

Mr. Bryan in the Northwest

The Victoria (B. C.) Daily Times prints the following report of Mr. Bryan's visit to Victoria:

The Victoria theatre was crowded to its capacity last evening by a very enthusiastic audience to listen to William J. Bryan deliver his lecture on "The Prince of Peace." R. B. McMicking, president of the Young Men's Christian Association, under whose auspices the lecture was given, occupied the chair and on the platform with him were many prominent citizens, including his worship Mayor Hall, G. H. Barnard, M. P.; Ralph Smith, M. P.; John Oliver, M. P. P., the new liberal leader; C. C. Michener, Hon. Abraham Smith, U. S. consul; Rev. T. E. Holling, W. L. Clay and others.

Charles W. Bishop, B. A. western field secretary for colleges and educational institutions of the Y. M. C. A., was called upon to open the proceedings with a vocal solo and sang in splendid style, "The Lord is My Light." President McMicking in introducing the speaker of the evening took occasion to thank the citizens of Victoria on behalf of the Y. M. C. A. for the generous support in the matter of the recent building campaign and said that the present tour of Mr. Bryan through the Dominion was to assist the various Y. M. C. A. institutions in the cities he visited.

Mr. Bryan made no apology for speaking on a religious theme. He said that while his time and thought had been given to the problems of government and would still be given to that subject, and while he made numerous political speeches and would continue to do so, he preferred making a religious speech. In politics it was necessary to convince a majority of the people to think as you think in order that your ideas might be carried into practice, and he naively added, it was astonishing how difficult this task appeared to be; but in religion if you could impress one heart and life with a higher aim the speech was a success. He hoped to be able to help some one to a stronger faith in God by his words as he delivered the address of the evening.

The lecturer then plunged right into his subject and as he laid the foundations for his faith in very beginnings of Bible history one could not help realizing the strength and virility of the man himself. In spite of years of strenuous political life he stood before the audience as a champion of Christian faith and was using his charms of oratory to strengthen the faith of his audience. It did not seem a stepping aside for one moment from his life's work, but rather one felt it to be the real conviction of the orator that this was part of his life as well as the other which had occupied so much of his time and attention. There he stood, the very ideal of a public speaker. Cool, collected, always master of himself and his audience; with the very simplest of language, the very choicest of words, that the youngest listener could understand; illustrations apt and frequent, the quiet humor flashing out once in a while to give relief to the tension of the moment; the persistent logic convincing men in spite of themselves, and above all the steady, clear faith in God and in the Christ about whom he was speaking. For one hour and a half Mr. Bryan held his audience in close attention and the applause and murmurs of approval were frequent. One could almost imagine that—strange sound in a theatre—an occasional "Amen" would come from some deeply moved listener.

One needed to be present to see

the strong face, with its gentle play of eyes and mouth, and to see the quiet simple gesture which emphasized the truth that was being given to the audience; or to hear the tones of the voice that also carried emphasis of the words spoken. After dealing with the theories of creation and saying that no theory which did not go back to the great Creator as the primal force could be accepted, Mr. Bryan went on to deal with the mysteries and miracles of human life. And here his illustrations were particularly apt. The growth of the wheat kernel, the change of the watermelon seed into the ripened fruit with its different parts and colors, and then the change of life which comes from a trust in God were well used to show that mystery and marvel should not shatter faith in the Supreme Being. Dealing with the vicarious atonement the speaker showed how that man himself had been willing through all the ages to make sacrifice for his convictions, and for the sake of others. The men of the past had given to us the right of free speech, of free government, of the free press by reason of their sacrifice of life and all for the sake of the generations to follow. We are continually paying back that which we owe to those who have gone before by giving to those who are around us or who are to follow us of the best that is in us.

Mr. Bryan gave several reasons why he believed in the divinity of Christ. Argument followed argument in quick succession, and the faith of the speaker was seen behind his statements. Some sentences could not be easily forgotten. For instance, "the human measure of life is its income, the divine measure of life is its outgo." Or this, "the unanswerable argument in favor of the Christian faith was a Christian life." The tendency of the religious world today was to emphasize the first part of that verse which has been the "text" for all Christian teaching, "Christ came to bring life and immortality to light." The emphasis used to be put on immortality, how we might reach heaven; now it is put on life, how we may live to help our fellows. The word of Christ, "he that saveth his life shall lose it, and he that loseth his life for My sake, shall find it," were not the words of a fanatic, but were the epitome of history. The speaker finished with a peroration that spoke of optimism in regard to the eventual history of the Christian truth. He believed that if the need arose men would be found in those days to die for their faith in Christ.

A vote of thanks to the lecturer was moved by G. H. Barnard, M. P., and seconded by C. C. Michener and carried amid hearty and prolonged applause.

The Y. M. C. A. are to be most heartily congratulated upon the complete success of Mr. Bryan's visit. The weather was most favorable; Victoria looked her best in the glow of autumn tints, and with many gardens still carrying the abundant blossoms of late summer, and the crowds that attended every function showed the appreciation of the citizens of the visit of such a noted man. "The silver-tongued orator" has made another conquest and will always be a welcome visitor to the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryan left last night on the midnight steamer for Vancouver.

A VANCOUVER ESTIMATE

The Vancouver Daily News-Advertiser prints the following editorial: Those who peruse only the republican press of the United States acquire a very false impression of William Jennings Bryan, the most gifted of the disciples of democracy. The Vancouver public will, by grace of the new understanding gained yester-

day of a man who has filled so spectacular a role on the stage of United States politics, regard him with a clearer eye than hitherto. Mr. Bryan is that highest form of politician—a statesman; he is an orator famous in a land of orators; but above and beyond these he is an altruist. The methods of his party may not appeal to the majority; his own personal political and social creeds may not find affection with all, but no one will deny that he aims at ideals and fights gallantly to win them. This latter also is a feature in the great democrat's character which must compel admiration of the strongest from even his enemies and critics.

News of the Week

Delara, the Mexican attorney, held by the United States irrigation authorities at Los Angeles on the charge of being an anarchist, has been released on \$3,000 bail.

At a meeting of the conservatives of Cuba resolutions were adopted declaring the administration of Gomez to be a failure.

General Estrada says he will soon make a proclamation declaring the independence of the Atlantic coast states of Nicaragua as a republic.

A cablegram from Finland says the bill giving Hebrews a limited right of residence in Finland is under consideration by the constitutional committee of the Finland diet. The measure, however, applies to Hebrews who were born or have lived for a decade in Finland.

A fire broke out in the Black Hills forest reserve and 5,000 acres of fine timber was destroyed. Several hundred men were engaged in fighting the flames.

Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison of the American Federation of Labor, who were sentenced by Justice Wright to jail for terms of twelve, nine and six months, respectively, for contempt in the now famous injunction proceedings of the Bucks Stove & Range company of St. Louis, will take an appeal to the United States supreme court in the event the district court of appeals sustains the action of the court which imposed sentence upon them. President Gompers in an editorial in the November issue of the American Federationist makes clear the attitude of himself and his co-defendants. "Whatever the decision of the court of appeals may be," he asserts, "it must ultimately lead to victory for labor, and a victory for labor will mean a victory for all the people. Should the court sustain the appeal and annul the sentences, it will maintain beyond question the right of free speech and free press. If it should sustain the decision of Justice Wright, it will simply mean that an appeal must be taken to the highest court in the land to obtain a final determining word as to the judicial conception of existing constitutional guarantees. Even should the highest judicial tribunal of our country fail to maintain the right of free speech and free press, there is still a higher court—the court of public opinion."

A Pittsburg, Pa., dispatch carried by the Associated Press says: "United States District Attorney Jourdan today forwarded a complete report to the department of justice concerning the sensational statement made in the federal court here yesterday by counsel for Barney Grossman, on trial for national bank irregularities, who declared his client had been granted immunity from prosecution on payment of \$60,000 by

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