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WHOSE FAULT?

Who stirred up all this row about county local option anyway? Who made the passage of the law a necessity?

The worst element of the saloon men and certain men engaged in the manufacture of liquors and also engaged in politics. In most cases the worst element of saloonists were (and still are) not only in league, but the tools of these men. The worst element got immunity and the big guns got the plunder. Naturally the brewers who were in for the plunder wanted to be let alone.

The sentiment of communities was outraged and owing to popular feeling on the subject the republican party took up the matter in the only same way. That is to fix things so that in the locality where lawless saloon keepers made themselves obnoxious the people might put a stop to it. And by the very existence of county local option in a community it practically forces good behavior on the part of saloon keepers lest they be driven out.

The fault of all this is the crooked saloon keeper.

If county local option had not come when it did there might have been prohibition legislation passed.

But what do these men in the brewery councils do? Do they trust the people for a square deal? No, they are afraid of leaving it to people apparently.

They have guilty consciences.

If the brewery people had shown more confidence in the people the people would have shown more for them.

But why is it that the brewers have been fighting so assiduously against Watson? Do they fear that he will not give them special privileges. Do they

fear that he will not hand out fat jobs for their lieutenants. It looks that way. It looks as if they were afraid of a man who thinks the people of Indiana are perfectly competent to settle the liquor question for themselves in their own localities as local bad conditions brought on by these same men may demand.

If Marshall is as many people think a straight sort of man, why is it that he shows no better control over his party than to allow it to be exploited by crooks. The rank and file of democracy are quite as law abiding and respectable as any other, but to have Taggart and Crawford Fairbanks dictating from behind the throne and using the worst element of the saloon forces to see to it that their ticket is elected is incongruous, to say the least.

The fault of all this disturbance lies in the efforts of Crawford Fairbanks and Thomas Taggart to dictate the government of Indiana. That has caused county local option, and it will cause the defeat of Marshall.

Once Taggart and Fairbanks are thrust out of political life things will go on more smoothly and there will be better government.

TAMPERING WITH JUDICIARY.

"Mr. Bryan simply confines himself to the anti-injunction plank of his own platform and tell us publicly, definitely and clearly whether he accepts or rejects the statement of Mr. Gompers that this plank pledges him to the principles of the bill for which Mr. Gompers stands; and whether if elected, he will endeavor to have this proposal enacted into law. This is asked honestly in the interest of that large voting population which believes in legitimate right and interest of labor, but which believes also that from the standpoint of the best interest of labor it neither requires nor is entitled to more than justice, and that the right formally recognized in the law of the land."—Theodore Roosevelt.

Bryan wrote his own platform and the injunction plank contained there is meaningless.

That plank reads as follows:

"Questions of judicial practice have arisen, especially in connection with industrial disputes. We deem that the parties to all judicial proceedings should be treated with rigid impartiality, and that injunctions should not be issued in any cases in which injunctions would not issue if no industrial dispute were involved."

That is a slip and evasion. Its only color comes from the statements which Gompers has read into it. Bryan himself has said nothing.

Does he mean to make the business man an outlaw? Does he mean that the secondary boycott is an inalienable right of either employer or employee?

Judge Taft's decisions said that under the law the secondary boycott could not be employed by either capital or labor. It is the one safeguard the American people have, for not being embroiled every time a labor dispute comes up. The truth is that not only the parties to a labor dispute must be treated impartially, but so must the public.

Any attempt to promote the secondary boycott either of capital or labor by the suspending of the laws either for capital or labor is dangerous.

The injunction and restraining order are necessary to good government. That the judiciary should be assailed by either labor or capital for being impartial is a most dangerous tendency in modern life. Judge Taft was impartial in his decisions. Shall he be assailed for his impartiality because labor demands a partial treatment?

Are we "to make an outlaw of the business man because his right to carry on a lawful business under the peace of the law has been protected by the process of injunction, because in a word, one of the most vital and most fundamental rights of a business man to carry on his business, has been sustained and not denied by the processes of the courts of equity, this sweeping attack of Mr. Gompers upon the judiciary has been made in a frank and open effort to secure votes for Mr. Bryan?"

A QUIETUS.

The Balkan situation is quieting down—Russia has put a damper on the warlike Bulgarians by threatening to send their troops in that territory.

Simply boiled down to its final essence it means that as long as the Bulgarians are quiet there will be no attempt to force them back into Turkish rule. What power would do it? Certainly no Christian power would force the Christian Bulgarian back.

No other Christian province, which has escaped from Turkish rule, has been forced back.

But you say the government will not be recognized. What of it? For eight years Prince Ferdinand himself was unrecognized—all the affairs being taken care of by the Bulgarian "government." This government was lodged in the minister of affairs virtually the tool of the Turkish government. Of what manner of man Ferdinand is, one may imagine from the fact

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The Party is Afraid to Cross the Bryan Bridge



that this minister died a violent death from "unknown reasons."

Ferdinand will be able to wait. But will he be able to still the passionate heart beats of courage with which his subject seems a little over charged.

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