

# Force in Simple Speech

William Jennings Bryan stripped public speaking of its many myths in a lecture in the Grand Avenue Temple last night. Naturalness, confidence, a vocabulary of meaning words and enunciation, he said, were all that were necessary to an orator's store.

There was no trick in the art of speaking Mr. Bryan said. Gestures must be natural and he had no opinion as to what constituted a carrying voice. On more than one occasion he has gotten up before an audience not knowing whether his voice would hold out. His only remedy for a bad voice is to punish it. It has never failed him when he needed it.

Timidity is the only difficulty he has had to overcome. When he is confronted with the necessity of making a great effort such as the Cross of Gold speech, by which he won the presidential nomination in Chicago, or at the Baltimore convention when he forced the nomination of Woodrow Wilson, he confesses that he feels weak before he rises to speak.

## NO MODEL IN HIS CAREER

Unlike some orators who have studied orations with the deliberate purpose of learning oratory, Mr. Bryan has taken no model. He was warned against this by his father, who urged him to strive for originality.

It was Mr. Bryan's mother, who, more than any other, induced him to become an orator. She held the example of his father before him and only a few years after he learned to walk would go to the courtroom and, sitting on the steps, would drink in the words of local advocates at the bar and dream of the day when he would be an orator, too.

His mother taught him to declaim before he was 6 years old, and his years at school and college are records of triumphs of declamation that must have been dearer to him than his greatest achievements in after years.

## A JEST THAT LED TO AN ALTAR

"Once when I was preparing for a declamation I went out to a clump of woods and held forth," Mr. Bryan said, as his face lighted up. "Two ladies passed nearby on the way to picnic grounds. A man rushed up to them.

"I do think an insane man must have escaped from the asylum overthere," he exclaimed.

"They knew that I was there and made a good deal of sport at my expense. One afterwards became my wife."

Mr. Bryan said that audiences respond much the same in different sections of the country. Blindfold him and he would not know in which part of the country he was.

## FINISH A WORD, THEN GO ON!

He warned against overemphasis. The speaker often tires himself and his audience as well. His own method of enunciation is to speak distinctly and finish one word before beginning another. He said that he could make his voice heard at a distance of a quarter of a mile.

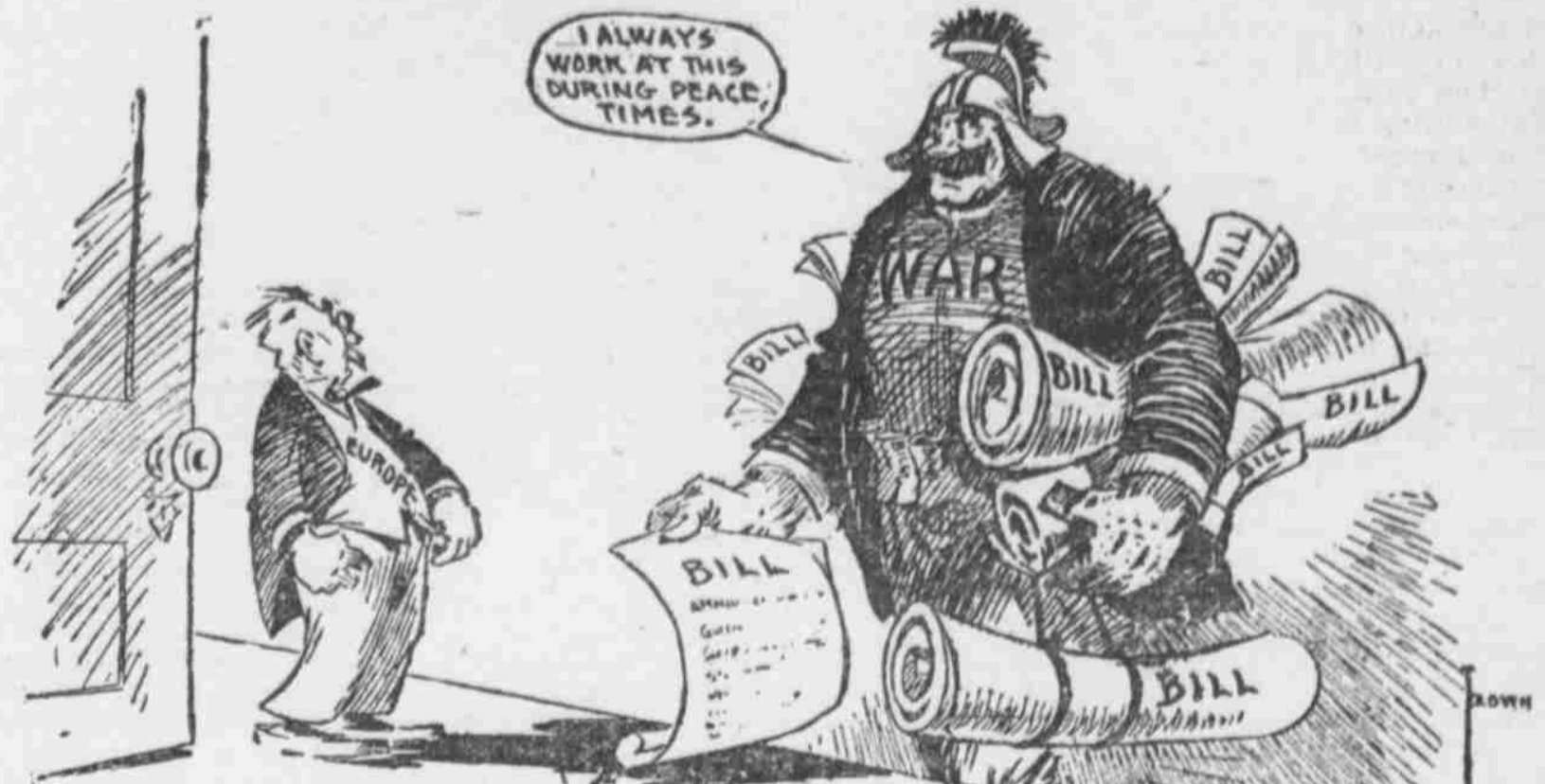
"The two fundamental things in speaking are: to know your subject and mean what you say," Mr. Bryan said. "Some men seem to know a great deal more about a subject than they can say about it. They cannot express themselves clearly. A young man increases his vocabulary until the day of his graduation. His graduation address represents his vocabulary at its maximum. From that time on he finds it more and more necessary to use simple words that people may understand him.

## CLEAR SPEECH LINCOLN'S FORTE

"Lincoln had a remarkable gift of clear speech. He owes his rise in life to that gift. When the Battle of Gettysburg was to be celebrated a committee asked a recognized orator to deliver an address. It was debated whether the committee should ask Lincoln to speak also. After the orator of the occasion had spoken Lincoln used a few simple words, which have served as a model ever since. We recite his Gettysburg speech on Memorial day even as the Declaration of Independence is spoken on the Fourth of July.

"I spoke at Chicago university while Einstein was discussing his theory of relatively there, yet I had a good audience. To understand him a man had first to know German. Then he had to know some kind of a language that is unintelligible to most men."—Kansas City Star.

## THIS EX-SERVICE MAN DIDN'T LOAF LONG.



—Chicago Daily News.

## DISARM U. S. EVEN IF WORLD STAYS ARMED

(From report by Rev. G. A. MacWhorter, in Chicago Daily Tribune May 20.)

"Disarmament by agreement if possible, but disarmament by example if necessary." That is the platform with which William Jennings Bryan startled his hearers at a mass meeting in Medinah Temple last night. It was the closing session of the sixth annual meeting of the World Alliance of International Friendship Through the Churches.

"Through militarists and navalists may control other nations, God forbid that such men shall tie our hands by holding back their own countries from joining in an universal disarmament congress," he said. "War is the business of some men who live on carnage and grow on blood, and disarmament will put them out of business.

"No one in the United States read the newspapers more carefully than I did during the peace conference and I was anxious to see whether the treaty was going to be written in the spirit of Nietzsche and Darwin or in the spirit of Christ. The statesmen of the world had followed the devil's advice and we had to pay the devil's price in the great war.

"I was willing to accept the treaty with the league, with or without reservations, in order that the United States might 'get in' and change things afterwards, for I believe that our counsel, which is sorely needed by the world today is worth more to the world than an army.

"There are three classes of people today with regard to the question of disarmament; first, the few who would wait and see what other nations will do with regard to the reduction of armaments; secondly, that very large group who would be willing to take a stand for disarmament provided the other nations would join in with us; and thirdly, that group who have faith and belief enough to come out boldly for leadership and would be willing to say to the world, 'We will if necessary lead the way alone in disarmament,' and let the world follow our lead."

## THE KEY TO DISARMAMENT

The meeting of the Armaments Commission of the League of Nations, postponed from May to June, is again postponed until July 10, because the commission desires to take whatever advantage may be possible of the Borah amendment to the Naval Appropriation Bill.

Enemies of the league may sneer at these successive postponements as an evidence of irresolution and a confession of lack of power. But what else could the commission do? Men like the eminent delegates, Orlando, Viviani, Marshal Fayolle, Admiral Calthrope, know their business quite as well as the critics. No delegates are to represent the United States. The Borah resolution may provide in another manner for the participation of this country in disarmament discussion limited to the sea.

For the fact is that the United States is the key to any proposal of international agreement to disarm. The wealth of the United States, its

resources and its variety of products make it potentially the first war power of the world. There can be no effective plan for the limitation of armament until the nations know what the United States is to do.—New York World.

## BRYAN URGES U. S. TO LEAD PEACE MOVE

(Indianapolis Star, May 18.)

Advocating the disarmament of the nations of the world by agreement if possible, but with the United States setting the example if necessary, William Jennings Bryan, before the delegates to the twenty-eighth conference of the United Brethren church in Tomlinson hall last night, urged the immediate entry of the United States into active co-operation with other nations for world peace as a means to that end.

Approximately 1,500 delegates to the conference filled the front seats of the hall. The remainder was filled with residents of Indianapolis. Officials of the church made every effort to reserve seats for the delegates but those who came late were compelled to take their chances with the rest.

Mr. Bryan received an enthusiastic reception when he entered the hall at 8 o'clock. Many of the older members of the gathering had heard him speak many times before in various parts of the country.

An old white-haired man, in the rear of the hall, provided an element of humor for those about him when he stood up on his chair, peered at the platform. When he sat down, he remarked: "It's the same Bryan. I've voted for him three times and I'll vote for him again if he runs."

## ADVERTISE PRICES

A Washington special, dated May 19, says: Surprise was expressed by Secretary of Commerce Hoover today over the fact that the buying level remains as high as it is despite 4,000,000 men being out of work. Secretary Hoover also discussed the differences between retail and wholesale prices, saying that if retailers are selling their goods at a figure proportionate to the drop in wholesale prices, they should prove it by publishing in their advertising matter a comparison of present prices and those of a year ago.

The information is wafted from Russia that Premier Lenine has reached the conclusion that communism is an absolute failure and that he has invited the social Democrats to return and help organize the government along the lines of a democracy. Communism turned out to be just as autocratic as capitalism, and just as fatal to the growth of the nation. Russia has tremendous possibilities as a republic, if the people are really given a chance to rule.

Labor has spoken in most emphatic tones against the substitution of the sales tax for the excess profits tax by congress. The farmers had already taken a strong position against it. Labor and agriculture form the two largest units of producers in the country. Congress will hardly dare defy their expressed will.