December 17, 1925

HISTORIC ARMY ORDERS ARE FOUND IN BARRACKS

Vancouver, Wash.—(AP)—Copies of two general orders, one promoting U. S. Grant from brevet second lieutenant to second lieutenant and assigning him to the Seventh Infantry and the other announcing the death of John Quincy Adams, have been received by Colonel Frank Morrow, commander of the seventh infantry, United States Army at Vancouver barracks.

The copies were sent by G. M. Knisely, an army veteran, who saved the orders from destruction years ago at Fort Leavenworth.

The order announcing the death of Adams was signed by Pesident James K. Polk, and was received by the seventh infantry while on duty in Mexico in 1848. That promoting Grant was issued September 30, 1845.

History, U. S.
Death of John Quincy Adams,
&
Promotion of Genl. U. S. Grant.
of Sept 30 1845.
—
Good —
from S.W. American
of Dec 17-1925.

well as in the popular speech of the times. Through books, magazines, newspapers, editorials, sermons, lectures, and addresses doctrines are being broadcast which constitute a mass indictment of the Congress, an impeachment of its membership, and a challenge of the ability, integrity, and patriotism of the representatives of the people in this the most perfect government yet devised by the genius of man.

If these indictments and impeachments are false, they must be met, explained, and set aside; but if true, the Nation is in danger, and the people, acting through their Representatives here, are its only savior.

What are these alleged symptoms of danger and disaster? Are they true, or are they false?

My purpose will be served by referring to them briefly, and to assist in their presentation I will group the charges.

It is charged that our civilization is breaking down.

It is charged that there is being developed here in Washington a centralized bureaucratic government in which the people are losing control.

It is charged that the centralization of the powers of Government in Washington is destroying the sovereignty of the States and thereby robbing the people of their inalienable rights to local self-government.

It is charged that taxation is increasing more rapidly than population or wealth and that unless such increase is checked the burden upon the taxpayers will soon become unbearable.

It is charged that through special legislation transportation, finance, and industry have been favored and that through indifference and neglect agriculture has been slighted and almost destroyed.

It is charged that the Constitution is being abandoned and that parliamentary government has broken down.

The Congress is openly condemned and its efficiency and ability publicly challenged.

Some make bold to declare that the American system is no longer suited to the needs of our country.

Our Constitution and our form of government are challenged not by demagogues alone, not only by the sincere and misinformed, but by able and determined men who believe that the American system is no longer suitable to modern conditions.

As a remedy some of our responsible and respectable citizens are inferentially if not openly adroitly suggesting steps looking to a single leadership and a dictator form of government.

If such charges are being made, if such propaganda is being broadcast—be they false or true—it is time to act, and only the Congress itself can be looked to for a remedy.

Permit me now to call your attention to a few of the concrete illustrations upon which the foregoing is predicated.

Frank R. Kent, writing in the December Harpers Magazine upon the topic, "The Political Decline of America," says:

> No open-minded man with an inquiring disposition, who travels much about this country, can very well help feeling pessimistic about it politically. Speaking not at all from the party but wholly from the public angle, it is in a sorry, soggy, sloppy state...

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