# The Mountainair Independent

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The school teachers are back from Santa Fe, where they went to attend the N. M. E. A. last week, and all have nothing but praise for the people of the Ancient City in the matter of individual treatment of the teachers and the matter of caring for the immense crowd. Every courtesy possible was extended the visitors and Santa Fe has won an enviable place in the hearts of the school ma'ams of this portion of the state at least.

The daily papers of the state have had bean stories, broom corn stories, corn stories, and stories of various sorts showing good returns per acre of land in different portions of the state. But a careful scrutiny of the papers fails to bring to light any story that equals that of J. H. Cumiford, who grew 17,000 pounds of beans on ten acres of land on the Mesa south of Mountainair. These beans were sold when the market was right at six and a half cents per pound, thus giving a market value of $110.50 per acre for the crop from these ten acres. If there is any other agricultural land in New Mexico that has produced more than this we would be glad to hear of it.

### The Prohibition States

Six states eliminated the saloon in the election of last Tuesday. Four of them put whisky out on a straight appeal to the voters. These are Michigan, Nebraska, South Dakota and New Mexico. Two—Florida and Utah—elected governors and legislatures pledged to prohibition laws.

The addition of these six states makes a total of twenty-six "dry" states. Numerically, that is more than half of the United States. Territorially, it is more than two-thirds of the United States, for many of the "dry" states are territorially large. So far as representation in Congress goes, the twenty six dry states do not constitute a majority, but they approach it very closely, and victory is necessary in only a few more states to make the nation preponderantly "dry."

The states that had already eliminated whisky are: Maine, Kansas, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, North Dakota, Montana, Arizona, Idaho, Colorado, Oregon and Washington.

Rather queerly, the "dry" territory coincides pretty closely with the Democratic territory as made up in the election of Tuesday. The solid West joined the solid South, not only in the Democratic column, but in the prohibition column. There are, to be sure, a few Western states that went Democratic in which the saloon still flourishes, and there are a few Western states already "dry" that went Republican. Throughout the rest of the country there are a few "dry" Republican states and a few "wet" Democratic states. But, roughly, Democratic territory and prohibition territory coincide. In both alignments it is the South and the West on one side and the North on the other side.

That may be a very significant fact. Prohibition will become a more urgent issue during the next four years than it has ever been before It will demand attention in Congress. It will loudly demand attention when platforms are to be made in 1920. The Democratic party is the dominant party. Democratic territory is prohibition territory. For the first time in its history, the dominant party owes nothing to the "wet" North. For the first time in its history the dominant party owes vastly more to the "dry" territory than it does to the "wet" territory. Even if the Democratic party should seek it, the way of escape from advocating prohibition would not be easy to find.

Even in 1920, prohibition as a national issue may not find its way into the Democratic platform. To make it a national party issue might not be wise. But, almost inevitably the Democratic party—the dominant and still the growing party—will become the party of prohibition.

A liquorless America is on its way, and it will be no great while in arriving. It may come in 1920. Conceivably, it may come even before that. But in any event, it will arrive while many of those who have so faithfully pioneered for it are still alive to see its blessings in operation.—Nashville (Tenn.) Tennesseean and American.





### Smiles

"Love is blind, isn't it?"

"So they say."

"Then how can there be love at first sight?"

Rev. Mr. Goodman—Well, Willie, did you enjoy your Thanksgiving dinner?

Willie—No. We had company and I had to eat with my fork.

Sloggs—People are inexcusably wastaful of writing paper.

Bloggs—That's so. I've got creditors who write to me every week.

Edwin—I hear Nellie's husband is a nut.

Evelin—He is; but he's a doughnut.

Edwin—A doughnut?

Evelin—Yes; he has money.—Judge.

"What line of activity do you think your son will follow?"

"I'm not sure," replied the weary-looking man. "But from the close questioning he puts me through I'm inclined to think that he'll make a great chairman of an investigating committee."

"In the old days every gentleman was supposed to go to bed drunk."

"To a certain extent I guess that was true."

"The age of efficiency has put a stop to such conduct."

"Yes. Nowadays, no matter how full a gentleman gets, he has to sit up late and protend he's sober."



## School Teachers, Attention!

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