

# Al Smith and Fair Play

(Continued from page 2.)

interests of our country these laws ought to be repealed.

To my way of thinking, about the greatest crime against civilization is to suppress freedom of thought or speech. The most uplifting utterance ever made in the promotion of true civilization is this:

"I hate what you say, but I will die for your right to say it."

Please observe carefully that I am not anywhere in this essay attempting to minimize the strong and perfectly legitimate argument against his candidacy that he is an anti-prohibitionist; but I am only defending him against the outrageously unfair argument that because he is opposed to prohibition he is a law-breaker or a nullifier of the constitution.

Let what thank you? Suppose Smith is seeking to nullify the 18th amendment, is this a crime more grievous than is the offense of those who are seeking to nullify the third section of the sixth article of the federal constitution, which forbids setting up a man's religion as a test of his fitness for the office of President?

Will the South Support Smith? Smith's opponents are unfair to him (many of them unintentionally) even when they utter prophecies as to what will happen if he becomes the Democratic candidate for President.

Those who foretell disaster to Smith make answer as though the question propounded to them were this: "Will the Democratic South support Smith for President if an ideal candidate is nominated against him?"

I submit that to propound such a question is absurd, and the answer is still more absurd. The Republicans are not going to nominate an ideal candidate.

Whom, then, will the Republicans nominate as their candidate?

Well, for one thing, I can tell you they are not going to nominate a man who is either a pronounced prohibitionist; or a pronounced anti-prohibitionist; or a pronounced anti-Republican. Two of the most capable men the Republicans have are Borah and Longworth, but neither of these stands a "Chinaman's chance" of being nominated. Borah, because he is an out-and-out prohibitionist; Longworth, because he is an out-and-out anti.

The Republicans will nominate Coolidge, Hoover, Lowden, Dawes, or some man of that type—that is, a man who has never opened his mouth to let the voters know whether he is in favor of prohibition or against it. In other words, the Republicans are deliberately seeking a candidate who is a milk-and-cider man ("milk" for the pro's and "cider" for the anti's), a man who has been too much of a coward or, at least, too polite, to express himself on this question—this question that the great moral leaders say is the most important before the American citizens today.

Can you imagine a single man in public life in North Carolina who has hitherto been a Democrat who will get upon the platform and urge the Democrats of the state to become Republicans and vote for any Republican named above because of Smith's attitude on the prohibition question in the face of the fact that the Republican candidate will not declare himself in favor of prohibition?

Ever and anon it is published in the press of the state that some prominent Methodist or Baptist or Presbyterian who has hitherto affiliated with the Democratic party, has said: "If the Democrats nominate Smith for President I will vote the Republican ticket."

Not so, my friend. You cannot vote the Republican ticket in the abstract. You will be compelled to vote for a Republican candidate for President. Kindly name a single Republican whom you will vote for who has any chance of securing the Republican nomination.

I think I know the people of North Carolina, and know their contempt for a "wishy-washy" man, a man who will not stake himself out on any question. While many North Carolinians may not vote at all, I cannot believe they will vote against Smith, who is courageous enough to express his views, and vote instead for a Republican candidate who will not make an open declaration in favor of prohibition.

If the contest shall come between Smith and any one of these non-committal Republicans, and if the preachers openly enter the presidential campaign next year (which God forbid), then I hope a "second Daniel come to judgment" will preach a sermon taking as a text Revelation 3:15, 16:

"Would thou wert cold or hot; but because thou art lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth."

If both the letter and the spirit of that text are followed, there will be preached a memorable sermon, and it will no doubt be accounted as the strongest speech which will be made for Smith during the entire campaign, a clarion call to every voter to spew the Republican candidate out of his mouth.

In addition to all this, it can be said that if the Democrats of North Carolina vote the Republican ticket, they will be compelled to renounce all the arguments that have hitherto been made by our speakers when urging our people to continue voting the Democratic ticket.

The tariff, centralized government, trucking to the money powers of the country, and other questions that have hitherto divided the Democrats and the Republicans must all be obliterated, or more accurately speaking, the Democrats of North Carolina must "box the compass" and support candidates advocating those principles and policies of government which they have hitherto utterly rejected, as against one who still supports all of the Democratic tenets of government.

Do you think it within the range of possibility that that will occur?

**Ecclesiastical Intimidation.**  
What are Smith's chances in North

Carolina for getting votes in the Democratic primary for President next year? I will make answer to that question by saying that if conditions continue as they now exist, he will get a comparatively small vote in this state.

The failure to get a large vote will not, in my opinion, be due mainly to the lack of admirers, nor to the paucity of those who would vote for him if left wholly untrammelled. What then will be the reason why his vote will be light in this state?

I answer the question with blunt brevity: In my opinion, it will be due to the exercise of moral duress and ecclesiastical intimidation on the part of some of the preachers and moral leaders of the state.

There be many in our Protestant churches who still regard the imprecations of preachers as coming ex-cathedra, and there is a still larger number of timid souls who believe that to be disobedient to the voice of the preacher in anything is to lessen one's chances of heaven and to increase one's danger of hell.

Whenever, therefore, a preacher of any denomination makes an unjust and unwarranted assault upon any candidate or upon any movement in church or state, the result of this is moral duress and ecclesiastical intimidation, which results in preventing free action on the part of the large numbers who come within the sphere of influence of such preachers and who have not independence enough to resist their influence.

I, myself, have many strong objections to the Roman Catholic church, not the least of which is that I repudiate the pope's assumption of the right and power to hurl ecclesiastical anathemas and to pronounce absolutions. The effort on the part of a Protestant minister to force the members of his church to accept the preacher's own standard of church worthiness is in identicality the same category with the terrorizing pronouncements of the Roman church.

While I have objections to the Roman Catholic church, I absolutely resent and repudiate any effort to discount Roman Catholics as true Christians, and I resent and repudiate the suggestion that if I favor a Catholic for President I thereby in any degree impair my standing in my own church or make myself less acceptable in the sight of God. While I am and always have been a pronounced prohibitionist, I absolutely resent and repudiate the attempt to set up as a test of church worthiness, or of upright citizenship, the question as to whether one is a prohibitionist or an anti-prohibitionist. The Christ, whose first miracle was the making of wine at the marriage in Cana of Galilee, never established any such test, and to my way of thinking it is little short of blasphemy for anyone claiming to be an "ambassador of Christ" to anathematize any citizen, whether church member or not, because he is not "orthodox" on the subject of prohibition, according to the preacher's standard of orthodoxy.

**A Word To The Preacher.**  
In conclusion, Mr. Preacher, may I have a word with you, heart to heart?

If you pledge yourself to do all in your power to defeat Governor Smith, if he is nominated as Democratic candidate next year, do you realize what fulfillment of your vow will mean to you and your church?

Do you expect to preach sermons opposing Smith and advising your members to support the Republican candidate?

If so, do you expect the members of your church who are supporters of Governor Smith, tamely to submit to your exhortations of their candidate, which necessarily means condemnation of them?

Are you so deaf that you cannot hear the rumblings of discontent at the prospect of such a situation?

Are you so blind that you cannot see that awful chasm at the end of the course you propose to pursue?

The other day, at the opening of the great Methodist cathedral here in Charlotte, Bishop Mouzon (my most highly-esteemed bishop) gave utterance to this striking though pessimistic statement: "Our Christian civilization is in the midst of a terrible moral collapse!"

If that is true, as I fear it is, do you not agree with me that the church, the chief conservator of Christian civilization, is chiefly responsible for this appalling condition?

And if the church is chiefly responsible, do you not agree with me that the ministers, who are necessarily the foremost leaders in the church, must be held chiefly responsible for the failure of the church to conserve our Christian civilization?

The great mission for which Christ came into the world and for which he suffered death upon the cross, was to save men from their sins, and so long as you preach "Christ and Him Crucified" you are fulfilling your God-appointed task; but whenever and wherever you turn aside and plunge the church into needless conflict over matters that are not essentials and about which intelligent, conscientious church members differ, then you are aiding in bringing about this terrible collapse of our Christian civilization.

If this course is pursued, will not the church—already bleeding and torn by doubts and conflicts—soon rent in twain—irretrievably?

**A Personal Word.**  
I am not unmindful of the fact that to all who believe the pope to be the anti-Christ, I will be henceforth—"anathema," and to all who regard the Vatican as lex suprema, I will be—"paranatha."

Pardon me when I say: None of these things move me; I do not care. A few days ago the calendar of my years rounded out three score and ten. While mine eyes are not dimmed nor my natural force abated, nevertheless I know that the span of my life cannot be much prolonged and I have put behind me all ambitions, political and otherwise.

Born in the humble home of a

circuit-rider, I have been for more than half a century an unworthy member of the Methodist church.

For more than two score years I have battled for prohibition and bear upon me now some scars of the conflict.

I have no affiliations whatever with the Catholics and, so far as I can now recall, I have not a single prominent Catholic among my clients.

The nomination and election of Al Smith for President means nothing to me, but I sincerely believe him to be a useful, upright, patriotic Christian citizen, and it does mean much to me—grieves me sorely—that my native state that I love, and the church that has fostered me and nourished in me the feeble spark of spiritual life that seemed so often about to expire, are now in grave danger of standing condemned before the bar of righteous, intelligent, fair-minded public opinion for having made unjust and undeserved attacks upon an upright Christian citizen, and for having plunged church and state into a needless conflict that portends no good and can result only in disaster and ruin.

However much you differ with me or even condemn me for what is here written, I dare repeat the prayer uttered once by the Psalmist David:

"Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart!" And I will be found guiltless in God's sight of any sinister or unworthy motive.

CHARLES W. TILLET.  
Charlotte,  
Nov. 17, 1927.

## NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE.

By virtue of a decree of the Superior Court of Stokes county, North Carolina, rendered on the 21st day of Nov., 1927, in the Special Proceeding, entitled "T. O. Watson and others against Mary Watson, widow of V. G. Watson," appointing the undersigned a commissioner to sell the lands of the said V. G. Watson, for partition, I will expose to public sale, to the highest bidder, upon the premises at Pinnacle, Stokes county, N. C., on—

**SATURDAY, DEC. 24th, 1927,** at the hour of one o'clock p. m., the following tract of land belonging to the said V. G. Watson, deceased:

"Beginning at a rock in Jones' line, thence south 82 degs. east 8.86 chs.; thence N. 60 degs. E. 2.42 chs.; thence S. 71 degs. and 30 mins. E. 31.16 chs.; thence S. 7 degs. and 30 m. W. 12.73 chs.; thence S. 87 deg. E. 1.26 chs. thence S. 10 degs. E. 5.50 chs.; thence S. 10 degs. E. 8.10 chs.; thence S. 73 degs. W. 6.88 chs.; thence S. 21 degs. E. 5.20 chs.; thence S. 73 degs. and 30 mins. W. 2.50 chs.; thence N. 86 degs. and 30 mins. W. 23.44 chs., N. 3 degs. and 30 mins. E. 14.89 chs.; thence S. 81 degs. E. 25 links; thence N. 6 degs. E. 5.09 chs.; thence S. 86 degs. and 30 mins. E. 1.46 chs.; thence N. 15 degs. and 30 mins. E. 4.54 chs. thence N. 85 degs and 30 mins. W. 8.14 chs. thence N. 27 degs. and 30 mins. W. 1.18 chs.; thence N. 69 degs. W. 2 chs.; thence N. 85 degs. and 30 mins. W. 2 chs.; thence S. 63 degs. and 30 mins. W. 1.80 chs.; thence S. 73 degs. W. 3.15 chs. to a stake in Watson's line; thence N. 4 degs. E. 10.10 chs.; thence N. 8 degs. W. 10.08 chs. to the beginning, containing 124.85 acres, more or less."

Terms of Sale:— One-third cash, and the other two-thirds on a credit of twelve months with bond and approved security for deferred payment, bearing six per cent interest from day of sale, with privilege to the purchaser to pay all cash if he so desires.

This Nov. 21st, 1927.

E. G. WATSON,  
Commissioner.

N. O. Petree, Atty.

Mustafa Kemal Pasha has just finished delivering a seven-day address, which relieves Mustafa of all suspicion of being the unspeakable Turk.—Detroit News.

## NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE UNDER DEED IN TRUST.

By virtue of the power of sale in a deed of trust executed to me on the 2nd day of Feb., 1922, by Oscar Ziglar and wife, Irene Ziglar, which is recorded in the office of Register Deeds of Stokes county, N. C., in Book 66, page 566, to which reference is hereunto made, to secure the payment of a note therein recited, the principal of which is \$224.95, and accrued interest, default having been made in the payment of said note at maturity and the holder having applied to me to foreclose the deed of trust for the satisfaction of same, I will expose to public sale, to the highest bidder, for cash, at the court house door in the town of Danbury, N. C., on—

**SATURDAY, DEC. 24, 1927,** at the hour of 11 o'clock a. m., certain tracts of land lying and being in Stokes county, N. C., and more particularly described and defined as follows: Beginning at a stone, Hughes line, where it crosses the mountain road, thence up the road a west course 11 chains and 40 links to pointers in Atwood's line, thence south on his line 14 chains to long branch, thence down same as it meanders in an east course 11 chains and 30 links to pointers in Robert Hughes' line thence North on his line 10 chains and 10 links to the beginning, containing 13 3-4 acres, be the same more or less.

Second tract. Bounded as follows, beginning at a holly on a branch Smith's corner on said Smith's line 13 chains and 25 links to a chestnut oak, pointers, thence south on Atwood's line 12 chains to a black jack at the mountain road, thence down said road as it meanders an east course 12 chains and 60 links to a stone in Robert Hughes' line, thence north on his line 11 chains to the beginning, containing 15 1-4 acres, more or less.

This Nov. 18th, 1927.

J. W. HALL, Trustee.

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of John W. Brown, deceased, late of Stokes county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them duly authenticated to the undersigned at Walnut Cove, North Carolina, Route 3, on or before the 18th day of November, 1928, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said deceased, are most respectfully requested to make immediate payment to us.

This Nov. 16th, 1927.

JEWEL PRIDDY,  
Administrator of the estate of John W. Brown, dec'd.


A. T. Bare, Atty. for Admr.

Having qualified as executor of the last will and testament of F. E. Petree, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons holding claims against said deceased, to present them to us for payment, duly authenticated, on or by the 20th day of Nov., 1928, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said deceased, are most respectfully requested to make immediate payment to us.


This Nov. 14th, 1927.

Wm. R. PETREE and ROBERT G. PETREE,  
Executors.

P. O. Germanton R. 1, N. C.  
N. O. Petree, Atty. for Executors.



# Your motor will never balk at cold weather if you use gasoline that is right the year 'round.



## "STANDARD" GASOLINE

**NOTICE.**  
Having qualified as administrator of the estate of John W. Brown, deceased, late of Stokes county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them duly authenticated to the undersigned at Walnut Cove, North Carolina, Route 3, on or before the 18th day of November, 1928, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This Nov. 16th, 1927.  
JEWEL PRIDDY,  
Administrator of the estate of John W. Brown, dec'd.  
A. T. Bare, Atty. for Admr.


**NOTICE.**  
Having qualified as executor of the last will and testament of F. E. Petree, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons holding claims against said deceased, to present them to us for payment, duly authenticated, on or by the 20th day of Nov., 1928, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said deceased, are most respectfully requested to make immediate payment to us.

This Nov. 14th, 1927.  
Wm. R. PETREE and ROBERT G. PETREE,  
Executors.  
P. O. Germanton R. 1, N. C.  
N. O. Petree, Atty. for Executors.

# Camel

One of life's great pleasures is smoking

Camels give you all of the enjoyment of choice tobaccos. Is enjoyment good for you? You just bet it is.



If all cigarettes were as good as Camel you wouldn't hear anything about special treatments to make cigarettes good for the throat. Nothing takes the place of choice tobaccos.

© 1927, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Winston-Salem, N. C.