

He says what is timely and appropriate, grounded always in those principles that are eternal. That is why he never makes mistakes.

As an orator, he stands without a peer. His style is that of simplicity. While the composition of his speeches is prosaic, it is effective. He is in no danger of being misunderstood. This style is direct and forcible. He leads up to his climaxes through a series of undulations that hold the interest and burst at last into the full force of forensic finality. On the road to his conclusion he is an agreeable entertainer, but when he reaches his climax you feel the power of the super man. He is the ne plus ultra in the realm of speech.

Mr. Bryan is as modest as he is great. He announces himself "a moon shining by reflected light," in comparison with Jefferson, from whom he has derived his inspiration, yet he is a greater man than Jefferson. He has been in no aggregation of men for twelve years in which he was not acknowledged the greatest. When in the presence of kings and emperors and czars, he was the colossus and they the pigmies. Though the hand of nearly every delegate in the democratic national convention in 1904 was against him, he went out of that convention as he entered it, far and away the greatest democrat of them all.

Nature did much for him. He has a magnificent presence. He looks distinguished. In a crowd he could not be other than the cynosure of all eyes. Nature has set her mark upon him so that the whole world may read—"This is the man." He has assisted nature materially in his development. He has been a hard student. He has learned his lessons well. In the choice of a life partner he was particularly fortunate. His wife is a queen in the larger sense of that word. The White House has never contained her superior if it has held her equal. She is withal the most learned and cultured matron we have ever known. We have observed her in her home as a sacrificing daughter, a sympathetic and helpful wife and a proud and accomplished mother.

Mr. Bryan is today the greatest moral force in this republic. He is a just man and he believes that justice will do more toward civilizing the human race than powder and ball. He has more confidence in righteousness than he has in armies and navies, and yet he believes in war as a last resort when human rights are at stake and peaceful methods fail. He is not only a teacher by precept, but he is a teacher by example. He asks no man to be better than he can, but he expects every man to render to society the best returns of which he is capable, and he, himself, sets an example it would be well to follow.

The election of Mr. Bryan is demanded by every state in this union. Wherever men are endowed with sympathy; wherever the weak are oppressed; wherever men toil without just recompense; wherever business is suffering the unjust competition of the trust; wherever legitimate trade is at the mercy of predatory wealth; wherever good impulses dominate the conduct of men, there is a demand for the election of William Jennings Bryan.

This fact was apparent at the recent great national convention of the democratic party at Denver. Forty-five of the fifty standards represented in that convention, from every land over which the flag floats, flocked around the standard of Nebraska that had offered to the nation the services of her most distinguished adopted son. It was the greatest gathering of representative men in the entire history of the party. It is true the Nebraskan had nothing to give them. It is true that he had no big stick to compel the support of the delegates. It is true he had no federal office holders to make a show of force and enthusiasm. It is true he had no administration behind him to threaten and intimidate, but he swayed that convention from his home at Lincoln, and the two demonstrations of over one hour each were the vocal expressions of the love and devotion and fidelity of the common people who had "heard him gladly."

What is the use to talk of another man for president? In all that is good America deserves the best. She ought to show to the world that she appreciates a great man when she has one. She ought to recognize merit when it is so palpably apparent. She now has a chance to recognize her greatest production and the world is looking on to see if she will be equal to the emergency.

Is not the fact that every state wanted Bryan nominated sufficient to justify his election? Is not the fact that no state wanted Taft nominated sufficient to justify his defeat? Do the people want a man who stands upon his own

A Word from Mr. Bryan

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN:

Lincoln, Neb.
Oct 20-1908

Fellow Citizens:

The campaign is drawing to a close; the issues have been set forth in the platforms; the arguments of the candidates have been presented; and the verdict is about to be rendered. Every state in the Union shows Democratic gains, and there is no doubt of a Democratic victory if all who favor our policies vote and have their votes counted. I write to urge you to see to it that every Democratic vote in your precinct is polled early and counted. We desire a popular majority as well as a majority in the electoral college, and your vote is needed to offset a Republican vote some where else, even if not needed in your locality. Work! Vote! And then you can rejoice the more heartily in the victory.

Yours truly,
W. J. Bryan

merit or do they want an echo of another? Have we reached the stage of degeneracy where we, a sovereign people, will permit a president to name his successor or have we retained enough vitality to assert our rights of free choice? These questions are big with interest and demand an answer in this campaign.

Of course Mr. Bryan can not please everybody. Lincoln had bitter enemies. Washington was abused by foes. No man who does something for his fellows can expect to escape the censure of the jealous and corrupt in heart. Bryan has been the victim of more abuse than any man now living, and paradoxical as it may seem, he is the most beloved. He has a world grasp on affairs of state, a clearly defined policy on all problems of discretion, and if the American people do not elect him to the office of president the loss will be irreparable. It will not be his loss, but theirs. Bryan has survived two defeats and is greater today because of them. He can survive another or a dozen; but it is doubtful whether the republic can fare as well.

When the hot blast of prejudice dries up the brain of its victim an oasis becomes a desert. Nothing can grow in territory so afflicted. Prejudice defeated Bryan before; will it do so again? It is the fate of good men to be misunderstood. Bad men are sometimes forgiven, but good men pay the penalty. This is

wrong, but it is true. Mr. Bryan has paid the penalty of goodness. Because he was as true as the needle to the pole he was humiliated. Because he was faithful to the cause of the people he was defeated. Because he would do something for his fellow man he was denied the opportunity. Because he stands four square to all the winds that blow he is accused of shifting. Because he is as inflexible as fate he is called a radical. Because he is absolutely just he is branded as dangerous.

The facts are that Mr. Bryan has in him the material for the greatest president this nation has ever seen. He has the capacity for illuminating the history of this country as no other man has ever illuminated it. His danger lies in his goodness and his greatness. He is therefore made the shining mark for the corrupt and dangerous and the envy of the small and mean. God grant that the better thought, the better conscience, the better impulses of our people may triumph in the election soon to come and that Bryan shall be exalted and the nation glorified.

Put this copy of The Commoner in the hands of some republican voter.