

**DIRECT LEGISLATION**  
By  
Eltweed Pomeroy

**Yearly Massachusetts Referendum**

Without any fuss or much public attention, the seventh annual referendum on the license and other questions took place in all the thirty-three cities of the Old Bay State on December 11 and 12, 1904. This method of settling what is everywhere a vexed question is so satisfactory, that it is accepted by the people who use it as a matter of course. Once a year each city votes on whether it will have license or no license, each city deciding for itself. The voters of Brockton decide for Brockton and have nothing to do with the decision in Taunton nor has any other city in the state anything to say about what Brockton shall do on the license question save the voters of Brockton only. This seems so common-sense when clearly stated that at once the question arises: "How could we do anything else?" and then the direct legislation advocate asks, "Why not extend this method to other questions?" And the answer to this is that it is being slowly extended. At the same time, ten cities voted to stop using the Luce caucus law and one city, Northampton voted to use voting machines. It would be used much more frequently if only the legislature would give the cities the opportunity to use it but as in every other state, the cities of Massachusetts only have such powers as the legislature is a mind to give them.

How did this voting go? The table shows the results. A study of this table shows that where twenty-three cities voted for license in 1904, eighteen only voted for it in 1903, nineteen in 1902, twenty in 1901, nineteen in 1899, twenty-two in 1898 and nineteen in 1897. So a larger number voted for license this year than ever before. As usual, the larger cities voted for license and the smaller ones against it. Of the five cities in which over 10,000 votes were cast, Boston, Lowell, Lynn and Worcester decided for license and only Cambridge said no, but Cambridge has always said no and the others have always said yes, except Lowell which said no in 1902 but every other time has said yes. Of the ten cities casting less than 3,000 votes, six said yes and four no. Of the twelve cities casting between 3,000 and 8,000 votes, nine said yes and three said no. So it is hard to draw a line and say that size determines save that the large cities generally vote for license and in the smaller ones, local conditions and local influence determines the result.

In these thirty-three cities 143,045 votes were cast for and 107,801 votes were cast against license or roughly

60 per cent and 40 per cent. In 1903, 135,691 were cast for and 114,202 were cast against so that the license vote has increased a little. The total vote cast on the license question was 259,846, while 257,156 were cast for mayors in these same cities. This shows that great interest is felt in these license referendums despite the fact that in many places, every one knows how it will be decided. Thus Boston is sure to vote for license and Cambridge is sure to vote against it. Yet the Cambridge license vote is identical with its mayoralty vote.

License referendums in Massachusetts cities in 1904:

	For.	Against.
Beverly	703	1,590
Boston	41,003	19,664
Brockton	4,623	4,924
Cambridge	4,914	8,405
Chelsea	2,963	2,547
Chicopee	1,425	740
Everett	1,114	886
Fall River	6,859	3,102
Fitchburg	2,531	2,318
Gloucester	2,428	1,567
Haverhill	3,235	2,303
Holyoke	3,597	2,338
Lawrence	5,288	3,749
Lowell	8,912	4,812
Lynn	5,837	4,378
Malden	2,995	1,852
Marlborough	1,728	1,157
Medford	858	1,834
Melrose	271	1,046
New Bedford	5,383	2,309
Newburyport	1,667	1,146
Newton	809	1,334
North Adams	1,755	1,391
Northampton	1,576	1,080
Pittsfield	2,667	1,924
Quincy	1,104	2,928
Salem	3,059	3,513
Somerville	2,022	4,338
Springfield	5,800	2,882
Taunton	2,816	1,959
Waltham	1,578	2,376
Woburn	1,548	1,339
Worcester	10,037	9,570

**License Referendum in New Hampshire**

From the New Voice, Dec. 29, 1904. New Hampshire is steadily increasing her local prohibition territory, even under the handicaps of the new high-license law. The total vote by counties for the past two years was as follows:

County.	—1903—		—1904—	
	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.
Belknap	720	1,100	800	1,100
Carroll	851	1,561	921	1,613
Cheshire	1,727	1,784	1,623	1,799
Coos	1,230	1,211	1,584	1,799
Grafton	2,303	3,215	2,347	3,927
Hillsboro	2,096	2,714	2,039	2,821
Merrimack	1,696	2,191	1,742	2,140
Rockingham	2,701	3,333	2,655	3,572
Strafford	655	801	768	840
Sullivan	1,706	1,173	1,298	1,966

Total ... 15,685 19,082 15,777 21,577  
15,685 15,777

Majorities . 3,398 5,800

The "yes" vote increased 92. The "no" vote increased 2,494.

The New Hampshire Issue analyzes this vote as follows:

"The most important result of the vote, however, is the amount of population taken out from license conditions and placed under prohibition. The towns this year which changed from no-license to license have a population of 9,581. The towns which changed from license to no-license have a population of 48,606.

"The population of the eleven cities, all with license, is 171,800. The population in the towns with license is 98,070, while the population in the towns without license is 141,818. When the recent vote goes into effect May 1, 1905, only 59,045 of the population in the towns will be under license, while 180,843 will be free from the evil in their own towns."

**GOOD ROADS TRAIN TO GO FAR**

Special of Burlington and Northern Pacific Lines Will Travel to the Pacific Coast

Highway building will be taught in cities and villages from Lake Michigan to the Pacific coast by the Burlington-Northern Pacific-Lewis & Clark good roads special which will leave Chicago May 3. The special will be under the charge of the two railroads and the National Good Roads association. Stops will be made at thirty cities, and lectures will be given on the needs of better highways and the way to secure them.

The first part of the special's trip will be over the lines of the Burlington railroad. The train will enter on the Northern Pacific lines at Billings, Mont., continuing by this road to Portland, Ore., where the final meeting will be held at the Lewis & Clark exposition in June.—Chicago Tribune, April 5.

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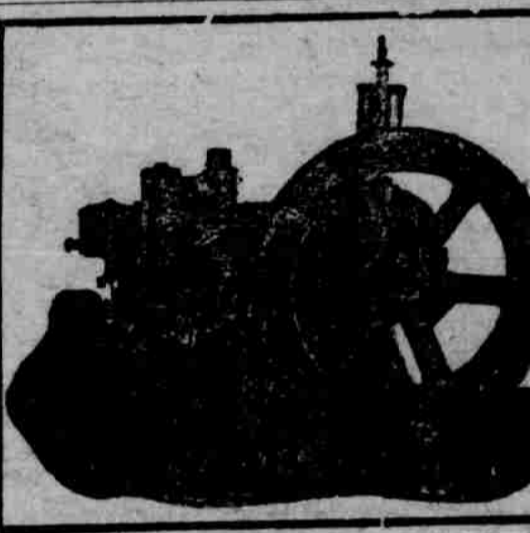
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**F. A. BOEHMER, Attorney.**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

Conrad Hergenroeder, PLAINTIFF  
vs.  
Marie Catharine Hergenroeder, DEFENDANT.

**NOTICE.**

The above named defendant is hereby notified that plaintiff has filed a petition against her in the District Court of Lancaster County, Nebraska praying for a divorce from the defendant upon the grounds of extreme cruelty towards the plaintiff. And because the defendant refused to live with plaintiff and left him on the 9th day of October, 1904, without cause. You are required to answer said petition on or before the 22nd day of May, 1905, or the same will be taken as confessed by you.

CONRAD HERGENROEDER,  
By F. A. BOEHMER, His Attorney.

**T. J. DOYLE, Attorney**

**SHERIFF SALE.**

Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of an order of sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court of the Third Judicial District of Nebraska, within and for Lancaster County, in an action wherein Thomas J. Doyle, Trustee is plaintiff, and Consumers Ice Company, Incorporated, of Lincoln, Nebraska, defendant. I will, at 2 o'clock, p. m., on the 9th day of May, A. D. 1905, at the East door of the Court House, in the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, offer for sale at public auction the following described Lands and Tenements, to-wit: Lot four (4) block one hundred sixteen (116), original plat situated at 721 K Street, City of Lincoln, County of Lancaster, State of Nebraska.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of April, A. D. 1905.

NICHOLAS RESS, Sheriff.

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