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**The South Still Dry**

On another page will be found an editorial of the Montgomery, Alabama, Journal summing up the results of the Alabama primary. Senator Underwood was re-elected by 1,800 on a platform declaring prohibition a settled question. This is a very narrow margin in a vote of over 125,000. In his former race he had 40,000 majority; now, with the prestige of a "minority leader" in the Senate, he wins by 1,800! The wet papers that are boasting dare not give the facts on the same page.

But the wet and dry issue was more clearly presented in the race for the short term. Ex-Governor O'Neal, for years the wet leader of the state, ran on a wine and beer platform against three rivals, two of whom insisted that the question was settled. One of these, Congressman Heflin, who voted for the Volstead enforcement law, won, while ex-Senator White, who debated the liquor question with Mr. O'Neal, came second. The wine and beer candidate came third and polled more than ONE-FOURTH of the votes.

**THE SOUTH IS STILL DRY.** Alabama was the most promising field in the south for the wets. Her prohibition is not constitutional but statutory, and she was the only dry state in which the wets made any active effort against ratification. Now Alabama has spoken and it will be a long while before another southern politician risks his fortune on a wet platform. Had Underwood dared to ask for re-election on his record on prohibition he would have been overwhelmingly defeated. And, note, wine and beer are as dead as whisky. W. J. BRYAN.

**THE LOUISIANA SENATORSHIP**

Senator Gay, of Louisiana, having signified his intention of not being a candidate for re-election, Congressman J. Y. Sanders, of the 6th Louisiana District, announced his candidacy for Senator Gay's succession.

Congressman Sanders was formerly Governor of Louisiana, and gave to that state an able, efficient, and forward-looking administration. He inaugurated the good roads movement in Louisiana, instituted what is known in that state as the audit system, under which all public offices and institutions are checked up by state auditors; inaugurated the conservation policy of the state; abolished race horse gambling in Louisiana. The rate of taxation was not increased during his administration, and he turned over quite a surplus to his successor.

Congressman Sanders' course in the House on all the great matters before Congress during his two terms would indicate that he is worthy of promotion to the Senate.

**The Political Creed of Robert L. Owen**

**SENATOR OWEN'S RESPONSE**

Kansas City, Missouri, May 29, 1920.—  
The Commoner: In your May number, you invite candidates to "Come Into the Open" and state that you would be pleased to publish the platform of any Democratic aspirant who is willing to take the people into his confidence.

Oklahoma has determined to present my name, to which I have assented. I enclose an abstract of my political creed, in order that my friends and the public may know what my views are. Yours very respectfully,  
ROBERT L. OWEN.

"I believe in the Constitution of the United States; in the Constitutional rights of the States; in the sovereignty, in the common sense, common honesty and benevolence of the American people.

"I believe the one great reform from which all other reforms must come is to perfect the processes of popular government, so that the American people shall have a truly representative government, without fraud, without corruption, and so that the personnel of government shall at all times represent the people. A so-called progressive administration administered by officials who are reactionary must always disappoint the people. I favor a thorough going CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT; the PUBLICITY PAMPHLET; the SHORT BALLOT; the PREFERENTIAL BALLOT, which automatically coheres the unorganized majority and will assuredly defeat the intrigues of organized selfish minorities; in the INITIATIVE and REFERENDUM: in order to make representative government truly representative.

"The Prohibition amendment should be faithfully carried out, and no wet plank permitted in a Democratic Platform.

"I favor a Department of Education, Physical Training, Vocational Instruction, Adequate Salaries to Teachers.

"I am opposed to Universal Military Training or Militarism in any form.

"I favor developing the Public Health Services. I have always fought for the political and economic equality of women and regard equal suffrage for women as the most important progressive step in a century.

"The Legislative, Executive and Judicial Departments of the United States should each confine itself strictly within its own constitutional limits, while sympathetically co-operating with each other as the servants of the people.

"I favor the vigorous protection of the rights of American citizens wherever they go on earth.

"I favor the immediate passage of the Treaty of Peace and the Covenant of the League, with such reservations as shall prevent possible misconstruction to our disadvantage and shall not impair its integrity.

"The War Measures should be repealed, and every meddlesome and unnecessary interference with the liberties of our people should be terminated. I am strongly opposed to having reactionary officials administer Democratic policies.

"Every energy of Government should be exerted to stop profiteering and the abuses of private monopoly especially in food, clothing, building material and the necessities of life. This can be accomplished by the Government exercising control over Inter-state monopolies under Federal licenses and through the Federal Trade Commission, and by Statutes making excess profits unlawful and then terminating the partnership between the Government and excess profits by the repeal of the excess profits tax.

"The cost of the war should be distributed over the next half century, and more largely placed on the great fortunes made by war.

"The Progressive Inheritance Tax by co-operation with the States should be used to abate the nuisance of gigantic fortunes and put a limit on the enormous accumulations of capital in the

hands of individuals, which now threaten the peace and security of society.

"The Government should control and at least in part operate our Merchant Marine and establish American Trades Routes and Fair Freight Rates at Sea.

"I believe that private ownership and control of the railways will prove disappointing to the country, and to the owners of railway securities, and that the question of government control and of government ownership will become a burning question. I believe this question when it arises should be determined by a National Referendum presenting alternative propositions to be submitted to the people with arguments for and against each proposal in a Publicity Pamphlet to be sent to every citizen.

"I am in favor of the Tariff Commission, reciprocity and a moderately low flexible tariff.

"I favor a strict budget system, rigid economy, the elimination of waste and extravagance and the employment of the very highest standards of modern business in Governmental affairs.

"I favor fair wages for labor, just treatment, reasonable hours, safety, sanitary conditions, collective bargaining, the right to be represented by Counsel of its own choosing and participation in management and in the profits created by labor.

"Labor, Capital and Management should cooperate in the service of the Public with mutual good will, and wilful tyranny of one group over another group should be restrained.

"Neither labor, capital or management should be permitted to interfere with the Public safety.

"Labor, capital and management are each entitled to a just reward for services rendered, and an adequate mechanism for the settlement of their disputes should be very carefully worked out by conciliation, arbitration with mutual sympathy and understanding, without coercion, but under which the rights of the Public at the same time should be adequately safeguarded.

"I believe the Progressive and Liberal men and women of the Nation should immediately find some method of political co-operation for the protection of themselves against the selfish interests now organized in the interest of monopoly and profiteering. These selfish interests exercise their baneful influence wherever they can through both parties, and by influencing appointments, can make ineffective salutary laws. I believe the Democratic party which has already shown a great progressive spirit can be made the effective instrument to give the people relief, and that it should not hesitate to appeal to progressive Republicans for their support, and come to a clear understanding with regard to effective co-operation, both in the coming campaign and in the Administration of the Government when the campaign has been made effective.

"I believe in the Spirit of Democracy and that they who worship it MUST WORSHIP IT IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH.

**THANKSGIVING**

(By Mrs. William Jennings Bryan)

Today the nation waits  
Besides the temple gates,  
Our thanks, O God, to Thee,  
We give with glad acclaim  
All honor to Thy Name,  
Our thanks, O God, to Thee.

For trees and fruits and flowers,  
For sunshine and for showers,  
Our thanks, O God, to Thee!  
For fertile field and plain,  
For stores of ripened grain,  
Our thanks, O God, to Thee!

For day, our charge to keep,  
For night and gentle sleep,  
Our thanks, O God, to Thee!  
For health and home and friend,  
For joys these earth ties lend,  
Our thanks, O God, to Thee!

For strength to banish care,  
For sympathy and prayer,  
Our thanks, O God, to Thee!  
For life eternal won  
Through th' gift of Thy dear Sun,  
Our thanks, O God, to Thee!

(To the tune Laudes Domini, by Joseph Barnby, No. 32 in Methodist Hymnal.)