

WILMETTE LIFE

PUBLISHED THURSDAYS BY
LLOYD HOLLISTER INC.
 1232-1236 CENTRAL AVENUE, WILMETTE, ILLINOIS
 Telephone WILMETTE 4300

MEMBER OF
 CHICAGO SUBURBAN QUALITY GROUP
 Chicago Offices — 1016-1018 WILLOUGHBY TOWER
 Telephone CENTRAL 3355

SUBSCRIPTION: \$2 PER YEAR SINGLE COPIES 5 CENTS

All communications and contributions intended for publication must bear the name and address of the author, not necessarily for publication, but for our files. Such material must reach the editor by Tuesday noon to be in time for the current issue.

PASS THESE BILLS!

The Illinois general assembly has before it two bills which should be passed in jig time for the simple reason that both will contribute to the general welfare of the state, and opposition to either of them is inconceivable.

The first is a bill introduced by Senator Graham, which provides for a three-day delay between application for marriage license and its issuance. The purpose is to prevent, so far as possible, hasty marriages or those in which the contracting parties are so steeped in intoxicants that they are incapable of forming intelligent judgments, and rush into matrimony as a lark, or on a dare, or on the spur of the moment, without due consideration of the gravity of the step. To such unions must be attributed many of the divorce cases which clutter up the courts, and some actions for annulment. By all means the Graham bill should be passed without delay.

The other bill, which is about to be introduced, and by now may have been introduced, provides that any city or village which so desires may adopt the Village Manager plan of municipal administration, with the manager an officer of the municipality. At present only towns of less than 5,000 inhabitants may legally operate on the manager plan unless they are organized under a special charter.

The success of the plan in ridding municipalities where it is in operation of political domination has recommended it as a modern and effective method of achieving a quality of government of which so many communities stand in urgent need. By all means, the Village Manager bill should be passed.

WHAT TO DO?

In conversation one day recently the pastor of one of the largest churches on the north shore propounded a question that has been puzzling officials and over which many people, especially parents, have pondered through long hours of the night. He said:

"What are we going to do about these damnable taverns, so-called, that are starting so many of our young people on the road to moral, physical and mental ruin? By what means are we to reach the better natures of these young people and so thoroughly convince them of the error of their ways that they will refrain from visiting those establishments the only interest of which is to take from them whatever money they can be induced to spend? By what method is decent society going to control the taverns so that the young people may be protected, even against themselves?"

Continuing, this pastor, who has an especial interest, not only in the youngsters of his own flock, but of all boys and girls, said: "We were told when the Eighteenth amendment was repealed, and before, that never again would a saloon of the old type be permitted in this country. Some such system as that adopted by Canada, Sweden and other countries was to be set up, so that temperance would be promoted. And what have we got? Under the name of

tavern, saloons more vicious than those before the prohibition era, selling intoxicants of inferior quality, women and young girls freely admitted to loiter as long as they wish and make acquaintance with men patrons. Dancing and floor shows offered as a lure to young people of high school age and less, and no restraints as to what or how much they shall drink. What can be done by church, organizations and governmental bodies to put a stop to these practices?"

Frankly, pastor, we do not know. We have not lost faith in the innate goodness of young people. We think it is a case of them being surfeited with the ordinary diversions that once engaged them and with which they were completely satisfied. They are prompted, we think, by a spirit of adventure, to explore other fields of pleasure, with no intent to do wrong. The serious thing is that they do not recognize the danger to their future which such pursuits present.

The problem is a serious one, and the pastor's concern is quite natural, as is that of parents whose boys and girls are causing them sleepless nights by inspiring doubts as to the paths which their young feet are treading.

The solution probably lies in young people's organization, such as the church groups, Boy and Girl Scouts, Catholic Youth movement, and others, through educational processes. As for the taverns, control is up to enforcement officials and legislatures. No place where liquor is sold to all comers should be open to minor boys and girls, and such legislation should be enacted.

"WHAT DO YOU THINK?"

Congressman Everett M. Dirksen of the 16th Illinois district, gives the following facts and poses the above question:

"On March 12, Congress began debating the so-called McReynolds Neutrality bill. It comes from the Foreign Affairs committee of the House, of which Sam D. McReynolds is the chairman. To him came this telegram dated March 11th: 'Feel that McReynolds' so-called neutrality bill is actually not a neutrality bill but pro-Fascist and not in keeping with American traditions. Urge its defeat.' The telegram was signed by the Social Security Board union, made up of government employees in the Social Security board with a civil service status. Mr. McReynolds was irate. He called the Social Security board. He called the President of this union. He called the Civil Service commission. He thundered and roared. He denounced government employees in the shadow of the Capital who undertook to 'denounce legislation in which they are not concerned,' and that 'everyone of them ought to be fired.'

"We pose this question for the especial benefit of Congressman McReynolds of Tennessee: Does the fact that a citizen happens to be an employee of the government preclude him from the right to express himself on matters of interest to the whole country, upon matters of legislation, upon questions of national policy with which he as a citizen does not agree?"

Uncle Sam telling Remington-Rand company whom it shall employ in its factories; sit-down and other strikes everywhere, even among WPA workers; Madame Secretary Perkins and John L. Lewis trotting in double harness with the Washington administration holding the reins. It's the beginning of the "dictatorship of the proletariat." You make a guess as to what the end will be.

Watch those nine senile old men. A Wisconsin contractor was denied by a trades union the right to work on his own jobs with his own tools. A circuit court decided for the union, and the state Supreme court upheld the lower court. Now the matter is up to the United States Supreme court for adjudication.

NEWS-COMMENT

Prepare for war! Only blood can avenge the insult offered to Herr Hitler by Mayor LaGuardia of New York. "Brown-shirted fanatic," indeed! Draw and protect yourself!

* * *

It is stated that under the new warden the Illinois penitentiary at Stateville has become a real penal institution instead of a social club. How long has it been since we heard the same story?

* * *

A Chicago couple paused on the shore of the lake to learn what the wild waves were saying, and their automobile, quite unknown to them, backed into the water. Both were rescued.

* * *

Lo, the poor Indian. He doesn't know whether he is coming or going—and neither do we, for the matter of that, since listening to a couple of those bright boys on the radio who know all about everything, and can really read it off to you without stumbling if allowed sufficient time for rehearsals. Solemnly and with great feeling one of the boys mourned the fact that the Indian was fast becoming extinct; that he had been driven from his domain inch by inch, the ruthless white man showing no mercy whatsoever; that finally the poor Indian has tottered to the very peak of Mt. Shasta, and standing there, with the setting sun shining full into his age-dimmed eyes, prepares to yield up his ghost, as well as all other Indian ghosts, to the Great Father. That made us feel pretty bad, and slyly we shed sympathetic tears, inwardly hating ourself for belonging to a race that would do such unkind things to an innocent and helpless Indian. But just then the program changed and another voice brought surcease from our mourning and hating. He told us, with impressive conviction, that the Indian population is rapidly increasing. So what?

* * *

That sit-down striker who sat down on the bottom of Lake Superior and refused to come up until his pay was raised, certainly had the courage of his convictions. Anybody who will sit down on the bottom of a lake as he did is entitled to more pay.

* * *

The headmaster of an eastern school says that "parents of today in rearing their children, are conducting highly successful preparatory courses for insane asylums." We don't know whether you are right or not, professor, but there certainly are a lot of screwy people.

* * *

It seems that people indiscreet enough to have butlers are never safe from their tell-tale ways. A man who once held that intimate association with the poet, Browning, who died almost 50 years ago, is now relating incidents of his home life and peculiarities.

* * *

A Wilmette mail carrier was bitten in the right leg by a red chow dog while delivering mail to a golf club Friday. This is the second time this has happened. The first dog died. The mail carrier says he hopes the second one will die, too.

* * *

The Illinois general assembly is on the point of granting women the right to serve on juries. Now they will be seeking someone who knows a politician to get them out of serving. You'll be sorry, dears. You'll certainly be sorry.

THE PHANTOM REPORTER

