The AMERICAN ISSUE

Vol. LXXIII

February, 1966

No. 2



The American Issue Monthly National Edition

Monthly National Edition

An Advocate of Abstinence and Civic Righteousness
Published monthly except July and August by The American Issue
Publishing Company, 110 South State St., Westerville, Ohio.
Editorial and Publication Office, 110 South State St., Westerville, Ohio.
Subscription Price \$1.00 per year in the United States.
OFFICIAL ORGAN of the AMERICAN COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL
PROBLEMS

119 Constitution Ave., N.E., Washington 2, D.C.
Editor—Clayton M. Wallace
Associate Editor—Caradine R. Hooton
Contributing Editors: Duke K. McCall, Edward B. Dunford, C. Aubrey
Hearn, Harry S. Warner, Rev. Walter C. House
Officers of the American Council on Alcohol Problems: President, Dr.
Merrill B. McFall: Vice President, Herbert H. Hill: Executive
Director, Dr. Caradine R. Hooton: Secretary, Rev. Ray G. Bayley;
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Object of the Council: "To provide a medium through which individuals, churches and social agencies may unitedly cooperate in a moral scientific solution of the beverage alcohol problem in the United States and through every effective means promote abstinence for the individual and group action to diminish and ultimately eliminate the traffic in alcoholic beverages and the evils arising therefrom."

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The Great Liberator!

Among Americans who stand mountain high in the esteem of the world, the tallest of them all is the image of Lincoln. Born February 12, 1809, an isolated Kentucky babe was to become the great American emancipator. Migrating early into the "Land of Lincoln", this Illinois youth ultimately moved into the imagination of freedom-loving mankind throughout the Nation. His sacrificial victories for the downtrodden are memorialized in words immortal and in works immeasurable. People from around the world stand with bared heads at his monument and pray for the reincarnation of Lincoln's dedication in the life of

It was in the Spirit of the Babe of Bethlehem that Lincoln envisioned brotherhood for all people of good will everywhere. He waged war against the imprisonment of human personalty without regard to the kind of enslavement that denied freedom to all.

Every patriot lauds his love of liberty for those in the shackles of slavery. But there are many who do not recognize as one of the sources of Lincoln greatness his strict adherence to abstinence.

The artist Akin discerned that this aspect of the Great Liberator's character was a vital secret of Lincoln's long-range success. Appearing on the cover page of this Issue is his significant depiction of the personal attitude and approach of Lincoln on the "minor" question of liquor. In the summer of 1847 at the South Forks School House in Sangaman County, Abraham Lincoln delivered a temperance address and presented an abstinence pledge, which he had himself written and signed. Many of his hearers, at the close of the speech, added their signatures. The ten-year old Cleopas Breckenridge, however, stood around with only a wistful look on his face. Mr. Lincoln said to the lad, "Sonny, don't you want your name on this pledge?"

"Yes, sir," replied the boy, "but I can't write." In the boy's presence and as his agent, Abraham Lincoln signed the pledge for him. The man who was later to be martyred for his love of humanity committed himself as a wiser and safer way of life to total abstinence from alcoholic beverages!

Was Lincoln a Liquor Dealer?

When once we published the story of Lincoln's Sangamon address, an anonymous correspondent challenged the statement with an allegation that "Abraham Lincoln was a Saloon Keeper." As verification he attached an alleged reproduction of a bond filed by "Lincoln, Berry and Bowling Green." It purported to be in connection with the granting of a licence to operate a tavern in Sangamon County.

This perennial misrepresentation has been repeatedly repudiated by honest men connected with the liquor business, but it is still being used by drinkers less sincere.

Miss Ida Tarbell relates that Lincoln was once a partner in a store with a man named Berry. An application to sell liquor was made by his partner. Actually, say Nicolay and Hay, "the tavern was never opened."

Leonard Sweet, also an authority on Lincoln's life, says "a difference arose between him and his partner in reference to the introduction of whiskey into the establishment. The partner insisted that, as honey catches flies, a barrel of whiskey in the store would invite customers. Lincoln, who never drank intoxicants, opposed this innovation."

But we will let Lincoln, himself, answer the charge that he was "in the liquor or grocery business". In the first Lincoln-Doughlas debate at Ottawa, August 21, 1858, in his reply to Douglas' statement that he had been a grocery (grogshop) keeper, Lincoln said: "The judge is woefully at fault about his early friend Lincoln's being a grocery keeper. Lincoln never kept a grocery anywhere in the world."

The Lincoln Pledge which he, himself, wrote and advocated reads:

"Whereas the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage is productive of pauperism, degradation, and crime; and believing it is our duty to discourage that which produces more evil than good, we therefore, pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage."

A Gallant Foe, No Less Great

A Christian contemporary, General Robert Edward Lee, shared Mr. Lincoln's convictions in regard to alcohol. At one time the renowned Confederate leader was offered some blackberry wine by a Virginia lady. Refusing it, General Lee said: "I thank you, Mrs. Sims, but I never drink even wine."

On December 9, 1869, after refusing to lend his name for big money to an advertising agency, he wrote to the students of Washington College, while President of that institution: "My experience through life has convinced me that, while moderation and temperance in all things are commendable and beneficial, abstinence from spirituous liquors is the best safeguard to morals and health."

How the Trustees of Lee Mansion in the Nation's Capital can continue to display wine cellars and glasses as a part of Robert E. Lee's personal paraphernalia remains a figment of somebody's imagination for which we find no foundation in fact.

The American Issue — Monthly National Edition

First Annual National Highway Safety Sunday

February 20, 1966
The National Foundation for Highway Safety
and unanimously indorsed by ACAP Executive Committee

Beverage alcohol is involved in 55%—(at times

70%)—of accidents on our highways.

It took 175 years and all of our wars to kill one million Americans. The automobile did the same thing in 50 years (1901-1951) and at the present rate of carnage and death, the second million will be killed in

22 years.

A normal driver — careful, thoughtful, sober—does not BEGIN to apply the brakes until his car has travelled 38 feet at 50 m.p.h. One can of beer or cocktail contains enough alcohol so that a driver, going at 50 m.p.h. does not BEGIN to apply brakes until his car has gone 82 feet! When an accident is re-

ported at a curve, in nearly every case, "the driver had-been-drinking." Alcohol cuts vision as much as 25 percent. Alcohol, in one cocktail slows reflexes for 30 minutes; two cocktails for one hour; three cocktails for two hours.

In the next ten years, one of every four Americans will be killed or injured on our highways. No one is free from the stark tragedies: everyone has a member of his family, or a close friend, or relative who has suffered death or injury on our highways.

(You forfeit the PRIVILEGE to drive when indulging the RIGHT to drink)

Do They Really Care?

We have no disposition to be judgmental, but we have a right to inquire, "who cares?" For example, there appeared in a metropolitan paper during Christmas week two very astounding ads. Both were full-page displays in such contrasting juxtaposition as to arouse in some sympathy for the one and indignation against the other.

Many individuals and agencies (and maybe the paper, itself) paid for the soul-stirring appeal for help to people where "famine stalks the earth." The other was a multi-colored, eye-catching plea to make Christmas gifts of liquor (that caused more casualties and conduced to more poverty than we have ever had

before.)

This latter was a \$3000.00 (perhaps much more) insert in one paper, which was part of a \$251,000,000.00 slush fund by the liquor industry to popularize intoxicants as "appropriate gifts for the holiday season."

Whether it was a slip by the advertiser, or a slap by the agency, the placing of these ads in apposition to one another was more than a coincidence. It had stirred the consciences of some to give to the impoverished that which strengthens, and to withhold from the surfeited that which can never satisfy.





TO: ALL MINISTERS, PRIESTS AND RABBIS OF WASHINGTON CHURCHES AND SYNA-GOGUES

We cannot accept the fatalistic view that accidents must multiply during holiday periods. That is why we are calling on you.

Your moral suasion reaches not only the minds but also the hearts of your congregation. And so, safety messages from you have a tremendous impact in cutting down traffic accident tolls.

Our major target is the driver—he must be made to understand that, when he is driving, he is at the controls of a lethal weapon.

Both driver and pedestrian must appreciate the value of proper attitude and physical condition for safe driving. Alcohol, for example, has been a factor in the great majority of fatal traffic accidents in the District of Columbia—and both drivers and pedestrians have been at fault in this respect.

We are aware of the mounting concern of the clergy of all faiths over the traffic toll. We are counting heavily on your cooperation again this year.

Sincerely, G. A. England Director of Motor Vehicles Government of the District of Columbia Washington, D.C.

TRAFFIC SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Appreciation!

After the above letter from Mr. George England was received by Washington ministers, we wrote him a word of appreciation, enclosing a complimentary copy of "Best in Beverages." Here is the Traffic Director's reply:

"I am intrigued by some of the recipes contained in the booklet attached to your letter of December 30, 1965, and the family blender will be put to some uses immediately.

"I appreciate the sentiment expressed in your letter and assure you that we will continue to do our best to convince the public that drinking and driving is a deadly combination."

"I'd Give Him the Reins"

Henry Drummond's famous conversation with the carriage driver has almost become a classic. The great preacher was interested to find that his driver had been a very prominent professional man, now reduced to his menial job. He, like the late Governor of West Virginia, had been unable to break the habit of drink. It had cost him everything. He appealed to Mr. Drummond for help.

After reciting some accepted rules for breaking the grip of bad habit, the celebrated cleric asked the drunken cabby a question. Said he, "If your team were running away with you, after you'd used every means to hold them, what would you do if you found that there was one sitting beside you who knew exactly how to control your team and save you from a wreck?"

"Sir," said the driver, "I'd hand over the reins to him." And then the preacher told the man about Jesus, who was ready, he said, to take over the management of his mangled life, and put it in order again.

Though sizeable sums are being spent on research and care, we know of no more effective preventative or treatment for the alarming sickness and/or sin of alcoholism. Do you?

Drinking cost this writer an 8% increase in insurance, for '66, and a drinking driver dangerously brushed our car during the holidays. Our non-alcoholic drinks will still consist only of good water and one or more of the "Best in Beverages," which we hope others will learn to substitute for spirits.

If as Sherman said "War is hell," drinking and driving renders us helpless.

Worse Than War!

Can you think of anything worse than war? Yes — to become living slaves to the way of life we don't want!

Actually, what we are doing to one another at home is comparatively worse than what others are doing against us abroad. Take the Christmas holiday period as one shameful example. We killed more people in seven days of traffic collisions than we lost in Viet Nam during all of last year. While these eleven hundred lives were being tragically snuffed out, we injured over 60,000 other persons.

The insurance information Institute reports that the economic loss from traffic episodes in 1964 totaled nearly \$10 billion! It says an estimated 47,700 persons died in highway accidents, an increase of 10% over the previous year. Three million eight hundred and forty thousand were injured.

Motorists paid about \$7.3 billion for automobile insurance in 1964, with company payments some \$1 billion more than premiums collected!



From the great non-alcoholic Biltmore Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida, where our ACAP Biennial Convention we last held, we got this constructive comment:

"Best in Beverages' is an excellent work and I want to commend you for a job well done. We at the Biltmore Terrace Hotel are happy to have our famous Globetrotter recipe included in this very fine publication." Dr. Ralph W. Mitchell, President.

The management may order up to 2500 copies for distribution to grateful guests.

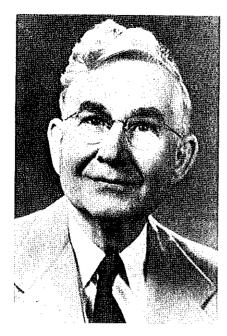
One church in Greater Washington sent us a check for \$75.00 to pay for copies of "Best in Beverages" to members of its commissions and Board. We have sacrificed profits on this publication in order to render a service people really want. One of our State Executives is circulating 2000 of the fliers to his organization's local supporters. Let us help you render a similar service to your people.

The American Issue — Monthly National Edition

From Cowhand to Cornhusker

The Nebraska Council on Alcohol Problems has a new Executive Director. As of February 1, James S. Hamilton succeeds John Forrest Norman:

After ten years of constructive service in the Cornhusker State, Dr. Norman turns over the reins of administration to his ambitious young associate, who hails from Texas. To those of us who were reared in the West these are honored terms of reference to persons who grind deep and range far to get the job done.



Dr. John Forrest Norman came to Nebraska in 1955 from Illinois, where for many years he had served as ordained minister of the Disciples of Christ (Christian Church). With the able assistance of Mrs. Norman, as office manager, Dr. Norman gave remarkable leadership and dignity to an effective temperance program in this great Midwestern State. In preparing his successor for active leadership, Dr. Norman has shared with him full attendance and all benefits of important National meetings held during the past two years.

After a deserved sixty-day rest in Florida the Normans will return to their Lincoln home for interim work in the Brotherhood.

If you're driving today, please drive carefully -I'm walking. If you're walking be even more careful my wife's driving,

Two women were preparing to board an air line. One of them turned to the pilot and said, "Please don't go faster than sound; we want to talk.'

Jack Eppes says, "A bachelor is one who never Mrs. a girl."



The Rev. James S. Hamilton has been for three years principal aide to the chief of the Nebraska Council. During this time both Director and Associate have worked together effectively in alcohol education, legislative action and ministries to the churches and communities.

In preparation for his new responsibilities the Rev. Mr. Hamilton holds diplomas and degrees from Wayland and Howard Payne Colleges, and is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has had special work in Baylor Seminars and Loma Linda Institute of Scientific Studies for the Prevention of Alcoholism. An ordained Baptist minister, Brother Hamilton has had wide service as a member of the TANE Speakers Bureau and as youth worker, extraordinary.

Feed 'em, Cornhusker. Start ridin', Cowhand!

TAXES, TAXES, TAXES

It is easy to feel a rising resentment against unbalanced budgets and new tax proposals. Any increase in taxes must come out of the standard of living of the American people. An unbalanced budget is a definite threat to free enterprise and the fundamental liberties upon which our way of life rests. There are two ways to reduce governmental expenditures and relieve the tax burden which is crushing the great middle class of American citizens: (1) greatly improve the administration of government not only in the Federal area but in the states and counties. (2) reduce the cost of crime, vice and waste. Every dollar of liquor revenue costs from \$6 to \$10. Less liquor and less liquor politics in responsible places would save us billions. These billions invested would increase production and spent would increase consumption.

1000 Deaths Per Week

Highway fatalities are now close to 1000 per week! If this rate continues, the 1965 toll will top the 50,000 mark with the number of injured reaching an estimated 1.8 million.

Among other steps to reduce the toll U.S. News and World Report says that "courts will crack down on drunken drivers. Those who lose their licenses for drunken or reckless driving will find it harder to replace them if they go to another state."

In discussing "who's to blame" the U.S. News World Report Article (3/1/65) says that "by and large, most of the experts in the field put the blame for accidents mainly on the motorist. Figures of the National Safety Council indicate that "improper driving" is a major cause in nearly 90% of all accidents and that drinking is a factor in 8 per cent more. This suggests that the motorist is at fault in nearly 98% of all crashes.

Many remedies are suggested including driver education classes, physical examinations, visual acuity tests, etc. A national driver register service has been established in Washington, D.C. to help states find out quickly whether a person who applies for a driver's license has had a license suspended or revoked by some other State for drunken driving or for a traffic violation that resulted in a loss of life.

The suggestion is that some 25,000 more State and local police be hired at a cost of 217,000,000 a year. Other suggestions include wider use of safety belts, construction of crash-proof cars, safety inspection in all states, etc.

The article indicates that 98% of the blame is on the motorist. It would, therefore, appear that the major effort should be on making the driver safe to operate the car at all times.

The article makes it appear that drinking is a factor in only 8% of the accidents, but reliable figures from a number of states show drinking is involved in 50% of the highway fatalities.

In THE AMERICAN ISSUE, April 1963, statistics from ACCIDENT FACTS published by the National Safety Council show that nearly half of the fatal accidents in Connecticut in 1959 involved a drinking driver, or a drinking pedestrian.

"In Maryland, the Department of Post Mortem Examiners analyzes the blood of drivers and pedestrains who die within six hours of motor vehicle accidents. Among these victims, nearly 3 out of 4 drivers, and 3 out of 5 pedestrians, have been found with alcohol in their blood.

"The head of the Montana Highway Patrol said recently:

"We can say without contradiction, and backed up by our blood-alcohol tests, that last year's experience showed that in 50% of the fatal accidents the driver

Authority On Traffic Quoted

Wilbur S. Smith, noted traffic engineer, who was head of the National Academy of Science's Highway Research Board in 1964 was interviewed by U. S. News and World Report (3/1/65). When asked if there should be tougher laws against drunken drivers Mr. Smith said yes, but raised the question of how tough to get against whom. Admitting the number of drivers involved in fatal accidents who have been drinking is high, he felt that it must be determined whether the drinking impaired his faculties, and whether or not the impairment was the primary cause of the accident.

In reply to the question 'when does a driver's ability become impaired by alcohol?' the traffic engineer said that physicians and scientists agreed that a driver with from 0.10 to 0.15% blood alcohol "should definitely be considered drunk." This condition could be obtained by 3 to 5 strong drinks.

Mr. Smith agreed that tighter laws against drunken driving can be enforced. He mentioned widespread use of the drunkometer and felt it is perfectly proper to use the device to procure evidence of the amount of alcohol in the blood.

In conclusion, the former Highway Research Board head urged more research for safety, perhaps spending \$8 to \$10,000,000 per year. He felt this cost would be small compared to the 7 billion dollars traffic accidents are costing in damage and personal injuries alone.

had been drinking—and this year it is running even higher.'

In New York's Westchester County — an 8-year study: Of drivers in fatal single car accidents, 73% had been drinking.

In Los Angeles — first 6 months of 1962: Of drivers in three important fatal accident categories, 56% of drivers tested had been drinking.

In New Jersey — 1961: Of fatal accident-involved drivers tested, 54% had been drinking."

Under these circumstances, the chief cause of highway tragedy is the drinking driver. He should be the #1 target in the drive for safety. If one-half of all the 8,000,000 drivers use alcoholic beverages 44,000,000 should be required to so indicate on their driver applications, and should be required to take special instructions on the effects of alcohol on driver skill. They should also be required to visit hospitals or morgues to see the results of alcohol-caused highway crashes. They should also be charged a higher insurance rate because their drinking habit makes them potential hazards on the highway. They should be subject to realistic penalties and the repeal of their driver's licenses if they are involved in accidents after they had been drinking.

The American Issue — Monthly National Edition

The Burden of Legalized Liquor

by Joe W. Burton

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Every time our state legislature convenes, some wet advocate proposes a law to liberalize the sale of liquor. Usually it is a bill to permit "liquor by the drink" in public eating places. Or it is some provision to apply only in the large cities.

Similar debates, provoked by the never-satisfied liquor crowd, recur in other states. In these continuing debates those who advocate the wet cause overlook

two very important facts.

One is the staggering liquor-related cost to the public which always goes along with the sale and consumption of beverage alcohol. The other is that laws prohibiting the sale of liquor for beverage use have always been enforced as successfully as have other laws.

In our daily paper, for instance, a public official made a statement belaboring the point that the prohibition of sale of whiskey in metropolitan Nashville, Tennessee, would deprive the municipality of \$1,000,000 annually, right at the time "it is needed so badly," especially for the public schools. What the article did not say was that for every \$1.00 collected in taxes and in license fees the citizens of the Nashville community have to pay from \$3.50 to \$6.00 in direct increased measurable costs.

Concerned and enlightened citizens in other communities have made careful studies of these increased costs. The State Legislature of California in 1959 conducted such a study, made by what was called the Joint Interim Committee. At the end of its painstaking study, the committee reported that for every \$1.00 collected in liquor taxes, the state had to pay \$5.23 in direct measurable costs related to liquor—for policing, jailing, rehabilitating, prosecuting.

Court Studies Cost

Earlier, the General Court of Massachusetts, in a 381-page report summarizing two years of study, found that for \$13,000,000 in alcohol tax revenue, the state paid \$46,000,000 for known alcohol-related expenses for penal institutions, rehabilitation and welfare.

The Utah State Board of Alcoholism found that it cost the state \$6,000,000 in care alone of alcoholics compared with only \$4,000,000 collected in all alcohol taxes.

A recent study in Atlanta, Georgia, offers evidence of a convincing nature. An official survey was made jointly by the city, Fulton County, business interests of the community, and Emory University. Their findings: For every \$1.00 collected by the city and county in liquor taxes, the community expended \$6.43 for "care of those drinking."

The experience of Knoxville, after recently legalizing the sale of liquor, presents disturbing facts of another kind. The American Business Men's Research Foundation conducted in this Tennessee city a survey of crime in 1960, the last full "dry" year, compared with 1962, the first full year of legal liquor. Traffic accidents were up 312 per cent in 1962 compared with 1960. Other findings: murders up 37 per cent; robberies up 47 per cent; burglaries up 96 per cent; rape up

315 per cent; assaults up 86 per cent; larceny up 49 per cent; arrests for all offenses up 60 per cent.

Without doubt, liquor is the most expensive product on the American scene today. There is no possible way it can ever be taxed to bring a net increase to the public treasury. Always the added costs by reason of increased lawlessness plus the charges for rehabilitation and welfare will exceed any revenue from liquor taxes.

Someone said that to prohibit the sale of liquor in the Nashville community would throw five hundred people out of jobs. This could be the best thing ever to happen to these five hundred persons, if it caused them to turn to worthwhile, satisfying employment.

I know a person who was once in the liquor business and got out of it as a matter of conscience. This person for no consideration of money or otherwise would ever get back into a business that weighted heavily on his conscience every day.

The advantages to a community in the total prohibition of the sale of liquor are absolutely beyond estimation.

Moreover, the record of enforcement of such laws is one of the brightest pages in our nation's history. In the period just before World War I, the per capita consumption of absolute alcohol reached the all-time high of 1.81 gallons a year, according to Warbuton's Economic Records of Prohibition. In the "wettest" prohibition year, 1930, the estimated per capita consumption had dropped to 71 one hundredths of a gallon a year, according to the Wickersham Report of the early '30's. Today the total consumption is about 235 per cent more than during the wettest prohibition year.

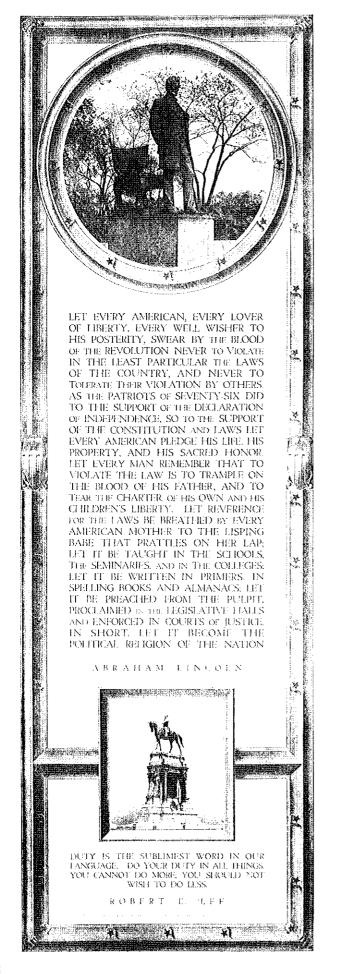
Submission to Anarchy

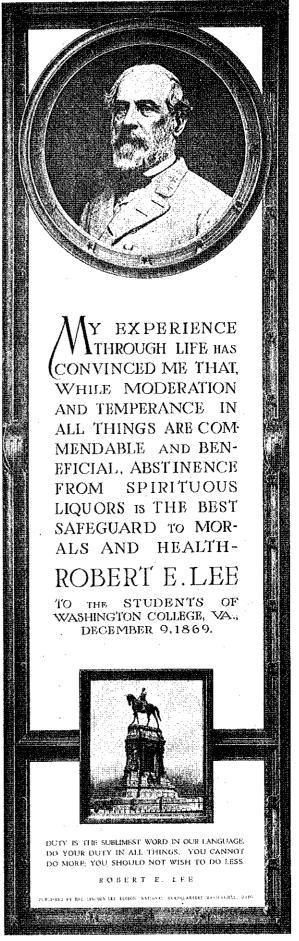
To say that prohibition of the sale of liquor cannot be enforced, as was done in the public press by an official of our community, is itself a submission to anarchy. It is exactly the same as saying that laws prohibiting the sale of narcotics cannot be enforced and therefore their sale will be licensed and taxed in order to secure revenue to support some good cause like public education.

Actually, what was demonstrated during the prohibition era and is supported by present experience is that the forces determined to sell and consume liquor will never submit to any law. Prohibition did not produce the bootlegger nor the crime syndicates. Rather, both were produced by liquor. A news account pointed out that "an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 gallons of untaxed moonshine" is being sold each month in Nashville—where liquor is legalized.

Here is a substance which induces lawlessness. Those who are determined on its sale and consumption will bow to no law, except their own selfish course of destruction—destruction to themselves and to all law and order.

For the individual, there is no logical course except that of total abstinence; for society, nothing but total prohibition.





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