

# National Prohibitionist



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Ye Editor apologizes for getting behind in publishing the *National Prohibitionist*. He's been pre-occupied with finishing the supplement, 1972-2016, to Roger Storms' history of the Prohibition Party, *Partisan Prophets*. The manuscript has gone to the printer, and the book itself should be available this fall. Pre-prints (page proofs) are available for anyone with an urgent need.

## Alcohol + Frats = Death

Last year it was Timothy Piazza at Penn State (Beta Theta Pi). This year, it is Maxwell Gruver at Louisiana State (Phi Delta Theta). Alcohol, in the hands of young people, deprives us of our best and brightest.

The underlying causes are lack of moral instruction in the home and lack of discipline on the campus.

[Your Editor confesses to an underlying anti-"Greek" bias learned at home - He had an aunt whose house was a block from "Fraternity Row" in Iowa City (University of Iowa); she could always tell when the boys were planning a party, because the flowers disappeared from her yard (stolen, to make corsages)].

There are colleges which effectively prohibit alcohol. When a young person you know is making plans to attend college, try to steer him toward one of those.

## Frats Score Another

Polly Rogers, a 20-year old student at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte, became thoroughly intoxicated at an event sponsored by the Kappa Sigma fraternity, fell from an open window on a moving "party bus," was struck by two vehicles in adjacent traffic, and died on the spot.

The fraternity was "suspended" and after some nominal penance probably will be allowed to resume its malign activities on campus, but there can be no reprieve for Polly.

Don't let young people in your family associate with campus "greek" organizations.

## Plank from the 2000 Prohibition platform on Presidential Qualifications

"The qualifications for President stated in the Constitution have to do with age and citizenship. We call attention to the fact that of greater importance are those not so stated, referring to moral, intellectual, and spiritual endowments. The President of the United States in his daily life, his home and family relationships, and his official career is expected to typify the finest and best the country can produce. His is the leader of the nation. The moral force and power of his example are immeasurable."

The current occupant of the White House is a foul-mouthed, lying, skirt-chasing bully who is doing serious harm to America's reputation and influence and hastening the decline of American civilization and who probably was elected with help from his Russian friends. As Earl Dodge used to say, "Need another reason to vote Prohibition?"

*News Flash: The first defendant in the Penn State fraternity killing has been sentenced to house arrest - what a travesty on justice!*

### CL Gammon

I have seen a corruption of this quote several times over the last few days. It is from Thomas Paine and it was addressed to General William Howe. The correct quote is:

"To argue with a man who has renounced the use and authority of reason, and whose philosophy consists in holding humanity in contempt, is like administering medicine to the dead, or endeavoring to convert an atheist by scripture. Enjoy, sir, your insensibility of feeling and reflecting. It is the prerogative of animals. And no man will envy you these honors, in which a savage only can be your rival and a bear your master."

## (Yet Another)

### One-Sided History of Prohibition

*Prohibition: A Concise History* has just been published by the well-respected Oxford University Press. Its author is noted University of Washington history professor W. J. Rorabaugh. Prof. Rorabaugh has a firm grip on his subject, and the book is a handy reliable source of background information on the Prohibition movement. However....

This is a journalistic summary for lay audiences, not a scholarly analysis. It emphasizes poor law enforcement by the Harding and Coolidge administrations and the consequent criminal excesses in Chicago and other Northern cities; it says nothing at all about the social benefits of temperance. It dwells on the tax receipts from alcohol

sales while ignoring the community costs of alcohol consumption.

In short, buy it and trust the historical data, but keep in mind that it is one-sided and incomplete.

## Pennsylvania Supports School Programs

The Pennsylvania Prohibition Committee has granted \$5000 to the Pennsylvania Council on Alcohol Problems, to support its work is providing visiting alcohol-education teachers to schools. Pennsylvania public schools are required to include "units" of classroom instruction each year on recreational drugs. PCAP provides specialist teachers to schools at no cost.

Somewhat related to the above, the Pennsylvania Prohibition Committee has also granted \$5000 to the "American Character Builders" to help develop a new video on character education. American Character Builders is an off-shoot of the American Council on Alcohol Problems, designed to meet the "non-partisan" requirements of public schools.

This anti-alcohol video is intended to be part of a series dealing with various recreational drugs. It will be downloadable free by anyone and will include additional pdf materials. The series is directed by Dr. Joe Godfrey, a highly respected Alabama temperance worker. (Dr. Godfrey spoke at the national Prohibition convention at Cullman, Alabama in 2011.)



## The National Prohibitionist

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**From the  
Chairman's  
Corner**  
*Rick Knox*

*(The Prohibition National Committee gave Chairman Knox a grubstake of \$5000 to run in the Republican primary for Lieutenant Governor of Georgia, as a means of getting publicity for Prohibition Party issues. [There are no 3d-party primaries in Georgia.] This is Knox's report:)*

I campaigned for 7 months, put 14,500 miles on my truck, got good publicity, and made contacts with other third parties, but my health suffered.

I developed an ulcer, and at my age that is not good. My doctor told me to desist, because I was not up to 18-hour days and other stress. I live in northeast Georgia, 11 miles from the North Carolina line, and getting to most major events required hours of driving.

I never intended to let anyone down, least of all myself. I took a strong stance against drinking, especially under-age drinking. I also spoke against gambling. My campaign got the Prohibition Party the most publicity it has received in a long, long time. Was the effort worth it? You be the judge!

Going on to our own next presidential election.... The Prohibition Party lacks big bucks. It lacks organizations in most states. It needs new blood, new members. For these reasons, I want us to hold a conference call convention this coming

November, one week after the national general election. By naming our ticket this early, we will get a jump on the other third parties. I have been in politics a long time, and the two most important things in politics are time and money. We lack money, but we can sure take advantage of time.

Bill Bayes, our 2016 vice-presidential candidate, this year wants the presidential nomination of our Party. Bill would make a great candidate: he has the knowledge, dedication, and courage to take on this task. We should make sure he is our nominee and that we select a strong work-horse with the same abilities as our vice-presidential candidate.

We have ballot status in Mississippi. Jim Hedges received a decent vote in Arkansas in 2016. We need to target states where our message will be well received. The South has always been favorable to our Party.

I need your input. All of us can and should do something to keep this Party alive. By starting early, we have time to build organizations in these states. Doing so will hold down the cost of hiring contractors to help us get on the ballot. We need to start today to make our goals come true. I believe in the future!

### Supreme Court Favors Gambling

Gambling on sporting events has been given a boost by a May 14th decision by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Sports gambling is a fact of life. It is estimated that Americans spend \$150,000,000,000 each year on illegal sports wagers. Besides squandering people's money, betting on games leads to pay-offs “fixing” games in order to benefit certain bettors. For this reason, major league sports lobbied for and obtained passage of a national “Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act” in 1992.

The Court overturned the Act on the grounds that it infringed on states rights. That is all well and good, but the collateral damage from increased gambling (and “fixing”) is expected to be substantial.

Proponents of the lawsuit were motivated by love of money, not by Constitutional principles. State and local governments hope to tax legalized gambling. Television broadcasters hope for more advertising. Gambling businesses hope for

more victims.

A recent opinion survey found that two-thirds of Americans support the legalization of sports gambling.

Reformers should seek to have chapters on gambling included in school civics courses. Gambling odds could also be used as examples in mathematics textbooks.

### Bolivia Promotes Cocaine

Bolivia's parliament has passed, and its leftist president Evo Morales has signed, a bill nearly doubling the legal area of cultivation of coca leaf. Morales, before becoming president, was an official in the union of coca growers.

Unprocessed coca leaf is a mild stimulant used by many Bolivians. It is likely, though, that the increased production will be turned into refined cocaine for export.

South Africa has the world's highest rate of highway-accident deaths: 134 every year per 100,000 registered vehicles. Canada has only 10. In the United States, 31% of road deaths are alcohol-related. In Britain, only 16%. In South Africa, the proportion is 58%.

The roads are lethal partly because of the drinking culture and partly because public transportation is thin. Few of those who do get arrested for drinking and driving are convicted: Bribes are accepted to avoid arrest or to have filed charges “lost.”

Improved statistics may come about because of the ride-sharing app “Uber,” which in South Africa is cheap, convenient, and safe. People are accepting the idea of Uber for a ride home after a night of drinking instead of chancing it in their own cars.

### FASD

Dianne Berlin has available a nice flyer on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. It is suitable for use in church bulletins and as a stand-alone publicity hand-out. To obtain a copy, email: dmlberlin@aol.com.



## Reefer Madness

(The following originated with Prof. Philip Secmans at the University of Toronto.)

Colorado legalized recreational pot in 2012. In 2012, about a third of Colorado high school students were under the influence during school hours. Twenty-seven percent were regular users, compared to 19% nationally. Marijuana-related hospitalizations almost doubled from 2008 to 2013; emergency-room visits increased 57% between 2011 and 2013.

While over-all traffic fatalities in Colorado decreased 15% between 2007 and 2012, marijuana-related fatalities increased 100%.

Cannabis use in the United Kingdom increased four-fold between 1970 and 2002. It was later found that new cases of schizophrenia increased by 58%. In Zurich, Switzerland, when cannabis use by 15-16-year old boys went up three-fold between 1990 and 2002, first hospital admissions for psychosis in people aged 15 to 24 doubled.

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## Cancer Sticks

The World Bank says that, during the past 15 years, the incidence of smoking among males has declined 5% in the United States (25 down to 20), 5% in Germany (28 down to 23), 10% in Britain (30 down to 20), and 18% in Japan (52 down to 34).

Further progress in Japan depends on passage of a law against smoking in indoors (except in private residences). As usual, tobacco farmers, bars, and eateries are opposed.

Japan has the additional obstacle of a government which is simultaneously in the business of selling cigarettes. And, the Japanese treasury rakes in \$18,000,000,000 (gross) each year from tobacco taxes.

Let's don't laugh too hard. Our own American government finances anti-tobacco programs with income from tobacco taxes: The more effective it is in discouraging smoking, the less money it receives to continue working against smoking. It may find an equilibrium where declining sales of tobacco balance declining tobacco tax revenue, but it will never eliminate smoking entirely until it breaks the dependence of tobacco treatment on the maintenance of tobacco sales.

## Elderly Alcohol

The AARP Bulletin (October, 2017) reports that older Americans are drinking more – maybe. It appears that the elderly, especially those over 65, have twice as many problems holding their liquor as do average Americans.

However, the studies compared used different criteria to define “alcohol problems,” so that the comparison cannot be precise. Also, members of the “baby boomer” generation are now entering the “elderly” demographic, and boomers always have had relatively higher drinking rates.

So, the statistics cited may or may not reflect a significant change in drinking behavior. What we do, and have always known, is that alcohol abuses everyone who touches it. So long as alcohol remains a legal drug, the profits of the alcohol pushers will be guaranteed and the jobs of the alcoholism counsellors will be secure.

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College fraternities have killed 60 people with alcohol in just the past 8 years (“fraternity activities,” a euphemism for drinking).

-- Caitlin Flanagan, writing in the Nov. '17 *Atlantic*

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## Lotteries A Tax on the Poor

Poor and less-educated people spend more on state lotteries in absolute terms, and much more as a percentage of their incomes, than do better-off folks. A 1999 Duke University study found that people with annual household incomes below \$25,000 spend, on average, \$583/year on lotteries, compared to just \$289/year by those with annual incomes of more than \$100,000.

The educational divide is even more stark: People with no college degree spend about \$700, while college graduates spend \$178.

As is true of other addictions, a large majority of sales are to a small minority of users. In the case of lottery gamblers, 54% of sales are to just 5% of buyers – to the addicts, not to the alleged “recreational” users.

If the Republicans really want to cut taxes on ordinary folks, they should abolish the state lotteries.

## Facebook

Social Media Manager Andrew Oliver reports that “the Prohibition Party Facebook page has seen slow and steady growth.” It is facilitating community discussion and interaction.

## Young Prohibitionists

Manager Andrew Oliver says there is a lack of interest in our Party as a current political entity, but that there is plenty of interest in it as a historical artifact. “It seems like a grim reading of the current situation, but I am convinced that this is something we can work with.”

The editor has been receiving half-a-dozen requests for information each week, via the Party website. Some of these are not serious, even goofy, but many appear sincere. They are forwarded to the Secretary for reply.

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## Coast Guard Hurting

The Coast Guard is part of America's front line against smugglers of drugs and people. It needs more ships and faster pursuit boats in order to do its job, but president Trump wants to reduce its budget.

Increased vigilance at the border with Mexico has pushed smuggling traffic offshore, but the CG cannot intercept many of the shipments it hears about, for lack of ships and planes.

In 2016, the CG intercepted 450,000 pounds of cocaine, more than all of the on-land seizures combined. It also captured 7000 people intending to become illegal immigrants. The smugglers' vessels usually are sunk.

Coast Guard personnel and equipment are now being taken from their customary assignments and detailed to patrol the waters around Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida. The CG receives no additional funding to support this work: It has to reduce other operations in order to provide security for Trump's vacations.

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**Sitting in a church** doesn't make you a Christian, any more than standing in a garage makes you a car. The car has a purpose to fulfill. So does your life. Put your faith in action!





## Prohibition Park

One of the grander prohibition-related real-estate ventures was "Prohibition Park" in Richmond County (Staten Island), New York. The National Prohibition Camp-ground Association was organized in December of 1887 by William Boole, Boole's wife Ella, Isaac Funk, and several other temperance grandees of the day. No ordinary camp-meeting ground, the project eventually included 1600 small building lots, a hotel, and a large auditorium (pictured).

Isaac Funk's nephew, Charles, published a long reminiscence of the Park, later called "Westerleigh," in the July-September, 1952 issue of *The Staten Island Historian*, from which this note is largely condensed.

Staten Island at that time was mostly farmland. It was accessible only by ferry from the other four boroughs which now make up New York City. The Park was soon laid out with streets named for notable temperance leaders and blessed with (then revolutionary) electric lighting. There was a hotel with some 60 rooms; one summer being managed by "Wheaties" magnate John Kellogg – who imposed vegetarianism upon the hotel dining room and thereby drove away much of its clientele.

The auditorium burned in 1904, taking with it all early records of the Association. Many of the professionals and businessmen who first came to live on Staten Island became discouraged by the difficulty of commuting to the city, especially in winter, and left. Other Park residents became delinquent in paying their taxes and fees, and the Park was liquidated around 1915.

The street names, though, remain un-

changed. If you happen to be in the area, read the street signs and see how many of the names you can recognize.

## Utah falls to 0.05%

The State of Utah has reduced the legal blood-alcohol limit for driving to five hundredths of one percent. The Utah legislature and Utah Governor Herbert did so earlier this year in order to increase the safety of the motoring public, despite predictably fierce opposition from tourism and restaurant businesses.

All states had reduced their tolerance from 0.10% to 0.08 by 2004. Utah is the first state to reduce its BAC tolerance below 0.08%.

Eight hundredths was still higher than the allowed concentration in most countries. Generally speaking, Muslim countries have zero tolerance, as do Russia and the (former) Soviet Union countries; most western European countries allow 0.05%.

Guidance from the (American) National Highway Transportation Safety Administration recommends a BAC limit of 0.05%. The NHTSA says: "The scientific evidence shows that impairment begins with the first drink, and any alcohol consumption associated with driving reduces safety."

An excellent summary article, with references, written by Michigan temperance leader Vernon K. Smith, is available in the current issue of *MICAP RECAP*. To obtain a copy, write: Michigan Council on Alcohol Problems, POB 10212, Lansing, Michigan 48901.



## Editor's Musings

## Passports for Sale

Over the past 30 years or so, a little-noticed business has sprung up selling "citizenship" in foreign countries to wealthy people. Most of the action occurs in tiny, island nations, whose motives are fund-raising, but many wealthy nations also sell citizenship.

America's EB-5 legal residency/passport costs a million dollars, which is comparatively cheap (Great Britain charges ten million). Unlike conventional citizenship, which requires several years of study and actual residency, rich businessmen and others can pay their money and get their papers (via a broker) in only a few months without ever setting foot in the United States. President Trump's family has used the EB-5 benefit to persuade foreigners to invest in their American businesses.

The benefit of cash citizenship is that, with an American passport, people who travel a lot can avoid having to get visas in order to enter many "visa-free" countries.

Traditional citizenship requires birth in the country: It's part of your birthright. Becoming a naturalized citizen requires, in addition to living here, spending several years learning the language and absorbing the culture: You have to become "Americanized."

Passports for cash cheapens the value of being an American and makes citizenship just another commodity for sale to the highest bidder – the practice is insulting to ordinary Americans.

## Nunavut Booze

The predominantly indigenous Inuit (Esquimo) territory of Nunavut in far-north Canada has a crime rate four times the national average and a suicide rate ten times the national average. Many of the residents blame drinking, which became a problem only after the nomadic natives were forced into permanent settlements and made to adopt European ways. It has been reported that 95% of police calls are alcohol-related.