



## Death Also Comes By Smokeless Tobacco

*An American Cancer Society Warning*

Using any kind of smokeless tobacco can expose you to health risks. These products contain cancer-causing chemicals, as well as addictive nicotine. Some smokeless tobacco products may expose users to lower levels of harmful chemicals than cigarette smoke, but this doesn't mean they are safe.

No form of smokeless tobacco is a safe substitute for cigarettes. Still, tobacco companies often market these products as alternatives to smoking in places where smoking isn't allowed.

Overall, people who dip or chew get about the same amount of nicotine as people who smoke regularly. They are also exposed to more than 25 chemicals that are known to cause cancer.

The most harmful cancer-causing substances in smokeless tobacco are tobacco-specific nitrosamines (TSNAs). TSNA levels vary by product, but the higher the level the greater the cancer risk.

Cancers linked to the use of smokeless tobacco include: *Mouth, tongue, cheek, and gum cancer, esophageal cancer, and pancreatic cancer.*

The risk of cancer with newer types of smokeless tobacco products isn't quite as clear, mainly because they haven't been studied as well as chewing tobacco and snuff. Vapes do contain potentially harmful chemicals that may increase a person's risk of cancer, although the amounts can vary by product.

Smokeless tobacco causes other health problems in addition to cancers, for example mouth and *tooth problems.*

Many studies have shown high rates of leukoplakia in the mouth the locations where users place their chew or dip. Leu-

koplakia is a gray-white patch in the mouth that can become cancerous. These patches can't be scraped off. They're sometimes called sores but are usually painless. The longer a person uses oral tobacco, the more likely they are to have leukoplakia. Stopping tobacco might help clear up the spot, but treatment may be needed if there are signs of early cancer.

Tobacco stains teeth and causes bad breath. It can also irritate or destroy gum tissue. Many regular smokeless tobacco users have receding or swollen gums, tooth decay and cavities (from the high sugar content in the tobacco), scratching and wearing down (abrasion) of teeth, and bone loss around the teeth. The surface of the tooth root may be exposed where gums have shrunk. All of these can cause teeth to loosen and fall out.

Other harmful health effects of smokeless tobacco include: Increased risk of dying from heart disease and stroke, increased risk of early delivery and stillbirth when used during pregnancy, and nicotine poisoning and even death in children who mistake it for candy.

All smokeless tobacco contains nicotine, which can lead to addiction. In teens, using nicotine can also harm the parts of the brain that control attention, learning, mood, and impulse control. It may also in-

crease the risk for future addiction to other drugs.

Dissolvable tobacco is of special concern, because at this time little is known about the health effects of these products. Still, it's clear that they are another way for people, especially youths, to experiment with tobacco products and to become addicted to nicotine. Because they are so tempting, dissolvable tobacco items can easily poison children and pets.

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### Our History

Your Editor's book on the history of the Prohibition Party is now available.

"A Faithful Remnant" is a supplement (1973-2016) to Roger Storms' "Partisan Prophets" (1869-1972). It includes an index to both volumes and a fold-out chart showing in which states and years the Prohibition Party was on the ballot.

Single copies of either or both will be sent free-of-charge to anyone, on request.

This project was financed by the Prohibition Trust Fund Association, to whom I am grateful.

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### Prohibition Party Video

We've released a new video on our Prohibition Party of New York YouTube channel. This video is on the Prohibition Party's Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates from 1872 to 2016. The video includes pictures for all of the Presidential and most of the vice-presidential candidates. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvQL\\_p8BYB4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvQL_p8BYB4)

# The National Prohibitionist

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## From the Chairman's Corner

Phil Collins

To prepare for the convention, Jonathan and Michael compared hotels in the Buffalo area, including the size of the meeting rooms, prices, and distance from the airport. I was one of the people who told our opinions about those choices and helped make the decision. On April 14, in the party Facebook group, I encouraged members to attend the convention.

## Bledsoe Honored

The late Bill Bledsoe, a Prohibition Party candidate and a tireless worker for our Cause, spent his last years in Milton, Florida. He was active in civic affairs there and, among other offices, was Manager of the historic city cemetery.

The town has recognized his many contributions by dedicating a cemetery pavilion to him last January.

## Alcohol Rehabilitation The Revolving Door

Harper's Index says that women with small children this year are four times as likely to drink as they were before the covid pandemic.

Women of all ages are becoming more likely to drink and die. Harper's also says that alcohol-related female deaths have increased 157% over the past 20 years.

A more muscular approach to prevent clearly is necessary. The Prohibition Party advocates practical prevention measures: Instead of asking young people to “make wise choices” and then picking them up after they fall, we must replace the revolving door of alcohol use/rehabilitation/use again/rehabilitation again by

- stop portraying alcohol use as a genteel social custom
- repeal age-related consumption laws which make alcohol use a rite of passage.
- stop; treating the drinks industry as “just another business,” when in fact its product is sickness and death. When used as directed.

## Shrooms

An under-appreciated aspect of the push to legalize “natural” opioids is that the mushrooms and other plants which naturally contain recreational drugs often are rare or endangered. The harvesting of these, “legal” or not, is environmentally unsound.

The unintended consequences of keeping synthetic drugs illegal while decriminalizing possession and use of psychedelic mushrooms will lead to further loss of bio-diversity and to further environmental degradation.

## Moreschrooms

Druggies often say that getting high makes them more creative. As might be expected, this claim has been investigated – and found to be false.

A study using marijuana and another study using psilocybin both found that, whereas both types of users considered themselves to be more creative while under the influence, sober observers saw no difference. *The Economist* summed up both by saying “Participants may have gone on a trip, but there wasn't much evidence to suggest that it ended in a creative destination.”

## Religious Freedom

The Prohibition Party platform includes a strong plank on freedom of religion. Americans are a religious people, but they have resolutely prevented their government from forcing specific religious doctrines on our multi-cultural population. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black wrote in 1947, in the *Everson* case:

“The ‘Establishment Clause’ of the First Amendment means at least this: neither a state nor the Federal government can set up a church. Neither can pass laws which aid one religion, all religions, or prefer one religion over another. Neither can force nor influence a person to go to or to remain away from church against his will or force him to profess a belief or disbelief in any religion.

“No tax in any amount, large or small, can be levied in support any religious activities or institutions, whatever they may be called, of whatever form they may adopt to teach or practice religion.”

## Bogus Benefit #\_\_\_\_\_

Despite receiving nearly \$27 billion from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes this year, the states continue to short-change tobacco prevention and cessation programs proven to save lives and money. As tobacco use remains the number one cause of preventable death in the United States and youth e-cigarette use remains at high levels, such programs are as critical as ever.

Their annual reports since then have assessed whether the states are keeping their promise to use a significant portion of their settlement funds – estimated at \$246 billion over the first 25 years – to attack the enormous public health problems caused by tobacco use in the United States.

The states will collect \$26.7 billion from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes in Fiscal Year 2023, but they plan to spend just 2.7% of it – \$733.1 million – on tobacco prevention and cessation programs. This total is a \$14.5 million increase from last year, but still less than a quarter (22.2%) of the total funding recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

## Whitewashing Black Tobacco

Standing tall on our capital's National Mall alongside the Washington Monument, the National Museum of African American History says its purpose is to "tell the American story through the lens of African American history and culture." Tobacco's shameful chapter in that story is forever connected to the slave trade and tobacco plantations, where forced labor formed part of the foundations of the United States — and what is now a global tobacco industry.

Vestiges of that exploitation continue to this day, principally through the predatory marketing of menthol cigarettes and flavored little cigars in the Black community. There are more advertisements, more promotions in Black communities, where menthol cigarettes are cheaper.

Menthol is an anesthetic that masks the harsh taste of tobacco and allows for deeper inhalation of greater amounts of nicotine and tar. Studies show that menthol cigarettes are more addictive and that, unsurprisingly, users find it harder to quit menthol than non-menthol cigarettes. These products fuel a cycle of addiction to harmful products that hurt the pocketbooks in Black communities and fuels death, health problems and medical costs.

In 1953, 5 percent of African Americans smoked menthol cigarettes. Today, 85 percent of Black adults and 94 percent of Black youths who smoke use menthol products. Between 1980 and 2018, menthol cigarettes were responsible for 1.5 million new smokers, 157,000 smoking-related premature deaths and 1.5 million life-years lost among African Americans, representing a staggering 41 percent of premature deaths and half of the total in life-years lost in America. In other words — menthol takes a much greater toll on African Americans. Black Americans die disproportionately of heart attacks, lung cancer, strokes and other tobacco-related diseases. Menthol cigarettes are a leading vector for death and disease in Black communities, worsening health and economic inequities.

Responsibility lies with the tobacco companies. It's time they stopped producing menthol cigarettes and treating the health of Black communities as expendable. Congress should also act to pass the proposed ban on menthol tobacco products without further delay. The Food and Drug Administration estimates that a na-

tional menthol ban could save up to 6,000 Black lives each year. Prioritizing profit over Black lives, the industry is lobbying against the legislation.

--Press release, AATCLC

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## The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved ending the sale of flavored tobacco and nicotine products

On December 15, Oregon's largest county, which includes the city of Portland and its neighboring suburbs, voted 5-0 to pass the final reading of an ordinance ending the sale of menthol cigarettes and all flavored tobacco products.

Multnomah County is the second county in the state to pass such an ordinance joining neighboring Washington County.

— AATCLC press release

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## The Columbus City Council Votes Unanimously to End the Sale of Menthol-Flavored Cigarettes and All Flavored Tobacco Products

After months of advocacy by the Coalition to End Tobacco Targeting in Columbus, a coalition of dozens of health and community organizations, succeeded in passing legislation to end the sale of menthol-flavored cigarettes and all flavored tobacco products.

"The seven members of Columbus City Council did the right thing by standing up for children's health this week," former Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman said. Mr. Coleman served as one of the leaders of the Coalition.

The city also announced a \$1 million comprehensive tobacco cessation education and awareness campaign. The President of the City Council Shannon Hardin shared that he is a menthol smoker and would be now quitting to put his health first.

— AATCLC press release

**Just this past December, California banned the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes.**

## Vaping

Tobacco was smoked (dried and burned) for 400 years. Then, chemists learned how to extract liquid nicotine from the tobacco leaf, and unscrupulous businessmen quickly adapted the new process for profiting from addiction.

Vaping, essentially, means electrically heating a liquid blend of chemicals until it vaporizes and can be inhaled. The resulting aerosol delivers a faster kick to the user than does smoking while being less noticeable (and objectionable) to those around him.

E-juice can be purchased in many flavors, each with its own mix of chemicals. Inhaling polluted air always damages the lungs.

Prominent among harmful vaping chemicals is, of course, nicotine. The nicotine in vaping liquids is much more highly concentrated than it is in tobacco leaf and can cause immediate physiological reactions up to and including death. The nicotine in one e-juice unit is roughly equal to the nicotine in one pack of cigarettes.

Diacetyl, the chemical which gives a "buttery" flavor to imitation butter, causes the irreversible lung deformity "popcorn lung." Diacetyl seems to be harmless when eaten, but is dangerous when inhaled.

Vitamin E-acetate is suspected of being linked to several lung problems.

The business model for selling vaping liquids is the same as the one for selling beverage alcohol: Find an addictive substance the ingestion of which creates a pleasurable sensation, get the potential customer hooked on it when he is young, and enjoy a lifetime of guaranteed profits for yourself while handing off the associated costs to the taxpayers.

Recreational drugs cannot be left to personal choice. They enslave many for the benefit of a few and are a financial burden for all. Prohibition is the solution.

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Today, American Indian and Alaska Native communities have the highest prevalence of commercial tobacco use compared to all other population groups in the United States.

What formerly was ceremonial use of small quantities has been made into recreational use of vast quantities, with a corresponding increase in health consequences.

## California Ends

On November 8, California voters passed a ballot measure 63.4% - 36.6% to uphold a 2020 law that banned the sale of most flavored tobacco products, public health advocates a victory in a multi-year fight against the tobacco industry to protect our kids and advance health equity.

Proposition 31 was placed on the ballot soon after Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 793, the Legislature's bipartisan effort to crack down on menthol-flavored tobacco products, e-cigarettes, and other flavored tobacco products.

Shortly after the vote, RJ Reynolds filed a federal lawsuit to stop the implementation of the law. Lower courts refused to put the implementation of the law on hold and the case made its way to the Supreme Court for review.

As reported in the *New York Times*, the argument from the tobacco industry ranked Valerie Yerger, a University of California San Francisco (UCSF), health policy researcher and founding member of the African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council.

"When we look at the need to protect African Americans from the predatory exploitation of the tobacco industry, we need to look at the fact that a menthol ban will protect them," Dr. Yerger said. "It will not only add years to people's lives, but it will increase the quality of their life."

On December 12, the Supreme Court denied the request for an injunction clearing the way for the law to go into effect on December 21.

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## South Portland Votes to End the Sale of Menthol Cigarettes and All Flavored Tobacco Products

On December 21, South Portland became the fourth city in Maine to end the sale of all flavored tobacco products.

South Portland's ban was modeled after an ordinance passed by Portland in February. The city joins Portland, Brunswick, and Bangor which have all enacted bans on the sale of flavored tobacco products.

"I feel very strongly that we are allowing poison to be sold on the shelves of our stores to children and young adults," Councilor Misha Pride said. "We have to do something that shows our kids we care about them."

— AATCLC press release

The "Counterblaste," the earliest extant tract against tobacco use, is attributed to King James I of England. It exists in several versions, the easiest to read, perhaps, is a digital copy (original spellings, but using modern type) of a 1604 edition held by the University of Michigan Library. It is much longer than the one reprinted here and is not divided into "sections."

The 1672 copy reprinted below is held by the Library of Virginia, in Richmond. (There is no Section VI in the original.) Thanks to Dr. R.T. Cooper for publicizing this historical item!



### A Counterblaste to Tobacco.

#### SECTION I: *The root of tobacco usage among the English.*

For Tobacco being a common herb, which grows almost every-where, was first found out by some of the barbarous Indians, to be a Preservative, or Antidote against the Pox so from them likewise was brought this use of Tobacco, as a stinking and unsavory Antidote. Why do we not as well imitate them in walking naked as they do? In preferring glasses, feathers, and such toys, to gold and precious stones, as they do? Yea why do we not deny God and adore the Devil, as they do?

#### SECTION II: *Arguments against tobacco based on medical knowledge of the operations and function of the body.*

First...that the brains of all men being naturally cold and wet, all dry and hot things should be good for them of which nature this stinking suffumigation is. Of this argument both the proposition and assumption are false. For as to the proposition that because the brains are cold and moist, therefore things that are hot and dry are best for them; it is an inept consequence.

The second argument grounded on a show of reason is that this filthy Smoke is able and fit to purge both the head and stomach of rheums and distillations as experience teaches by the spitting and avoiding phlegm immediately after the taking of it. So this stinking smoke being sucked up by the nose and imprisoned in the cold and moist brains is cast forth again in watery distillations, and so are you made free and purged of nothing.

#### SECTION III: *The reason people really smoke tobacco is not to receive any benefit to their health, but instead because it is "savory and good" to them.*

...the whole people would not have taken for general a good liking thereof if they had not by experience found it very savoring and good for them.

#### SECTION IV: *The danger of adopting "foreign" practices.*

...and so from hand to hand it spreads until it be practiced by all; not for any commodity that is in it, but only because it is come to be the fashion.

#### SECTION V: *Dismissing the use of tobacco as a folk remedy.*

...it a branch of the sin of drunkenness, which is the root of all sins.

So is not this the very case of all the great takers of tobacco which therefore they themselves do attribute to a bewitching quality in it?

#### SECTION VII: *Tobacco as a frivolous expense.*

...some of them bestowing three, some four hundred pounds a year upon this precious stink, which I am sure might be bestowed upon many far better uses.

#### SECTION VIII: *The uncleanness of tobacco use*

[H]erein is not only a great vanity but a great contempt for God's good gifts that sweetens a man's breath being a good gift of God should be willfully corrupted by this stinking smoke, a custom loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs, and in the black stinking fume thereof nearest resembling the horrible stygian smoke of the pit that is bottomless.



It is noteworthy that, although James I strongly condemned tobacco use, a few decades later tobacco growing in the Colonies had become a lucrative business, and the English government began promoting it.



*Tobacco: America's most widespread drug and  
pollution problem.*

— Ray Perkins

*Tobacco smoke kills*

After working 8 years in the manufacturing industry, in 1972 I became disabled due to exposure to welding fumes and airborne pollutants, causing me to undergo 3 weeks of treatment at Salem (Mass.) Hospital. After that, I found myself becoming increasingly allergic to tobacco smoke. I began to experience reactions causing various degrees of anaphylactic shock, dis-abling me on the spot, and making it difficult to find and hold down a job and buy necessities for life.

People were smoking everywhere I went, which made my lungs feel like someone had poured gasoline into them and then thrown a match down after it.

I started attending meetings with Fresh Air for Nonsmokers, but their focus was on establishing nonsmoking sections, and not banning smoking in public places.

I found Action on Smoking and Health, and signed up with them, probably in the seventies. I also joined up with GASP, Americans for Non-Smokers Rights, Doctors Ought to Care, Stop Teenage Addiction to Tobacco, and others. These groups all sent me excellent bulletins which gave me a good education for non-smokers' rights activism.

In 1977, I discovered the book, "The Legal Rights of Nonsmokers," by two prominent attorneys, Alvin and Betty Brody, containing the wealth of information I was looking for. The book listed 16 of the most dangerous compounds found in tobacco smoke. I gave the list to Andy Pace, a former DuPont chemist, and asked him to give me an analysis; I found out for sure these toxins were harmful to all parts of the human body.

In 1989, I found the book, "The Passionate Non-Smokers' Bill of Rights," by Steve Allen and Bill Adler, Jr. The education I got from these books was priceless.

In 1980, I established the Mid Coast Maine Promotion for Clean Indoor Air. I tracked down people who had anti-smoking letters in newspapers, put them on my mailing list, and sent them a membership card. I had been working 8 hours a day at the YMCA in Damariscotta, Maine, so my activism took place 4-6 hours at night, and weekends, writing letters to editors, because that was the best way I had to reach large groups of people. I composed bulletins and copied others, and mailed them out to my members, legislators, churches, and other groups. My expenses ran from \$400 – \$700/year, mostly for copying and postage.

One year with two members of Boston GASP, we picketed a tobacco promotion in Augusta. We have attended a few Lung Association meetings in Augusta too.

One of our first activism concentrations focused on stopping the smoking in a Camden rest home, which was achieved. At the time, it was alleged that employees were feeding handicapped -patients with one hand, while holding a lit cigarette in the other.

Several years ago, I submitted a bill to the legislators to make the legal age to buy tobacco products rise from 18 to 21, but it was rejected. A similar bill was introduced by someone else recently and it was adopted.

Since it became illegal here to smoke in all public buildings, I only rarely run into tobacco smoke. When that was achieved, my membership dropped to zero soon after. But that was not the end of the problems caused by tobacco use. Tobacco shops sprang up all over the state; although everything I tried to do to prevent that was ineffective. Now, we are having to deal with the promotion of "recreational" marijuana which causes problems similar to those cause by tobacco use. Lately I have been distributing anti-marijuana literature.

— *Action on Smoking and Health, reprinted by permission.*

## Yes, You Racist

British American Tobacco wholly owns Reynolds American International (RAI), the maker of Newport cigarettes. RAI and other tobacco companies have perniciously and racially targeted the Black community since the 1950s. As a result of this targeting, tobacco use is the number one cause of preventable deaths for Black people in America accompanied by much higher rates of cancer, heart disease, stroke, and death. Each year, more than 72,000 Black Americans are diagnosed with a tobacco-related illness and more than 45,000 die from a tobacco-induced disease.

85% of all Black Americans who smoke use menthol cigarettes compared to 29% of White smokers. Menthol cigarettes increase addiction and make it harder to quit. More than 70% of African American smokers want to quit, and more than 60% made a quit attempt in the previous year. However, Black American smokers are much less likely than White smokers to successfully quit smoking.

Though the U.K., Canada, Ethiopia, Japan and the European Union have banned the sale of menthol flavored tobacco products, BAT and other tobacco companies persist in doing everything in their power to block public health policies that will protect Black people in the US.

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## Mexico Bans Smoking

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids presents its 2023 **Judy Wilkenfeld Award for International Tobacco Control Excellence** to **Erick Antonio Ochoa, Executive Director and co-founder of Salud Justa, Mexico.**

For more than a decade, Erick Antonio Ochoa has been an integral part of the grassroots movement that has made Mexico a global leader in fighting tobacco use. Working with Salud Justa, Tobacco-Free Kids partners CODICE, Refleacciona, and La Coalición México Salud-Hable, and a coalition of other organizations, Erick's leadership led to passage of Mexico's historic and comprehensive 2022 law that made all indoor public spaces smoke-free nationwide and banned all tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship.

## Needle Exchanges

Public health programs giving free new syringes to drug users in exchange for used syringes became popular about 30 years ago. The idea was to reduce the transmission of HIV infections by discouraging the sharing of contaminated needles among groups of addicts.

These did cause a measurable decrease in HIV infections and in their associated tax burden.

However, needle exchanges produced a large, more than 20%, increase in deaths from opioid use. This mostly negates the benefits from HIV reduction.

The now-wide availability of the overdose-counteracting drug Naloxone has also resulted in more, not fewer, overdose deaths, because it gives users a misleading sense of protection.

There always has been a tension between the “let it happen, then fix it” approach to recreational drugs and the “keep it from happening in the first place” approach. These data, like many others, prove that prohibition beforehand is more effective than treatment afterward.



## Colonialism Today

Tobacco companies have exploited the cultural significance of tobacco in indigenous communities, and now American Indians and Alaskan Natives use tobacco more than do members of any other racial or ethnic group in the United States.

The tobacco industry has a well-documented history of targeting minority and marginalized populations, including American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Targeted marketing and advertisements can be directly linked to tobacco use.

Although tobacco has cultural significance, romanticized images of American Indians and Alaskan Natives have been used for decades to market and sell commercial tobacco products in order to portray them as natural and a spiritual experience. These tactics not only misappropriated indigenous culture, but also re-inforced harmful stereotypes of American Indians.

**Prohibition  
The Better Choice**

## Veteran Drinkers

Alcohol consumption in the armed forces is much more common than it is in the broader society. At least 95% of servicemen drink, but only 70% of American adults are current drinkers.

Veterans' organizations are among the strongest opponents of tightening alcohol-control laws. In Michigan last year, a law was proposed (but not passed) to allow veterans' groups to sell alcohol on-premises without regard to the number of liquor licenses already granted in their local communities.

Your Editor remembers attending a hearing in Washington, DC years ago having to do with raising the tax on beer. The American Legion lobbyist was also there. The lobbyist said: “The business of the American Legion is selling beer. Anything done to restrict the sale of beer will harm the American Legion.”

More recently, the federal tax on beer was reduced – under the guise of helping businesses generally during the Covid-19 epidemic.



## Britain Encourages Alcoholism

England has lowered the tax on beer, saying that doing so will increase consumption and increase tax receipts.

That's true, but it will also increase the costs drinking imposes on families, employers, and society in general. Politicians should study both sides of the ledger.



## Social Media

The Social Media Committee held a conference call on January 16th.

Pages about candidates should be controlled by the Party; candidates' personal pages should be controlled by themselves. Personal pages should lead readers to official pages.

The “facebook group” page contains much irrelevant garbage and will henceforth be moderated. Michael Wood will be the moderator.

Miscellaneous Party logos on our social media sites will be replaced by the newly adopted “official” logo.



Ray Perkins book on Maine seafaring history, *A Taste for Salt Water*, is \$12.00 (plus 65¢ tax when bought in person in Maine); \$13.95 post-paid by mail out-of-state. Order from 1315 Manktown Road, Waldoboro, Maine 04572.

It's a good read!

## Photo Album

When half-tone printing was invented, in the 1890s, there was a fad for “albums,” thick, glossy books of photographs of the sort we today call “coffee-table books.” The Prohibition Party had one of those, featuring Party candidates and officials of the Gilded Age. The book is titled “An Album of Representative Prohibitionists,” but it's really a social register of Prohibition Party big-wigs and other leaders of the anti-alcohol movement. One of them was Treasurer of Standard Oil, another owned Funk & Wagnalls Publishing, etc.

Carrie Nation is not included -- she was a glory hound taking an ego trip, not an organization person.

There were, however many other women: The Prohibition Party was organized by suffragists and abolitionists, reformers fleeing the new Republican Party after its capture by “big business.” It was not only about alcohol.

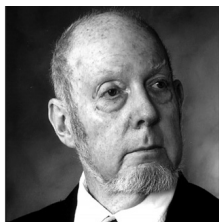
Prohibition Party candidates tended to be upper-middle-class: college presidents, leaders of religious denominations, wealthy lawyers, and so forth. I have included many of their biographical sketches in my history website to show that, contrary to the image of rural crackpots created by the alcohol industry, most Prohibitionists were solid citizens, people well respected in their own communities.



## Women's Lib Factoid

In 1919, the year before the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified, our Kings County, New York slate of 21 Assembly candidates included 7 women. That was a larger percentage than the major parties usually achieve even today!

The Prohibition Party – A leader in reform, then as now!



## Editor's Musings

I have just finished reading, belatedly, a 2008 book which sheds much light on the past successes and future opportunities of the Prohibition Party. *One Nation, Divisible* analyzes the distribution of religious bodies across America and their varying influence on public policy.

As I pointed out in my own recent *A Faithful Remnant*, the Prohibition Party was largely a product of the Midwestern "Cornbelt" states – a region extending from western New York through Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois to Iowa and Kansas. This coincides with a region where "mainline Protestant" churches, especially Methodist, are predominant.

Mainline theologies place a heavy emphasis on serving the community, on social activism to improve the world. Being "dry" was important to their personal witness and home missions.

Holiness congregations, beginning in the mid-1800s, and Pentecostal congregations, beginning around 1900, although often encouraging personal abstinence from alcohol, on the other hand are individualistic groups focused on preparing individuals for the Millennium. They often promote an "in the world but not of the world" theology which minimizes social activism, and their home missions usually prioritize evangelism over reform.

I also said that Baptists, notably Southern Baptists (which are the great majority of Baptists), although teaching abstinence rejected the Prohibition Party because of racial animus – the mainline churches were Abolitionist. Another important disagreement, still operative today, is that Baptists generally emphasize personal salvation over of community improvement (although there are some conspicuous exceptions) and, therefore, are not attracted to a political party advocating reform.

So, what does all this mean for our future? We can receive many "dry" votes in states where Baptist, Holiness, and Pentecostal congregations predominate, and we should seek those votes on Election Day, but these folks are unlikely to join us in organizing and carrying out reform initia-

tives. We should concentrate on our traditional turf of mainline churches.

### First in Eighty-Two

New York State had a Prohibitionist on the ballot this year, for the first time since 1940: National secretary Jon Makeley ran for his local school board, the "Sweet Home Central" school district in Amherst.

School board elections typically are non-partisan, but the political views of the candidates are well known.

Makeley didn't win (he got only 18% of the votes and came in 4th out of 4), but he got good publicity and good experience which will help him do better another year.

He says, "I also worked to engage with members of the community and to try to encourage participation from residents who may not typically vote in school board elections. These efforts seem to have had some success, as this year's vote total was over 28% higher than it was last year."

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**A vote for conscience is never a vote lost.** When third-party nominees are defeated in an election, it is not a personal rejection of the individual candidate, but, rather, a rejection, at least temporarily, of the philosophy they represent. Therefore, an unsuccessful third-party aspirant should never take his loss personally.

-- Hon. Frank P. Zeidler, Socialist Mayor of Milwaukee (1948-1960) and 1976 Socialist Party presidential candidate.

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### Read 'Em and Weep

Maryland 2001 gambling tax revenues were the highest ever, according to a State Lottery press release. One should ask if the societal costs of gambling also were the highest ever.

Maryland gambling interests include the state lottery, six casinos, sports gambling, and "fantasy sports wagering."

Tax receipts from gambling "are directed to educational programs" instead of to welfare programs dealing with the human consequences of gambling. Poor people gamble more than do the well-off: In a perverse way, promoting gambling imposes a relatively high school tax on the poor.

Meanwhile the costs of repairing gambling damage are borne by the taxpayers, generally.

This is a convoluted and inefficient way of raising money to support schools. And is

it really a net benefit, or, as in alcohol sales, is it a case of businessmen getting the profits and taxpayers getting the bill?

Maryland lottery profits (collected as taxes by the State) in 2021 were \$673,700,000. Casino taxes totaled \$832,300,000. (No figures were given for sports gambling or for fantasy gambling.)

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### Mapping The Misery

This website, <https://www.saradupuisdr.com/addiction-treatment-centers>, shows the locations of rehab programs all across the United States – thousands of them.

This is a map of the depths of despair. It is a guidepost to futility:

Despite the millions of dollars spent on rehab services, despite the billions of hours of labor, despite the hundreds of thousands of dedicated lifetimes, per-capita alcohol consumption is increasing in the United States. It has steadily increased ever since Repeal.

Substituting rehabilitation of victims in place of preventing victimization has increased the profits of the alcohol traffic and has created sinecures for social workers without limiting the scourge of the alcohol problem.

Rehab is a necessary humanitarian project... but prohibition works.

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### Government Giveth

And the government taketh away: Gambling promotion on military bases cheats servicemen of \$100,000,000 from their salaries.

The National Coalition on Problem Gambling reports (Dec.'22) that there are 3,141 slot machines on US military bases overseas, and that these take one hundred million dollars each year from servicemen and return the money to the Department of Defense.

This reminds us of the over-priced "company stores" which 19th-century mine owners used to recover part of the wages paid to already-impooverished miners. In both situations, owners exploit captive workers to deprive them of part of their already insufficient pay.

It is estimated that 56,000 active-duty servicemen have a gambling problem.



### Oliver W. Stewart

Elected to the Illinois Legislature in 1902, on the Prohibition ticket, he carried his ideals with him into that legislative body.....

Since serving in the Illinois Legislature and as National Chairman, Mr. Stewart has been in demand in reform work, and upon Chautauqua and lecture platforms.....

A member of the Executive Committee from the beginning, he was the most powerful assistant Governor Hanly had in the planning and management of the Flying Squadron campaign. Born in Mercer County, Illinois, May 22, 1867, [Oliver] Stewart's boyhood days were spent on the farm. He graduated from Woodhull, Illinois, high school in 1885, and taught school for two years. He was made Secretary and Organizer for the District Lodge of Good Templars, doing his first public work for Temperance and Prohibition that year.

He entered Eureka College in 1887, working his way through school. Following his graduation and marriage in 1890, three years were given to evangelistic work. He was Secretary of the Illinois Christian Endeavor Union for two years, and President of that organization for two years. During this time he was pastor of the Disciples' Church at Mackinaw, Illinois.

In 1896 Mr. Stewart was elected Chairman of the Illinois State Prohibition Committee and presided over the Illinois Prohibition Convention that year, and in 1900 was made Chairman of the Prohibition National Committee, serving five years.

Oliver Stewart died on 15 February 1937 and is buried in Woodhull Cemetery, Woodhull, Illinois.

— *Speeches of the Flying Squadron*

— *Find-A-Grave*

### “Kentucky Colonel” Joins Our Ranks

Michael Wood, a member of the Executive Committee of the Prohibition Party and a candidate for nomination as our 2024 presidential candidate, has been commissioned a “Kentucky Colonel” by Governor Andy Beshear. “Kentucky Colonel” is the highest civilian honor awarded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Over the last seven years, Wood has donated more than 2,500 hours as a volunteer food bank manager, helping to improve the lives of 23,000 people who struggle with food insecurity every week.

The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels is a private, non-profit, charitable organization the members of which are appointed by the Governor of Kentucky. The Order was established by the first Governor, Isaac Shelby, in 1813 to recognize members of his State Militia who had served in the War of 1812. Today, it has evolved to become a world-wide society of notables in many fields of endeavour.

“Kentucky Colonel” is synonymous with strength of character, leadership, and dedication to the welfare of others.



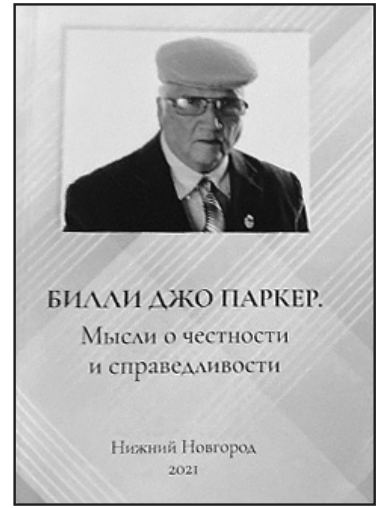
### Fit for Worms

World-wide consumption of beer is estimated to be 185,000,000,000 liters each year. The brewing process yields, depending on the process, up to 10 times that much waste water infused with rotted grain. Disposing of this waste in an environmentally acceptable way is an expensive problem.

Enter worms! Fly larvae, widely employed in research laboratories to feed lab critters, will eat rotten grain left over from brewing as readily as they eat the fresh grain usually proved for them. These “meal worms,” in addition to being fed live to laboratory animals, can be ground up and recycled into feed for farm animals.

So, the next time you sink your teeth into a steak, ask yourself: How many worms am I getting in this mouthful?

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### Parker’s Palisade

Our man in Georgia, Billy Joe Parker, has been honored with a Russian translation of some of his writings.

The late Academician Aleksandr Ma-yurov, who led the International Academy of Sobriety at Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, arranged for this to be published and sent Parker a complimentary copy.

It is unlikely to be available for purchase anywhere. The Russian custom in book publishing is to announce forthcoming works, take advance orders, then print only as many copies as are ordered. Unless someone requested a supply ahead of time, there are no spares to be had.

The book image says: Billy Joe Parker, **Мысли о честности и справедливости** (Mysli o chestnosti i spravedlivosti), which translates to “Thoughts on Honesty and Justice.”



Dianne Berlin calls our attention to an interesting website, <https://www.nnepc.org/poison-information>, (Northern New England Poison Center) which includes alcohol in a long catalog of “poisons.”

The toxicity of most of these materials is dose-dependent: The list includes many compounds which, when used as directed, are harmless or even beneficial, which makes the list unnecessarily terrifying.

Yet, having alcohol included in a list of poisons published by a mainstream medical organization can be useful publicity.