

A Message

Vice-President Marshall's inaugural address was worthy of the man and the occasion. He said:

"Everywhere in America are clamant and strident voices proclaiming the essential elements of patriotism. He who seeks out of them all to select one clear note of love for country may fail. I conceive it to be far more important to examine myself than to cross-examine another. May I make bold to insert in the record some elements of the creed which I have adopted in this period of retrospection and introspection? It does not embrace what I know but holds part of what I believe. I have faith that this government of ours was divinely ordained to disclose whether men are by nature fitted, or can by education be made fit for self government, to teach Jew and Greek, bondman and free, alike, the essential quality of all men before the law and to be tender and true to humanity everywhere and under all circumstances; to reveal that service is the highest reward of life. I can not believe otherwise when I remember the words and recall the sacrifice of the fathers. I believe that the world, now advancing and now retreating, is nevertheless moving forward to a far-off divine event wherein the tongues of Babel again will be blended in the language of a common brotherhood, and I believe that I can reach the highest ideal of my tradition and my lineage as an American—as a man, as a citizen and as a public official—when I judge my fellow men without malice and with charity, when I worry more about my own motives and conduct and less about the motives and conduct of others. The time I am liable to be wholly wrong is when I know that I am absolutely right. In an individualistic republic, I am the unit of patriotism and, if I keep myself keyed in unison with the music of the union, my fellow men will catch the note and fall into time and step. I believe there is no finer form of government than the one under which we live, and that I ought to be willing to live or die, as God decrees, that it may not perish from off the earth, through treachery within or through assault from without; and I believe that, though my first right is to be a partisan, that my first duty, when the only principles on which free government can rest are being strained, is to be a patriot and to follow in the wilderness of words that clear call which bids me guard and defend the ark of our national covenant."

MISS RANKIN'S VOTE

Miss Rankin, the only woman member of congress, did not answer the first roll call when the house of representatives (April 6) took a vote on the war resolution, although the clerk twice called her name. She rose at the second roll call, trembling, and obviously badly frightened, and with sobs said:

"I want to stand by my country, but can not vote for war." Half a dozen colleagues shouted in raucous voices, "Vote, vote!" Sinking into her seat she whispered, "No."—Press report.

The tailors of Tooley street, who once essayed the role of "we, the people," could learn of much to their advantage if they were regular subscribers to the metropolitan press or the eastern magazines.

WE MUST BELIEVE IN FINAL TRIUMPH

Americans should be optimistic for two reasons.

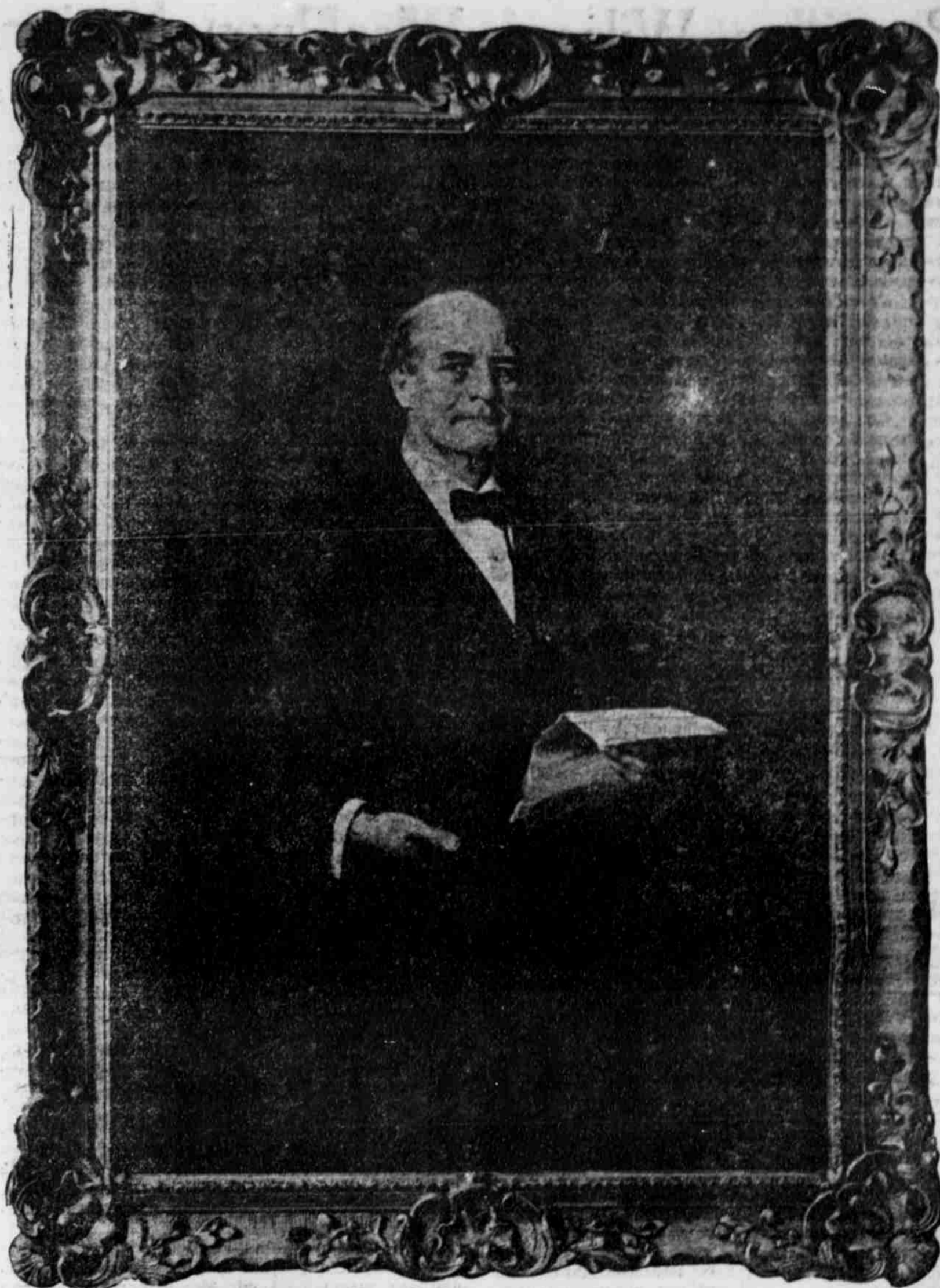
First—Because we surpass any other nation in the world in the quantity and quality of material from which civilization is fashioned.

Second—Because without optimism it is impossible to make the proper use of the opportunities at hand.

Hope is necessary to any continued effort; Victor Hugo has described the mob as "the human race in misery." Misery finds its deepest depth in hopelessness.

It is the duty of every human being to believe in the final triumph of every righteous cause and, believing, work to that end. The American has more reason than any other human being to believe and to labor.

W. J. BRYAN.



Photograph of portrait of William Jennings Bryan, painted for State Department by Irving R. Wiles. It represents Mr. Bryan as he appeared when, on April 26th, 1913, he laid before the ambassadors and ministers from all the countries represented at Washington the peace plan which, during the two years following, was embodied in treaties with thirty nations, exercising authority over 1,300,000,000 of human beings, or three-quarters of the population of the globe.

PRESIDENT WILSON RECEIVES MR. BRYAN

An Associated Press dispatch, from Washington, dated April 16, says: President Wilson received William Jennings Bryan at the White house this morning. They conferred in the President's rooms before he went to his office. Mr. Bryan reiterated to the President his offer recently made by telegraph to be of any service he could to the government during the war. After leaving the President Mr. Bryan dictated a statement declaring his intention to support the government in any war plans upon which it might decide. He declined, however, to discuss conscription specifically.

In his future speeches about the country, pending a call from the government for his services, Mr. Bryan said he would lay special stress on the food situation. He is gathering data along that line for use in his addresses.

"I called upon the President," Mr. Bryan said, "to pay my respects and confirm my telegram sent him the day a state of war was declared to exist. I do not care to discuss any question before congress. Whatever the gov-

ernment does is right and I shall support it to the uttermost. I take it for granted that the people will unitedly support any action taken by the government. In war time the President speaks for the whole country and there should be no division or dissension. I have a number of speaking dates, made before this situation arose. They can be cancelled at any time my services are needed by the government. These meetings give me an opportunity of laying before the audiences I address the part citizens can play in support of the government. I am collecting now from government sources such information as they desire to spread and shall use it both in speeches and in my paper."

Mr. Bryan said he endorsed any plan to prohibit the use of grain for making liquor during the war.

"I am in hearty sympathy," he said, "with the effort to conserve the food supply by not allowing the bread to be shortened in supply in order to lengthen the supply of alcohol. It is not wise to starve the people in order to make them drunk."