

is a source of great embarrassment to me that I am not able to return what they have given.

"I am not hounded by fear of impending issues, but by the fear that I can not give every deserving man an office. If all of you could be cabinet officers it would be none too much. The number of recent applications for positions has shown me how willing the democrats are to make whatever sacrifice is necessary in order that they may serve their country. If any of you think that I am disappointed by the election of another to the White House, let me tell you that I am glad to give him the opportunity to disappoint so many friends in dealing out the offices. I hope you will be as generous when you get left as when you had no chance to get left. If you were cheerful in the hour of defeat, let no gloom settle upon you in the hour of victory. The administration of Wilson will be so satisfactory that you won't miss such a little thing as an office.

"I am not here to make a speech. My thoughts turn not to the future but to the past. In the audience before me I see faces that greeted me whenever I returned from other lands or other states. I am so filled with appreciation of my affection for these long-standing friends that I can not make an address tonight. All I can say is that I thank you. You have made life a pleasant dream to me, so pleasant and delightful that I look forward to the future with the belief that my happiness will be all the greater as the years roll by.

"It took a good while here in Lincoln. For years I was twitted by the fact that while I could win other cities I couldn't carry my own. Now I can challenge any other man to equal my record in my home town. You have made residence here pleasant to my partner in life as well as to me. For this I thank you.

"As far as we have gone the new administration has measured up to expectations. The new president seeks light from every source, and having received that light he dares to take a stand. He follows a philosophy that is bound to act for the welfare of his nation and for all mankind. The cabinet is a most harmonious body. It is not only congenial but delightful and inspiring to commune together with our chief executive. His purpose has grown as democracy has led the progressive thought of the nation. He is consecrated to restore the government to the people, to bring back the spirit of our forefathers. He can not fail. The sentiment of the nation is behind him; the sentiment of the world is with him. Democracy's triumph is a part of the world's forward movement. It wasn't by accident that Dunne was victorious in Illinois. It wasn't by chance that Hodges carried Kansas. It wasn't by mere good fortune that Sulzer was triumphant in New York. The people chose these men because of a quickened conscience everywhere, of a moral awakening on every hand. They are the creatures of a great uprising.

"I thank God that He has given me the chance to live in such a time. Some look back to other eras and wish that they might have existed then. But no age in all history is as golden as this.

"I believe the mission of Woodrow Wilson's administration is to call this nation back and start it again along new and permanent lines. Before his coming the plutocrats and selfish interests had secured possession of the instrumentalities of government. The people were mocked when they cried out for relief. But the people called for a man who could lead them out of this oppression. Standing before the American people, Woodrow Wilson called them as did Jesus Christ call Lazarus, 'Come forth from this grave!'

"It is a privilege to be associated with him. I will be content if when his work is done he will be able to say that he had one near him, one who stood by him and one who was ready at all times to go and meet his foes. There will be glory enough for all.

"I do not know what my place in history will be. But I want it said when I am gone that in whatever opportunity I had I tried to make the government a people's government, responsive to the people's will and guardian of the people's welfare. If these good people of Lincoln and Nebraska will just think that from their close observation they can testify that I never lowered the flag, that I never counseled surrender, that will be enough."

IN THE COMMONER OFFICE

While Mr. Bryan was in Lincoln he greeted the employes of The Commoner whom he had not had a chance to meet since last November. After expressing his gratification that the busi-

ness in the office had been running along so smoothly during his absence, he said:

"You may note a change in the tone of the paper since your connection with it. It has been its duty to comment on the administration and often that comment has been unfavorable. I am sure that the change is pleasing to you, and I can assure you that as far as I have been able to understand the purposes of the administration they are entirely deserving of commendation."

BRYAN IN NEBRASKA

Columbia (S. C.) State: William Jennings Bryan will be fifty-three years old next Wednesday and he is today traveling from Washington to Lincoln, where his fellow citizens of his home town will celebrate that event by giving a banquet in his honor.

It must be a bitter opponent who can contemplate this return of Mr. Bryan to Nebraska without some sense of his right to well-earned gratification. For sixteen and a half years his career has been most remarkable; his experiences in success and in defeats and in unofficial public service, have been unique in American history. In those years he has been target for the bitterest assaults from within and without the party; from within and without his own state—the most misjudged and misrepresented man in America. That he has lived through that long period of injustices and disappointments and become more mellow, more tolerant, more just and even-tempered is due, perhaps, chiefly to two causes, one being that he was constantly a volunteer in the peoples' service, and the other being his consciousness that despite the burden of assault from one side he was the most beloved man in the country.

Because a prophet is not without honor save in his own country it is doubly gratifying to feel the warmth of the esteem of the folk at home, and so we may imagine Mr. Bryan, holding the highest office in the administration next to the president, and holding it because of inherent strength and with the hearty indorsement of millions of people, finds pleasure in going to Nebraska on this festive occasion. Nebraska has not always supported him, and yet the world has come to be familiar with Nebraska through the Nebraskan. A great state in material things, doubtless, but in the east, in the south, in the far west, and across the seas, when Nebraska is named it but takes the mind to Bryan. Nebraska can not do him too much honor, and he may be assured that on Wednesday a multitude of South Carolinians will join in wishing him a long life for continued and great service to his people.

SULZER IS THE GOVERNOR

The Associated Press dispatches declare that there has been an open break between Governor Sulzer and Charles F. Murphy, leader of Tammany Hall. "A close adviser" of the governor has given to the Associated Press the following statement:

"Why is all the governor's legislation being held up? Bills which were advancing rapidly early in February are now weeks behind. Here is the answer: The Tammany leader has given specific instructions to every legislator he controls. He may use all the instruments in his power, but he will not be able to dictate to the governor. Mr. Sulzer is determined to get his program of constructive legislation through, even if it is necessary to call an extraordinary session of the legislature."

The friends of William Sulzer expect him to be the governor of New York. Governor Sulzer need not fear the results of breaking with any influence with which or whom the public welfare is not the first consideration. There is no power among men sufficient to do injury to the public servant who stands at all times for the public interests and defies the enemies of the public welfare.

GENERAL CONGRATULATIONS

Champ Clark is sixty-three years old. Suppose we intrude upon a minute of his solitude and look back over it all as candidly as the man himself. So near we are to a black shaft of disappointment that its shadow darkens our reviewing post. But elsewhere the retrospect is fair. It runs back, a straight white road, through teeming spaces and crowded events; back through the press of personages and conspicuous occasions; back through tumultuous applause and gales of laughter; back through minor periods less vivid in tone but rich in promise; back, further back, through the start-

ing days and the closer friendships of the real beginnings; back yet back to the cap and gown of academic authority and, beyond, the classroom victories won by studious hours that sweat the soul; and still further back the days of burning labor in the fields, the dreams and the set purpose and denial which made the dreams come true. For the dreams have come true. Place has been won and power has been earnestly wielded. The respect, confidence and affection of a nation—those are the gifts with which the sovereign sentiment of the people dower Champ Clark at the sixty-third milestone of the straight white road. The Republic is proud to congratulate him.—St. Louis Republic.

INDISCRETIONS "BLAZING" AND OTHER

In its issue of Tuesday, March 18th, the New York Evening Post prints, under the headline, "Indiscretions, 'Blazing' and Other," the following editorial:

The Comic Spirit, we think, must find material in the outcry of the tory press in London over Mr. Bryan's "indiscreet" speech on St. Patrick's day. He congratulated his hearers on the bright prospects of home rule for Ireland, and made some remarks about the speedy disappearance of "the hereditary principle" in government. For this he is severely taken to task by the Morning Post. It declares that his speech will be regarded with "keen resentment" in England, and accuses him of want both of tact and propriety as a responsible cabinet member. To clinch this point, the Morning Post says:

"We should very much like to know what Mr. Bryan would have said if at the time of his last defeat for the presidency the English secretary of state for foreign affairs had publicly expressed his gratification that the people of the United States had crushed the pretensions of a dangerous demagogue."

Well, the joke of this is that an English foreign minister once did precisely that—except that it was on the occasion of Bryan's first defeat. He was beaten for the presidency on November 3, 1896. On November 9, following, Lord Salisbury made a speech at the Guildhall, in which, after referring to the presence of Ambassador Bayard, he said: "Though contrary to practice to remark upon the internal politics of other states, I may be permitted without impertinence to congratulate him upon the splendid pronouncement the great people he represents have made in behalf of the principles which lie at the base of all human society." Not simply, observe, that Bryan had advocated financial whimsies; he had attacked the basal principles of society. Yet the Morning Post, so soon forgetting its former political chief, puts it as the extreme of impossibility that an English foreign minister should have spoken of Bryan as "a dangerous demagogue." But Lord Salisbury did just that.

Rebukes from Englishmen on the score of un tactful utterances by foreign ministers are, in fact, enough to make laughter hold both his sides. The very term "blazing indiscretion" was invented to apply to Lord Salisbury's maladroitness deliverances. He once spoke publicly of Spain as a "dying" nation. This, however, was before an English princess had married the Spanish king! But long before Salisbury, the tradition of imprudence, not to say insolence, on the part of foreign secretaries and other responsible statesmen in England, in their public allusions to the affairs of other nations, had become well established. Canning, Palmerston, Russell, Disraeli—why, if Mr. Bryan were looking for precedents, he could find them by the score in English annals. Even Gladstone once made an attack upon the government of Austria, for which he had afterwards to apologize. Indeed, this readiness of English statesmen to lecture other countries, and the public men of other nations, has been commented upon by one of themselves. "England," wrote Lord Rosebery, "has always assumed the possession of a European censorship, which impels her to administer exhortation and rebuke to the states of the continent."

Mr. Bryan's Selected Speeches. Revised and arranged in a convenient two-volume edition. These books present Mr. Bryan's most notable addresses and orations, and cover the chief important phases and features of his career as an orator and advocate. A familiarly intimate and interesting biographical introduction by Mary Baird Bryan, his wife, opens Volume I. The two volumes, bound in cloth, sent to any address prepaid on receipt of price, \$2.00. The half leather edition, 2 vols., sent for \$3.00, prepaid. Address The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.