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EDITORIAL

The Seriousness of La Follette.

It may not have been polite, conventionally, for Senator La Follette to "grill" Senator Hemenway of Indiana when Hemenway presided over the Chautauqua meeting at Evansville at which La Follette lectured; but Senator La Follette is a serious man engaged in serious work, and if Hemenway voted in the Senate for the railroads and against the people, La Follette was right in telling the Indiana people of it even in the personal presence of Mr. Hemenway. Conventional

politeness is a good thing in its place, but it is out of its place when it becomes a shield for concealing breaches of public trust from public knowledge.

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An Effective Union Label.

It is reported that the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's Union are using their trade union label not only as a guarantee of union-made goods but as a guarantee also of purity of product. This use of the union label, if rigidly adhered to, would give the trade unions a power greater than any other agency they could adopt. Suppose the food makers' unions to have won public confidence in the integrity of their labels, how long would a strike last in any food-producing trade? If the label were a guarantee, for instance, that the canned meat of the packers using it is wholesome meat, that imitation coffee with the label is unadulterated with real coffee or worse, and so on through the list, a strike involving withdrawal of the use of the label would be a tremendous labor weapon. This use might not be applicable to some trades, but there are many besides the food trades to which it would be applicable; and it would be effective because it would appeal to one of the strongest of motives—self-protection.

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Bryan's Fourth of July Oration.

Readers of newspaper headlines who read no further, may be pardoned their impression that Bryan in his Fourth of July speech in London recanted his anti-imperialism by adopting the dying doctrine of the "white man's burden." Yet the sentiment of his speech was as different from the "white man's burden" imperialism as day from night. It was as fine a plea as he has ever made for the reviving doctrine of inalienable rights and the principle of self-government. We are all prone to think of our familiar manners, customs, thought and language as superior to those of people with whom we have no intimate association and whose manners, customs, thought and language are strange and therefore barbaric to us. The human mind in this respect is fairly satirized by the story of the little New England girl who came from a place where pie was a customary feature of the morning meal, to visit relatives in Philadelphia, which is outside of the pie belt. Upon her return she inquired if her

Philadelphia relatives were not very poor, and upon being asked her reason for supposing so, replied: "Because they couldn't afford to have pie for breakfast." Possibly Mr. Bryan has been too much inclined to infer superiority from differences. It may be, for instance, that he has put the English language above other languages because English is familiar to him and the other languages are not. But it must be admitted that he makes a good case for English when he describes it as having "become the vehicle for the conveyance of government truth," as the language most employed "for the propagation of that theory of government which traces governmental authority to the consent of the governed." This is a new test of lingual superiority, and probably the best; for this is a standard which depends not upon racial customs but upon a fundamental natural principle of human association. The same spirit of equality which Mr. Bryan breathed into his test of language superiority characterized his entire oration.

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Bryan's Attitude Toward the Presidential Nomination.

Bryan's latest response to the demand for his nomination for the Presidency in 1908 is precisely in line with his previous declarations and exactly what from his whole career might have been expected. Referring to the recent action of several State conventions of his party, beginning with the Missouri convention, he said in a London interview on the 3d, that he did "not regard their expressions as binding upon them or upon the party of their State." To this remark he gave emphasis by adding: "The party is entitled to its most available man, and the question of availability cannot be determined so far in advance."

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To the same effect was his more general letter of the 7th to ex-Senator Jones of Arkansas, chairman of the Democratic committee in 1896 and 1900. In this letter he expressly writes, "I shall do nothing to secure another nomination, and do not want one unless the conditions seem to demand it." He is not unmindful, however, of the reforms to the realization of which he has devoted himself. "To assist in the accomplishment of these reforms," he adds, "I am willing to become the party candidate again, if"—and here is the important condition,—"if, when the time for nomination arrives, the advocates of reform are in control of the party." Even then he con-

sents to be the candidate only in case the party, so controlled, thinks that his "candidacy will give the best assurance of victory."

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Hearst's Presidential Declaration.

The interview on Democratic candidates for the Presidency which William Randolph Hearst gave out at San Francisco on the 6th, must be as gratifying to the democratic Democrats who number themselves among his supporters as to those who have shrunk from his leadership. This is not because his announcement that he is not himself a candidate removes a possible obstruction in the way of some other man; it is because it takes him out of the category of the strenuous office seeker, and secures him an acknowledged place as one of the leaders of genuine democracy. If in the natural course of events in these times of great political change, supreme leadership should come to him as a result of conspicuous service for the common cause, a different feeling would be evoked from that which would have followed a selfish struggle for personal aggrandizement, at the cost, it might be, of hindering the selection of some more available candidate and better leader.

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The fact need not be blinked that Mr. Hearst has been pushed forward, whether with his own intelligent consent or not is no longer important, as a candidate for the Presidential nomination regardless of every other consideration than personal ambition. This has been done in such a manner as to disturb his considerate friends and repel everybody else. There has been no discounting of his really valuable services to democratic Democracy. But for the support of his papers in Chicago, the public utility corporations would still have this city by the throat, for every other journalistic influence was with them. But for his papers and his candidacy for mayor in New York, the corporations there would be not only in power, but as defiant as ever. In still other ways, numerous and effective, local and general, he has served the public interest to a degree that should command hearty co-operation. But through all this service there has been a streak of self-seeking so brazenly advertised as to be repugnant to good taste and good sense, and so obtrusive on all occasions as to discredit the motives of the service and check its hearty recognition. The inevitable result has been a widespread and growing repugnance and distrust.

the modern art that is seen here side by side with that of the masters. In architecture, the new Palace of Justice; in sculpture, the new statue of Goethe; in painting, the Funeral of Raphael, these and others in each department of art are worthy to be here in the midst of the old.

Yes, surely Rome represents all ages as no other place ever can. There is a spot where one may stand in Arles, in southern France, and be shut within classical influences perhaps more completely than in Rome. There are towns in northern Italy or in Germany where one may be more entirely surrounded with medievalism, and New York is more modern. But in Rome there are all the influences of the ages pouring in upon the heart and mind of one who comes within her walls.

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Two facts must inevitably impress themselves upon any visitor in Rome. One is the beauty, the magnificence, the splendor, the richness of the interior of the churches. We wonder where the genius, the labor, the wealth, all came from to produce such results. I say visitor, because so far as one can see, the inhabitants seem to take no notice of it. It seems to have nothing to do with the busy life about it. You simply do not think of the glories of San Pietro or San Paolo as in any way connected with the motorman who brought you.

The other fact is the prominence given to various sorts of memorials in honor of the new monarchy and of the personages connected with it. The unification of Italy is one of the great historic events of modern times, and it is no wonder that there should be an exaltation of the event. But there is so much of it that it produces the suspicion of an overweening effort. It is becoming as prominent as the inscriptions of the popes, which one sees on all the ancient monuments and memorials. Victor Emmanuel, Umberto and Cavour are of course most prominent. Even Garibaldi has been given a splendid equestrian statue facing the city from the Janiculum across the river; Mazzini has so far been overlooked, except in the name of an obscure street. Although his native Genoa, which banished and imprisoned him, has raised a splendid monument in his memory and has dared to inscribe on it his favorite watch-word, "God and the People," Rome has not yet honored him. He worked all his life for the unification of Italy, but he never loved the new monarchy, and the new monarchy is in no haste to give prominent reverence to his memory. But perhaps Mazzini's day will come yet, even in Rome.

J. H. DILLARD.

* * *

A gentleman climbed to the summit of a mountain with his little daughter. A severe storm was raging in the valley below, the low-hanging clouds were shot through and through by lightning, and the air was filled with the sound of reverberating thunders.

"Let us go down," the father said. "There's nothing to see here."

But the little girl, her face all aglow with interest and enthusiasm, said:

"Why, papa, I see the Doxology!"

—Woman's Journal.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Wednesday, July 11.

Bryan in Great Britain.

On the occasion of the celebration of Independence Day by the American Society in London on the 4th, William J. Bryan (pp. 249, 274, 298) was the orator of the banquet. In welcoming him, White-law Reid, the American Ambassador, said, in good-natured banter:

At home, as a citizen, I have openly and squarely opposed him at every stage of his conspicuous career. I am reasonably sure that when I return home I shall continue to do the same. I believe he to-night is as well satisfied as I am, though by different reasoning, that the country we both love and try to serve has not been ruined by its gold. Abroad, as the official representative of the American people, without distinction as to party, I am glad to welcome him here as a typical American, whose whole life has been lived in the daylight and one whom such a great host of my countrymen have long trusted and honored.

Mr. Bryan, rising amid laughter and cheers, good-humoredly retorted:

The temptation to make a political speech is strong within me. I have not had a chance to do so for ten months. However, I will restrain myself. With reference to the Ambassador's remarks on gold, I wish to say that when I see the progress my country has made walking on one leg, I wonder what it would have done walking on two legs. It is pleasing to testify that the Ambassador not only has fought me, but that he has done it well. No American rejoices more than I that he is 3,000 miles from his base. While abroad I have met many good Republicans—holding office—and I only wish there were enough offices abroad to take all the Republicans out of the country.

When the laughter had subsided, Mr. Bryan began his speech, which we print in full in our department of Related Things.

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Bryan and the Presidential Nomination.

The night before his oration in London, Mr. Bryan was interviewed by newspaper correspondents regarding the friendly action of several State conventions (pp. 247, 320), and also with reference to the proposed reception to him in New York which is reported below. In reply he is reported by cable to have said:

The first suggestion of a reception for me at New York came prior to the action of any of the State conventions and before there was any discussion of the next campaign. It came from the Commercial Travelers' League, of which Mr. Hoge is president. I assured him I should be pleased to meet the members of the League, suggesting that the reception be characterized by simplicity. Now that the actions of some of the State conventions have raised a question as to the political significance of the reception, I am glad to say that it must not be regarded in the light of an indorsement for the Presidential

nomination. While I appreciate the compliment paid by the various State conventions, I do not regard their expressions as binding upon them or upon the party of their State. I shall not prosecute them for breach of promise if they transfer their affections to another; I will not even publish their letters. To allow the reception to be regarded as an indorsement would, in the first place, be unjust to others who may be candidates. I have seen the names of several mentioned as possible candidates, among them Congressman Hearst, Senator Bailey and Governor Folk, who all have rendered conspicuous service to the party and to the country, and their claims should be considered. The party is entitled to its most available man, and the question of availability cannot be determined so far in advance. Circumstances and issues may strengthen the claims of some one of the gentlemen mentioned, and the list should be an open one until the time comes to choose. I may add that it would not be just to me to be put in the attitude of announcing my candidacy or admitting the certainty of my being a candidate. It is two years before the convention meets, and I am not willing to sit on a stool and look pretty that long. I prefer to be in a position to say what I think ought to be said, write what I think ought to be written, and do what I think ought to be done. I am advancing in years and cannot spare two years out of my life just at this time. I shall be glad to return to America, although every day of my trip has been enjoyable. I shall be glad to meet my friends in America, and after I have met them they will be just as free as before to do what they think best on issues and candidates.

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On the 7th a letter on this subject from Mr. Bryan to James K. Jones, formerly Senator from Arkansas and chairman of the Democratic committee of 1896 and 1900, was published by Mr. Jones. It had been mailed at Stockholm and bore date of June 18th. In this letter Mr. Bryan wrote:

I have been watching political developments and have noted with gratification the vindication of Democratic principles. You have stated my position correctly. As I wrote to Colonel Wetmore, I shall do nothing to secure another nomination and do not want one unless the conditions seem to demand it. I may add that I enjoy the freedom of private life and feel that I can do some good without holding any office. There are, however, certain reforms which I would like very much to see accomplished, and to assist in the accomplishment of these reforms I am willing to become the party candidate again if, when the time for nomination arrives, the advocates of reform are in control of the party and think that my candidacy will give the best assurance of victory. If some one else seems more available I shall be even better pleased. I need not assure you that I am more interested in seeing our principles triumphant than I am in the personnel of the ticket. The country needs to have Jeffersonian democracy applied to all the departments of the government, State and national, and I am content to help to make this application.

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Proposed Reception to Bryan at New York.

Arrangements are now making for a people's reception to Mr. Bryan at New York (p. 298) upon his return from Europe which will occur late in August. Mayor Tom L. Johnson of Cleveland has been invited to preside. Following is Mr. Johnson's letter of acceptance, dated the 5th and received on the 7th by Mr. William Hoge, president of the Commercial Travelers' League, which tenders the reception:

Thanking you, and through you the committee of arrangements, for their invitation to preside at the reception meeting to William J. Bryan at New York next month, I am glad to advise you of my acceptance. The privilege of presiding at a great popular demonstration, in the chief city of the Republic, on the occasion of the return of Mr. Bryan from his trip around the world,

is so high a personal honor that I cannot with satisfaction to myself withhold my acknowledgment. But I appreciate and accept it as well for other than personal reasons. Although my own public career and Mr. Bryan's have been cast in different channels, his sphere of public effort being national and mine municipal; although the people are looking to him for leadership in the solution of great international, continental and constitutional problems, while I am irrevocably pledged to the idea that the American city is the hope of American democracy, yet these two functions, so different in their details, are fundamentally related. The menace to all good government, national and municipal, is privilege; the salvation of government, both national and municipal, is democracy. The regeneration of our cities, therefore, to which public servants like myself are devoted, to the practical exclusion of national work, must rest, as I conceive it, on the triumph of national democracy, which men like Mr. Bryan are called upon to achieve. And to whom could this national service be better entrusted? William J. Bryan is the most inspiring example now living of the highest type of American citizenship. He has proved his powers by tests more severe than official responsibility could impose, and, without the glamor of great office, has won a world-wide distinction that is often enough bestowed upon the dignities of an office but seldom upon the worth of a man. This appreciation of Mr. Bryan's worth may appear to others as a miraculous popularity, but his popularity is no miracle to those of us who for nearly two decades have known and trusted and loved him. What all the world is now acknowledging, we have realized throughout the vicissitudes of his career. In the charm of his oratory and the steady march of his thought, in the simple skill of his political tactics and the broad promise of his statesmanship, in his high ideals of citizenship, his noble standards of manhood, and the magnetism of his personality, we have always seen what the world has now discovered—the supreme influence of his rugged sincerity. For ten years Mr. Bryan has been the trusted leader of democratic Democrats. For almost ten years they have known that the Presidency of the United States was taken from him by a huge corruption fund contributed by corrupt and corrupting beneficiaries of privilege. Through confessions of some of the culprits this has become a familiar story now, and all but the shameless deplore and condemn it. Yet Mr. Bryan has made no complaint over the loss of an office. To him the Presidency has never seemed a personal nor even a party prize. Close as it has come to him personally and tempting as it is to the ambitions of most men, it has never once blurred his ideals of citizenship. When the convention of 1896 stampeded to him he checked the tide, remarking that a boom that wouldn't last over night couldn't last through the campaign. When powerful politicians in the convention of 1900 proposed a platform compromise with plutocracy as the condition of his nomination, he rejected the terms, though the nomination and what seemed a certain election hung in the balance. Even within the present year, when urged by his friends to become a candidate for the Presidential nomination in 1908, he has steadfastly replied that there is yet time for more available men to come into prominence, and that no office-seeking on his part shall be allowed to embarrass himself, his friends, or his party with premature conflicts over candidates. It is the great glory and also the great strength of William J. Bryan as a popular leader, not alone that he is a sincere man of the true democratic type, but that he subordinates all personal interest in political preferment to higher considerations. He is not a candidate for office; he is the leader of a cause. To join in welcoming this man to his home country will be a pleasure to me, and again thanking your committee, I am very truly yours.

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The Presidential Nomination and Mr. Hearst.

Referring to Mr. Bryan's reference to him as a Presidential possibility in the London interview of the 3rd, quoted above, Mr. William Randolph Hearst gave out an interview on the 6th from San Francisco in which he said, as reported in the Chicago Examiner of the 7th:

I would like to state very positively that I am not a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination in