

to have. And Mr. Redfield, a "gold" democrat, is also in the cabinet.

In fact, Josephus Daniels is the only distinct "Bryanite" there. And Mr. Daniels is marooned, as it were, in the navy department, surrounded with technical advisers whose views no mere civilian can safely disregard. It is also understood that Mr. Bryan will be provided with a highly skilled first assistant, a recognized authority on international law and precedents and usages.

It is evident that Mr. Bryan, whether consciously or not, has entered upon the process of dignified retirement from active public life. We might fairly say, indeed, that President Wilson has pleasantly, tactfully, graciously, but none the less certainly, placed Mr. Bryan in political cold storage.

New York Globe: The Sun invites its readers to shudder at the thought of Mr. Bryan as secretary of state and charged with the management of the foreign relations of the government.

The favorite orator of the inter-parliamentary peace congress will be surprised to learn that he will be dangerous as secretary of state. Except for the brief period that Colonel Bryan started for a war at whose scene he never arrived, he has rivalled Andrew Carnegie in peaceful talk. He is not likely to embolden the country.

It is, of course, manifest that Colonel Bryan has no special qualifications for secretary of state. But neither had Secretary Knox when he took the place. In what other place in the cabinet, if he is to go into it, would the Sun prefer Colonel Bryan? Would it rather have him as attorney-general, or as secretary of the treasury, or as secretary of commerce and labor, or even as secretary of the interior, harrasing the poor exploiters of Alaska? Granted that Colonel Bryan is determined to do harm, the secretary of state is apparently the safest place to stow him.

Chicago Record-Herald: Of the political members of the cabinet Bryan is the foremost, and his appointment may or may not be due to the splendid part he played at Baltimore, as well as to the manifest expediency of securing the good will and loyalty of his great following. But Mr. Bryan has other claims that may have strongly appealed to Mr. Wilson, claims arising out of his connection with the peace movement, his contribution to the Taft arbitration treaties—publicly acknowledged by the ex-president—and his acquaintance with the world's leading statesmen, an acquaintance which has bred confidence in Mr. Bryan's fairness and sincere devotion to high international ideals.

Jamestown (N. Y.) Evening News: Next to the inauguration of President Wilson, the American people were chiefly interested in the acceptance by William J. Bryan of the position of secretary of state. His eminent qualifications for the performance of the delicate and difficult duties of this position of world-wide influence and power are conceded by all who make any pretense to fairness.

Not as the three-times candidate of his party for the presidency, not as the dominant personality in the historic Baltimore convention, but as the real leader of the progressive thought of the republic, and the greatest moral force in its politics during the past twenty years, has Mr. Bryan won this honorable distinction.

This high dignity may emphasize the versatility of Mr. Bryan as he deals with world problems, but neither this nor any other public position could add to the distinction

which he has achieved. It may or may not enable him to serve his fellow men more definitely than hitherto has been possible, but his place in their hearts in any event is secure, and why?

Because throughout his entire public career he has been the conscientious and effective foe of privilege in all its forms and the consistent and brilliant champion of popular rights in all their phases. All the essential qualities of a progressive leader are embodied in his personality and statesmanship, while he is free from those fundamental inconsistencies, timidities and vulgarities which characterize so many leaders who spell the word progressive with capital letters. Imperialism, tariff exactions and all forms of privilege have found in him a stern and uncompromising opponent, the principle of competition and all rational methods for achieving the more complete rule of the people, a constant and unanswerable advocate.

When short-sighted leaders, looking for an issue, would legalize monopoly, the so-called radical Bryan of 1896 became the poised statesman of 1912, demonstrating the utter fallacy of such a policy in a republic; the havoc it would bring to average business men and the sure step it would be in the direction of a socialistic scheme of government.

His tour of the world and intimate knowledge of the economic conditions and aspirations of all the nations added to his genuine Americanism render Mr. Bryan pre-eminently available for the position of secretary of state. It is alike creditable to President Wilson and to Secretary Bryan that the distinguished Nebraskan is to be the secretary of state.

#### BRYAN IN THE CABINET

Rockville (Ind.) Tribune: Immediately after the election, when the question, which naturally arose in the public mind, as to the connection of William J. Bryan with the Wilson administration—when practically all of the commoner's old standbys hoped that he would be a member of the president's cabinet—the Tribune expressed its views as follows:

The Tribune does not doubt that William J. Bryan can have any office he might want from the hands of President Wilson. To assume that Mr. Wilson is not now the ardent political friend of Mr. Bryan is to doubt that he is sincere in his professions as a progressive. More than that, Mr. Wilson would repudiate his own record as a progressive if he should not desire the counsel of Mr. Bryan. No act of the president-elect would give the friends of Mr. Bryan—and they number many millions—greater pleasure than his appointment as secretary of state, but while they want the great commoner honored and his services recognized, many of them feel that he can do better service to the country as a private citizen, free to condemn or praise as his duty to the people might demand. Mr. Bryan has a place in American history greater than the presidency, and we believe that he now wields a greater influence for the good of the country than any other man can wield with the presidency."

A few days after the above had been printed the editor of the Tribune had occasion to visit the state capital, and there he encountered an entirely different situation than prevails among the people of Parke county. Among other things showing the effect that the atmosphere of a state or national capital may have upon democrats—even good democrats—was a circumstance upon which we commented at the time. It was this: Two democrats who will be members of the next congress in

talking over the policy to be carried out, not only declared against the independence of the Philippines, but asserted that no promise to recognize independence was in the platform of 1912!

It was then and there that we changed our mind about Bryan going into the cabinet.

Senator Kern not long ago in a conversation with the writer said: "There are three places in the United States where Bryan is unpopular—Wall street is one, and Washington City is the other two!" Why has Bryan been unpopular in Washington? Because the power he wielded while feared at home might be defied at Washington where he was powerless. But with Bryan at the head of the principal department of government, the trusted and potent friend of the president, every one of these men who are his open enemies in Washington and his pretended friends at home, will have a string to themselves at both places. They dare not break with Bryan lest they get in bad with Wilson. And then Mr. Bryan will have something, if not everything, to say about the most important appointments to be made by the president.

With the man who could write "The New Freedom"—greater papers than are in the federalist—as president; with John W. Kern leader in the senate of the United States; with William J. Bryan secretary of state—it surely looks good to us.

#### President Wilson's Cabinet

Omaha World-Herald: Some of the members we know well, some indifferently, some not at all. In a few months we will know them all better, together with the president whose assistants and subordinates they are. May they all grow in favor and popularity as the country gets better acquainted with them in official position—and may they work in harmony and accord to reflect credit on their party by their unselfish, wise and patriotic service to their country!

Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch: Woodrow Wilson himself chose his cabinet. It was his independent judgment that dictated the choice of an official council in which capacity for public service far outweighs political experience. If it be claimed that William Jennings Bryan and Franklin K. Lane are its only members of national distinction, the wisdom of the past replies that the most distinguished cabinet has not always been the most workable and that efficient co-operation with the president is the vital qualification of a cabinet officer. These men have been named because Woodrow Wilson believes that they can best help him in giving the nation the administration it demands, and not because their appointment would win special favor in certain quarters. It is a picked cabinet, not a packed cabinet.

That William Jennings Bryan is to sit upon the right hand of the president occasions no surprise. It but confirms confident conjecture. The foremost democrat of his day, his selection accords with traditions. He is to deal with foreign relations, not with finance. He has advocated conspicuously the cause of universal peace and the cultivation of amicable international relations. With the exception of Elihu Root, no secretary of state in the past thirty years has been abler or more versed in knowledge of public affairs.

New York Tribune: In making Mr. Bryan secretary of state the president will undoubtedly offend some who will think of the Nebraskan commoner only as the leader of the silver inflation crusade of 1896.

Yet the great majority of the people have come to take a more generous view of Mr. Bryan's capacity and purposes and have given him credit for sobering growth and broadening of political vision. The public, too, has changed many of its opinions since 1896, and the change has brought it nearer to the radicalism of which Mr. Bryan used to be regarded as the extreme exponent.

New York Herald: What shall be said of a cabinet that is headed by William J. Bryan, who has been regarded by everybody as a perpetual agitator and not as an executive, and is tailed off by William B. Wilson, of whom few persons ever heard?

New York Press: It is a cabinet of young men; there is nobody in it past 54 years, and a young cabinet ought to be up to the huge mass of work that in national public life is now piled upon the man who is at all fit to be on his job.

New York World: More like Lincoln's cabinet, it sinks prior partisan affiliations under the one purpose of bringing together fit men in full sympathy with the immediate policies and work in hand.

New York Press: Mr. Bryan is the political live wire running from the White House to the public. Mr. Bryan is the force upon which Mr. Wilson and the rest of the cabinet undoubtedly rely to get progressive things done, if they are to be done by the new government.

New York Times: The shock of Mr. Bryan's appointment as secretary of state will not be profound or lasting. The appointment was inevitable, it was a political necessity. It is impossible to speak with approval either of the department of labor or of the appointment of William B. Wilson of Pennsylvania to be its secretary. We are convinced that Mr. Taft should have vetoed the bill making this new cabinet place instead of signing it. With Mr. Wilson as secretary, it becomes not a department of labor, but a department of union labor.

New York Sun: In a general way it may be said that in the building of his cabinet Mr. Wilson has been governed by his own independent judgment—except perhaps in the case of Mr. Bryan—exercised mainly with a view to working efficiency and modified to the usual extent by geographical considerations. It is an interesting fact that of the eight cabinet officers born in this country and therefore in the line of presidential succession, five, like the next president himself, are of southern birth, while only three are northerners.

#### Able Men and Safe Counselors

Cincinnati Enquirer: President Wilson has well improved his time since the election last November, as shown by the selection of a cabinet, the members of which are eminently qualified to discharge the duties of the great departments they are respectively called upon to preside over.

Men of character and strong personalities, their selection by the president has impressed the country with the opinion that the administration will be efficient and business-like from start to finish.

President Wilson correctly interpreted democratic sentiment when he placed William Jennings Bryan at the head of the department of state, the position occupied by Jefferson, Marshall, Madison, Monroe, Adams, Van Buren, Marcy and Seward.

The Gladstone of America, his partisanship is ennobled by a humanitarianism that places him in touch