

mitteemen assured us they were before we arrived there. The police would be on hand, so we were told, to keep a way open through which we could pass. But on arriving in the burg, there would be the same old crowd to fight. Being something of a heavyweight in stature, I would get in front of Mr. Bryan and "hit the crowd" much as a football player "bucks the line." Every member of the audience would attempt to shake Mr. Bryan's hand, and the concerted rush on us was at times nearly impossible to fight off. Toward the last of the campaign, Mr. Bryan's right hand was bruised and swollen from the hearty squeezes of his admirers. "Go easy; his hand is sore," I repeated with the frequency of a poll parrot trained to the "polly wants a cracker" stage of conversation. For a time my poor shins were black and blue and as sore as boils from two frequent contact with the boots of wild-eyed democrats, and even now I can in imagination feel the excruciating pain I experienced when a new wound would be inflicted. These are a few of the disadvantages one encounters in a strenuous campaign like the one just concluded.

The struggles of the amateur stenographers in some of the smaller places who attempted to report Mr. Bryan's speeches were frequently of a character that would have been amusing were it not for the fact that their failure to "get him" produced a despair which reflected on their faces. Of course there were many who could and did report him, and ordinarily he is one of the easiest men imaginable for the shorthand writer. In an Ohio town a young lady essayed to report Mr. Bryan for the committee of the opposition. It was somewhat amusing for me when she told how easy he had been for her, when I knew from glancing at her while working that she had gotten about one word in six. Another fell down ingloriously, then wrote up what she had and sent her transcript to me with a request that "I fix it up." Her knowledge of the campaign issues was nil. "Trust magnate" had been transcribed "trust magnet," while "publication of campaign contributions" came out "abolition of campaign tribulations." And there were others just as bad. Surely the "average" stenographer is little better informed than the average of any other business or profession.

No man is more prolific with pat stories with which to illustrate his arguments than is Mr. Bryan. Many of them are composed on the spur of the moment, while he is making a speech. They are generally short and to the point, and after he has used them, other stump speakers frequently adopt them. One of these he employed to show that the people would not be so scared of a panic this year as they had been in the past. "You can't scare a man who is sleeping on the floor by telling him he will fall out of bed," he said; and immediately this illustration was heralded throughout the country. At Marietta, Ohio, we found Mr. C. J. Smyth, of Omaha, addressing the crowd when we arrived there. In order that he would not take up the same lines of argument, Mr. Bryan asked Mr. Smyth what subjects he had better discuss.

"Anything at all," answered Smyth, "but do not tell the story of the fellow falling out of bed. It has been used here three times tonight by three different speakers."

Several valuable suggestions were received by mail, and there is one fellow down in St. Louis who will swear that he gave Mr. Bryan a point on his speech before the deep waterways convention in Chicago. It was impossible to open and answer all the mail before Mr. Bryan made his speech. I reported his address, and he was the first to bring out the point that "Man made the railways, but God the waterways." After transcribing the speech, I resumed my work of answering the letters, and among the first I opened was one from St. Louis suggesting that in his speech before the convention Mr. Bryan could well refer to the fact that "Man made the railways, but God the waterways." This was one of the coincidences of the campaign.

If you are of a different political belief than the speaker, never interrupt him or vote against him. Frequently Mr. Bryan voted his audiences on various subjects mentioned in the democratic platform. He would take the position that in turning down the plan on publicity in the republican convention, the republican leaders misrepresented the wishes of the rank and file of the republican party. Then he would ask those present who believed in publicity of campaign contributions to raise their hands. Immediately the democratic hands would be raised. Then he would ask any republican present, who did not believe in the publication of campaign con-

tributions, to raise his hand. Once in a while some of the more daring would respond, and Mr. Bryan would ask him if it were true that he did not believe in the publicity of campaign contributions, so that the people would know from what sources the money to run the campaign was received. If the man said he endorsed the action of the convention Mr. Bryan would reply:

"My friend, you have no chance in the world to get the postoffice in this town, for in his notification speech Mr. Taft turned down the action of his convention and said that he believed in the publication of campaign contributions himself."

On the question of election of senators by the people he also voted his audiences, and when a member of his audience voted against the proposition he would remind him that five different houses of representatives had endorsed the direct election of senators and would give him a chance to change his vote. If he still persisted, he would tell him that he was going into joint debate with the republican nominee, for in his notification speech Mr. Taft had said that "personally" he was inclined to favor it. Then the discomfited over-zealous hearer would be the butt of the jokes of his fellow-townsmen for all time to come.

But the election is over and the campaign is finished. The man with whom I traveled and the one whom I loved did not succeed. However great the personal disappointment may be, however much we believe in his policies and condemn those of his opponent, we must relegate our personal preference to the background and devoutly hope that we were mistaken and that our country will be bigger, better and stronger under the one whom the American people have selected.

Letters From the People

Charles N. Davis, Kansas City, Kan.—Continue to educate the people and await results.

M. J. Edgeworth, Kankakee, Ill.—Set election day forward about four months. The democratic party can not win until either winter or want is farther moved from the voter on election day.

George B. Padget, Spickard, Mo.—When I went to the polls I was handed seven tickets, representing as many political parties. Each of the six parties not in power were endeavoring to overthrow the other party, now and for a long time in full control, and each had its remedies at hand to cure the abuses growing out of republican rule, but neither of these six parties had sufficient strength to administer one small dose of their remedy. The physician may properly diagnose the case, and have at hand the remedy, but if he lacks the means of applying the remedy, he can do nothing for the patient. I believe the democratic party called an able physician, who had a correct knowledge of our country's disease, but he had not sufficient help at hand to apply the cure, and before it ever can be done we must get these six parties, or a large portion of them to unite upon some one platform, and some one man to represent them in their common cause against this great overfed and overgrown giant, the republican party. "In union there is strength." How shall it be done? I leave that question yet to be answered, but it has been said, "where there is a will, there is a way." I hope and trust the way may be found.

R. C. Byrde, Ashton, S. D.—In northern South Dakota there are about six democratic weeklies and no dailies, therefore every voter is reading from one to six republican papers; ignorant prejudice against Mr. Bryan fostered by republican papers; utter disbelief that our government can ever drift into oligarchy as all former republics have, and utter rejection of every sign pointing that way; and lastly, the national epidemic, "Rooseveltphobia." These I believe to be the reasons for northern South Dakota's republican majority in 1908.

George H. Hammond, Wilbur, Neb.—Does not the old proverb say, "Doubly armed is he whose cause is just." Then let us courageously renew the fight, realizing that the democratic party never was better organized and united than now and never had a more solid backbone than it has got today.

A. A. Layton, Denver, Colo.—Mr. Taft was endorsed by Roosevelt; Mr. Taft showed favoritism to the Catholic church; Mr. Bryan was known as a Protestant; Mr. Taft was somewhat more favorable to the saloon business than is Mr. Bryan, therefore Taft was elected. May I suggest one thing that might, before many more campaigns are fought, bring victory to the dem-

ocratic party? The south is democratic, and the south is largely prohibition territory. Much of the north is prohibition sentiment. If the democratic party can find the moral courage to come out squarely on this question, they will win the scattering prohibition vote, which is no small thing, and they will win the whole temperance vote in and out of the churches.

J. J. Russell, Charleston, Mo.—First, The prices of farm products were good, and some farmers were led to the mistaken belief that the party in power had something to do with fixing these prices, and therefore in some counties of this district there was not a full vote cast. In the one county of Pemiscot there was cast last year for the democratic and republican tickets combined 539 votes less than were cast for the same parties in the off-year election two years ago, and no increase of the votes of other parties. Of this vote the republicans lost 115 and the democrats 424. Second, The laboring men, especially those working in mills and factories that profit largely by the present high tariff taxes, were influenced, if not coerced, into voting the republican ticket by promises of steady employment and better wages in case of Taft's election, and by predictions of certain disaster to employers, and consequently idleness and starvation to employes in case of Bryan's election. Third, The use of money in making an aggressive campaign, and in getting the republican vote to the polls on election day. I believe the principles of the democratic party for which Mr. Bryan has so ably contended are sound, and that in their ultimate triumph is the best hope of the common people. I confidently believe that the democratic party will continue to live and that these principles will yet prevail. I was defeated for re-election to congress by a majority of about 600 for the reasons above stated, and because of the further fact that for the first time in this district the socialists had a candidate for congress, and he received about 1,800 votes, about three-fourths of which I estimate formerly voted the democratic ticket.

J. B. McCrary, Lake City, Ia.—We lost many votes because of the want of democratic newspapers and the scarecrow that Bryanism meant panic. However the immediate cause that ideals grow slowly, that wealth is more concentrated, quicker organized, therefore, obtains the quickest results, the other side are divided and unorganized. LaFollette, Cummins and others who claim to be reformers, still adhere to the republican party and thus hold many that endorse the measures of the democratic party.

John R. Groth, St. Louis, Mo.—I live in an interior town of some six thousand population. I gathered from various sources in the beginning of the campaign that there would be some loss of labor votes to the republican party, possibly enough to bring defeat. Then I began to inquire if there would be accessions from other sources to make good this loss. I soon discovered some twenty-five business men in my town who had not previously voted the republican ticket, would this year vote for Taft. Their reason simply being that they feared the possible unsettling of business that a change of administration might bring about. This outweighed all other considerations. The fact that these men contemplated voting as they did, was not generally known. The labor fellows are more noisy and their change of party generally known. It is evident, therefore, that any possible losses of labor votes were more than made good from the source I have mentioned. This is confirmed by the vote in southern cities and states, the republican vote being greatly increased over former elections.

D. Deneen, Hammond, Wis.—The future success of the democratic party depends upon the education of the masses, but a few months' time previous to election is not sufficient to do the educating. I am pleased to state that you have more friends and admirers in this county today than you ever had before.

GOVERNOR HASKELL'S STATEMENT

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position to turn the power of the federal government upon me, and Hearst, with his millions, making a united effort to discredit me with the people of the state, whose interests I am sworn to protect. Was it ever heard of before in the history of the United States, when the federal government would join its power and influence with the likes of W. R. Hearst and the special interests of a state to destroy a public officer?

I am able to keep up the fight, but I am entitled to the support of people, regardless of party, such men as yourself included.

Sincerely yours,

C. N. HASKELL.