

frage the south's attitude was determined by the race question rather than by any difference between the sections in the appreciation of woman's influence and duty.

On pending issues, such as the enforcement of prohibition, the establishment of universal peace through disarmament, the reduction of taxes in a manner equitable to the masses, and in the elimination of monopoly and privilege, the south and west are in hearty accord, and on these subjects I shall find myself as much at home in Florida as in Nebraska.

I first learned of Florida through letters written by my wife before we were married; I next learned of Florida when my regiment was stationed there for a few months during the Spanish War; my visits there during the past eight years have increased my fondness for the state as they have increased my acquaintance with it. I have found there unexpected opportunities of reaching the entire country in religious matters through my Sunday School class, which meets under the palm trees and is attended by citizens from nearly all the states of the union. I have opportunity there, also, to meet political leaders who visit the magic city in which we dwell. Miami's increase of 440 per cent during the last ten years entitles her to be called "Magic Miami" and an increasing multitude is drawn within her extending boundaries.

It is probably too much to hope that at my period of life I can ever become as well acquainted with the people of Florida as I am with the people of Nebraska, but during my stay in the state I have found many congenial friends who will vie with the friends in Nebraska in adding pleasure to the days that lie between me and the sunset. My heart is large enough to love both the great west and the great south, and there is then affection enough left to bestow upon the devoted co-laborers who, in the states of the north and east, have shown a courage and devotion to principle not inferior to that which I have found beyond the Mississippi and south of the Ohio.

W. J. BRYAN.

The Commoner will continue to be published at Lincoln.

#### THE PRIZE RING

Commenting on the prize ring the Chicago Tribune laments over two facts; first, that some women insist on attending prize fights and, second, that ministers do NOT attend. The Tribune is half right—the ladies should not attend, but why should men? There is plenty of sport that is innocent. Why should anyone want to see men try to injure one another? The influence is not elevating and it is not necessary to physical development.

#### "NEVER AGAIN"

The President has given the advocates of disarmament a great slogan—"Never Again." Why not organize "Never Again clubs" to fight the preparedness that leads to war? We are just coming out of a "prepared war" with a world debt six times as large as it was seven years ago and war expenditures many times as great as before the war. "Never Again!"

#### WANTED!

Some substitute for the excess profits tax that will relieve the predatory interests without arousing the masses. The change will be made in the dark if possible.

#### A REWARD

A liberal reward will be paid to any expert who will show the Republican leaders how to reduce the income tax on large incomes without reducing it on small incomes.

#### WHY NOT?

The Austrian Tyrol seems to have voted about 10 to 1 in favor of union with Germany. Why not? And why not self-determination for Austria?

#### MILITARISM DYING

Who says that militarism is not at ebb tide? A year ago Chairman Wadsworth of the Military Affairs committee of the Senate reported a bill providing for universal compulsory military service, and said it would require an annual expenditure of about \$700,000,000. The Democrats, with the aid of a few Republicans, killed it. Who would advocate such a measure now? Militarism is dying—peace to its ashes.

## The "Liberals"

The Indianapolis Star has the following:

"When Justice Brandeis was elevated to a position on the bench of the supreme court of the United States there was much criticism and some alarm. Objections to him were based on his 'liberalism' or 'humanitarianism.' He had espoused the cause of the so-called 'progressivism' in government as against a safe and sane conservative policy. A recent decision on the 'Rent Law' by the court—5 to 4—in which Brandeis cast the deciding vote, seems to justify the fear of conservative men who revere the constitution as the bulwark of our liberties and the protector of our property. Congress and the state of New York passed laws providing that a landlord can not get his property back from a tenant at the end of his lease if the tenant is willing to go on and pay the same rent. The act of congress applied only to the District of Columbia. By a vote of 5 to 4 the supreme court upheld those laws. The five justices upholding the law are the so-called 'liberals,' and the four dissenting justices, are the 'seasoned' conservative men on the bench. The decision is considered a menace to the rights of property and a blow to the constitution itself?"

The above is interesting; it is the old conflict between human rights and property rights and in this case the "liberals" won. But the "seasoned" conservatives seem to have won when they nullified the child labor law and when they set Newberry free. We need one or two more liberals on the bench.

W. J. BRYAN.

#### BORN AGAIN

On another page will be found a news item in regard to the conversion of Jim Hicks. He was raised by a moonshiner and was in a Virginia reformatory at 11. He served time in nineteen prisons. That is about as bad a start as he could make, but eight years ago he was converted in prison and "prayed his way out." Now he travels over the country distributing Bibles to prisoners and helping them after they come. If an uneducated man with such a criminal record can render such a service what can a college graduate do if he has the same spiritual urge!

W. J. BRYAN.

#### THE MICHIGAN CITIZEN

The Democratic state committee which is in the control of the progressive element of the party, has established a weekly to which it has given the name, The Michigan Citizen. Secretary A. R. Canfield is editor, with Chairman William A. Comstock and Treasurer Frank D. Eaman as backers. It is a splendid idea. The Commoner welcomes it into the field of journalism and wishes it success. Every state in the contested area should have such a paper. Here is a chance for well-to-do Democrats to render a real party service.

W. J. BRYAN.

#### VINDICATED AGAIN

Mr. Bryan will be pardoned for feeling just a little pleased over the fact that the Colombia treaty (which he negotiated in 1914) has been ratified. The 25 millions agreed upon was not reduced a dollar and the arguments contained in the report prepared seven years ago were the ones used this year. It takes the Republicans quite a while to come around to the Democratic position but they generally come if you give them time.

#### THE REACTION HAS SET IN

The victory won by the Democrats in the Senate, reducing the army to 150,000, is important in itself and important as evidence of reaction against the Republicans. The Democrats are on the popular side of the army question. Keep your eye on the Democrats at Washington—they are making a brave and winning fight.

#### DISARMAMENT AT ONCE

There should not be a moment's delay in beginning disarmament, whether it is to be secured by agreement or by our example no time should be lost. Every new ship built will make reduction that much harder. Up all and at the task!

#### A PRAYER ANSWERED

Below will be found a press dispatch from Pueblo. Materialists may scoff at prayer and deny that it is ever answered, but Mrs. Ellis and little Mildred will not be disturbed by doubts or fears. The dispatch follows:

"Pueblo, Colo., June 6.—A graphic description of the plight of passengers caught by the flood on the Missouri Pacific and Denver and Rio Grande tracks during the flood here Friday night, was given today by Mrs. Ruby Ellis, of Wichita, Kans., who was imprisoned in an overturned Pullman coach with her 9-year-old daughter for more than four hours.

"We were in the car next to the engine, and the train was pulled out of the station yard to a point near the river," said Mrs. Ellis. "The car turned over gradually onto its right side, as the water rushed under the bottom."

"My little daughter, Mildred Mary, and I were thrown to the bottom of the car into the water. I struggled to the surface and found mattresses and bedding over me. Then I found my little girl and pulled her to the top of the car, which was not yet filled with water. We stood on the rods of the upper berth and held onto the rods on the other side of the car.

"The water rose rapidly until it had reached my chin. My little girl was clinging to my neck. Fortunately the ventilator windows were opened and we were able to breathe freely.

"I had given up hope of life when the water came to my chin. Mildred Mary had not cried nor complained up to this time, and she asked: 'What shall I do, mother?' and I told her to pray.

"Then she repeated over and over, 'Jesus, I trust you.'

"It seemed only a few minutes until the water began to recede. We made our way to the end of the car, where some women in the train had broken a window were helped to the side of the coach by the rescue party."

#### WHY NOT OTHERS?

A Senate bill, aimed at Judge Landis, prohibits a federal judge from accepting a salary outside his official salary. In this case, the wets, the representatives of big business and the gamblers are trying to drive Landis from the bench because he enforces prohibition, punishes big criminals and is trying to make base ball a clean game.

If the purpose of this bill is to serve the public, why not prohibit judges from enjoying an income from the stocks and bonds of CORPORATIONS? These may affect the judge's decision, and yet no effort is being made to protect the bench from this REAL menace. Senator Kenyon has introduced an amendment compelling senators and members to give up salaries inconsistent with their public duties. This, too, is in the right direction.

W. J. BRYAN.

The total appropriations made by the late Nebraska legislature were over 30 millions, a considerable increase over the amount authorized by the preceding legislature. The late Nebraska legislature was elected on the pledge to reduce taxation, and there is much talk of holding a statewide indignation meeting to protest and possibly to order a referendum. The newspapers say that the legislature was beset all through the session by a lobby of contractors and corporation representatives. Will the people have forgotten by the next election?

Washington correspondents say that nobody at the national capital takes seriously the emergency tariff bill just enacted by congress, because nobody expects that any relief to the agricultural interests can come from it. Congressmen excuse their adoption of it by saying that the farmers wanted it. The ideals that govern legislation at the national capital are not of a very high order if that be true.

Gary of the steel trust says that the retailers are keeping up prices. No doubt of it. Now, if the retailers will tell us what Gary is doing we may get another side light on the situation.

The farmers need not worry over the possibility of their condition becoming worse. As they are sleeping on the floor they can not fall off the bed.

As Mr. Bryan's change in citizenship was made for family reasons, no one in Nebraska or Florida, outside of the family, was consulted.

The excess profits tax is still in the air; it has not yet found a place to land, but it can be depended on to land on the people.