



Mother Jones

Mary Harris Jones, affectionately known as “Mother” Jones, was an Irish-American labor agitator who, 100 years ago, was one of the best known women in America. Her battle cry was “Pray for the dead, and fight like hell for the living.” She is re-incarnated today in the form of a hard-hitting magazine of investigative journalism, *Mother Jones*.

Several months ago, *Mother Jones* levelled her guns at the alcohol traffic in a long report on the connection between drinking and breast cancer. The author, Stephanie Mencimer, tells us nothing we haven't already been preaching, but she emphasizes basic facts we ought to remember:

“The research linking alcohol to breast cancer is deadly solid.” Alcohol, no matter in what form it may be consumed, is carcinogenic. “More than 100 studies over several decades have re-affirmed the link with consistent results. The National Cancer Institute says alcohol raises breast cancer risk even at low levels.” A daily habit increases the probability by 7% for each daily drink. Abstinent women have 25% less breast cancer than do drinking women.

The reason, basically, is that our bodies metabolize ethyl alcohol into acetaldehyde, which is carcinogenic. As acetaldehyde is transported by the bloodstream into all parts of our bodies, it causes cancers to develop in all parts of our bodies. Alcohol also causes the body to produce more estrogen, which causes faster cell-division in the breasts, which increases the likelihood of cancerous mutations.

As research about the alcohol connection became well-known, in the latter part of the 20th century, the booze industry responded by creating a public image of alcohol, especially wine, as part of a healthy lifestyle. This was done largely by citing flawed research – “abstainers” included

reformed alcoholics whose bodies already had been damaged by alcohol, as well as never-drinkers, so that light drinkers appeared to be healthier than the ersatz “abstainers.”

Unbiased studies do not support the idea that moderate drinking has health benefits. Even if it did, say public health experts, side-effects such as addiction, fetal damage, and spouse abuse would not warrant advice that current abstainers should begin drinking. “From a public health standpoint, using alcohol for heart disease is utterly wrong. It goes against everything medical people do.”

Post-Prohibition alcohol use peaked about 1975, on per-capita basis. Since then, beer use has declined slightly, wine use has remained level, and distilled-spirits use has declined sharply but then recovered somewhat. Industry has responded by doubling its spending on lobbying. While many other countries have increased alcohol taxes during this time, the United States has decreased its tax take by as much as 80% (varies locally). This trend has been continued by the Trump administration.

“... the U.S. Surgeon General, the federal Community Preventive Health Task Force, and the World Health Organization ...” have called for measures to reduce alcohol consumption which are the same as those which have produced a sharp reduction in tobacco use: “high excise taxes, limits on the number of outlets ..., stricter enforce-

ment ..., and caps on the number of days and hours when alcohol can be sold.” But as the science against alcohol has become even stronger, organizations which used to be major players in the fight have laid down their arms – the American Medical Association gave up in 2005, the Center for Science in the Public Interest declared defeat in 2009, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has turned tail. “It is astounding,” says Richard Yoast, the former director of the AMA’s programs, “that one of the leading causes of premature death and illness is ignored by almost every foundation that works in the health area.”

And the citizen lobbying groups focused on alcohol continue to waste away as Americans become more and more self-centered and self-indulgent.

Motivating the Troops

Prohibition presidential candidate Gene Amondson in 2004 finished third in four Louisiana parishes, out-polling all other minor-party candidates.

In 1964, Prohibition presidential candidate Harold Munn won more votes than did all other minor-party candidates combined in most Kansas and Indiana counties.

Yer Editor has been doing a slow burn ever since he watched Trump's thugs gas those two pastors and commandeer their church building to use as a backdrop for a political speech. Trump's Republicans are the antithesis of everything the Prohibition Party stands for. Drain the swamp! Don't vote for any Republicans this fall, not a one!

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From the Chairman's Corner

Phil Collins

Prohibition National Committee Statement on the George Floyd Protests

On May 25th, George Floyd was killed by members of the Minneapolis police department, in a clear act of excessive force that was both witnessed by multiple people and was captured in multiple video recordings. One officer has been charged with 2nd degree murder and manslaughter, and three other officers have been charged with aiding and abetting. Over the past weeks, our nation has seen continuing widespread protests over his death.

Most of those who have protested have done so peacefully and in accordance with their first amendment rights. People have expressed their discontent over the death of Mr. Floyd and their desire to ensure that justice be done.

There have been some who have misused this situation to loot, burn buildings, and commit acts of violence. There are some political extremists who have sought to hijack the situation to advance their own agendas. Those people should be rightfully criticized and held accountable for their actions. At the same time, we must not allow them to distract from the many peaceful protesters and from the

main issues at hand.

There are those who have expressed concerns about the state of law enforcement in our country: who have expressed concerns about whether enough is done to ensure that members of law enforcement who misuse their power are held to account, about whether various police departments are taking sufficient action to ensure the protection of lives and equal treatment under the law. Such concerns should be treated seriously. Such issues should be given a thorough factual analysis to understand present conditions throughout our country and to look at how to improve things.

The purpose and ideals of law enforcement are to enforce our laws, to advance justice, and to protect the lives and well-being of the public. There are many regular and decent people in law enforcement, who work to uphold the law and protect their communities, and should be commended for doing so. Though there are some police officers who have engaged in misconduct, and they ought to be held accountable for their actions. There are times where the practices of law enforcement have not been best suited for its tasks. In such cases, it is important to look towards making positive reforms so that police are better able to serve their proper functions of protecting the public and ensuring equal justice under the law.



Parker's Palisade

Some two years ago, Billy Joe says, the mayor of Canton, Georgia suddenly emailed me and warned me about an effort by the city council to establish an “entertainment area” where liquor could be freely sold and where people could carry open containers on the street. It was a surprise! I had been emailing the mayor and city council almost daily for years, to little avail.

Back then, the mayor opposed this effort, but it passed, anyway. It was hard for me to believe that a Cherokee County politician would oppose liquor and do his duty to defend each life in the city.

The policy came up for review last year, and there was a tied vote by the council. The mayor cast his tie-breaking vote – to prevent renewal. I don't know if my emails swayed the mayor to oppose liquor, but I'd like to think they did.

Archives

“ProQuest,” the contemporary re-incarnation of University Microfilms, is digitizing an assortment of Prohibition Party manuscript documents in Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan. The material was provided to Bentley by Earl Dodge as a loan, not as an outright gift, although there would be no point in our ever reclaiming it.

The Editor went there once, years ago, and reviewed items related to the Sarah Ulmer estate – Miss Ulmer's money was used to buy the office condo in Denver; Dodge later on sold the condo and frittered away her money in an investment scheme. This scandal is not included in *A Faithful Remnant* but is detailed in my website biography of Dodge.

AIP Ballot

The California American Independent Party has ignored several requests for information on who it will choose as its 2020 presidential candidate. Our own Phil Collins won their primary, but that does not guarantee him a place on the AIP ballot.

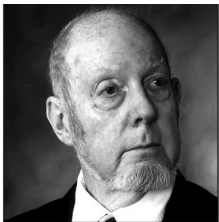
Healthy Fatties We Are

A recent sociological investigation, summarized in *Progress Magazine*, found that religious people, on average, are healthier than non-religious people. They tend to have healthier lifestyles – they're much less likely to smoke, drink, use other recreational drugs, or to be sexually promiscuous.

However, obesity is much more common among the religious. The likely reason is that religious people use food as a “social lubricant.” Food for them is a sensual pleasure. It's often said that, if your favorite food is mac-n-cheese, you know you're a Methodist. “Meet, eat, and retreat!” Eating is part of the routine at all religious assemblies.

There is a correlation between states with the highest proportions of church members and states with the highest proportions of obese citizens. Mississippi and Michigan are near the top on both charts.

Among the less religious, alcohol often is substituted for food as the social lubricant. And while alcohol contains many “empty calories,” and “beer belly” is a derogatory expression, the use of alcohol tends to suppress food consumption.



Editor's Musings

Practical Solutions

Ten years ago, the IOGT-US published a list of policy goals, practical measures which the temperance lobby could advocate as means of lessening the burden of alcohol on society. It's time to evaluate what's been done and to refine our attack. What success have we had?

Objective #1 – Replace the expression “alcohol and drugs” with the more emphatic “alcohol and other drugs.” **Result:** *No change – the booze industry and the mental health industry both oppose the new terminology.*

#2 – Move regulation of alcoholic beverages from the Treasury Department (BATE) to the Food and Drug Administration. **Result:** *No change – law makers still focus on the income side of the equation instead of on the expenditure side.*

#3 – Require all alcoholic drinks containers to carry lists of ingredients and FDA-compliant labels of nutritional values. **Result:** *Partial success – led mostly by groups interested in nutrition and in healthy diets.*

#4 – Place health warnings, analogous to those on tobacco containers, on alcoholic beverage containers. **Result:** *None – The booze industry, together with the restaurant, hospitality, and entertainment industries, opposes this because it threatens their profits.*

#5 – Make the alcohol industry spell out exactly what it means by “Responsible Drinking.” **Result:** *Platitudes and Dissembling.*

#6 – Get the BAC for drunk driving lowered to 0.05 in all states. **Result:** *No luck at all.*

#7 – Obtain harsher punishments for drunk drivers who kill other people. **Result:** *No noticeable improvement.*

#8 – Ban alcohol sponsorships for and alcohol advertising at athletic and other events in which a majority of participants are under age 21. **Result:** *Watch a college ball game on TV....*

#9 – Work harder at alcohol education. **Result:** *There seems to have been a slight decrease in drug use/drinking by minors.*

#10 – Encourage zero-tolerance of alcohol use by colleges, college towns, and parents. **Result:** *Problem getting worse instead of better.*

Apr-May-Jun 2020

It's up to us to do this, folks. The mental health establishment isn't going to help us, because doing so would threaten their business model. We have to do it, us folks who believe in stopping the leak instead of mopping the floor. And it's not the kind of problem which can be solved and made to go away: It requires collecting data, educating, legislating and enforcing in each new generation of vulnerable young people.

A Soapy Sermon

by *Progress Magazine*

Duz you Dreft with Tide? Vel, now is the time to Cheer up. If you want real Joy, the Trend is to Breeze to church on Sunday. Too many people Woodbury their heads in a pillow or work to make their cars Sparkle, forgetting that the Lord's Day is made for Lestoil. When the Lord is put first, a Dove will never need to be sent SOS. Maybe we ought to Dial you on Sunday morning to remind you of the Ivory palaces yonder. Worship can be your Lifebuoy, so Wisk yourself out of bed next Sunday morning, dress up Spic and Span, and Dash like a Comet to Sunday school and church. After you sing Praise to God and hear His word, you'll feel like Mr. Clean all week long.

ACAAP to Meet In Alabama

The American Council on Addiction and Alcohol Problems (formerly the Anti-Saloon League) expects to hold its 2020 Annual Meeting in or near Birmingham, Alabama, in September. A two-day program is planned.

The Alabama Council on Alcohol Problems is making the arrangements. For details, email Cheryl Corley, Administrative Assistant at ccorley@alcap.com.

This Applies to Us, also

The Republican “Autopsy Report” following the 2012 election included this bit of advice in regard to young voters:

The Party does not have to share their views “on every issue, but we do need to make sure young people do not see the Party as totally intolerant of alternative points of view.... If our Party is not welcoming and inclusive, young people and increasingly other voters will continue to tune us out.”

R.T. Cooper Publishes

Rev. Todd Cooper, a New York member, has published several on-line books of commentary on the prophets Hosea, Obadiah, Malachi, Zephaniah, Leviticus, and Haggai. These are print-on-demand books and are not available in libraries. Order from “The Book Patch” using the keywords: Dr. Todd Cooper.

Election News

The Collins/Parker ticket is on the ballot in two states: Arkansas and Mississippi; Colorado is nearly done. Vermont is in progress, and we will begin work in Tennessee as soon as the filing window opens.

The last time we were on the ballot in as many as 5 states was 1984.

However, this is going to be a difficult election for minor parties, because the electorate is strongly polarized: Everyone already has decided either to vote for Biden because they despise Trump or to vote for Trump because they distrust Biden.

Quilt for Sale

This quilt was made in the Indianapolis area well over 100 years ago. It is nicely sewn and in good condition. Exhaustive research has failed to identify the women's names embroidered on it, but they are assumed to be those of local WCTU members or Prohibition Party members.

The current owner is “downsizing” his household and would like to find the quilt a new home. The buy-it-now price is \$750, but lower offers would be considered. Contact: Bill Stackhouse at stackhouse@live.com



George and Anna Woodbey Social Reformers



George Washington Woodbey was born into slavery in Johnson County Tennessee, on 5 October 1854. There is little record of his early years.

After the Civil War, he emigrated to Emporia, Kansas and then to Omaha, Nebraska, where he was ordained a Baptist minister in 1874. Initially a Republican, he became interested social reform and joined the Prohibition Party. He was active there only for a few years before trying the Democrat Party, then moving to the Socialist Party. It was as a Socialist that he exerted the most influence.

Woodbey was the Prohibition candidate for Nebraska Lt. Governor in 1890 and for Congress in 1894.

His first wife, Anna, was also a Prohibitionist. When she ran for Nebraska State University Regent in 1895, she was the first Negro woman nominated for state-level office by any party.

G.W. Woodbey was recognized as one of the great socialist orators of the time. In 1902, he moved to San Diego, where he was pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. He believed that the socialist message of helping the poor was consistent with his Christian beliefs.

He died in San Diego on 27 August 1937.



Anna Woodbey was born in February, 1855, in Pennsylvania. Her family moved from there to Ontario, then to Michigan, and finally to Kansas. The couple met and married, in 1873, in Emporia, Kansas.

Anna became a well-known public speaker on woman suffrage and prohibition while young. She travelled widely in Nebraska, lecturing, and by newspapers



This is Rev. Anna R. Woodbey (1855-1901) of Ebenezer Baptist Church in North Omaha.

was awarded the sobriquet “distinguished lady orator of Omaha.” She joined the Omaha WCTU in 1885 and by the 1890s was its president.

When Mrs. Woodbey ran for Nebraska State University Regent in 1895, she was the first Negro woman nominated for state-level office by any party. Her number of votes received was comparable to the votes received by white males at the same election.

Anna Woodbey died in Omaha, in 1901.

Sioux Saved from Beer

The Sioux Indian reservation in South Dakota, Pine Ridge, has long been ravaged by alcohol pushers in adjacent Whiteclay, Nebraska. The county in which the reservation is located is the most impoverished of all 3143 counties in the United States. Its residents also have the shortest life-expectancy. Children (and adults) with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome were commonplace.

Three years ago, reformers managed to persuade the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission to revoke the licenses of all four beer distributors in Whiteclay. Alcohol is still sold not far away, and there is still some leakage onto the reservation, but no law can be enforced 100%. The results of making alcohol harder to obtain are dramatic: With drunks and vagrants no longer littering the streets, business activity (sales tax collections) have increased. Auto accidents and fights are less common. Courts deal with fewer felonies.

Decades of counselling and rehabilitation efforts by “establishment” alcoholism interventionists failed miserably to improve conditions on Pine Ridge. A brief

experiment with legalizing alcohol on the otherwise dry reservation did not help, either. Prohibition of alcohol was effective virtually overnight.

Prohibition Platform incorporates a Consistent Life Ethic

“Pro-Life” as a political viewpoint has been very narrowly defined as opposition to abortion. Many anti-abortion activists advocate policies in other areas which actually degrade and shorten human lives, making a cruel joke of their self-awarded “pro-life” credentials.

The Prohibition Party platform embodies a holistic approach to the sanctity of human life. In addition to opposing abortion,

We oppose capital punishment, because it precludes the possibility of repentance and reform, concepts which are basic to our religious inheritance.

We advocate greater emphasis on treating depression and other mental-health disabilities, because of the associated risk of suicide. We support hospice care instead of euthanasia for the terminally ill as a way of relieving the stress of approaching death.

We insist on the humane treatment of immigrants. Too many times, illegal immigrants and their children have been subjected to life-threatening abuse.

We condemn police brutality and the unequal treatment of non-white/non-wealthy population groups. This produces unequal life expectancies depending on social and financial status.

We work to reduce tobacco use, including “second-hand exposure.” Smoking is the leading cause of preventable deaths in our country, causing one in every five deaths.

We encourage the states to provide better health care to rural and to low-income communities, so that these citizens can be as healthy and long-lived as are highly-paid urban residents.

Of course, we oppose the traffic in beverage alcohol. Alcohol in many ways causes “premature deaths,” and it degrades the quality of life before death. The Prohibition Party is America’s oldest surviving temperance movement organization, having provided publicity and leadership for over 150 years.