

The Case Against Alcohol

First. Alcohol is a poison and is injurious to the body, the mind and the morals.

Second. No normal brain needs alcohol to stimulate it to action.

Third. No one is strong enough to begin the alcoholic habit with the certainty that he will not become its victim.

Fourth. There is no time in life when it is safe to begin the use of intoxicating liquors.

Fifth. No one has a moral right to impair his capacity for service by deliberately contracting a habit which he knows to be injurious.

Sixth. No one can afford to spend any money for alcoholic drinks when so many worthy causes need aid.

Seventh. No one can justify before the bar of conscience the putting of his influence on the side of a habit which brings thousands to the grave every year.

Eighth. No one should put temptation in the way of others by offering the social glass.

If the use of intoxicating liquor is harmful, no community can defend the policy of licensing the saloon which conspires against the welfare of the people, and no citizen by his vote should become a partner in the saloon business unless he is ready to share moral responsibility for what the saloon does.

Prohibition has been tested by experience and sustained in principle by the highest court in the land. Experience also has shown that the larger the unit the easier the enforcement of prohibition.

The attempt to shield the liquor traffic behind the doctrine of states' rights is a sham and a fraud. The men who use the states' rights argument in defense of saloons today are, in almost every case, men who have opposed prohibition by state, county or any smaller unit.

To the economic arguments, which have been strengthened by experience, and the moral arguments, which have grown stronger with the rise of ethical standards, two patriotic arguments can be added. First, we can not spare for alcohol the foodstuffs needed for the table and, second, we can not in this crisis permit intoxicants to lessen the fighting power of our soldiers, or the producing power of those who toil in field and factory. W. J. BRYAN.

MR. THOMAS' APPEAL

On another page will be found an appeal by Mr. Addison C. Thomas, for many years prominently identified with the Associated Press. He is convinced that the food question is a very serious one — more serious than is generally supposed — and he outlines remedies that are likely to be resorted to if the war continues.

The strain is felt first by the young men of military age and the taxpayer, but as the war goes on the burden will be distributed until every man, woman and child will be called on to contribute in service or sacrifice.

We must all be ready to do our part and to do it as needed. There can be no excuse for slacking or shirking in a crisis like the present.

CALL SPECIAL SESSIONS

In every dry state which has a dry governor and a dry legislature, the legislature should be assembled in special session to ratify the national prohibition amendment. Each ratification swells the tide against the saloon and lessens the number of states in which a fight is necessary. W. J. BRYAN.

MANY THANKS

It is hard to find anything wholly bad—the cloud generally has "a silver lining." Even a premature death notice has its advantages—it generally brings out kind words that have been unspoken during life. So the Toronto incident has unloosed a flood of friendly comment, which I greatly appreciate. The pleasure they give far outweighs the momentary embarrassment caused by the protest of some sixty-five misinformed ex-soldiers (out of two or three thousand ex-soldiers in the city) who disturbed the meeting (only one of the three meetings) and made it difficult for the remaining 98 per cent of the audience to hear. W. J. BRYAN.

THE NATIONAL DRY FEDERATION

The following telegrams explain themselves: Hon. W. J. Bryan, Pope, Ark.

Twenty-eight national organizations, including Federal Council of Churches, Christian Endeavor Society, Trade Union, Dry League of America, Prohibition Party, Woman's Prohibition League, Catholic Priests Prohibition League, Sons of Temperance, Good Templars, Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Unitarian, Reformed, Christian, and other churches and organizations, unanimously request you to accept the presidency of The National Dry Federation. Ratification of the national amendment, success in six states which vote in November, and conservation of men and resources through war prohibition, make union of forces imperative. Without distinction of creed, party, race or occupation, we offer you the leadership of the largest prohibition organization in the world, and promise loyal, enthusiastic support.

CHARLES SCANLON,
Temporary President.

Rev. Charles Scanlon,
Temporary Pres., National Dry Federation,
LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Scanlon:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your telegram and to express my profound appreciation of the confidence implied. The character of the organizations represented by the National Dry Federation, the number and high purpose of the citizens for whom it speaks and the far reaching importance of the work outlined—these, taken together, compelled acceptance of the invitation so generously extended. Relying upon the sympathetic and unselfish co-operation of the splendid men and women whose energies are thus united in a noble cause, I place myself unreservedly at the command of the Federation, and pledge it my services until the saloon is banished from the land. I desire an early conference with you and the other officials that no time be lost.

With cordial greetings, I am,
Very truly yours,
WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN.

A WOMAN WINS

Mrs. Boole, president of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of New York, carried off the honors at the Albany hearing on February 26th. Ex-Senator Bailey of Texas made an eloquent plea against ratification of the prohibition amendment, and Mrs. Boole informed the audience that the distinguished gentleman had used the same speech against the suffrage amendment before a committee at Washington.

Mr. Gompers praised Porto Rica's wine rooms, and Mrs. Boole informed the audience that Porto Rica's native population had recently voted the saloons out of that island.

Mr. Gompers belittled the value of barley as a bread grain, and said that he had never eaten any barley bread. Mrs. Boole replied that she had eaten both barley bread and barley cookies and then modestly reminded Mr. Gompers that Christ used "barley loaves" to perform one of His miracles.

And the liquor interests would, if they could, exclude woman from suffrage—they would tie her hands while they rob her home of the children in whom she has invested her life.

The women of New York vote, and they have a worthy representative and champion in Mrs. Boole.

The esteemed New York World is as logical as ever. It says that the adoption of national prohibition will be a triumph for fanaticism over reason. That is to say, if you demand the right to get drunk when you please, regardless of what happens to other persons because of the necessity of furnishing facilities for that purpose, you are a reasonable being and not a fanatic. Yet the dictionary-makers insist on referring to a fanatic as one having extravagant notions as to his rights or desires or opinions.

The woman suffrage leaders of Nebraska have filed a petition in court attacking the referendum that suspended the limited suffrage law passed by the 1917 legislature, and have a great deal of proof in support of their charge that the liquor interests were responsible for the circulation of the petitions. That is one fact that does not require a great deal of proof to convince any intelligent man.

The Amendment Will Be Ratified

The contest is on between the home and its greatest enemy, the saloon. The cause of prohibition has passed through the narrows and now has clear sailing. Seven years have been given for ratification, but hardly more than three will be required, and the end may come in even less time.

The economic argument we have had with us always, but it has been strengthened by experience and scientific investigation. The moral argument has grown as the public conscience became more sensitive. And now to former arguments we can add two which are in their nature patriotic; first, that we can not spare breadstuffs for the manufacture of alcohol; and second, that we need one-hundred-per-cent men, and can not permit either our soldiers at the front or our producers at home to be incapacitated by the use of intoxicants. W. J. BRYAN.

NATIONAL PROHIBITION ASSOCIATION FORMED

A Chicago, Ill., dispatch, dated March 5, says: Formation of a National Dry Federation, which will be composed of practically every leading prohibition society in the country and will be the biggest organization in the world opposing liquor, was announced here tonight. William Jennings Bryan is president of the organization and active speaking campaigns will be started at once.

The three fundamental objects of the organization are ratification of the national prohibition amendment in the shortest possible time, success of the prohibition campaigns in the six states which vote on the question in November, and immediate war prohibition for the avowed purpose of "conserving the man power and resources of the nation."

Included in a long list of governors, senators, representatives and congressmen who are expected to take active part in the work of the organization are Governors Milliken of Maine and Whitman of New York; Senators Kenyon of Iowa, Borah of Idaho and Sheppard of Texas; Representatives Webb of North Carolina, Randall of California, Fess of Ohio, Barkley of Kentucky and Kelly of Pennsylvania.

National headquarters of the association will be at Pittsburgh. Branch offices will be opened in Chicago, Washington and New York and many other bureaus will be established. The federation starts work with more than \$100,000 paid into the treasury and several hundred thousand dollars in addition pledged.

Besides independent prohibition societies the National Trades Union prohibition organizations are merged into it, and State Senator Richard Jones of Duluth, president of the National Trades Union Prohibition Society, will be one of the active campaigners.

The federation actually was organized in New York a week ago at a private meeting of more than thirty of the chief national prohibition societies, but announcement of its formation was withheld until Mr. Bryan accepted the presidency. Dr. Charles Scanlon of Pittsburgh, who was appointed by Presidents Taft and Wilson to represent the United States at international congresses against alcoholism, was elected president at the New York meeting, but now becomes general secretary.

The woman's suffrage movement grows. The democratic party must lead in this great moral reform as it does in the fight for prohibition.

A TOAST

Here's to the Blue of the windswept North,
When we meet on the fields of France,
May the spirit of Grant be with you all
As the Sons of the North advance.

And here's to the Gray of the sun-kissed South,
When we meet on the fields of France,
May the spirit of Lee be with you all
As the Sons of the South advance.

And here's to the Blue and Gray as one,
When we meet on the fields of France,
May the spirit of God be with us all,
As the Sons of the Flag advance.
—George Morrow Mayo, in Washington Star.