

Party; "been on the search for a long time without success. Have you anything in that line?" "Oh, yes," replied the Salesman; "plenty of 'em. What kind of an Issue were you thinking of getting?" "Er—something Nice and National," replied the Customer. "I want a big one—big enough to carry the country." "I see," said the Salesman. "I think we can suit you. How would this do, for example?" and he called attention to the Labor Issue. "Er—no—that's too tough, and not near big enough. Besides, I want something with Moral Energy in it, if you understand." "Precisely," answered the Clerk. "I've got the very thing for you. There, sir!" and with the assistance of three other Salesmen, he lifted down a fine, inspiring National Issue labelled "PROHIBITION." The Customer gazed at it a moment and then said, "Er—n—no. That's not the sort at all. It isn't half ripe, for one thing, and besides it's a mere Local issue. As I told you, I want something big and National. What have you got in those boxes?" "These?" repeated the Clerk, taking down some Pill-boxes from a high shelf. "No use looking at these, sir; they would never suit you. Why, you can hardly see them with the naked eye." "Never you mind about that; what are they?" demanded the Customer. "Well," said the Clerk, putting on his glasses and reading the labels. "This is the N. P. Issue; and the other is labelled Unrestricted Reciprocity. But besides being very small, they are also very stale, and—" "Never you mind," interrupted the Customer. "Give me either of 'em. Eurcka! I've got an Issue at last!" and, choosing one of the boxes, he carefully put it in his vest pocket and went into the Saloon next door to have a Drink.

MORAL.—The Politician does not choose the greater issue, but the one that will not split his party.