

Shows Marked Adroitness In Handling Prohibition

While Not So Pronounced a Dry as Harding, Coolidge Satisfies Anti-Saloon League by General Attitude on Matters Law Enforcement Without Offense to Wets

By DAVID LAWRENCE
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Washington, Sept. 12.—President Coolidge is handling the prohibition question with an adroitness which is for the moment not offending the wet politicians in his own party nor the anti-Saloon League.

Mr. Coolidge may never go as far as did President Harding in asking the populace to give up drinking from stocks of liquor even though lawfully acquired before the eighteenth amendment was adopted but on the issue of law enforcement he stands four square.

For many weeks friends of Mr. Coolidge have feared that he would unnecessarily identify himself with the "drys" to the extent that Mr. Harding did. The Denver speech of the late President urging a curb on "lawless drinking" made a hit in the West but made certain Republican leaders in the East rather uneasy.

Mr. Coolidge comes from Massachusetts—a wet battleground—where an act to enforce the eighteenth amendment has been passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, but probably will be held in abeyance while a petition for a referendum is acted upon by the electorate. The state itself in the last referendum voted against the then pending enforcement act. In the Coolidge cabinet are such "wets" as Secretary of War Weeks and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon. They favor the enforcement of the eighteenth amendment, of course, but their leanings are to the wet side of the controversy. The rumor has been current for some time that certain of Mr. Coolidge's advisers hoped he wouldn't emphasize prohibition too much, especially before the 1924 nominating convention and campaign.

Mr. Coolidge's announcement therefore that the conference of governors which Mr. Harding originally said he would call would not be limited to prohibition but would embrace other laws such as the enforcement of the narcotic act and the immigration and customs laws is accepted as meaning that the President would rather appear as the champion of law enforcement in the abstract than the merits of any particular phase of the statute books. Opponents of prohibition, for instance, have criticized the Federal Government as being too fanatic on the subject of prohibition while other laws were no so scrupulously enforced.

Mr. Coolidge's variation of the program to include law enforcement as a whole makes his position impartial as between all laws. Incidentally his newly announced plan is gratifying to the anti-Saloon League because that organization takes the position that the merits of prohibition are not now up for debate but simply whether the Federal Constitution and Federal laws are to be obeyed.

When the governors of the various states come here, therefore, Mr. Coolidge will plead with them for co-operation with the Federal Government on laws that require concurrent enforcement. Some of the Republican politicians who know that the Executive couldn't very well take any other position but that of law enforcement as a whole.

Mr. Coolidge made his record as governor of Massachusetts on a law enforcement issue in the police strike. Similarly he vetoed the bill providing for beer and light wines, known as the "2.75 beer bill," in May 1920. His words then are significant in their possible application to the present situation. He said:

"There is little satisfaction in attempting to deceive ourselves. There is grave danger in attempting to deceive the people. If this act were placed on the statute books of this commonwealth today it would provide no beer for the people. No one would dare act upon it, for if anyone did he would certainly be charged with crime. Similar laws in other states are to date ineffective. I am opposed to the practice of a legislative deception. It is better to proceed with candor. Wait until the Supreme Court of the United States talks—"

"When I took office I gave an oath to support the Constitution of the United States. That Constitution and the laws of Congress are declared to be the supreme law of the land. It may be that the eighteenth amendment and the act under it are one or both void. So far as any court has decided I understand the amendment has been sustained. They have been before the Supreme Court for some time where, up to now, they both stand as law. That which the court hesitates to decide I shall not hasten to declare—"

"The authority of the law is questioned in these days all too much. The binding obligation of obedience against personal desire is denied in many quarters. If these doctrines prevail, all organized government, all

Trade Associations Are Economic Help

How They Aid Will Be Told at Convention to be Held in Chicago Soon

Chicago, Sept. 13.—How the trade association can make a market analysis, promote the use of members' products by cooperative advertising, bring about standardization in an industry, and help elevate the standards of retail merchandizing, are some of the subjects on the program of the convention of the American Trade Association. Executives, to be held here, October 24-26.

The functions of trade associations and their place in the economic fabric of the country will be described and analyzed, according to an announcement by O. B. Towne, secretary-treasurer. Prominent tradesmen will lead in the principal discussions.

"The establishment of business standards, improvement of methods of production and distribution, the utilization of a wider variety of raw materials, the general elimination of waste, and the development of a higher code of business ethics are

some of the achievements of trade associations," Mr. Towne said.

"In gathering statistics of production, consumption, stocks and prices, where these have been made available to the entire public, we also have contributed much to the stability of business and the diminution of speculation."

JARVISBURG SCHOOL HAS GOOD OPENING

Jarvisburg, September 13.—The Jarvisburg school opened here Monday morning with an enrollment of over sixty pupils in the grammar and primary grades. The school opens at eight o'clock and closes at 4 p. m., instead of from 8:45 a. m. to 3:20 p. m. This is for the benefit of those children who have to help pick cotton. Children can go to school every day and have the afternoon in which to pick the cotton and will still be able to keep up their studies.

Tells About Cotton Imported Fabrics

Prof. Nelson Of State College Made Survey Of This Phase Of Industry

Raleigh, Sept. 13.—Professor Thomas Nelson, head of the textile department at State College, who spent the summer as a special expert with the United States Tariff Commission, with headquarters in Washington and New York, speaks very interestingly of the importation of cotton fabrics. Professor Nelson made a special survey of this phase of the cotton mill industry for the commission.

"The importation of cotton fabrics," says Professor Nelson, "is always an interesting study. Imported fabrics are, as a rule, finer in texture and fancier in weave, or more highly finished than those made in the mills of the United States."

"Cotton fabrics are imported from all parts of the world—the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, Japan, Czechoslovakia, Germany and other countries. The largest proportion comes from the United Kingdom and consists of a wide range of fabrics, among which may be mentioned the well known Scotch gingham, broadcloth skirting, and warp sateen, which is famous for its lustrous and silky appearance."

"The fabrics of France and Switzerland are wonderful creations of the designer's and finisher's art, while the crepes of Japan, with their crispness and coloring, always find a ready market in the United States."

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Harris and Mrs. Harris' mother, Mrs. Lee Ferrell, of Norfolk, are the guests of Mrs. George Burgess on Cedar street.

Liberty, all security are at an end. Force alone will prevail. Can those entrusted with the greatest authority set any example except that of the sternest obedience to law? Can Massachusetts afford to take any position which may turn out to be, which can anywhere be interpreted to be an act of nullification? Mr. Coolidge's words may again be an issue in his home state, but they will in all probability be repeated at the governor's conference for the benefit of the whole Union.

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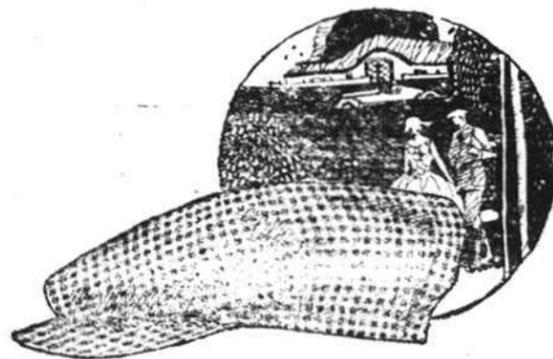
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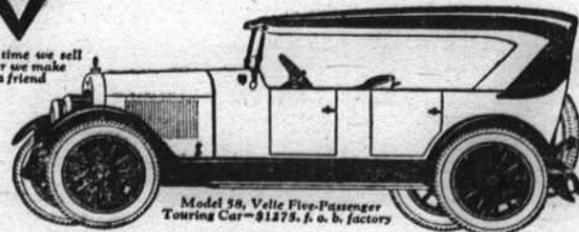
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