

Four Year Campaign to Make Nation Dry

An Indianapolis dispatch to the Chicago Herald, dated Nov. 18, says: William Jennings Bryan in this city tomorrow will begin a four year fight to make the United States a totally dry nation by federal enactment.

The Nebraskan will urge the democrats of the country to join him in a campaign to compel the next democratic national convention to include a plank for national prohibition in its platform. He will also seek a plank favoring federal equal suffrage.

All of the political energies of Mr. Bryan until 1920 will be devoted to the purpose of making the democratic party declare for these two objectives, which he considers the two big issues of the day. The Nebraskan has made known his intentions in emphatic terms.

"The republican party," he said, "stands defeated on old issues and will be looking for new ones on which to base the fight of 1920. It may champion prohibition in the hope of winning the west, which already has declared its position on the wet and dry question.

Wants Party to Lead

"The returns of the recent election make it easy for the democratic party to take the lead on prohibition and equal suffrage.

"Of the twenty-three dry states seventeen went for Wilson, two more were close, and in four other states which he carried prohibition has practically been decided on.

"Again — the President carried nearly all the states in which women vote. These two issues are paramount to the party. They should not, and will not be sidetracked."

Cities Against Saloon

The election brought the most sweeping victories for the anti-saloon cause in the history of the movement.

Four states, containing a population of 5,400,166 and an area of 326,112 square miles, equaling more than one-twelfth of the area of the United States, in a single day went from wet to dry.

Of the 2,543 counties in the United States, 2,047 were dry before the election November 7, when 191 more counties were added, leaving only 355 wet counties in the entire nation.

The significant trend of the times is the turn of big industrial cities against the saloon. Kansas City, Grand Rapids, Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma, all gave decisive dry majorities.

Dry States Before

Maine, 1851; Kansas, 1880; No. Dakota, 1889; Georgia, 1907; Oklahoma, 1907; Mississippi, 1908; No. Carolina, 1908; Tennessee, 1909; Virginia, 1914; W. Va., 1912; Colorado, 1914; Oregon, 1914; Washington, 1914; Arizona, 1914; Alabama, 1915; Arkansas, 1915; Iowa, 1915; Idaho, 1915; S. Carolina, 1915. The following states were added November 7, 1916: Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota.

Pledged to Prohibition

In addition Florida and Utah elected legislatures and governors pledged to immediate statutory prohibition. Both of these states will be in the dry column within the next four months. This will leave only eleven states more to adopt state-wide prohibition before three-fourths (thirty-six), the number necessary to ratify the amendment to the consti-

tution, of all the states in the union are dry. The situation in a number of these eleven states is as follows: Minnesota, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Texas, New Mexico, Wyoming, and Delaware are just ready to drop into the dry basket. The chances are more than even that five of these will adopt prohibition within the next twelve months—namely: Minnesota, Indiana, Ohio, New Mexico, and Texas. The situation in the remaining states necessary for the adoption of prohibition is as follows:

New Hampshire: Unless there is an affirmative vote in each town for licenses each two years no licenses can be granted. At the vote in 1915 203 towns voted against license, twenty-one towns for license. The majority all over the state against license was 7,663.

Seventeen Wet Towns in Vermont

Vermont: The same kind of local option prevails in Vermont as in New Hampshire. Only seventeen of the 246 towns in the state have saloons and seven of the seventeen have in the aggregate only twelve saloons.

Delaware: Has only 200 saloons left in the entire state and state-wide prohibition is imminent.

Wyoming: The issue is a live one and statutory prohibition probably at the coming session of the legislature.

California: California reduced the wet majority of two years ago of 170,000 down to 45,000 for prohibition of the saloons and all retail selling of liquor and to 100,000 for complete prohibition of the liquor traffic, retail, wholesale, and manufacturers.

Maryland: Maryland is coming to state-wide prohibition. Seventeen of her twenty-three counties are dry.

Kentucky: Of the 120 counties in Kentucky 106 are dry and 80.5 per cent of the population resides in dry territory. State-wide prohibition is imminent.

The above makes thirty-seven states, or one more than the necessary three-fourths, but in addition it should be borne in mind that to bring about national prohibition it is not necessary that the individual states shall have adopted the dry law, but only that the legislatures should be dry, which will open the doors to at least two more states—namely: Missouri and Nevada.

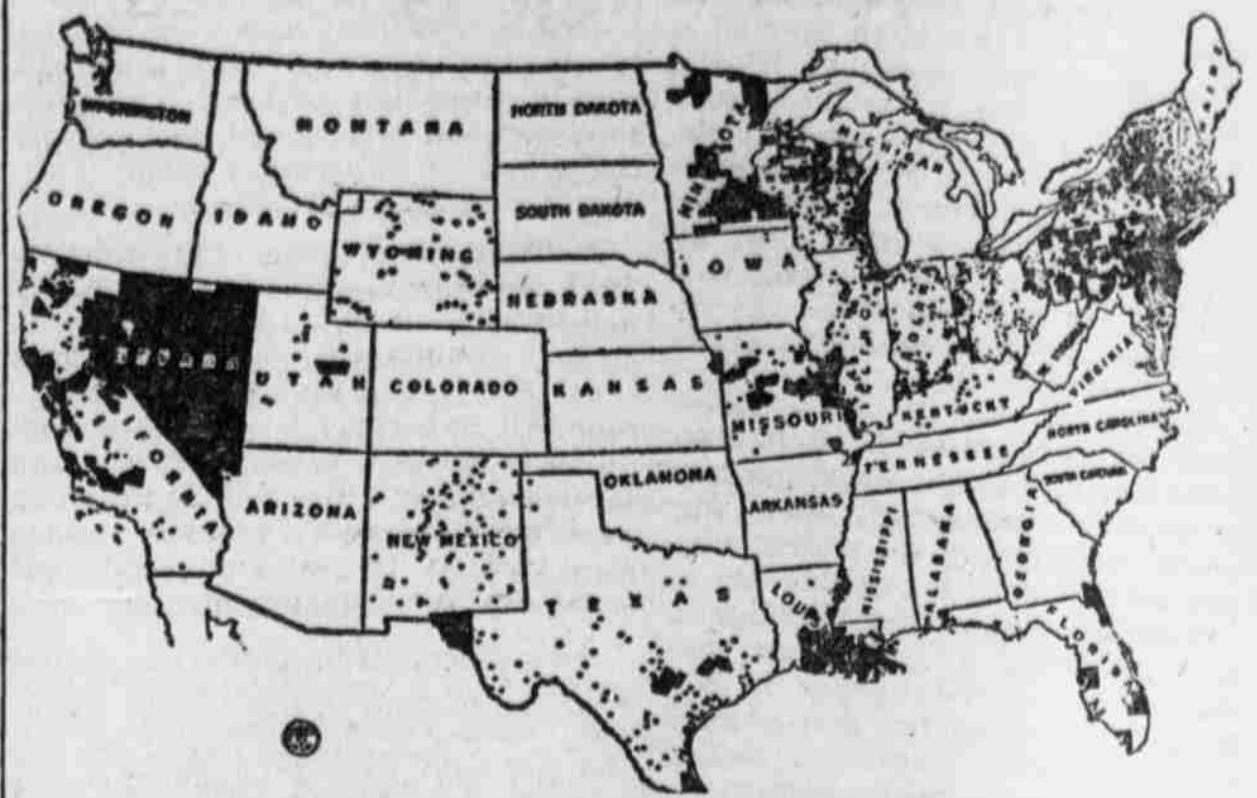
There is a strong movement against the saloon in Nevada, and sentiment is rapidly rising, so that it is probable that the legislature of Nevada would ratify a prohibition amendment to the national constitution. The legislature of Missouri is elected by counties, which minimizes the power of St. Louis. In consequence the legislature is overwhelmingly dry and would ratify the national amendment.

And last but by no means improbable are the legislatures of Illinois and Louisiana. There is more than a fighting chance in each one of these states.

There is probably no more graphic illustration of the growth of sentiment against the liquor interests than in the supposedly impregnable stronghold of liquordom in Pennsylvania. Five years ago 60,000 of her people lived in no-license territory. Today there are more than 1,000,000 and while in 1911 there were only 700 square miles of dry territory today there are 12,300.

Then there were only two counties

THE LIQUOR SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES



White—Dry Territory; Black—Wet.

dry. Now there are eleven. It is stated that of the 1,700 saloons in Philadelphia 200 are on the market. One broker advertises that he has 100 for sale.

RESULTS OF THE WET AND DRY FIGHT IN 1916

[From the Chicago Herald.]

Michigan voted dry by over 75,000. Grand Rapids voted dry by over 3,000. Detroit, with over 800,000 population, voted even.

Montana — Twenty thousand against saloon. Every city in state except Butte voted dry.

South Dakota — Dry by 25,000. Every city voted dry.

Nebraska—Majority against saloon over 29,000.

Utah elected legislature and governor pledged to immediate enactment of state-wide prohibition.

Florida elected legislature pledged to immediate enactment of state-wide prohibition.

Indiana—One of the most smashing victories in the day's contests. Ten wet congressmen retired and dry elected to replace them. Dry governor elected by strong majority.

Arkansas—Wets tried to weaken prohibitory law, but vote was more than two to one against them.

Washington—Seattle, which voted wet two years ago by 15,000, voted dry by 20,000.

Oregon—Wets attempted to weaken law; defeated by over 90,000. Bone dry amendment passed.

Saloons Wiped Out by Election Nov. 7

Alaska	450
Michigan	3,285
Montana	1,600
Nebraska	825
South Dakota	203
Maryland	165
Total	6,528

Brewers Put Out of Business

Michigan	79
Nebraska	13
Montana	19
South Dakota	3
Total	114

DEMOCRACY AND PROHIBITION

The next national campaign is likely to be fought out on the prohibition question. That is as certain as any future event can be predicted. The democratic party should not allow its political opponents to steal

the issue. They should advocate national prohibition, not only because of political expediency but because it is right. Also, we must advocate national woman's suffrage.—So. Denver (Col.) Eye and Bulletin.

BRYAN AND THE WEST

A few weeks ago it became necessary for The Tribune to inform its readers that William J. Bryan was in the campaign heart and soul for Woodrow Wilson. The big dailies they read said nothing about this. Republicans were telling the old friends and adherents of Mr. Bryan in Parke county that he was not supporting Wilson, and as we have said it became necessary for us to reprint one of Mr. Bryan's speeches and at the same time tell of his old time activity in the campaign.

It will be recalled that we said Mr. Bryan was everywhere in the great west making speeches night and day for Wilson. Beyond a few days in Michigan and one day in Ohio he was not east of the Mississippi. He was wanted in several middle western states, but he preferred to do his part of the work in the west.

He did that work and he did it well. How well he did it may be known from the election returns. The President did not make a tour of the west. It was not necessary. The great Commoner was out there, out among his own people who know him, understand him, and love him, and they rallied to the standard bearer of the party of which Bryan has so long been a trusted leader.—Rockville (Ind.) Tribune.

WILSON ELECTED BY BRYAN FRIENDS SAY

[From Washington, D. C., Times.] Bryan men in Washington are taking the keenest kind of satisfaction over the fact that it was the far west which gave President Wilson his reelection.

"Wilson," they say, owed the presidency in the first place to Bryan because Bryan nominated him at Baltimore. Now, it turns out that the states in which Mr. Bryan spoke gave their votes to the President."

For some time before the election much was said here because Bryan was working with his coat off in western states, such as Kansas, Nebraska, and elsewhere.

Yet the democratic headquarters at New York was careful to say nothing about it, apparently fearing to offend conservative and anti-Bryan democrats. This was resented by some of Mr. Bryan's friends. Now, the results speak for themselves.