

that service, a service alike to both sides, no citizen of the United States will have contributed more than Mr. Bryan to America's contribution of friendship to the world.—Nashville Tennessean, Sept. 28.

PEACE SERVICE IS IMPRESSIVE

[From Hot Springs, Ark., New Era, Oct. 1.]

The spectacle of thousands of reverent persons, with uncovered heads and earnest hearts, joining with William Jennings Bryan, the world's greatest peace advocate, in a prayer and song for peace, and repeating after him the Lord's prayer, on an eminence of Hot Springs mountain, was one of the greatest features of the Presbyterian Church Efficiency Congress which closed today.

At noon the crowd gathered on the mountainside near the Army and Navy hospital, listened attentively to the most earnest plea for peace Mr. Bryan made during his day in Hot Springs, joined their voices in a hymn that made the mountainside ring with sacred melody, and at the close repeated the words of the Lord's prayer after Mr. Bryan's lead.

It was one of the most unique and impressive peace services ever held in Hot Springs, or perhaps at any other place or time.

Dr. James E. Clarke introduced Mr. Bryan at the opening of the service and he made an earnest and telling plea, first for peace between the United States and other countries, and second, between all the countries of the world.

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Chinese True to Their Republic

[By Jeremiah W. Jenks, Ph. D., LL. D., director of the division of public affairs, New York university, and of the Far Eastern bureau.]

The reports from Peking that President Yuan Shih-k'ai is seriously considering the advisability of making himself emperor, and that Mr. Frank J. Goodnow, president of Johns Hopkins university, the advisor on constitutional questions, has recommended this change, need serious consideration. Definite information from the foreign office in Peking says that such was Dr. Goodnow's general opinion on a purely theoretical question. Of course there is a great difference between a general theoretical question and advice to be followed in a specific case.

When it was evident that the Manchu dynasty must fall, I was at first personally inclined to the opinion, as were, I think, a majority of non-Chinese, that probably the best plan for China would be the establishment of a new Chinese dynasty, with possibly a descendant of Confucius or one of the earlier Chinese dynasties on the throne, and with Yuan Shih-k'ai as prime minister. And that opinion was based on the fact, as Dr. Goodnow says, that China had been an empire for centuries.

When, however, the sentiment rapidly developed for the establishment of a republic, and it became evident that nothing else would satisfy the revolutionary element, which seemed to include a large majority not only of the young men who had been educated abroad, but also a goodly group of the ablest, most progressive officials and the influential, conservative, sound business men, that in itself put a different aspect on the question.

There is little doubt as to the facts. The feelings of these conservative people regarding their present government seem to be based largely on two judgments first, one of well-founded distrust of the empire and of the methods employed by the officials under it, especially the system of self-seeking and graft; the other, confidence in Yuan Shih-k'ai as a man trying to eradicate graft, to work in the interests of the country as a whole and to give heed to the wishes and judgment of the progressive, yet thoughtful people of the republic.

I well remember an experience of my own concerning the distrust of the empire. I was attempting to gather information from Chinese bankers and business men, in order to formulate some general plan for a central bank for China. At the time I was making this investigation a high government official was traveling through China, meeting representatives of the chambers of commerce and other capitalists and attempting to get them to subscribe for a government bank to be managed by government officials. He secured not one dollar of subscriptions.

The Chinese capitalists, bankers and merchants in different parts of China told me they would not subscribe one dollar for a bank to be managed by officials and they could not and would not co-operate personally with government officials.

Although Yuan Shih-k'ai has found it necessary to suppress the ultra-radicals and to take measures looking toward the consolidation of the new republic, he has won the confidence of these conservative Chinese business men by discouraging graft, even by the stern process of executing high officials convicted of corruption, and by making it clear that he is keeping the interests of the people well in mind. In the

China of the present generation the conception of empire stands for oppression, graft, corruption, disloyalty to the people. The republic, as now administered, stands for the interests of China as a whole, with an increasing measure of honesty and efficiency.

Moreover, it should not be forgotten that even the radical revolutionists and their supporters in America who were ready to oppose Yuan Shih-k'ai when they feared that he was seeking power for himself, ceased their opposition and promised to send him not less than a million dollars gold from abroad to stop the oppressions of the Japanese. They trusted him when they needed a strong man.

Japan stands for empire. The Chinese people, including these conservative business men, fear the Japanese above all others as representatives of imperialism. They like and favor Americans above all other nations as representatives of republicanism, because the American republic has not attempted aggression but has tried to deal with them justly. When it comes to swaying public opinion, there is much in a name; and millions of Chinese, at home and abroad, who have at heart the republic, are prepared to give their property, if necessary their lives, under the direction of a republican president to oppose foreign imperialism; but these same men would give their money and their lives to oppose the same leader, if they thought he was trying to establish in China a personal imperialism.

Yuan Shih-k'ai is much stronger as president than he would be as emperor; in his position as president he is able to render his country a far greater service. And his country needs the best service that he can give.—Lincoln News.

A WORD FOR MR. BRYAN

Not with any desire to renew consideration of a topic now nearly forgotten, but rather for the purpose of doing simple justice to a man whom most of the newspapers in the east seem to have conspired against, we would offer a few words in behalf of Mr. Bryan, ex-secretary of state. We have always had a certain fondness for the Nebraskan, although not always agreeing with him, yet satisfied of his honesty. We found it difficult to maintain our good opinion of him because the prejudiced and controlled press of the eastern states appeared to be in league against him, never giving him what seemed to us any semblance of a fair deal, and hatching up stories designed, evidently, to shake confidence in the man.

A few days ago we came in contact with someone of our acquaintance who has served a number of years in the state department at Washington. Upon inquiry, we learned that, contrary to the general impression which had gone forth, Mr. Bryan was on the job every morning, almost without exception, before nine o'clock. None of his recent predecessors saw duty until after ten. Mr. Bryan was among the last to leave in the afternoon and not infrequently his secretary spent three and four nights at the official's home going over departmental matters. So that it can hardly be said that Mr. Bryan was neglectful of his duties.

Mr. Bryan, we are told, was very intimate with all those details of his office which it is possible for such a man to keep in touch with, and he was regarded by many of the old and experienced clerks as a thoroughly competent secretary. That he was held in high esteem by his assistants has rarely been questioned. One in-

cident would probably set at rest any misgivings on that score. The day Mr. Bryan retired those connected with the department—nearly 500 of them—gathered around the outgoing secretary to say good bye, and after presenting him with a token of remembrance, listened to a brief farewell by him which, according to a witness, brought tears to the eyes of every one who heard. Mr. Bryan said that there was nothing that had ever occurred in his whole life which gave him so much sorrow. He didn't finish his speech, but left the room in tears. And the reason for his retirement was that he and the president had an honest difference of opinion.

These few words for a much-maligned man may afford some satisfaction to those who have long been admirers of the Commoner, coming as they do from one in a position to speak intelligently and without bias.—Caldwell (N. J.) Progress.

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

While in the country during the summer small Elva listened in astonishment to the clucking of a hen to her brood of chickens.

"Mamma," she said, "that poor old hen has got the hiccoughs!"

Little Jack—When I get to be a man I'm going to be a soldier.

Mamma—But the soldiers often get killed by the enemy, my dear.

Little Jack—Oh, then, I guess I'll be an enemy.

"Mamma," said small Dorothy, who was giving a dinner party to some of her little playmates, "shall we say grace?"

"No, dear," replied the mother. "It will be an informal affair, so you can omit it."

Later Dorothy explained to her guests that as it was an "informal" dinner they would "cut out the grace."—Sacramento Bee.

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