

BRYAN AGAINST NATIONAL DEFENSE

MR. BRYAN TAKES ISSUE WITH PRESIDENT'S VIEWS.

AT PARTING OF THE WAYS

Declares President's Plan of Preparedness is a Menace—A Radical Departure from Policy.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Washington. — Former Secretary Bryan has expressed himself as in opposition to President Wilson's national defense plan in a statement made here, in which he takes direct issue with the views of the president as declared in an address before the Manhattan club in New York.

Mr. Bryan declares the president's attitude to be a departure from our traditions; a reversal of our national policy; a menace to our peace and safety, and a challenge to the spirit of Christianity, which teaches us to influence others by example, rather than by exciting fear, is Mr. Bryan's view of the national defense plans.

The former secretary of state's statement, which reiterates views he has previously expressed on the subject of preparedness for war, was regarded as the opening gun in the fight which administration leaders expect in congress against adoption of the plan.

Mr. Bryan's Statement.

Mr. Bryan's statement says: "I have read the president's speech at New York with sorrow and concern. He is doing what he believes to be his duty, and so long as a man follows his conscience and judgment, we cannot criticize his motives, but we may be compelled to dissent from his conclusions. I feel it my duty to dissent, and as he has given his views with clearness and emphasis, those who differ from him are under a like obligation to express themselves with equal clearness."

He says that his position is different from that of the private individual in that the individual is free to speak his own thoughts and risk his own opinion. This sentence is a little obscure. Insofar as he expresses his own opinion he does not differ from the private citizen, except that he speaks under a sense of official responsibility, but where a nation's fate is involved in a policy every private citizen who loves his country and tries to serve it is conscious of responsibility. The president will not assume that he is more deeply interested in the welfare of his country than the millions who elected him to be for the time being their spokesman. And if, as he evidently believes, he is giving voice to the opinions of his countrymen, he is, of course, anxious to have them as frank with him as he has been with them; how otherwise can he know whether he represents or misrepresents their views?

New and Untried Policy.

"He has announced a policy which has never before been adopted in this country and never endorsed by any party in the country, and he has no way of knowing, until he hears from the people, whether he has correctly interpreted the will of the public. His appeal is not to any party, but, as he says, to men of 'all shades of opinion.' He asks for the hearty support of the country, meaning, of course, that he wants the support, provided the people favor the policy which he has outlined. He could not, of course, ask them to support a policy which they did not endorse, especially if they considered the policy dangerous to the country.

"From my view of the subject, the plan which he proposes is not only a departure from our traditions, but a reversal of our national policy. It is not only a menace to our peace and safety, but a challenge to the spirit of Christianity, which teaches us to influence others by example, rather than by exciting fear.

"The president says that we should be prepared 'not for aggression, but for defense.' That is the ground upon which all preparation for war is made. What nation has ever prepared for war on the theory that it was preparing for aggression? It is only fair to assume that the European rulers who are involved in the present war thought that they were contributing

Kearney.—The Commercial club, if the plan is carried out, will offer three prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$30 for the road overseer of the county who keeps his section in the best condition, the prizes to be awarded during the next county fair.

Loup City.—Thrown from a horse and striking his head against the stump of a tree, Will Hawk, a farmer living near here, was painfully injured. Half his scalp being torn from his head, and twenty-four stitches required to close the wound.

toward the maintenance of peace when they were making elaborate preparations for defense. It is a false philosophy and, being false, it inevitably leads into difficulties. The spirit that makes the individual carry a revolver—and whoever carries a revolver except for defense?—leads him not only to use it on slight provocation, but to use language which provokes trouble. 'Speak softly, but carry a big stick,' is one of the delusive maxims employed by those who put their faith in force.

Soft Voice and Big Club. "There are two answers to it—first, the man who speaks softly has not the disposition to carry a club, and if a man with a soft voice is persuaded to carry a club, his voice changes as soon as he begins to rely upon the club.

"If there is any truth in our religion, a nation must win respect as an individual does, not by carrying arms, but by an upright, honorable course that invites confidence and inspires good will. This nation has won its position in the world without resorting to the habit of toting a pistol or carrying a club. Why reverse our policy at this time. The president himself admits that there is no reason for a change. He says:

"The country is not threatened from any quarter. She stands in friendly relations with all the world. Her resources and her self-respect and capacity to care for her own citizens and rights are well known. And to make the statement more emphatic, he adds: 'There is no fear among us.'

"If we are not threatened by any nation; if our relations with all nations are friendly, if everybody knows that we're able to defend ourselves if necessary, and if there is no fear among us, why is this time chosen to revolutionize our national theories and to exchange our policy for the policy of Europe?"

"Why abandon the hope that we have so long entertained of setting an example to Europe?"

"Why encourage the nations of Europe in their fatal folly by imitating them?"

"Why impose upon the western hemisphere a policy so disastrous? Why we not expect all Latin-America to be stimulated to preparation if we enter upon a new era of preparation?"

"And will not such a policy make conflicts between these republics more probable?"

Will Do Indefinite Harm. "We shall do indefinite harm to the neighboring nations as well as to ourselves if we are drawn into this policy which provokes war by a preparation which is impossible without a large increase in taxation and the arousing of a military system which sets up false standards of honor. We are now spending more than \$250,000,000 a year on preparedness—ten times as much as we are spending on agriculture—and I feel sure that the taxpayers are not in favor of increasing this sum at this time when a change is not only unnecessary, but a menace to our national ideals.

"There has not been a time in fifty years when there was less reason to add to the expenses of the army and navy, for we are not only without an enemy, but our preparedness is increasing relatively as other nations exhaust themselves. And there never was a time, when more imperatively demanded self-restraint and the counsels of peace.

"I hope the president will not be deceived by the atmosphere of the Manhattan club. This is the one place in the United States where the mammoth worshiping portion of the democratic party meets to exchange compliments—there is no group farther removed from the sentiment of the masses, whether you measure that sentiment by economical, social or religious standards."

To Coin Zinc Money. Brussels.—On the heels of the announcement in Germany that five-pfennig pieces are to be made of iron, the governor general of Belgium announces that zinc is to be used here to help out the very notable shortage in nickel coinage. Coins are to be issued in five, ten and twenty centime denominations. No one, however, will be obliged to accept more than five francs' worth of the substitute currency in change or payment of bills.

New Anglo-French Expedition. Amsterdam.—A new Anglo-French expedition in the Balkans is announced by the Berlin Tageblatt. This newspaper publishes a telegram from Sofia, stating that British and French transports with troops have appeared off Kavala, Greece.

FIRE LOSS WAS LESS

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN SHOW GREATER EFFICIENCY.

NEWS OF THE STATE HOUSE

Items of General Interest Gathered From Reliable Sources at State House.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Although a greater number of fires have been reported to Commissioner Ridgell during the present year than during the previous one, that official is of the opinion that his annual report will show that the loss is less by nearly a quarter million dollars. This is because of the fact that there have been fewer large conflagrations. The fire loss reported for 1914 was approximately \$1,870,000, but this does not cover the loss, as many rural fires are never reported. It is the opinion of Mr. Ridgell that the property destroyed by fire during the year was close to \$2,200,000. Although the loss for 1914 was greater than for 1913, it was much less than for any of the other years since the organization of the department. Commissioner Ridgell attributes the decrease in loss to the better organization and increased efficiency of the volunteer fire departments throughout the state. These are much better equipped than formerly and as each chief is a deputy of the state commissioner their interest is kept up.

Cost of Government for 1915.

That the state of Nebraska's official expenditures for the year 1915 will exceed \$5,000,000, is indicated by the monthly statement for October issued by State Auditor Smith and his summary for the first ten months of the year, showing the gross amount of warrants issued by his office. The total has already run to \$4,549,106, and if the expenditures average the same for the remaining two months as in the past ten months the annual outlay will run a hundred thousand or more above the five-million mark.

October was next to the lowest month in the amount of disbursements. The warrants issued in that month aggregated \$302,909. Last February the total was \$292,722. The heaviest expenditures came in June, when warrants were issued to the gross sum of \$847,679.

State Treasurer Hall's report at the close of business for October gives a balance of \$146,636, in the general fund, which is somewhat larger than had been expected. It was helped somewhat by the receipt of about \$20,000 in occupation taxes from the express companies for 1915.

The temporary school fund contains \$288,307; university building fund, \$303,938; institution cash funds, \$207,250. Out of the \$50,000 donated by the city of Lincoln to aid university campus extension, \$13,250 has been expended, leaving \$36,750 on hand.

The total cash balance of the state November 1 is given at \$1,285,155. Of this sum, \$988,264 was deposited in banks, \$19,089 was cash and checks on hand, and the remainder represented by bonds and warrants which the treasurer is carrying as cash.

Educational trust fund investments at the beginning of November totaled \$9,755,712.

Lax System of Bookkeeping.

Failure to use a proper system of bookkeeping at the Chadron state normal school has left the accounts of that institution in chaotic shape, according to the report filed by State Accountant DeFrance to the governor, giving the results of an examination recently made. Mr. DeFrance inferentially blames the state normal board for this condition.

"The books have been kept in such a way as to make their auditing practically impossible," says the report. It further states that the records, as a rule, are not in alphabetical, chronological or consecutive order. The cash book, which has been in use since February, 1912, has no page numbers, and items posted from it fall to show where the original entry can be found.

"This cash book closely resembles that book which a country butcher keeps upon his meat block for jotting down purchases and sales," Mr. DeFrance declares.

Under the Blausler law passed by the last legislature the squares on election ballots will be at the left instead of the right side of the candidates' names. And instead of one long column of names there will be three parallel columns on the ballot, which will be a first aid in shortening the ballot and eliminating the dangers of voters dangling it around their feet. It is believed that the new ballot form will aid election boards in their count and that all around the change will be beneficial.

Two Important State Cases Argued.

Two important cases in which the state is a litigant were argued to the state supreme court here last week. One was the case brought by Fire Commissioner Ridgell to compel State Treasurer Hall to pay expenses of his department in accordance with the intent of the law. The other case was that involving the effort of Clark (Neb.) national bankers to prevent the state banking board from prohibiting the operation of a state savings bank in connection with their national institutions.

Thought Umbrellas Unmilitary. Umbrellas and khaki seem a most unlikely combination; yet one instance is recorded of British soldiers taking their umbrellas into action, according to the London Chronicle. On December 10, 1813, during the battle of the Nive, the Grenadier guards captured a redoubt outside Bayonne. While they were in possession of this Wellington passed by and noticed that the officers had umbrellas up to protect themselves from the heavy rain. He sent back his aide-de-camp, Lord Arthur Hill, to tell them that "the duke does not approve of the use of umbrellas in action. The guards' officers may, if they please, carry umbrellas even in uniform when on duty at St. James; but in the field it is not only ridiculous, but unmilitary."

Another Slap.

Sarcasm (to friend who is exhibiting his new id ear)—Cute little thing! I suppose you wash it in the sink.

What's in a Name?

"The boundary between Hungary and Serbia is the Save river."

"Well, is it going to do it?"

Landlord's Way. John Barrymore, the actor, was talking about Germany's submarine policy in New York.

"When Germany told us we Americans might cross the seas in safety provided we used such ships as she offered, I nearly died laughing," he said.

"I was irresistibly reminded of the poet who complained to his landlord: 'Landlord, I really must insist on your repairing my doors and windows. They close so badly that it interrupts my work. It blows my hair all about my face.'

"Humph!" said the landlord. "The easiest way out of that difficulty is for you to get your hair cut off."—New York Times.

In the Swim.

"Your daughter is studying art. I hear. Is she making any progress?"

"Oh, yes. She has been invited to the annual frolic of the illustrators and has a bid to the Art Students' league costume party."

Glass paving block used in an experimental way in a French city street lasted less than two years.

Out of Sorts

THAT IS, something is wrong with baby, but we can't tell just what it is. All mothers recognize the term by the lassitude, weakness, loss of appetite, inclination to sleep, heavy breathing, and lack of interest shown by baby. These are the symptoms of sickness. It may be fever, congestion, worms, croup, diphtheria, or scarlatina. Do not lose a minute. Give the child Castoria. It will start the digestive organs into operation, open the pores of the skin, carry off the foetid matter, and drive away the threatened sickness.

Genial Castoria always bears the signature of *Charles H. Fletcher*

Salmon Thrive in Maine.

Success has been met by the bureau of fisheries in establishing hump-back salmon on the Maine coast, according to reports from that territory. The fish were planted in February, 1914. Many fish weighing five to seven and a half pounds have been taken or seen in Penobscot river, Me., and twenty were captured alive by agents of the bureau near Bangor and held in an effort to obtain ripe eggs. From two of these fish 3,000 eggs were taken September 6, and, after fertilization, sent to the Craig Brook hatchery for incubation. Local fishermen caught and ate large numbers, and an employee of the Green Lake hatchery took fifteen fish last week. These had passed through the fishways in dams on Denny's river and were dropping down stream in a spent condition; at the same time both live and dead fish were observed below the dams.

Money Saved.

"Ever make any money in the stock market?"

"No, but I've saved a lot by not playing it."

Lucky.

"Have any luck on your duck shooting trip?"

"Yes. Didn't catch cold this time."

A mother's idea of the only safe place for a boy to go swimming is in a bathtub.

HIS SILENCE A COMPLIMENT

Too Many Men Are Apt to Make the Mistake That is Recorded of This Husband.

The coffee was weak, the bread underdone, and the fowl tough, or at least he said so. His wife's long patience gave way.

"John Henry," said she, "I've tried faithfully to cook to suit you for twelve long years. No one in the town has better-cooked food, yet you are always finding fault. Why can't you praise me once in a while, I'd like to know?"

He looked up in astonishment. "Well, if you ain't the most unreasonable woman I ever saw," he ejaculated. "Why, many and many is the time I've sat down to a meal and never said a word about it. Anybody would know there wasn't any fault to be found, or I'd 'a' found it, and yet you want a better compliment than that! That's just like a woman—they can't tell a compliment when they get one!"

Wise Beyond His Years.

Teacher (of geography class)—Johnnie, how is the earth divided?

Johnnie—Nobody will know until the European war is over.

A grudge nursed in secret will poison the system of any person.

SCORE UP ONE FOR JONES

Sarcasmic Comment Will Be Appreciated by Those Who Favor Old-Time Methods of Travel.

Down in the crimson clover zone there were two farmers named Jones and Smith, respectively. Jones was old-fashioned and stuck to old-fashioned ways, but Smith, who was more modern, bought a fine new automobile. One day he was proudly exhibiting it to some friends when Jones came along.

"Um," remarked Jones, as he thoughtfully sized up the handsome machine. "What's that thing there on the side?"

"That's a spare rim and a tire," answered the proud Smith. "We always carry an extra one in case one of the wheels goes wrong."

"Jes' as I allers said," was the disdainful response of Jones. "I've druv hosses for nigh on 50 years, and I never had to carry a spare leg for one o' them yet."—Philadelphia Press.

Handy.

"I've started a ten-cent box for Christmas, dear?" said the better half.

"You won't forget it, will you?"

"Me forget it!" replied the other fraction. "Why, how can you say such a thing? Of course I won't forget it."

And the didn't. The very next day he shook four dimes out of the box to meet a deficiency in his car-fare allowance.

Bugs.

"Isn't this awful!" exclaimed Mrs. Gabb as she looked up from her newspaper.

"Isn't what awful?" demanded Mr. Gabb.

"Why, here's a woman who complains that the insane asylum is filled with bugs," replied Mrs. Gabb.

"Well," growled Mr. Gabb, "what's the blame place for, anyway?"

The amateur actor always believes that the world is full of possibilities. The tall man is occasionally short on intellect.

Curative Value In Food?

"Recalling that 90% of disease results from errors in diet, then foods properly prescribed by the physician can justly be said to have curative value."

—Dr. Henry B. Hollen, in *The Medical Standard*.

One of the errors in the diet of many people is the use of foods robbed of the vital mineral salts (phosphate of potash, etc.) which are absolutely necessary for proper balance of body, brain and nerves. The result is a long list of ills, including nervous prostration, kidney trouble, constipation, rickets in children, and so on.

Twenty years ago a whole wheat and barley food, containing all the nutriment of the grain, including the priceless mineral elements, was devised especially to correct errors in diet. That food is

Grape-Nuts

It fulfills its mission admirably.

Another physician says:

"Nearly half the year my breakfast consists of a dish of Grape-Nuts, one or two eggs, or fruit. I RECOMMEND IT TO MY PATIENTS CONSTANTLY, and invariably with good results."

This wholesome food not only builds sturdy health and strength, but fortifies the system against disease. Ready-to-eat, nourishing, economical, delicious—

"There's a Reason" for Grape-Nuts