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A Strong Letter On Prohibition

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—When we are required to vote for or against a measure which will vitally affect the welfare of our country, we should carefully consider and ask ourselves: Will it affect our country for good or will our fellow-beings be benefited by it? If our answer be in the affirmative we shall abuse our rights as citizens, if we vote not for the measure.

Any one, who has the welfare of his country at heart, will immediately see that no such opportunity to do his country good was ever offered to him than will be afforded him on Nov. 4th. No argument advanced by Anti-Prohibitionists should prevent him from voting for Prohibition. No just and logical argument can be advanced.

Some of the clearest reasons to hope for the success of Prohibition is the many arguments for it, and the utter lack of logic in the very few arguments against it.

As far as we can see, the only arguments advanced by the most earnest Anti-Prohibitionists are that Prohibition is an interference with personal liberty, that taxation must necessarily increase, and that Prohibition will not serve its own purpose, viz., it will not prohibit.

Will any voter be influenced by such arguments? Do we not see the emptiness of such arguments and can we not remember the people who try to force them upon us?

We have yet to be shown however the highest form of democratic government can be administered, where an individual has full rights. Our laws are made by a majority vote and the minority must abide by these laws.

Will the people who cry out for individual liberty, protest against the punishment of a burglar who breaks into their stores and removes their goods? Would the burglar be justified in their eyes if he said that he was free to do what he pleased?

It has been shown very plainly that the use of alcoholic liquors tends to create ill-health, make unhappy homes, and reduce greatly the maximum of productive capacity. The greatest number should govern for the greatest good and remove the evil as they would remove the cause of an infectious disease.

As for the shortage in revenue, we are inclined to think it will be more than compensated by the duties derived from the money now squandered in drink, that will, if Prohibition succeeds, be spent in increasing the comfort of now unhappy and ill-kept, neglected homes. If we then will consider the money spent necessary to remedy the bad effects of alcohol in prisons, asylums and charitable purposes, how plainly

should we see the lack of thought in the argument of such biased people!

All voters should firmly resist the illogical arguments, viz., that Prohibition will not prohibit. Possibly it may be that some will find means to get their glass. These cases will be very rare, however. Probably, no evil is at once obliterated, by laws, newly enforced. Do not for a moment entertain such a ridiculous argument. The common use of liquor will be ended, and its attendant evils destroyed.

We have laws enforced against many acts, which are not consistent with the public good, but breaches of these laws do occur and go unpunished.

Do your reason and conclude that these laws should be annulled? Of course, you do not; you rather say, make them more stringent.

There is no just reason for voting against Prohibition. All arguments are for that measure.

The liquor traffic is a great evil, socially, morally, commercially. We see it as a great evil to our enslaved drinkers. We will do them a kindness if we even against their wills, remove the evil. Furthermore, it is our duty to do so. Let no argument prevent us from our duty. Let not the "personal liberty" talk of some people persuade you to their way of thinking. Liberty to them requires new definitions.

One of our great writers has said:

"The true liberty of man, consists in his finding out, or being forced to find out the right path and to walk thereon. To learn or to be taught what work he was actually able for; and then by permission, persuasion, and even Compulsion to set about doing the same. That is his true blessedness, honour, liberty and maximum of well-being; if liberty be not that, I for one have small care for liberty."

Let us not shirk our duty as citizens by upholding something that is not only a great evil to our country, but a preventive to the highest form of social life.

—PROHIBITIONIST.
Trinity Bay, Oct. 18, '15.

A Parable of Evil Spirits

In came to pass in process of time that certain men, as they went forth to their daily toil, fell among thieves who robbed them of all their living and wounded them, leaving them half dead. Moreover these thieves became so bold and so defiant that they finally organized into a most hideous band and had a king over them who invested them with power to rob men of morals and every domestic comfort.

And, being deceitful in the extreme these thieves began to gather friends and supporters from every nation until finally they had assumed an amazing control of the whole world, which when subjected to their oppression began to feel keenly the crushing weight of their tyranny; for, these marauders having gained such an alarming control, began to pillage and plunder in pestilential style until the earnings of the toilers scarcely sufficed to satisfy their rapacious lust.

Yet, had these heaven daring thieves so artfully conducted their campaign of cruelty as to quite win the respect and admiration of many of the elite and respected citizens, for while committing their depredations on the one hand, they artfully feigned to be the administrators of comfort and pleasure on the other.

But, it came to pass in further process of time that a titanic struggle arose among the nations which called into requisition all that was best in the mental, moral, and muscular sinew thereof. Then came the awakening! Kings and Courtiers were astir, Royalty and peasantry were alarmed to find that these contemptible thieves had been sapping the very life blood of the nation.

Princes and prelates, diplomats and doctors, politicians, preachers and people—all became united in one supreme effort to investigate the nefarious work of these thieves, which when exposed, filled empires and colonies with righteous indignation. For it came to pass that when these men of varied professions began to publish the abominable things perpetrated by these thieves, they were found to be guilty of treason against king and country, for, being robbers of a most pronounced type, whilst feigning to support governments, relieve taxation and increase domestic comforts, they were found to be a menace to all and guilty of the foulest crimes.

Thus it was seen that nations were robbed of revenue, commerce of its trade and the working men of their wage; and, not only so, but the searchlight of science exposed a horrible scene for lo! these Hunnish thieves were found to be robbing men of their health and their morals; yea, robbing their homes of all their virtues and joys; and begetting degeneracy and decay within the rising generation.

Whereupon the nations armed themselves and by united and concentrated effort, banished these thieves and their real king from their coasts. Even thus shall it be November 4th when King Alcohol and all his labelled and thieving band of wicked spirits shall together be placed by the sturdy manhood of Terra Nova, under the ban of Prohibition.

—R. A. H.
Catalina, Oct. 20, '15.

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