

PROHIBITION NATIONAL ISSUE FOR NEW YEAR

Washington correspondence by Gilson Gardner, dated Jan. 2, says: The New year dawns with the tacit admission by politicians that prohibition is now a live national issue.

Bryan was right. Prohibition is the liveliest issue at the present session of congress, not excepting our old friend H. C. of L.

The senate has done little else except to debate the Sheppard bill for making the nation's capital dry. On the house side the constitutional amendment is to the front. The judiciary committee has reported to the house for its consideration. They failed to make consideration without recommendation.

Their report "passed the buck" first to the rules committee and second to the individual members. The amendment can not come before the house without a special dispensation from the rules committee, and it is to this body the prohibitionists will turn their attention now. Probably Representative Henry and his associates will be glad to "pass the buck" again to the house, and the members of the house, who hope to escape an

embarrassing vote, will be obliged to go on record one way or the other.

To say the prohibition amendment will pass congress would be a very daring prediction. It takes a two-thirds vote in both houses to propose a constitutional amendment.

At the same time, prohibition has become such an important political issue that it may be determined as the wise policy of one or both parties to pass it on to the states, which would be the effect of proposing a constitutional amendment.

Then the prohibitionists would have to transfer their activities to the state legislatures and make winning campaigns in three-fourths of the states before the liquor traffic would be abolished by constitutional prohibition.

The Anti-Saloon league professes to believe that help rather than opposition may be expected from the White house.

Colonel Bryan thinks prohibition will be the big party issue in 1920. He evidently, therefore, does not look for the passage of the amendment—or its ratification if passed—before that date. He thinks that if the democrats neglect to seize the issue they may be beaten to it by the republican party.

turning the crowd across the street to St. John's Southern Methodist church. That church seats around 1,000, but 1,500 managed to squeeze in. Still the streets were choking with people. Some estimate that between 3,000 and 4,000 were turned away.

But that's only half the story. There were 2,000 in Second church and 1,500 in St. John's fully an hour before Bryan was billed to speak. Someone reached Bryan on the telephone, "Come over and help us," was the Macedonian cry over the wires.

Before Bryan came, Dr. W. C. Biting, pastor of Second Baptist Church, warned the 2,000 not to applaud, but to remember they were guests of Second Baptist church congregation. Bryan came soon after this, during a prayer by Dean Shaller Mathews of the University of Chicago.

Crowd Cheers Despite Warnings
Dean Mathews finished his prayer, and Bryan stepped to the pulpit. Instantly someone started to applaud. Dr. Biting as instantly held up his hand and shut it off.

In Second church Bryan spoke for two and a half hours. In less than an hour, Dr. Biting's warning against applause went for naught. As Bryan lashed the brewers with the same eloquence with which he lashed the gold men in 1896, the great audience could not contain itself. They applauded. They even cheered. Dr. Biting looked helpless. He might as well have tried to stop the onrush of Niagara as to have stopped the pent-up feelings of those 2,000 men and women. Bryan was letting go all the power, all the logic, all the spell, all the fine scorn, all the greatness that was in his great soul.

WILSON AND THE WOMEN

Complete returns show Woodrow Wilson received a majority of 34,164 votes in Kansas. Arthur Capper, newspaper publisher and republican candidate for governor, won by a majority of 100,000. In Kansas, where women voted for the first time, 225,000 more votes were polled in 1916 than in 1912. Wilson got 173,000 of these and Hughes only 80,000. In Illinois, where the women also voted and which was carried by Hughes, 870,000 more votes were cast than in 1912. Wilson got of these 460,000 and Hughes 404,000.—Toledo Blade.

PRAISE FOR PRESIDENT WILSON

A Geneva cablegram, dated Dec. 24, says: The Journal de Geneve, discussing the note sent by President Wilson to the belligerent powers, gives warm praise to the President: "Whatever results President Wilson obtains," the Journal says, "we Swiss and neutral officers must thank this good republican and salute him with respect. President Wilson has dared to propose something precise in order to realize his specific aspirations. He has caused during this dark Christmas a gleam of hope in a gloomy sky."

A FRIGHT

"Yes," said Miss Knox, "I saw her in that new spring gown of hers and she really behaved as if she was happy."

"Well?" queried Miss Ascum. "Well, it's remarkable how happy some people can be no matter how they look."—Catholic Standard and Times.

BIG ST. LOUIS CROWD CHEERS MR. BRYAN

[From the St. Louis Republic, Dec. 11, 1916.]

"I will come back to St. Louis some time, when the brewers try to bulldoze you again," significantly said William Jennings Bryan yesterday afternoon at Second Baptist church. And he was cheered despite the protestations of the pastor, Rev. Dr. W. C. Biting, who in advance asked the audience not to cheer.

Bryan left St. Louis last night for the south, after thrilling 15,000 persons and disappointing 10,000 others who could not get even within hearing distance in nine memorable speeches during a 36 hours' visit as a delegate to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

In the sensational fashion of 1896, Bryan made a furious oratorical charge on the brewery interests of St. Louis. Neither did he spare the bankers and business men of St. Louis, who, he said, signed up "wet" indorsements under "the brewers' ox-whip" prior to the recent election.

If ever a human being resembled the Avenging Angel of St. John's apocalyptic vision it was William Jennings Bryan, when he ringingly voiced the protest of the 13,000 dry voters of St. Louis, pouring his hottest vials of platform wrath upon the heads of the men in the brewery business and their business allies.

"The brewers are the real anarchists, when they tell you in advance that prohibition will not prohibit because they will defy the government and will disobey the laws," was one of his hottest shots.

If anyone ever tells you that Bryan is a "dead one," bat him between the eyes gently and wake him up. The magic of Bryan's name was enough to create one of the most blood-stirring scenes known in recent St. Louis history. It had Bryan's campaign tours of '96 beaten a thousand ways.

Church Packed at 2:30

Second Baptist church can comfortably seat 1,250. There were 2,000 packed in the auditorium. Bryan was advertised to speak at 3:30 p.m. The church was packed at 2:30. Mobs were struggling like fury to get in. Policemen finally succeeded in

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