

LY ACQUAINTED WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF POPULAR GOVERNMENT AND WHOLLY IN SYMPATHY WITH THE EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE. Such a minister would be an adviser of inestimable value. His counsel being voluntarily sought would be accepted and therefore he would have an influence far greater than any influence that could be exerted by any official who was independent of the people's wishes. He could explain the development of our constitution, the discovery of defects and their correction by amendments and new laws. He could point out the pit-falls and warn against threatened danger. In a word, he could do all that a mandatory could possibly do and do it much better, and at the same time the nation would, by the development of its own strength, become stronger and stronger for the work of self-government. Now is the time for the United States to set an example that will hasten the world's progress toward democracy; it cannot afford to encourage error by abandoning its own righteous attitude. W. J. BRYAN.

**THEIR NET LOSS SMALL**

Those who ask sympathy should state the facts upon which their claim is based. The manufacturers who have liquor on hand complain of injustice done them by prohibition. Let us have ALL the facts.

First—How much did they have on hand when manufacture was stopped?

Second—What was the value measured by COST?

Third—What was its value when measured by price then prevailing?

Fourth—How much has been sold since manufacture was stopped?

Fifth—What was received for the amount sold?

Prohibition raised the price of liquor on hand and the increased value of liquor should be deducted in order to find net loss. If prohibition is blamed for any loss, it must be credited with gains as well—only NET loss can be considered, and that can not be regarded as either a legal or a moral claim; it is insignificant when compared with the injury done by liquor.

**WHY NOT CHANGE CANDIDATES?**

General Wood is quoted as saying: "War will come again. We don't know when it will come or where it will come. But it will come just as surely as epidemics, pestilence, tuberculosis, cancer and other diseases. War will always be with us unless God changes the character of the human race. Let us be ready."

It is not necessary to change human nature entirely. If it is changed sufficiently to eliminate professional soldiers from the list of candidates some progress will be made. Why not help nature remove the friends of war?

**SUFFRAGE NEARLY HERE**

Twenty-five states have ratified the suffrage amendment and several more will within a month. It will soon be a race for the distinction of being state 36—the last necessary to complete the ratification. Which state will win the honor? Why not Mississippi, the first to ratify the prohibition amendment? Here's to Mississippi—may she be the Alpha and Omega of two great reforms.

**NOT A "SPLIT" BUT A FIGHT**

The republicans are chuckling over the prospects of a split in the democratic party, but they will not chuckle long. If the democrats throw the responsibility for delay on the republicans, the G. O. P. will soon be fighting with its back to the wall. "Compromise NOW or an appeal AFTER ratification" will rout the republicans.

**NO TIME TO LOSE**

The states that favor woman suffrage should lose no time in ratifying the amendment. Women should be admitted to suffrage in time to take part in the conventions as well as in the elections. The democratic party is not afraid of woman's conscience; it is needed in politics right now.

**A TRIO OF TRIUMPHS**

Prohibition and Peace will come about the same time, and Woman Suffrage, which will follow soon afterwards, will make both permanent. What a trio of triumphs!

Constant Reader: Yes, hogs have gone down, but the news of the fall has not yet reached the selling agents of the packers.

**The Silver Situation**

The fight, waged for twenty years prior to 1896 for the remonetization of silver, was forced upon the world by falling prices. Three international conferences were held during that period to devise some way to escape from the bankruptcy that threatened the debtors of all lands, and, through them, business in general.

Even in 1896 the Republican party pledged itself to international bimetalism and one of the first official acts of President McKinley was the appointment of a commission to solicit the co-operation of the leading nations of Europe in opening the mints to the white metal. Former Vice-President Stevenson and Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, were members of this commission, and the latter, speaking in the United States Senate, charged that the failure of the commission was due to the fact that Secretary Gage of the Treasury department was making speeches in favor of the gold standard while the commission was appealing to Europe for aid in the re-establishment of the double standard.

The general objection raised by the financiers to bimetalism, whether independent or international, was that it is difficult to maintain an exact parity between the two metals but this argument was conclusively answered by international bimetalists who contended that a joint agreement between nations would reduce fluctuations to a fraction so small as to create no disturbance to business, and they pointed out that a continual rise in the value of the dollar was more injurious to the world than any slight variation in the relative value of the metal under international bimetalism could possibly be.

The theoretical objections to the double standard, however, had but little influence compared with the practical objection raised by Great Britain's opposition. Being the great creditor nation of the world, Great Britain threw her influence on the side of a rising dollar, her financiers being shortsighted enough to imagine that she could permanently prosper by a policy that did injustice to other nations—and it was injustice to compel debtors to pay in a dollar that constantly appreciated because of legislation that gave to gold a monopoly of the privileges of mintage.

Conditions are now entirely changed. An abundant currency has been secured from other sources; but, while the debtor class is no longer suffering from a rising dollar and falling prices, as it was prior to 1896, the chief argument against silver coinage has disappeared and new arguments bring a demand for bimetalism from the very classes that previously opposed it. Now that the bullion in a silver dollar is worth more on the market than the bullion in a gold dollar (a situation produced, not by legislation but in spite of it) we hear no more of the "dumping ground" bugbear or of the "melting pot test." The silver dollar is no longer a "cheap dollar;" it is the gold dollar that is cheap, if we may borrow the phraseology employed by the financiers twenty-five years ago.

And, just as the objections to silver are being silenced by the unprecedented demand for that metal, the world awakens to a need for basic money so great that gold will not supply it, and the situation in Europe is made still more acute by the fact that we have absorbed more than our per capita share of the gold of the world. During and since the war the volume of paper money has been swollen to fabulous amounts and no resumption of specie payments can be thought of without a very large increase in the quantity of standard money. Gold is a fair weather friend. To use a familiar phrase, often applied to individuals, it is "invincible in peace an invisible in war." It goes into hiding when it is most needed. If it had silver for a companion it would be more bold, but gold and silver together might not have been sufficient to meet all demands made upon them during the conflict through which we have just passed.

Bimetalism would furnish another advantage, namely, a stability in exchange between the east and the west. Under bimetalism debts can be paid at a fixed ratio in either metal and business can be carried on without violent fluctuations in the charge for exchange. No one can now doubt our ability to maintain bimetalism independently of the act of other nations, but bimetalism would give us such an advantage in trading with the two halves of the world that the commercial nations would soon be compelled to join us.

Great Britain, no longer in control of the credits of the world, may find it to her interest to propose international bimetalism and

such a proposition, coming from such a source, would doubtless find the rest of the world willing to accept international bimetalism. If our nation rejected such an offer the very commercial interests that clamored for a gold standard a quarter of a century ago would clamor as loudly for a financial system that would give them an equal chance with Europe in the contest for Oriental trade. China's development would be impossible on a gold basis—and China is a growing factor that cannot be ignored by those who plan for the future.

W. J. BRYAN.

**A PLAN FOR PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

(Suggestions by Mrs. William Jennings Bryan.)

One of the valuable by-products of the recent war is the information gathered by statistics. Physical examinations, for instance, have proven the young men of the land below par. Instead of the vigor of which we had boasted, we find a large per cent who are either diseased or poorly developed.

The ancients trained their youth by exercises and games. The statues of those days show how perfect was the development attained. Can we do better than to revive this system, modifying it to meet present conditions?

The task would not be difficult. The games should be arranged under the supervision of the best medical authority with a view to giving to each child the highest possible physical development. To give these games the maximum effect, they should be made so attractive that the children will be glad to enter the contests and will enjoy them. A great deal will depend upon the cultivation of public opinion which will surround the children with an atmosphere favorable to the games and prizes in the form of both medals and money will help to stimulate interest.

The division of the country into districts—beginning with the school district and proceeding upon any basis which will be just and impartial—can be readily accomplished.

A number of stadia which hark back to Grecian days are even now owned by colleges and no better places could be provided for the greater contests.

The contests for girls should be separate from those for boys and the exercises provided should have special regard to the needs of members of that class.

The final contest should be held in Washington; be witnessed by our high officials and the victor should not only be crowned with laurel by the President of the United States, but should receive a cash prize worthy of the struggle.

It is believed that some such system as the one outlined would go far toward raising the physical development of the boys and girls of the U. S. and would be as valuable to those who failed as to those who were the successful contestants.

**PROFITEERING IN COAL**

On another page will be found an extract from Commerce and Finance, containing an article by Theo. H. Price on "The Profits of Coal Mining." No wonder the operators squealed when Mr. McAdoo called attention to their tax returns. Seventy-five made from 25 to 50 per cent on capital stock; 87 made from 50 to 100 per cent; 75 from 100 to 200 per cent; 57 from 200 to 500 per cent; 21 from 500 to 1,000 per cent, and four made over 2,000 per cent—OVER TWENTY TIMES capital stock. And this was while calling for sacrifice from soldiers and citizens.

**THE WISE WOMEN FROM THE WEST**

Of course, California won the democratic convention. The wise men from the east were not a match for "the wise women from the west" who gave our party victory in 1916 when the east rejected the splendid record of the administration. All aboard for San Francisco.

**JOHN'S END IS NEAR**

John Barleycorn's boxing match with the supreme court is nearing its end. He has been knocked down twice within two months and is groggy. Can he get up for another round?

Wanted: A democratic candidate with a program; one who is more interested in his party than in his own political success—more interested in his country's welfare than in any office; one who stands for something, who has the courage to express his convictions and accept responsibility for them.