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## WASHINGTON LETTER

### THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Events of Interest from the Seat of Government

(United States Press Association)

Washington, D. C., Jan. 1.

#### The Prince of Wealth Relates His Tale

Two things stood out prominently in the examination of J. Pierpont Morgan in the money trust investigation. First, the most hideous nose ever inflicted on man, and secondly the good humor back of the man who wore it—for Morgan was a good witness. When he entered the hearing there was a feeling of deep prejudice against him, but the atmosphere of geniality in the great financier's manner spread like contagion, and a more friendly feeling crept over the large gathering of spectators. Morgan was asked at one time whether he was not one of the largest stockholders in a certain New York bank, to which he replied that he was "only a small stockholder." "But you have over a million dollars' interest there?" "Oh, yes, over a million," he replied, like one talking about cigar money. The financial king related how he made the directors of the country's greatest corporations, like that of the steel trust, and his story disclosed many practical lessons in high finance. He asserted that he gave little attention to the affairs of the New York banks, and did not know who the directors were of most of them; Morgan was positive a money trust was impossible, yet the opinion of those who heard his testimony was that the control of such a large amount of the nation's money as to make the centralization dangerous, is vested in a few closely knitted interests. The money trust investigation promises to eclipse all its predecessors in point of popular interest, as one by one the biggest financial giants of the nation will tell their story before the committee. Morgan came to town with a retinue of attorneys, including former Ambassador Joseph H. Choate and former Senator John C. Spooner.

#### Robbing the Oklahoma Indians

Representative Burke of South Dakota tore the lid off the Oklahoma method of handling dead Indians' money. One-third of all the Indians of the country are in Oklahoma, and each year special legislation is asked from congress for the management of Indian affairs that do not apply to the other states. This year the proposition is to do away with the special federal agents for Oklahoma Indians and to further entrench state control. In 1908 a law was

passed which provided that the estates of deceased Indians should be administered by the local state courts. In the argument against further authority being surrendered to the local officials of Oklahoma, Mr. Burke showed the operation of the law of administration of the estates. As a part of the system of corruption that has grown up Mr. Burke showed that in 4,339 cases no report of the administration had ever been filed. He showed that there existed 2,320 professional guardians in the state. In the handling of estates aggregating \$3,896,683.06 the expense had been charged up and allowed at 19.3 per cent. In contrast he showed that in Oklahoma the percentage of cost for administration of the estates of whites amounted to about three per cent of the estate. In many cases the expense of administration amounted to ninety per cent, and then there was no evidence that the remaining per cent was ever turned over. Mr. Burke stated that he had observed "that there has been a consistent effort to obtain legislation to make it easier to take what the Indian has," and his conclusion was that the removal of the special agents of the government from Oklahoma would be a step in that direction. Burke adds: "In my opinion, in the probate courts in that portion of Oklahoma where the Five Civilized Tribes reside, some of the judges are corrupt and dishonest, and a large number of them are indifferent." Some of the congressmen of Oklahoma, notably Mr. Carter, attempted to defend the system that has grown up in the handling of estates in that state.

#### Warships the Antitoxin of Strife

At the recent great peace meeting held in Washington most of the addresses dealt with the necessity for increased armament as a means of avoiding war. Admiral Wainwright, who advocated building four new battleships a year, declared that those "sea fighters were the antitoxin of strife." Congressman Mann asserted that "we can only maintain order by force."

#### Warning Mexico to be Good

President Taft and his cabinet are evidently of the belief that the Republic of Mexico is not seriously concerned over the rights of American life and property, and the policy of protecting the Madero government along the United States border has been changed. Madero and his swarthy warriors have been called down to a turn by the American president. The United States has very little objection to the Mexicans shooting one another full of holes, but there is a growing sentiment in officials that the pillaging of Americans must cease.

#### Corn Growing Boys

Ohio sent 271 boys of the state, who have made records in growing corn, to Washington. The average yield per acre obtained by these boys was eighty-five bushels. Large delegations from southern states have been coming here every winter, but this is the first of the large parties to come from the north, although Illinois, Iowa and a number of other states have participated in a smaller way in former years.

#### Interstate Shipment of Liquors

Petitions from all over the country are pouring into congress in support of the Kenyon-Sheppard bill to regulate liquor shipments. Senator Kenyon explained the measure, saying that "in its ultimate analysis the bill is simply to permit the states to exercise their reserved policy power without interference by the federal government; or in other words to subject interstate commerce in certain articles to the laws of the several states." The liquor interests are fighting the proposed legislation.

Part of the "future" of President Taft is settled by his acceptance of the Kent chair of law of Yale, which will likely fix his residence at New Haven. The place carries \$5000 a year as a salary, and is a "good start" since it will in no way interfere with anything else Mr. Taft may want to do.

Page after page of the congressional record contains the nominations for office by the president. The explanation is that for reasons political most all appointive positions have been held up since last spring, and now they are being all turned loose at once, giving to hungry democrats a splendid view of the pie counter. "Hold up these jobs" is the slogan, and the senate is obeying.

When the general land office was established one hundred years ago it consisted of a commissioner and nine other persons. There were 19 offices throughout the country. Now there are 1417 officials in Washington and 102 district land offices in a large field force.

Congressman Curley of Massachusetts

declared that the "Boston tea party" originated in a saloon, and he believes that the men who threw King George's tea into Boston Harbor had a jag on. Whenever Bostonians fail to agree American history stands a chance to be set straight.

## W. C. T. U. NOTES

MRS. J. J. VANCE, Press Supt.

W. C. T. U. SUPERINTENDENTS  
Department Superintendents, Alliance  
W. C. T. U., 1913

Evangelistic Meetings—Mrs. Emma Martin.

Social Meetings—Mrs. Flo Gaddis.

Red Letter Days—Mrs. J. W. Thomas.

Purity and Rescue—Mrs. M. E. Bernhardt.

Mothers Meetings—Mrs. I. L. Acheson.

Jail and Prison—Miss Della Reed.

Medal Contest—Mrs. E. G. Laing.

L. T. L.—Mrs. M. P. Nason.

Literature—Mrs. R. C. Strong.

Franchise—Mrs. Geo. Fernald.

Health and Heredity—Mrs. Will Acheson.

White Ribbon Recruits—Mrs. F. M. Phelps.

Railroad—Mrs. J. W. Reed.

Press—Mrs. J. J. Vance.

Scientific Temperance Instruction—Mrs. Julia T. Boone.

Flower Mission—Miss Mabel Young.

Systematic Giving—Mrs. J. L. Overman.

Evangelistic—Mrs. Emma Martin.

Young People's Work—Mrs. C. C. Smith.

Mrs. J. J. Vance, Press Supt.

Excerpts from Address of National  
President of W. C. T. U.  
at Portland Convention

(Concluded)

"While the church and its direct allies are preaching temperance from a moral and a spiritual standpoint, the social and commercial importance of total abstinence is widely recognized, not only by employers of labor, but by all intelligent, well-informed people who are interested in the public welfare. In this electric age there is a significant demand for a clear brain and a steady hand. The president of the Denver Chamber of Commerce well says that 'whatever stands in the way of the progress of business is being swept aside, and so the liquor traffic is becoming more and more an economic question', and he calls attention to the commercial waste it causes, quoting as proof a statement made by Mr. Arthur Burrage Farwell of Chicago.

Such an official statement should give long and serious thoughts to all business men, and to all who claim that the prosperity of town, state, or nation is dependent upon revenue from the liquor trade. It should also impress those who complain of the high cost of living. It should remind them that the liquor traffic never adds to the wealth of the state. It detracts from the prosperity and efficiency of the people. It lives upon the earnings of other trades. It creates want, waste and woe. New York city has upwards of nine thousand licensed saloons, and they yield an enormous revenue to the city treasury. At the beginning of the present year the city treasurer's official statement shows that the indebtedness of the municipality amounted to more than a billion dollars. It is evident that the revenue from the licensed saloons is not sufficient for even the humane care of the victims of the abominable traffic.

"While the business world is making prohibitive rules or laws for the protection of their commercial interests and incidentally for the protection of the public; while there is abundant and fast increasing scientific testimony to prove that alcoholic beverages are a foe to good health; while those connected with charitable and correctional organizations are acknowledging that strong drink is the prolific cause of dependency and crime, the temperance reformer is going persistently on with redoubled efforts to secure state and national prohibition. The only well-informed, consistent element opposed to this movement is the liquor trade, composed of the liquor makers, liquor sellers, and their direct allies—the gambler's den, the house of shame, and the white slave traffic. This it has come to pass that there is a mighty warfare between the vilest financial trust the world has ever known, and the great company of men and women who through the church, the temperance societies, and other organized measures, and as individuals also, are working for a purer moral atmosphere, for better habits of living, for the rights of children, for the ennobling of men, and for the uplifting of women.

Many of us who have long been working to rescue the perishing have always believed that if the beverage liquor trade were banished the house of shame would soon become a thing of the past, for the in-

mates are girls and women who have been captured through strong drink, and the patrons are men whose higher and nobler sensibilities are denuded by alcoholic poison, so that they are forgetful of mother, wife, sister or daughter. Our statements to this effect were once considered fanatical, but how is it today?"

"The W. C. T. U. has been saying for many years that impurity and intemperance are twin evils, and that a blow aimed at one falls with equal force upon the other. It is unmistakably evident that an aroused and enlightened interest in the white slave trade has enabled many for the first time to see the heinousness of the liquor trade, and to realize that those who believe in the annihilation of the white slave traffic and the abolishment of the house of shame by the same token advocate the destruction of the liquor traffic."

"We might produce reams of testimony and of opinions in favor of woman's ballot, from statesmen, educators, philanthropists and reformers, but it is a significant fact that the great liquor trusts are ever and unalterably opposed to woman's ballot, and in all the suffrage campaigns now waging they are our greatest foes. Wherever the question of licensing the liquor traffic is pending women should have the power to do their full part in fighting the fiercest enemy that imperils the home. Such American women as those who in New York and elsewhere are working to secure the ballot for women, are, as a rule, commanding respectful attention. I will not venture to say that the women of Great Britain are injuring their cause by their militant proceedings. They know all about the tactics of their ancestors when force met force and the reformers won; but I sincerely trust that the suffrage workers in America may never feel the necessity of employing similar warlike methods. The president of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union, a true Britisher, and her associate white ribboners, are ardent believers in votes for women, but, so far as I am informed, they have taken no part in the property-destroying tactics of the English suffragettes."

"The Woman's Christian Temperance Union is neither a sectarian nor a partisan organization. Each member is free to choose her own church and her own party. While the Woman's Christian Temperance Union women, in some of the northern states, have been using their influence for the election of republican candidates, who stood for state-wide prohibition on a prohibition platform, the W. C. T. U. of some of the southern states have, by the same token, worked for the election of democratic candidates. A careful study of the national platforms reveals that only one party recognizes the evils of the liquor traffic, and declares that it should be destroyed. While some white ribboners still have hopes that the old national parties and the new national party, will redeem themselves from favoring the mighty vested interests of the liquor traffic, having a combined capital of a thousand million dollars, others regard the national prohibition party as the party which is to lead the people out of the wilderness of strong drink.

I venture to say that no organization during the last thirty years has created more total abstinence and prohibition sentiment than has the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Let us continue our steady, onward march, never doubting clouds will break, and that some day there will be glorious, victorious sunlight. The time will come when no man worthy of respect or of official position, will class the brewer as a reputable citizen, even though he lives in a palace and his wife wears a golden crown. The time will come when no brewer's congress will be able to count among its speakers and sympathizers any man officially connected with the United States government. The time will come when the United States Internal Revenue Commissioner will not be welcomed by a convention of liquor makers and liquor dealers—aye, the time will come when the abominable liquor revenue system of today will be abolished, and the United States government will have ceased to be a partner in the liquor business. The time will come when the party that declares for state-wide prohibition will be the dominant party in every state, and the national prohibition of the importation, manufacture, and sale of alcoholic beverages, will be the law of the land, with a prohibition administration to uphold the righteous and beneficent law. My faith has not grown dim these last twelve months, and I reiterate the 'Prohibition Proclamation' of last year, calling to activity all temperance, prohibition, religious and philanthropic bodies; all patriotic, fraternal and civic associations; and all Americans who love their country, to aid in placing prohibition in the constitution of the United States."

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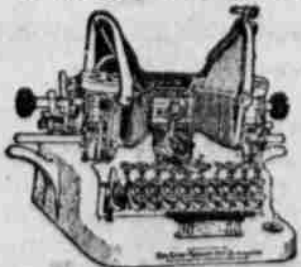
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