

## MR. BRYAN IN OSHKOSH

Probably no public man in American history has been so universally popular in all sections of the country as William Jennings Bryan. Henry Clay was for a time the idol of the people and Stephen A. Douglas, the "little giant," swayed the multitude as the hero of the hour, but neither of them retained his hold on the people like Mr. Bryan. Mr. Roosevelt, the militant, the man who always "kills seven at one blow," is his only rival in the present century, and Mr. Roosevelt appeals to an entirely different element. While Roosevelt stirs the popular mind with dynamic forces that set in motion the public spirit and patriotism of the people, Bryan wins popular applause by more peaceful and homely methods. One carries his point by the force of a whirlwind, while the other produces an equally strong effect by something like warm sunshine that melts the worst opposition before it. Like Clay and Douglas, Bryan has never reached the presidency, and it is doubtful if he ever does, but the man who can lead one of the two great political parties for three campaigns in the strife for the presidency must have ability and merit that marks him above common men. Aside from his gift of oratory, the one thing that has endeared him to the public is that he has always labored for the common man. Real democracy, belief in the people, has never had a better exponent in American history than this same Bryan. The progressive movement which has swept over the whole United States in the past twenty years owes more to Mr. Bryan than to any other man. To be sure, he has many times mixed with his progressive principles certain heresies that the people readily detected, and so the country each time was saved from grave dangers that might have imperiled our progress had he been successful. But, just the same, Bryan was perfectly honest in his belief, and, rather than waver from what he thought was right, he went down to defeat like a knight of the middle ages. The Bourbon element in the democratic party never liked Bryan. He was never

popular with the wealthy Wall street democrats, but, naturally, he won the admiration of the common people regardless of party, an admiration that promises to endure while life lasts. There is much in him and in his history to make him popular. No taint of grafting or corruption ever attached itself to his name and all his public efforts have been put forth in the interests of the people and not of the wealthy classes. If he could not get the nomination for president in 1912, he controlled the nomination and gave it to Woodrow Wilson. As secretary of state we have sometimes found reason to criticize him, for he was a beginner in a field of action quite new to him, but his honesty of purpose has never been called in question, and history will give him his deserts. Like Abou Ben Adhem, Bryan's name is not written in the list of presidents, but when it comes to "one who loves his fellow man," Bryan's name leads all the rest. By that unwritten formula which governs mankind in matters of liking and disliking, the people know that in Mr. Bryan they have a friend and they lose no opportunity to show their esteem for him. That Oshkosh has been selected as one of the cities to be visited by the secretary of state is a matter for congratulation. He should have a reception tomorrow suited to the man and the city. He is one of our great men, and, regardless of partisan feelings, Oshkosh should give him a hospitable greeting. Mr. Bryan, you are welcome! come in and make yourself at home! —Oshkosh (Wis.) Northwestern.

## McADOO ORGANIZER

Secretary McAdoo, by ordering the federal reserve banks to open on November 16, fourteen days sooner than the time set by the federal reserve board, has again shown his Alexandrian resentment of restraint and his courage and forcefulness.

The new banking and currency law was signed by the president December 23 last. Some unavoidable delays intervened, some time had to be allowed for organizing, but Secretary McAdoo was unwilling to countenance unnecessary delay. Since the European war started or since August 1, there has been every reason for haste. The war has affected America more than it should have done—more than it would have done if the federal reserve banks had been operating when the outbreak occurred.

Where there has been so much timidity and so much political panic breeding it is refreshing to encounter such an exhibition of courage and energy in high places as Mr. McAdoo has shown. America has at hand an instrument that will save the finances of the country and enable the country to be of real service to the whole world in time of stress. Although financial leadership is being changed in a time of great urgency, there is no need for such extreme caution as was being displayed, for the new plan is not a wild experiment but is based on accepted facts. It places control of banking and currency in the hands of the people and takes it out of the hands of a few capitalists who have for a long time manipulated the public wealth and enterprise. Instead of being used in speculation and for the gain of a few these are now to be used legitimately in support of coin as the solid foundation of currency and credit.

Delaying putting such an instrument of good in the hands of the people for a single day longer than is necessary would be a mistake. It was created for just such an emergency as impends and the restoration of commerce and industry depends upon the vigor with which its advantages are used.

The federal reserve bank is one of

the triumphs of the Wilson administration.—Dubuque (Ia.) Telegraph-Herald.

## A REVIVAL AT CROW

Commissioner Sells, unannounced, arrived at Crow Agency on October 6. During his visit he gave the entire reservation a most comprehensive survey. He rode, at the very least, five hundred miles in all directions, examining schools, calling upon the missionaries, inspecting the irrigation work and the cattle industry, visiting Indian homes, meeting the Indians in council, talking with them individually and listening always with the utmost deference and patience to their wishes or complaints. In nearly all of his trips he was entirely unaccompanied except by a driver. Nothing escaped his eye, and he asked information of everyone with whom he came in contact, no matter how humble. As a consequence, there is probably no one more generally familiar with conditions on the reservation than the commissioner himself.

The results of his visit are already apparent. It is not merely in material improvements already under way, but in that indefinable gain in spirit, in stamina and purpose. He has talked with force and directness to the Indians, making them feel that they have a sure and sympathetic friend, but that friendship means mutual confidence and obligations; that he intends to do his part, but they also have a part to perform. To employees he has made it clear in wisely chosen words that he has no sympathy with the selfish equation in their work, and that the ideals he wishes to have dominate are those of patience and co-operation, efficiency, and sympathetic service. A broader spirit of helpfulness toward the Indian himself, constructive and vitalizing, characterizes the commissioner's attitude; it is the human side of the problem which appeals to him.

Superintendent and Mrs. Estep gave a reception in his honor, this being the only entertainment for which he allowed himself any opportunity. The residents of the village were all invited, the employees remaining to hear the commissioner speak after the reception. The other official visitors on this occasion were Chief Inspector E. B. Linnen, Special Agent Fred S. Cook, Dr. C. R. Dewey and Mrs. E. E. Newton.

Crow is again on the map, but the color of it is changed from black to the red of courage and new purpose.—From The Indian School Journal, U. S. Indian School, Chilocco, Oklahoma.

## COMPARABLE TO LINCOLN

Woodrow Wilson is Abraham Lincoln with educational advantages—born and bred in different environment. The same primitive virtues, refined and set in order; the same directness, sincerity, and tenacity of purpose; the same self-forgetfulness in thought for the country. Lincoln's exterior characteristics were picturesque because back of them lived the man. It is idle to contend that had the railsplitter done his sums on a blackboard in a well-appointed school room instead of on the back of a fire shovel in the flickering light of a back-log, it would have been a disadvantage. His life among backwoodsmen and frontiersmen gave him insight to the character of the more primitive man, the foundation strength of a new and expanding country. Missing this, except by study, imagination, feeling, Woodrow Wilson knows the men of the world. In neither instance was environment, education of opposite kind, able to keep back development. The quality of manhood asserts itself and is identical.—San Francisco Star (Ind.).

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