

on the propositions that we are already or fast approaching, the political millennium.

Mr. Bryan. No, my dear sir; I used to think so, but then I was only acquainted with one party. Now that I have become acquainted with many parties, I think the millennium is a long time off.

Mr. Watson. Do you remember that Secretary McAdoo issued a general order restricting employees in the exercise of their political beliefs or what they thought were their rights, and then rescinded the order?

Mr. Bryan. I remember he issued an order not to do certain things. I do not think it prevented a man from having his own political beliefs.

Mr. Watson. No, of course not.

Mr. Bryan. And I also know that there was a protest among the railroad men.

Mr. Watson. It was on the ground that under private management there had not been any such situation as that when it came to the politics of the employees, and then Secretary McAdoo rescinded the order.

Mr. Bryan. Well, I think he wanted to avoid, probably, any possible charge that the opposition might make that he was using the railroads in politics.

The Chairman. That order has not been rescinded.

Mr. Bryan. No. But someone called my attention to the fact that there was quite a protest against that as interfering with the political rights of citizens.

Mr. Hamilton. You referred incidentally to Government ownership in Australia. My notion, although I may be wrong about that, is that at one time they disfranchised all men employed on the railroads there, and afterwards that right to vote was restored, and then they had another serious difficulty. Each province sought to carry as much freight as possible and as many passengers as possible over its own lines, so that freight would travel many more miles to reach a certain port in that particular province than it would have to travel if it went to another port in the adjoining province. Another difficulty they had was the adjustment of gauge, and they absolutely refused to adjust the gauge of the railroads so as to absolutely prevent the transfer of freight and passengers from one province to another. They had gone through nearly every phase.

Mr. Bryan. I am not acquainted with the history of the railroad experiments there.

Mr. Hamilton. I do not know whether it has been instructive or not.

Mr. Bryan. Well, all experience is instructive. Sometimes it guides and sometimes it warns. I say that I have no doubt that we will have to experiment and reveal laws and try something else. It is not likely that this will be perfect at once.

Mr. Sims. In private ownership a railroad tries to haul freight over its own rails as far as it can.

The Chairman. Col. Bryan, the committee is very much obliged to you for appearing before it.

Mr. Bryan. The obligation is on my side, I am sure.

(Thereupon, at 5:15 p. m., the committee adjourned.)

#### 1,000 MEN DRINK TOAST WITH MR. BRYAN

(From the Cleveland Plaindealer, Oct. 21)

Approximately 1,000 men, who heard William Jennings Bryan address the City Club yesterday noon in The Hollenden on the liquor question, filled their glasses with water at the close of the address and drank with the speaker, to this toast:

"Water—the daily need of every living thing. It ascends from the earth, obedient to the summons of the sun, and descends in showers of blessing. It gives of its sparkling beauty to the fragrant flowers; it is the alchemy that transmutes base clay into golden grain; it is the canvas on which the finger of the Infinite traces the radiant bow of promise. It is the drink that cheers and adds no sorrow with it. Jehovah looked upon it at creation's dawn and said: 'It is good.'"

Mr. Bryan found, by a raising of hands, that scarcely half dozen of the City Club audience had heard him at any of the three meetings he had addressed here Sunday, and he, therefore, repeated part of his appeal to have "Ohio lead the nation in the coming election in forever foreclosing the saloon."

"What I am trying to accomplish in this tour of Ohio in the interest of prohibition is the con-

version of the business man," Mr. Bryan said. "At the start of the fight for the abolition of the saloon, the farmer was the hero. It was in the rural districts that prohibition first gained headway. But we now want the business man to join in this last fight to make the nation dry."

In Cleveland's murder record, Mr. Bryan pointed out, a decrease of ten murders from the twenty-four in the months of June, July, August and September of last year, as compared with this year's record.

The heartiest applause given Mr. Bryan was in response to this statement: "You who permit a saloonkeeper now to furnish alcoholic liquor to a police lieutenant are more responsible for the consequent murder than the lieutenant or the saloonkeeper himself! You must realize the saloon will sell the virtue of any woman and the valor of any man."

#### ENGLAND'S IDLE LAND

One of the evils from which England has suffered for generations was the accumulation of real estate in the hands of the nobility. As if to make the situation worse, thousands of acres were held out of cultivation that a few noblemen might have a place at times to shoot grouse. It was a folly developed in olden times that permitted the land to be taken over by the few, but to withhold it from cultivation was a blunder of modern days, and wholly indefensible.

Apparently one of the results of the war will be to break up these excessive holdings and permit a nation to cultivate land needed for food production. Made wise by experience and observation, English soldiers and statesmen are no longer willing to allow a few noblemen selfishly to keep in idleness vast areas of tillable land while thousands are distressed over food prices. Some of these large holdings are being broken up and will be cultivated. Some of the palaces of the idle are to give way to modern structures in the cities. Property will be used in a modern way that will contribute to public good, not used as a playground for the selfish and idle rich. England can easily multiply her food production by tilling the land. The men who fought her battles want it done, and public sentiment seems to be bringing notable results. —Ohio State Journal.

#### TEMPERANCE FIGHT ON IN EUROPE

The triumph of the temperance cause in America is being further reflected in Britain and on the continent where until recently intoxicants were accepted as a matter of course. In France the fight against alcohol will have a place in the coming election. Ministers are demanding the suppression of alcoholic beverages, and posters and pamphlets cite the example of the United States. Paris was stirred by a rumor that William E. Johnson, late of Pennsylvania and later of Oklahoma, a noted fighter for prohibition, had arrived from England, but it is probable that Mr. Johnson will keep busy stirring up the "respectable" advocates of rum in Great Britain. Lord Northcliffe's press and a majority of the English newspapers have joined in heaping ridicule and calumny upon Mr. Johnson.

Mrs. Lloyd George, wife of the British premier, is taking a prominent part in the prohibition campaign, and October 14 she addressed a large meeting of women in Glasgow. If Scotland is won next year for temperance, she said, the victory will be a great stimulus, adding that it was as much the duty of women to help victims of alcoholism as it was to help victims of Prussianism during the war.—The Continent.

#### WHAT DEFEAT WOULD MEAN

"You may defeat this league of nations; you may scatter abroad criticism that is unjust and baseless; you may appeal to a national pride and to the selfish side of our nature, and thereby destroy the hope that has been in the heart of every thinking, feeling human being for centuries that the time would come when the same law which governs individuals would be applied to shield the lives of nations. But as surely as this is defeated and the world suffers another such calamity, deeper than the hatred of the enemy would be hatred toward statesmen who had failed in this great opportunity to shield human beings from such suffering and calamity as has been visited upon them because there was no law to check a great, powerful nation from criminal aggression."—Senator McCumber.

#### MILITARY PROJECT TO BE HELD OVER

A Washington dispatch dated November 1, says: The leaders in congress have decided to put over until next session the proposed legislation creating a permanent peace military establishment. The question of universal military training is giving them much concern. Since the beginning of this special session a large number of bills have been introduced providing either for the universal military training or universal military service. These bills have in the regular course found their way to the committee on military affairs.

Three months ago any member of the committee would have included a provision for universal military training in the reorganization bill. Today the members of the committee are not at all certain that such a provision can be voted out of the committee. The situation that has developed with respect to universal training is due, members of the military affairs committee say, to the reaction among the people against anything which in their judgment tends toward militarism. Such a reaction, it is asserted, always follows a great war, but the military affairs committee, when it entered on the work of preparing a bill for the reorganization of the army on a permanent peace basis, supposed that the country not only would favor universal military training, but would demand it.

An informal poll of the twenty-one members of the military affairs committee reveals only seven votes in favor of universal military training. And yet it is the judgment of most of the experienced members of the legislative body that the new army legislation will make some provision for giving a large number of youths military training.

It may be, say members who take this view, that it will be necessary to agree to a compromise under which the training will be limited to the students of high schools, colleges and universities. A vast amount of this sort of training is done now, it is pointed out, and has been done for a great many years, though until the time the United States entered the world war the government had not even kept a record of the young men who received military training in the educational institutions of the country. The size of the permanent peace army has not been definitely determined, but it is evident that neither the house committee on military affairs nor congress as a whole, for that matter, has any thought of accepting the recommendation of the general staff that the peace basis be fixed at 576,000 men.

A large number of officers of high rank have said to the military affairs committee that they do not believe an army of that size is necessary. The probability is, members of the committee say, that the maximum strength of the army will be fixed at 250,000. Members of congress who favor an army of about that size say that with the maximum strength of the national guard fixed at 400,000, it is not necessary to maintain a large standing army.

The reorganization bill probably would have been reported to the house before this were it not for the fact that the military affairs committee felt it ought to wait as long as possible for information as to the number of troops, if any, that are likely to be used abroad under the treaty. Up to this time the information on this point is rather indefinite.

The brewers have been hiring some more attorneys to bring some more suits for the purpose of embarrassing the government in the enforcement of national prohibition and wartime prohibition. Temperance people will not feel any alarm over this legal barrage. The nation has decided by the votes of forty-five state legislatures that it is through with liquor, and the fact that a sufficient majority could be secured in both houses of congress to override the president, when he sought to give a few brief months of relief from aridity, shows the truth of that statement. No men have their ears closer to the political ground than the members of the two branches of congress.

New Jersey went democratic at the recent election, but there is nothing in that fact to cause a true democrat to rejoice. The candidate for governor pledged himself, in effect, to oppose the enforcement of national prohibition within the borders of the state, and through republican votes he was elected. The fact that he will be unable to fulfill his promise to make the state wet does not detract from the fact that the victory is not one for democrats to rejoice over.