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**PROTECT AMERICA**

"I wish you might never be called upon to fire a gun again," said President Warren G. Harding in an address delivered to the officers of the Atlantic fleet. "I would not have a peace without honor or without the consciousness that America is right and is protecting every interest."

In short President Warren G. Harding speaking for the government of the United States asserts that while he hopes that war shall cease and great ships be junked, until such time as all the nations of the world meet upon this common principle of disarmament, it is futile to stop our armament building.

While he was delivering the speech to the officers of the Atlantic fleet the house of representatives was bulwarking his views with concrete action. The disarmament measure introduced by Representative Connally of Texas which provided that the president must call a disarmament conference before any of the \$90,000,000 appropriated for new battleship construction could be used was signally defeated by vote of 212 to 15.

America is waking up at last. Sentiment is being overruled by reason and stern fact.

In the mind of every thinking man desire to leave off competitive naval building is strong. Every thinking man knows that most of the money required by the government is used to pay for past wars or to finance future ones. Every thinking man knows that the taxes which burden the people are but reflexes of building great battleships to junk them as obsolete in a few short years. Every thinking man shrinks from building engines of destruction. Much rather would he apply the money thus expended to constructive work—say reclaiming land and build irrigation systems and constructing highways and developing latent national resources.

But the high ideal cannot be carried out until the time is ripe. It is all very well to want to discontinue competitive armament building.

But it were veriest suicide to do so unless other nations followed the same course. In a short time, the nation which through high ideals had stopped preparing for war would fall prey to the greedy and avaricious nations which continued to build warships.

The world must act as a unit in this disarming. One nation cannot act alone.

Talk of disarmament is idle unless all nations leave off the cruel game. America cannot, must not quit arming so long as other nations build vast navies.

Japan, our neighbor to the west, is entering upon the greatest carnival of warship building in her history.

**What means it?**

Japan, the covetous, isn't doing this just for the fun of the thing. She is bringing herself close to bankruptcy as a direct consequence of building a great fleet. Her people are restless as a result.

Why, then, is Japan building warships?

Let us calmly consider the case of Japan. She is the most aggressive nation on the face of the earth today.

**A BIT TIMID SINCE THE LAST PLUNGE**



She has seized Shantung when no right of God nor man entitled her to this strip of Chinese territory. When she appropriated it, she promised to return it in a year to China. But the year has passed and there is no wild desire to give the peninsula back to its rightful owner.

Japan has taken over Korea, ruling the country with a rod of iron.

The Nipponese have sent troops into Siberia under pretext of maintaining order. Now that all is peaceful she does not withdraw the forces. No, she sends more—many more.

Japan coveted the island of Yap, a great naval base in the Pacific. She refuses to let other nations have any rights upon the island. She wants it for her very own. Does she contemplate launching a war drive from this vantage point?

Japan has looked for years with desire upon the western coast of America. Her people have come here in droves and have colonized. In itself this means little, but coupled with her other moves, the matter is truly significant.

Japan is building a vast navy. It would be folly of the worst kind for America to leave off building warships so long as covetous Japan increases her weapons of destruction.

All America can say with President Harding to the fleet officers: "I wish you might never be called upon to fire a gun again." All America can applaud the action of the house in defeating a move to bring about disarmament before the other nations of the world cooperate in this great program.

**HISTORICAL PAGEANT.**

Much vital history was made out here in the west.

In the old days The Dalles was the goal of many a man's desire. To the end of The Oregon trail he sought to win through. In his winning through oftentimes he had to exercise rare skill and courage and sacrifice.

The old days may have been rough days, yet they were fraught with decency and goodness and fair-dealing. It was a time when men were strong and women nery. Our present state of development is largely attributable to the hardy pioneers who laid the foundations for our very characters, who certainly builded the strong material foundations of this community.

But the old west when The Dalles was the end of the Oregon trail is gone. Its romance and its legend is being forgotten. Its wholesomeness is being overlooked.

With a view to impressing its significance upon us, with a view to giving all of us a glimpse of its romance, its courage demanding situations, its spectacular clash, good with bad, a historical pageant has been inaugurated in this city wherein the old west will live again the pioneer episodes of its life.

We shall all become better acquainted with the Dr. Whitman party, with Missionary Spaulding, with Mrs. Whitman and Mrs. Spaulding. We shall learn to know Dr. McLaughlin, Father De Smet and the Hudson's Bay company officials. From actual pre-

sentation we shall learn of the Lewis and Clark expedition. The historic importance of the old Fort Dalles Military post will be impressed upon us by pretty drama. The Ninevah Ford emigrant train shall toil creakingly and wearisomely over rutty roads to play its part in the early west. Jos Meek will trade again.

The traditional story of Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams, young gods who fell in love with Mt. St. Helens will be told in pageantry.

Thus the old west will be revived. Thus the romance days when this land was young will be lived over again. It is well.

The old west stands for high type manhood and womanhood and anything which focuses our thoughts upon such standards works good to us.

It is to be hoped that this historical pageant to be given May 27 will be made a permanent annual institution in this community ranking with the Pendleton Round-up and the Portland Rose carnival in state-wide appeal.

**38 CENTS OFFERED.**

What would you think of a man who beat his bills? Suppose a man were to run a big bill at a store. Then he disappeared. Finally he was located and the proposition of payment was put up to him. He whined and sniveled. He said that he couldn't pay. His finances were wrecked. Oh, he'd like ever so much to pay. He admitted that he owed the bill.

When he feared that his home and his possessions would be snatched from him by the man to whom he owed the bill, he made a proposition to pay in part the bill he admitted owing. He offered to settle the whole account for 38 cents on the dollar.

You wouldn't esteem such a man highly. You term him a tramp and a crook and a rascal. He is all of these epithets and more.

Germany inflicted a great and unrighteous war upon the world. The world became a great territory of misery. Loss and destruction and death and shattered lives—these resulted. The allied reparations commission, after investigating the losses which Germany inflicted upon the world, has sealed down the bill to Germany's ability to pay. The bill is placed by this commission of experts at 132,000,000,000 gold marks. Germany offers to pay 50,000,000,000 gold marks. Her offer is equal to 38 cents on the dollar.

**CHIEF SPEED TIRE**

By United Press  
KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 28. — "Chief Speed Tire."  
That's Barney Oldfield's new name. The famous automobile speed king on

**— COMING —  
"TOMPKIN'S HIRED MAN"**

Presented by  
Mill Creek Grange  
—at—  
Mill Creek Hall  
Wednesday, May 4th  
Admission 25c and 50c  
Dance Following

his arrival here Thursday was met by Chief Eagle Calif, of the Blackfeet Indian tribe, who insisted that Oldfield become one of the red-skinned tribe of the north.

Oldfield was initiated into the tribe with all customary ceremony by the chief and six of his followers in a private room in a hotel.

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**Brown's Dufur Stage Time Table**

Two round trips daily. Leave Bank hotel, 9 a. m. and 4 p. m. Leave Dufur 7:30 a. m. and 1 p. m.

**LOOKING BACKWARD**

(From The Chronicle, April 29, 1896.)  
Work is progressing fast on the Vogt and Williams buildings.

Mr. D. P. Ketchum went out today to the Deschutes, Bakeoven and Antelope country to buy mutton sheep.

Those who have traveled the new road three miles from the city now wonder why it was not done twenty years ago. It only costs about \$250 and dispenses with one of the worst hills in the country.

The jury in the case of Donovan vs. Taffe has been secured, and is as follows: John Robinson, Andrew Vejarde, G. B. Adams, Theodore Preige, F. Ross, R. F. Gibbons. The trial comes off at 10 o'clock tomorrow before Justice Davis.

Mr. J. T. Peters went to Sprague Landing, Wash., this morning.

Miss Etta Story left this morning for Cascade Locks, where she will visit Miss Aldrich.

Mr. D. L. Cates of Cascade Locks was in the city yesterday, returning this morning.

Dr. S. Burke Massey, dentist, First National bank, rooms 307-308. Telephone main 3911, res. main 1691. 8tf

**Special.**

In order to make space for my summer stock I will sell at 10 percent discount the few remaining plain tailored and trimmed hats. Mrs. Weaver, 302 Union street, opposite postoffice. Telephone black 3171. M20

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The Dalles, Ore.

CHRONICLE WANT ADS BRING QUICK RESULTS.

**Step on the Gas!**

A few hills ahead mean nothing to the progressive business man.

He is used to driving his car and knows that a shift of gears and a "little more gas" will put the high spots behind him in jig time.

Beyond the problems of the present is the smooth level road of the future.

The outlook for business holds no fears for the men who "step on the gas and go to it."

The real good times—the good times based on normal values, smaller profits and quicker turnovers, the good times of peace and plenty are right before us.

Step on the gas! Advertise! Advertise to your consumers at the places where conditions favor the sale of your product.

Use The Chronicle to do this best.