

has done much to rehabilitate himself with the more thoughtful and progressive people the country over. The day of saloon dominance in politics is passing and little is gained by tying one's political flag to a sinking ship. Apart from the question of expediency, which question, by the way, has never figured very large in W. J. Bryan's political calendar, there is the basic question of moral benefit to be derived through the control of the saloon, and however the matter may be viewed by the side-door politicians, it is a greater thing to walk in the ranks of a moral reform than it is to be the leader of a political party that ignores the advancing ideals of the age. Bryan

may or may not have "passed"—time alone will answer that question—but he is still marching.—Farm, Stock and Home, Minneapolis.

BRYAN WINS

The brewery-owned press has so persistently spread the report that the refusal of the Nebraska democracy to accept county option involves the political death of Bryan, that unthinking people believe it.

The brewery-owned press is wrong. Bryan is not dead, and there is no indication of his immediate demise. He is not even defeated. Bryan won a great victory in the Nebraska convention, and Nebraska democracy sustained a defeat.

Let us explain. Political enemies of Bryan have charged that he is an adventurer, an opportunist, a selfish office-seeker who would subordinate principles to gain for himself the presidency. By renouncing the friends who had supported him in his political ambitions and espousing an unpopular cause, knowing that it meant his dethronement, Bryan won the greatest of victories, a victory over himself, and disarmed the criticism of his enemies.

Bryan stands higher in the estimation of the reform forces of the nation today than ever before, because he has shown himself possessed of the distinctive quality of the reformer—the courage of self-renunciation.

The November elections will show that in the degree that Bryan has won, Nebraska democracy has lost, lost the confidence of the people as a serious agency of political reform.

When his critics have turned into cheap earth, selling at twenty-five dollars per acre, Bryan will still live on as one of the redeeming influences of our national life.—Dawson, Minn., Sentinel.

SEEN AND HEARD

William Jennings Bryan, standing for a great moral issue—county option on the liquor question—before the Nebraska democratic state convention at Grand Island, July 26, 1910, was beaten by a vote of 465 to 394. Because of this rejection of a moral question by his party in his own state, certain newspapers have gleefully expressed themselves in editorial utterances and declaimed that the Great Commoner was down and out for good. Time will tell. Mr. Bryan has been three times defeated for president of the United States, and none of these defeats put him down and out. His political enemies wish he was down and out, but away down in their hearts they know that he is not, and that there is no man in the democratic party, standing as its standard bearer, who has the influence or who can poll the vote he can. His political opponents have for the time being triumphed over him in his own state. The issue on which they have won will bring a hollow victory when all is said and done. Mr. Bryan made expediency and personal advantage secondary to ultimate party welfare and popular advancement. He stood on the side of temperance, good morals and the churches and against intemperance and its evils and the saloons. His act will be measured by the calm and unprejudiced judgment of the thinking voters of the country and he will emerge and again come into the public view stronger, more powerful and more influential than ever before. He sought to eliminate certain influences in his state which for years have dominated his party to its moral and material injury. And right here, let it be recorded, the Nebraska republicans in their state convention adopted, by a large vote, the plank which Mr. Bryan advocated.—Dedham, Mass., Transcript.

DIPLOMATIC GOSSIP

An English diplomat at a dinner in London said of Mrs. Langtry: "When she was at the summit of her beauty and her fame—when crowds followed her in Bond street and the Row—she met, at a semi-royal dinner, an African king. Mrs. Langtry, dazzling in her beauty, sat beside this king. She was in good spirits, and she did her very best to amuse and please him. And she must have succeeded, for at the dinner's close he heaved a deep sigh and said to her: 'Ah, madam, if heaven had only made you black and fat you would be irresistible!'"—New York Tribune.

HOW HE CAME OUT

"I don't believe in telling about what you're going to do," said Assemblyman Wilkie of Buffalo, "because you never can tell how things are going to come out. I recall a case of a young man who aspired to the hand of the daughter of a very wealthy man. He was a loud talking person, and nearly every one knew

all about his business. One night he announced that he was going up to the girl's house and tell the 'old man' politely, but very emphatically, that he was going to marry his daughter, no matter whether he liked it or not. He went to the house early in the evening and, to the surprise of his club friends, returned to his club early.

"How'd you come out?" asked some of his interested friends.

"Through the window," was the reply.—Albany Correspondence to New York Herald.

UP-TO-DATE MOTHER GOOSE

The teacher was telling the story of Red Riding Hood. She had described the woods and the wild animals that live there.

"Suddenly," she said, "Red Riding Hood heard a loud noise. She turned around, and what do you suppose she saw standing there, looking at her and showing all its sharp, white teeth?"

"Teddy Roosevelt!" cried one of the boys.—Judge.

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