

izens to encourage or assist revolution in other states should be sternly and effectually suppressed and prevented.

ALL STAND ON PLATFORM

"I need not argue these principles to you, my fellow countrymen; they are in our own, part and parcel of your own thinking and your own motive in affairs. They spring up native among us. Upon this platform of purpose and of action we stand together.

"And it is imperative that we should stand together. We are being forged into a new unity amid the fires that now blaze throughout the world. In their ardent heat we shall, in God's providence, let us hope, be purged of faction and division, purified of the errant humors of party and of private interest and shall stand forth in the days to come with a new dignity of national pride and spirit. Let each man see to it that the dedication is in his own heart, the high purpose of the nation in his own mind, ruler of his own will and desire.

"I stand here and have taken the high and solemn oath to which you have been audience because the people of the United States have chosen me for this august delegation of power and have by their gracious judgment named me their leader in affairs. I know now what the task means. I realize to the full the responsibility which it involves.

"I pray God I may be given the wisdom and the prudence to do my duty in the true spirit of this great people. I am their servant and can succeed only as they sustain and guide me by their confidence and their counsel. The thing I shall count upon is the unity of America—an America united in feeling, in purpose and in vision of duty, of opportunity and of service. We are to beware of all men who would turn the tasks and the necessities of the nation to their own private profit or use them for the building up of private power; beware that no faction or disloyal intrigue break the harmony or embarrass the spirit of our people; beware that our government be kept pure and incorrupt in all its parts.

"United alike in the conception of our duty and in the high resolve to perform it in the face of all men, let us dedicate ourselves to the great task to which we must set our hand. For myself I beg your tolerance, in your countenance and your united aid. The shadows that now lie dark upon our path will soon be dispelled and we shall walk with the light all about us if we be but true to ourselves—to ourselves as we have wished to be known in the counsels of the world and in the thought of all those who love liberty and justice and the right exalted."

THE VALUE OF HOME TRAINING

David said, Psalms 37-25, "I have been young, and now am old: yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread."

One can see this statement verified, if he will trace the descendants of the righteous and compare them with the descendants of the wicked—take the contrast between the Edwards family and the Jukes family for instance.

Is not this your observation? Many start out with brilliant prospects and fail. Do you know of a real failure in life that was not traceable to a break down in the moral purpose of the man?

FROM S. W. TO N. E.

From southwest to northeast—this is the direction in which reforms move nowadays. The two amendments adopted in recent years, namely, popular election of senators, and income tax—traveled from S. W. to N. E., and the storm signals indicate that another reform, prohibition, is moving in the same direction. So mote it be.

The President has acted wisely in calling congress together in extra session.

Need of Cloture Rule

[Mr. Bryan gave the following interview to the Miami, Fla., Daily Metropolis, March 5.]

The failure of congress to act on the bill empowering the President to arm American ships proves the need of cloture in the senate. The present rules are an absurdity; they are worse than an absurdity; they are the last bulwark of plutocracy. They have been retained because they give the minority the power to delay, if not actually to prevent legislation. They have been used to limit and restrict reforms; progressive legislation requires affirmative action, and the senate rules give the advantage to the opposition.

The recent contest has focused public attention upon the need for a change and the struggle will be worth its cost, if it results in the adoption of rules which will permit the majority to take responsibility for legislation.

As long as unlimited debate is permitted, the minority is sure to take advantage of the rule, and some of those who most bitterly denounce the rule today took advantage of it to prevent the passage of the shipping bill during the closing days of the congress elected in 1912.

The bill proposed by the President aroused deep feeling on both sides, and those opposed to it felt justified in employing every means at their command to defeat the measure, just as the opponents of the force bill did some twenty-five years ago. They are responsible to their constituents and to them alone.

The most important effect of the filibuster will be to compel an extra session of congress and that can hardly be regarded as a great evil. The situation is critical; and the President, at such a time as this, can not well object to the presence of the representatives of the forty-eight states who share with him responsibility for the administration of the government. The people have great confidence in the President, but their confidence in him does not lessen their devotion to the theory that our government rests upon the co-operation of the President and congress.

As for the bill itself, the objection was not so much to the conferring of power, as to the language to be employed. I think the house resolution was preferable to the senate resolution. The house resolution provided that the insurance fund created by the resolution should not be used to insure ships carrying arms and ammunition. A minority of the committee favored the insertion of this clause in the paragraph relating to the arming of ships also, and I am of opinion that the insertion of this language would have improved the resolution. I do not believe that the government should arm vessels carrying ammunition. It is quite probable that the President, even without any instruction from congress, would refuse to permit the arming of ships carrying munitions, but it would be better for congress to take responsibility of inserting that provision than to throw upon the President the responsibility of making such an order himself.

W. J. BRYAN.

As we understand it, the argument is that the United States should go to war to sustain the doctrine that a merchant ship has a right to arm against a submarine but that a submarine has no right to sink an armed ship. This reads more like a lawsuit and a cause of action than an international question and a cause of war.

The South Dakota legislature adjourned after being in session only sixty days. Before drawing upon our supply of complimentary phrases, we desire to be first informed, are South Dakota legislators paid only for sixty days?

Once upon a time the test of a man's foolhardiness was taking a trip over Niagara Falls in a barrel. Nowadays it is taking a trip to Europe in a British liner.

President Wilson is wise in retaining the cabinet. He could not have a better group of secretaries.

AN EXCHANGE OF COMPLIMENTS

New York, March 4th, 1917.

Hon William Jennings Bryan,
Miami, Fla.

If you and your friend Senator LaFollette and all of your joint followers and sympathizers had gone to Heaven three years ago, Germany would not have attempted to drive the United States from the seas or to conspire with other nations to make war upon her, for we should by now have been well prepared to defend ourselves, nor would you have had occasion to sneak out of Washington upon the discovery of the German plot. While you can never undo the mischief you have planned yet if you act quickly you may be able to persuade those now ambitious to become the Benedict Arnolds of congress to end the shameful scene now being enacted.

(Signed) ALTON B. PARKER,
(and given to the press by him).

NEW YORK HERALD INTERVIEW

When Mr. Bryan was asked by a New York Herald correspondent whether he had received the Parker telegram, and what answer he had to make he replied: "I received Judge Parker's telegram, but do not intend to answer it. I answered Judge Parker four years ago at Baltimore when he attempted to lead the democratic party into bondage to Wall street. He failed ingloriously then, and I pray that he may fail as completely in the attempt which he is now making to coin the blood of the young men of America into dividends for the traffickers in war."

NAPOLEON ON PEACE

Those who protested against the President's proposal of "peace without victory," will be interested to know that the President's conception of a durable peace is supported by so great a warrior as Napoleon, who thus presents the same thought:

"Peace ought to be the result of a system well considered, founded on the true interests of the different countries, honorable to each, and ought not to be either a capitulation or the result of a threat."

With such an authority to rely on, the pacifist ought not to be afraid to stand for a peace without victory.

SEVERAL STEPS YET, BUT—

There are several steps yet before war. Armed neutrality does not NECESSARILY mean war—but it brings us a step nearer. Even a defensive use of force against attacks on the sea might not mean actual war, but it would bring us still nearer. The nearer we go to war the swifter the current—just as it is above Niagara Falls. And the abyss is just beyond.

THE SOUTH LEADS

The south has a right to feel proud of its leadership in the fight for prohibition—the greatest moral issue of the generation.

The senate performed some excellent work in drying up the nation through the Reed amendment.

WASHINGTON "DRY"

The white flag of prohibition now floats over the nation's capital, just under the Stars and Stripes. By a vote of more than two to one in the senate and nearly two to one in the house the District of Columbia has been made dry. At the same time congress has prohibited the shipment of liquor into dry states and has prohibited the use of the mails for the advertisement of liquor in dry states.

The saloon is thus made an outlaw—a fugitive from justice. It may hide for a while in a few wet states, but its days are numbered—the hour of its departure is at hand.

The next congress is quite sure to submit a prohibition amendment and it will secure the necessary three-fourths of the states. And REMEMBER that a DEMOCRATIC President signed the first prohibition measure ever passed by congress, and do not forget that a DEMOCRATIC senate and a DEMOCRATIC house sent the prohibition bill to the White house. Who will dare to call the democratic party a whisky party now? W. J. BRYAN.