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railroad officials. A compromise bill these performances and they are getpromising? A dozen men comprising handful of financiers. These are some ple obliged to compromise with these frightened at a proposed discussion men? Because these twelve men had of remedies and why they do not shy such influence with the people's rep- away from Bryan. resentatives in the United States sen- "They want a man who will execute

not control these representatives and polls-not by compromising with a get what they wanted. Because these handful of public enemies, but by railroad companies had such influence teaching such men that in this govin the Indiana legislature that the peo- ernment of the people and by the people of this great state were compelled ple the popular will, when once exwhat they wanted.

"The people have been watching all up against it."

"With whom were the people com- ting tired of compromising with this 'The System.' And why were the peo- of the reasons why the people are not

ate that 80,000,000 of people could the people's will as expressed at the to compromise, not being able to get pressed, is the supreme law and that there are none so powerful as to stand

# Madison Square Garden Speech

There is a wide discussion in the and after that the tariff question. Cerpart of Mr. Bryan's great speech made in Madison Square Garden on August 30 which refers to government ownership of railroads. Because of almost universal endorsement by democratic state conventions of Mr. Bryan as the next candidate of his party for the presidency this speech is looked upon by many as containing a statement of democratic principles for the national campaign of 1908.

In many respects this is true, but that Mr. Bryan did not so regard that part of his speech referring to government ownership of railroads is apparent from a careful examination of all he said on that question. Some express surprise that he should have spoken at all on this question because of the opinion that it might, as they think, endanger his chance of election to the presidency. Mr. Bryan is in no sense a political trimmer. He has always in the past, and doubtless will in the future, speak boldly what he thinks is right on all public questions regardless of the effect it might have on his candidacy for office. Like Abraham Lincoln in his great debate with Douglas on slavery, he would declare for the principles he believed to be right regardless of its effect on his public career. And it is this trait of Mr. Bryan in bravely and honestly expressing his real thoughts on all public questions and refusing to sacrifice principles for expediency that marks his superiority over all public men of his day. While others are playing politics and watching the political weather vane, Mr. Bryan, forgetting self, is speaking what he conscientiously believes to be for the best interests of the people. In honesty, bravery and moral courage no Ameri-Mr. Bryan. In this respect he is the equal of Lincoln or Jefferson. Bryan would not play politics even to become president, much less smother his convictions of what he thinks is right. Because of this trait of character he is the best loved and most widely respected man in the United States today, not excepting the very popular republican president.

There should be no surprise now at Mr. Bryan's views on the question of public ownership of railroads, as he announced them somewhat at length n the latter part of the year 1904 in vigorous editorial in The Commoner inder the title "Democracy Must Move Forward." Those who criticise him for his New York speech certainly can not claim surprise after having read his views as expressed in The Comnoner almost two years ago. In the Madison Square Garden speech Mr. Bryan makes it clear that he is strongy opposed to socialism and in favor of individualism. He discusses public wnership as a part of the trust quesion and lays down the proposition, o which all democrats must agree, hat private monopoly is "indefensible and intolerable" and must be destroyed. He takes the position that the trust question is the paramount issue in this congressional campaign

press and among the people over that tainly all democrats will agree to this.

In referring to public ownership as the final solution of that part of the trust question relating to the railroads he uses this significant language, which shows clearly that he would not advocate government control of railroads except as the last resort when all other remedies had failed. His exact words are: "I do not know that the country is ready for this change. I do not know that a majority of my own party favor it," but he further states that he bases his con- "Williams" Pump Co., 474 Harr

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