

a greater man possessed of more real power than the one-time idol of the people!

"History doubtless has no exact parallel to present."

FROM THE TRENTON TRUE AMERICAN

"Today William J. Bryan comes again to New Jersey. For fifteen years this state has been regarded as one of those distinctively anti-Bryan states that make up the eastern group and which Mr. Bryan himself has long been wont to regard as 'the enemy's country.'"

"But New Jersey has not been an enemy to Mr. Bryan. There are those who believe with good reason that if in the struggles of past years the common people of New Jersey had been permitted to vote in accordance with their best judgment, free from coercion and corrupting influences, the electoral vote of the state more than once would have gone into the Bryan column."

"At any rate, William J. Bryan occupies a warm place in the hearts of the Jersey men today. James H. Birch, Sa., of Burlington, enjoys the distinction of being one of the original Bryan men of New Jersey. He is to be congratulated upon the presence of the distinguished Nebraskan in Burlington tonight, and tens of thousands of Jersey men will join him in welcoming Mr. Bryan again to the state."

"Wherever Mr. Bryan goes he meets a welcome such as is accorded to few Americans. In his home city a few evenings ago, he was tendered a dinner in honor of his fifty-first birthday. Thirteen hundred of his neighbors gained access to the hall and joined in the enthusiastic demonstration in his honor. Thousands of others crowded the streets adjacent to the banquet hall. So great was the throng that the police could not control it. Windows were broken in the crush and it was with the greatest difficulty that the thousands of people were restrained from invading the hall and making it impossible to proceed with the celebration."

"The incident serves only to show the enthusiastic friendship that Mr. Bryan's own neighbors have for him, and no more sublime testimonial may be given to the character of any man than that he is loved and honored and respected by those with whom he comes in intimate, daily contact."

"But Mr. Bryan meets with just such demonstrations of affection wherever he goes—in the west, in the east, in the north or in the south."

"William J. Bryan's place in American history is secure. His name will shine with lustre long after the names of many of those who have seemed to triumph in his defeat are all but forgotten. Since the very beginnings of this republic few men have exerted a greater influence upon its affairs than he."

**DUBUQUE (IOWA) TELEGRAPH HERALD—
DEMOCRAT**

"After observing events political in Washington, James Creelman wrote the New York Mail, saying: 'The one supreme and inescapable political fact developed since the assembling of the new congress is the widespread and decisive influence of this extraordinary man in the party which he led three times to national defeat.' The reference, needless to add, is to Bryan, three times buried, but withal the greatest political force in the nation."

**SIOUX CITY (IOWA) JOURNAL—
REPUBLICAN**

"GOING AND COMING"

"Bryan's record has been a series of goings and comings back. Why should anybody be surprised to find that the last going is followed by another coming back?"

**FROM JACKSON (MISS.) CLARION-LEDGER
—DEMOCRAT**

"A sentiment is springing up over the country in favor of the nomination of Bryan for the presidency once more; and stranger things than that possibly have happened."

"Though defeated thrice, Bryan is still the idol of democracy, and could today, if the nomination were left to popular vote, defeat all the other presidential possibilities hands down."

"The hold this man has upon the masses of the democracy is wonderful, which is not so very surprising after all when the pure and spotless character of the man is considered, and the fact taken into consideration that many of the measures he has advocated have not only been engrafted into the platforms of both parties, advocated by Roosevelt, Taft and other re-

publican leaders, but they have been the slogan of the democracy."

"After the last election, when Bryan was defeated the third time, it was supposed that he was out of the running altogether and many of his friends so declared; but meetings that have been held recently, the big affair at Buffalo and the birthday dinner given to Bryan in his own home of Lincoln, Neb., show his great popularity, his wonderful hold upon his party."

"On the latter occasion several democratic speakers came near nominating him for the fourth time, the best talk of the day being delivered by Speaker Champ Clark. And, apparently, to show that he is not in an unresponsive mood, Bryan publishes all the speeches delivered at that time, in his paper, The Commoner."

"Mr. Clark's introductory remarks are worthy of reproduction. He said:

"We have met on this auspicious occasion for the purposes of personal friendship to celebrate the birthday of one of the three most prominent contemporary Americans—the greatest living orator, perhaps the greatest that ever lived—a man dear to the hearts of millions of his countrymen and admired by millions in foreign lands, who by his splendid bearing and lofty eloquence, has elevated the American character and popularized the theory of representative government in every civilized country, whose magnificent advocacy of right, justice, and equal opportunities for all our citizens with monopolistic privilege for none, has given him a high and secure place in the history of our times."

"We are here to felicitate him upon the anniversary of his birth, 'O fortunate, O happy day,' not only because we admire him as an orator, statesman, philosopher and humanitarian, but because we love the man, William Jennings Bryan. From the bottom of our hearts we wish him many happy returns."

"Shakespeare says:
"To gild refined gold; to paint the lily
To throw a perfume on the violet;
To smooth the ice; to add another hue unto
the rainbow;
Or with taper light to seek the beauteous
Eye of Heaven to garnish
Is wasteful and ridiculous excess.'"

"WATCH IT GROW"

Mr. Bryan has given instructions that every new subscriber shall receive The Commoner for a period of two years (which will carry it beyond the presidential election of 1912) for the sum of one dollar. Every Commoner reader is asked to secure at least one new subscriber. Many will be able to secure more than one. Everyone, however, may render some aid in this work. Following are sample letters:

E. D. Walsh, Wisconsin: In my opinion there is no source of political information so authentic and instructive as that scattered through the columns of this paper. I believe that every democrat who wants his party to be made what it was intended to be and ought to be should support The Commoner, both morally and financially, as the fight it has made to further the interests of the people is now all but fully realized. You will find herewith enclosed \$1.00 for which you will please extend my subscription for The Commoner for one year.

E. B. Baldwin, Vermont: Please find enclosed list of seven two-year campaign subscriptions. I will try and get a few more subscribers and then I will write you my choice for president.

A. A. Bryan, W. H. Sipple, Missouri: As a slight token of our appreciation of the efforts of The Commoner, as a means of disseminating true democratic doctrine, we herewith enclose \$2.00 to advance our names on your subscription books, and beg to say that in our humble opinions, W. J. Bryan is the greatest living American citizen.

J. Newton Harris, Iowa: While Mr. Bryan is standing in the forefront of battle we think that it is the duty of every progressive democrat to give the party all the assistance that he possibly can in endeavoring to restore the government to the people. Herewith find remittance for my renewal.

The following named have sent in new subscribers: A. W. Nolan, Kan.; Joll McCallister, Idaho; S. V. Moore, Neb.; R. E. L. Yankee, Mo.; C. B. Kohlhausen, N. M.; T. J. Noyes, N. D.; W. L. McCormick, Tex.; D. S. Vaughn, Mo.; J. B. Davis, Tex.; J. F. Sawvain, Ia.; Henry Bailey, Ind.; A. R. Stephens, Ida.; M. J. McDonnell, Colo.; Jas. Staley, Ala.; Wm. Arrison, N. D.; J. M. Coykendall, S. D.; Frank Steinbach, Ia.; Geo. Rasmussen, Minn.; H. Funk, Va.; D. F. Smith, Mo.; Jno. W. Smith, Tenn.; Wm. M.

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