

*He Favors Modification  
Of Dry Enforcement Law*



FRANCIS KING CAREY

## FRANCIS KING CAREY FOR DRY REVISION

**Calls Existing Prohibition Laws  
Unwise, Unfair And  
Ineffective.**

### FAVORS LIGHTER BEVERAGES

**Believes Greatest Problem Confront-  
ing Country Is In Inter-  
national Affairs.**

In a statement, prepared after a request by THE SUN for his views on the political situation, and particularly upon the Volstead act as now in operation, Francis King Carey went on record yesterday as opposed to national prohibition in its present aspect. He declared that as a "liberal dry" he favored modifications of existing dry laws.

Mr. Carey makes it clear he is not a candidate for any political office, and that he speaks only as a private citizen. He calls the prohibition laws as now administered "unwise, unfair and worse than ineffective," and declares he favors "taking low alcoholic beverages out of the class of 'intoxicating' liquors, except in those communities which, by local option, vote to prohibit them also."

#### Views Given In Full.

His statement, in full, is as follows: "As I am not now, never have been and never expect to be a candidate for any political office, I see no reason why I should be required to express my wholly unimportant views of political questions now involved in the Senatorial campaign; but if THE SUN asks for them I suppose I have no right to avoid any criticism which might follow my public expression of them.

"For the last 40 years I have been and still am a 'conservative wet,' but I think those of my friends who are wholly intolerant of any effort to regulate the manufacture and sale of liquor would class me as a 'liberal dry,' because I must in frankness say that I would prefer to submit to the present intolerable and threatening conditions rather than to return to those which prevailed before the war.

#### Believes Repeal Impracticable.

"The repeal or even the alteration of the Eighteenth Amendment does not seem to be practicable, but there is no reason why a public-spirited and thoroughly honest effort to liberalize the enforcement law without bringing back the pre-war conditions should not have a fair chance of success.

"Fanatical wetness only strengthens the hands of fanatical dryness and the Association Against Prohibition, if it really hopes to accomplish anything practical, ought, in my opinion, to see the wisdom of adopting some concrete



plan of liberalization which its legal advisers think will pass the test of a decision of the Supreme Court and which reasonably safeguards whatever is salutary in the purposes of the liquor legislation.

"Personally I am strongly inclined to believe that a large majority of the people of Maryland, including many sincere prohibitionists, think as I do, that the present legislation has proved to be unwise, unfair and worse than ineffective, and would look upon with favor an honest effort to liberalize it by taking low alcoholic beverages out of the class of 'intoxicating' liquors except in those communities which, by local option, vote to prohibit them also.

#### **Believes Wets Would Agree.**

"With very few exceptions even my ultra wet friends seem to think that public opinion would support a law which prohibited the saloon and drastically regulated or even entirely prohibited the manufacture and sale of hard liquor.

"While I expect to vote for the Democratic candidate for the Senate of the United States, because I thoroughly believe in the principles of the Democratic party, and especially in the liberal policies which were advocated by President Wilson, I sincerely hope that Mr. Garrett will be nominated as the candidate of the Republican party. I know him well and believe he is admirably fitted by training, temperament and generosity of heart and mind to help in the solution of the great problems which now confront the people of the United States.

#### **Still For Lodge Ideas.**

"Personally, I think the greatest of these problems is involved in the prompt acceptance by the United States of its duties and responsibilities in its international relations, although I thought at the time and think now that President Wilson made a mistake in not accepting the Lodge reservations. If we had entered the existing League of Nations under the Lodge reservations it seems to me that the world would have been saved many of the grave mistakes which have been made in the difficult process of international reconstruction.

"I think experience proves that the Democratic party can be better trusted to meet this difficult problem than our Republican friends, although I am more than willing to admit that the whole world should be grateful to President Harding and his Cabinet for the magnificent results of the Washington Conference."

---