

## Drop Politics Order to Railroad Men

A Washington dispatch, dated September 1, says: "Get out of politics or get out of the railroad business!" is the latest of Director McAdoo's revolutionary edicts.

It is not so long ago that the railroads' hands were in every political convention and the railroad influence counted in every election. We used to have our group of "railroad Senators" and "railroad Congressmen," and State Legislatures were commonly chosen less by parties than by railroad systems. Collis P. Huntington and others of his baronial period held that politics was so great a department of railroading that they general counsels were named entirely with reference to their ability to deliver votes to

railway candidates and withhold them from anti-railroad aspirants.

Now Mr. McAdoo, in a sweeping notice sent today to all officials and employees in the railroad service of the Government, orders that they shall not hold any position as a member of any political committee or organization that solicits funds for political purposes. Officials and employees will not be permitted to be delegates to or Chairmen or officers of any political convention. They must not solicit or receive funds for any political purpose or contribute to any political fund collected by an official or employee of any railroad now operated by the Government. Furthermore, they are not to become candidates for any political office.

The Director General declares that those desiring to run for political office or manage a political campaign must sever their connection with the United States railroad service.

Mr. McAdoo points out that now that the Government controls and operates the railroads, there is no selfish or private interest to serve and the incentive to political activity on the part of the carriers no longer exists. He states that the officers and employees owe a high duty to the public scrupulously to abstain from active participation in politics.

"I am sure," said the Director General, "that I can count on the loyal cooperation of all officers, attorneys and employees engaged in the operation of the railroads to carry out in letter and spirit the policy I have announced. It is intended to secure to all of them freedom of action in the exercise of their individual political rights and at the same time to prevent any form of hurtful or pernicious political activity."

"Let us demonstrate to the American people that under Federal control railroad officers, attorneys and employees cannot be made a part of any political machine nor be used for any organized partisan or selfish purpose. Let us set such a high standard of public duty and service that it will be worthy of general emulation."

### NEWSPAPER MEN IN POLITICS

The Aurora Sun comments as follows concerning the fate of newspaper men as candidates in connection with the August primaries held in Nebraska:

"Newspaper men who were candidates for various nominations did not fare so well on the average as men of other professions and other business. Among the many well known editors who met defeat at the hands of the people were Richard L. Metcalfe, Ross L. Hammond, Charles W. Bryan, Edgar Howard, E. A. Walrath, C. B. Cass, F. E. Purcell and others whose names we do not recall at this time. It is an old theory among the profession that for a newspaper man to aspire for office is a good deal like joining the suicide club and, while there are notable exceptions to the rule, it applies oftener than not, and there are reasons for this. Many men who have tried to play the game of politics have nursed the sore spots which they have acquired against newspaper men who have 'discovered' them to the public and each of these fellows has a few friends to whom the word can be passed. There are others who for personal reason or trivial cause seize the opportunity to 'bat the editor,' who has probably done more for his home community each year than they would do in a lifetime. When the editor becomes a candidate the swatter takes his inning and if he can't find a reason for swatting he makes one. When the opposing forces are about equal in political strength the small swatter can furnish the balance of power and is happy."



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the Treasury, and ex-Governor of Iowa; former United States Senator Richard Rolland Kenney of Delaware, at present Major of the U. S. Army; General John L. Clem (Retired), the drummer boy of Shiloh, who was sergeant in the U. S. Army when only 12 years of age; also United States Judge G. W. Atkinson of the Court of Claims of Washington and others. Nuxated Iron is dispensed by all good druggists everywhere.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

There will be offered for sale at public auction at certain railroad points in eastern Oklahoma, from October 9, 1918, to October 17, 1918, inclusive, approximately 14,800 acres of unalotted land, including 7,700 acres of timber land in the Choctaw Nation, 6,700 acres of the surface of the segregated coal and asphalt land in the Choctaw Nation, 400 acres of unalotted land in the Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Creek Nations, and 7 additional tracts of the surface of the segregated coal and asphalt land belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Tribes, recently relinquished and never heretofore offered for sale. The timber land will be sold for not less than the appraised value, the surface of the segregated coal and asphalt land will be sold for cash on the highest bidder without regard to the appraised value, and not on time as heretofore offered, excepting 70 additional tracts never heretofore offered for sale, which will be sold on time at 25 per cent cash, 25 per cent in one year, and balance in two years from date of sale. The 400 acres of unalotted land will be sold to the highest and best bidder without any minimum price being fixed. The entire estate in the timber land and other unalotted land will be sold. Only the surface of the segregated coal and asphalt land area will be sold, leaving the coal and asphalt thereunder to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, except where the descriptive circular specifically states that the coal and asphalt will be sold with surface. No limitation is placed on the acreage of timber land which any one person may purchase. No person can purchase more than 160 acres classified as agricultural land, nor more than 640 acres classified as grazing land. Residence on land not required. Bids may be submitted in person, or by agent with power of attorney, or by mail. Bids by mail must be accompanied by certified checks or bank drafts for 25 per cent of the amount of bids. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Detailed printed information as to dates, places, terms of sale, including lists or circulars descriptive of the lands to be offered for sale may be obtained free of cost upon application to Mr. Gabe E. Parker, Superintendent for the Five Civilized Tribes, Muskogee, Oklahoma, who is the only person authorized to sell these tribal lands to the public. Maps and plats may also be obtained from said Superintendent at a cost of from 25 cents to 50 cents each.

CATO SELLS, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

### HEAVEN AND HELL

Swedenborg's great work, 400 pages, 15 cents postpaid. Pastor Landenberg, Windsor Place, St. Louis, Mo.

### PUNY ATTACKS ON W. J. BRYAN

It makes us smile when some little two-by-four newspaper jumps up and tries to impugn the motives of William Jennings Bryan on the prohibition question.

Everybody knows that Bryan has been a prohibitionist for many years past and his record for straightforwardness in politics has never been questioned.

Bryan and Wilson are the two greatest Americans.

Because the great Nebraskan had a record he could not be elected President. Everybody knew his views and his political enemies were numerous enough to defeat him on that account.

Webster, Clay, Calhoun, Blaine and other great Americans are in the same category with Bryan.

A few years ago when the great parties met to nominate a ticket for president and vice-president, it was a known fact they wanted men without records.

This is one reason so many men of mediocre ability have been placed in the presidential chair.

Mr. Bryan's attitude on prohibition has been so well known for a number of years no one has doubted for a moment how he stood on the question of state and national prohibition.

He has announced from the house tops that he was for prohibition in any form it came up; he is for the abolition of the liquor traffic.

You may not agree with William Jennings Bryan on all that he has done and said in his long public career. Every man with a mind as active and aggressive as Bryan's is bound to assume positions at times with which we all cannot agree, but you will have to hand it to him for his outspoken policy on all matters of a public nature.

Many people did not agree with him on his free silver policy. We would not be surprised if the present war did not bring silver back as an issue and the Nebraskan vindicated for his ideas along that line.

His prohibition ideas are not to the liking of many, but it makes us smile when we see speakers and newspapers attacking the great Commoner on the ground he is not sincere.

But for Bryan Wilson would not be in the whitehouse today and nobody knows this better than the President.

Like Christ on the cross, it can be truthfully said of Bryan: "He saved others, himself he cannot save." Bryan has made presidents but cannot achieve the goal himself.

There is no discounting the ability, the courage, the statesmanship, the honesty of William Jennings Bryan, whether you agree with him or not.

He goes on his way serenely, regardless of those who yelp at his heels, doing what he thinks is best

for the nation.—Montgomery, Ala., Times.

### THE "DRY" AMERICAN NAVY

The beneficial effects of Secretary Daniels' abolition of booze from the United States navy are attracting attention and approval from British naval officers. Writing in the Outlook on "How the Officers of the British and American Ships in European Waters are Making Acquaintance", Lewis R. Freeman, Lieutenant Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve, says:

"A most interesting thing is the large and increasing number of British officers whom one hears speaking sympathetically, and even approvingly, of the total abstinence from liquor in force on the American ships. The fact that the Americans are practically unanimous in declaring they would never favor going back to the old regime has made a good deal of impression on the British, and more and more frequently I hear the older Royal Navy officers saying that they wish they had the same anti-liquor rules in force on their own ships."

"In these and a score of similar things one has evidence every day that, while the British fleet is a constant inspiration to the Americans, the coming of the latter has not been without its 'tonic' effects on the former."

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