

existence, two came under republican administrations, and under circumstances where the democrats could not possibly be to blame. But, banking on their voters' lack of information, they continued to repeat that stale falsehood year after year. They can not do it any more, for the democratic party came into power and all their dismal prophecies have failed.

Why, they said that the democrats could not devise a low tariff law that would stand in time of peace. God gave us enough time of peace to demonstrate that they were wrong, and then a war came that has demonstrated that even a war can not shake the foundations of the democratic tariff system.

While our President and our congress were at work constructing this splendid pyramid of performance, a war came that threw upon this administration such burdens as no President has had to bear within the last fifty years; and the democratic party, aside from deserving the gratitude of the nation for its remedial legislation, deserves gratitude also for the manner in which it has dealt with delicate international problems.

We inherited from a republican administration an insurrection in Mexico. It did not arise under this administration. You will find in the state department a telegram sent by Huerta to the preceding president: "I have overthrown the government."

Yes, the government was overthrown, and this administration has dealt with that situation and the republican party dare not challenge a verdict before the country on the Mexican question.

Your great chairman today pointed out that our policy had followed the precedent set by one of the most illustrious of our presidents, the greatest republican president, Abraham Lincoln; and he showed also what would have been the result had we yielded to the importunities of interested parties, or to the threats of republican politicians, and invaded Mexico for the purpose of intervention.

The President will not lack those who will defend his conduct. Aye, in every home you will find a mother who will thank the President that her boy has not been sent to Mexico to die in the trenches.

We have a few men interested in ranches, and a few interested in mines, who would use the blood of American soldiers to guarantee profits on their investments in a foreign land. But that is not the sentiment of the American people. The people of this country stand back of Woodrow Wilson in his determination not to intervene in the affairs of Mexico.

Why, my friends, if President Wilson had yielded to the demand of those who clamor for intervention in Mexico, we would no sooner have crossed the line than the same men would have demanded that the soldiers must never come out; for, my friends, annexation is the next step after intervention has been undertaken.

If we invade Mexico, these same men will say, "On to Panama." The men who would seek to make this government a conquering nation would destroy all the advantages gained in the half century during which we have striven to cultivate the confidence of countries in Central and South America.

But, my friends, the President not only has had to deal with war to the south of us, but war to the east of us. The whole world is in the throes of a war without a precedent and without a parallel. Three million men have already died—more than the population of one state, if our 48 states were equal in population—and more men have been wounded than there are people living in any state in this Union. The new debts that have been contracted during this war now amount to as much as all the debts that have come down from all the wars of all past history to the beginning of the present conflict.

Five hundred years from now little children will be born into the world, their necks under a yoke of debt placed upon posterity by this generation. There have been meetings held in this country when men of prominence have urged this government to participate in this war. My friends, I have differed from our President as to some of the methods employed by the President to prevent war, but I join the rest of the nation in gratitude that at a time like this we have a President who is trying to keep us out of this war.

If this convention had done nothing more, it has justified its assembling by the speech made in the presence of this audience yesterday by the distinguished gentleman from New York who presided as your temporary chairman. He has piled up precedent upon precedent, and all the

democrats of the nation have now to do in order to answer any criticism of the President's refusal to go to war, is to take the precedents cited by him and ask, as he did, what did the former chief executives of this country do—did they go to war? No, they settled the problem, as our President is trying to do in the present crisis.

My friends, we do not know when it will be possible to bring this war to a close, but we do know that ours, the greatest neutral nation, is the one to which the world is looking to act as mediator when the time for mediation comes.

I appeal to the sense of justice of the American people; when in God's time, the honor of mediating shall fall to this nation, is it fair that the honor shall fall to one who has not borne the burden in the heat of the day? Is not the President of the United States, who for two years has borne a burden such as few men on earth have ever been called upon to carry—if he had been able to protect the neutrality of this nation and to save it from participation in this awful war—should not the honor of being peacemaker come to him, and to the party that selected him?

Why does the republican party, some of whose leaders have tried to force the President into this war, come now, when their efforts have failed, and ask the honor of being mediator between the contending nations?

We have a record upon which we can appeal to the people for their support, without fear and without blush. I believe the American people, grateful for what this administration has done, grateful that we have peace in this country while war stalks throughout the world, will not be unmindful of the fact that it was a democratic President supported by a democratic senate and house who has thus saved the country from the horrors of war.

Who can say what part this nation is destined to play in the future history of the world? I love my party, not only for what it has done in the past, but for what it must do in the future, as the people's instrument in protecting their rights and guarding their interests. When the day comes for the world's peace to be restored and for the treaties to be written that will guard against future wars, what administration is more worthy of the honor than the administration that has given to three-quarters of the world a treaty plan that makes war a remote possibility between us and nearly all the principal nations of the earth?

I believe that there is now before this country an opportunity such as no other country has ever had since the beginning of time. I believe that God, in His providence, has reserved for the United States the honor and the task of lifting the moral code that governs individuals up to the level of nations and making it a part of the code of all governments.

There is a picture that has attracted comment wherever it has been exhibited—the picture of Christ before Pilate. Pilate represented the power of the Roman government, and back of him were the legions of Rome. Before Pilate, helpless, unarmed, stood the Apostle of Love. Force triumphed; they nailed him to the tree, and those who stood around mocked and jeered and said, "He is dead!" But that, instead of being the end, was only the beginning. In a few centuries the power of Caesar was gone and his legions forgotten. The power of Christ, however, increased until hundreds, yes, thousands of millions have taken His name with reverence upon their lips; millions have been ready to die rather than surrender the faith He put into their hearts. He has become the great fact of history, the glowing figure of all time. Today Christ and Pilate again stand face to face—Force and Love are again striving for mastery and dominion. The old world represents force. It built its hope of peace on fear and threats of violence. Each nation attempted to terrorize other nations into peace, and in their efforts they engendered hatreds that ended in war.

If the nations now at war had spent one-tenth as much trying to cultivate friendship as they have spent in cultivating hatred, there would be no war in Europe today.

If I understand this nation's opportunity and this nation's task, it is to lead the world away from its false philosophy and help it to build its hope of permanent peace on the foundation of love and brotherhood and co-operation.

If this is to be the task of this nation, what party is more fit to perform the task than the party that preaches the brotherhood of man as next in importance to the fatherhood of God?

I, as a lover of my country, want my country

to win this greatest of all prizes. As a democrat, I want my party to have the honor that will come with the accomplishment of such a task. As a lover of my country and as a democrat I join you in the endeavor to give to Woodrow Wilson the opportunity to perform this task for the nation and the world.

Democratic National Platform

(Continued from Page Seven)

interests of society; the adoption of the probation system, especially in the case of first offenders not convicted of serious crimes.

PENSIONS

"We renew the declaration of recent democratic platforms relating to generous pensions for soldiers and their widows, and call attention to our record of performance in this particular.

WATERWAYS AND FLOOD CONTROL

"We renew the declaration in our last two platforms relating to the development of our waterways. The recent devastation of the lower Mississippi valley and several other sections by floods accentuates the movement for the regulation of river flow by additional bank and levee protection below and diversion, storage and control of flood waters above and their utilization for beneficial purposes in the reclamation of arid and swamp lands and development of water power, instead of permitting the floods to continue as heretofore, agents of destruction. We hold that the control of the Mississippi river is a national problem. The preservation of the depth of its waters for purposes of navigation, the building of levees and works of bank protection to maintain the integrity of its channel and prevent the overflow of its valley resulting in the interruption of interstate commerce, the disorganization of the mail service and the enormous loss of life and property, impose an obligation which alone can be discharged by the national government.

"We favor the adoption of a liberal and comprehensive plan for the development and improvement of our harbors and inland waterways with economy and efficiency so as to permit their navigation by vessels of standard draft.

ALASKA

"It has and will be the policy of the democratic party to enact all laws necessary for the speedy development of Alaska and its great natural resources.

TERRITORIES

"We favor granting to the people of Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico the traditional territorial government accorded to all territories of the United States since the beginning of our government and we believe the officials appointed to administer the government of those several territories should be qualified by previous bona fide residence.

CANDIDATES

"We unreservedly endorse our President and vice president, Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey and Thomas Riley Marshall of Indiana, who have performed the functions of their great offices faithfully and impartially and with distinguished ability.

"In particular, we commend to the American people the splendid diplomatic victories of our great President, who has preserved the vital interests of our government and its citizens and kept us out of war.

Woodrow Wilson stands today the greatest American of his generation.

CONCLUSION

"This is a critical hour in the history of America, a critical hour in the history of the world. Upon the record above set forth, which shows great constructive achievement in following out a consistent policy for our domestic and internal development; upon the record of the democratic administration, which has maintained the honor, the dignity, interests of the United States and at the same time retained the respect and friendship of all the nations of the world, and upon the great policies for the future strengthening of the life of our country, the enlargement of our national vision and the ennobling of our international relations, as set forth above, we appeal with confidence to the voters of the country."