MARCH 28, 1913

of 1913. A case in the supreme court, involving the fortunes of a close personal friend comes up for argument here on the 19th or 20th, and unavoidably detains me. I am therefore limited to the less pleasing task of greeting Colonel Bryan from afar, and congratulating the country upon his elevation to the office of secretary of state. 'It is an honor to the people of the United States that their first citizen should have been selected to direct and shape the course of foreign affairs and give the weight of his counsel and the influence of his great name to our democratic administration. It is a recognition of the great service he has performed, not only for democracy, but for all the people during the long and weary years of democratic exile; a fitting tribute to the one man whose fidelity to popular government in season and out of season, made possible the victory of 1912.

The state which I have the honor in part to represent in the senate of the United States, has always been true to Bryan. She gave him her electoral vote in 1896, in 1900, in 1908, and her sturdy voters are looking hop fully to the day when they can give it to him again. I am more fortunate than most men, for I had the privilege of voting for his confirmation. It wasn't needed, but it was an honor and a comfort to cast a vote for Bryan that counted.

The president of the United States has been both wise and fortunate in his selection of political advisers. He has begun well. He will continue to do well. His democracy is the democracy of Bryan, which is the real democracy. Under the beneficient administration of Woodrow Wilson the seed sown by Bryan throughout the long days of exile and of travail will spring up and bear good fruit for all the people. Bryan is no longer ahead of his time. The nation has caught up and is keeping step with him. The congress of the United States is attuned to the same democratic harmonies and all is well with the republic.

Wendell Phillips once said: "There are men whom we measure by their times—they are the chameleons of circumstance; they are aeolian harps, toned by the breeze that sweeps over them. There are others who serve as guide posts and land marks; we measure their times by them."

Bryan has come into his own. Through ridicule, through obloquy, through abuse, through misrepresentation, through the bitter opposition of the political, social and commercial influences of his times, he has held steadily upon his course and with serene courage remained steadfastly loyal to his convictions and to the cause of the people. Today he enjoys in large measure that triumph which comes alone to him that overcometh. Verily he hath "served as a guide post and a land mark."

The Commoner.

organization has voiced the welcome of the democracy of this capital city to the most distinguished guest, and soon we shall hear from our democratic governor gracious words of official welcome upon behalf of the state whose honor he represents and maintains, and now it is my privilege to speak some word of welcome on behalf of the privates under the banner of democracy. For more than twenty years many have served in the ranks under his leadership, trustingly, hopefully, buoyed and sustained by an unfaltering faith in the integrity of the man and in the justice of his cause. With our own eyes we have seen him lift the democracy of this state from the depths of obscurity to the attention of a nation-lift it upward and onward until during the past two decades it has challenged the attention and admiration of the world-lift it so high that the effulgence of the progressive democratic principles first proclaimed by the Nebraska democracy have at least been carried to the statute books of states and nations. As the world measures success, very few have been the victories of our leader: but, weighed in the balance of devotion to the holy cause of humanity, his career since early manhood has been a march of triumph-the triumph of his own good principles over the false doctrines of the mighty hosts of error.

"Our ears now anxiously await the message which the great commoner—a commoner still, despite his exalted station—will bring to his home people, and we know it will be the same message with which through the years he has greeted Nebraska democrats—a message of honorable peace to all who accept the gospel of principle written by the Nebraska democracy a message of challenge and defiance to any one who may still entertain the hope or the desire of making the free democracy of this state or nation the handmaid of the embattled enemies of makind."

"A WORLD CITIZEN"

Dr. Charles Reign Scoville of Chicago spoke as follows:

"I consider it both an honor and a privilege to speak tonight of Nebraska's distinguished citizen, who no longer belongs to you, but in the highest, truest, holiest sense has become the citizen of the United States and of the whole world. Tolstoy was the apostle of love. Washington and Lincoln were the apostles of freedom, but William Jennings Bryan stands pre-eminently as the apostle of 'the Kingship of the Common people.' As Napoleon Bonaparte indelibly placed France upon the map of the world, so your distinguished citizen has indelibly placed your great commonwealth on the map of the United States and the principles here born have made him a friend of humanity, a citizen of the whole world. No fiat ever went forth from man more potent than that which proclaims the inalienable rights and privileges of men, the freedom and equality of the masses, and the 'kingship of the common people.' The editor of the Omaha Daily World-Herald editorially said in 1890: 'Let Nebraska congratulate herself on the fact that she has an orator who possesses the physical and mental qualities to make him a remarkable man in the history of this nation. And if the World-Herald reads the stars aright, the time will come when W. J. Bryan will have a reputation which will reach far beyond Nebraska-and it will be a reputation for the performance of good deeds.' The time thus prophesied has arrived and the reputation gained has been achieved upon the highest plane possible for man-'the performance of good deeds.' The common people have never had a better advocate, spokesman, or champion. He has dodged no issues. No greater questions, none fuller of promise for American persons and principles, none more potent for the best interests of the governed and the government, none more vital for the welfare for the greatest number of citizens, have been before our humanity in our day than those with which this political, social and industrial leader has grappled No truer citizen, no more ideal American, no better exponent of American persons and principles ever went abroad than the man who left your city and state to visit the governments of the earth. "It has been truly said that if you want to find out what there is in a man send him abroad. A father who was dissatisfied with the progress his son was making in college, decided to send him abroad to see if there was anything in him. Before he had been on the ocean six hours, he said he discovered there was more in that boy than he had thought there could possibly be in six boys. Undoubtedly our honorable friend had the same experience for I under-

stand there were times when he couldn't 'keep anything on his stomach, not even his hand.' What a marvelous opportunity it would be at such a time if a man could have all his political opponents present and throw up all he has against them.

"I am happy in my privilege tonight because the man of whom I speak is the same in the dark as he is in the light; the same confident, hopeful, expectant, unswerving servant of God, servant of humanity, whether in victory or apparent defeat. His immortal saying that 'No question is ever settled until it is settled right' has been the mainstay and guiding star of multiplied thousands. 'Since right is right, and God is God, the right is bound to win.' I repeat, therefore, that it is a pleasure to speak of one, who imbued with certain religious political principles, went abroad and acquitted himself abroad as he did at home, always standing for the right as God gave him to see the right. To demonstrate this, let me quote from his speech on 'American's Mission': 'Great has been the Greek, the Latin, the Slav, the Celt, the Teuton and the Anglo-Saxon, but greater than any of these is the American, in whom are blended the virtues of them all.'

"'Civil and religious liberty, universal education and the right to participate, directly or through representatives chosen by himself in all the affairs of government—these give to the American citizen an opportunity and an inspiration which can be found nowhere else."

"'Standing upon the vantage ground already gained, the American people can aspire to a grander destiny than has opened before any other race.

"'Anglo-Saxon civilization has taught the individual to take care of himself; American civilization, proclaiming the equality of all before the law, will teach him that his own highest good requires the observance of the commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

"'Anglo-Saxon civilization has, by force of arms, applied the art of government to other races for the benefit of Anglo-Saxons; American civilization will, by the influence of example, excite in other races a desire for self-government and a determination to secure it.

"'Anglo-Saxon civilization has carried its flag to every clime and defended it with forts and garrisons; American civilization will imprint its flag upon the hearts of all who long for freedom.'

"I do not wonder that a Japanese scholar recently said that 'Japan regards Mr. Bryan as their best friend,' and I do not wonder that a young Japanese adopted your distinguished citizen as his father and in spite of many discouragements, forged his way to this country and to Mr. Bryan's door and said, 'I have come' and that that young Japanese, educated here and sent back to his homeland, has since represented his own government on a special mission to the United States and is now the editor of a paper, following out in his own land, as far as he is able, the line pursued by the commoner among the American people. Neither do I marvel that one of the political leaders in the critical, distrustful South American republic has said, 'We believe in Mr. Bryan; we understand him.' The only pity is that America has not more such citizens of such genuine stamp, caliber and consecration to send abroad! You can stop the invasion of an army, but you can not stop the invasion of an idea and the ideals promulgated by your citizen will surmount all forts and fortifications and live when the mightiest armies, led by the world's greatest generals, shall have returned their dust to the original dust. "What a contrast between the Napoleon of France and the Napoleon of Nebraska: One working with destructive firearms, the other working for productive factories; one with arsenals and munitions of war, the other with lyceums, schoolbooks and the appliances of art, literature and science; one stamping out persons and properties, the other pleading for the inalienable rights of persons and just political principles; one selfishly forging his way, making a great name for himself on the principle 'might makes right'; the other lashing the money exchangers from the Baltimore Political Temple, declaring that no one should trespass upon the rights of another; one prospering with the military plan of the sword and spear, the other progressing with the plea that the laborer should reap the fruits of his labor no matter whether with the plowshare or the pruning hook; the one ruling by the kingdom of force, the other through the kingdom of 'love your neighbor as yourself'; the one a crowned head on a despotic

Posterity will measure his times by him. Sincerely yours, C. S. THOMAS.

MR. HOWARD'S ADDRESS

In the beginning Edgar Howard, toastmaster, said:

"Mr. President, Ladies and Fellow-Democrats:

"To do service in honor of him whom we here seek to honor has so long been my employment that I shall take to it naturally, if not creditably. If I shall so far forget or reject the toastmasters' code of ethics to trespass upon the time allotted to the distinguished men of our state and nation who have volunteered for service on this program, let my love for and devotion to him whose name your club is proudly bearing plead a pardon. When a Nebraska democrat is honored by such opportunity as the present to sound the praises of the world's ideal democrat, he feels impelled to tribute of speech as is the lark impelled to tribute of song at the dawning of a spring-time day. And if in speech I shall seem over brief, then shall I plead forgiveness in the name of your own desire to drain the cup of eloquence and be filled with the bread of wisdom soon to be loosed from the lips of those who have volunteered that offering.

"For twenty years one man has given to Nebraska always a conspicuous place in the eye of the political world, and now that this man has accepted that post of premier in the new democratic administration, there to serve as friend and helper to that educated Andrew Jackson now occupying the exalted position glorified by the presence of democrats of other days, further still will his genius and his nobility carry to the world, and challenge a world's attention, the sublime principles initially proclaimed by the democracy of this western commonwealth which claims the greatest of commoners as citizen and subject.

"Eloquently and fervidly the president of this