

TRAITORS TO THEIR COUNTRY

[From The Lexington, Ky., Herald, June 27.]

Men who are more interested in the continuation of profits earned by the sale of alcoholic liquors than in the welfare of the soldiers of the nation were declared the most sordid of traitors by William Jennings Bryan in his speech last night at Woodland auditorium.

Fully 3,000 persons attended the meeting, which was held under the auspices of the Democratic Forward League. The stage was reserved for the members of the reception committee and the guests who accompanied the speaker. Mr. Bryan was secured recently by the league to make a number of addresses in the state to urge the nomination and election of democratic candidates pledged to the enactment in the next legislature of a statewide prohibition measure.

The night was warm, and the speaker refreshed himself with the breeze from a palm leaf fan. The audience, among whom were a large percentage of women, listened without impatience to the argument of the former secretary of state. Practically all the seats in the building were occupied and a number stood in the rear of the hall. Seats for 100 members of the W. C. T. U. were reserved. Decorations of American flags and pictures had been placed around the balconies and over the stage by the women of this organization.

The speaker and his party arrived shortly after 8 o'clock, the time announced, and took their places on the stage of the auditorium amid the strains of "The Star Spangled Banner." At the close of the musical selection the "peerless leader" was given an ovation. Throughout his speech he was interrupted by frequent bursts of applause. Apparently Colonel Bryan has lost none of his popularity, and the man who set the nation afire with his new ideas in 1896 still maintains the hold he had then on the people of the country.

Unreservedly the former secretary denounced the use of alcohol and the sale and manufacture of all forms of liquor. The south, he said, had seen the folly of retaining the evil and at present only four southern states are wet. If a vote were taken today in Kentucky on a statewide law, he declared, its passage with a majority of 100,000 votes would be certain.

"The brewers and distillers of this country would rob this nation and make a drunkard of every soldier if the government would let them," he said. "And I include in this the subsidized newspapers who for pecuniary interests are fighting this thing for the brewers and distillers. The liquor interests are the most unpatriotic and conscienceless group the democratic party ever knew, and they shall not ruin the party to which I owe so much, they shall not carry it down to a drunkard's grave, while I can prevent it."

Referring to the recent prohibition laws by congress, Colonel Bryan said that as nature often planted the antidote nearest the poison, so in Representative Barkley, who was responsible for the clause in the food control bill making the use of grain in alcohol making illegal, Kentucky had furnished her own antidote to the whisky poison which she had poured out into the world.

Mr. Bryan was introduced by Col. John R. Allen, Commonwealth's attorney, who referred to him as a distinguished democrat, a splendid orator, a statesman and a Christian gentleman.

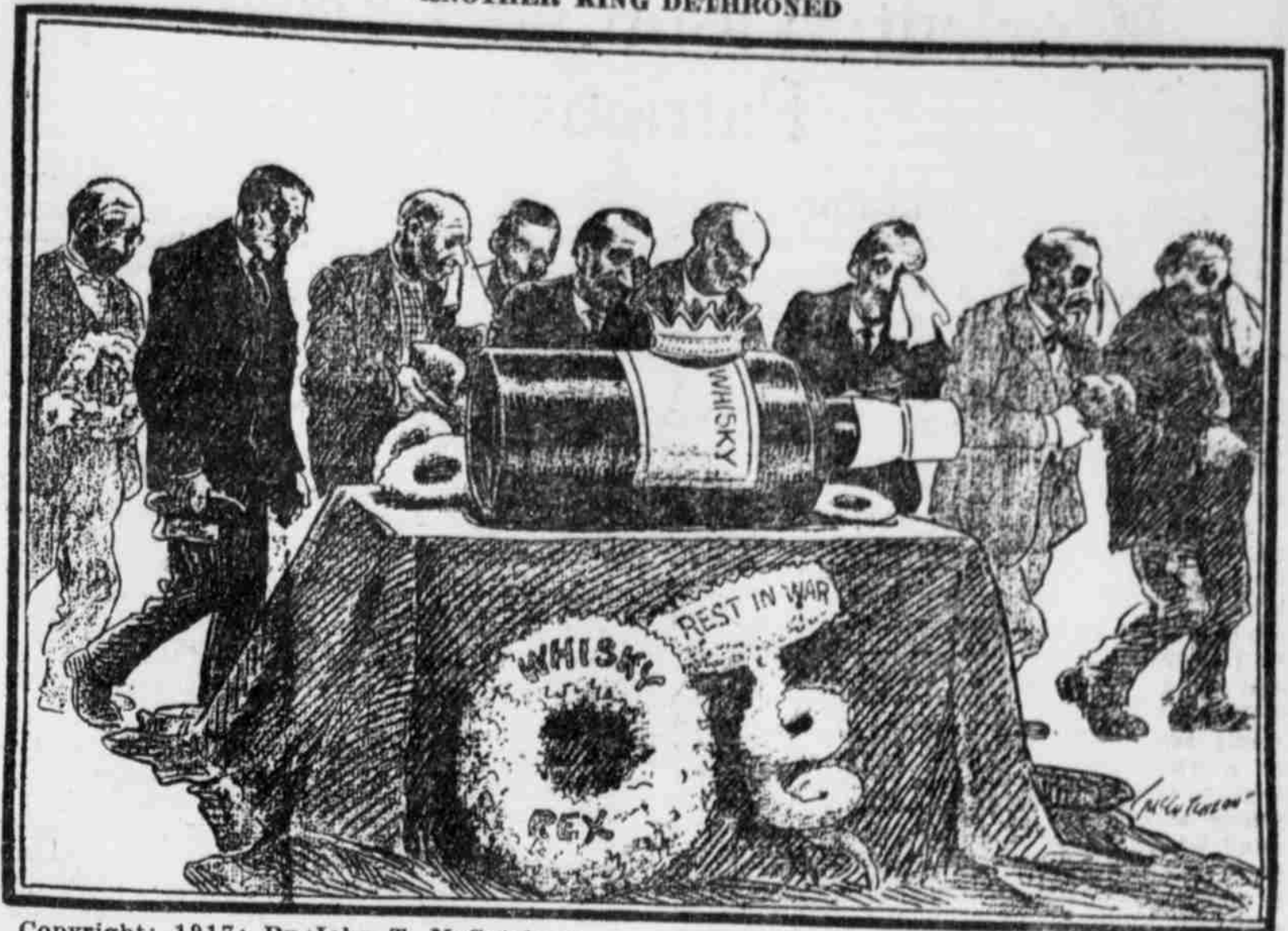
FOODSTUFFS USED IN MANUFACTURE OF LIQUOR

Below is a statement concerning the foodstuffs used in the manufacture of liquor, issued from the War Prohibition committee of Boston. These statistics have been compiled by well known economists and food experts as the names attest. This statement is specially important as setting out the truth concerning the amount of foodstuffs used in the manufacture of liquor, concerning which altogether false statements have been made by liquor manufacturers. The statement follows:

WHO USES FOOD RESOURCES FOR LIQUOR?

In the year ending June 30, 1916, brewers used 3,556,103,596 pounds of foodstuffs; distillers used 3,777,609,748 pounds of foodstuffs. But in the case of distilled spirits, a quantity equivalent to about 50 per cent of the year's output was used for denaturation, government, and scientific purposes, or export as alcohol. This reduces to 1,888,804,874 pounds the foodstuffs used by distillers for alcoholic beverages. The brewers used 3,556,103,596 pounds. Thus the brewers used, in making alcoholic

ANOTHER KING DETHRONED



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—Chicago Tribune.

beverages nearly twice as much foodstuff as the distillers.

Besides, the brewers used 37,451,610 pounds of hops. These are not food, but on the basis of the last census acreage, the land used for hops if planted to potatoes would produce over 4,000,000 bushels of potatoes.

If war prohibition is to save foodstuffs it must prohibit beer and other malt liquors as well as the distilled liquors.

PROHIBITION AND THE FOOD BILL

[From The Cincinnati Post, June 26.]

Emphatic indorsement of the prohibition clause in the Lever food control bill was given by William Jennings Bryan in a statement to The Post, sent by telegraph Tuesday from Frankfort, Ky., where Bryan, on a lecture tour, spoke to a large audience Monday night. The statement follows:

"I am very much gratified at the action taken by the house of representatives at Washington in adopting the Barkley amendment, forbidding conversion of food products into alcoholic liquors.

"It is a splendid response to the patriotic demand of the nation. I hope the senate will promptly accept the house amendment, that the President will be authorized to commandeer all the alcoholic liquor in the country and redistill it so that the alcohol can be used for military purposes.

"Kentucky is to be congratulated on the fact that one of her congressmen proposed this amendment. It verifies the old proverb that the poison finds its antidote near at home.

NATION-WIDE PROHIBITION ESSENTIAL

State of Utah, Executive Office, Salt Lake City, June 1, 1917.—Mr. James K. Risk, Lebanon, Ind. My Dear Mr. Risk: I wish to apologize for not answering your kind letter sooner. The unusual press of business in this office incident to the war has put me behind with my correspondence.

I have watched with a great deal of interest the splendid progress of Indiana toward prohibition. I trust that the democratic party of your great state will go on record in favor of nation-wide prohibition, which to my mind is essential to the adequate defense of the nation.

In Utah the democratic party is the prohibition party of the state. The democratic party gave the state a "bone-dry" prohibition law which goes into effect August 1st, and which will be strictly enforced by a democratic administration.

I feel a special interest in Indiana for that state was at one time my home.

Respectfully,

SIMON BAMBERGER, Governor.

"HAPPY AND HEARTY, SAME OLD W. J."

[From the Louisville, Ky., Herald, June 23.]

A happy, hearty personality; an outstanding big-souled man whose influence is still at the flood mark; whose power has never deminished; whose vigor stands at 100 per cent; whose eye is clear; whose voice holds its magic; whose comradeship is jolly and contagious; whose heart is in the right place—that is William Jennings Bryan.

Nothing simpler; nothing less hide-bound or stiff. "It's warm," he suggested, and fiddled about with his collar. We agreed—and would gladly have enjoyed a corresponding privilege. "It's hot," he protested, and the vest followed the collar. And, when we suggested that there were troubles among his newspaper friends that were sulphurous, if he didn't say—"It's h—l," it's because he can not.

A very fine and urbane gentleman is William Jennings Bryan. A man of the world, a man of this world. There are people who think he flirts with rainbows. A sad mistake. A grievous blunder. His eye is keen and his mind clear and his heart—and that is the greatest thing about him—in the right place. We repeat it because we believe it.

And make up your mind about another matter. We have never given it any space or sanction—that is, its contrary and opposite—William Jennings Bryan is a great big American, a tremendous asset of Americanism; a noble voice of the broadest patriotism; a fine asset in the national gallery of patriots and public men whose soul, whose every breath, strains toward the country which, by its blessed graciousness, they are a speaking part.

The "Commoner" is less volcanic and more lovable than back in the days of Golden Crosses and other burdens. He has lived and he has learned. He used to be intolerant — red hot, perspiring, palpitating. He is become a signpost of the days that are past and the memories that are sad. Even the mask is harder and less florid. Even the smile has angles to it. Even the diction is more direct and less tortuous and unctuous, and solar.

But it is still Bryan—a great American citizen; a marvelous American orator; a noble American educator. It is, perhaps, not quite his day, this day of anger and upset. But how buoyantly he meets it.

Somehow, as we leave William Jennings the words impose themselves—

"My Country, 'Tis of Thee."

—E. A. J.

Drunkenness in the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, decreased 90 per cent in the first two months of prohibition in Nebraska. Two months of experience is better testimony than a ream of campaign claims.