

# The Commoner.

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VOL. 10, NO. 7

Lincoln, Nebraska, February 25, 1910

Whole Number 475

## Mr. Bryan at Lima

Mr. Bryan spoke at the National club at Lima, Peru, January 25, 1910.

The president of the club, Dr. Prado Ugarteche, the son of a former president of Peru, introduced Mr. Bryan as follows:

"In the name of the National club I would wish to express the great satisfaction I have in thanking you for having accepted our invitation. The universal reputation of this prominent public man and eminent orator, was already known to us, but this knowledge is now increased by personal and actual acquaintance. A current of effective and broader sympathy has at this moment been increased by our respect and admiration. The National club representing all the Peruvian society, will be the representative of its commerce, and must also express to you that it considers itself much obliged by the exceptional honor that you have conferred on it this day, and that it will be inscribed in its annals as one of the best days of its life."

Mr. Bryan responded:

Mr. President, Members of the Club, Ladies and Gentlemen: I appreciate your very cordial welcome and the kind words that have been spoken in presenting me to you. I am not flattering the distinguished gentleman who is honored with the presidency of this club when I say that if, when I die, the name Bryan is as well known and as highly honored in my country as the name "Prado" is in this; I can wish no more. I may add also that I would be content to let my fame as an orator rest upon my speech this afternoon if I could present my thoughts as gracefully and as eloquently as he has presented his. I am not presumptuous enough to think that any large part of the generous welcome that has been extended can be counted as personal; I recognize that the attention that has been shown me has been shown to me not as an individual, not because of any merit of my own, but because I am a citizen of the United States and I accept this evidence of your friendship with more gratitude and more appreciation than I would accept it if it were a personal tribute to me.

I am pleased to learn of the cordial good will that is felt in Peru for the people of the United States and I assure you that I speak the sentiments of all of our people when I say that your good will is fully and heartily reciprocated. I shall be glad, when I return to my home, to tell them that as a citizen of the United States, and because a citizen of the United States, I was hospitably received and entertained by the president of your republic, by the mayor of your city and by the president and members of this distinguished club, which represents your civil, your social, your political and your business life. If I were to attempt to discuss the political questions which are at issue in the United States, you might with justice dispute my right to speak for the people of my country, for in the elections which we have had recently the vote

of confidence has been in favor of those representing the other side of these questions; but, my friends, the questions that divide us politically are few in number and of little importance compared with the principles and policies that unite us as citizens. I can, therefore, speak as a representative of all the people of the United States when I discuss the questions of national policy as they relate to our dealings with other countries, and I can assure you that in the United States there is sincere goodwill, not only towards this country but towards all the countries of the earth. If there is anyone in Peru who disputes or doubts the pacific intentions of the people of my country, I bid him visit the United States, travel from east to west, from north to south, talk with our people, anywhere and everywhere, and he will find that we have some ninety millions of people working out their destiny with ideals as high, I hope, as can be found anywhere else in the world, and desirous of entering into rivalry with other nations only in that legitimate field where the contest is to see who can hold highest the torch of civilization that lights the world to higher ground.

The relations that exist between the United States and Peru are not only cordial but they are destined to become more cordial, and I can not do better this afternoon than give you some of the reasons that lead me to believe that we are going to know each other better and like each other more as the years go by.

In the first place we are your neighbors; God has joined us by a strip of land, and while we hope soon to make a little rent in that strip, it will not be wide enough to separate South America from North America. There is a certain interest that naturally comes from proximity; people who live side by side must feel a deeper interest in each other because of knowledge that necessarily comes with that proximity. We are near enough together to feel that interest that neighborhood inspires; we are co-tenants of the western hemisphere and, as such, we must not only live together but we should live together and will live together as friends and not as enemies.

There is another reason why our relations are destined to become more intimate. The canal will bring us nearer together; the telegraph has almost eliminated space; steam has brought the corners of the earth nearer together and the canal will bring us into still closer relationship with each other. If you will take a map of North America you will find that New York is a thousand miles nearer to the Pacific ocean at Panama than it is to San Francisco; the Pacific ocean comes around, as it were, to meet the states of the east and save them the necessity of crossing the Rocky Mountains. When the canal is completed the great steamers can start in New York and reach the western shores of South America in a very short time; and with that lessening of time, with that shortening of distance, with that closer communication there will come more travel between your country and ours. Our manufacturers and our exporters will be sending their representatives here in increasing numbers to take advantage of the trade that will necessarily come with this improvement in the facilities for commerce. And commerce is, in itself, a binding tie. It is true that wars have been waged for commerce and yet, my friends, you will find that the sentiment in favor of peace grows with expanding commerce. Every sail is blown by winds that make for peace and every steamer that plows the ocean is an advance agent of peace. Go back into the days when they had no commerce and no communication with each other and there was more of war, more of bloodshed and more of enmity in proportion to population, than there is today. Commerce increasing as it must, will strengthen the bonds of peace and will increase acquaintance and goodwill.

But there is another reason why the relations between our country and your country must be friendly relations. You are demonstrating the truth of the theory of government which was planted on American soil a century and a quarter ago and as you have been stimulated by our example, inspired by our fight for liberty and

INSURGENT ULTIMATUM

Either the "insurgents" of today are the republican party of tomorrow or else when tomorrow comes there will be no republican party.

There are no birds in last year's nest. There are no votes for the republican party in 1912 or in 1910 because it freed the slaves in the civil war or saved us from the silver basis in 1896.

A few states in the south are surely democratic and a few states in the north are surely republican, but the decisive votes in the deciding states will be for the republican party only by reason of what it now does and seems likely to do to free the masses and save the government from the clutch of organized privilege.

The president is depending upon Aldrich and Cannon, the servants of organized privilege, to put through the Roosevelt policies he so ardently desires, and his face is turned away from the "insurgent minority, to whom those policies are dear. It is a false situation which can not last. Nor can any dependence be placed upon those so-called leaders to enact those policies into law.

In looking to Aldrich and Cannon to beat organized privilege off from the prerogatives and power it enjoys, the president is leaning on a broken reed. He belongs with the insurgents and they belong with him.

Either the "insurgents" of today are the republican party of tomorrow or else when that tomorrow comes there will be no republican party.—Indianapolis News (rep.)

will continue to be influenced by our example, we can not but feel an interest in your experiment and wish you God-speed in the application of democratic ideas of government to the people of Peru.

I might add here that I have learned with great satisfaction of the increasing number of students who are going from Peru to the United States. I trust that as communication is made easier the number will be multiplied and I am willing to go further than that and have our government plant upon the Isthmus, within the limits of the canal zone, an American college for the benefit of those young men who find it inconvenient to go further than that in their search for instruction in American history and in the ideals of government as applied under the American flag.

The best thing in this world is an ideal; it is the most valuable thing; and as I see how tariff laws vex commerce, I am glad that an ideal can cross boundary lines without having to go through customs houses. Our country has received ideas from all other countries and its ideas are for the benefit of all the world. When I visited Japan a few years ago the first reception given me was by a club formed of young men who had studied in the United States and I thought it a compliment to our country that these young men, who had been educated in our colleges, should band themselves together under a name that, when translated into English, meant "Friends of America Society." It strengthened a thought I had in mind, namely, that the way for our nation to conquer the world is not with arms, but with ideals. In proportion as we can bring people from other lands into our country and there give them the best that we have and stimulate them, as far as our example is calculated to stimulate, we can effectually influence the world. And whether I speak for all of my countrymen or not I speak for myself when I add that I believe that peace can be promoted much better by bringing young men to our country and making them acquainted with our ideals and our aspirations, than it can be promoted by any expenditure on ships or soldiers. For,

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