

BACK OF ROBERTS

All men who know anything at all, know well that Donn M. Roberts, election fraud conspirator, and the men who are with him in present misery and disgrace, have been but the tools and creatures of other evasive men and concealed interests. Roberts has been in the relentless limelight; he has been denounced as head and center of wickedness, as a director and guide of an amazing conspiracy to steal elections. Is it reasonable, in discussing Roberts, to ignore or to forget his backers?

Roberts apparently has been an eager agent of outlawry, but he has not been the "whole thing." Roberts and his underlings have carried on remarkable campaigns of fraud, but they have not done the work unaided.

Roberts and his associates are not men of wealth. Take the case of Roberts himself. It is notorious he has been sued in civil cases and judgments obtained against him, many scores of times. At one time, not long ago, there were on file, pending and awaiting settlement against Roberts something near 200 legal actions of various sorts. He was not a man of wealth. If he has acquired riches it has been very recently and in short order. Yet from the very first of Roberts' mad career in machine politics, unlimited sums have been used in "playing the game" according to the Roberts method.

Who supplied the funds? Who pushed Roberts forward? Who made Roberts democratic county chairman and then mayor of Terre Haute? Why was Roberts put in power as county chairman of a dominant party, and why was he picked to be promoted to the mayor's chair? In whose behalf was all this done? It was not Roberts' work; it was not all Roberts' personal ambition and egotism. He was useful to somebody.

Everybody knows what forces were in the astounding crusade of the spoilers. So common is the knowledge among the people, it is scarcely

A GOOD THING

When It Comes Along Don't Let It Get Away From You

"I really feel that it is hardly possible to say too much in favor of Grape-Nuts as a health food," writes a Chicago woman.

"For 9 or 10 years I had suffered from indigestion and chronic constipation, caused by the continued use of coffee and rich, heavy foods. My ailments made my life so wretched that I was eager to try anything that held out a promise of help. And that is how I happened to buy a package of Grape-Nuts food last spring.

"That ended my experiments. For in Grape-Nuts I found exactly what I wanted and needed. From the day I began to use it I noticed an improvement and in a very few weeks I found my health was being restored.

"My digestive apparatus now works perfectly and chronic constipation has been entirely relieved. I have gained in weight materially, and life is a very pleasant thing to me so long as I use Grape-Nuts once or twice a day. I have found by experiment that if I leave it off for a few days my health suffers.

"A physician in our town has great success in treating stomach troubles, and the secret of it is that he puts his patient on Grape-Nuts food—it always brings back the power of digestion."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

necessary to discuss it. Yet in the light of this common knowledge the self-respecting citizen and the self-respecting newspaper may not avoid or evade honest recognition of the facts. In drawing lessons from the shocking crimes committed by the Roberts-Redman-Shea gang at Terre Haute, it is impossible to ignore or to neglect the "invisible government" that handled the wires whereon scores of petty law-breakers danced to the music of corruption.

Whence came the suggestion of robbery and violence, and whence the flood of slush money that made it possible to buy votes; to hire repeaters, to purchase venal election board members; to debauch the registration and to inspire gunmen and thugs to bloody work against the people? What men and what special interests were to profit by gaining fraudulent control of elections and public offices?

All sinister influences, regardless of party; all the vicious elements, the law-breakers, the panders, owners of property used for commercialized vice; the bribers, interests seeking special privilege; speculators wrongly demanding special favors; crooked contractors seeking unfair advantages; evil influences asking for municipal immunity or undue assistance and connivance—all these were in the sordid system which by brutal force elevated Roberts and at last wrought in violence his lamentable downfall.

Chief of all the influences within the system is centered in the insensate greed of the liquor interests. First of all is the malignant, unreasoning, lustful, power-seeking brewing interest, allied with the saloons, the political crooks, the gamblers and the illegal resorts, a vulture quintet of destruction.

Read the court record. Fifteen saloon keepers were among those sentenced Monday by Judge Anderson for parts in the Terre Haute frauds. Seventeen bartenders were among the men convicted of crimes against the ballot box. These men mostly were from the Terre Haute underworld district. Six professional gamblers were in the array. Twenty-five were machine politicians, ex-officers or then in office. Twenty-six were cadets, hangers-on, loafers, dependents on the dwellers in the underworld. Three were sluggers of the desperate type known to the "red light" section. Sixteen others were so low down as to be lacking even in classification marks.

Does this list tell anything to the reader? Does it not in fact expose in all its hideous malevolence and brutality the dirty alliance of the underworld, the saloon, the gambling den, the brewery and the machine politicians?

It is this coalition which creates and foists such leadership as that of Roberts and his helpers. Back of Roberts and his kind are the real sponsors for crimes against elections and against society. Roberts is but an agent. The Terre Haute outrage is but one manifestation of the work of an unholy system. Terre Haute is but one shamed city; her woe is acute because it stands exposed in nakedness to general reproach.

Other Indiana cities are not without shameful conditions, all getting back to the corrupt and corrupting liquor business as that business has taken vicious shape under the control of ruthless and reckless greed, and under depraved alliance with vice, gaming and degraded politics.

Will Indiana citizens permit the interests which inspired the great election conspiracy to go on as formerly with the corruption of citizenship; the debauching of elections; the subversion of parties; the violation of

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government and the smirching of the law's agencies?

Is there no lasting lesson, no impressive instruction to be obtained from the Terre Haute situation? What hope for a better future? What hope for a better state? Indiana is called on in an emergency to prove the quality of its manhood.—Indianapolis (Ind.) Times.

TWO PICTURES

In 1907 the world was at peace. Factories were busy. Crops were good. There was no threat of trouble abroad. At home, the republican party, self-appointed vizier of "prosperity," was in undisturbed control of the government, and Theodore Roosevelt held forth daily on the whole duty of man, with the White House or the president's train as his rostrum.

Yet out of that clear sky came a panic that forced every bank to suspend specie payment and rely on "cashier's checks." The card house of prosperity tumbled to the ground. Factories closed, the stream of traffic dried to a thin trickle, disaster overtook the whole nation, and the effects of that disaster were still plainly visible when President Wilson took the chair in 1913.

Turn now to 1914. In early August of that year began the greatest and most destructive war the world has ever known. Men by millions dropped the tools of industry and

sprang to arms. Battles involving armies larger than the hosts of Xerxes grappled on two frontiers, swaying back and forth, and trampling civilization into the mire between them. The purchasing power of this nation's best customers was cut in two, and some of those customers perforce ceased buying altogether.

Yet there was no panic. Business halted, as a ship might halt if she ran against a continent; but the ship did not sink, nor even take in water. There was a tremendous disruption of commerce and finance, but no collapse like that which came seven years before. The army of unemployed was no larger in 1914 than in 1907; and while the earlier depression lasted for years the later one is already passing away, and prosperity is returning with steady pace.—Chicago Journal.

PROOF POSITIVE

Little Janet came running into the house one morning, sobbing. Throwing herself into her mother's arms, she cried:

"God doesn't love me any more, mother!"

"Why, Janet, dear," said the mother. "Why do you say that? God loves every one."

"No, mother, He doesn't love me," wailed the little girl. "I know He doesn't. I tried Him with a daisy!" —Philadelphia Ledger.