

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN
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FOUR GREAT LEADERS GONE

Wm. J. Bryan's recent activities, culminating in the Scopes trial at Dayton, bring him criticism even in Democratic sections of the country. "All signs," we read in the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot (Dem.), "pointed to the emergence of a new Bryan in the role of an embattled Old Testament prophet, but his role is ended before the play is done." Bryan's purposes and motives were admirable enough, says the Richmond News-Leader (Dem.), but his methods, "if followed, gave assurance of greater distress to this nation than anything which has happened since the war between the States."

The death of Bryan, we read in the Springfield Republican, marks the passing of the four great leaders of progressive or liberal movement of the past generation in American politics. Two of them, La Follette and Roosevelt, were Republicans, and two of them, Bryan and Wilson, were Democrats. "Just now it is the fashion to say that liberalism is in eclipse." But the Republican thinks that when the need for new leaders becomes urgent, they will appear, and it remarks:

"People already fifty or more in age may never witness the 'next war' between conservatism and radicalism," says the Baltimore Sun. "But whatever shape it may assume, whatever its specific issues may be, one can surmise without being shot for treason that leaders like La Follette and Bryan will seem to some of their successors to have been rather tame, house-trained crusaders for the common man in the golden age of American opportunity for the pioneer and the immigrant—getting nowhere because all the forces of American growth and prosperity still ran heavily against them."

NEW YORK HEADS WORLD

Whether London or New York is the "money center" of the world has been a debatable question since 1914. And now the controversy is revived by the action of the Bank of England, which recently assigned to J. P. Morgan & Co. \$75,000,000 of a \$100,000,000 issue of Australian bonds. Financial dailies frankly declare that Great Britain's financiers were not in a position to absorb such a large amount at the moment. If times were normal, of course, Australia would not think of borrowing outside London, if only for sentimental reasons. But, points out The Wall Street News, "this is a time when sentiment must be submerged in economic facts. The entire Australian loan could not have been handled in London without unsettling existing investments and credit conditions." "If the whole \$100,000,000 had been borrowed in London," explains the New York Sun, "that money center would have been drained of a substantial amount of gold, something which it could ill afford."

MUCH PREFER PROHIBITION

E. H. Scott, president of the Reo Motor Co., of Lansing, Michigan, says: "The past three years' experience under prohibition has not changed our views either on prohibition or the enforcement of the laws bearing on it. Our experience as manufacturers has shown us that prohibition, even with law enforcement of the law, is a success and much to be preferred to the licensed saloon, or in fact any method of selling intoxicating liquor. It is very unusual to have any difficulty with any of our employes drinking. They work much more steadily and are better workmen and more dependable in every way. The laws bearing on prohibition are not enforced 100 per cent, neither are the laws bearing on other questions. The return of public drinking places would make the motorcar a menace on the highways and would stop the sale, to a large extent, of the cheaper cars, as the money would be spent over the bar as in the old days and the family would go without a car."

A GIANTS' BATTLE

When Bryan and Darrow Met in Debate at Dayton, Tennessee

The climax of attack and defense between Mr. Darrow and Mr. Bryan is thus described in the New York Sun:

Under the eyes of more than 3,000 persons who pressed closer and closer to the wooden platform built against the north side of the court-house two men were sharply and unforgettably outlined against the background of the Scopes trial yesterday.

For two hours the hoarse, drawing voice of Clarence Darrow prodded and goaded William Jennings Bryan, and for two hours Bryan alternately defended his religious faith and stormed against the agnosticism of his questioner. And at the end of two hours, when Bryan seemed near a hysterical outburst as a result of the inquisition, Judge Raulston, who had been reading a newspaper during the trial, interrupted the scene, adjourned court abruptly.

The 3,000 spectators who hung upon the two voices, one hoarse and slow, the other metallic and confident, paid no heed to the coughing of the engine on the railroad tracks fifty yards away, to the statter of a flivver starting up across the street, to the wail of a child's balloon, repeated over and over again, to the cry of "cold drinks, cold drinks!" coming from the edge of the crowd, or to the choking, crying of a baby in the crowd, instantly hushed by its mother.

When Bryan left his seat at the prosecution table and walked over to the swivel-chair in front of Judge Raulston to appear as a willing witness for the defense, the air of Chattanooga was over the impromptu outdoor court. The semi-circle of benches around the platform was filled with those who had left the courtroom above when Judge Raulston had adjourned court because of the possibility that the over-burdened floor there might collapse. Around the semicircle of the seated, as many again were standing, reaching well out from the court-house.

Just before Bryan took the stand, there had been an amusing wrangle between the defense and prosecution over the question of whether a large sign, "Read Your Bible," should be removed from the court-house wall as prejudicial to the case of the defense when placed right before the noses of a Fundamentalist jury. The sign was removed by order of Judge Raulston. The crowd laughed and was at ease.

But not for long. Bryan walked over to the swivel-chair, his palm-leaf fan in hand, his mouth fixed and confident. He turned and faced Darrow, and his profile, strong and confident, was toward the crowd. Darrow rose, his chin a little forward, his forehead puckered, his hands thrust through the gray suspenders that came down over his blue shirt. He was questioning Bryan as a defense witness, as an acknowledged authority on the Bible, to supplement statements submitted by the defense in support of the defense contention that there is no conflict between the Bible and the facts of evolution. The testimony was for the record only.

Drawing from Bryan the preliminary statement that he believed that everything in the Bible "should be accepted as it is given," Darrow went on, question by question, compelling Bryan to say that he believed literally in the Biblical stories of Jonah and the whale, Joshua and the sun, the flood and the Tower of Babel. The questions and answers did not flow smoothly. They were interrupted several times when Bryan wheeled in his chair toward the intent crowd, rose to his feet, snapped at Darrow, the agnostic, rather than Darrow, the attorney. They were interrupted when Bryan shouted: "They didn't come here to try this case; they came here to try revealed religion."

And Darrow snarled back: "You insult every man of science and learning with your fool religion."

Then he led him back to those two chapters of Genesis that have been at the heart of this trial; and Bryan declared, after whirling uncomfortably in his chair, that he did not believe that the world was created in six days of twenty-four hours each, and that he did not believe that the world was created exactly 5,929 years ago.

A second later he was on his feet, his face red with anger, waving his palm-leaf fan at Darrow.

"I am willing to stand here and reveal the fact that these gentlemen have no purpose except to ridicule those who believe in Christianity," he shouted.

"We are here to oppose ignorances and bigots who are against education," Darrow retorted.

Bryan turned until he almost

faced the crowd, packed shoulder to shoulder under the shade of the maples.

"I am trying to protect the Word of God against the greatest agnostic in the United States," he stormed. "The agnostics are trying to force agnosticism into the schools of Tennessee."

There were rebel yells from the crowd. Again the raised gavel of the bailiff. In those yells there were notes dangerously close to ridicule. Bryan's crowd was not all his.

Tom Stewart, the serious-minded, politically ambitious Attorney-General, tried to stop the inquisition, but Judge Raulston ruled that it should go on. Bryan was a willing witness, he told the Judge. He swung around to Darrow and said: "Any atheist or agnostic or unbeliever can question me, and I'm not afraid to stand up and declare my belief in God."

Dudley Field Malone interrupted the scattered "Amen's" from the crowd. "Your Honor," he said, "we are not trying this case on Mr. Darrow's agnosticism or Mr. Bryan's brand of Christianity." There was spirited applause for this, the most sincere of the afternoon.

Darrow and Bryan got back on the ground of Genesis, Bryan declaring that he did not think the word "day" in Genesis was to be taken literally, but that it meant a period of time, any period of time. This was his impression, he said, and he would not quarrel with any man who believed that the world was created in six days of twenty-four hours each. It was equally possible for God, he insisted, to create the world in six days or six months or six years or six centuries. He was back in his chair, calm again, his mouth still angry. If the "day" of Genesis were a period, Darrow asked, how did he explain the words, "and the evening and the morning were the first day."

"If I'm not able to explain it, I'll accept it," Bryan answered, "and you can explain it to suit yourself."

Darrow turned a few pages of the Bible, looked over his glasses at Bryan and asked him if he believed that all women suffered the pains of childbirth because Eve ate the apple in the garden. Fretted by the questioning, Bryan objected to Darrow's language and insisted that he frame his questions direct from the Bible.

"So far," Darrow said drily, "I've read it just as the Almighty wrote it."

(Here is the text to which Darrow referred: "Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children." Gen. 3:16.)

That passage-at-arms was followed by what the Baltimore Sun called "the most dramatic incident of the dramatic afternoon, involving a demonstration of the younger people of Dayton toward Mr. Darrow." We are told:

After the judge had abruptly adjourned court there was a surge of young students, girls and boys, to shake the hand of Darrow. With flushed cheeks and shining eyes, eager, and excited, they looked as though they were celebrating the victory of a championship team. And in a way so it was. Darrow, the hated, the feared, the despised; Darrow, whose agnostic name is anathema in thousands of rigidly repressed Fundamentalist households, stood today as the champion of the causes of youth and its freedom from the mental Chinese foot-binding that its elders would impose upon it.

Another personality that seemed to make a favorable impression on the Tennesseans, according to the correspondents, was that of Dudley Field Malone. The Memphis Commercial-Appeal even credits him with having "met William Jennings Bryan on his own ground of oratory" and come out victorious. Sterling Tracy, the paper's staff correspondent, wrote:

Dayton, stronghold of the faith, worshipper of the Commoner, gave the decision. Dayton thundered her verdict at the end of the speech of Malone, who followed the Fundamentalist chieftain on the floor of the court. Women shrieked their approval. Men, unmoved even by Darrow, could not restrain their cheers. Judge Raulston's gavel and the clubs of policemen were unavailing to halt the most memorable ovation of the trial. The court did not recess. Court just broke up. People climbed over the rails to greet the New Yorker. Crowds surged into the aisle to exchange views. It was a quarter of an hour before the room could be quieted.

Malone appealed from one Bryan to another Bryan—from the Bryan who he believed was invoking the mailed fist to write Fundamentalist Christianity into the law of a State, to the Bryan who once said religion could meet its enemies in the open field of reason—from the Bryan he believed was afraid to admit scientific testimony into the case to the Bryan who never before was afraid to meet evidences with evidence.

TRUST
He has not struck me, ever yet, a blow.
This is the reason that I do not know
Fear of my Father, only a great love
For Him whose laws come to me
from above
The cloudy curtain that His angels
spread
Below His feet, but high above my
head.
Some day His lash will fall, and will
I, then,
Ever give Him this trusting love
again?
Will I?
Today the little child I punished,
weeping,
Crept to my arms, and sobbed off in
to sleeping,
Frances Holmstrom.

The vehicular tunnel beneath the Hudson River connecting New Jersey and New York City is fast nearing completion and when it is open to traffic immense electric fans will force fresh air through this tunnel at the rate of a seventy-five-mile-an-hour gale. In this manner the deadly carbon monoxide gas of the 46,000 automobiles a day which it is designed to accommodate will be dissipated so that there will be no danger of asphyxiation. Fresh air will be blown into the tunnel through a seven-foot airway under the roadway and the used air will be sucked up and pass out through another airway, located above the ceiling of the roadway.

A sheepherder on Buttermilk Creek in Washington went into a willow thicket to cut a pole. While running around in the thicket he knocked his pipe from his mouth, spilling the burning tobacco. The fireman on Lookout Mountain reported a fire between the forks of Buttermilk. When the Forest Service trail crew arrived, one and one-fourth hours later, they found an 8-acre fire. The sheepherder admitted having been the cause of it. The judge did the rest.

Three hundred thousand dairy farmers in the United States are cooperatively organized and are said to sell one-fifth of the milk and its products produced in this country, for which they are receiving one hundred million dollars or an average of \$333 apiece.

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Just about the time the scientists became hopeful of being able to prolong the span of human life, the automobile was invented. — Columbus Dispatch.

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