

Mr. Bryan conferred about ten minutes.

When Mr. Bryan came out of Mr. Roosevelt's office he was surrounded by newspaper men. Throwing his arms around two of them, he led a procession to his office. When the customary crowd of correspondents, larger than usual, had gathered around him, Mr. Bryan said:

"Well, gentlemen, you see I am not late today. Sometimes I have been late, particularly so yesterday (when he was waiting for his resignation to be accepted). Did you ever see an old hen trying to gather her chickens beneath her in the evening?"

"Yes, I've got an old hen," one of the newspaper men replied.

"Doesn't she sometimes seem fussy and irritable," the secretary continued.

"Yes; sometimes she pecks me," was the rejoinder.

"Well, I often have felt like the old hen in some respects. I have been trying to keep a number of international secrets covered up under my wings, so to speak. If sometimes I have seemed cross and irritable, it is because I have been afraid that some of the secrets would creep out. Of course, you don't question the old hen's good intentions and I hope that you won't question mine. So much for friction.

"As for news I have none to give you. You know it all."

Plans Call on President Wilson

The secretary said that he expected to see President Wilson a little later and that he planned to leave the department at 1 o'clock.

"I do not expect to return. I will receive the members of the diplomatic corps at my home. From there, also, I will make public a statement regarding my resignation. That will be given out as soon as the American note to Germany has been dispatched, which, I am assured, will be this afternoon. My tenure of office officially ends when the note goes, but I understand Counselor Lansing already has been appointed secretary of state ad interim."

Asked as to his personal plans for the future, Mr. Bryan said that none had been formulated and that he expected to remain in Washington for a short time.

Following his audience with the newspaper men the state department force, including the secretary ad interim, Mr. Lansing; Assistant Secretaries Osborne, Adee and Phillips; heads of departments, clerks and stenographers filed in to bid the secretary farewell.

CONE JOHNSON'S ADDRESS

Response of Mr. Cone Johnson, solicitor of the state department, to Mr. Bryan's farewell address to co-workers in the state department, June 9, 1915:

"Mr. Secretary and co-workers in the department of state:

"It is quite unexpected to all of us that anything in the way of remarks should be made at this time by anyone, but upon the spur of the moment I have taken the risk to volunteer to say a few words in behalf of those who have labored with you, some of those who have worked with you from the beginning and others of us who have been associated with you for a shorter period.

"As the secretary prescribes the duties as well as bears the responsibilities of this great office, which everyone must concede cheerfully that he has filled with transcendent ability, we feel that a word of acknowledgement of the appreciation of his

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course toward us is the appropriate thing at this moment.

"We will not make this an occasion to point out the distinguished career of Mr. Bryan as a public man of our country. If the question were a discussion of his career as a public man, I would have no trouble in finding words and phrases that would join us to the great throng of American people who long since have proclaimed him the foremost champion of the rights of the common people of our land. But it is with the more human and personal element that we deal at this moment.

"There are times when our faculties of expression are swept away and submerged as in a flood by the great deluge of personal sentiment and feeling, and this is one of those occasions. If I had to select from amongst the many virtues of the secretary, the one that has impressed me most of my year or more of association officially and personally with him, the virtue which fame picks out with which to construct a lasting monument to the memory of those who have made themselves great, I would select the virtue of justice. I think that the secretary is perhaps the most just man under all circumstances that it has ever been my pleasure to come into contact with. Not only is he just with those who are fortunate enough to be his friends, but in every instance he is just to those who have opposed and fought him and who have been on opposite sides of those measures which he has advocated. During the year and a half that I have been with him I will say that I have never heard him utter one adjective of abuse or a phrase of vituperation to characterize those who have antagonized him, but in every instance the kindest of expressions have fallen from his lips. Mr. Secretary, you have in every instance and in every thing been just to us, considerably just to us, under the most trying of circumstances.

"With this brief and limping expression of our affectionate regard and admiration for you and for all the grand attributes of character with which history must forever connect your name, we want you to realize, sir, that you leave this post with the innermost sentiments of gratitude and affection from everyone, from the highest to the lowest in your department, and in behalf of all of us I want to shake your hand and to bid you God speed."

VISITS HIS SUCCESSOR

A Washington dispatch, dated June 12, says:

Late yesterday Mr. Bryan visited the state department. He called upon his successor, Mr. Lansing, and assistant secretaries, stating that he would visit the department from time to time.

PRESSMEN INDORSE HIS STAND

A Washington dispatch, dated June 12, says:

Among the telegrams to which Mr. Bryan gave publicity were the following:

From George L. Berry, Morristown, Tenn., president of the International Printing Pressmen's Union, representing 40,000 pressmen: "The members of this union have read with great interest the text of your reasons for resigning, and I am authorized to send you our hearty commendation upon the stand you have taken."

From Henry Weissman, of Brooklyn, N. Y., president of the United German-American Alliance of Greater New York consisting of 25,000 organized Americans of German extraction, heartily congratulating Mr. Bryan for his "patriotic position." The telegram concluded: "We fully indorse your brilliant statement and pledge our support."

LETTER FROM A '06 FRIEND

My dear Mrs. Bryan:

I remember that in 1896 all the great newspapers in the east with one exception opposed him, that all the banks and corporations opposed him, that the prominent and wealthy in his own party opposed him, yet without money and without organization he secured outside of the northern Atlantic states and New England, over 1,200,000 votes more than Cleveland in 1892.

Mark Hanna secured the election of McKinley, but he also learned his lesson and began a systematic increase of currency, which together with the enormous increase of gold production, saved the country from retrogression.

Then came Roosevelt who put through much that Mr. Bryan had educated the country up to.

Not only has Mr. Bryan regenerated the democratic party, purging it of both the high and low corruptionists, but what is far more, he has made all three parties swing into line.

The reason we have given him allegiance, the reason we have followed him, is because we believed in him always. With him, principle was above self.

And today when we find the same irreconcilable eastern press misunderstanding and misrepresenting and gloating, we love him, if it is possible, the more, because among the few great ones of the world he still puts principles above self.

After 1896, I was less forgiving than Mr. Bryan. Now in this European matter, I prefer to think of Christ driving the money changers from the temple rather than of Christ blessing the meek, I would have liked to see all belligerents warned and compelled to keep their ructions and disturbances off the water highways of the earth, I would put the rights

of neutrals far above those of belligerents to whom I would have accorded few.

I still believe that great world ideals will be realized from the world struggle, these great ideals are all that all belligerents can accept, and it is these world ideals that Mr. Bryan more than any other man in the world can promulgate and uphold, and with greater power out of office than in it. We who know him so well are proud that he is as he always was, the great leader, that he is now free for the greatest cause that confronts humanity.

Men may be intimidated or be forced into paths of righteousness! Men may inherit or discover what is good!

What is good may be purchased! But persuasion is the oldest and greatest power there is. The free swaying earth is persuaded to fall toward the sun, the plants have made their way by persuasion, Mr. Bryan will persuade where others will try force and intimidation and fail.

I am glad on this great occasion to be able to write to you.

Prosperity has its thorns, and adversity likewise has its roses.—Ex.

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