

Miracle of Miracles

The miracle of miracles is man. In "Industrial Management," Mr. John H. Van DeVenter is quoted as follows:

"We engineers are apt to forget that the human body is the most wonderful work of engineering in the world. As a plant it is more complex than the largest works in existence. Take the digestive tract, the lymphatic system, framework of bones, the innumerable muscle motors, the co-ordinating functions performed by the liver, kidneys and other internal organs. And to go a step farther, take the sensory departments. How about the wonderful optical plant in which colored moving pictures are instantaneously taken and developed? How about the phonographic department where the sound vibrations are received, recorded and reproduced? And the sense of touch so delicate that the fingers can be trained to feel flat spots on a steel ball which are not apparent to the eye? Think of the thousands of functions performed automatically and those requiring judgment being cared for at the same time through other channels. You will agree with me surely that the body contains the most elaborate organizations ever installed in any plant; that its component parts are examples of a finer kind of design than we will ever approximate and that the functions and their relations are co-ordinated more smoothly than we will ever be able to arrange human relations."

Yes, Mr. Van DeVenter is right, and he might have gone even farther. There are more mysteries in man than there is in all the universe outside—more evidences of an all-wise, all-powerful, and all-loving Creator and yet there are men who think themselves great—who even claim a monopoly of intelligence, who call themselves agnostics, and, as Darwin said, that the beginning of all this is insolvable by men. Those doubters could not live an hour if they were left dependent upon themselves. They could not expand their lungs or swing the pendulum of the heart if they had to do it by conscious effort. A kind Heavenly Father has so constructed them that the mysterious thing within them called life does its own battling and leaves the individual free to employ his time in nobler things than merely making himself live. How strange that any human being should use his time irreverently or waste it in frantic efforts to drive God out of the universe.

W. J. BRYAN.

A VALUABLE BOOK

Mr. W. B. Johnson of 7603 East Fifteenth St., Kansas City, Missouri, (formerly a citizen of Nebraska) has issued a pamphlet entitled, "A Federal Bank in Every County Seat," in which he makes a very severe charge against the management of the Federal Reserve Banks. The facts which he marshals and the indictment which he frames upon the facts ought to be known by all, especially by those who occupy a position of leadership among the farmers. The Commoner recommends a careful perusal of the book.

A BOY'S REPORT

On another page will be found a report of one of Mr. Bryan's speeches made by a student at Saint Christopher's Boy's School and published in The Pine Needle, the school paper. It is reproduced because it is one of the most accurate and faithful pieces of condensed reporting that has come to Mr. Bryan's notice. The boy who did it displayed unusual journalistic talent.

LLOYD GEORGE'S GREAT VICTORY

Lloyd George has won one of the greatest victories of his extraordinary career in the settlement of the Irish question. It has baffled all the premiers of Great Britain for centuries. Even Gladstone had to confess failure, but the persistence of Lloyd George has been rewarded. He has served his own country well and he has been a friend to Ireland. A world lays its tribute at his feet.

W. J. BRYAN.

MILITARY TRAINING

The Commoner's National Legislative Program, published in the February, 1921, issue, contained the following plank on military training:

"We are opposed to universal compulsory military training in time of peace."

THE FIGHT AGAINST DARWINISM

The fight against Darwinism is spreading. An editorial from the Elizabeth (Kentucky) News reproduced in the Western Recorder, one of the leading Baptist papers of the South, deals with the situation in the University of Kentucky. In the same issue of the Recorder (December 29) will be found a report of the General Baptist Convention in Texas, recently held. The convention adopted a memorial opposing the teaching in the denominational schools of anything that squints at the Darwinian theory of evolution. The convention also appointed a committee of five to investigate the text books on evolution Darwinism and kindred heresies in the public schools and institutions of learning in Texas. Similar action has been taken by the Baptists of Kentucky and Florida. The same matter was brought up by the Baptist Convention in Tennessee and voted down by a small majority. One need make no claim to prophecy to predict that the teaching of Darwinism will disappear from all the schools when the Christians of the country understand its demoralizing effect in undermining the faith of the students.

W. J. BRYAN.

Nebraskans have organized a corn eaters' club, one part of the oath of allegiance taken being to partake once daily of some dish in which corn is an ingredient. Most any time we expect to see some of the hopeful wets step forward to say that they would be glad to join if they might be permitted to name the thing with corn in it that most appeals to them. Which suggests that the wets have overlooked an excellent chance to point out that it is because we have prohibition and no corn whisky that accounts for the low price of that grain.

Members of the Nebraska bar association have again decided that they had not better follow their inclination and make a close corporation of the business of practicing in the courts of that state. A committee submitted a bill intended to create a lawyers' trust, but the majority evidently determined this is no year for a new trust to spring into being.

The war finance corporation is out begging the farmers to please come in and borrow its money. It says that it has an unlimited amount and that anybody can come and get what they want—if they have good security. The bankers will tell the farmer what is good security and what is not. As Bill Dech would say, he knew there was some catch in it.

As General Dawes figures it, if congress adopts the plan he submits for running the government's financial affairs, it will save some \$609,000,000. Now if the general can figure out some plan to get congress to do it, we for one will be in favor of doubling his dollar a year salary.

NEWSPAPER OPENING

Anyone desiring to enter the newspaper field will find an excellent opportunity in a thriving city of Western Florida. The opportunity offered is a splendid established daily newspaper property. For further information address inquiry to Dept. F, Care of The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.

A NEW PHRASE

On another page will be found a new phrase "Prince of the Broken Sword." Grace Gilbert is the originator of this beautiful expressive title. It deserves a place in peace literature. "Prince of the Broken Sword" is an inspiration.

No Longer a Joke

United States Judge Munger of the Lincoln, Nebraska, district is convincing the bootleggers that the violation of the liquor law is not a joke in his court. He recently gave a prisoner a \$400 fine and six months in jail, and, in addition to that, a lecture. He said to the accused: "You may read a lot of jokes about prohibition in the newspapers and at the movies, but congress didn't mean the law for a joke, and congress put it up to the courts to enforce the law. The terms of the act are severe, and if I gave too light sentences I should be encouraging law breaking. Some good men get into trouble because they don't take this thing seriously enough."

That means business. They will quit violating the law when they find that the courts are in earnest and all-doubt ought to be removed at once.

W. J. BRYAN.

SERVICE THE HIGHEST PURPOSE

Washington, D. C., November 17, 1921.—To _____, 421 Y. M. C. A. Building, Washington, D. C.—Your question is easily answered. A man never suffers a severe disappointment except when he loses something upon which his heart is set. The way to keep from being disappointed by political defeat is not to set your heart on an office. Offices, in a country like ours, are simply opportunities for service. While it is perfectly proper for one to be willing to serve, his candidacy ought to be merely an offer and he should not feel disappointed if the people choose someone else. Have they not the right to choose whom they please? And, suppose they make a mistake; have they not the right to make mistakes? If they make a mistake, they suffer for it, and will correct it when they find it out.

Do not allow yourself to worry a moment about defeat. Make SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC IN ANY CAPACITY THAT FALLS TO YOUR LOT your highest political purpose and let holding office be merely incidental—a thing to be enjoyed when the people want you to hold office and not to be mourned when they prefer someone else.

Very truly yours,

W. J. BRYAN.

About the most uninspiring spectacle still visible is presented by the men and women who celebrate the new year by gathering in a cafe in some big city and proceed to degrade themselves with intoxicants for the sole purpose of showing how little they care for the laws of God and man. The entire absence of even a desire of that sort among the home-loving, law-abiding, God-fearing who don't live in the big cities is the, one hope we have of the republic abiding.

As indicating that profiteering is not one of the lost arts, a Nebraska investigating committee has found that the hundred pounds of wheat that go into the making of 100 pounds of flour bring the farmer \$1.40 and the miller \$3.70, while the consumer pays \$4.50 for it. If baked by the manufacturers it produces bread for which the consumer pays \$16.50. When this baker's bread is served as toast at a restaurant the consumer pays \$40 for it. Some spread!

Two billion dollars have been lopped off the national debt in the last year, according to the latest bulletin from the national treasury. Investigation would doubtless determine that it was not contributed by any of those Republican leaders who assured us in the last national campaign that their party triumph would assure prosperity for years, but that it came from the same old source it always has, the taxpayers.

One of the things which opponents of prohibition pride themselves on is a regular fellow, indicating, of course, that there is something wrong with a man who prefers leading a sober, decent life. We suspect, however, that a man who leads an irregular life would find it difficult to qualify as a regular fellow.

Progressive Democrats should be selected as candidates for United States senator in each state electing senators this year.