

THE NATIONAL LIBERAL ALLIANCE AND THE "LIBERTY BELL."

By Margaret H. Barnett. The National Liberal Alliance was organized in June, 1920.

Its purpose, first and foremost, is the "modification of the Volstead Act so as to permit the manufacture and sale of light wines and beer."

Sample copies of "Liberty Bell" are sometimes mailed to persons not subscribers.

One recent issue contains some violent attacks on Prohibition and prohibitionists. It also contains some dire prophecies of evil to come through prohibition.

But there are in it, also, some very interesting and illuminating statements. One of these is as follows:

"The reason we have prohibition is because the 'drys' work consistently and co-operate with each other. When the 'wets' do so, they will find success crowning their efforts."

The inference from this quotation is that the "wet" forces are scattered and disorganized, while the "dry" forces are united and organized.

There was a time within the memory of those not yet the "oldest inhabitant" when a very different state of affairs could be found in this country.

There was a time when the liquor forces were a power in politics. The election of a candidate who had their support was practically assured.

There was a time when these forces were a power in business circles. Not so long ago many persons feared to oppose them, as their business would be injured if they did so.

There was a time when it required a great amount of moral courage to attack the liquor traffic. Those who did so risked financial loss, sometimes persecution, sometimes even death.

Even the pulpit feared, sometimes, to antagonize the liquor interests. Ministers who did so, frequently had to seek new fields of labor.

There was a time, within the memory of those yet living, when there was not one prohibition State in the Union. The sale of liquor was legalized throughout the United States.

There was a time, within the memory of those who are still comparatively young, when there were but two prohibition States.

There was a time within the memory of those still younger, when National prohibition was defeated in Congress.

A radical and revolutionary change has taken place, as indicated by the quotation from "Liberty Bell."

The temperance forces and the liquor forces have changed places. The liquor forces have not been able, with all the odds in their favor, to hold the ground which they had held for two hundred years.

One Prohibition State in 1858 had become thirty-three when National Prohibition was adopted, and the Eighteenth amendment was ratified by forty-six of the forty-eight States.

In Pennsylvania, at the last gubernatorial election, the candidate of both the leading parties had declared for Prohibition enforcement. There was a "wet" third party candidate, but it is not recalled that he polled a heavy vote.

What has brought about this change? "Liberty Bell" tells us in the following paragraph taken from a recent issue:

"Liberty Bell" wishes to say just at this point that it recognizes there are good brewers and bad brewers."

"But 'Liberty Bell' has no time for the bad brewer. The head of the National Liberal Alliance would not continue to work another day for this cause if he thought the old crowd of bad brewers would benefit therefrom.

It was that bunch that brought about iniquitous conditions that culminated in Constitutional Prohibition."

"But there must be no return to the distressing conditions which prevailed under the old 'bad brewers' regime."

Remember that the above paragraphs are not from an organ of the Anti-Saloon League, or the W. C. T. U. They are from the organ of the National Liberty Alliance, an organization opposed to Prohibition.

Mark the words "iniquitous conditions" and "distressing conditions" and "bad brewers."

"Liberty Bell" is right in saying that the "iniquitous conditions" and the "distressing conditions" in the old license days made Prohibition necessary.

The paragraphs quoted from "Liberty Bell" are an unanswerable argument against the modification of the Volstead Act to permit the manufacture and sale of light wines and beer.

The liquor forces have never been conspicuous for law observance.

Where is the new order of "good brewers" which "Liberty Bell" seems to promise, to come from? Who is to keep them "good?"

Who is to prevent a return to "iniquitous conditions" and "distressing conditions," in any other way, than by strict Prohibition, strictly enforced?

Truth Will Out.

Jake was a worthless and improvident fellow. One day he said to the local grocer: "I gotta have a sack o' flour; I'm all out, an' my family is starvin'."

"All right, Jake," said the grocer. "If you need a sack of flour and have no money to buy it with, I'll give you a sack. But, see here, Jake, there's a circus coming to town in a few days and if I give you a sack of flour and you sure you won't sell it and take your family to the circus?"

"Oh, no," said Jake. "I got the circus money saved up already."

Progressive Grocer.

Violet and Her Christmas Catch

By ETHEL AUGUSTA COOK

Girl's Kindness and Understanding Appealed to Handsome Young Dick Barnes

Aunt Sophia Played Clever Part by Supplying a Dinner Party

At least that is what the mothers of unmarried maidens there told themselves and sometimes each other. But what is more, the maidens themselves thought so. And Violet Martin, who was neither the prettiest, nor the richest, nor the cleverest of the maidens, agreed with them in their estimate of the big, handsome, wealthy fellow. But it was, with her, not his riches, or his good looks, or even his great popularity that gave her this thought.

Richard was in love with Violet, too. He was quite certain of that. But he was spoiled. Anyone would be spoiled who was adored as Richard was adored.

With what gratitude Aunt Sophia's eyes beamed at that. "No, of course you couldn't get a seat there," she agreed. "And I wouldn't let you if you could, you generous young man! But I will tell you what I will do. I'll get up a little supper for you two if you'll come in after the theater, and you may bring some of your friends. That will be splendid. I'll have a merry evening, truly, getting ready for you."

And she really would. Her face told them that. For even better than gayer on Christmas night, is the opportunity to do a loving thing for someone dear to you. And Violet was dear to Aunt Sophia, and Dick soon would be!

At the theater Dick suddenly told himself, "I know what it is about Violet that makes her sweeter to my feeling than all the other girls put together! It's because she's the kindest. And perhaps she'll be kind to me and take me even if she's not so all-fired in love!"

And that is why that was the night he chose for proposing.

He did it going home from Aunt Sophia's party.

But perhaps Violet was one of the wisest after all. For Richard still thinks it was partly, at least, her kindness that made her take him!

(© 1923, Western Newspaper Union.)

Richard was amazed, and disappointed, when he had looked

across the hall at Aunt Sophia he suddenly understood. Well, Violet had always known he was the best comrade and the most understanding a girl could ever have whether he was ever to be more or not! Now he justified that faith.

"Good for you," he whispered back, and together they went over to Aunt Sophia. But Aunt Sophia would not hear of it. "No indeed. Anyway, moving pictures are hard on my eyes."

"But you know we couldn't get a seat at this last hour for the musical

show," Richard explained. "And anyway, if we did, you couldn't sit with us. We want you to sit with us!"

With what gratitude Aunt Sophia's eyes beamed at that. "No, of course you couldn't get a seat there," she agreed. "And I wouldn't let you if you could, you generous young man! But I will tell you what I will do. I'll get up a little supper for you two if you'll come in after the theater, and you may bring some of your friends. That will be splendid. I'll have a merry evening, truly, getting ready for you."

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MAH-JONGG.

Its Authentic Source.

By Joseph Park Babcock

Originator of the Game and Author of the Rules.

To Mr. Joseph Park Babcock, the American public is indebted for the thrilling game of Mah-Jongg.

In the following article he tells of its authentic source. Mr. Babcock's message follows.

During the past ten years I have spent a great part of my time traveling in the interior of China, where I was dependent almost entirely on the Chinese for my recreation.

Speaking the Chinese language, I became interested in a game played by the Chinese, with attractive tiles of bamboo and ivory, brightly decorated in the inimitable Chinese colors and typical of Chinese art. I was immensely impressed, not only by the entertainment, but by the cultural features of this game.

It seemed to me that, if properly introduced, it would appeal tremendously to Americans and Europeans.

For a number of years, I made a special study of these Chinese tile games as played in the various provinces of China. I found that it was known by a variety of names in the different provinces, and that the fundamental game was played, in almost every case, in a different way.

I sought rule books but found that the Chinese learn these games as children, and consequently, feel no need for a book of instruction or rules.

I saw that it would be necessary, therefore, for me to write rules of my own and devise my own terminology, as practically all of the terms used by the Chinese in playing had no meaning to foreigners when translated. In fact, some of the terms used were colloquial merely, and had no equivalent Chinese character in the Chinese written language. Such terms as "chow," "bamboo," "characters," "dots," "dragons," etc., now used by all players in the United States and all countries foreign to China, were given to the game by me.

In codifying my rules, therefore, I have embodied the best and most interesting features of the various Chinese tile games, as played in the many sections of China, and have developed one game which is adapted to foreign thought and usage with various sets of rules.

My first edition is fundamental, but is for beginners principally.

In my second edition I have given variations of play as well as Chinese versions for the advanced scholar. In subsequent editions I shall elaborate more on additional variations as well as examples of possibilities and chance.

My thought was to incorporate in my first edition a set of rules that one could play easily or one in which skill without limit could be employed.

One of the greatest problems I had to face in introducing the game abroad was the necessity of being able to read Chinese characters in order to understand the significance of the tiles, for people who could not read Chinese could not learn to play.

I overcame this difficulty by inventing what I call "index playing symbols." These are the English letters and numbers the corners of the tiles which appear on all sets used in the United States today.

To designate the game as I evolved it, with these English indices and with the codified and standardized Babcock rules, I applied the word "Mah-Jongg," pronounced "Mah-Zhong," trade marked in the U. S. Patent Office and applied it also to my book of rules which I had copyrighted. I then presented it to the American public as well as to foreigners in China.

This is the source of Mah-Jongg—the one authentic source.

I happened to be the first to introduce Mah-Jongg, and if I have given pleasure and a new and valuable game with many thrills and all the age-old mystery of China in it, to thousands of people—in so doing I am well rewarded for my efforts.

I make this statement at the request of my friends and readers who have asked me to give them the true story of Mah-Jongg.—Vogue.

RUNVILLE.

Pat Warner, of Fillmore, spent last Monday at the home of his aunt, Mrs. Charles Rodgers.

Mr. and Mrs. William Jodon, of Bellefonte, spent Sunday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Sallie Friel.

Mr. and Mrs. John McClincy, of Clearfield, visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Walker, on Wednesday.

Frank Bennett, Grace Kline and Marie and Esther Bennett spent Sunday afternoon at Fillmore, at the Mrs. Spicer home.

Mr. and Mrs. James McClincy and two daughters spent Sunday afternoon at Milesburg, at the home of Lewis Davidson.

Mrs. Paul Tuful, after spending two weeks with her parents in this place, departed for her home, at Milton, on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mogel and Charles Molton, of Tyrone, visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Lucas on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Poorman and son and Mrs. and Mr. George Shuey, of State College, spent Thursday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Poorman.

Walter Lucas, Mrs. E. R. Lucas, Mrs. Ira Wagner, Mrs. John Hite, and Mrs. Calvin Snowberger and two children, of Altoona, spent Thursday at the home of L. J. Heaton.

L. J. Heaton, Frank Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Poorman and Mrs. Joseph Reese attended the funeral of Mrs. William Poorman, at Milesburg, on Monday.

The next meeting of Grange will be held January 5th, 1924, and will be an all day meeting, beginning at 10 a. m. Attend the meeting and take your lunch. The officers for the ensuing year will be installed.

Shoes. Shoes.



Prices on Shoes Reduced

Two weeks ago we put on a sale of any pair of shoes in the store for \$5.85. Hundreds of our customers and the other fellow's customers have taken advantage of this sale. Why not? This is plain talk but you are a fool if you are in need of shoes and do not take advantage of Yeager's \$5.85 sale; for the reason that we are saving you from \$2 to \$3 on a pair.

