

American history, and that it is far from improbable that the United States under a Republican Administration will enter into the partnership of nations upon conditions not very different from those which he with so much ardour, energy and devotion strove to persuade his country to accept.

## IV

During the first week of November Scotland will vote on proposals to subject the liquor traffic to far more stringent regulations. Although many of the cable despatches have produced a contrary impression, something far less than actual or complete prohibition is at issue in the contest. The voter has the choice of three resolutions. He may declare for "no licence", for reduction of 25 per cent. in the number of licences in any local area, or against any change in the existing licensing system. But even in an area where the people adopt "no licence" the Licensing Court may "grant one or more certificates for an inn or hotel" in which however liquor may be taken only at meals and in which no drinking bar may be maintained.

The Act under which the voting is authorized is intended only to abolish or limit the number of public drinking-places. It does not forbid private drinking, nor the purchase of liquor in quantity for that purpose, nor is the manufacture or transportation of liquor affected. Moreover a resolution for "no licence" must have the support of 55 per cent. of all the votes cast, and 35 per cent. of all the votes registered in the area. If, however, the "no licence" resolution fails to carry the votes cast in its favour must be added to those polled for reduction in the number of licenses which may be issued.

The contest seems to have developed into a direct struggle between "no change" and "no licence". The Scottish churches, except the Episcopal and Roman Catholic bodies, which are uncommitted, are stated to be united against licences. A national Citizens' Council directs the campaign of the prohibitionists. Many American speakers are engaged who emphasize the benefits which the United States has derived from prohibition and there has been an attempt to evoke feeling because these speakers are paid from American sources. In their literature the prohibitionists declare that "Scotland's drink bill for 1919 was £36,000,000 or £12, 12s. per head of the adult population". It is also stated that in 16 weeks of 1918 the convictions for drunkenness in Glasgow were 1,296 men and 383 women as against 6,077 men and 1,345 women in a like period in 1920. It is submitted in explanation that special causes explain the increase in the number of convictions. Among these causes the return of the demobilized armies and the immensely greater spending power of the "working classes" are emphasized.

The opponents of prohibition deny that the churches are united in support of "no licence" and it seems that many ministers favour less radical measures. There is energetic protest against the attempt of Americans to dictate to Scotsmen in their private affairs. Prohibition is denounced as "political insanity" and a "violent invasion of individual liberty". What, the advocates of licence ask, is the game of the Yankees? They point out that while the Americans promise that prohibition will promote efficiency the abolition of vodka in Russia has had very different results. They suggest that the Yankees are trying to "ruin our industries" and breed unrest. They recall German efforts at "peaceful penetration" and ask, "Do you wish to take another dose of 'peaceful penetration' from adventurers and cranks from another foreign nation?"

A special correspondent of *The Times* (London) states that both parties in the struggle profess to be certain of victory but that neither really has any great confidence in the result. Editorially *The Times* declares that opinion