

BRYAN AS PROPHET FAILS TO QUALIFY

Disasters He Foretold Never Come to Pass.

OPPOSITE IS ALWAYS TRUE.

Gold Standard Does Not Stay, Nor Does It Write Future in Blood.

As a prophet William Jennings Bryan has never been a success. The calamities which he has foretold would have brought unlimited disaster to the country if they had ever been realized.

It is well to have Americans remember that prophecies uttered by the orator of the Platte must be discounted fully 100 per cent, for all signs indicate that he feels the fates once more and is about to begin prophesying again.

"Driving Country to Ruin." For instance, when Mr. Bryan was a member of the House of Representatives in 1892 he was absolutely certain that protection was driving the country headlong to rack and ruin, and in his speech delivered March 16 of that year he drew the following agonizing pictures:

"Protection has been our capital tree, and as one after another of our farmers has been driven by the force of circumstances upon that tree and has been crushed within its folds his companions have stood around and shouted, 'Great is protection!'"

How far this picture portrays the America of to-day or the America of any year since he made that speech any American can answer. Even in Mr. Bryan's own State he can find an answer right at his doors, for the farm lands of Nebraska have doubled in value.

"Murderous Gold Standard." But during the four years succeeding that speech Mr. Bryan's agitation grew no less nor did the demon which he had raised in his own imagination hide with diminished head, for in 1896 he again saw destitution threatening the country. He had a remedy for it, a panacea, a fetch which he held up for worship—free silver. Here are some of the things Mr. Bryan said would happen if the gold standard were continued:

"I reply that if protection has slain its thousands the gold standard has slain its tens of thousands."—From speech at Democratic National Convention, July, 1896.

"Do not let the Republicans beguile you about the future. The future is written in blood crushed out of you by gold."—From speech at Erie, Pa., August, 1896.

"Ah, my friends, there is another reason why people have gone into the cities and left the farms. It is because your legislation has been causing the foreclosure of mortgages upon the farms. . . . Mark my words! If the gold standard goes on and people continue to complain, the gold standard advocates instead of trying to improve the condition of the people will be recommending that you close your schools so that the people will not realize how much they are suffering."—From speech at Monmouth, Ill., October, 1896.

But whom has the gold standard slain? What future did it write in blood? What district schools did it close? Again the condition of the country makes a calm reply confuting the impassioned orator.

Seeing Death of Patriotism. "The fight this year will be to carry out the sentiment of that song we have so often repeated, 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee.' If we lose, our children and our children's children will not succeed to the spirit of that song, and celebrations of the Fourth of July will pass away, for the spirit of the empire will be upon us."

and forgotten and the Fourth of July a meaningless date on the calendar?

One of the most ridiculous of these prophecies was contained in a speech Mr. Bryan made in support of Judge Parker during the campaign of 1904, when he attacked President Roosevelt bitterly. This prophecy had it that military despotism was sure to follow the decrease in the size of the standing army. In this speech Mr. Bryan also emphasized the fact that he was then and always would be a firm believer in the principle of free silver. He summed up his position on this question in the following sentence:

"I believe to-day in the principles set forth at Chicago and Kansas City (18 to 1) and shall continue to fight for those principles."

THE VERMONT ELECTION.

Result of Victory Indicates Undiminished Majorities for Republicans in November.

Raymond, the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, who is regarded as one of the most reliable political writers in the country, regards the result of the Vermont election as presaging absolute victory for Mr. Taft. In a recent special dispatch to the Tribune Raymond said:

"Practically speaking, the result of Tuesday's election is more favorable to the Republicans than they had any right to expect, because there has been a determined campaign for the purpose of making a good showing in Vermont and few of the big guns of the party have been put on the stump there this year."

"There is, of course, a slight falling off in the vote of both Republicans and Democrats, as compared with four years ago, but this was entirely to be expected, because at that time Roosevelt was the nominee of his party for president, and the result in Vermont in that year was merely a forerunner of the tremendous landslide which took place all over the country."

"As it is, the plurality of over 20,000 at yesterday's election is taken to be an indication that, while the campaign this year is not to be a sensational one, the election of Mr. Taft is foreshadowed by a safe majority."

"If Vermont can be taken as an index of the condition of public opinion, throughout the country, it means that in the November election, whatever strength the independence League develops in the other States will come almost exclusively from Bryan and not from Taft."

"The Vermont Democrats, while few in number, are extremely rockribbed in their sentiments. They make a point of going to the polls year after year and carry on a hopeless fight merely because they want to set a good example to the Democrats in other States. In 1896 they repudiated Bryan and the free silver heresy, and they did it largely by staying at home on election day. The result was a plurality of a little over 40,000 for McKinley, which has been a record in Vermont elections. In the State elections of 1900 and 1904 the Democratic vote was practically stationary."

TAFT'S RELIGION.

A Consistent Christian with No Spot Upon His Record of Private Conduct and Public Service.

To dispose of questions which should not be asked as speedily as possible let us say that Mr. Taft is a member of the Unitarian church. That was the church of his parents, and he has never separated himself from it. His wife, however, is an Episcopalian, and he worships more often beside her in her church.

These are the facts, which are utterly and absolutely unimportant. The matter of a man's religion has no rightful place in consideration of his fitness for the presidency. The constitution of the nation, ordained and established "to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity," expressly places the very suggestion of such thought outside the pale of patriotism.

No words can be clearer than these from our country's fundamental law, "No religious test ever shall be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States."

The numerous queries about Mr. Taft's religious belief shows simply the extent to which his enemies have gone to rouse some prejudice against him. Since there was no spot upon his whole clean record of private conduct and public service to which they could point to Taft's detriment they displayed their willingness to descend to any depth of petty, cowardly, contemptible attack that might do him harm.—Philadelphia North American.

Union Labor Vote.

Hon. William H. Buchanan is one of the leading union men of western New York and in 1907 was the Democratic candidate for assemblyman in Chautauque county. This is what he has to say of the effort of Mr. Gompers to turn the labor vote over to Mr. Bryan:

"I am a union labor man, and I want to say further that no man can carry the labor vote into the Democratic camp. I know how union labor men feel in this city, and three-fourths of them will stand by the Republican party because only in that way have they the assurance of freedom from the business disturbance that Mr. Bryan promises for at least four years if he can be elected. We workmen can't earn wages if statesmen are put in office to disturb business and make trouble."

TRYING TO HOOD-WINK NEGROES

Democrats Pursuing Their Usual Double Faced Policy.

Upholding Disfranchisement in the South While Forming Colored Bryan Clubs in West.

(From the Baltimore Sun, Dem.)

General Winfield S. Hancock, who was the Democratic nominee for President in 1880, declared the tariff was principally a "local question"—that is to say, a Pennsylvania Democrat might be a protectionist for protection's sake, while a Democrat in Georgia or in Iowa might hold fast to the doctrine of a tariff for revenue only. The Massachusetts Democrat might be a free trader without reservation of any kind, while the West Virginia Democrat might be a free trader only with respect to commodities which were not produced by his own State. General Hancock's pronouncement was considered an ingenious evasion of the tariff issue, but it did not produce harmony in the Democratic party, and the general was defeated.

Twenty-eight years have passed since General Hancock defined the tariff as a local question upon which the Democrats of each State were free to act with regard chiefly to local interests. The principle which he then formulated seems to have been adopted by Democrats in the West in respect to the relation of the Democratic party to the negro. Last week the West Virginia Democratic convention embodied in its platform planks demanding certain qualifications for voters, designed to disfranchise many negroes. Their platform also contains a declaration in favor of separate coaches for white and negro passengers on railroads. The West Virginia Democrats not only refuse to hold out the olive branch to the negro and invite him into their fold, but they are determined to limit his political activity by a disfranchising law and to bring him under the operation of a "Jim Crow" law when he travels on the railroads of that State.

What are the Promises?

Out in Nebraska and in Kansas the Democratic campaign managers are organizing negro voters into Bryan clubs. In Ohio no effort will be spared to secure the support of the negro voters for the Democratic national ticket. What pledges have been given and what inducements have been offered does not appear. But it is a fair inference that the managers have promised to do "something for the negro," perhaps to recognize him in the distribution of offices, if Mr. Bryan should be elected, and also to take such action as the negroes may demand in respect to the reinstatement of the negro battalion dismissed from the army by President Roosevelt for the attack on Brownsville. Last week when the West Virginia Democrats were declaring for a disfranchisement law and for a "Jim Crow" law, the Democratic convention in the Twelfth Congressional district of Ohio adopted a platform favoring "the enactment of laws which shall accord to all men accused of wrongdoing, whether soldiers or civilians, a fair and impartial trial and an opportunity to be heard before conviction or punishment." This apparently refers to the Brownsville incident. It may also have a broader meaning and a more extended application and may be susceptible of an interpretation which will make Southern Democrats open their eyes with amazement and possibly with apprehension.

Race Question "Local Issue?"

There seems to be no ground for reasonable doubt that the Democratic campaign managers in the West, in the effort to secure negro support for their national ticket, are acting upon the principle that the race question is only a "local issue." It is evident that the South does not approve this plan of campaign, but is powerless to check it. The Democracy of the South is in full accord with the position taken by the West Virginia Democrats last week. And yet it is assumed by those who are trying to get negroes to support Mr. Bryan that the South will act in hearty co-operation with the Ohio, Nebraska, Kansas and Illinois Democrats, who are welcoming the negro into free fellowship in the Democratic party and probably promising to annul the decision of President Roosevelt in the Brownsville matter. The theory of Western Democrats that the race problem is merely a local issue is calculated to give the South much concern. Many Democrats in that section may question whether it is worth while to elect a Democratic president who may open wide the door of political opportunity to the negro.

Mr. Bryan criticizes Mr. Taft for adding to the Republican platform. In the meantime the number of "paramount issues" which Mr. Bryan subtracted from the Democratic platform would fill several large volumes.—Omaha Bee.

Honors are easy again. Every day Mr. Taft buys a new horse Mr. Bryan counts a new hobby. Omaha Bee.

THE ISSUE AND PARTY RECORD.

Will the People Trust Experiment- alists and Theorists?

(From Sherman's Speech of Acceptance.)

The overshadowing issue of the campaign really is: Shall the administration of President Roosevelt be approved, shall a party of demonstrated capacity in administrative affairs be continued in power, shall the reins of government be placed in experienced hands, or do the people prefer to trust their destinies to an aggregation of experimental malcontents and theorists, whose only claim to a history is a party name they pilfered?

With a record of four decades of wise legislation; two score years of faithful administration; offering its fulfilled pledges as a guaranty of its promises for the future, the Republican party appeals to the people and, with full confidence in their wisdom and patriotism, awaits the rendition of the November verdict.

DENIES THAT BRYAN "COULD DO NO HARM."

Congressman Burke Says Office of President Is Infinitely More Powerful Than Congress.

Congressman James Francis Burke, of Pittsburg, in an address on "The Powers of the President," says:

"The American people can make no greater mistake than to elect Mr. Bryan on the assumption that he can do no harm in the face of an adverse Senate. As between the executive and legislative departments of the government, the former has infinitely greater power to rule and ruin than the latter."

"Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan are wholly different types of men. Each possesses a strong individual character, which would certainly assert itself in the White House. What either of these men would do during a four years' term in the White House is causing as much anxiety among thoughtful Americans as the mere matter of election alone."

"As a disturber of moneys the President is without a rival in the world. Through the agencies under his control he will this year disburse a billion dollars, showing the great things we are doing in adding to the unparalleled list of the world's achievements."

"In view of the fact that during the fifteen years of Bryan leadership the States controlled by his party have decreased from 23 to 12, the number of Senators from 48 to 31, the number of Representatives in Congress from 220 to 194, and in that time the Democratic party was in control of the ground, whereas it is now, as a consequence of his teachings, a hopelessly heterogeneous mass of Populistic elements, the American people can see little prospects of a constructive policy if Mr. Bryan should succeed."

LABOR WORLD FOR TAFT.

Characterizes Him as True Friend of the Workingman.

(From the Concord (N. H.) Monitor.)

The Labor World comes out strongly in its advocacy of Mr. Taft. It characterizes him a true friend of labor and declares that the unfair attacks of Mr. Gompers will have little or no effect in alienating from him the labor world. It says: "That Secretary Taft is a true friend of labor is certain, and all the untruth, ungenerous, vicious attacks that President Gompers or any one else may make on him cannot prevent him from continuing to be the friend of the wage worker. Organized labor cannot afford to have itself split up into factions on this political issue. That President Gompers is wrong in forcing this most ominous fight is certain, and intelligent wage workers will certainly come to this conclusion."

Campaign Funds.

"We welcome Mr. Taft to this advanced ground," said Mr. Bryan in one of his numerous interviews since the Denver convention. The ground referred to is Mr. Taft's statement that no campaign contributions would be received from corporations. Mr. Bryan intended to convey the impression that Mr. Taft had come to that determination after the Denver convention. In that the Democratic "peerless one" is not honest. Mr. Taft is a law abiding citizen. Such contributions are unlawful, made so by a law passed by a Republican congress at the instance of a Republican administration of which Judge Taft was a part six months before the Denver convention. So honest, Mr. Bryan, if you can!

Bryan's Precinct Republican.

At the recent primary election in Nebraska Lancaster Precinct No. 4, in which is located Fairview, the voting precinct of W. J. Bryan, cast thirty-five Republican votes and twenty-six Democratic. The same precinct last fall cast forty-three Republican votes and thirty-five Democratic, a Democratic loss of slightly more than 1 per cent. When Mr. Bryan lived in town he registered in Precinct A of the Fifth Ward, a polling place which usually could be depended upon to vote about the proportion of three Republicans to one Democrat. At the time he removed to Fairview he remarked facetiously that he was going to a community where the political division was more even, and he hoped in time to reform Lancaster No. 4 so to make it vote around to his way of thinking.

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