



John Brown Hammond

John Brown Hammond was born on 27 August 1855, the child of Jacob and Belle Brown Hammond. He was a second cousin to the John Brown who raided the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

He married Ida Florence Young (1854-1932) on 25 July 1879, in Delaware County, Ohio. They had 9 sons and a daughter.

Hammond was a coal miner for many years, though in his later life he became well known as a social reformer and Prohibitionist. He was Chief of Police in Des Moines, Iowa from 1922 to 1924.

He died on 20 July 1940, in Des Moines, at Iowa Lutheran Hospital.

Hammond was known as an uncompromising foe of liquor. He came to public attention around 1900, after taking a chair and wrecking a “blind tiger” at Bunker Hill, Iowa. Four months before his death, he was still on the front line of Dry forces, organizing an “Eighteenth Amendment Rescue Association” from his bed in a nursing home.

He worked 30 years on a manuscript *The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*, finally having to abandon the project due to failing eyesight. Always he kept busy corresponding with companion fighters against “Demon Rum.”

Mr. Hammond was a coal miner at Centerville, Iowa when he walked into the lobby of the town’s newest hotel to confront brewing industry representatives who had come to circulate petitions asking that the saloons there be re-opened, shortly after the turn of the century.

The brewery agents didn’t pay much attention to the dust-blackened man with his miner’s lamp still in place on his cap, but Hammond organized the churches of the town to oppose the petitions, and the saloons stayed out.

Hammond moved to Des Moines in 1908 and became associated with many temperance groups there, among them the WCTU, the World’s Purity Federation, and the Bone-Dry League. During his tempestuous career as a social reformer, he campaigned against prize fighting, marathon dancing, and apartment housing, as well as against alcoholic beverages.

Hammond did not like the trend away from home ownership which apartment houses symbolized for him. During an unsuccessful campaign for election to the state legislature, he advocated some sort of tax exemption for homeowners. He thought that young couple should be encouraged and aided to own their own homes.

Mr. Hammond was credited with drafting 95% of the Iowa statutes applying to liquor and to moral behavior. He was author of the “Red Light Injunction and Abatement Law,” and he toured the country during 1913-1915, closing houses of prostitution.

Head of state liquor law enforcement in Iowa during the Great War, he reduced the number of Des Moines druggists holding liquor permit from 410 to 12. His campaigns included every domain where liquor might be found. As a deputy sheriff in 1922, he seized half a million dollars-worth of liquor at a wholesale drug firm. He raided railroad jungles, upsetting hobo parties where canned heat was being strained through handkerchiefs.

As Chief of Police in 1923, Hammond ordered his men to close near-beer temp bars” with sledge hammers. When rumours circulated that members of his liquor squad were selling liquor from the steps of the police station, he fired the entire squad.

Hammond ran for Governor of Iowa in 1932, on the Prohibition ticket. He obtained only 1415 votes. Even to the last, though, he did not despair that alcoholic beverages would one day be banned again.

Data from the website “Find-a-Grave,” including a lengthy obituary in an unnamed Des Moines newspaper.

www.prohibitionists.org

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Colorado teens is 50% above the national average.

While the total number of car crashes in Colorado declined from 2007 to 2011, the number of fatal car crashes with drivers testing positive for marijuana rose sharply.

◆ The foreign experience is not promising. Offenses related to drug use continue to comprise the majority of drug-law offenses in Europe. Between 2005 and 2010, there was an estimated 19% increase in these in Europe. In the Netherlands, where marijuana was commercialized and sold openly in “coffee shops, marijuana use among young adults increased almost 300%.

Subsequently, the Dutch retreated from their permissive approach, and 70% of towns in Holland now have a zero-tolerance policy toward cannabis cafés.

◆ Marijuana is believed by some to have medicinal properties, but we shouldn’t smoke the plant in order to derive those benefits, just as we do not smoke opium poppies in order to obtain the benefits of morphine.

More-widespread smoking of cannabis would increase the dangers of second-hand smoke to non-smokers and to smokers’ children in the home.

Residents of states with medical marijuana laws generally have abuse and dependence rates almost twice as high as do states with no such laws.

◆ Marijuana often becomes a stepping-stone drug, leading to the use of heroin, cocaine, or other, harder, drugs.

The Journal of the American Medical Association reported that, based on a study of 300 sets of twins, “...marijuana-using twins were 4 times more likely than their siblings to use cocaine and crack cocaine, and 5 times more likely to use hallucinogens such as LSD.”

Sixty-eight percent of first-time drug users report that marijuana was the first drug (other than alcohol) which they tried.

Teen-aged heavy marijuana users are much more likely than non-user teens to use cocaine or crack (30 times more likely), Ecstasy (20 times), prescription pain-killers (15 times), and over-the-counter medications (14 times). This clearly shows that teens who use marijuana regularly are using other illicit drugs at much higher rates that are teens who smoke marijuana little or not at all.

The full article can be found at www.aacop.org/psge-1860812. End notes included with the full article reference sources for the statistics and other supporting information.

National Prohibitionist



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Dodge’s Ghost Vanquished

The late Earl Dodge’s parting gift to the Prohibition National Committee was a court order awarding half of the Pennock Trust income to himself, leaving only half for the continued support of the National Committee. This obstacle has finally been overcome, with the National Committee now receiving all of the income plus an escrowed amount since the time of Dodge’s death.

Earl Dodge was Chairman of the Prohibition National Committee from 1979. He was promoted to Chairman Emeritus in 2003, but he never accepted that

he had been removed from office. He ignored the actions of the 2003 Convention and continued to represent himself as Chairman. In 2005, he went to court to regain control of the income from the (1939) George L. Pennock Trust, amounting to around \$8000/year and which pays the basic operating costs of the National Committee.

The lawsuit came to trial in 2007. When all were present, the judge refused to try the case, saying that if the two parties did not then and there come to an agreement, he would award all of the Pennock income to some other organization. In the ensuing panic, Dodge agreed to split the income half-and-half with the National Committee. The resulting court order specified that when either side failed to hold a national nominating convention, the surviving side would become the recipient of all of the income.

Dodge died later in 2007. His second in command died shortly thereafter. His third in command refused to continue the work and instructed that the National Committee be given all of Dodge’s materials, which was done. The “Dodge Group” never held a convention before the 2008 election.

The National Committee sent copious documentation to the trustee bank, showing that it did hold a national nominating convention. We should have begun receiving all of the Pennock income in 2009. However, the trustee bank, PNC Bank of Pittsburgh, ignored our evidence and the court order and continued sending the National Committee only half of the income. We learned, just this month, that after Dodge died, checks sent to him had been returned

by the Post Office – PNC Bank knew, therefore, that the “Dodge Group” was defunct, but it took no action. The Bank has assigned management of the Pennock Trust to a different employee every couple of years, and their failure to deal with the issue sooner may have been because no one there held the job long enough to become familiar with it. Whatever...

PNC Bank has now notified the National Committee that it will henceforth be receiving all of the Pennock income, and it has paid to us all of the escrowed money included in the “undeliverable” Dodge Group checks.

A large debt of gratitude is owed to former Chairman Don Webb, who meticulously guided the 2003 Convention proceedings to meet all formal requirements in regard to ousting Earl Dodge from the chairmanship, and to Leroy Pletten, who compiled the legal documents needed to respond to Dodge’s 2005 lawsuit and who spoke on our behalf in court.

n.b. The Prohibition National Committee actually receives only half of the total Pennock Trust income. The other half goes to the Pennsylvania Prohibition Committee. The Pennsylvania committee has done little in recent years other than to distribute literature, because of the disabilities and deaths of its leaders.

There has now been a formal transfer of responsibility to younger members. The Committee is re-organizing itself with a new membership and new officers. A report on the new Committee and its plans will appear in the September Prohibitionist.

Rare Items Donated

Bentley Historical Library of the University of Michigan, which holds many Prohibition Party records in safe-keeping, recently forwarded to the Editor several donated items which they considered to be outside their realm of interest: There was a battered book of photographs and biographies of 19th Century Prohibition figures. There were five national convention badges from our 1912 meeting in Pittsburgh. There was a nicely-turned souvenir gavel.

The book, of which they already had a better copy, will provide many history columns for The Prohibitionist.

The badges were a complete set of four ribbons with metal ornaments, one each for “delegate,” “alternate,” “guest,” and “press;” three were still mounted on the manufacturer’s display cards. And there was one duplicate. And, there was one duplicate. Because the Dodge relatives had given our collection of campaign ephemera to the Smithsonian Institution, after Earl Dodge’s death, I checked with the political curator, Dr. Larry Bird, to see if he had examples of these. He replied that he did not, so I sent the set of four badges to him to add to the Smithsonian’s collection. The duplicate I put in a case of miscellaneous Prohibition Party souvenirs which I display at meetings.

The gavel would make a nice ceremonial piece for future Chairman to use at conventions. The head is stamped “Prohibition on to Victory Valley Forge.” Handinked in block letters at various locations are “Vote as You Pray,” “Never Surrender,” “For the Home,” “Against the Saloon,” “The Saloon Must Go,” and “City Executive Committee.”

There has never been a national Prohibition Party meeting in Valley Forge. The municipality of Valley Forge is a small town (pop. 1500) west of Philadelphia. Does any reader know the background of this artefact?

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Have You Found Jesus?

A man is stumbling through the woods, totally wasted, when he comes upon a preacher baptizing people in a river. The drunk staggers into the water and lurches into the preacher.

The preacher turns around and is almost overcome by the smell of booze. Recovering his composure, the preacher asks the drunk, “Are you ready to find Jesus?”

“Yes, I am,” replies the drunk, so the preacher grabs him and dunks him into the river. Pulling him back out, the preacher asks the drunk, “Brother, have you found Jesus?”

The drunk replies, “No, I haven’t.”

Shocked at this answer, the preacher shoves the drunk down again, holding him under water for bit longer than the first time. Pulling him out of the water again, the preacher asks, “Have you found Jesus, my brother?”

The drunk again replies, “No, I have not found Jesus.”

Now at his wits end, the preacher takes both hands and holds the drunk under water for 30 seconds. When the drunk begins kicking and flailing, the preacher raises him up a third time and demands, “For the love of God brother, have you now found Jesus?”

The drunk, catching his breath and wiping his eyes, says to the preacher, “Are you sure this is where He fell in?”

“Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run by smart people who are putting us on or by imbeciles who really mean it.”

-- Mark Twain

Drinking: An American “Right?”

Clint Foland

“Prohibition infringes upon my rights.” That’s one of most common pro-alcohol arguments we hear. Well, let’s talk about “infringing rights” for a few minutes.

America’s Declaration of Independence specifies the following rights:

◆ The Right to Life

Over 10,000 innocent, sober people die in car wrecks each year, wrecks caused by other people who drink and drive. We think their right to life was infringed upon.

Ten percent of the working-age Americans who died last year died from alcohol-related causes. We think their right to life was infringed upon.

◆ The Right to Liberty

Forty percent of all violent crimes (over 3 million) last year were committed by people under the influence of alcohol. We think the victims’ right to liberty was infringed upon.

Seventy percent of violent crimes occurring within the home are due to alcohol. Don’t you agree that the rights of the spouses and children were infringed upon?

◆ The Right to Pursuit of Happiness

Families that include an alcoholic spouse have a 4-times greater risk of divorce. Now, isn’t that an infringement upon the happiness of the families involved?

Alcohol-related health problems account for over 40% of health care costs. When you take money from sober, hard-working people to repair the consequences of your own self-indulgence, does not that infringe upon their ability to enjoy their own life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness?

Are you sure you want to talk about “rights” in regard to using alcohol? It seems to us that you are confusing rights with selfishness, with a license to infringe upon others’ pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness.

Defend the rights of victims! Join the Prohibition Party!



**Gambling Destroys...
Lives
Families
Communities**

www.prohibitionparty.org

Marijuana Legalization

Based on a statement published by the
Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police.*

◆ Legalization would place a significant financial burden on local law enforcement agencies, due to the need for special training necessary to identify marijuana users who drive while impaired and to create/enhance youth education programs about stoned driving. Less than 6% of AACOP survey respondents felt that their local taxpayers would support a large enough increase in their police budget to meet the anticipated financial implications of marijuana legalization. Unlike alcohol, for which impairment can be reasonably measured using a breathalyzer (and later confirmed by measuring blood alcohol content), valid detection of cannabis is time-consuming, and blood tests cannot definitively determine an approximate degree of impairment. The lack of suitable road-side tests and agreed-upon intoxication levels would make enforcement of stoned driving difficult.

After medical marijuana became easy to get in Colorado, seizures of smuggled marijuana quadrupled within 4 years, as “legal” marijuana was diverted to other markets.

◆ Stoned driving and other dangers would be increased, The difficulty of proving impairment from marijuana might impact prosecutions and could make civil settlements more difficult, in the event of personal injury lawsuits.

Drugged driving impairs motor skills, reaction times, and judgment. It is a public health concern, because it puts not only the driver at risk but, also, passengers and other who share the road.

In other states where there has been an enormous increase in “medical” marijuana card holders, DUI arrests involving marijuana have skyrocketed, as have traffic fatalities where marijuana was found in the system of one of the drivers.

Drugs that may affect driving were detected in one of every seven weekend nighttime drivers in California during the summer of 2012. Fourteen percent of drivers tested positive for drugs; of these, 7.4% tested positive for alcohol – just as many tested positive for marijuana as teste positive for alcohol. In a Maryland study of seriously injured drivers admitted to hospital, 26.9% tested positive for marijuana.

Even NORML, the National Association for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, recommends against driving after smoking pot and

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From the Chairman’s Corner

Greg Seltzer

Dear friends, gentlemen & gentle ladies of the Prohibition Party, it is not too early to begin thinking about the location of our 38th Quadrennial Convention next year. My hope is to have it in either May or June of 2015. This will give us an 18 month head start on the November 8, 2016 election. Why? Well, a number of reasons. Among them are ballots access deadlines, filing fees, signature petition gathering (Rick Knox will need all the time he can get), Federal Election Commission reporting deadlines, budget for travel, literature, buttons, posters, bumper stickers, speaking engagements, publicity, news media, i.e. TV, cable, print, radio, internet, Twitter, Myspace, YouTube, etc. Whew! The list is endless if, we are to mount a serious national campaign. You National Committee is looking for suggestions for the convention location. However, there are a few guidelines for selecting a site. Look for a small town. We usually get extensive coverage in them. The big cities brush us off. See if they have a weekly newspaper in the small town. Must have a reasonably priced hotel chain with a good room rate and a meeting room, business center with computer, copier, fax capabilities and other amenities such as a group discount. Preferably, served by a major city airport for travel by all of our delegates. Now, as to my preference...a small town in Louisiana. Perhaps we could get an endorsement from the Duck Dynasty folks. In the 2012 election, we were on the ballot in one state, Louisiana. We did radio advertising on WTWZ (AM1120) which covers the entire State. Now I believe there was an old song by Stephen Collins Foster (1826-1864) called, “Oh! Susanna” that I would like to revise. It goes something like this: “Oh, I come from Alabama (Cullman 2011) with a banjo on my knee. Goin' to Lou'siana, with my parties (Prohibition 2016) victory to see”. Just a thought. Please communicate your site location recommendations in to our Executive Secretary Jim Hedges. He will then forward your recommenda-

tions to your National Committee for consideration. We are hoping to have this finalized for the November edition of the National Prohibitionist so, as your Chairman I may issue a formal call for a convention. We can then look for members to serve various committees. Among them: Credentials, Rules, Platform, By-Laws, Nominating, Social, & Arrangements. Don’t be afraid to self-nominate yourself to serve on a Committee. More information to follow as we get closer to the Convention. Stay tuned. Please be sure to begin thinking about locations and get them in to Jim as soon as possible.

As a side note, Jim’s bride Carolyn is on my prayer list as she continues therapy. Please put her on yours.

Onward! Blessings to All,

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teaches that no one should drive after using cannabis and alcohol in combination.

◆ Persons under the influence of marijuana present a risk on job-sites.

Employees who abuse drugs are 10 times more likely to miss work, 3.6 times more likely to be involved in on-the-job accidents,. And 5 times more likely to file workers’ compensation claims. They are also said to be 33% less productive than are sober workers.

Drug abuse that occurs hours before a worker begins his shift can cause spillover effects such as fatigue and hangovers which may independently increase the risk of injury in a manner similar to that of acute alcohol intoxication.

◆ Marijuana legalization would lead to the commercialization of marijuana-laced products attractive to children. Already, private holding groups and financiers have raised millions of start-up dollars to promote businesses which will sell marijuana and marijuana-related merchandise.

Cannabis-laced food and candy is already being sold under brand names mimicking those of common children’s products. These are responsible for a growing number of emergency room visits.

◆ Marijuana use would increase after legalization.

Because they are accessible and available, legal recreational drugs are used far more than are illegal ones. According to recent surveys, alcohol is used by 52% of Americans, while tobacco is used by 27%. (Illegal) marijuana is currently used by only 8% of Amer-

icans. Legalization would be accompanied by increased supplies and lower prices, and by higher consumption.

◆ Marijuana use is especially harmful to children and adolescents.

Marijuana use that begins during the teenage years doubles the risk of addiction, compared to use that begins later in life. Marijuana use contributes to the development of psychoses and schizophrenia, and it causes a loss of intelligence-quotient points in young people who begin smoking it before the age of 18.

◆ Today’s commercial marijuana is not the Woodstock Weed of yore.

In the 1960s and 1970s, THC levels in wild marijuana ran around 1%. By 1983, selective plant breeding had increased the average THC level of cultivated marijuana to around 3%. In 2011, commercial strains of marijuana had about 11% of THC. Because of this, early scientific studies on the physiological effects of cannabis use are not directly applicable to today’s society.

◆ Marijuana legalization would increase public costs.

For every dollar in alcohol and tobacco tax revenues, society loses \$10 to costs associated with accidents, health care, work inefficiencies, and other collateral damage.

◆ People are not imprisoned now for small-time marijuana use.

Marijuana possession accounts for only 0.1% of prisoners with no prior offenses. All marijuana possession convictions together account for only 0.3% of state-level prisoners, and many of those have been plead down from more serious charges.

Ninety-nine and 8-tenths percent of federal prisoners were incarcerated for drug trafficking, not for possession.

◆ Drug cartels and the black market would continue to function after legalization.

We know from past experience with other businesses that illegal actors have a lot to do with so-called legal industries. The Mexican drug cartels would be helped by legalization and increased addiction rates, not hindered. The drug-trafficking groups derive only a 6th to a quarter of their revenues from marijuana. For them, the big money is in human trafficking, kidnapping, extortion, piracy, and dealing in harder drugs. Legalization and lower prices would cause the cartels to devote more energy on harder drugs with higher profit margins.

◆ The experiences of Colorado and Washington are not promising.

Currently, the marijuana use rate among

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