

PROHIBITION PROPER OR IMPROPER?

IS the prohibition law a proper or an improper law? That question might easily and quickly be answered by both ardent advocates and aggressive opponents, the one being sure that the law is proper, the other confidently and emphatically declaring that the law is improper.

There are other sources from which decisive answers to this important question have come, which answers are possibly not so susceptible to the charge of prejudice or bias as the answers from the enthusiastic wets or the persistent dries.

In the first place, a majority of the constituents of Congressmen and Senators in a large majority of Congressional districts and states have persistently and consistently registered their convictions on this question along with other important matters, in the official election and reelection of representatives in the national legislative body, each of whose record and attitude stands for the law and against its repeal in spite of the most unprecedented organized opposition.

In the second place, a majority of the constituents of a large majority of state legislative and senatorial representatives throughout the nation, in the face of the most heavily financed and insidious wet propaganda of record, have persistently voted for and kept in office dry representatives in the state legislatures, the overwhelming majority of which have maintained their state prohibition codes in harmony with the Eighteenth Amendment.

In the third place, every President of the United States who has been elected by the people since the national prohibition policy was adopted, has stood for the maintenance of this law, the present Chief Executive in a special message to Congress having emphatically declared himself as against the repeal and for the enforcement of the law's provisions.

In the fourth place, the Supreme Court of the United States, in spite of the most ably defended cases against the law's various provisions, in more than a hundred decisions in the last thirteen years, without a single exception, has upheld this prohibition law.

In other words, the technical, legal, official opinion expressed in the record and attitude on this highly controversial subject, of an unprecedented majority of state governors, state legislators, state courts, Congressmen, Presidents, and the United States courts, proclaims the prohibition law to be proper and right.

Does such evidence indicate that the prohibition law probably is or is not a proper law for a government in which public opinion is king, and in which the people's constitution is supreme?

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