

# Woodrow Wilson Has Done What Thomas Jefferson Suggested

Jefferson said: "Whiskey kills one-third of our citizens and ruins our families."

Woodrow Wilson said: "No more whiskey shall be manufactured when the present supply is exhausted."

Jefferson demanded and encouraged the making of light wine and light beer.

Woodrow Wilson stops manufacture of whiskey, allows workmen beer, ninety-six per cent water.

Democrats in Congress, especially those from the South that produced Jefferson, are asked to remember that Jefferson was a pretty good Democrat and a pretty good American. He wrote the Declaration of Independence, and he knew this country.

Before statesmen pass a Federal amendment to put the United States back on a permanent and illicit whiskey basis, they might think over the following extracts from Thomas Jefferson's letter showing what HE thought.

Jefferson lived in the United States when whiskey was the national drink, when drunkenness killed one-third of the people, when light beer and light wine were unknown except among the rich.

Jefferson wrote to Charles Yancey—the quotation is from the Jeffersonian Encyclopaedia in the Congressional Library:

"There is before the assembly (of Virginia) a petition of a Captain Miller, which I have at heart, because I have great esteem for the petitioner as an honest and useful man. He is about to settle in our country and to establish a brewery, in which art I think him as skillful a man as has ever come to America. I wish to see this beverage become common instead of the whiskey which kills one-third of our citizens and ruins their families. He is staying with me until he can fix himself, and I should be thankful for information from time to time of the progress of his petition."

There you have Jefferson's opinion of beer as compared with whiskey.

He knew what he was talking about, for he lived when whiskey was the only drink, and when he said that it "kills one-third of our citizens and ruins their families," he told the truth.

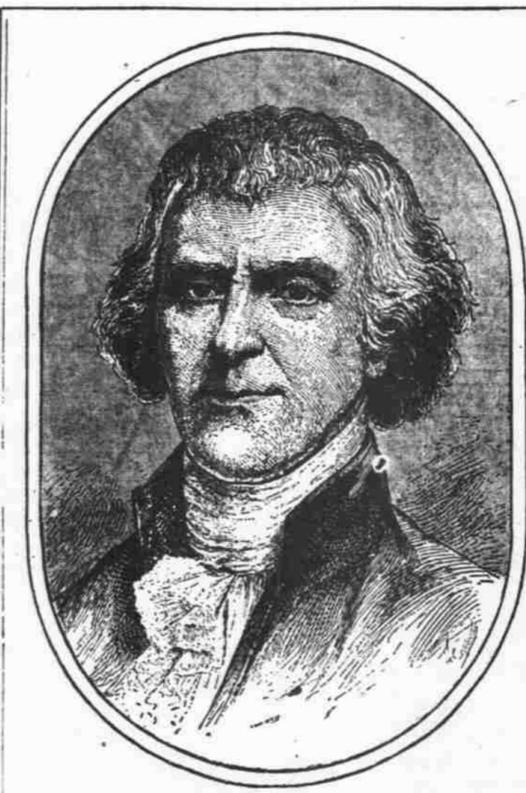
On the subject of light wine, used universally by many nations without drunkenness, Jefferson was equally sane and sound. His opinion was based upon travels in Europe, and his own life-long experience as a user of light wines—without being a drunkard, by the way.

He opposed any action that would compel the workers to take whiskey as their drink, and said, we quote again from the Jeffersonian Encyclopaedia in the Congressional Library:

"I rejoice as a moralist at the prospect of a reduction of the duties on wine by our National Legislature. It is an error to view a tax on that liquor as merely a tax on the rich. It is a prohibition of its use to the middle class of our citizens and a condemnation of them to the poison of whiskey, which is desolating their houses."

TO CONGRESSMEN ABOUT TO CONSIDER A PROPOSITION TO PUT THIS COUNTRY BACK ON A WHISKEY BASIS:

Will you believe Thomas Jefferson, twice President, writer of the Declaration of Independence, a man who lived when whiskey was the only drink, a man whose belief that



THOMAS JEFFERSON.  
(From an Old Wood Cut.)



WOODROW WILSON.

light beer would minimize drunkenness, has been fully justified?

Or will you believe the earnest, sincere, pale-faced and ignorant well-meaning prohibitionists, containing plenty of ice-water but little of Jefferson's power and knowledge?

Will you believe the man Jefferson, talking from wisdom and experience, or the Anti-Saloon League gentleman, talking from a prosperous pay roll, intimidating you with political blackmail and asking you to use the Constitution of the United States as a club to oblige him, and to coerce against their will the greatest States in the North?

President Wilson, exercising power vested in him by Congress, has regulated and settled the drink problem along the lines wisely suggested by Thomas Jefferson more than a hundred years ago.

The President has forbidden the further manufacture of whiskey. There is no doubt that he would have forbidden the sale of whiskey already made had Congress been willing to forego the great revenue from its sale, and indemnify the owners, at a cost of a thousand millions.

Forbidding the whiskey which Jefferson denounced, the President has permitted the continued manufacture of light wine and light beer advocated by Jefferson.

In regard to beer, the drink of millions of workingmen and one that saves them from whiskey, the President has taken action that means real temperance.

Under his proclamation, just issued, beer brewed after January 1, will contain only 2 3/4 per cent of alcohol, and more than 96 per cent of water. This is a drink harmless to a

child, yet permitting its manufacture will prevent dangerous dissatisfaction among workmen, and, as Jefferson suggested, discourage the use of whiskey, and bring about real temperance.

What has been the result already of the President's wise action in States where there is no prohibition?

We quote from the New York Tribune, a paper that favors prohibition. It shows that, thanks to the President's order, which has greatly increased the price of whiskey, made it difficult for workmen to obtain it, and thus increased the consumption of beer, DRUNKENNESS HAS DIMINISHED BY HALF. Congressmen who want to know what would happen if whiskey were eliminated entirely, and light wine and beer permitted, according to Jefferson's suggestion and President Wilson's action, please read the following extracts, quoting well-informed officials, from the New York Tribune:

## MANHATTAN ON THE "WATER WAGON," WAR AND WORK THE CHIEF CAUSES

King Alcohol Has Lost His Grip on New York. According to Figures From Hospital Wards and "Cure Farms," Which Report Large Decrease in Patients.

If present indications are a criterion, drunkenness is becoming almost a neglected "sport" in the city of New York—erstwhile rather

celebrated for its achievements in that line.

Arrests for intoxication have been decreasing since February until in August they reached the unprecedentedly low figure of 969 for the entire month. (Population of New York, 6,000,000.) The February total was 1,522. The psychopathic ward in Bellevue has contained a smaller number of patients for the last six months than at any time in its history. Other hospitals on whose case lists alcohol usually occupies a

The President's order, stopping the making of whiskey, has led consumers to supplant that poison with beer and light wine.

The result in New York, according to official reports, has been an unprecedented low record of arrests for intoxication, an emptying of alcoholic wards in hospitals, and a much higher average of temperance.

prominent place report a similar falling off of business.

The Warwick farm, which is maintained by the city for the purpose of reminding cafe addicts that there is still a considerable amount of Grade A ozone outside the swinging doors, has been so deserted of late that the proprietors have seriously considered using the "To Let" column. So it goes all along the line. The Kings County Hospital is sheltering less than half of its usual population of alcoholics. So is St. Vincent's, which ordinarily contains a good many weary business men. There are fewer "d. and d.'s"—official jargon for drunk and disorderly—on the records of the magistrates' courts; fewer on parole; fewer learning the ways of sobriety in the institution maintained for that purpose on Blackwell's Island.

In 1915 Warwick Farm (for drunkards) admitted 190 patients and had a constant waiting list. In 1916 it admitted 158, and still wasn't able to accommodate the crowd. During the first ten months of this year it has taken in just 91. Although all guests are permitted to remain longer than heretofore, half the rooms are vacant.

## Bellevue's Records' Tale.

Dr. Nathan Schiff, of Bellevue, agreed enthusiastically with Mr. Samson on the war proposition. The records at Bellevue show that 541 were admitted to the alcoholic ward in October, 1916, and only 294 in October, 1917 (after

the President's order affecting whiskey).

"Last year," said Dr. Schiff, "we didn't have a vacant bed in this ward. In fact, we had to put in extra ones. But that doesn't tell it all. Formerly we've only taken in the most pressing cases and turned them out as soon as we could. Now we get alcoholics in the first stage and when we have a serious case we are able to keep the patient in long enough to do him some real good."

## Work Helps Prohibition.

"There is no question about it—drunkenness has decreased greatly in New York. \* \* \*

At police headquarters the records of the statistical office show a steady decrease in arrests for drunkenness since the first of the year. In January, 1916, there were 1,735 "d. and d." cases. The lowest mark for the year was 1,177. The highest mark for 1917 was 1,544, in February. (Before the President issued his whiskey order.)

Since then there has been a steady decrease culminating in the low mark of August. The King's County Hospital reported a decrease for the first ten months of the year of 50 per cent, and St. Vincent's one almost as large. Altogether, it would appear that at least one of the many "good effects of war" which have been reported from Europe has already reached America—and has struck it hard.

Merely by increasing the cost of whiskey to a figure prohibitive for the poor, Woodrow Wilson, as shown in these official statements, has reduced drunkenness in the State of New York by 50 per cent. Automatically as the supply of whiskey diminishes, the price will increase, and drunkenness will still further diminish.

Eventually the manufacture of whiskey except as a criminal act will end, and the drink problem will end with it—if Congress and the prohibitionists will consent to have it so.

In these facts published in the New York Tribune there is fulfillment of Jefferson's prophecy, and emphatic proof of President Wilson's wisdom.

There is no prohibition in New York State. The consumption of light beer increases, the use of whiskey diminishes, and drunkenness is diminished by half.

The President, like Jefferson, is a man of education, of travel, observation, and courage. Unlike some statesmen in Congress, he does not howl with the wolves, or under coercion and urging take action that would be detrimental to the cause of real temperance, and create among workingmen bitter dissatisfaction, harmful to the war, destructive of efficiency.

## WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO?

Jefferson's prediction is justified in the result of President Wilson's wise action.

### WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO?

The Anti-Saloon League boasts that it owns Congress, and that the House of Representatives will obey its orders.

To obey the orders of the Anti-Saloon League, the House must disregard the wisdom of Jefferson and the action of Woodrow Wilson.

The latter was authorized by Congress to deal fully with the drink problem, and he has dealt with it wisely, conservatively—and New York city as a sample shows the result.

The President, had he chosen, could have stopped the sale of light wines and of light beer absolutely. He chose the wiser course of temperance and moderation, the course advised by Jefferson.

Congress, having given the President power to deal with this important question, is now asked by the Anti-Saloon League to overrule the President and tell him that his action has been unwise and unsatisfactory.

### Will Congress do that?

It is known that the President looks upon the prohibition question as one for local and State control. His Shannon letter says so plainly.

His letter to the Rev. James Cannon shows that the President discriminates, as did Jefferson, between the whiskey that causes drunkenness and ruin and the light wines and light beer that European nations have taken without injury for thousands of years.

This distinction is made also by some Congressmen that lack the President's moral courage and stand in terror of Anti-Saloon League threats.

One of the great Southern leaders, head of a most important committee in the House, said to this writer: "I know that if nothing but light wine and beer were sold in the United States, there would not be a prohibition State in the Union, and there would be no need of any. But I dare not say so. The Anti-Saloon League would destroy me. I wish you would see the Anti-Saloon League and try to make them take a sensible view of the situation."

This was said to this writer in the presence of Charles Michaelson, correspondent of the Chicago Herald, by the head of a great committee, one who votes regularly for every prohibition measure BECAUSE HE STANDS IN TERROR OF POLITICAL BLACKMAIL.

What will Congressmen do on Monday? Will they vote to support the gentlemen on the Anti-Saloon League

pay roll against the advice of Thomas Jefferson and the action of Woodrow Wilson?

Will they declare the former inaccurate and the latter unwise?

Will they permit the Constitution to be made into a police agency to oblige extreme fanatics?

Will they invite the sending of thousands of Federal spies throughout the South?

Do they realize that this Federal spy system, which they are asked to create and permanently establish in every community, could be used later by a hostile Republican administration, anxious for a second term—used not to stop the sale of illicit whiskey, which is impossible, but TO REGULATE ELECTIONS IN THE SOUTH?

### President Wilson said:

"Our object is, of course, to win this war, and we shall not slacken or suffer ourselves to be diverted until it is won. \* \* \* Let there be no misunderstanding. Our present and immediate task is to win the war, and nothing shall turn us aside from it."

The President's words, "Nothing shall turn us aside from it," will, we hope, be followed by some strong advice to Congress.

Who rules this country—Congress and the President, or the Anti-Saloon League?