

Mr. Bryan at Illinois Capital

[Under the heading "Mr. Bryan Surpasses Self," The Springfield, Ill., Daily Bulletin printed the following in its issue of Jan. 24, 1917:]

"Springfield had a big day yesterday through the presence of Mr. Bryan. The great Commoner gave the cause of prohibition more progress yesterday than its most enthusiastic supporters had hoped for.

"Mr. Bryan spoke in the afternoon to the democrats at the armory; he spoke to the members of the legislature at six o'clock dinner at St. Nicholas hotel, and in the evening again at the armory and this time to as large a body of people as ever gathered under the great roof.

"Whatever may have been the mind of his hearers on the liquor question, they were all of one mind as to the oratorical powers of the marvelous man. It would seem that Mr. Bryan, active as he has been for the past twenty years, had really been saving himself for the reform in which he is now so vigorously engaged. If Mr. Bryan was delightful in his speeches before, he is electrifying now. If he addressed the convictions of men before, he now goes further and addresses their impulses. The armory audiences had more thrills at the sittings yesterday than ever proceeded from any orator of this generation. If anybody hopes that Mr. Bryan is dead a tremendously rude shock is coming to them.

"Mr. Bryan is assuredly an evangelist, but represents a higher civilization and purer christianity than the Mr. Sundays of today. You can not conceive of Mr. Bryan sprawling

on the platform or mounting a table or chair, and his language is as chaste as his thoughts are holy. The so-called evangelists of today are pigmies in comparison.

"There is no denying that Mr. Bryan will lead the prohibition movement in this country to heights it has never reached before. His supreme powers and genuineness of purpose will bring state after state into the prohibition column, and possibly give the democratic party he holds so dear a surprisingly new complexion, and he is doing it single handed and alone.

"Most scholars of economics attach little importance to the prohibition question. They regard the abuse of liquor as one of the many results of a basic economic evil, and any treatment of it involves the waste of time that arises from dealing with effects, rather than cause. They point out a way by which opportunity could be opened freely to men with full earnings as the reward of labor.

"They point out that want and misery undermine the energy of body, mind and soul weakening the will so that man can not resist temptation and hold in check their appetites and passions; impairing the reasoning faculties, making man incapable of decision, of connecting cause and effect or tracing the relation of things; and debauching the imagination, robbing the mind of high ideals and filling it with pictures that come from the worst associations.

"They are impatient to go directly

to the cause of social injustice and to bring about a fundamental reform that would make all other reforms easy. In their view better living conditions will produce in man resisting power and a desire for higher pleasures, and that under such an order saloon regulation will take care of itself.

"They emphasize personal liberty on the belief that the many should not be denied the right to use that which they enjoy because of the few defectives who want to drink it all up.

"It is evidently Mr. Bryan's purpose to clear up these secondary evils in order to enlist the friendship of the reformers behind them in the final distinction of the greatest underlying wrong."

WOULD INTERN BRYAN

The interment of William Jennings Bryan, to muzzle him, as a means of conserving the best interests of the country, is advocated by William E. Richardson, of Duluth, Minn., in a letter to Representative Miller, from that state.

"William Jennings Bryan asks people to advise their representatives in congress of their wishes," writes Mr. Richardson. "In accordance therewith I would say that the interests of our country would be conserved by the immediate internment of the said Bryan."

If this gentleman had been living in those days he would probably have got Pontius Pilate by long distance runner and asked him to intern Jesus, which was subsequently accomplished after the manner of the times. Jesus was the greatest pacifist the world has ever known and was no doubt unpopular with the sword, spear and armor makers.—Bloomington (Ill.) Bulletin.

BUSINESS MEN'S BOOZE

Is it true that there is less drinking by business men than used to be the habit? Here is a bit of evidence: The entire liquor bill of all the lunchers and diners at the Advertising Club of New York for a recent month was thirty dollars! There were something like 4,000 regular meals served in the clubrooms during those twenty-six working days, not reckoning the dinner parties. This makes the average bill for booze not over eighth-tenths of a cent per person per meal. In other words, not over one diner in forty took a drink with his meal. We find these figures recorded in a recent issue of a New York advertising journal—not a professional organ of temperance—we pass them on to the young men of other cities, who can be trusted to draw their own conclusions as to the habits of the successful members of what is, possibly, the most modern and progressive of professions.—Colliers.

SUFFRAGE LEADER CONGRATULATED BY PRESIDENT

A Washington dispatch, dated Jan. 26, says: President Wilson today sent a letter to Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman's Suffrage association, congratulating her upon passage by the North Dakota legislature of a bill granting to the women of that state the right to vote for presidential electors and for municipal officers. The governor of North Dakota signed the bill.

WALL STREET, SKIP THIS

Here's a paragraph from "The Accountant" of London, England. It strikes us as worth salting down for

future reference in case you may later have some idea of getting into "the market":

The successful stockbroker was asked: "What is your rule of business—your maxim?" "Very simple," he replied. "I pay for something I can't get with money that I haven't got, and then sell what I never had for more than it cost."

But, of course, the British never had a sense of humor.—Colliers.

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