AMERICAN SENTINEL

WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND

The Republican Paper of Carroll County

W. L. W. SEABROOK, Editor
GUY N. FRINGER, Manager

Published every Friday Afternoon by The American Sentinel Co., of Westminster, Maryland.

OFFICE:
MAIN AND LIBERTY STREETS

Entered at the Postoffice at Westminster, Md., as Second-class matter.

MORE PATERNALISM IN GOVERNMENT

The tendency to paternalism by the National Government is growing apace. This has been apparent in recent years and becomes more so with every Congress. It has never been shown more distinctly than by the passage of the drug law which went into effect on the 1st inst. The full drastic character of this law is known to few persons. The Sentinel pleads guilty to having been in ignorance of it until enlightened by a statement of its provisions given to the Carroll Record by Mr. R. S. McKinney, a prominent Taneytown pharmacist, and published in its last week's issue. When it becomes fully known it will be a revalation to ninety-nine hundredths of the people of this country. It should have been widely published before going into effect.

Its purpose is commendable, but its restrictions are unnecessarily severe and oppressive upon nine-tenths or more of the inhabitants of this country at large. There is scarcely a drug, in common family use, that can hereafter be procured, except upon a physician's prescription, and that cannot be refilled.

Of course it is designed to prohibit the excessive use of narcotics, particularly opium in all its forms, and cocaine. But the question naturally arises whether this could not have been accomplished without depriving the people generally of the legitimate use of opium except at serious inconvenience and expense.

This is the practical question involved. Another, and perhaps more important one, relates to the constitutionality of the law. Every year the national organic law seems to be growing more and more elastic, until it must be very near the breaking point. All this extreme paternalism is foreign to the views of the statesmen who organized the government under a constitution designed to create a more perfect union than was practical under the articles of Confederation. But none of them could have foreseen to what lengths paternalism would be carried under the power conferred to raise revenue. That is not the real purpose of the measure. Can it be maintained? It may reasonably be doubted whether this drug law has anything to do with the retail drug business. The question may eventually be submitted to the judgment of the Supreme Court. The authority or non-authority of Congress to pass it has nothing to do with the merits or demerits of the measure. Modern statesmen are revolutionizing the theories of a century concerning the separate powers of the National and State Governments. If this process continues, very soon all power of every sort, will be absorbed by the Central Government.

But to return to the practical effect of the law in its relation to the people—that is fairly stated in Mr. McKinley's communication to the Record, which is as follows:

"The abuse of certain drugs and the large increase of "dope fiends" in recent years has been a matter of great concern in Medical and Pharmaceutical circles, as well as to criminologists. Numerous laws have been passed to abate the evil, but with little success. The latest and most far-reaching thing that has been done, is the passage by Congress of what is known as the Harrison Anti-Narcotic law. Being a Federal law it applies alike to all parts of the United States.

"It places the sale of Narcotic drugs, Opium and all its preparations, and Cocaine in all forms, under the direct control of the Internal Revenue Department, the same as liquor and tobacco. The law affects all who sell, dispense, give away or in any way handle these drugs. It includes Doctors, Druggists, Dentists and Veterinarians, all of whom must pay a special tax to the Revenue Collector, of One Dollar per year.

"All orders for narcotic drugs must be in duplicate on blanks sold by the collector, one copy to be preserved by the purchaser, and the other by the seller, for two years, and always subject to examination by the collector.

"The only other way these drugs may be furnished is by a physician's prescription, and that only upon the original which can not be refilled. The only exception being preparations which contain opium, but which can be used for external use only, or such preparations as contain not over two grains of opium in each ounce.

"The law is very stringent and the penalty for violation is a fine not exceeding $2,000 or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both fine and imprisonment.

"Since the passage of the law the Medical and Pharmaceutical Journals, as well as Pharmaceutical manufacturing houses, have given considerable time and space to the explanation of the law, so that dealers and dispensers are reasonably well informed in regard to it. There are some points, however, that affect the public and are of general interest.

"For instance, laudanum has been a household remedy in many families, for ages. After March 1st, no one can go to the drug store and buy a dimes' worth of laudanum; the druggist dare not sell it without an official order, or a physician's prescription, as it contains more than two grains of opium to the ounce. There are also many home preparations, chiefly diarrhoea mixtures, cough syrups, etc., containing laudanum, or some form of opium can no longer be put up, although the druggist has been filling the same for years. The sale of all medicines containing excessive narcotics will be stopped.

"In some cases the law may be a hardship, and it will cause inconvenience for dealers, yet if faithfully enforced, no doubt it will eventually prove a great benefit to humanity, in curtailing the dope evil, which, though not very prevalent in rural communities, in many places has reached gigantic proportions. Incidentally, the one dollar per year tax paid by all who are affected by the law, will bring in no small amount of revenue."

THE PRODIGAL FATHER

Under the above caption an article appeared in the Sentinel last week so disconnected from the circumstances connected with its origin as to have given it the appearance of a selection made for publication by the paper. But it was, in fact, an imitation of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, found in the 15th chapter of St. Luke's Gospel, and was written by Rev. Forlines, of Westminster Theological Seminary, and was read by him at a recent meeting of the Civic League of this city, as the basis of a plea for the interest of the League in the Boy Scout movement, the Dr. being the Scout Master. Those who read it will remember that it was designed to show fathers of this day the importance of taking a direct and constant interest in the companionship and training of their sons in moral principles and actions. It was a strong reproof of fathers who neglect that high tnd important duty.

Yet there is much to be said in this strenuous age to relieve many fathers of the odium attached to such neglect in the minds of many people. There is a vast army of such fathers whose time and toil are necessarily given to providing for the physical necessities of their families; who labor early and late for the means of sustenance. Who leave their homes while their young sons are yet lost in slumber, and who return at night, worn and weary from a day of toil. Some excuse may be made for these toil worn men, if they leave the principal training of their sons to other direct influences than their own. But, trying it may be, such fathers, if the moral welfare of their sons lies close to their hearts, will manage to cultivate and instil into their minds, at least the basis or outline of the principles that should mark all their lives; to teach them honesty, sobriety, respect for others, and, in fact, everything that should be known and practiced by the true christian gentlemen, for to be such a gentleman does not belong exclusively to any station in life. The truest gentlemen are sometimes found amongst the humblest and lowliest of men.

But it is an important fact and a great blessing to the boys of this age that the shortcomings and perhaps the best efforts of fathers are supplemented by the many agencies outside of the home now employed for the training and instruction of boys and youths in the higher elements of manhood; that these things are taught in the schools and impressed earnestly upon the minds of the pupils; that such an organization as the Boy Scouts is enlarging its field of usefulness and prompting the rising generation to aspire to and seek after he highest ideals of true christian manhood.

Notwithstanding the existence of the greatest war in history, at this time; notwithstanding the commercialism of the day; notwithstanding the greed for wealth, even predatory wealth, the existence of such organizations as the Civic League, the Boy Scouts, the charity organizations and hospitals and kindred institutions, show that the world is growing better. There may not be much room for excessive optimism, but there is none for the pessimism indulged in by many people. Some of the worst practices in this country a hundred years ago would be abhorent to everybody at this day. Dueling, for instance, was looked upon without general disfavor and the resort to the field of honor was a common practice, especially among public men and in army circles. Some of the most prominent of the public men of the country were licetious and edicted to gambling, much less than a century ago.

The "prodigal father" still exists, but, as a rule, men are growing more anxious that their sons shall lead honorable lives and are glad their efforts to inculcate in their minds just principles shall be supplemented by such institutions as have been referred to in this article.

ROLLER SKATING ON SIDEWALKS

The Gettysburg Star and Sentinel sharply condemns the children's practice of roller skating on the sidewalks of that town and says: "The roller skating propensities of the children have reached the point where they are a nuisance. New cement and concrete sidewalks are being damaged, pedestrians are being interfered with and annoyed by the unthinking children on wheels, and old people who have grown to look upon the pavement as a place of safety, are in danger of being run into and injured. It is time to stop."

This is an extreme view of the objections to the practice, which prevails also among the children of this city. It is a pleasure to the children of which they should not be deprived. But it should be regulated. The children are not apt to think of the inconvenience and annoyance, not to speak of the danger, it may be to others. When a gang of twelve or fourteen of them get together on a short stretch of concrete pavement and rush back and forth in squads, it does become dangerous and alarming, to the old particularly. Now there are, in this city, some long stretches of concrete sidewalks that if utilized in scattering the skaters would obviate the most objectionable feature of the practice. On the northeast side of East Main street, between Ralph street and the Manchester road, there are fine concrete pavements, with only a few brick breaks in them, where many more skaters can be accommodated than are now using them. Why may not the police be instructed to see that only a reasonable number of them shall be allowed at any one point. Of course it is more exhilerating and enjoyable to the children to get together in large groups; but some rights also belong to their elders and the city authorities should enforce them. There is no ordinance to prohibit the practice, or to regulate it; but the city should be held legally responsible for preserving reasonable safety from injury to all pedestrians on its sidewalks. And that can be done without depriving the children of the pleasure of skating, by allowing only a certain number in any one locality, and by warning them to be careful not to inflict injuries.

BLAIR LEE

It cannot be said that either of the Maryland U. S. Senators measures up to the ability that should be demanded by the people of the men who represent them in that body. Senator Lee is, perhaps, the superior intellectually of the senior Senator from this State, but that is not saying very much for his real ability, as a legislator or as a man. He is not above mediocrity and does not contrast favorably with nine-tenths or more of the men sent from other States to the Upper House of Congress. Perhaps a sense of his deficiency in the qualities possessed by most of the Senators, may be at the bottom of his desire to leave the Senate and become the Governor of Maryland. It has always been considered, in Maryland at least, a high step up from the executive chamber of the State to the floor of the Senate and many Governors in the past were anxious to take it, while several of them succeeded, the present Senator Smith being of the number. Senator Lee must therefore have a substantial reason for desiring to step down instead of up. What that reason really is must be a matter of conjecture. He may be disgruntled because President Wilson, who is in some measure responsible for his being in the Senate at all, did not constitute him the sole arbiter in the selection of the appointees to the various federal offices in the State. It is very well known that he did aspire to that authority and, from the President's unconcealed hostility to Senator Smith, had reason to expect that he would be called upon to make up the slate in full. But in this he was sadly disappointed and it is possible that the disappointment rankles so deeply that he is unwilling to remain in his present position. A sense of the lack of the qualities necessary to high standing in that position is scarcely possessed by Mr. Lee, whose EGO can be printed in capitals with propriety. Another reason for his remarkable proceeding may be that he is conscious that in next year's primary he will probably face a determined opposition on the part of the Democratic voters of the State and may fail of re-election if he shall stand for it. That result will be something more than a possibility; but the same prospect awaits his contest for the gubernatorial nomination in this year's primary. All the chances, in fact, are against him in that contest, and there is a strong probability that the end of his senatorship will see the end of his career as a politician and as a third rate statesman. It is to be hoped that in time Maryland will be able to improve the standard of her representatives in the National Legislature.

ALLIES' PLAN OF REPRISALS

The Allies, Great Britain and France, have at last decided upon their plan of meeting Germany's submarine warfare. They have given formal notice that Germany will be, practically hermetically sealed against all sea traffic; that, while she shall continue to maintain a sea war zone around the British Isles and along the coast of France, they will "prevent commodities of any kind from reaching or leaving" her seaports. While they studiously avoid using the word blockade their plan is to employ their war ships in maintaining on the German coast a complete surveillance of all its approaches and preventing all ships from entering any German port. Vessels attempting to do so will be siezed and their disposition submitted to prize courts, but they will not necessarily be confiscated, the simple purpose being to keep their cargoes from going into Germany, if thither bound, or from leaving that country if outward bound.

The blockade, if it can be so designated, has gone into immediate effect; but cargoes now on the seas are excepted in the declaration and may enter. Assurances are given that neutral ships or noncombatant lines will be safeguarded. That probably applies to ships now on the sea bound for German ports, or it may mean that ships trading with neutral nations will not come to harm, if doing a legitimate neutral business and not carrying contraband of war intended for Germany though bound for neutral ports. It now remains to be seen whether the Allies can make this blockade effective.

That the Allies are acting within their rights in the matter seems perfectly logical and in consonance with international law. Blockading an enemy's ports, in time of war, is a method not often resorted to, but does not seem to be forbidden by the rules of warfare. Why the Allies undertake to excuse it upon the ground that it is an extraordinary proceeding, resorted to because of Germany's submarine warfare, needs an explanation which somebody better versed in international law than the Sentinel can give it.

The United States maintained a blockade of Southern ports during the Civil War, and a good many British ships were captured and confiscated, with their cargoes, by an American prize court. There does not seem to be any difference between that action and the plan of reprisal adopted by the Allies against Germany, unless it be that in the former case the United States Navy blockaded ports of its own country, while the Allies are striking at an outside enemy. The Southern blockade was recognized by neutral countries which, however, also recognized the South as a belligerent. Neutral countries will hardly protest against the blockade of Germany by the Allies.

The purpose of the blockade does not need explanation. The intention is, as far as possible, to create a famine in Germany and thus cripple her armies and render them less effective than they would otherwise be. Unfortunately her non-combatant population must suffer the hardships entailed by the proceeding if it shall be successful. It is, however, justifiable in view of the sort of sea warfare Germany is putting up, and might be so, even if there were no submarines and floating mines to jeopardize neutral ships and imperil the lives of neutral seamen and civilians. It can hardly be held by any neutral power that the Allies have gone beyond their legitimate rights in resorting to this method of reprisal against Germany's submarine blockade of their coasts.

The right of the Allies to pursue their proposed plan in accordance with international law, as argued in the aforegoing, is, of course, contingent upon its effectiveness in relation to all neutrals. That is declared by some writers to be impossible, because Allied ships cannot enter the Baltic sea with safety, and, therefore, the Baltic German coast cannot be blockaded. That, however, remains to be seen. If true, however, the Allies may fall back upon the right of retaliation for Germany's illegal submarine warfare.

Germany has replied to the American note protesting against the danger to neutral ships by this under-sea method of attack, and has agreed to such a modification of its original intention as will prevent injury to neutrals. She, however, declines to abandon the practice of laying mines outside of the line necessary for coast defence. Her reply is a fine piece of diplomacy. She can lose nothing by proper treatment of neutral ships engaged in legitimate traffic and not carrying contraband of war, and reserves the right of search and seizure when that is suspected and proved. But the allies gain nothing of consequence by the proposed modification of her original declaration establishing a sea war zone and warning neutrals against danger. In all probability the Allies will consent to nothing short of an abandonment of that declaration in toto.

Every day, however, may now see some change in conditions and bring a possibility of closer observance of recognized international rules of warfare, or, on the other hand, of entirely ignoring these rules and going back more and more to barbaric customs.

Following is an abstract of the note of the United States to the Allies and Germany, which has not been published in detail, and to which Germany's note is a reply:

London, March 2.—A dispatch to Reuter's Telegram Company from Amsterdam gives the contents of the American note of February 22 to Great Britain and Germany's reply thereto. The notes were received in Amsterdam in a dispatch from Berlin.

The American note expresses the hope that Great Britain and Germany may, by means of reciprocal concessions, discover a basis of understanding, the result of which would tend to free ships engaged in neutral and peaceful commerce from the serious dangers to which they are exposed in passing through the coastal waters of the belligerent countries.

The suggestion is made that Germany and Great Britain should agree, first, that isolated drifting mines should be laid by neither party; that anchored mines should be laid exclusively for defensive purposes, within gun range of harbors, and that all mines should bear the mark of the Government of origin and be so constructed as to become harmless after breaking loose from their anchorage.

It is suggested, second, that the submarines of neither of the two governments should be employed to attack merchant vessels of any nationality except for the purpose of carrying out the right of holding them up and searching them, and, third, that mercantile ships of neither of the parties should employ neutral flags as a war ruse, or for the purpose of concealing their identity.

Great Britain, it is suggested, should agree that foodstuffs shall not be placed on the list of absolute contraband and that the British authorities shall neither disturb nor hold up cargoes of such goods when addressed to agencies in Germany, the names of which are communicated by the United States Government for the purpose of receiving such goods and handing them over to licensed German retailers for further distribution exclusively to the civil population.

Germany, it is contended, should declare her agreement that foodstuffs from the United States or any other neutral country shall be addressed to such agencies.

The American people, in their deep interest in the events transpiring in Europe, should keeq in mind the consequences of the legislation enacted by the Congress which adjourned last night at midnight. Fourteen thousand people, in the Maryland internal revenue district, rushed to pay the income tax due on the 1st inst., or risk the consequences in a $2000 fine, or imprisonment. Many more citizens are obliged, every day, to pay a stamp tax, imposed by a law which nobody seems able to interpret. No citizen can buy a harmless narcotic or a narcotic in harmless quantity, without paying a physician's fee for the privilege. The income and stamp taxes are necessary because of the legislation exposing American industries and the wages of labor to ruinous foreign competition. The constitutionality of the drug law can only be maintained as a revenue measure. Its purpose is not objectionable, except that it is entirely too drastic and oppressive upon innocent people. Then the country barely escaped the passage of the law to put it into partnership with corporations in buying ships. It has been saved from that by the Republican Senators and a small contingent of patriotic Democrats. Let these things be kept in mind.

Look! Look!
Civic League Members
Special Meeting
AT OPERA HOUSE
Monday, March 8th,
3 o'Clock, P. M.
In the Interest of the
Oyster Supper
To be Held in
FIREMEN'S BUILDING
MARCH, 11th, 12th and 13th.
Everybody Come

F. LaMotte Smith
SURVEYOR
Prompt attention given to all Work.
Bond Street
Westminster, Md.
C. & P. Phone 234
3-6-tf

F. A. Sharrer & Son
UNDERTAKERS AND CABINET MAKERS
A Fine Assorted Stock of
COFFINS AND CASKETS
always on hand.
We have just had completed one of the finest Hearses in the State with which all funerals entrusted to our care will be attended. We are manufacturers and dealers in
Fine and Common Furniture
Spring Beds, Mattresses, Fancy Chairs, &c.,
which we offer at lowest rates. An examination of our stock is solicited before purchasing elsewhere, as you can save money by buying from us.
F. A. SHARRER & SON
East Main St., Westminster, Md.
ap 1y

Buy A Building Lot
On Liberty Street, Extended.
BEAUTIFFL LOCATION,
NO CITY TAXES,
And Near to the Railroad Depot
CHARLES E. FINK.

Dr. Frank Trump Herr
Dentist and Oral Specialist
62 W. Main St., - Westminster, Md.

Dead Stock Removed
AT SHORT NOTICE
Phone 259
Westminster Hide & Tallow Co.

WALL PAPER AND WINDOW SHADES
Are You Interested in
Up-to-the-Minute
Wall Decorations?
Let's make an appointment at your convenience to look over the best selection of the season.
JOSEPH H. HAHN,
W. Main Street,
2nd door from Shaw's Drug Store
Westminster, Md.
Phone 104 F
"WE KNOW HOW"

MILL WRIGHTING
and repairing of all
Milling Machinery
Milling Machinery furnished at Short Notice.
Mill Burrs Dressed
30 years experience.
J. B. BARNES,
66 Pennsylvania avenue,
2 13 14 1-y Westminster, Md.

J. S. MYERS, D. D. S. J. E. MYERS, D. D. S.
DRS. MYERS,
DENTIST,
Westminster, Md.
C. & P. Phone 96-W. 1 6 1y

Insurance Agency
Fire, Life, Accident and Health, Automobile, Windstorm or Compensation,
We are in a position to give you the best at low cost. "Prompt Settlements" our Motto. We handle at all times
FIRST CLASS INVESTMENTS
that net from 5 to 7 per cent. If you are interested get in touch with us.
STONER & HOBBY,
17 W. Main St.,
Phone 42-W. Westminster, Md.

FIRE AND STORM INSURANCE
Consult me before insuring your properties as I am certain I can save you some money.
I am writing insurance every day, both Fire and Storm, and nothing is beneath my notice, as I take large and small, and both receive my best attention.
Fires take place when least expected and it is mighty comforting to know that you are being taken care of by a first class company. Examine your policies before they expire and let me renew them for you. Prices are low compared with the protection given.
CHARLES E. GOODWIN,
98 E. Main St., Westminster, Md.
mar 29-1y C. & P. Phone-210.

JAMES I. MYERS,
REPAIRER OF
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry.
All work guaranteed.
East Main street, in office formerly occupied by D. N. Henning, Esq., Westminster. Md. feb 31y*

WANTED
Furs and hides. Highest cash prices paid.
CHARLES TURFLE,
Church street,
10 2 3-m Westminster, Md.

OVER 65 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
PATENTS
TRADE MARKS
DESIGNS
COPYRIGHTS &C.
Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents.
Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive *special notice*, without charge, in the
Scientific American.
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, $3 a year; four months, $1. Sold by all newsdealers.
MUNN & Co. 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 625 F St., Washington, D. C.

Herr & Babylon
Carriage Manufacturers
Agents for
FORD and KLINE Automobiles
Fords for 1915: Touring Car, Model T, $490
Runabouts, $440
Fully Equipped, F. O. B. Factory.
Call to see us before purchasing.
All Kinds of Repair Work
Price and workmanship guaranteed
OFFICE:
56 W. Main St., Westminster, Md.
C. P. & Phone 104-K feb 1 05

The Hunter Market
Fresh and Salt Meats, Fish
Fruits and Vegetables
always on hand.
Your patronage solicited.
GEO. N. HUNTER,
Wantz Building, - Westminster, Md
C. & P. Phone 18-W

Westminster Fruit Market
Wholesale and Retail
STORES FRUIT SUPPLY
36 W. Main Street,
A. GORERA,
Phone 75 F Westminster, Md.
3 1 14 1-y

Pianos and Organs
PIANOS
Blasius & Sons Albrecht
Regent Weaver York
Hobart M. Cable Jansen
ORGANS
Estey Weaver
Sold on easy terms and prices reasonable. Call and see goods before purchasing.
JOHN T. ROYER,

Coughs
Kill If You Let Them.
Instead kill your Cough with DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY. It heals Irritated Throat and Lungs. Thousands in last 40 years benefited by
Dr. King's New Discovery
Money Back If It Fails
All Druggists 50c. and $1.00

The fact that there is general satisfaction in having the Congressmen come home from Washington does not mean that in many places the brass band will turn out to meet them at the railroad station.

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2900_scm2308-0079