

Mr. Bryan's Trip to Chicago

All along the way on his recent trip to Chicago—and on his return—Mr. Bryan was greeted with large crowds at various towns.

Following are some of the brief talks he made:

AT DES MOINES, IOWA

Ladies and Gentlemen: I hope I may be able to get to Des Moines during the campaign and speak to you at length. I am not sure just how many speeches I will make, but I would not have the campaign go through without having a chance to talk to the people of this city who, I believe, are vitally interested in the reforms which have been outlined in our platform. Iowa is somewhat of a pioneer in the matter of reforms, and there is no reform for which the people of Iowa have been contending that is not specifically and emphatically set forth in the Denver platform. Iowa has been wedded to the doctrine of electing senators by the direct vote of the people. Your governor has taken an active part in the promulgation of that idea, and those who have worked with him on that subject have been mortified when the proposition was turned down in the republican convention by a majority of more than seven to one, and they must have been delighted when it was turned up in the Denver convention by a unanimous vote. (Applause.) Your republicans, as well as the democrats in Iowa, have been reaching the conclusion that the tariff is too high, and they will not get much satisfaction out of the republican platform, which spends more time and employs more words cautioning you against going too far in tariff reform than it does in urging the party to act at all in that direction. (Applause.) I remember visiting Iowa sixteen years ago and I heard a republican make a speech in favor of a high tariff. That was before the republicans of Iowa began to study the subject, and I can recall the impression made on me, not merely by the speech but by its reception by the republicans present, when the speaker declared that the republican party put the tariff on wool for the benefit of the republican farmer in order to raise the price of wool, and those republican farmers raised their corn stalk canes and hurrahed for the tariff on wool to raise its price; and when a little later the speaker explained that the republican party had put the tariff on woolen goods in order to lower the price of woolen goods, the same republican farmers raised the same corn stalk canes and gave the same yell in favor of the tariff on the manufactured product to lower its price. (Applause and laughter.) They thought that they had found a tariff that could be put upon the raw material, and raise the price of the material, and they could put the same tariff on the woolen goods, and lower the price of those woolen goods.

Here the bell of the engine rang, and Mr. Bryan hurried to the train, and from the platform of the car he continued his speech as follows:

"I wish I had time to go over our platform, but there are so many good democrats in the state of Iowa who are able to explain and defend that platform that it is not necessary for me to speak at length, and I am glad that you have a man like Fred

White to so forcibly give expression to all the democratic aspirations of the democratic heart. (Applause.)

AT STUART, IOWA

It is impossible to make a speech in a moment's time, and I shall not attempt to. During the campaign there will be ample opportunity to discuss the principles that are at issue. I want to commend to you our platform, and say to you that I believe it represents the mature thought of those who are seeking to improve conditions so far as legislation can improve conditions. I have never believed that everything depends upon legislation, for there is a sphere in which the individual and he alone, can determine his own prosperity. But legislation can advance or retard progress; it can improve or harm conditions. I believe there are many remedies that need to be applied, and in this campaign we have this advantage: we can use the arguments that have been made by reform republicans in favor of nearly all the principles we advance. More than that, we have the speeches of the president to prove to you that there are things that need to be done, and we have the action of congress to prove to you that the republican leaders will not allow those things to be done. The president has done educational work, but his convention would not go as far as he went—in fact, it would scarcely go at all, and when you remember

that work must be done, not by one man only, but by a number working together, that the president must have the co-operation of the people in the house and in the senate in order to accomplish anything, you will agree with me that the republican convention at Chicago gave to the country no assurance that the republican leaders would assist in any material reforms.

I recognize that people would rather secure reforms through their own party, but I also recognize that when a man is sick he is more interested in getting well than he is in the family physician, and so when you find that your party will not do what is necessary to be done, you should come and help us to do what is necessary to be done. (Applause.)

AT ATLANTIC, IOWA

At Atlantic, Mr. Bryan was taken to a platform near the depot, and was introduced as "the next president of the United States." He spoke to a crowd of more than 500 people, saying:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: There are countries where one man can say what is going to happen and carry it out, and I am sure if my good friend and I lived in one of those countries, and he had the power to make me president, I am sure he would do it. But we have to take a good many people into our confidence. The parties meet, adopt their platforms and nominate their candidates. The candidates go out

and discuss the platform issues, and the papers print editorials and the people discuss the questions before them, and all this goes on for a few months and then a day comes when everybody is quiet and waiting—waiting to see what answer the people make to the propositions submitted to them.

We are entering upon the campaign and great questions are going to be submitted for your decision. You are a part of a great state, and your state is a part of a great country, and every voter has a voice in determining the policy of this nation, as it shall be represented by the president and by the senate and the house. I have not time this morning to enter upon a discussion of these questions, but I shall have time during the campaign to present our side of them. I am satisfied with our platform. I believe it is honest and straightforward, and I believe it embodies what the American people desire to have written into law. But there is one point I want to impress upon your minds: Read the republican platform and then read our platform, and you will find that our platform specifically states the party's purpose, and the republican platform leaves you in doubt as to what that party will do. It asks you to trust them to find out definitely after the election. We tell you definitely now, and our confidence in you and in our position ought to awaken your confidence in our party.

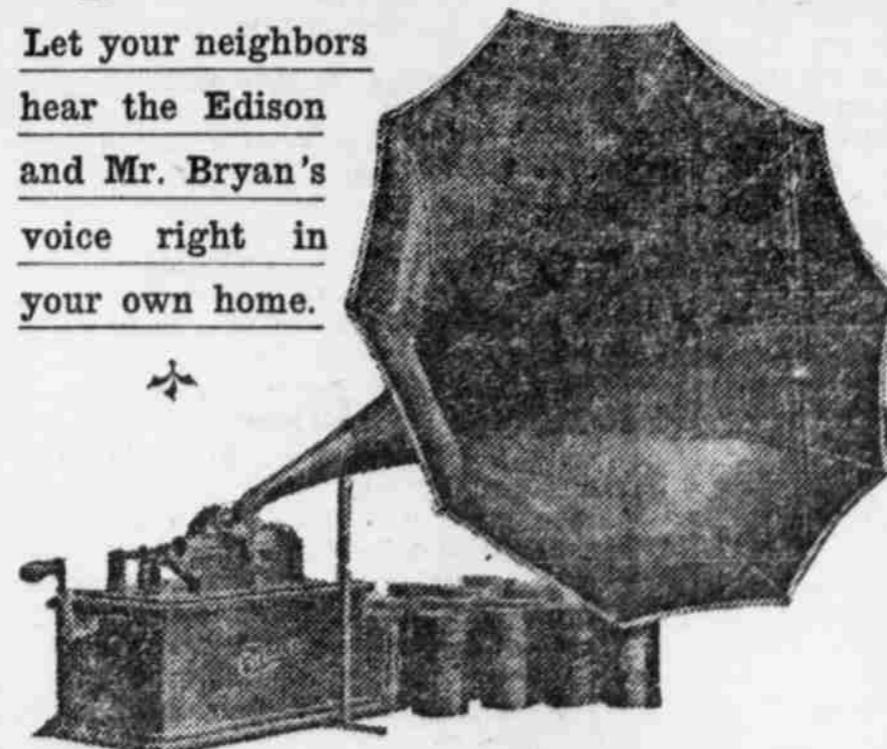
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