in sight. The President said at New York that we are not threatened from any quarter, that we have friendly relations with all nations and that there is no fear among us. It is all right for Mr. Roosevelt to sound the trumpet because all colors are red to him. He sees armies marching against us from every direction. But the President is a man of peace and he is in a position to know that no one is threatening to attack us. It is surprising, first, that in looking up Bible authority he should ignore the teachings of Christ and second, that he should select a passage that refers, not to preparation against imaginary dangers, but to immediate action to meet an attack actually made. What the world needs to day is a Pentecost, not an Armageddon."

BIBLE REPLACES STATUTES

The Bible seems to be supplanting the constitution and the revised statutes in some government offices since President Wilson quoted Ezekiel as favoring a program of national defense. Administration men recognize that they are fighting Bryan on his own ground when they enter a biblical controversy, and that greater preparedness may be necessary.

Meanwhile, on the desk of almost every important official is a nickel-plated paperweight in the shape of a plowshare bearing the inscription:

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares. Isaiah, ii:4."

Bryan, while secretary of state, had them made from a lot of cast-off swords obtained from the war department.—Washington Post.



FROM THE WASHINGTON STAR