

The Commoner.

CHARLES W. BRYAN, PUBLISHER

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BRYAN MEN ATTENTION!

The great battle is almost won. What the enemy fails to accomplish by intimidation it will seek to complete by fraud.

Let Bryan men everywhere see to it that every voter goes to the polls on November 3. Then watch the count—Let the count be watched in every precinct in the United States.



DO YOU WANT ANY MORE OF THIS?

WHY BRYAN SHOULD BE ELECTED

By George F. Rinehart in *Midwestern Magazine*, Des Moines, Iowa.

Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people.—Ps. 14:34.

Mr. Bryan is an optimist. He believes the world is getting better all the time and it is impossible to be around him a great deal without sharing his hopeful view of things. I confess that I have caught the infection and believe firmly in the final triumph of righteousness over every form of wrong. That accounts for my unflinching faith in Bryan.

The situation must be exceptionally difficult if Mr. Bryan can not extract a grain of comfort from it. To illustrate this habit of his I recall that one time I was lamenting the fact that Tom Watson, whose ability I so much admired, permitted his desire for revenge to warp his intellect and induced him to lambast Bryan in each and every issue of his magazine. This was while Watson was in New York lending the weight of his great name to Colonel Mann of unsavory memory in the publication of "Tom Watson's Magazine." Mr. Bryan did not share my concern. Not a shadow crossed his smiling visage. He was borrowing no trouble. He had no regrets. His reply was eminently characteristic of the man. He said simply that Watson was doing a good work. I asked him how he figured that monthly abuse of himself could be accounted "good work." He replied that Wat-

son was there in New York where in 1896 Bryanism was called populism and that Tom Watson was rapidly convincing the average New Yorker that Bryan was not a populist.

Having known Mr. Bryan intimately for twelve years, and shared his confidence all that time, I naturally feel a closer interest in his welfare than those less intimately associated with him. That is why some people can not understand my devotion to the man as well as to his cause. I once said to him: "Mr. Bryan, do you realize what it will mean were you to assume the role of the man on horseback and say, 'Come on, boys?'" His reply was prompt and decisive: "That is just what democracy must try to avoid. Democracy must make this government so good, so just, so equitable that there will be no room for the man on horseback."

Personally, the great commoner is the cleanest man I have ever known. I have heard him on many occasions both as speaker and as listener. I have heard stories told in his presence that were more or less "off color." The remainder of the crowd may have laughed, but Mr. Bryan never. He never told a story that could not have been told in a parlor in the presence of ladies.

Not long ago Mr. Bryan attended a reception for men only. He told a number of witty stories and had the crowd convulsed. A stranger

appeared in the crowd and entered into the conversation and the general give and take of the occasion. By and by there fell from his lips a coarse remark. Instantly Mr. Bryan's firm jaw closed like a steel trap and his expressive eyes snapped fire. The stranger was hustled out and several apologies were offered Mr. Bryan for the occurrence. "Never mind me," said Mr. Bryan, "the remark did me no harm; my concern was for the boy waiting to shake my hand. It was not the sort of speech for a boy to hear."

However, there is not space in this magazine to tell anecdotes of this marvelous man. I must get down to brief and concise reasons why he should be elected. I have begun with his optimism, his hopefulness, his belief in the ultimate triumph of the right. I have suggested his personal purity, his wholesome cleanliness, his high mindedness, his immaculate ideals. These ought to recommend him to every man, woman and child that believes in the upward trend, the higher view, the struggle for the soul's disenthralment.

As a thinker, Mr. Bryan stands in the forefront of the world's statesmen. He is the only living man who has the ear of every other man. The legislators of the world love to sit at his feet. He talks to them by invitation, and they listen because of what he has to say. He handles no subject which he does not illuminate.