

the big majority, of the common people in this by far the biggest job of your life.

L. W. Plehn, Granite City, Ill.: Your fight for the fundamental right of free speech and against a departure from American traditions in the matter of militarism should meet with the approval of all who love their country. When this war is over—may God hasten the end—what need will there be of such things as President Wilson now prescribes. I thank you from my heart for your manly utterance.

J. L. Woods Merrill, Kansas City, Mo.: Out of 200 letters I mailed to see how they stood on "Preparedness," or by world's board of arbitration, to settle differences between nations, and keep out of wars, the following is the result, from party leaders in ten states: For peace by arbitration, 131; for preparedness, 16; non committal, 53; total, 200. This is correct.

Sarah N. Cleghorn, East Orange, N. J.: A thankful woman writes to express her gratitude for your leadership in the pacifist fight (!) where a very great leader was so much needed. As an American and a Christian, I am grateful, comforted, hopeful, because you have begun the great campaign. May your voice sway and convince as never before! I believe you have many thousands with you; but if not, you will not be turned back by majorities. More power to you to keep America from getting what the socialist "Appeal to Reason" lately called "a billion dollar chip" on her shoulder!

Hal M. Moran, Winfield, Kansas: Perhaps a letter from one of your thousands of friends in Kansas, expressing our profound appreciation of your service to our country and the cause of righteousness and our hearty approval of your course generally, would not do harm, at least, at this time, in view of the tone of so many newspapers representing those who thrive on heart-sickening, war-provoking, extreme preparedness. I heard your speech at Arkansas City, September 2nd, heard dozens of comments, and all who heard were convinced.

Dean R. Wood, Nueritas, Cuba: Your arguments against the spending of large sums for war armaments are not to be answered—no answer is possible. Every dollar spent for a warship or war equipment is a dollar wasted. It brings no good to anyone on earth and is a dollar robbed from the poor man's pocket. Somebody recently estimated that the cost of a battleship and its substance for ten years would be sufficient to equip and maintain a university in every state in the union. If this is a fact then the cost of four battleships would be sufficient to maintain in every state in the union, a university, an asylum for the aged, an asylum for orphans, and a library. When the tragic events in Europe are ended, the countries participating in the war will be so impoverished and with such enormous debts that they will not be able to maintain large armaments. Even in time of peace, and before the war started, the countries of Europe were becoming bankrupt with these enormous expenses, and what will their condition be when it ends?

J. P. Wood, Homedale, Ida.: Our country is certainly confronted with a grave danger from the special interests, or those who favor preparedness. I think such action upon the part of our nation would be the height of foolishness. Even if preparedness had been necessary in the past (which I do not admit), even if such might

be in the distant future, (which I do not admit), now when all the leading nations of Europe are at war, weakening themselves every day, leaving us the only real strong nation, I think the idea of preparedness is doubly foolish, again there never can be peace following a preparedness to fight. If the government would make all the profit from the manufacture of arms, ammunition, and everything necessary to preparedness, about 4 per cent, we would see the argument for military preparedness promptly discontinued. I think you are making a great fight for the cause of peace, and I bid you God speed.

Melvin A. Sutton, Ballow, Wash.: I have the honor to serve as secretary of a recently organized Sunday School; in the name of the body we are petitioning both Mr. Jones and Mr. Johnson, our representatives, to use all possible influence against any increase of the army and navy, and any other legislation along the line commonly designated as "preparedness for war."

C. T. Morehead, Morgansfield, Ky.: I certainly do not think this nation needs burglar tools, unless it intends to make burglary its business. It should not be a pistol toting nation unless it is going to adopt pistol toters ideas. I am not in favor of special interests; I am not in favor of tax eaters. I am not in favor of Christian wars or any other kind of wars.

W. H. Crook, Falls City, Nebr.: Get busy and fight this military craze; give the people the truth of the expense and the effect, whether we call it militarism, preparedness or adequate defense. If we permit this thing to go through we will build up an organization that will be more domineering than the tariff that has taken fifty years to throttle.

H. A. Turner, Portis, Kans.: Our country will certainly face a crisis in the coming session of congress; two months ago I could not have believed that the President and his cabinet would go to such extremes in the way of war preparedness as it is reported they will recommend. Are we, as a peace-loving, Christian nation, going to tax generations unborn with a burden of debt that will equal in a few years the debt of nations in Europe simply because the monied interests are crying wolf, wolf, when there is no wolf? God forbid. Brother Bryan, we will hold up your hands while you fight the enemy.

J. M. Hood, Tacoma, Wash.: I am heart and soul with you in the fight you are making against the so-called policy of "Preparedness," and hope you will keep it up. You may be several years in advance of public sentiment, but you are right, and will ultimately succeed in leading the masses of the people to higher and better planes of thought, as you have done in numerous other respects. Keep up the good fight, it is vastly more important than being secretary of state or even president.

G. M. Pohl, San Diego, Cal.: Herewith accept my thanks and regards to your assertions in regard to the plans of a war party existing in our administration.

J. Wright Sain, Kingfisher, Okla.: I have just read the unanswerable reply of Hon. William Jennings Bryan to the President's New York address. The argument is sound to the core, and carries conviction to all who are not carnage crazed by the European conflict. Mr. Bryan's argument has the history of past ages to sustain its soundness. The strong-

## Arouse the People

To the Editor of The Dallas (Tex.) Democrat:

The Wilson administration has gone over to the republican doctrine of a great navy and a large standing army; immense revenues being a necessary corollary. A tentative acceptance of a protective tariff has been made in retaining the duty on sugar. This program does not leave the democratic party a leg to stand on. If this represents the sense of the people of the United States, Col. Roosevelt is the logical man for president. He belongs with those who believe in vast aggregations of wealth. This scheme promotes all that is implied in that. If the people believe in preparation for war, on the scale outlined for a beginning, leading up to a world-defying navy and army, we may as well banish all notions of freedom and prosperity. The people can not contribute such sums of money as will be necessary to make and maintain, in efficiency, this great fighting force. The common people will be forced to carry the burden. Those favored of fortune will have wealth and honors. It has been said that the democratic party could be relied on to act the fool when in power. But this scheme is not an accomplished fact. Let us cherish the hope that the labor of the country may not be set to work for army and navy contractors, feeding idle soldiers, and building and rebuilding war vessels. The working people must take up this graft, with the government, at Washington, and begin now. Write to your representative and to both of your senators; tell them you don't want this most outrageous thing done. Labor unions and farmers' unions should

get up a joint protest and all sign and send it on. Give some of your time to the work. It is no use planning to better your condition, if this burden is to be laid on us. It will be no lighter, from the fact that democracy straps it on. A round half-billion dollars is planned as a starter. Don't let those chosen to act for us do this wicked thing. It was conceived in the brain of men of swollen fortunes, garnered from toil, through legalized wrong—to put it in diplomatic language. This preparation for war is the great lever everywhere used to take the wealth created by labor for the use and behoof of others who do not labor. It is no part of democracy—it is blazonry of royalty, the dividing line between classes—upper and lower. The people must save themselves from this infamous thing.

GEORGE W. KNIGHT.

San Marcos, Texas, Nov. 1, 1915.

Mr. Knight is correct in every word he has above written. I am glad to print his excellent contribution. I had just started to write an editorial, under the caption, "Preparedness, Protection, Profit and Poverty," when the mail brought his letter. My own article will keep for a later issue. I also acknowledge receipt of an excellent article along the same line of thought as that of Mr. Knight from Congressman Rufus Hardy. I shall try to print it in next week's issue of The Dallas Democrat. The people should begin serious thinking on this preposterous proposition of preparedness.—J. C. McNealus, Editor and Owner, Dallas (Tex.) Democrat.

er the military organization of a government, the less civil rights enjoyed by the citizen. It would seem the height of folly to increase the taxes of our people who are now over taxed to build a great navy and equip a large army to meet an imaginary foe. When the European conflict ends the fighting forces of the world will be so depleted and their treasuries so exhausted, it will require half a century to prepare for another conflict. If this lesson they are learning now does not eradicate entirely their thirst for rapine and murder. By that time President Wilson's great navy will be in the junk pile and his great army be a gray haired burden on the pension rolls. Every Christian church of whatever denomination should raise the danger signal against this new departure from our old time system of government, or else throw off the mask of duplicity and repudiate in name as well as fact the doctrine of the Prince of Peace. The saddest blow Christianity ever received was when Constantine militarized and commercialized religion and substituted the cross, the emblem of submission, for force, to wade through slaughter to a throne and shut the gates of mercy against mankind, and reversed the doctrine taught by the meek and lowly Nazarene. Oh for a Bryan to lead the peace-loving citizens in this hour of peril! These are the sentiments of an Oklahoma democrat who will never cast another vote for military preparation in times of profound peace.

Richard J. Barbour, Enterprise, Miss.: I am with you in your fight against Mr. Wilson's false preparedness, go for them, you are on the right side, wake 'em up and put them to rout. What folly, waste, waste. Now is your time, we need you to lead out; the common people are with you, I believe, and God is on

your side, you have nothing to fear. "They that stand by the sword shall perish by the sword." We have no need for further war expense. As you say, we are getting stronger daily by the others getting weaker. The Lord of hosts be with you.

J. G. Crites, Lisbon, North Dak.: We have always had supreme confidence in you. We are with you heart and soul in the fight you are going to make against the President's programme on preparedness. Have a letter from one of our North Dakota congressmen, Mr. Young. He is against the proposition except that the government should take over the munition factories. This is just how I feel about it. May God bless you and give you strength to fight this programme to a finish.

H. P. Faris, Clinton, Mo.: I hasten to write and congratulate most heartily your aggressive stand against the "jingo" of this country who have apparently gotten the ear of President Wilson, and are trying to get congress to waste a few billion dollars, the only possible result of which would be to involve us in war, for there is no prospect whatever of our being thus involved otherwise. I would gladly see every dollar of the proposed waste for army and navy used in putting in good roads for the benefit of all the people.

James F. Furber, Rahway, N. J.: I feel it my duty, at the same time a pleasure, to heartily endorse your attitude on preparedness. Please understand that the people of the east are not a unit in supporting the papers which so unreasonably attack you. I have taken great pleasure during the suffrage campaign in asking those who are so vociferous for war to sign a pledge to be among the first volunteers, and never could get