

should do something for them. It is not strange that a child should take a very selfish view of life, for the parent is so glad to do everything possible for the child. It is encouraged to attend school, and the pleasures of vacation are held out as a reward. Christmas brings its presents, and every day sacrifices are made by the parents for the child. It is quite natural, therefore, that the child should come to regard itself as the center toward which all things should turn. It is the duty of the teacher to correct this impression and impress upon the child that its happiness will be proportionate to its helpfulness and that it is, after all, more blessed to give than to receive.

The teacher must also assist in the cultivation of a proper national ideal, and one of the most essential elements of the national ideal is a recognition of the right of the majority to rule. This does not mean that a majority will not make mistakes. It simply means that the majority has the right to make its own mistakes and that no smaller portion of the population has a divine right to make mistakes for the rest. The recognition of the right of the majority to rule not only reconciles the minority to defeat but it prevents the use of corrupt means to thwart the will of the majority or secure from the public that which the public would not knowingly grant.

The social ideal is the only other ideal which I have time to mention. I might properly call it the economic ideal which should be realized in society, viz., that each individual should draw from society a reward proportionate to that individual's contribution to society. Justice requires this and will be satisfied with nothing less. Inequity in the distribution of the rewards of the joint toil of the world is the world's greatest evil today. Unless each one shares a reward proportionate to his service, the sense of justice is offended and endeavor is discouraged. The teacher ought to lead the pupil to expect no more than this, and all who have an influence in the creation of public opinion should seek to secure an approximation to this standard in the matter of rewards.

There is, of course, a religious principle that runs parallel with this, viz., that those who are able to earn more than their fellows or are more fortunate than their fellows should hold what they earn as a trust to be employed, not merely in selfish indulgence but for the promotion of the general good. No one should be forced to accept less than his fair share in order that someone else may receive more than a fair share, but one's enjoyment of that which he justly earns is increased when he voluntarily shares with one less fortunate and thus adds a spiritual delight to mere physical enjoyment.

I am sure you will pardon me if I make one application of what I have said with regard to the laws of rewards. I have spoken of the important work which the teacher does. I am now prepared to add that I believe the teacher's compensation is inadequate, if we measure that compensation by the service which the teacher renders. We intrust our children to the teacher at that tender period when the child is susceptible to influence, and the good teacher returns our children to us strengthened and fitted to be a joy to us in our old age. The teacher's salary is, as a rule, very small compared with the salary of others, if we compare the work for which other recompense is given. Whenever one part of society is underpaid it means that some other part of society is overpaid, and I respectfully submit that the teachers who will agree with me that they are underpaid owe it to themselves and to society to urge such a readjustment of rewards as will bring about a fairer basis than is now employed.

But pardon me. I did not come to make a speech but merely to acknowledge the courtesies shown me when the invitation was extended and to testify by my presence to my deep interest in your work.

#### "FIRST, AFTER"

Now the puzzling question arises among the enigmatists of Washington whether William H. Taft is the twenty-sixth or the twenty-seventh president of the United States. One bunch of them prove that he is the twenty-sixth; another that he is the twenty-seventh, and one proposition is as reasonable as the other. The whole trouble originates in the counting of President Roosevelt. Pshaw! How easy it is to settle the dispute in the spirit of brotherly love. Begin the numbering anew, designate "William H. Taft first president after T. R.," and so on ad infinitum.—Columbus Press-Post.

## WHO GETS THE MULE?

In September last the Associated Press printed the following self-explanatory dispatch:

New York, September 21.—William J. Bryan has offered the mascot mule presented by the Agricultural Society of Minnesota, as a prize to the county showing the largest percentage of increase in the vote for democratic electors over the average vote for electors in the last three campaigns. The offer is contained in a letter from the presidential candidate to National Chairman Mack, who made public the contents today. The letter from Mr. Bryan reads as follows:

"The Agricultural Society of Minnesota presented me with a mule as a mascot for this campaign, and after a consultation with the newspaper representatives sojourning at Lincoln he was named Major Minnamascot—'Min' for Minnesota, 'A' for Agricultural Society. The title of 'Major' was given to him in honor of a representative who volunteered to ride him first and who for a brief space was in close proximity of the mule. He has been ridden, and I think he will be safe riding by election day and

licans. Last year our county gave 700 republican majority. This year it gave 500 for Mr. Bryan.

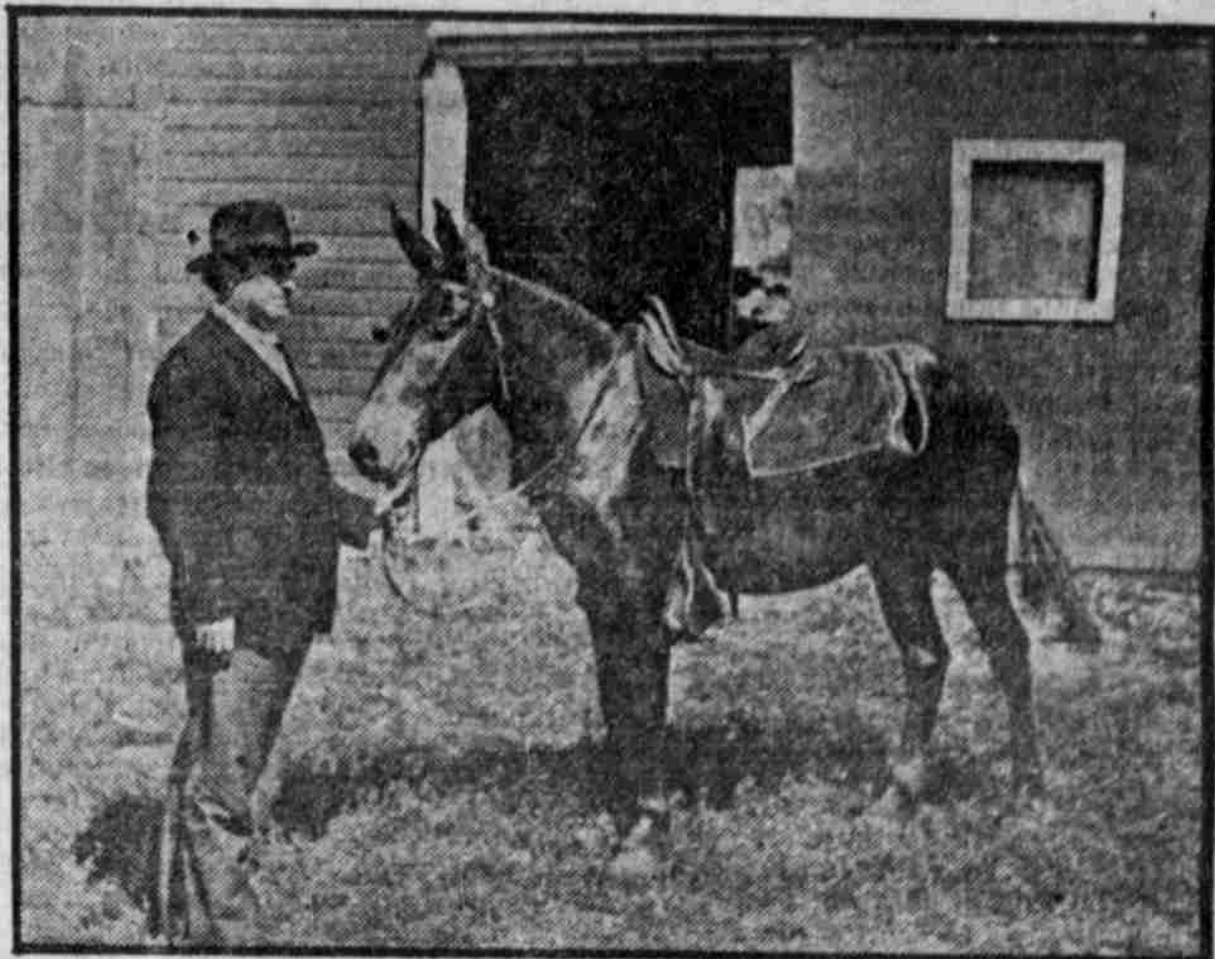
Burlington, Colo.—Kit Carson county, Colorado, shows a gain of 532 votes, the same being an increase of 241 9-11 per cent. W. P. Davis, president of Kit Carson County Bryan Volunteers, writes that if his county wins, the mule goes to Joe Gray of precinct number five, Selbert, Colo.

Smithfield, Neb.—J. R. Westfall claims mule for Bethel precinct. In this precinct the vote in 1904 was republican 35, democrat 7; in 1908, republican 28, democrat 49.

Halsey, Neb.—J. C. Roberts makes claim for Nackett precinct. In 1904 this precinct cast no democratic votes, but gave Roosevelt 14 votes; in 1908 the vote stood, Bryan 10, Taft 16.

Valparaiso, Neb.—Reports a democratic gain of 500 per cent, lacking one vote.

Benson, Neb.—H. Lancaster reports that Benson precinct cast in 1904, democrat 61, republican 18. In 1908 this precinct cast Bryan



is broken to work. Desiring to make the mule valuable to the party, I propose that he be offered as a prize to the county showing the largest percentage of the vote of electors over the average vote for electors in the last three campaigns, on condition that the county shall turn the mule over to the precinct securing the largest gain, the democrats in that precinct to vote the mule to the democrat in the precinct, who, in their judgment has contributed to the increase in the precinct."

Let it be remembered that the mule GOES TO THE COUNTY WHICH SHOWS THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF THE VOTE FOR ELECTORS, actual possession of the animal being delivered to the precinct showing the largest gain. The Commoner will print brief statements of claims along this line.

Funk, Neb.—The mule ought to come here. This precinct made a gain of 777 1-11 per cent over four years ago. (Funk is in Phelps county. It will be necessary to show the gain made by the county. Funk democrats will please send in this information to the editor of The Commoner.)

Dansville, N. Y.—In 1896 Bryan's plurality in this town was 60; in 1900, 25; in 1904, Roosevelt carried the town by 14; on last Tuesday we gave you a plurality of 130, making a gain of 144 votes over our showing of four years ago. Our total vote at this election was 1,160.

Marydel, Md.—W. T. Medford makes claim for Caroline county but sends no comparative figures.

Madison Township, Hancock County, Ohio.—C. P. Riegel, Arlington, Ohio, writes: "Last year we had 69 democrats and 24 republicans. This year we have 96 democrats and 29 repub-

369, Taft 312. Actual gain 504 56-61 per cent.

Rush County, Kan.—Charles W. Kyle, chairman democratic committee, LaCrosse, Kan., reports for Rush county as follows: In 1904 Roosevelt had in this county 871 votes and Parker 565. In 1908 Bryan had 892 votes and Taft 762. Roosevelt's majority over Parker was 316 and Bryan's majority over Taft was 130, making a total gain of 446. The percentage of gain on Parker's vote makes 78.93 per cent gain, therefore if no county beats this rate of gain we are entitled to the mule, and will promise to feed him well and groom him for four years. With best wishes we remain.

Normal's high claim.—J. D. Brandenburg, University, S. C., writes: The showing made by the Nebraska democracy deserves the commendation of every democrat in America. The way in which the people of Lancaster county (his home) supported Mr. Bryan was magnificent. I suggest that the banner democratic precinct be content with its distinction and present Minnamascot to the democrats of Normal. Would this not be a fitting recognition of their loyalty? Normal ought to have the mule.

Upton, Wyo.—Precinct number two in Western county, Wyoming, cast 22 for Bryan, 23 for Taft. In 1904 the vote stood, democrat 3, republican 18. This is a gain of 733 1-3 per cent.

As stated in the beginning, it will be necessary hereafter for these claims to be made by counties.

Mr. Tom Watson has an editorial in the Jeffersonian on "What I Have Lived to See." Happily, all the things Tom has seen, however, didn't come true.—Washington Herald.