

to importance sufficient to do harm either to Harmon or to the democratic party because a righteous case can not be made out of it."

Our Waterloo contemporary seizes with avidity the handle of every seeming opportunity to depreciate the influence of Mr. Bryan in democratic party affairs. We wish that this were not so, because convinced of the unselfish, moral purpose underlying every public act of the Nebraskan; we hope to see his influence extended rather than circumscribed.

Suppose Mr. Bryan had not urged his senatorial plan—and no democrat will dispute that it is generically

democratic—the issue of popular or legislative selection of senators would not have been raised in Ohio. Mr. Harmon is a national figure; Mr. Bryan is a national figure. Mr. Bryan is a democratic democrat seeking to advance popular control of public affairs. Is Mr. Harmon the same sort of democrat, seeking the same purpose? Mr. Bryan addressed inquiry to the governor—for or against popular choice?

This is Mr. Bryan's offense, that he called upon Governor Harmon to say where he stood. If it was an improper inquiry, Governor Harmon would have ignored it. That he made reply indicates he considered

it a proper inquiry, and recognized Mr. Bryan's right to address it. Taking his position against popular choice of senator, was Mr. Bryan justified in asserting that Governor Harmon therefor would be unfitted for national leadership? Mr. Bryan might say that Mr. Hearst, advocating imperialism and the principle of protection, was unfitted to be a leader of the democratic party. Would that be dictatorship by Mr. Bryan? Would that be the rule or ruin policy?

Democracy implies free discussion; it implies freedom of speech; it contemplates the right to ask for information; it gives room for debate; it

admits the right of one to challenge the leadership of another.

Democracy does not admit a muzzle. There is no progress when men are muzzled. Suppose Mr. Bryan hadn't made the issue in Ohio. Suppose others like him made no issues. Suppose no one said, "This is not my view; I shall oppose your leadership if you represent a different view; I shall fight for the dominance of my conviction of what are right principles;"—what progress would there be?

Mr. Bryan is for progress. His eye is on principles. The Times-Tribune is looking at men.—Dubuque (Iowa) Telegraph-Herald.

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