

Daily Democrat

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1915

A PRAYING PRESIDENT.

The Sun, Baltimore: Almost every convention that is held these days indorses President Wilson's foreign policy and expresses confidence in his patriotism and ability. One day it is a farmers' congress, another day the Grand Army veterans, another—wonder of wonders—a Republican gubernatorial nominee in the state of Senator Lodge and the Pilgrim Fathers. Former Congressman McCall in accepting the Republican nomination for governor from the state convention of his party jumped over all division fences in declaring: "The momentous questions growing out of our relations with the warring nations of Europe make an appeal which obliterates party lines. The president is the appointed spokesman of the nation. He knows facts which we do not know, and upon any question affecting the honor of the nation in the eyes of the world, and in the assertion of the rights of its citizens, he should have the whole nation behind him, regardless of party lines."

Such increasing evidences of national pervasiveness and "fidelity" must be very discouraging to those who have been engaged in the efforts to discredit the president. Instead of shaking public confidence in him, everybody worth talking about insists on getting behind him. What is the secret of Wilson's appeal? Few of us believe him to be infallible, but most of us are more than willing to trust him. Perhaps the reason is to be found in the man's absolute sincerity, his unpolished honesty. A statesman who has the moral courage to get down on his knees and lead his cabinet in prayer is a political phenomenon. Fancy the British prime minister doing that, or the German chancellor, Washington was not ashamed to pray during crises of the Revolution, it is said, though that did not keep him from swearing when strong words of exhortation seemed needed by his subordinates; but if Mr. Wilson got his cabinet to join him in prayer over public questions, he has done something new to modern statesmanship. The old Jewish prophets and leaders did not disdain to call upon the Lord for help on all occasions, but the custom as a feature of public administration has been more honored in the breach than in the observance in recent times. Cromwell had a way of doing something of this sort, and he was a mighty bad man to fool with. Possibly the reason men are getting behind Wilson is because the Lord has gotten behind him and endorsed him, and is working with him, and not with Emperor William, King George or the Czar of Russia. Whatever the cause, this praying president is receiving support from most unexpected quarters. Perhaps prayer is not such a bad thing after all, no matter what the scoffers and scientific skeptics may say.

BOLSTERING PROSPERITY.
Oregon Voter: Trying to bolster up prosperity by expending public improvements at a time when taxpayers' burdens are almost unbearable is false policy. The true way to help bring prosperity is to lighten the burden of the taxpayer and take some of the shackles off business and industry.

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MISFITS
Portland's land show is in the midst of a blaze of glory.

It is a good 'un.

Both the Germans and the Allies have now won for sure.

Strictly it looks as if the Germans had the edge on the game.

What effect snow and sleet and cold will have on the dark age struggle is to be seen. We are watching.

One great war without navy battles, something new in history.

Wonder what has become of the old-time letter writers.

The man who writes a friendly page is an oddity.

An Eastern paper says: "Chas. Chaplin imitators are getting so all-fired good that the original Charles will have to go some to keep up."

A Portland girl has the distinction of having met Miss Cavel, who was recently officially murdered, several times, while in Europe.

People say there is always something worth reading in the Dem., just a little different.

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