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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

The Prohibition Question

That the people, of a vast and growing majority of the people, demand the repeal of prohibition and the ending of the present farce is indicated by the number of aspiring politicians who are changing from ardent drys to hesitating moists.

Those who opposed any suggestion two years ago that the matter might be given back to the people for decision as treason to the Constitution are now suggesting this as an alibi for their records.

A referendum means delay of years. The head of the Anti-Saloon League says that it is impossible and illegal. At best, it means years of gangdom and racketeering.

What people want is a chance to repeal the prohibition amendment. The referendum would come in the selection of conventions elected to ratify the referendum.

Very many citizens who have supported prohibition in the past now believe that the evils it has introduced into American life are intolerable and the law itself impossible of enforcement.

The Capones run the governments of cities and states. Kidnapping and killing are common crimes. Blackmail of business has become almost a recognized part of commerce. The revenue that formerly went to the government is now left with the bootlegger to distribute as bribes.

In the coming primary, where other factors are equal or nearly equal, The Times believes that the people will do well to select candidates who pledge themselves to immediate action on this question.

An endorsement by the Anti-Saloon League furnishes a fairly good warning signal to those who believe that failure to settle this question has interfered with the settlement of economic issues.

Reducing Taxes

Every one will agree that the real tax problem is finding ways to reduce the amount of money taken for the support of government.

No change in method of collection will bring any real relief until every wasted dollar is eliminated from the expense sheets.

For that reason, the new organization of the Marion County Association for Tax Reduction will undoubtedly receive wide support in its efforts to cut the cost to fit the present day public purse.

The fact that the cost of government has grown six and a half times as fast as the national income has started those who face the loss of property through unpaid taxes into realization that the time has arrived for drastic remedies.

The so-called luxuries of government, fine public enterprises, can no longer be afforded.

Faced by the stern fact that tax delinquencies are of such magnitude and extent as to reduce the treasury below the present scale of operation, this association invites co-operation in an effort to cut the costs, no matter how unpopular the remedies may be with public employees.

It is fast becoming a question, not of whether the present scale of government and public expenditures are to be retained, but whether there will be any cash to maintain any government at all.

With less income, the treasury is faced by the necessity of caring for a rapidly increasing number of unemployed who must have public support.

One-fourth of present taxes is for interest on bonds issued in the past. That means that the reductions must come from 75 per cent remaining, and, in concrete terms, from either the number or the wage of public employees.

Wage reductions have hit at all private enterprises, both mercantile and manufacturing. There is the greater loss to the workers in these enterprises through reduction in days of employment. Thousands have no employment whatever.

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The cost of government is mixed in every other grave problem. Possibly this new association has at least a part of the answer.

Only a Dream

Many people are under the impression that the old Prohibition party, which entered the national field in 1869, disappeared when the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act took the nation in charge.

Nineteen twenty-eight, the Prohibition party held a national convention in Chicago, at which 152 delegates, representing twenty-two states, nominated candidates for President and Vice-President. Electoral tickets were nominated in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana and West Virginia.

Moreover, the Prohibition party's 1928 platform contained this highly pertinent and still up-to-date plank:

"The present unsatisfactory enforcement of prohibition, amounting to nullification over wide areas in great centers of population, is the natural result of the acceptance by friends of prohibition of the false political philosophy of non-partisanship (a word substituted for the Anti-Saloon League) whereby the voters have kept themselves divided between and swallowed up in the two political parties, both dependent for success upon the votes of their wet members, who see to it that the arm of enforcement is paralyzed."

This plank seems to us a pretty accurate, penetrating analysis, from the dry standpoint, of the basic grievance of a lot of Republican and Democratic drys, male and female, who have been in Washington lately, breathing dire threats of what will happen if either of the major party platforms contains a damp plank.

It is, of course, too much to hope—but if the die-hard drys would let the major parties alone for a spell and try to build up the old Prohibition party into a "solid phalanx" until we get this particular issue settled, what a relief it would be from the point of view of logic and political clear thinking.

We know this is only a wild dream. Yet there is the Prohibition party, forlorn, forsaken, but consistent—yearning for those who, by rights, belong to it, who are, instead, pervading, harassing, and bewildering the other parties!

History will note this as one of the pathetic parades of American politics during the great prohibition error.

Senate Taxes

In throwing tariffs out of the revenue bill, and increasing income and nuisance taxes, the senate finance committee displays intelligence and courage. necessity of rectifying the income rate ratios remains.

The higher income tax rate on the middle class will hit the professional and small business groups, already hard pressed by the depression. Nevertheless,

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

M. E. Tracy

Says:

Except With a Few, the Prohibition Issue Never Has Been One of Morals or Temperance. Temperance Died When the Law Took Command.

NEW YORK, April 29.—The Literary Digest prohibition poll comes to an end with the vote in favor of repeal standing nearly three to one.

Only two states—Kansas and North Carolina—show a dry majority, and that by the thinnest of margins.

Some of the wet states show a thin margin, but more than thirty-six appear to have spoken emphatically.

Only thirty-six states are needed to repeal, or modify the eighteenth amendment.

Vote Conclusive

IT hardly can be assumed that the Digest poll is accurate in every detail. The two states which it shows as dry easily might go wet, while half a dozen states which it shows wet easily might go dry. But that compasses about all the flaws that can be picked with it.

Only idiots and fanatics will question its general accuracy. It removes all doubt that the sentiment of this country has changed toward national prohibition and that, if given an opportunity, the people would either modify, or repeal, the eighteenth amendment.

Temperance Dead

THE change of sentiment can not be attributed wholly to existing conditions, though they have helped to bring it about.

People were getting rather alarmed at the increase of crime and racketeering before the depression occurred, but easy money served to keep them quiet. The depression has done little more than make them realize just what the farce was costing.

Except with a few, the issue never has been one of morals, or temperance.

Temperance died when the law took command. That is the usual history of reform.

Straddlers Still

APPARENTLY, Republican leaders have caught on to the sentiment and are ready to get in line with it.

What will the Democrats do if, and after the Republican convention abandons prohibition? Will they adopt the opposition role, as they have so many times in the past, or will they yield to the obvious drift of public opinion and try to get their share of the credit?

Most presidential candidates on the Democratic side have come out wet, but the party still contains a lot of dry sentiment, or, more accurately, perhaps, a lot of straddling sentiment.

Senators favoring repeal or resubmission have increased in number from fourteen in 1928 to forty-one now, according to one tabulation. House members have been doing likewise.

Dr. Clarence True Wilson, dry leader, has said he would not oppose a referendum. Arthur M. Hyde, agriculture secretary, and former Governor Byrd of Virginia, prominent drys, have come out with clumsy, time-killing proposals for a referendum. The Anti-Saloon League and the W. C. T. U. are among the few still standing unconditionally for the Constitution's only venture into sumptuary legislation.

The political converts are welcome in the fold of those who have sought reform of the intolerable conditions set up by the dry laws. But this point should be kept in mind: Political leaders, many of them, are trying to straddle the question by approving a trick resubmission or referendum.

The Literary Digest poll, and the conclusive returns of the Pennsylvania Republican senatorial primary, are mandates by the voters for straight repeal. The Digest posed the question squarely—repeal or continuance.

The Pennsylvania contest was equally clear cut on this question. "Puddler Jim" Davis was an admittedly weak candidate against a colorful figure like Smedley Butler. Prohibition was the issue, and Davis, advocating repeal, won nearly two to one, with unexpected strength in the rural sections.

No Mystery Here

AVERAGE people find themselves confused by such problems as the tariff, world court, farm relief, power and Russian recognition, but not by prohibition. They know exactly how prohibition works, what it has done to make life miserable and why the idea of ever enforcing it is hopeless.

You don't have to explain prohibition to men on the street, or women in the home. There is nothing mysterious, or obscure about it as far as they are concerned. They see it staggering through the neighborhood, smell it at social gatherings, down to where they live.

Come On Over

THE letter of Mr. B. comes from South Bend, Ind., and I would not advise him to stay at home. On the contrary, I would urge him to come to New York, with his hundred dollars or without it. Landlords and milkmen can wait. They have had practice.

But, unfortunately, I am not the person to give the advice. I wish I were. I'd like it even better to be the person getting the advice. It would be great to be young, a resident of South Bend and the possessor of \$100. I mean if you were on a train waiting to catch your first glimpse of this magical city.

Only the other day our own Justice John Ford, who loves clean books, handed down a judicial decision in which he said: "New York is the finest city on earth. It is a beautiful city: a glorious, kindly city; the finest place on earth to live in and die in."

Never having died here, I wouldn't like to be as dogmatic as that. Nor do I know whether it is "the finest city on earth." I've never

been to Butte, Mont., or Burlington, Ia., and I spent only two hours in Oregon. I'd like New York better than Paris or London or Peking, but there have been days here when I would rather be in Havana.

But I am drifting away from the point. Mr. B. has said nothing about settling here. He still has his landlord and his milkman in South Bend. It's a five-day New York for which he would like a compass and a chart. H. K. B. is silent, so I can't be explicit enough. I don't know whether he likes Shakespeare or musical glasses.

Justice Ford would have it: "We find here sweetness and light, happiness and contentment, decency and morality. We ask no more of earth, and it is New York City we have to thank for it—God bless her!"

You Can Be Reversed

OF course, at times, after a couple of rounds on the house, I have felt a good deal like that myself, but it isn't a mood which can be sustained for five days. And certainly not for a hundred dollars.

It is my notion that the best plan for any stranger heading in this direction is to have no plan. New York was brand new to me. I think I'd just get on a bus and ride until the end of the line. It doesn't matter what bus.

People's Voice

Editor Times—The milk-and-water variety of Socialist is to be heard frequently these days advocating ownership of the utilities, and a few other conveniences as a way out of the depression. And, of course, these ineffectual panacea peddlers propose to pay full value for all the watered stock issued by such enterprises.

Just how a few isolated state enterprises could lift the pall of depression remains to be seen. It is not the explosion of any single catastrophic combination or group of such combinations that have brought us to our present state, but rather the sum of all the extortions levied upon us to which we can attribute our present disaster.

Every dollar of capital privately owned has contributed its share to the making of our current chaos and confusion.

The way out is not by piecemeal adjustment. The way out is, in the words of Corliss Lamont, "to permanently abolish capitalism." Mr. Lamont should know. He is the son of our secretary of commerce, a one-time partner in the House of Morgan. PERRY WYATT.

308 Sanders street.

Editor Times—I would like to have a voice in your paper. I think every voice ought to subscribe for your paper because you always have been for their welfare.

I think it is a crime for any firm to hire either a married man or a married woman when the wife or the husband has a job. In these times people are suffering because they can't find work, and others are bragging about what big money they both make.

Why can't it be divided so these married women can vacate and let these jobless husbands and fathers in? They can work just as good, or better. The married woman's place is in her home.

ONE OF THE MANY JOBLESS.

Play Ball!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Sigmoid Irritation Cause for Worry

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hyscine, the Health Magazine.

THE human being has a long intestinal tract, which has many curves and sections. Near the lower end is one section called the sigmoid, which recently has been giving serious concern.

It seems that late in life portions of the wall of this sigmoid may pouch outwards and may be the subject of serious chronic irritations, leading to growth of cancer.

Because of the position of the sigmoid in the abdomen, it is difficult to examine and frequently the irritable condition goes on for many months before becoming sufficient to cause the physician to seek the attention of a specialist.

The physician makes his diagnosis by careful examination of the bowel, including the giving of bar-

ium enemas, and thereafter using oil, which lubricates the bowel and softens the food mass.

Under the direction of a physician, drugs may be given which have a quieting effect on intestinal action, also arrangements may be made for washing out the bowel at necessary intervals.

In washing the bowel with enemas, precaution must be taken not to have too great pressure, since pressure of the fluid may increase the danger of perforation.

Obviously it is important to find out if the condition is present and to adopt suitable measures to prevent its progress before it has reached such a serious stage.

Among the measures which will prevent diverticulitis and which will inhibit its progress is the adoption of a diet that is soft, and which does not contain the usual roughage present in whole wheat bread, brown bread, bran, celery, coarse cereals, the skin of fruits and similar substances.

Such patients are asked to take regularly small amounts of mineral

iodine and opinions expressed in this column are those of one of America's most important writers and are presented without regard to their personal bias or to their editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

And some day I'm going over to the Statue of Liberty. Unlike most New Yorkers, I have been to the top of the Empire State building. Even in a pianissimo five days and on Dec. 16, 1931, another great explosion occurred.

This great explosion emptied the crater of the volcano and never again has been entirely quiet. At intervals ranging from a few weeks to a few years, eruptions have ranged in character from clouds of steam to streams of lava.

The years 1763, 1822, 1872, 1906, and 1929 were years of special activity. The 1906 eruption altered the appearance of