

have been before the war, it happens to be the case that he has been rendering very loyal and very satisfactory service to his country since the beginning of the conflict. There has been no shadow of hesitation in his course. He has supported the administration to the best of his ability. He has insistently declared that there is nothing for us to do, now that we are in it, but to fight it out. He has openly condemned the attempt to make free speech in this country the cover for obstructive and treasonable machinations. All this has counted here where he exercises no small influence. And in so far as he has stood staunchly for and by his own country he has also aided this country's allies—Canada among them.

However, much is to be pardoned to the spirit of even mistaken enthusiasm in time of war. The men who have served the cause and bravely risked their lives are assured of lenient and friendly judgment even when they are palpably wrong. Moreover, the soldiers sixty have the long tradition of British heckling as a precedent. That is a procedure which never fails to strike Americans with astonishment but which seems a permanent feature of British political life. It is not strange that it should be resorted to occasionally in Canada.

Perhaps the really significant thing about the incident was the evidence it afforded of the state of mind of the returned soldier. He evidently comes back with strong views and with a very strong determination to make them prevail as far as he can. The answer to one of the audience who attempted to quiet the tumult—"put on the khaki!"—showed pretty plainly what he regarded as the first claim to consideration. It is true that there were only sixty in this little affair, but a very suggestive conclusion can be drawn from the psychology of even that number. When the millions return from the war to Canada and the United States and other nations there is going to be a new and powerful organization in life and politics with no uncertain sense of solidarity.—Chicago Herald.

BRYAN—WISE AND UNWISE

Mr. Bryan would not permit an attempt to be made to clear the hall in Toronto when disturbers would not allow him to give his lecture on prohibition. Soldiers returned from Europe would not hear him or give others an opportunity to hear him, and Mr. Bryan, who is a veteran of all experiences which may be had on the platform, talked only to the reporters who gathered about his chair.

He remained amiable and said that he would not have the hall cleared of the disorderly elements because he "did not want any one injured to give me a hearing." We know Mr. Bryan to be a loyal American citizen, and any idea the Canadian protestants had of him as a pro-German or, for the present, a pacifist, was unjust and in error.

Mr. Bryan is a kindly man of great shrewdness. Within parochial limitations he has extraordinarily good judgment. He knows when to consult expediency and when not to be a zealot. His interest in prohibition is intense and he would do anything within reason to advance that cause. But he would not insist upon speaking to an audience when the consequences of urging the cause of that particular time might be disorder and injury.

This was an occasion presented within the limits of his good judgment and shrewdness. It was within the limits of his experience in observing cause and effect, and in dealing with it he was a considerate man, not expecting too much of humanity, not pushing an ideal to injurious material consequences, but placidly and tolerantly dealing with conditions as he found them.

Mr. Bryan, within the parochial limitations of experience and wisdom, was experienced and wise. We said he is not now a pacifist. He is not. It was part of the country's misfortune that when prospects lay outside of the limits of parochial experience and wisdom, Mr. Bryan was a pacifist.

In the case of Mr. Bryan, as in the case of so many hundreds of thousands of kindly, wise Americans, the moment an issue gets beyond the immediate vision, the moment it is taken out of the rule of immediate cause and effect, the controlling judgments are exactly reversed.

Mr. Bryan would not pursue an ideal if it might hurt some one in the audience he could see in a fashion he could appreciate. That consideration did not prevail when he was stimu-

lating the country to trust to all manner of foolishness when it was nearing danger. Mr. Bryan could not see then that some one might be hurt if no wisdom prevailed, and if no thought were given to cause and effect.

He was then a pacifist, consequences being beyond his parochial vision. The American habit of thinking that, if events be far enough removed from their daily experience, the laws they know will govern in their daily affairs will not govern leads to a great many mistakes in action.

Mr. Bryan would not trust to the inherent power of an ideal which had to be dealt with in his home town within twenty-four hours, but he would trust implicitly to an ideal which had to work throughout the world for the rest of eternity.—Chicago Tribune.

MR. BRYAN IN CANADA

William Jennings Bryan, former secretary of state, was hooted from the platform in Toronto, where he had been invited to speak on behalf of the Anti-Saloon League.

No one with an ounce of sense will charge up this disgraceful proceeding to the Canadian people. Indeed the same element recently hooted the premier of Canada from the stage at Kitchener, Ontario.

Whether one is a Bryanite or an anti-Bryanite, no one with a sense of proportion has ever doubted or would ever dare to doubt his Americanism. He is a statesman of whom this or any country ought to be proud.

May we say with all fairness that much of the opposition to Mr. Bryan comes through the misstatements of our own press. Every good and great man makes enemies, and the enemies made by Mr. Bryan are neither good nor great. A partisan press has misinterpreted, misquoted and even lied about him for twenty years, yet he has grown in the esteem of all real Americans since that period.

Canadians who read what some of our papers have said of Mr. Bryan may have believed the slanders, but the ninety and nine of our neighbors are not of that stripe. The returned soldier element in Canada is being inflamed by a selfish press with a view to making them a factor in Canada's political life. That's all there is to the disturbance. It is the mob spirit, and mobs are made of those who do not reason, nor inquire why.—The Washington Herald.

MR. BRYAN IN TORONTO

No doubt Mr. Bryan's experience in Toronto was anything but pleasant. An orator who has commanded as many audiences as he has can not enjoy being howled down, but, nevertheless, he comes out of the affair in a better position than the few who broke up his meeting.

They pretended to think that Mr. Bryan is pro-German. Perhaps they actually thought so, but if they did they exhibited nothing but their ignorance. In his devotion to the cause of peace many Americans believe Mr. Bryan went further than the situation warranted, but it is known by all who care to know that since the United States went to war he has steadfastly refused to strike hands with untimely peace advocates and has supported the government of the United States. Early in the war he offered his services in any place where the President might believe he would be useful.

But Mr. Bryan did not go to Canada to talk about the war. Prohibition was his theme, and his encounter with a rude reception is not inexplicable. Prohibition is a local question in Canada and the people who broke up the Bryan meeting may have been taking a bad-mannered method of telling him so.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

FROM A SOUTHERN REPUBLICAN

Introductory address delivered by Mr. C. R. Pugh, at lecture at Elizabeth City, N. C.

Friends: It is late. I shall waive a lengthy introduction. There are many internationally known men, but few who know internationally. The former might be attained through public service at home, the latter must be acquired by service, study and travel. Our country has many big men who in the fields of science, politics, society and religion, loom large in their respective places. Many of these leaders prescribe new panaceas for present day pains, only to withdraw them when they become unpopular, and often recant and follow in the wake of an aroused sentiment. Few of these men have

the courage of the pioneer, not only to blaze the trail, but to follow it through its windings.

The distinguished gentleman who will address us on this epoch-making occasion is a man internationally known and knows internationally, projects new panaceas and holds to his formula; is a pioneer, and the clamor of a changing sentiment does not swerve him one jot nor one tittle.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is an honor of which I am justly proud to introduce to my home people, that peerless orator, who has swayed audiences in the princely courts of two continents, that world citizen who has been honored by kings and potentates of the world's leading governments, that Christian statesman, William Jennings Bryan.

Mr. Bryan at Albany

COLONEL BRYAN FACES GOMPERS AND BAILEY

[From The Albany Argus, Feb. 27.]

Prohibition had its first full inning of the present session of the legislature yesterday, when for six hours the joint committee of both houses listened to the opponents of the federal prohibition amendment, also to the Anti-Saloon League agitators. Arrayed against the ratification of the amendment was Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, the strongest body, numerically, in the United States; former United States Senator Joseph Bailey of Texas; Austen G. Fox, speaking for the State Bar association, and others, while the "drys" guns were handled by William Jennings Bryan, Wayne B. Wheeler, Anti-Saloon League counsel, and Mrs. Ella A. Boole, state president of the W. C. T. U. The hearing was confined solely to the Hill-McNab bill, proposing that New York state ratify the federal amendment. The hearing began on schedule time, 2 o'clock, and it was nearly 8 o'clock last night before both sides rested their case. The "drys" wore white ribbons, while the "wets" were distinguished by red ribbons. Never before has the assembly chamber held such a crowd.

BEFORE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

An Albany special to The New York Times, dated Feb. 26, says: For nearly six hours today the champions of national prohibition battled with the forces opposing ratification of the federal prohibition amendment at a hearing before a joint legislative committee. In point of attendance, as well as in the bitterness of the battle of oratory, the hearing was the most remarkable in the history of the Capitol. An hour before the hearing was scheduled to begin the spacious assembly chamber, where it was held, was crowded, while lobbies and approaches were choked with persons struggling to gain admission.

William Jennings Bryan led the prohibition forces. He held the vast audience spellbound during an address that lasted more than an hour. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, ex-United States Senator Joseph W. Bailey of Texas, and Austin G. Fox, a prominent New York lawyer, who appeared to oppose the ratification of the federal amendment on behalf of the New York City Bar Association, led the fight for the "wet" forces.

BRYAN PLEADS AT ALBANY

An Albany, N. Y., dispatch, dated Feb. 26, says: For more than five hours today a crowd larger than ever before was jammed into the assembly chamber of the state capitol, heard men of international reputations argue for and against the ratification by the New York legislature of the federal prohibition amendment. William Jennings Bryan led the prohibition forces. His principal opponent was Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, who was seconded by former Senator Joseph W. Bailey of Texas. Besides these speakers there were many less widely known.

Meanwhile there would be a good many million persons in this country who would be a lot more cheerful over their saving of wheat and barley and other grains if they were relieved of the necessity of knowing that by reason of their economy it is possible for the breweries to keep running full time.