

N. Y. Notables Join to Fight Bone-Dry Law

More Than 100 Prominent Citizens Form League to Defend "Inherent Rights" Against Prohibitionists

Arguments Called False Amendment Forced on Nation While One-Fourth of Voters Fought for Liberty

More than one hundred prominent New York men enrolled yesterday in the fight against the bone-dry amendment to the Constitution soon to go into effect. In their number are well-known lawyers, publicists and club men.

The fight is to be waged under the title of "The Downtown Branch of the Association Opposed to National Prohibition." The new organization was formed at a luncheon at the Lawyers' Club, 115 Broadway.

Prominent Men in Movement

Laurence McGuire, president of the United States Realty and Improvement Company, presided. Among those gathered were:

William A. Hanard, president of the Rockaway Hunt Club; Hobart Porter, vice-president of the University Club; Everett P. Wheeler, lawyer and publicist; William H. Page, lawyer and former president of the New York Athletic Club; Dr. Royal S. Copeland, Health Commissioner; John A. Slesinger, editor of "Leslie's Weekly"; Major Allen L. Lindley, of the 7th Division; Richard H. Williams, president of Racquet and Tennis Club; Oren Root, formerly general manager of the New York City Railways Company; William Hamilton Childs, Walter Merrill, Harry F. Buch, secretary of the United Hunt and Racing Association; Colonel B. B. McAlpine, John McE. Bowman, Dr. John A. Harris, Special Deputy Police Commissioner; R. A. Fairbairn, vice-president of the National Horse Show Association; Charles B. Macdonald, president of the National Golf Links and Links Club; Oliver C. McGowan, vice-president of Carter, of Macy & Co.; Charles A. Starbuck, of the New York Airbrake Company.

The opinion was frankly expressed at the luncheon that prohibition represented a serious menace to the national good. Among those who spoke were Everett P. Wheeler, William H. Page, Health Commissioner, Copeland, Mayor W. Smith and James Arthur Seavey, managing director of the association.

Menace to Inherent Rights

"I believe that all serious-minded men with a true conception of their inherent rights will join in this movement for the maintenance of those rights," declared Mr. Wheeler in the course of his remarks.

"Societies have been organized for many years, and have been working in various ways to take away these constitutional rights," he continued. "They have worked cunningly and, in campaigns of exaggeration, vice and falsehood, have managed to influence the lawmakers of the land, inducing them to pass laws to correct chimerical wrongs which did not exist in fact. These people are as extreme as the Mohammedans were. Mohammed was sincere, but he was just as much of a fanatic as Anderson, or any of the leaders who have been responsible for putting these prohibition laws upon an unwilling people."

Mr. Page asserted that when the Constitution was amended with regard to what he termed "an essential attribute of human liberty," 25 per cent of those entitled to vote were abroad in the cause of human liberty.

"Nearly every crime committed in this city is the act of a drug addict," said Dr. Copeland, "and there are 10,000

of these dangerous persons here now. There will be a great many more when prohibition comes. Drug addiction is infinitely worse than any kind of alcohol addiction."

U. S. Dry Amendment Not Self-Enforcing, Distillers Are Told

CHICAGO, April 22.—The practicability of enforcing the national prohibition amendment by the "concurrent power" of Congress and the states, was questioned today at a meeting of the distillers' committee in charge of the distilling industry's fight against prohibition.

The point was raised in an opinion submitted by Levy Mayer, counsel for the committee, following reports that referendum petitions had been filed, were in process of filing or were in circulation in Ohio, Missouri, California, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, New Mexico, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado, Michigan and Maine.

"In my opinion, Section 1 of the amendment is not self-executing, and until legislation has been enacted to enforce the amendment, the latter will have no effect and will be practically a dead letter," said Mr. Mayer in his opinion. He added that that was confirmed by the next section, which expressly provided for enforcement by stating that "Congress and the several states shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

"It is, of course, possible for Congress and the legislatures of forty-eight states to act jointly—that is, concurrently—the opinion continues. "The Congressional and legislative wills of Congress and the forty-eight different legislatures, if not exercised in the same identical way, will lead to confusion that is almost incomprehensible."

"Furthermore, if any of the forty-eight states act in a way different from that in which Congress may legislate, or if Congress legislates first and the states subsequently or if any state legislate first and Congress thereafter, and the provisions of such legislation are not identical, the conflict to which I have referred will instantly arise."

Two Men Badly Hurt When Taxicabs Crash

Speeding Cars Come Together on Brooklyn Corner; One Chauffeur Arrested

Two men probably will die and several other men and women are nursing injuries to-day as a result of a collision between two taxicabs at Greene and Classon avenues, Brooklyn, early yesterday morning. The drivers of the cars tried to beat each other across the intersection of the avenues and the crash followed.

Edward Weed, 40 years old, of 638 Maple street, Westfield, N. J., suffered a fractured skull, and Edward Moran, of 15 Covert street, Brooklyn, lost his right leg, which was severed at the hip by a piece of glass from the shattered windshield of the car he was driving. Weed was riding in the machine driven by Edward Clark, of 50 Bushwick avenue.

A woman who accompanied Weed departed after the accident before she could be interviewed, as did all of Moran's passengers—the police say driver for the Graber Taxicab Company. Clark is employed by the Soden Taxi Company.

Clark, who was badly cut by flying glass, was arrested and arraigned yesterday in the Gate Avenue Police Court, where he was held in \$1,500 bail for examination on May 6 on a charge of felonious assault.

Court Offers \$5,000 To Prevent Lynching

Reward To Be Given to Any One Who Will Return Fugitive Negro Uninjured

EASTON, Md., April 22.—The entire eastern shore of Maryland is aroused over the escape of the negro, Isaiah Brown, from the State Prison, P. O. Box 100, near Harrington to-night issued an appeal to the people not to resort to violence.

The hunt has become a contest between the sheriff and his hundreds of special deputies, who seek to return the negro to the court, and the hundreds of men and boys making up the posse that purports to lynch Fountain as soon as it lays hands upon him.

Although the sheriff has more than 700 special deputies, those who seek to lynch the negro outnumber his forces. It was in an effort to prevent the lynching that Chief Justice Ekins took the most extraordinary action that has ever been undertaken by any court in this state, so far as can be learned.

Speaking for the court, Ekins offered a reward of \$5,000 to any man or group of men who would bring Fountain into court uninjured. Then he instructed the sheriff to swear in every man in the county as a deputy to "protect this prisoner even to the point of death, so the honor of this county may be vindicated."

Bank Messenger Held

Charged with robbery, August J. Hurlon, 17, a messenger, who had been employed by the Battery Park National Bank, 2 Broadway, was arraigned yesterday before Magistrate McQuade in Tombs Court. He was held in \$5,000 bail.

Arthur S. Baiz, assistant cashier of the bank, was the complainant. It is alleged that the boy was sent to the post office with \$9,000 worth of securities, and they were later found in his room in West 112th Street.

Hints for Buyers of Small Victory Notes

THESE six points for the guidance of prospective buyers of small Victory notes have been prepared by the Government Loan Organization:

1. If you wish to subscribe to a \$50, \$100 or \$500 note, you may buy a coupon book upon which payments may be made weekly.
2. If you buy on the partial payment plan and obtain a receipt book, do not, in addition, sign a subscription blank for the same note. Each blank you sign is your pledge to buy a note.
3. You cannot help a canvasser obtain credit by giving him a subscription for a note which you have already purchased through a receipt book or in any other way.
4. Write your name and address plainly, and spell your name for the canvasser's record.
5. Do not hesitate to give your first payment to an authorized canvasser if he carries an official identification card. You will receive a receipt and save yourself much inconvenience, because you will not find it necessary to appear and stand in line at a bank to make your initial payment.
6. Subscribe early.

Wires Closed To Criticism Of Burleson

Continued from page 1

must give a promise to keep his mouth shut or face instant dismissal. "Of course, this is demoralizing to any staff, and by means of these threats an organized reign of terror has been instituted on the lines of the Postal Telegraph system, and every effort is being made to shake the confidence of the staff in their belief that the company will eventually have its lines returned to it. It reminds one of letters, the cachet, the Bastille, and Robespierre."

"The outrageous character of all this is shown by the fact that Bell Telephone employees and Western Union employees are allowed even to make public addresses and appear before boards of trade and chambers of commerce to justify Burleson's rule of the wires and advocate a continuation of his control of the wires. It seems to us what is sauce for the goose should be thrust for the gander. Our employees are persecuted, hounded and threatened because they criticize Burleson. Western Union and Bell Telephone employees are encouraged to publicly express their opinion because they praise Burleson."

Nearly Unanimous Wire Strike Vote Predicted

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Returns from the strike vote now being taken among the members of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America were said to-night by F. H. McDowell, of Washington, a member of the union's national grievance committee, to indicate that not less than from 90 to 95 per cent of the membership will vote to strike to enforce the organization's demand for recognition of the union and the right of collective bargaining.

Mr. McDowell, who conferred last week in Boston with the international president of the union, S. J. Kononkoff, asserted that the strike vote as received to date shows nearly 100 per cent of the New York and Chicago membership to be in favor of a strike. Returns from San Francisco, Seattle, New Orleans, Dallas, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Washington, he said, show a vote of 90 to 95 per cent in favor of a strike of the union's 16,000 members.

Tug Mate's Quick Wit Saves Drowning Sailor

Quick wit and cool head of A. E. Miller, third mate of the tug Rago, saved the life of John Tolin, a seaman of Standard Oil Barge 92, yesterday. Tolin was crossing on a plank from the barge to the tug at the foot of East Twenty-eighth Street when he fell between the vessels.

Miller blew six blasts on the Rago's whistle—the signal of distress—and ordered the engineer to back water. As the vessel swung apart he directed members of the crew to thrust ladders between them so they would not swing together again, and dived, gripping Tolin just as he was going down for the third time.

A rope was thrown to the third mate and he passed it about the body of the half-conscious man, treading water while Tolin was hauled to the tug. He himself was then brought up in the same way. Physicians from Bellevue worked for an hour before they could revive Tolin, and he was taken to the hospital in a serious condition.

Flights for Top Note Buyers and Salesmen

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The way was opened to-day for army aviators throughout the United States to give airplane rides to persons purchasing the largest amount of Victory Liberty Loan bonds or to workers making selling records.

The division of military aeronautics of the War Department telegraphed commanders of all flying fields:

"This is your authority to give a flight to the man or woman purchasing the greatest amount of bonds, also to the man or woman selling the greatest amount of bonds, when ships are sent to the various towns on loan flights."

Chairman Hurley, of the United States Shipping Board, to-day telegraphed the following message to shipyards engaged in government work:

States Asked to Unify Fight on Phone Rates

Call Issued for Meeting in Washington Saturday To Agree on Arguments Before Supreme Court

Curb on Burleson Sought

Republicans of House Plan To Force the Return of Railroads to the Owners

WASHINGTON, April 22.—A call was sent out to-day by Charles Elmquist, executive head of the National Association of Railroad Commissioners, for a meeting in Chicago Saturday of representatives of all the states which, through the courts, are trying to prevent the increase in intrastate telephone rates ordered some time ago by Postmaster General Burleson.

Mr. Elmquist's purpose is to have the states agree on a joint argument to be submitted before the Supreme Court May 5, when the telephone rate appeal will be heard. The states would act as "friends of the court." In addition, the railroad rate question will be discussed.

Not since the famous Minnesota case has anything like this been attempted by the states. At that time the Governors of twenty-two states met at Atlantic City and formulated a brief which was laid before the Supreme Court and had a very important bearing on the decision upholding the states' right to fix rates.

Some twenty states have sought injunctions against Mr. Burleson's telephone and telegraph rates in the Federal courts. In some instances they have been successful and in others they have failed.

The subject is before the Supreme Court in two cases, the government having appealed from a South Dakota court, where it was held that Mr. Burleson had no right to change intrastate rates, and from Massachusetts, where the court held that the state had no right to sue Mr. Burleson.

If Mr. Burleson should win in the Supreme Court, it means that all the local telephone schedules in states which have attacked the rates will be upset, for the Postmaster General has approved a scheme for standardizing local exchange rates.

One reason Representative Halvor Steenerson, who will be chairman of the Postoffice and Post Roads Committee, and Republicans are so anxious to plan when Congress convenes to force the return of the wires to their owners at once is to prevent Mr. Burleson from having anything more to do with rates and service. There is a strong sentiment among Democrats for calling a halt to government control of telephone and telegraph lines.

Their chief desire, however, is to throw Mr. Burleson overboard before he does irreparable damage to the Democratic party.

Boston to Fight Plan To Make Phone Users Pay Wage Increase

BOSTON, Mass., April 22.—The Boston Chamber of Commerce will fight the plan of the Federal authorities to make the subscribers pay the increase in wages just granted the telephone operators in the strike settlement here. This plan was announced by First Assistant Postmaster General John C. Koons as he left this city for Washington.

Business men are up in arms against such a plan and are lining up with the Chamber of Commerce to defeat it if possible. Mr. Koons made the explanation that it was necessary that extra expenditures involved in the higher wages should revert to the telephone subscribers for the reason that Congress adjourned without making any provision for such a contingency. The users are far from satisfied with this explanation.

Tyler Freed, Re-arrested

Wanted in Cleveland on Bank Robbery Charge

L. Roy Tyler, who has been detained by the Brooklyn police for a month on suspicion of being connected with the hold-up and murder of two employees of the East Brooklyn Savings Bank, had less than a minute of freedom yesterday. He was discharged by County Judge McMahon and at once arrested by a Cleveland, Ohio, officer on a bank robbery charge.

Tyler's \$1,005, a gold watch and chain and a penknife were given to his wife.

New Jersey Republicans Elect Stokes Chairman

Newton A. K. Bugbee Resigns from State Committee to Seek Governorship

TRENTON, April 22.—Former Governor E. C. Stokes was elected chairman of the Republican State Committee here to-day to succeed Newton A. K. Bugbee, who resigned to seek the Republican nomination for Governor.

"The people," said Mr. Stokes, "have the right to know whether the country is to remain Americanized, or whether it is to be uprooted and revolutionized by socialistic ideas that have resulted in failure and anarchy abroad. The manufacturer and workingman have the right to know whether our future tariff policy will or will not protect them against the competition of other nations. Travellers and shippers and fifty million investors have the right to know whether the government management and ownership is to control the great lines of transportation with increasing cost and impairment of service, or whether these lines shall have individual initiative and enterprise under proper government supervision."

Sutherland for President

Pennsylvania Group Start Campaign for West Virginian

Bert F. Kline, editor of the New Castle, Penn., "Herald," yesterday announced the organization of "The Sutherland Alliance" for the purpose of promoting the candidacy of United States Senator Howard Sutherland, of West Virginia, for President on the Republican ticket.

Later a campaign manager will be appointed and a nationwide campaign opened. Mr. Sutherland was elected Senator in the fall of 1916.



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