

The Passing of Bryan

BRYAN IS DEAD

Once more the politicians declare that Mr. Bryan is dead. Once more the big trust controlled papers pronounce his obituary and congratulate the country on the horrors the people have escaped by this last death of the commoner, which according to the annals of the trust papers makes at least the sixty-sixth time he has been gathered to the fathers and decently buried. Mr. Bryan has never been a success in winning political battles, because the men who run things in the interest of the interests, and who claim he is a menace to the country, know that he is a menace to the interests, who don't give a dum-dum for the country. Had Bryan been subservient to the interests he would long ago have been president, because he would have joined the crowd that makes presidents. If he was willing to sell his manhood for a mess of political potage, he could long ago have held any position which he wanted. He has cared more for standing on platforms he believed in than being president, and while he has been assailed as being a demagogue, he has more real friends today among the voters of America than any other man except Theodore Roosevelt, and much of Roosevelt's popularity is due to his favoring the same policies, under another name, as have long been advocated by Bryan. Bryan is not dead, and while he has seemingly been inconsistent in advocating a number of dominant issues, he has been fighting all the time against the interests. He was one of the original insurgents, and the most rank republican today, who would excrete Bryan to a hundred political deaths, are advocating his doctrines and swearing by them and at everybody who stands against them, and do not know that it was the often slaughtered Bryan that has given them their prominence and impetus before the public. That the politicians fear and hate Bryan and Roosevelt, and would only be too glad to write the real obituary of both, is a condition and not a theory. May both live for years to come and keep the cheap political grafters' hair standing straight on end.—Hillsdale, Mich., Standard.

BRYAN'S VICTORY

The liquor business in the United States is receiving more attention at the present time than ever before in the history of the republic. It has become the leading issue in many states and whether or not it should be prohibited, controlled and the method thereof, are proving the questions upon which parties have taken issue and old political associates divided. If we are to judge by the prominence given it, the American people are today considering the question in all its phases as they have never considered it before.

In Texas a state election has just been held in which the people favored submitting to the people the question as to whether or not the constitution of the state should be so amended as to make Texas a prohibition state. A candidate for the democratic nomination for governor was elected at the primaries who is opposed to prohibition, but there were four candidates and it is claimed the anti-liquor vote was split up and that the prohibition amendment will carry when the election is held.

In Minnesota today the main issue before the democratic state convention is the county option plank and, as these words are written, it is stated that Hon. John Lind, who is an ardent county optionist, can have the

nomination hands down, if he will take it.

In Nebraska the republicans in state convention have come out strongly in favor of the county option plank, as also have the populists. The democrats refused to do so and turned down Hon. William J. Bryan, who advocated such a plank vigorously on the floor of the convention. He charges the liquor interests with selling him out and his statement is not hard to believe when one considers how unscrupulous these interests are and how much they must have feared that Bryan would be successful in his Nebraska fight. It was natural that they should exert untold efforts to encompass his defeat and the fact that his very reasonable proposition of a county option plank, taking into consideration that the republicans and populists were adopting the same planks, was beaten by former followers must clearly indicate that the "liquor interests sold him out," and "persuaded" his former followers to leave his standard. Bryan was defeated but it was the best defeat he has ever experienced. Instead of effacing him as a national power, in our judgment, it has made him stronger than he has been for years. A defeat in a battle for right never weakened any cause or any leader and the most virulent liquor man must realize that Bryan's stand in his Nebraska fight was a most reasonable, proper and American one.

Bryan defeated by the liquor interests has gained strength with every loyal American citizen, who believes in an honest fight waged by an honest fighter for a just cause.—Arizona Gazette.

SOME FRIENDS YET

Let those who imagine that William Jennings Bryan suffered personal defeat in the democratic state convention of Nebraska by the failure of that body to adopt the county option plank for which he contended, glory in it, if it affords them any real pleasure, for this fearless champion of the people has added to his legion of admirers an additional host because of his uncompromising stand on this great moral question. By the republican state convention, the peoples' party convention, and a part of the democratic convention standing for the same idea, the result of the November elections in that state, we predict, will show that a large majority of the people think the same as does Mr. Bryan on the question at issue. Besides the admirers of Mr. Bryan have not diminished through his three defeats for the presidency, for people, regardless of party affiliation, recognize in him a statesman of the highest constructive ability, courageous and sincere, and though possibly the most abused, and misrepresented of all men in the history of American politics, he is sincerely loved by millions of friends and respected by most of his enemies.—Westmoreland, Pa., Journal.

EMPTY THREATS

Regardless of what the outcome of his fight for county option at the Nebraska state democratic convention will be, William Jennings Bryan will have shown that he has the courage of his convictions, and is not to be swerved from them by the threat of the brewers to make him a nonentity in the democratic party of his own state. There is a wide divergence of opinion among Christian people and temperance advocates as to the wisdom of local option or its efficacy in restraining the liquor traffic. Mr. Bryan has espoused it and is apparently willing to forego

political leadership if necessary in order to maintain his principle. It is this trait of the Nebraskan that endears him to the people of the United States, without regard to party lines.—Newcastle News.

RIGHT EVENTUALLY PREVAILS

Copy of a letter sent to the Thrice-a-Week New York World for publication, by N. W. Lewis, an ex-state senator of Gableville, Mich.—In your issue (thrice-a-week) of July 27, you say, "The leadership was wrested from W. J. Bryan in his own state, Nebraska—Nebraska democrats refused to adopt his county option issue." The said action by the Nebraska democrats, which may give them temporary advantage politically, should add the entire temperance element of the country to W. J. Bryan's following. The said action by the Nebraska democrats stamps the party as the whisky party of that state—a position no party of this age and date can afford to assume. Bryan is again right and the right will eventually prevail. William J. Bryan is considered by the masses of the party as the most capable, wise, earnest and conscientious worker in the national democratic party today. Governor Harmon of Ohio lost many friends through his apparently jealous action in rejecting the proposition of Bryan regarding the naming of a United States senator for his people's benefit, and information—a wise suggestion and honorable as well. Should Governor Harmon be nominated hereafter for the presidency, he would lose hundreds of democratic votes because of that action. We do not wish nor expect Bryan to again be a candidate and he says he will not be—his word is good.

WASTED ELOQUENCE

Colonel Franklin Pierce Morgan of Washington and New York never made but one great speech, and the story of it is pathetic. His audience was Grover Cleveland, then president of the United States, and his purpose was to secure a pardon for a murderer named O'Neil, in whom the colonel had become interested.

"I'll never forget that day," said the colonel in telling about the incident. I had told Dan Lamont the day before that I intended to ask Cleveland to pardon O'Neil, who was a creature of the dark places at times, but a pretty good fellow at that. Cleveland had taken the precaution to send to the department of justice and get the papers in the case.

"I got up early the next morning, had a massage, and was feeling tip-top. I got in to see Cleveland and I spoke twenty minutes. Never in my life, before or since, have I been as eloquent as I was, pleading for that fellow O'Neil. The end of every sentence I uttered brushed the edges off a cloud. I concluded my argument, confident that I had swept the president off his feet.

"Mr. Morgan," he said, "is that all you have to say on behalf of your friend?"

"Mind you, he said 'friend.'"

"Yes, Mr. President," I said; "I think that's all."

"Mr. Morgan," he replied, "never as long as I am in the White House shall that consummate scoundrel—consummate scoundrel mark you—get out of the penitentiary."

"What's the use of eloquence, anyhow?" concluded the colonel.—Popular Magazine.

AN EXPERT ACCOUNTANT

Mrs. Newly—"Don't you like my new hat, dearest?"

Newly—"Yes's, it's all right."

Mrs. Newly—"Well, I bought it on your account, dear!"

Newly—"Yes, you usually do."—Brooklyn Life.

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Six below normal the Government Crop Reporter says the condition of winter and spring wheat was in Montana July 1, 1910, against 12 below normal in the United States. In this dry year Montana increases its yield of grain while crops are perishing from drouth in less favored regions.

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