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CITY OFFICIAL PAPER

THE PRESIDENT AND PREPAREDNESS.

The evident sincerity and gravity with which President Wilson addressed the people of the Middle West last week, in his series of speeches, and the fact that he alone knows the complexities and the dangers of the international situation in which the United States finds itself, stand out as the important features of the editorial comments we have noted on the president's speaking tour, "a spectacle unparalleled in history," as the Christian Science Monitor puts it. "No other man's opinion on the need of national defense is of any value whatsoever in comparison with his opinion," says the New York World, "for he has been through the mill. He can speak with an authority that is denied everybody else."

And the Christian Science Monitor, a peace paper, commenting on a particular paragraph of one of the presidential addresses, says: "We have here what appears to many to be an outpouring of the inner thoughts of a man who knows more about the international situation than do his countrymen at large, and who is deeply concerned over the prospect." Looking over the papers of our own state, we find the Navy Yard American, for example (which, by the way, is not edited by the former congressman James W. Bryan, any more), pointing out that "Mr. Wilson's sources of information are, of course, more numerous and more reliable than those of any other citizen of the country," and characterizing the president's speeches as "remarkable utterances that show conclusively that he is deeply sensible of the peril of the present situation. And if he is convinced of the necessity of preparation for defense," this newspaper suggests, "it may be that some of our high power pacifists will eventually conclude that while the truly good among us may continue to trust in the Lord for protection it will be as well if we also keep our powder dry."

"Read, mark and inwardly digest the recent speeches of President Wilson and then try and understand the crisis and danger this country is in," says the Aberdeen Herald, a paper whose present management through the frequent and belligerent use of "scarehead" type classes as "independent." "It takes soldiers and battleships to offset the enemy's soldiers and battleships in these warlike, brutal days," the Herald adds. Approaching the subject from still another standpoint, the Auburn Globe-Republican says: "The president's remarkable command of language, coupled with the sense of tremendous responsibility he feels resting upon him in the present emergency, adds wonderful power and persuasiveness to the appeals he is making to the public and will undoubtedly result in making many converts to his views of the necessity for preparation."

The Christian Science Monitor also suggests the Mr. Wilson's speeches compose "a very plain warning to those, if there be such, who imagine that the president would think of going so far as to sacrifice the nation's honor that the country might not be disturbed in its customary tranquil operations," while the Montesano Vidette sees in "preparedness" the slogan of the coming national campaign, wielded by the great Teddy whom it apparently loves with an undying devotion.

It so happens that we have not encountered a single newspaper that deviates from the spirit of these quotations or seeks to dispute the president's statements or to attack his program. The nearest approach to it was the comment of the San Poil Eagle, a little paper and a new one just started at Keller, on the Colville reservation, which declares that "law or no law, the people will have a choice in the question of whether we have a large standing army or not," because "the government cannot find willing men enough to keep our present army up to its numerical strength, and compulsory military duty or conscription in times of peace is out of the question in a free country like this."

"Mr. Wilson's political career," the World's Work points out, "has been a succession of demonstrations that he meant what he said," and such seems to be the universal opinion, among newspapers at least, applied to the speeches in his epoch-making tour. "Nobody can accuse the president of being swept off his feet by passion or fury," says the New York World. "Nobody can charge him with jingo or militaristic motives. Mr. Bryan

and other opponents of preparedness may cry for peace, but so far as the United States is concerned Woodrow Wilson has kept the peace. There has not been a day since he took office when he could not have plunged this country into war, and he has proved his devotion to peace 'against the heaviest possible odds', for he has not hesitated to risk his political life on the issue."

Such are the newspaper comments, and they confirm what had already been our opinion, that the president's program will be enacted by the congress with the great weight of the opinion of the people of the United States behind it, for, as the New York World puts it, they no longer "can have the faintest fear that Mr. Wilson is trying to commit the country to a Prussian military policy or that he is seeking further than to meet a situation that cannot be ignored."

THE APPOINTMENT OF BRANDEIS.

"There would be no question about Mr. Brandeis's qualifications for the supreme bench if his public services had not won him the hearty detestation of certain powerful corporations and financial interests," says the New York World, an opinion with which many newspapers agree and which doubtless leads the Christian Science Monitor to remark that "the nomination of Mr. Brandeis will be received with acclaim by social service workers throughout the country and generally by people holding progressive economic views."

"The hard fight that is to be waged against Mr. Brandeis's confirmation will surprise nobody," comments the Puyallup Valley Tribune, which, after pointing out that the supreme court really controls legislation and suggesting that it is a mighty good thing to have on "your side," says that Mr. Brandeis as supreme court justice "would stand for American ideas which have been pretty well lost sight of for some years. He is a man of the type of Benjamin Franklin. His feelings are homely, humane and in the deepest sense, Christian. His wisdom is not class or partisan but universal. His judicial labors would be performed for the whole country, not for any favored section or privileged group."

"Brandeis will not be confirmed by the senate without a growl from the lawyers of that body," says the Montesano Vidette, while the Inter-Mountain Register, noting the Oregonian's opposition, suggests that if Brandeis "had the reputation of being the friend of capital, we suppose his nomination would have been approved by the Oregonian." But the Register's contemporary, the Ellensburg Capital, a Republican newspaper, says "the American people will not relish Brandeis on the supreme bench."

Louis D. Brandeis admittedly is a different type of man than usually appointed to the United States supreme court. Generally those who achieve this highest legal honor in the land are men whose ability has enabled them to command high fees from the big corporations and unconsciously but because of this service they have become trained to the corporation, capitalistic view-point, and though their honor, integrity, their intentions and their desires in their court work are undoubtedly of the highest order, there is always that view-point to tinge and color their decisions. Brandeis, with ability none the less, has served on "the other side of the fence," has accumulated the other view-point.

Is it not altogether likely that it would be an excellent thing if this other view-point were introduced into the deliberations of the United States supreme court?

Formation of a Home Labor League in Olympia is an act to be commended though the need of such an organization is certainly not creditable to the city. It would seem to be wholly unnecessary, in other words, to use such means to insure the employment of home labor by those who are generally the loudest noise makers in the "trade-at-home" campaigns. Again is one reminded of the old adage that it is a mighty poor rule that doesn't work both ways.

Practically all of the evidence which resulted in the conviction of J. F. Gillies late last week of forgery in connection with the industrial insurance frauds, was gathered through the governor's office and collated and presented to the court and jury by the governor and the attorney's general's department. Governor Lister said when the frauds were first discovered, you will remember, that he would "probe this thing to the bottom." He did.

Those fourteen Thurston county farmers who agreed with Professor D. E. Willard, the Northern Pacific agricultural expert, to plant corn here next year show the right spirit. They see an opportunity to get ahead and they take advantage of it. So is progress made.

We've all been "cussin'" the snow, but from all reports it has been a great boon to our chief industry, lumbering, through the curtailed production it enforced, and so with the bright prospects ahead for that business we can swallow whatever dislike we may have had and cheer up and perk up over the assurances we hear on all sides of better business throughout this section.

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BETTMAN

EVERYTHING TO WEAR FOR MEN AND BOYS

WHAT HAPPENED IN OLYMPIA AND STATE TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From The Washington Standard for Friday, February 13, 1891. Vol. XXXI. No. 12.

Oregon enjoys the distinction of being the only state to import European songbirds.

Senator Allen has been quite successful in thwarting the efforts of the Oregon senators to divert the dry-dock location from Puget Sound to the Columbia river.

The brutal prize-ring led to the death of a man at Seattle last week. Billy Doyle of Portland was matched against George Shaeffer of Seattle and literally pounded him to death before an audience of several hundred people who had assembled to witness the "manly sport."

President Harrison and cabinet contemplate a visit to the Pacific coast some time in April, which is by the way a very appropriate month for such expeditions, beginning as it does on "All Fools' Day." Andy Johnson tried "swinging around the circle" with indifferent success. General Sherman is lying at the point of death at his home in New York city.

The first snow of the season fell Wednesday—just enough to cover the ground.

It is cheering news that Engineer Bogue, chief of construction of the Union Pacific railroad company, will return in a few days and the discharged employees of the Puget Sound extension resume work. There is little fear that the route will be materially changed or that Olympia will not be on the line. It is, however, authoritatively stated that a change will be made to avoid the Tumwater tunnel. This is one of the most difficult pieces of work along the entire line and will entail much expense.

Mount Tacoma is no more. The United States board on geographic names have issued their first bulletin in which they officially name that hoary old source of contention, Mount Rainier.

Seattle Construction & Dry Dock company has been awarded contracts for construction of three steel steamships to be built at aggregate cost of \$3,000,000.

For the first time in years cotton is being sent all-rail to northern mills from New Orleans, owing to inability of the Southern Pacific ships to take cotton because of the New Haven embargo at New York.

Three zinc smelters at Bartlesville, Okla., have increased 25 cents a day wages of 2,000 employes, involving an increase in payrolls of \$10,000 a month. The same increase has been made in smelters in Collinsville, Okla., and Caney, Kan.

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With our customary enterprise, ours is the first store in Olympia to offer its customers the new SIMMONS STEEL BED, a remarkable innovation that is absolutely the last word in metal bed construction.

This steel bed averages 33% lighter than old style iron beds; the new tested principles of construction insure absolute rigidity; the finish is finer than on the highest priced iron beds; all corner bends are perfect, true and even, and never "out of round" as on all old-style iron beds; the material used throughout is cold-rolled burnished tube steel of saw-blade smoothness, and they

COST NO MORE THAN THE OLD HEAVY IRON BEDS.

SPECIAL WINDOW DISPLAY

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J. E. Kelley

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Olympia, Wash.