' APRIL, 1920 .

out an income tax? And what would be the feeling toward the big tax-dodgers today, if they could still throw upon the backs of the poor the burdens that the rich ought to bear?

For a generation a few money magnates in Wall street were able to control the financial sitnation, giving the people panic or prosperity according as they found it profitable. The currency law removed the center of power from New York to Washington, and the greatest war of all time has been unable to disturb our financial security. What would we have done during the war if this obstruction had not been previously removed from the stream?

A third constitutional amendment has been recently adopted after a contest lasting nearly 50 years. The saloon has been abolished, and, with it, the brewery and the distillery. It was a titanic struggle; no such powerful financial interests had ever before attempted to thwart the purpose of the nation or stay the onrushing tide of moral sentiment. The loss, of which those engaged in the liquor traffic complain, only measures the height of the dam with which they attempted to obstruct public opinion. If the obstruction had been removed earlier the damage would not have been so great; if the reform had been further delayed, the damage would have been still greater-not to speak of incalculable injury to the public.

The enfranchisement of woman, now almost accomplished, removes another obstruction from the stream and brings into the arena of politics a moral element, the presence of which will be felt in the settlement of every ethical question that arises hereafter. Woman's influence is needed just now to silence opposition to the prohibition amendment and to hasten the day of universal peace. Woman's influence is needed throughout the world to oppose universal military training and provide for a referendum on war except in case of invasion.

We are still confronted by efforts to stay the progress of our people; one is led by the profiteer who is vain enough to suppose that civilization will halt at his command. He owes his existence to the opportuunities offered by the war. While soldiers were bleeding in Europe, he was bleeding a patriotic people at home, and his bleeding continues unabated even after our boys have returned from across the Atlantic. He preys upon both producer and consumer and exacts a toll that is an offense against the conscience and ought to be made a violation of statute law. He sees the rising wrath of an indignant people and yet is brazen enough to send his lobbyists to Washington and to the state capitols to prevent legislation that will effectively protect the public. THE OBSTRUCTION MUST BE REMOVED AND THE SOONER IT IS REMOVED, THE EASIER WILL BE THE RETURN TO THE PERIOD OF HONEST PRICES AND FAIR DEALING. We need commissions in states and cities, for the investigation of charges of extortion with laws for the punishment of the guilty. If this is not sufficient, it may become necessary to regulate the middlemen's profit as we now regulate the interest that the banker can charge. If the money loaner is only permitted to charge 6 or 8 per cent for the use of his money for a year, why should the manufacturer, wholesaler or merchant be allowed to charge 50 to 100 or even 200 per cent on property that he turns over two or three times a year? Another great problem that presses upon us for solution is that presented by the private monopoly. All the beneficiaries of monopoly are assembling in one army and under one leadership to challenge the right of the people to own and operate natural monopolies in the interest of the public. It matters not in what form the issue is presented, whether in the corporate ownership of municipal franchises or in the private ownership of telegraph lines, telephone lines or railroad lines, it is an obstruction that must be removed. A PRIVATE MONOPOLY IS INDEFENSIBLE AND INTOLERABLE. It is inconceivable that an intelligent people will permit themselves to long remain the victims of those who use the private monopoly as a means of exploiting the public. There are other obstructions that must be removed; obstructions to the wage earner's progress and obstructions in the way of the farmer's advance; the rules of the United States Senate are an obstruction; they should be changed so as to allow a majority to close debate and compel a vote. . I have called

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attention to a few that effect the largest number. There are three remedies that surpass all others in effectiveness. First, freedom of speech. The widest latitude should be given to the expression of opinion, not to incite revolution or advise crime, but to criticise officials and to suggest constitutional remedies. Second, the people need incorruptible channels of information; they ought not to be entirely dependent upon private sources for the information which they need. The government, national and state, owes it to the voters to guarantee to them such complete information on the subjects before them as to enable them to give to the government the benefit of their conscience and their judgment. A government bulletin-not a newspaper but a bulletin-will furnish this. No people have suffered more than the people of New York from lack of authentic information on the issues before the voters. The average citizen of your state does not differ in purpose or interest from the average citizen of the West and South, and yet the Empire State has had but a small part in securing the great economic reforms of which you are now the beneficiaries. I address you as friends and fellow Americans and appeal for cooperation in the important work of restraining these, who, for their own selfish interests, would dam the stream of progress. I appeal for cooperation in the establishment of unpolluted channels of information, to the end that the voters may be able to better understand the issues and thus more quickly give expression to the people's will.

The third remedy is faith in the intelligence and capacity of the people-a faith that can be shown by the creation of machinery which will give the people absolute and continuing control of their own government-machinery that will make our government, in fact as well as in theory, "a government of the people, by the people and for the people."

Beware of those who speak contemptuously of the people-who describe the masses as a mob. Whether this distrust of the people, manifested by the representatives of big business, arises from un-democratic sentiment or from fear that so-called property rights will uo longer be given preferment over human rights, it ought to arouse to action all who believe in a people's government-a belief that is larger than any party and must, when the issues are understood, dominate all parties. The initiative and the referendum prefect representative government and are the most effective means of insuring the rule

say that they accept the verdict of the people in the matter of the constitutional amendment which prohibits the manufacture and sale for beverage purposes of intoxicating liquors, they are merely pretending, and their real purpose of nullification is apparent.

MR. BRYAN'S POPULARITY

To those who are puzzled to understand the confidence of the American people in the integrity of Mr. Bryan after successive failures to scale the pinnacle of his ambition it may be explained very briefly that he is an honest man. Multitudes have followed him for 25 years and will continue to follow him not because they are always in harmony with his attitudes, nor that he has not frequently been infallibly wrong in his advocacies, but because they believe in his sincerity. That is the secret of his power. It is why a large percentage of Democrats hearken when he speaks and trust his leadership. He stood alone comparatively when he essayed to drive rum from the land. It mattered not that unseemly criticism fell upon him at every hand, he believed he was right, and with this conviction as his chief weapon he knocked at the door of public opinion until finally it was opened to him. Today millions share that conviction, and and many of them are followers of Mr. Bryan. Incidentally prohibition is a fact.

The lesson to be learned, then, from the extraordinary life of this singularly gifted man is that honesty, whether from selfish or altruistic motives, is the best policy. It is true that in addition to this priceless virtue Mr. Bryan has been able because of a fine physique and a keen intellect to impress his views upon the nation in a way that other men less gifted and equally sincere could not. But in spite of his talents had the public lost faith in his sincerity Mr. Bryan would long since have been forgotten. Surely it is not true that consistency is the vice of small men. Certainly it does not apply in Mr. Bryan's case, nor does it as a matter of fact apply in any case. The angels seem mysteriously to encamp around about the honest man .- Mercury-Herald, San Jose, Calif. DE SHOULD

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COLER PRAISES PROHIBITION

Although he believes prohibition was brought about in an un-American and undemocratic way, Bird S. Coler, Commissioner of Charitics, declares it has emptied the alcoholic wards in the city's hospitals, rendered municipal lodging houses superfluous,' and lessened the need of charity. If referendums are held-and he

of the people.

I believe in optimism-not in an optimism that is blind to dangers and ignores evils that need correction-but an optimism built upon confidence in the virtue and intelligence of our people. I do not admit the possibility of revolution in the United States. Ballots in the hands of all are cheaper and more effective than bullets, and the people will use them to reform all abuses before they reach a point where the thought of revolutionary remedies will be tolerated.

Even in my youth I had no doubt of the final triumph of every righteous cause and my faith is even greater now since I have seen reform after reform accomplished and great principles, that were at first scoffed at, written into the unrepealable law of the land. No one has been happier than I in the character and constancy of his friends or more generously rewarded for labor in the political vineyard. My ambition is not to enjoy the honors of office, but to discharge as fully as I can the debt of gratitude I owe to the American people. I am aware that my place in history will not depend upon what others do for me, but upon what I am able to do for my country. If a kind Providence adds years to my life they will be spent in an earnest effort to aid in putting the American people in complete control of their government here, and to promote peace among all the nations, to the end that the conscience of our country and the world may more surely and more speedily overthrow injustice and establish among men the nearest possible approach to the Divine measure of rewards.

The reason why there is a determined effort being made to secure legal permission for the sale of light wines and beers is that those who like liquor for the alcoholic stimulation it gives them want ready access to liquor that has enough alcohol in it to intoxicate. When they

strongly favors them-he feels certain the Eighteenth amendment will be reaffirmed.

"Judging from results in this department," he said yesterday, "Prohibition is accomplishing more good results than the extreme advocates have ever claimed.

"I firmly coincide with Mr. Vanderlip's statement in the morning papers. The alcoholic wards in the Department of Public Charities and Bellevue and Allied Hospitals are doing practically nothing. We are closing most of the floors of the Municipal Lodging house. For the past few weeks we have had more employees than patrons. In fact, those coming to us recently are more or less vagrants, probably workhouse cases.' The man who has left his employment through intoxication and is down and out for a few days, without money looking for another job, has practically ceased to exist.

"There are almost 1,000 vacancies in public and private hospitals for "T. B.' cases, many of which came from overindulgence of alcoholic beverages. We are having less commitments of children. While some of the results are due to better times and higher wages, nevertheless that does not account for the decrease in the alcoholr ic wards.

"Private societies or organizations seeking increased subscriptions from the general public on the ground that conditions among the poor today are worse than heretofore are simply obtaining money under false pretenses."-Brooklyn Eagle.

Pictures of Wood and Pershing, the military men who are candidates for the Republican nomination for president, appeared the last weeks of the campaign with the civilian garb substituted for the military. Owing to the very vigorously expressed objection of voters to putting a trained soldier in the white house, it was decided by the campaign managers that they looked much better in "civies."