LAW VERSUS LAWLESSNESS

The congress elected last month is the FIFTH successive DRY congress. The first DRY congress made the Districts the Democratic States when our nation shamed itself before the world by its inability to make a treaty.

Another change in the constitution is necessary in regard to the nomination and the convening of the first regular session of congress at the same time. Here, too, the constitution is a muddle. The constitutional provision for the convening of congress have long since disappeared, and the telegraph lines. The president ought to be inaugurated, and all desiderata ought to be conveyed at the same time. The second session could then be held after the election, as is often occurred with the consideration of measures of doubtful merit that were passed over by the special session called for the consideration of the ship embargo is a good illustration of the use often made of the second session.

Another amendment is needed now, one providing for the submission of constitutional amendments by a majority vote in both houses instead of a three—twos vote as is now required. If great deliberation is desired it can be secured by a provision requiring the passage of the constitutional amendments in two sessions of congress.

It is better to require the passage of legislation than more than once by a two—twos vote. In order to comply with the constitution the majority of the electorate of the state, a majority of the state as well as a majority of the president should be required for ratification.

The growing sentiment against war in favor of peace appears to have caused a "refereon on war, except in case of actual invasion."

There ought also to be legislation that will enable the government to protect the interests of industrial concerns and employees. Employees and employers in an important industry ought to be able to make a contract of work to the public, as in the case of the coal strike, and the railroad strike last summer. The government should be authorized to take over and operate the business until the employers and employees reach an agreement and are able to meet normal demands. When a great combination seeks to control an industry, whether productive or engaged in transportation, as to make the public dependent upon it, the public should become an independent buyer to satisfy the needs of the public. When it fails to live up to its obligations, the public, in the exercise of its right to protect itself, and the most effective protection that can be given to the nation is restored.

In this connection, it ought to be provided that the government in twenty—four hours only can be the only nation that can act. In other words, the army is not for private use but for public use.

There is remedial legislation needed for the protection of the farmers, and it is worth while to investigate the possibilities of a law for agricultural staples and a minimum wage for labor. Labor and wages are fixed, the money in the prices that he receives for his products and he can only be insured a living wage by legislation and assure a reasonable living price for the farmers and a living wage for labor.

These temporary in office are not justly used in the workers, who are the backbone of the country.

We have a large contract, compared to which the league of nations is but a spot of band.

The Commercer

The Wet Handicap

There is only one cloud upon the Democratic horizon as the party looks forward to the campaign of 1904. The wet sandstorm of enough activity among the wet Democrats to cast suspicion upon the whole party. Some of the Democratic gains in the east there were a few senators and congressmen whose votes were secured by the wet. Meanwhile there is no possibility of any amendment to the internal prohibition or the enforcement law, there may be among the northeastern Democrats enough opinion to handicap the party in its fight for remedial legislation on other subjects.

The American people will not tolerate any return to liquor domination, in fact, one of the post-war advantages of prohibition is the elimination of the corruping influence of the liquor traffic. Inasmuch and election. While a large majority of Democrats in both houses are pledged to the strict enforcement of prohibition, an active minority can bring on a demand upon the party and arouse suspicion among those who are favorably disposed toward it, in the party standard.

It behooves the dry Democrats to be on their guard that the party's position may be clearly made known, it may be said to be annual held in either, the Senate or House. Prohibition is the permanent policy of the nation, it cannot be changed. They should not have anything to weaken the law or to embarrass its enforcement, and that would be an insult to the loyal responsible citizens.

He was unfortunate in having an opponent, a pronounced progressive, at a time when the progressive sentiment was growing rapidly in the west. If he had taken a stand against a reactionist, as a number of our Democrats were, he would have won triumphs.

W. J. BRYAN

ANti—LYNCH BILL DROPPED

The Republican leaders in the Senate have finally decided to drop the anti-lynching measure for the present session, the nation would have aggravated the situation instead of affording a remedy. To turn the attention of the colored section of the country, to focus it upon the method of punishment will not cure by the dry sentiment from the west and south.

The measure was introduced for political purposes and not for the advancement of justice. A fillibuster cannot kill a just measure but it sometimes wrecks a partisan effort by ex- posing to the country the real character of the bill.

BAINBY AND ATYRES RETURNED

Henry T. Bainby of the Jacksonville, Illinois, district, and W. A. J. T. Yerkes of the Wichita, Kansas, district have been returned to the congress by hand.

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