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Bryan, Charles Page

Elmhurst. Biographies -

C Bryan

Charles Page Bryan

Charles Page, son of Thomas Barbour Bryan, was born in Chicago on Oct. 2, 1855. He was educated at the University of Virginia and Columbia University Law School. He was admitted to practice in 1878 and the following year he moved to Colorado, where he remained four years, while there serving in both houses of the State Legislature. In 1883 he returned to Chicago and Elmhurst and became a member of the ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD serving as Colonel on the staff of both Gov. Oglesby and Gov. Fifer. In 1890 he was elected to the State Legislature from DuPage County and re-elected in 1892 and 1894. He became the Speaker of the House of Representatives in Springfield. By Presidential appointment he was associated with his father as Commissioner to visit the courts and governments of European countries in the interest of the WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION. While his father was Vice-President of the World's Fair he served as Secretary of the Exposition Commission. In 1897 he was appointed by President McKinley to be minister to China, but before being confirmed, early in 1898 was sent as Minister to Brazil, serving until 1902. Then, in succession, he served as Minister to Switzerland, Portugal, and Belgium. In 1911 he was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Japan. There, in 1912, he was injured in a carriage accident and, upon recovering, returned to Elmhurst where he spent the remaining years of his life at Byrd's Nest. He was never married. His sister, "Miss Jennie", served as his hostess at his various foreign stations.

For Bryan -

Bryan, Charles Page.

C P Bryan - excerpts from art. transcl. from
Portuguese magazine in EPL (Mar 1909)

The U.S. Rep. in Lisbon was born in Chicago in 1855 and descends from illustrious Irish family, which settled in Virginia in 1641. Educated in the Univ. of Virginia and finishing his studies at Columbia Univ. Law School he was admitted to the Bar in 1878, year in which he went to Colorado where he took up newspaper work and was chosen President of the "Colorado Editorial Association".

In 1880 he was elected ~~Congressman for Colorado?~~
(Probably should read: "to the Colorado State Legislature")

Returning to Illinois he was elected successive times by the DuPage district, attending five legislative sessions in ten years. He championed labor laws and the National Guard, in the newspaper field he revealed himself as an interesting writer on historical and political matters.

During twenty years he served in the State Militia of Colorado and Illinois, was Colonel of the First Regiment of the Ill. Nat. Guard and belonged, as military aide de camp, to the military household of four governors.

When he was ten years old, he lived with his parents in Switzerland (1865-69) where he returned in 1870 for further study, under Prof. Schobinger. There, and →

in France he learned German and French, which he speaks correctly.

Before becoming U.S. Minister he saw Europe twice as Secretary to a Special Mission. Another time he was sent to Scandinavia to study the military system. He attended maneuvers in Norway, under the Royal Prince Gustaf, today King of Sweden, and with King Oscar in attendance.

President McKinley chose Mr. Bryan as Minister to China; he was, however, transferred to Brazil at his request, a country of which he retains many pleasant memories and where he was Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, being well liked and popular. Taking part, at the same time, both in the diplomatic and social life, he visited nearly all of the States of Brazil, entering in touch with all the men in public life of the South American Union.

From Rio de Janeiro he was transferred to Bern, where he remained a few months. It was from there that he came in 1903 as Minister to Portugal, a country which had long since attracted him and about which he had written with praise in America, as he had also done with regard to Brazil, considering the Brazilian people worthy representatives of their ancestors - the Portuguese.