

Home Brewed

By THE GENTLEMAN
AT THE KEYHOLE

WISCONSIN'S big majority against prohibition is that state's answer to the new militancy of the Drys, to the Jones Act, to the threat of larger appropriations for prohibition enforcement, to a bigger dry police force, to stories which President Hoover felt called upon to deny that the present Administration will make a sensational effort to carry out the law against liquor.

In Illinois and in Massachusetts similar attacks on state prohibition laws are being agitated.

At no time in the past could so big a majority against prohibition have been rolled up in Wisconsin. The state, largely rural in population, was regarded as probably wet, but by a narrow margin. In the last election, in which prohibition was an important issue, it gave Mr. Hoover, who had the support of the Drys, 94,000 majority. It may safely be said that the new determination of the Drys to make prohibition a reality is being met by a new determination of the wets to resist prohibition.

So the Wisconsin vote may be taken as another sign, of which there have been plenty in Washington in the last few months, that the prohibition issue is coming to be the overshadowing issue in American politics. It is significant that lawyers volunteering to defend the violators of the prohibition law compare themselves to the members of the bar who offered their services before the Civil War in behalf of violators of the fugitive slave law. It looks as if we were entering upon another "irrepressible conflict."

Three quarters of the population of this country probably have no positive convictions upon prohibition. There are millions who change with every change in public feeling. A mere catchword, like the comparison of resistance to the Jones Act to resistance to the fugitive slave law, is capable of changing the whole attitude of the country. All one can say with certainty is that the question is at the mercy of a contagion of popular feeling. The Wisconsin result is startling.

It is going to be an uncomfortable time for the politicians in Washington, like that uncomfortable time when they began to lose their faith in the "saloon vote" and began to fear the Anti-Saloon League vote. For a decade they have had perfect faith in the dry vote, and now they have to begin to worry about the wet, and right after everything seemed to be settled by the last national election. And it will probably be an uncomfortable time for the Hoover Administra-

tion. The President has already refused to appoint a commission of Drys to investigate law enforcement. For many reasons a bitter division in the electorate over prohibition is to be deplored. The Hoover Administration has started off admirably and amid great applause. Mr. Hoover has very much to give the country as an organizer of government, as a promoter of foreign trade, as a conceiver of great public works. But he requires peace and a placable state of the public mind in which to function at his best. He is the most sensitive man who has ever filled the office. He suffers under criticism, interprets opposition as personal in its motives. He is not an instinctive politician. Politics usually dies down in the midst of an Administration. But here we have in prohibition the greatest promise of incessant political agitation that has existed in the country since the cantankerous split between the progressives and the standpatters in the Taft Administration.

No President ever did a more unkind act to his successor than Mr. Coolidge did when he signed the Jones Act right at the close of his Administration. That was a veritable Pandora's box of troubles. Had Mr. Coolidge vetoed it on the ground that it should properly be left to the next Administration, an overwhelmingly Republican Congress might have refused to repass it from unwillingness to embarrass a new President. Or Mr. Hoover might have vetoed it on the broad ground that extreme penalties never promoted law enforcement. He might have done so without alienating any but the fanatical Drys and with the applause of the Wets. And in that case Wisconsin would not have happened. Well, a good many people in Washington think that Mr. Coolidge had not proper affection for his successor.

The Jones Act on top of the 18th Amendment and the Volstead Act was a little thing but it may prove the match that started the conflagration. The Drys resorted to force when they gave up temperance and moral suasion and insisted upon prohibition. When force fails the only recourse is to more force. The Jones Act is more force. And when that meets resistance there is only one remedy, still more force. So the distance between the Wets and the Drys widens. The temper of both sides is nasty and the issue cuts across party lines. Mr. Hoover has one great advantage in the coming strain, the good will which the people always feel toward their Presidents and the strong desire of everyone to see him succeed.



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The Magic Spade

Continued from page 56

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"I gave her one of your clubs."

"Which one?" he asked in a deadly voice.

"One she wanted. I don't know the name of it."

"I'll tell you the name of it," said Papa Hawley, hurling the newspaper from him. "It's my spade."

He arose and strode around the room in a slow circle, like a tiger preparing to eat a rabbit.

"You don't know much about golf, Bessie," he said. "If you did, you'd know that one person doesn't go about giving other people's property away to strangers."

"She isn't a stranger," Bessie said in surprise. "She says you two often play together."

"We do nothing of the sort. She played with me two or three times in her life, and at that all she was hanging around for was to worm that spade out of me. She's a little grafter."

His voice rose slightly and Bessie requested him to contain himself.

"I'll not contain myself! And you can't give any club of mine to anybody. That spade is the finest club in the world, and it seems as if everybody is trying to get it away from me."

THE depravity of a man's wife giving away his golf implements so impressed Papa Hawley that he roared over it for fifteen minutes and neglected his dinner. Bessie subsided, wondering over the typhoon she had started, wondering why, if a man owned one thousand golf clubs, he would get so excited about a mere spade.

"If that is the way you feel," she said finally, "I'm sorry I spoke to Miss Ortman."

"That is precisely the way I feel about it," he assured her. "You wouldn't feel like giving away my dinner clothes, would you?"

This was such a silly reference that Bessie forebore to reply and the evening passed quietly, with Rodney pointing out certain facts to his wife at intervals. The following morning, he departed at an early hour for Oak Tree and Bessie inquired timidly, for the last time, if he could not manage to come home and dine with the little group of friends.

"I told you not to ask them," he said, "and I certainly am not coming home."

He drove away full of dignity and pessimism. He grumbled his way through the familiar locker room, where gentlemen were shedding their business raiment for a day of sport, changed into his field costume and moodily joined Johnny and Joe and David.

"The old walrus," Johnny remarked, "seems a little grumpier than usual."

"That's what you get playing golf with lady champions," said David, but Papa Hawley either did not hear, or chose to ignore, and presently the creaky foursome stood at the first tee and clouted its way into an afternoon of distress.

Mr. Hawley, never a skilled user of wooden clubs, knocked his ball sideways at a most alarming angle and hit an automobile on the distant drive.

Successively, on the second, third and fourth tees, Mr. Hawley fozzled badly and in silent suffering, his agony revealed only in the deep lines about his mouth. As he proceeded farther into the contest he proceeded to smear shot after shot. His companions chuckled at a safe distance and made whispered comment.

On the seventh fairway, the faltering athlete struck a lusty blow and finished

up beside a deep bunker, a bunker which stood between him and the broad loveliness of the green. He advanced and perceived that he would have to lift his ball over the imposing mound. It was the old familiar shot.

Grimly, he prepared. Taking from his bag the famous spade which had filled Mollie Ortman and Joe Chisholm with covetous thoughts, he studied the shot carefully, measured the distance with a practiced glance and swung as he had seen Mollie swing, and as he had seen Joe swing. The golf ball rolled directly into the bunker, trickled through little ridges of sand, fell into larger ridges and wound up in a foot-print, a hoofmark made probably by a horse, or perhaps two horses.

"Suffering damnation!" shouted Papa Hawley.

Without realizing what he was doing, filled momentarily with a rage that blinded his judgment, he raised aloft the famous spade and smote it upon the bosom of the earth. It was a gesture of childish anger. The spade broke immediately into six small pieces. Bits of wood flew here and there. The shaft splintered. The famous head rolled on the ground.

Joe and Johnny and David turned their backs upon the scene and their shoulders shook in silence and Papa Hawley slowly came back to consciousness and raised his head from the ruin he had wrought. He drew a long breath, a sort of cosmic sigh. An enormous weight seemed to roll from his shoulders and he stared quietly at the golf club, which was gone forever.

The single ingredient that had made him a marked man in golf circles was in tiny bits. It could never be restored. Never again would experts gaze upon him with eyes of desire. He walked slowly around the bunker that had done the deed and faced his companions and they perceived that something had happened. Papa Hawley was calm.

"Gentlemen," he said in the polite voice they knew so well, "that is enough."

"What!" three voices shouted.

"I believe I shall go home. I have had enough golf for one day and I think I shall go home. My wife is having a little dinner party."

Three men stared at him incredulously.

"Sorry, gentlemen," he said, a note of relief in his voice, and without another word, he strolled across the broad acres of Oak Tree toward the clubhouse. His caddy followed, grinning.

THIRTY minutes later, Mrs. Bessie Hawley thought she heard the faint creaking of the garage door, which is the one sound any normal wife can detect above the fury of the radio. Leaving her anniversary guests, she hurried to the rear porch, and Papa Hawley came around the corner, dragging a golf sweater by one limp arm. Bessie stared at her husband and a glance revealed to her that everything was changed. She was staring at the Papa Hawley of pre-golf times and she knew it instantly.

"I was sure you would come home," she said significantly.

"Well," said Mr. Hawley. "I just thought—"

"Hurry up and change your clothes," Bessie directed.

"Certainly," replied Papa Hawley and his spouse knew that the Hawley family was back where it belonged, with a capable woman again the captain of her soul—and the captain of his soul, as well.

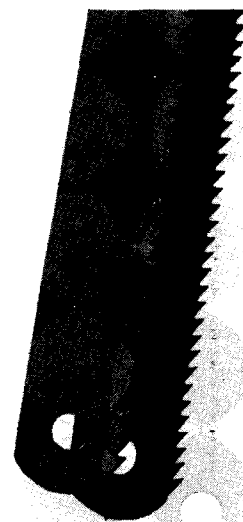
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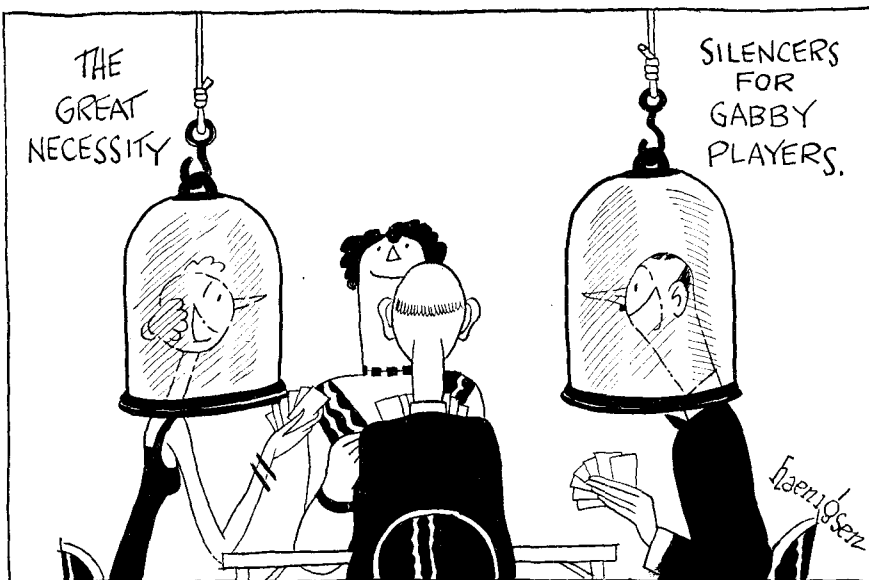
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Don't let Contract scare you

By Milton C. Work

Author of Contract Bridge for All

LAST week we enumerated the various degrees of strength which would justify original bids of one No Trump, two No Trumps, or three No Trumps; but unless the original bidder assumed the responsibility of bidding for game, his partner is called upon to play an equally important part in the declaration.

When an original bidder (for the purpose of this article we will consider him to be the dealer and call him South) has started by bidding one or two No Trumps and West has passed, the burden is upon North to determine whether to permit South to play at his less than game-going declaration, or to jump his bid to game or possibly, when it is one No Trump, to make the short jump to two No Trumps.

In this article we shall not consider cases in which North's action would be complicated by uncertainty whether to jump South's No Trump or shift to a suit, but shall confine ourselves to cases in which North should either jump the No Trump or pass.

In Auction Bridge the partner of a No Trumper, unless he has a strong five-card Major suit, generally passes; but in Contract, unless the No Trumper has bid three, the situation is very different; game cannot be made unless bid for.

To determine whether North has the strength to advance South's No Trump, we use the same count that South employs in bidding his No Trump: Ace 4, King 3, Queen 2, Jack 1, two Tens 1; but there is an item in the jumping count which is not included in the one used when determining whether to make an original bid. That item is the holding of a strong five-card suit.

When bidding an original No Trump, it is somewhat of an advantage to have a hand as evenly distributed among the four suits as possible; but when determining whether to advance partner's No Trump, a strong five-card suit which probably can be run if the No Trump becomes the contract, is a distinct asset. Consequently, when a five-card suit headed by one of the three top honors (Ace, King or Queen) is held by North, the value of the hand is increased. The five-card suit counts 1 extra when it has one of the honors named, 2 extra when it has two of them, and 3 extra when it has the whole three. In all cases the extras are in addition to the value of the honors.

Estimating the worth of his hand in this way, North, after South's No Trump, should jump to two No Trumps with a count of 9 and to three No Trumps with a count of 12; after South's two No Trumps, North should jump to three with any count of 6, or an Ace and any additional count, or a King and Queen.

To show how North should count his hand, the following four illustrations are given:

	(1)	(2)
Spades:	A-10-x	J-10-x
Hearts:	x-x	x-x
Diamonds:	K-J-x-x-x	J-x-x-x-x
Clubs:	Q-10-x	A-Q-J

In No. 1, North would count 4 for his Ace (Spades), 3 for his King and 1 for his Jack (Diamonds), 1 more for a five-card suit headed by one of the three top honors, 2 for his Queen (Clubs), and 1 for two Tens—total 12.

The No. 2 hand would be valued as follows: Jack of Spades 1, Jack of Diamonds 1, and 7 for the Club honors. (Ace 4, Queen 2, Jack 1)—total 9. No count for the five Diamonds as they are not headed by one of the three top honors, and no count for one Ten.

With No. 1, North would jump South's one No Trump to three; with No. 2 he would jump only as far as two.

	(3)	(4)
Spades:	Q-J-x	K-x-x
Hearts:	10-x-x-x	Q-x-x
Diamonds:	J-10-x	x-x-x
Clubs:	J-x-x	x-x-x-x

With either No. 3 or No. 4, North would jump South's two No Trumps to three although short of the count of 9 needed to jump South's one No Trump to two. No. 3 counts 6, the Queen 2, the three Jacks each 1, and the two Tens 1—just enough for a jump of two to three. No. 4 counts only 5, but a 5 composed of a King and Queen or an Ace with either a Jack or two Tens, is O. K. for the jump.

Now let us look at two cases in which we view the hands of both partners.

(A)	(B)
North	North
♠ A-x-x	♠ A-x-x
♥ K-x-x	♥ K-x-x
♦ 10-x-x	♦ 10-x-x-x
♣ J-x-x-x	♣ Q-J-x
South	South
♠ K-x-x	♠ K-x-x
♥ A-Q-10	♥ A-Q-x
♦ K-Q-J	♦ K-Q-J
♣ 10-x-x-x	♣ 10-x-x-x

In A, South, with a count of 16, bids one No Trump; North with 8, one short of jumping strength, passes.

In B, South, with a count of 15, bids one No Trump; North with 10 bids two; and South with the minimum for the rebid goes to three. He must win eight tricks; he probably will take nine, and may take ten.

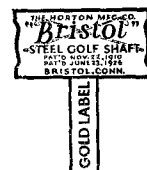
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