

Today

W. J. Bryan Speaks.

Older Than 12,000 Years.
Immigrants Build Greatness.
Hard Drinking, Poor Thinking.
By ARTHUR BRISBANE

W. J. Bryan says that Mr. Mellon's new tax plan "tries to make 500 rich taxpayers a present of \$90,000,000."

Can Mr. Bryan mention 500 men that now pay ninety millions in income tax? Would it surprise him to know, that, thanks to intelligent lawyers, income tax-free securities, plus the holding of wealth and income by corporations that pay only a small tax, some of the wealthiest men in America pay trivial income tax, or none?

Mr. Mellon is working for the people for nothing. He can make at his own business in two days or two hours what the people pay him in a year.

He is trying to lay taxes that will be paid instead of taxes that no one pays.

Here and there a widow or minor children may pay heavy surtaxes. But the big fortunes do not pay them.

Mr. Mellon understands finance. Mr. Bryan will admit that he does not. Mr. Mellon has cut down the cost of government by hundreds of millions. Mr. Bryan won't object to that.

If a 25 per cent surtax is enough, why demand more? Taxes are laid to raise revenue, not to punish men for success. In war, any tax is justified. In a country as rich as this, taxes much smaller than Mr. Mellon suggests would supply all needed revenue, if the people here paid as they do in England, for instance. But here they do not pay—and in proportion the richest men pay the least. Mr. Mellon is trying to arrange taxes that can be collected and that will be enough.

Mr. Bryan said the oil scandal will reveal more surprises "than King Tut's tomb." That scandal is only one of the republican party, according to Mr. Bryan, and that party has more bores than Job.

The democrats will win if they do not commit suicide, says Mr. Bryan, for corruption is in the republican party's blood.

That may be; we are all weak mortals. But Mr. Bryan can find out, if he chooses, that all records for quick grafting, stealing, swindling, inefficiency and general rottenness were broken under the democratic party in war time. What billions were stolen in that orgy Mr. Bryan will never know until the Angel Gabriel tells him about it, in confidence.

Great deep canals, stone walls, ruins of a city holding 200,000 have been unearthed by the Japanese on one of the Pacific islands taken from Germany by Japan after the war. That island may have been the high spot on a continent in the western Pacific ocean—land now vanished and forgotten.

No savage islanders could have built the ancient city or moved the gigantic stones—of which none exist on the island, as it remains above water.

Science tells you, with perfect confidence, that we are only 12,000 years away from the stone age and our long-toothed ancestors in their caves. But science may be mistaken. It is not conceivable that in so short a time the human family should have traveled all over the world, leaving from Assyria to Peru traces of ancient civilizations.

Albert Johnson, earnest congressman from Washington, says, "we must ban immigration, or America will fade from the world, just as Egypt, Babylon, Tyre, Greece and Rome faded from the world."

Mr. Johnson should look more closely into immigration and its effects.

Greece was made by immigrants from the mainland of Asia and from the Balkans that sent down their Celts to give the Greeks their blue eyes. Thimistocles saved Greece from the Persians. His mother was born in Thrace, now called Bulgaria.

The greatness of Rome was built by immigrants from all over the Mediterranean basin, from Greece especially. Greek immigrants and Slavs taught the sons of Roman patricians.

France was created by immigration, Latins, Germans, Danes, Franks, the German race that gave to France its name.

England's power was created by immigration. Saxons, Danes, Normans and a dozen other races built up the heavy native type. The Basques came over from Spain on foot, before England was an island.

Immigration made this nation what it is. Red Indians could not have done it. Japan, ruling force in Asia, is to Asia what Venice was to Europe—a refuge for those that defied laws. Venice and Japan were peopled by fighting types of immigrants.

Friends, relations and supporters of the royal Romanoffs are delighted with stories of "mutiny in the Russian army, and a breaking up of the soviet."

Exiled czars in Paris drink wildly "to the fall of the reds." A special cablegram to Cyrus H. K. Curtis tells of "noble" Slavs drinking gallons of champagne, smashing glasses, tables, etc. It's picturesque, but it won't bring back the czar. If more grand dukes had kept sober, fewer grand dukes might have lost their lands and their heads.

E. R. Gurney Fined \$2,500 in U. S. Court

Former President Pays Fine in Cash and Leaves for Oregon; Absolves Other Officers.

Edwin R. Gurney, formerly president of the now defunct Lion Bonding company, pleaded guilty on three out of 18 counts to a charge of using the mails to defraud and was fined \$2,500 in federal court Monday morning.

Charges in the same indictment against 37 other former officers of the insurance concern and bankers and stock salesmen were dismissed by Judge Woodrough at the request of United States Attorney Kinsler and Special Assistant Dorsey.

Another indictment against the same men, charging them with conspiring to defraud the United States government by falsification of their business figures also was dismissed.

Never Made a Dollar.

Mr. Gurney, in a short address to the court, said: "I never made a dollar out of sale of Lion Bonding stock. In the case charging defrauding the government I will say I did some things irregularly in trying to save our company during the troubled period of 1920. All the rest of the 42 indicted in that case originally were innocent, particularly the numerous state bankers who discounted our notes. I was really the only fellow the law had any reason to get after."

"This," said Judge Woodrough, "is not such a fraud case as others we have been trying in which widows and orphans and other folks were swindled by smooth-tongued salesmen. In this case no one has been swindled. And I think it right that I take the recommendation of the district attorney and the others who have spent months going into the case and impose the fine suggested by them."

Leaves for Oregon.

Gurney arrived Monday morning from Baker, Ore., and left at noon to return there after paying his fine in cash. He is vice president of the Baker White Pine Lumber company, employing more than 400 men.

"I lost all in the Lion crash," he said. "I lost \$40,000 in stock which I had bought for \$185 a share."

Mr. Kinsler said his investigations convinced him the out-state bankers in the case never should have been indicted.

Eleven Officers Dismissed.

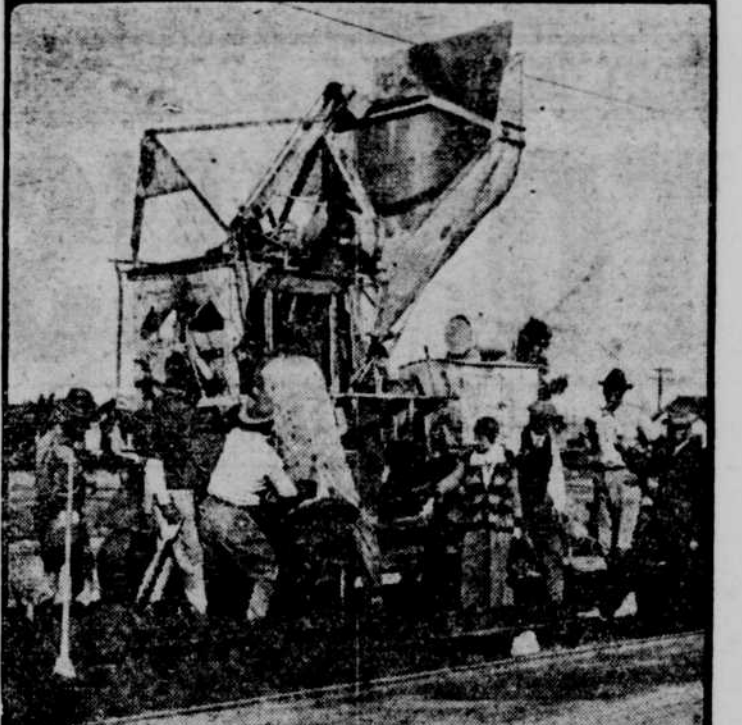
Charges against the following former officers of the Lion concern were dismissed:

- Fred Volpp, director.
- Philip D. Kohl, treasurer.
- Frank E. Knapp, director.
- Daniel Sanley, director.
- H. Clifford Leigh, secretary.
- Henry O. Beatty, vice-president.
- Dan F. Brown, vice-president.
- F. Bertram Aldredge, vice-president.
- J. Harvey Wheeler, assistant secretary.
- Frank P. Cowdry, auditor.
- Charles C. Brant, assistant secretary.

The Nebraska bankers named in the indictments and against whom all charges were dismissed are the following:

- Stanley C. Stookey, Allen, Neb.
- Henry W. Schoetger, Arlington.
- August A. Hayek, Brainard.
- Harry F. Dunlap, Bridgeport.
- Vaughn G. Williams, Carroll.
- John Tully, Crete.
- Fred W. Buls, Germantown.
- Fred Wupper, McLean.
- Emil E. Wulf, Morse Bluff.
- Caleb E. Negus, Nickerson.
- Thomas J. Castle, North Bend.
- John J. Thiel, Overt.
- John A. Hauser, Platte Center.
- John F. Bates, Rising City.
- J. Mark Shulenberg, Rosalie.

Woman Fools Doctors



Given six months to live several years ago, Mrs. Jeanette Daley went to work helping her husband manage concrete paving plant in San Diego. Now she's O. K.

Coolidge Is Best Man in Race for Presidency, Declares Edison

Laughs at Ford's Name—Electrical Wizard Spends 77th Birthday Working Hard.

By International News Service. West Orange, N. J., Feb. 11.—The 1924 presidential campaign situation has not fully developed, but of all the candidates so far named, I think the best man is Calvin Coolidge."

Thomas A. Edison, silver-haired electrical wizard, celebrating his seventy-seventh birthday anniversary today, made this statement in his laboratory here this morning.

The famous inventor arrived at his desk at 9:30, looking hale and hearty. He had been up at 7 o'clock and had a long walk. He said he was prepared for four or five hours of hard work, after which he would attend a banquet in his honor.

Beyond expressing his confidence in Coolidge, Edison said he did not want to discuss the political situation further. He laughed off the suggestion that he say something about his close friend, Henry Ford.

Asked how he felt, Edison smiled and said:

"Like a man of 40. I am a little more awkward, but I can get around pretty nearly as well as ever. I am 77 today, yes—but I am good for 10 more years, anyway."

On Edison's desk as he talked were sheafs of telegrams from admiring friends all over the country. There was one tremendous telegram printed across a cardboard seven feet square. It contained the signatures of 14,000 friends in Detroit.

Radio, Edison said, is the most important electrical achievement in the last year.

"Will radio supplant the wire telephone?" Edison was asked.

"No," he answered. "Neither will there ever be inter-planetary communication by radio, nor ever will the radio supplant the newspaper."

By Sun and Tide.

Edison said that when America's coal and oil supplies are gone, science will have perfected that which will make it possible for the sun, the tide, the vegetable growth to supply our power. But, he added, nothing to the present time has been accomplished to conserve the sun's energy, although something may be developed to make this possible and practicable.

"What will be the most important electrical invention of the future?" was another question shot at him.

"A system of connecting power stations and the development of water power to operate this system. The system itself could be applied to farm power and transportation. It would result in the electrification of railways."

"No," he answered. "Neither will there ever be inter-planetary communication by radio, nor ever will the radio supplant the newspaper."

Griffis Is Given Reception at N. Y.

New York, Feb. 11.—Corliss Hoover Griffis of Hamilton, Ohio, who was released recently from prison in Mosbach, Germany, after serving part of a sentence for complicity in a plot to kidnap Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, American draft evader, arrived home today on the Albert Ballin and was given a reception at City Hall.

McAdoo Gives His Defense at Oil Inquiry

Declares Doheny Had Envious Reputation When He Became Counsel of Oil Man.

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 11.—In an atmosphere surcharged with political tension, William G. McAdoo faced the senate oil committee today and explained his connection with the Doheny interests.

At the very outset he read a prepared statement charging that he had not been "prominently mentioned in connection with high office" his name never would have been brought into the inquiry.

He declared he had acted in perfect good faith in accepting a retainers' fee as counsel for Doheny after he left the cabinet and in the course of a long cross examination, repeated forcibly over and over his assertions that the attack made on him had been purely political.

"I conceive that the matter is wholly irrelevant to the subject matter of your inquiry," he said in conclusion, but I have been willing to come here and give these facts for such use and for such value as they may have in the pursuit of your investigation."

"When he appeared in the committee room, accompanied by David Rockwell of Ohio, manager of his campaign for the democratic presidential nomination, the former secretary of the treasury was greeted with a burst of applause which continued for a minute or more.

Questioned by Senator Walsh, democrat, Montana, Mr. McAdoo said he resigned as secretary of the treasury on December 16, 1918, and gave up the post of director general of the railways on January 11, 1919. After a three months' rest in California, he entered the law firm of Cotton & Franklin in accordance with an agreement previously made.

Service With Doheny

"When did you begin service with Mr. Doheny?" asked Senator Walsh. "November 30, 1919," was the reply.

Asked if there had been any arrangement while he was in the cabinet to enter the service of Mr. Doheny, Mr. McAdoo replied in the negative, adding that he had not entered their service until after he had resigned from office.

His resignation as counsel was submitted on February 2, he said—the day after Doheny testified before the committee, first revealed their connection. He said he had advised Doheny only on Mexican affairs.

Asked by Chairman Lenroot if he regarded Mr. Doheny "equally as

guilty" as Mr. Fall in the oil lease matter, Mr. McAdoo said: "Not equally. But I think he's guilty of a very serious matter. Of course I don't undertake to express a judgment, until your evidence is completed. Therefore I say appears."

His statement, which was in the nature of an elaboration of his recent letter to Chairman Lenroot of the committee dealing with his services as counsel to the Doheny companies, follows:

"I am informed by your chairman that already there has been inserted in the record the letter I addressed to him February 7, 1924, setting forth in detail the facts concerning the professional services rendered by my former law firm in New York, Messrs. McAdoo, Cotton and Franklin, and subsequently by myself in Los Angeles, in connection with Mexican property of Mr. Doheny's companies. It is clearly shown in my letter and in the testimony before the committee that neither they nor I have had any relation whatever to the leases made of the Teapot Dome and California naval reserves. There is, therefore, nothing more to be said on that score. But I have sought the privilege of appearing before the committee in person for the purpose of contributing in any way in my power as a private citizen to the object of this inquiry.

"It has been assumed that honorably conducted law practice of a citizen holding no public office is not ordinarily a subject of congressional inquiry. I think it may fairly be presumed that if my name was not prominently mentioned in connection with high office, my private practice as a lawyer would be of no interest to this committee or to the public.

Whether or not it has been drawn into inquiry to serve a partisan political purpose, the country will judge.

"It would be a crime against the public if the dragging of innocent people into this affair should divert attention from the guilty or prevent the discovery of those who have betrayed the public trust. The faith of the people in their own government is shaken and damaging effects upon public morals are so grave that the security of democratic institutions is seriously imperilled. The first duty, the imperative duty of the hour, is mercilessly to uncover and to bring to public view and scorn and punish every one who has betrayed the public trust.

"The question transcends political parties and partisan considerations. Clean and incorruptible government is vital not alone to republicans and democrats, but to every citizen. For my part, I am eager to see partisan spirit stilled in the face of so grave a danger to our common country.


"I should like to supplement my letter of February 7 with some of the reasons that prevailed upon me to

professionally in his Mexican difficulties.

Lawfully Acquired.

"Article 27 of the Mexican constitution of May 1, 1917, was an attempt to assert ownership by the Mexican government in the mineral deposits of the sub-surface of lands in Mexico. If this article should be given retroactive effect it would result in the confiscation of properties of American citizens lawfully acquired prior to the adoption of that constitution. This presented a grave situation for American property rights in Mexico—so grave in fact that the Wilson administration on April 2, 1918, through Ambassador Fletcher, at Mexico City, filed a solemn protest against it. This attitude was consistently maintained by the Wilson administration through its life. When the Harding administration came in, Secretary Hughes adopted the same policy. This policy was insisted upon by the American commissioners to Mexico, Messrs. Warren and Payne, and, as I understand it, was practically made a condition of recognition of Mexico by the United States.

"During the year 1918, I was director general of the railroads of the United States. The fuel problem was one of the most serious with which we had to deal. I was then made to realize keenly the tremendous importance of fuel oil from Mexico.



We Pay Tribute, Tuesday, to the Memory of Abraham Lincoln

—a man of sorrow, whose whole life was a succession of disappointments, criticisms and heart breaks, and who died a martyr's death when, for the first time in life, he had a vision of a future in which there was for him some measure of happiness and contentment.

For every man, for every woman, for every business, there is a lesson in the life of this man who believed in tenacious persistence for his ideals and who had an unwavering faith in the final triumph of right.

"With malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in."

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