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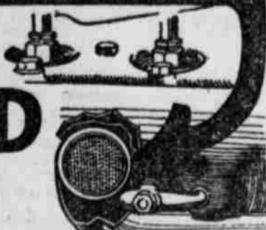
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GasK-Hots

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doing so that "the party in power is entitled to majority representation" upon state board and commissions, but that "no disparagement is intended of any official." This shows conclusively an effort on his part to obtain control of the license system for political reasons only and the appointments he made later gave his party a majority on the board.

During the next campaign — in 1916 — the democratic nominee charged that the republican administration had used the license system during its tenure, for the advantage of its candidates and party. This time the democratic nominee was successful and no sooner had he been inducted into office, than he demanded, and obtained, the resignation of a republican member of the commission. He, thereupon, obtained control of the commission by appointing one of his selection, a partisan to both the party and traffic. Thus these important state positions which, it has been so faithfully promised, were to be so surely removed from politics, have been used for party patronage and advantage.

The selection of the various county license board members is left to the state commission and, it is a known fact, in almost every instance the state board in making its appointments, follows the recommendations of the county committee of that party to which a majority of the state board belongs. When it is remembered that such partisanship is practiced in the appointment of state and county boards—the boards which are charged with enforcing the liquor laws, within whose power it lies to grant and deny licenses — need any further argument be advanced to prove that the saloon in Ohio is still in politics?

No, the license system has not stopped agitation, it has increased it; it has not eliminated brewery domination; the bootlegger can still get a supply of wet goods and that is all he needs; its inhibition against the immoral character is ineffective; the baneful influence of the traffic is inherent, license has not and can not remove it; and the saloon in Ohio is deeper in politics than ever. The license system has not redeemed one promise made for it. It has failed and must soon be abandoned — but for what?

Before the adoption of license, the evils springing from the saloon were such that the temper of the people was taxed. Prohibition seemed inevitable and license was proposed to prevent it. It was agreed to, for many hoped that it would furnish a measure of regulation which would make prohibition unnecessary, but it has proved disappointing. I early learned, as a member of the license commission, that just as soon as the state attempted to regulate the traffic the traffic attempted to dominate the state, and, if not overthrown, the traffic, through the license system, will become the master.

I charge no one with bad faith. The state, in trying to regulate the liquor traffic, attempted an impossible task, because evil will beget evil. The state commanded the liquor traffic to be good, but booze and the open saloon can not help but breed crime and misery. From our experience with the license system, it is my conviction, there is only one solution. When the cry in the world is for bread, not booze; when the need of the hour is men, not drunkards; when conservation, and not waste, is a dominant necessity; when efficiency, and not frivolity is civilization's only hope; and when booze attempts to master the state, there is but one alternative—prohibition. The traffic must go.

THE NATIONAL BOOKKEEPER



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"What do you hear from your boy Josh?" "Nothin'," replied Farmer Cornrossel. "He's gettin' us used to not hearin' from him. Josh isn't

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