

# DRY LEADER BARRED OUT

NOT WANTED AT SESSIONS  
OF LEGISLATIVE  
COMMITTEE

## HIS FALSE CHARGES

William Anderson, Superintendent of New York Anti-Saloon League Intimated Liquor Interests Raised Fund to Corrupt Lawmakers and When His Bluff Was "Called" He Failed to Prove it

Making charges that they cannot prove is a penchant of Anti-Saloon League officials. Read this, from the New York Morning Telegraph:

William H. Anderson, head of the Anti-Saloon League, has been barred from hearings before the committee considered liquor bills at Albany. The reason given is that Mr. Anderson failed to make good his charges of bribery or attempted bribery. Recently Mr. Anderson, as head of the anti-liquor forces, sent out an adroitly-worded circular, offering \$10,000 reward for evidences of bribery. It made no specific charge against any particular person interested in the industry, or against any member of the state legislature, by name. At the same time, the implication was strong that any member opposing the "reforms" advocated by the Anti-Saloon League would be under suspicion.

When the committee met he was asked to divulge facts justifying him in drawing a blanket indictment against the representatives of the people, and he either could not or would not do so.

Senator Mills and Assemblyman McCue threatened to withdraw from the committee if Anderson were permitted to testify, and he was excluded.

It is a remarkable fact that "reformers" of a certain type consider themselves privileged to draw fantastic conclusions based upon nothing more than a super-heated imagination, and to present these conclusions in such a way as to discredit those who differ from them, and who may be arrayed against them at election time. Professional politicians do not do this. They play the game in the open and in every way show themselves to be better sportsmen and better men than some crusaders. Why is it? Is it impossible for the professional moralist to lay his cards on the top of the table?

### Going Too Far.

Under the caption, "Besmirching by Insinuation," the New York Evening Sun remarks:

By going a trifle too far, for once, the Anti-Saloon League has caught a well-deserved reprimand. In connection with the proceedings over the Optional Prohibition bill at Albany, Mr. William H. Anderson, superintendent of the league, intimated that liquor "interests" had raised a roll of money to be applied to the work of corrupting the legislature. It is upon such bitter insinuations no doubt that the hatred of thousands of sincere but misinformed people has to be fed.

In this case, however, the words that should have opened the pocket books of righteous wrath had an unexpected effect. Senator Mills, a man of unassailed standing, thought proper to perform the necessary task of dealing with Mr. Anderson, who on appearing yesterday at the committee hearing on the bill, was asked to produce facts in support of the charge that there existed a fund to bribe the servants of the state or to defeat the measure in question.

This, as it happened, Mr. Anderson was unprepared to do. He had probably not reckoned on the possibility that some one would read his assertion as a bluff. He fell back on bluster, which, however, would not work when applied to a respectable and vigorous castigator such as Mr. Mills by a smarting and squirming castigate. It resulted in the abject and forced refusal of Anderson to supply facts in the face of a characterization which was about everything that an attempt to influence votes through groundless defamation of legislators would deserve.

The earnest and virtuous supporters of the Anti-Saloon League should open their eyes to this affair. Even were the drinking of alcoholic stimulants the evil they think it, which we firmly believe it is not, there are still worse things. One of them is the persecution and ruining of one's neighbor by ill founded stories. Another is the corruption of legislators, whether by appeal to their cupidity with money or to their timidity with threats to their good repute. When an institution supported by the dollars as well as the approval of the church element goes too far it is running great risks of a fall.

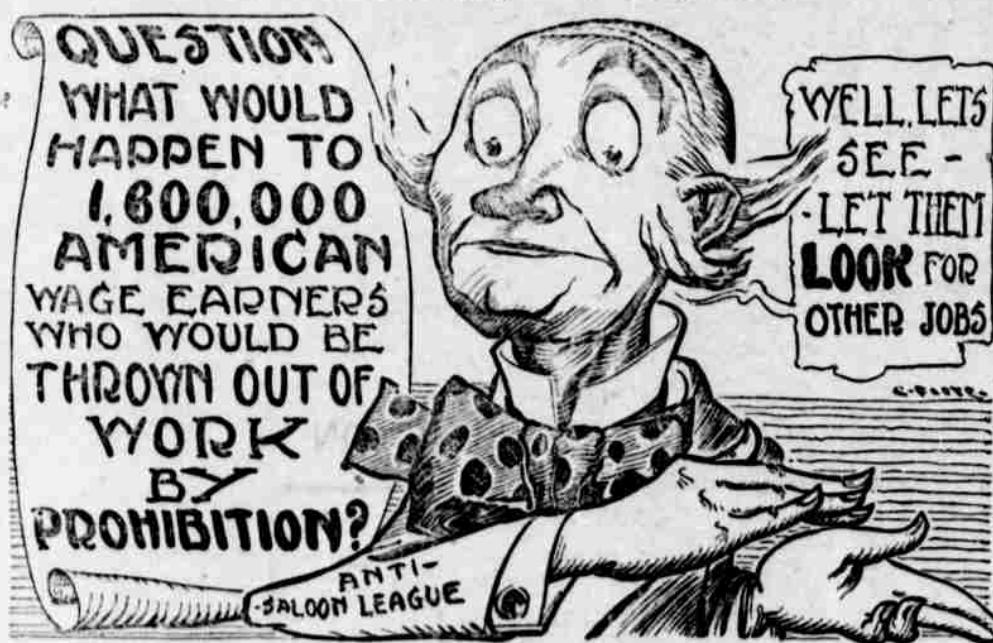
## 100 MUCH PROHIBITION IS A DANGEROUS THING

(LOUISVILLE TIMES)



By opposing the "bone-dry" law, paid reformers of the Anti-Saloon League are demonstrating that to protect their jobs, they are against real prohibition. The "bone-dry" law will make it a vote as they drink.

## "HE SHOULD WORRY!"



## PRESS GIVES A HOWL—IT LOSES LIQUOR ADS

Many Papers. Through Fear, Surrendered News Columns To Prohibition, But Now the Business Office is Being Hit, and—It Hurts

The howl going up from the press all over the country because of the move to deprive them of "wet" advertising is both amusing and instructive. he proposed Russifying of the press is merely the coming home to roost of that fine large fowl of fanaticism which the press at the dictation of the Anti-Saloon League has helped to raise.

This chicken of magnificent proportions seems to be crowding the cash register on the press home roost, hence the frantic howls from the business office. The press of the country has been and still is subsidized through fear, and added to this lack of courage, this cowardice, has been the base and ignoble idea that hypocritical pandering to this element would be profitable.

### Censorship is Coming.

The press has catered to that campaign to that spirit which has made possible and inevitable this move to

take charge of the advertising columns of the press, and this is only a beginning. The worst is yet to come and the press of the country may as well prepare for it. The abject surrender of the news columns of the press to these propagandists led as naturally as night follows day to the assumption that with that surrender went a kind of proprietary interest in the advertising columns also.

The surrender in the first instance had been so extremely abject, the spirit of toadyism so servile, that it is not strange if the regulators presumed that no demand they might make would be refused. Under all the circumstances this presumption was both natural and justified. Now that the hand out of which the great American press has been feeding its news and editorial columns takes a vigorous slap at the business office, there is "wailing and gnashing of teeth" throughout all the land.—Ohio Valley Times.

### OUR CONGRESSIONAL FAULTS.

The day may yet arrive when any actor daring to appear as Falstaff or any other bibulous character on an American stage will be hailed to court in short order and incarcerated in a Federal prison on the charge of corrupting the public morals. As Congress has passed a law prohibiting circulation through the mails of any publication containing an advertisement of alcoholic liquors the next step, logically, will be for it to pin the white ribbon on the theater.

And of course Demon Rum will be chased off the movie screen. No more will the comedians, so-called, in baggy breeches and slapstick shoes beam each other with the wedding cake after having drained the nuptial wine straight from the bottle. Those thrilling scenes from the Wild West films in which Red Nose Pete and Boxy Bill shoot up the Palace Dance Hall after imbibing freely of its wares will be deleted carefully by the censors. And views of the mountain moon-shiner in his romantic habitat will be barred absolutely.

But while all this revising of the morals of the country is going on will the black bottles in the Congressional ante-rooms be drained "bone dry"? That's the important question.—New York Evening Sun.

## MAYOR TOOK \$4,000 BRIBE, "BOOTLEGGER" TELLS COURT

ILLICIT LIQUOR DEALER TESTIFIES BEFORE FEDERAL JUDGE THAT HE RECEIVED PROTECTION FROM OFFICERS OF "DRY" SEATTLE

## MINISTER IS INVOLVED IN THE CASE

Witness Says Clergyman Threatened Him With Indictments By Grand Jury Unless He Made Full Confession of Illeged Transactions Involving Seventeen Persons

was named Sullivan, was called in and told to get the papers.

"He reported later that Sergeant Putnam had them and refused to surrender them. He was sent back and finally came with them."

Selling whisky to "the best people" in town and to leading drug stores and hotels, in wholesale lots was the quick turn his bootlegging business took after his "compromise" with Mayor Gill August 30, Logan Billingsley testified.

### Prominent Minister Involved.

The name of Dr. Mark Matthews, prominent minister, was brought into the testimony when Billingsley stated that Dr. Matthews knew of the Gill bribe, and threatened him with indictments by the Federal grand jury if he didn't "come through" with a confession. This explains the subpoena of the local minister earlier in the week.

Billingsley testified that he warned Gill that the clergyman was "double-crossing" him, and repeated to Gill the threat that Matthews had made. Gill, according to the witness, told him not to worry about the county grand jury because it never indicted any offenders except little ones.

He was asked why he had telegraphed to San Francisco, asking for shipment of fifty-gallon barrels instead of forty-gallon barrels, and explained that as he was obliged to pay \$10 for each barrel to the water-front detective squad, he saved money by getting the larger barrels.

Billingsley swore that when he proposed payment to Mayor Gill of a sum of money monthly for protection the mayor did not care to do business in that way. "I want mine in a lump sum," Billingsley swore the mayor said.

Mayor "Hi" Gill, of Seattle, Wash. and sixteen other officials, including the chief of police and sheriff are being tried in Federal Court on the charge of receiving bribes and protecting a bootlegging concern. The government "star" witness is Logan Billingsley, alleged head of the bootleggers. The following dispatch to the Los Angeles Times, describes the sensational court scene in which Billingsley testified he gave Seattle's prohibition mayor \$4,000 to dismiss cases pending against him:

"The chief of police left his office I reached into my pocket; took out \$4,000 in currency and laid it on the desk where the mayor was sitting. He picked it up and put it into his pocket."

Thus did Logan Billingsley tell the jury and a breathless, straining crowd in Federal Court today that he bribed Mayor H. C. Gill on August 30, 1916, to dismiss city cases pending against him and his brothers and surrender incriminating evidence which had been seized July 26 in a police raid on the Night and Day Drug Store.

It was the big moment in the story of the government's chief witness in the bootleg conspiracy trial of Gill, Chief Beekingham, Sheriff Hodge and City Detectives Peyser, Poolman, Duon and McLennan.

Noting that for a time threatened to reach serious proportions started in the corridors this afternoon when deputy United States marshals, reinforced by a large squad of police, attempted to force back a crowd of several hundred persons eager to hear the case.

Two women swooned and were carried into the marshal's office. Police and deputy marshals forcibly ejected many persons who resisted their efforts to press them back. Order was not restored until the court ordered the doors closed.

### Tells Straight Story.

Billingsley told the circumstances of his alleged bribery in the matter-of-fact manner and voice he has used since his indictment and arrest shortly before Christmas.

He leaned forward and talked directly to the jury. He used the index finger of his right hand to motion in emphasis as he talked.

"I felt sure since the 7th of August that my career with the city would be compromised," he testified. "My attorney, George Vanderveer, had discussed compromise with the mayor and told me that they could be compromised."

"I went to San Francisco to arrange for earload shipments of liquor as soon as I got the cases dismissed. I returned to Seattle August 27. Before that I had discussed with my attorney the probable cost of getting the cases dropped. In fact I had agreed to pay \$7,500."

"I even tried to get him to attend to the details, only bothering me to pay the cost. He refused and said that any such personal expense I would have to attend to."

"Finally, when he had assured me that the chances of settling the case were good I went to the Washington Annex and got \$4,000 from the safe there and returned alone between 3 and 3 o'clock to the police station. The mayor was there. We all had a visit. The mayor treated me mighty decent. He didn't show any of the feeling toward me that he had shown after the Weedon shooting."

### "Paid Wrong Conductor."

"Finally, the chief left the office. The mayor told me that he knew I had been paying Detective Peyser. 'You have been paying the wrong conductor,' he told me."

"I can't remember the exact words I used, but I gave him to understand that I wanted to know who the right conductor was. I took \$4,000 in currency out of my pocket, laid it on the desk where the mayor sat and he put it in his pocket."

Neither Mayor Gill nor Chief Beekingham changed expression or position at this stage of Billingsley's recital.

"The chief returned and the mayor told him that they were going to be my friends and for him to get my papers. The chief told him that there was a subpoena for the papers. 'To hell with that,' the mayor said."

"The chief said Prosecutor Lundin had asked for them in a state case. 'To hell with Lundin,' the mayor said. Then an officer, who, I think

### HARK, FROM THE TOMB!

Remembering the fable of the frogs who were dissatisfied with King Log and were punished by having King Stork set over them, are whining cries from West Virginia, where a revolt is being organized against the imposition of the harsh terms of the "bone-dry" prohibition amendment voted by congress. After two short years' experience with the prohibition that is attended by bootleggers, blind tigers and other forms of illicit sale of intoxicants, the general assembly voted to legalize what is widely known as "quart-a-month" prohibition. In other words, the bibulous West Virginian, whose heart panteth for strong waters, was to be permitted to import one full quart of distilled spirits each lunar and calendar month. This act, gratefully received and lustily cheered, becomes effective on May 2.

But, alas, on July 1 will come the legal enlivening of the federal law, now dormant, and it will become a crime to ship usquebaugh, spirits, corn brandy or any other form of up-setting beverages into the Mountain State. The harassed citizen thereof, as will be seen through simple calculation, will get but two quarts when the federal dedicating sinners will be gin to blow, drying up the land and shriveling up the soul of the merry-makers.

It is not to be wondered at that there is a turning to minds trained in the law to ask whether a mere amendment to a postoffice bill at Washington strides paramount to a regular statute passed in due form in the Statehouse at Charleston. Determined men there have highly resolved that they will fight for the quart-a-month enactment until the Supreme Court of the United States has been reached and appeal made unto it.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

### LIQUOR RAIDS NECESSITATE MORE COTS IN W. VA. JAIL

A dispatch from Wheeling, W. Va., to the Pittsburgh Times, says: Sheriff Howard Hastings placed several cots in the county jail to accommodate prisoners who have not been assigned to cells because of the present crowded condition as a result of the numerous raids by prohibition forces yesterday and Saturday. There are 105 prisoners in jail, the largest in the history of the county. The jail contains but 79 cells.