

New York Prohibitionist



Think NY Vote Dry

September 2018

Volume 1 #9

Carrying The Torch

The Prohibition Party is moving forward in its 150th year of activism, and the reestablished Prohibition Party of New York in its second year of renewed organization. We continue our work in issue advocacy, reform activism, and encouraging the public to hold our elected officials accountable. We are and will continue to work to make progress. As 1884 Prohibition Party presidential candidate John St. John said, "we are lighting a torch that will burn forever", and we are carrying that torch.

Sign Up For The New York Prohibitionist

Interested in keeping up to date with all the news from the New York Prohibitionist? Well, you can sign up for our email list, and have latest issues emailed to you when they come out. All you have to do is email newyorkprohibition@aol.com and let us know you'd to sign up. You can also do so by messaging the New York Prohibition Party Facebook Page or the New York Prohibition Party Twitter Account.



Prohibition Party National Conference

The Prohibition Party's National Conference will soon be coming. Typically, the presidential national conference happens during the summer of the prior to the election year. But this time it was decided to hold the conference early, to get an earlier jump on campaigning. The 2020 national conference will be held a week after the November elections, on November 13th, 8:00 pm. The business of the conference will include selecting a President and Vice-Presidential candidate, as well as developing the 2020 Prohibition Party platform. All members who are current with their annual party dues will be able to participate.

Party Treasurer Jim Hedges sent out the following message about the conference.

"There will be a conference call, an "electronic convention," on November 13th of all "paid up" members of the Prohibition Party. The agenda of this call will include nominating our national ticket for the 2020 election.

If you would like to run for President, speak up now. Notify the Secretary (Bill Bayes -- bbayes51@gmail.com), and send me (hedges@prohibitionists.org) a short bio and campaign statement to publish in the next National Prohibitionist. Anyone who will be at least 35 years old on inauguration day may be our candidate.

The winter and spring issues of the Prohibitionist were mailed today. The deadline for the summer issue is October 15th. That's only 3 weeks away."

In response, National Committee Member Barry Alfonso added the following suggestion,

"In preparation for the discussion of the party platform, I would suggest that all participants write and submit a paragraph stating the most important issues the party would emphasize in the upcoming campaign and what its goals should be in 2020 overall. This paragraph should be no more than 200 words. I think this would stimulate an important reconsideration of the Prohibition Party's principles for the years ahead."

In addition to Hedges' statement, national chairman Rick Knox added,

"All candidates for President should notify the chair in writing at least two weeks before the nominating conference and should submit a brief biography to the membership, only those members who are paid up will be allowed to vote, no exceptions, it is my desire to run the process in an orderly fashion"

We would encourage all members to do their part to participate in the conference. If you are a member who isn't current with your dues, you get current by mailing a check or money order for \$10 to the Prohibition National Committee at P.O. Box 11, McConnellsburg, PA 17238, before election day. If you are interested in becoming a member and being able to participate in the coming conference, then email treasurer hedges at prohibitionists@hotmail.com and secretary Bayes at bbayes51@gmail.com and send the \$10 dues payment. Make sure to mail it out soon enough to make sure that arrives before election day. So, within the next couple weeks.



"it is the first duty of the government to protect the health and lives of its people," Eugene Chafin

Makeley For Assembly

We are now less than 6 weeks away from the November 6th elections. Jonathan Makeley is running as the Prohibition Party candidate for the 146th district of the New York State Assembly. Due to the state's unfair an unequal ballot access laws, Makeley will be running as a write in candidate (those who want to vote for him will need to writ his name in the write-in section of the ballot). Makeley plans to use the last weeks of the election to continue to spread his message of good government for the people, and to try to get as many write-in votes as possible. For those who are interested in reading more about the campaign, you can check out the Makeley For Assembly campaign website.

<https://mrhistory956.wixsite.com/makeley-for-new-york>

New York State Health Department Soda Commercials

Recently, the New York State Department of Health has begun running a series of television and online commercials informing people about the negative health impacts. While that's nice, it would be better if they also started running commercials informing pop about the negative health impacts of alcohol.

"Do you think a man who votes against a flagrant wrong ever loses his vote? I tell you nay. There is a day after to-day; and the votes of the men who stand up for righteousness to-day will count in the future of this country-count a hundred times more than the votes of those stifle their consciousness to serve their party" Dr. Washington Gladden

Fusion voting

Once again, we are seeing some members of the mainstream political establishment in New York attacking our state's practice of fusion voting. For those who may not be aware, New York state's election system includes the practice of fusion voting. Fusion voting means that two or more parties can choose to nominate the same person as their candidate for office. The candidate can appear on the ballot line for each of the parties that nominate them, and the votes they receive under each of their ballot lines are totaled to determine their results in the election. This practice helps to allow people from different parties to come together to work for common interests, and helps to establish coalitions beyond the regular confines of the two major party camps. It creates more options for minor parties to have influence on an election. Having a candidate on multiple ballot lines can increase the likely number of votes for a candidate. As such, the major parties can be motivated to select candidates that appeal to a broader range of political affiliations in order to increase the chance of getting their candidates cross-nominated. It can also provide opportunities for minor parties to come together to have a stronger chance of competing with the major parties. For instance, in 2017, the Upstate Jobs Party, Reform Party, and Independence Party came together to nominate Ben Walsh for mayor of Syracuse. Walsh was able to defeat both the Democratic and Republican candidates, to win the mayoralty. Overall, Fusion voting helps allow minor parties to have a greater influence on our state's politics and forces the major parties to pay more attention to people outside of their mainstream, major party, political elite. As such, it is important that New York continue to allow for Fusion voting.

It is for the reason that fusion voting is valuable, that it is currently under attack. Some political figures, largely from the dominant Democratic Party, are attacking Fusion voting because they see it as disadvantageous to their political dominance. They are upset that in some races the Republicans could win races by allying with some minor parties, where if they didn't the Democratic candidates would have been more likely to win. What that argument boils down to is, if they could block or limit the ability of other groups from participating in the election, then they would be more likely to win. This type of thinking isn't novel. It was this type of thinking that was used by the major parties when they created unequal ballot access laws to make it difficult for third party candidates to get on the ballot, and when they eliminated Fusion voting in most other states. It's the type of logic that one party dominated, authoritarian governments around the world have operated. It is a type of thinking that is anti-democratic in sentiment, and is unsuitable for a democratic republic.

There are some thinkers, who support the dominance of the two-party system and claim that Fusion voting promotes political extremism. They claim that the dominance of two major parties inclines each of the major parties to act more moderately, in order to appeal to middle of the road swing voters. They claim that the influence that fusion voting gives minor parties, lead the two major parties to embrace more extreme positions to appeal to minor parties.

There are several problems with such claims. 1. It ignores the polarizing tendencies of the two-party system. The two-party system attempts to force politics into a narrow binary: that there are two political groups, with two ways of political thinking, that are diametrically opposed to each other. The major parties demand of voters that they must side with one of these two totalizing groups, and are often inclined to try to capture votes by portraying the other group as being horrible. This binary, us versus them, mentality can incline the major parties to become more extreme in order to differentiate themselves from each other and secure votes.

2. Political extremism is not something unique among third parties. All political parties can potentially hold "extreme" views or attract so-called political extremists. The two major parties each have their subgroups of political hardliners who try to move their party more towards their views, promising to bring in or withhold votes depending on whether the party satisfies their requests. Most states in this country don't have fusion voting, but you don't see the major parties magically acting more moderate. Which goes to show that political activists with views outside of the moderate mainstream do not need Fusion voting to have leverage over the major parties, and why and of fusion voting wouldn't do anything to make the two major parties less divided. In addition, just because a group is a third party, doesn't necessarily mean that it is politically extreme. While many minor parties espouse political ideas that are not currently accepted by the political mainstream, they can hold mainstream positions on certain issues, and some political parties (such as the Reform Party and the Serve America Movement) posture themselves as centrist alternatives to the two major parties.

3. Just because a third party espouses positions that are outside the political mainstream, it does not mean that their political influence is necessarily a bad thing. Back in the 19th century, you had political "extremists" who wanted to abolish slavery. Their proposal was considered extreme in its early days, but they were able to advance support for it, and over time gained enough political influence to ban slavery in the U.S. In that case, it was a good that an "extreme" political idea was advanced. It was a good thing this political change happened. And it was a good thing that you had third parties like the Liberty Party to advance it and help make it a

mainstream political position. Likewise, many major achievements in our political and social history (such as women's suffrage, civil rights, universal public education, programs to help those in need, et cetera) were promoted by third parties before the major parties were willing to commit them. Having so-called extreme third parties isn't necessarily a bad thing, and the influence of minor parties can have a positive impact on the progress of our society. Trying to marginalize minor parties merely because they advance ideas outside of the political mainstream is misguided.

In addition to these attacks, there is the context from which the latest rounds of attacks on Fusion voting arose. The Working Families Party, which typically cross-nominates Democratic candidates, decided to shun incumbent Democratic Governor Andrew Cuomo in favor of his challenger Cynthia Nixon. And after Governor Cuomo defeated Nixon in the Democratic Primaries, the Working Families Party indicated that it may keep Nixon on their ballot, instead of giving it to Cuomo. Thus, you have the irony of some people who are attacking Fusion voting because a minor party decided to nominate their own candidate for Governor instead of doing a fusion nomination. And as such, this latest round of attacks on fusion voting is, in part, one of the multiple ways in which elements in the Democratic Party are vindictively trying to damage and destroy the Working Families Party, because they would not bend to their will.

UB Living Stipend Movement

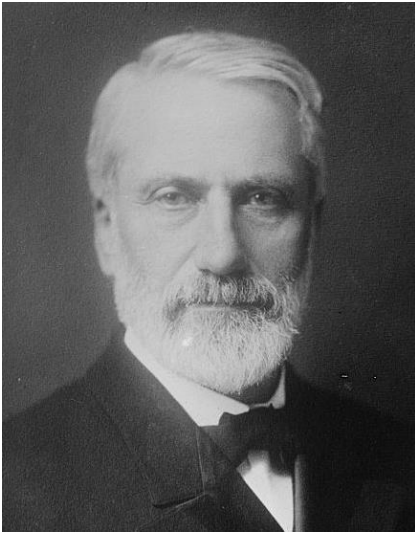
The UB Living Stipend Movement is a student movement at the University at Buffalo, advocating for better payment for Teaching and Research assistants at the university. In our April Issue, we had an article describing an event they held in April, which we sent a representative to the New York Prohibition Party to. You can read it here: https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/2cc7be_9d5e474306aa492b9051ea5f5ce4bcd1.pdf

They will be holding another event at the University at Buffalo, Capen Hall, at 7:00 AM, October 1st. <https://www.facebook.com/UBLivingStipend/>

Cuomo's Ironic Actions

In last month's issue, we reported how the state had introduced a program using new technology to crack down on underage drinking. In response to our call for suggested topics in this month's issue, New York PNC member Robert Emery pointed out Governor Cuomo's ironic attempt to take credit for it.

"If your readers have a sense of humor, they might enjoy Gov Cuomo's announced crack down on underage drinking (given that he has done more to encourage drinking among New Yorkers than any other public figure in recent history): <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-dmvs-using-new-technology-crack-down-underage-drinking>"



Isaac Kaufmann Funk: Prohibitionist Printer

Isaac Kaufmann Funk was born on September 10th, 1839, in Clinton, Ohio. He attended at Wittenberg College and the Wittenberg Theological Seminary, in Springfield Ohio. In 1860, he was ordained as a Lutheran pastor, and acted as a pastor for various churches in Ohio, Indiana, and New York. In 1872, he resigned from the ministry and later moved towards a career in publishing.

In 1875, Isaac Funk teamed up with Adam Wagnalls (who was a lawyer, accountant, and a former Wittenberg classmate of Funk), to found the Funk and Wagnalls publishing company. Funk and Wagnalls published a variety of works, including dictionaries, encyclopedias, reference books, religious works, and temperance writings. It was a major publisher for Prohibition Party literature, and the writings of many important prohibition activists. This reflected Funk and Wagnalls support for the temperance and prohibition cause.

In 1880, Funk founded the *Voice*, as a national Prohibition Party publication. In 1885, Funk ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for Mayor of Brooklyn. He contended that outgoing Mayor Seth Low was not making satisfactory appointments to the city's excise board, and argued that it was time for the city to elect an out-and-out prohibitionist. He received 925 (0.92%) votes, and came in 4th place.

In 1888, Funk ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for Congress in New York's 4th district. He received 292 (0.83%) votes and came in 3rd place. In 1892, he ran for Congress in the 2nd district, receiving 499 (1.42%) votes and coming in 3^d place. In 1896, he ran in the 2nd district again. He received 103 (0.29%) votes and came in 5th place.

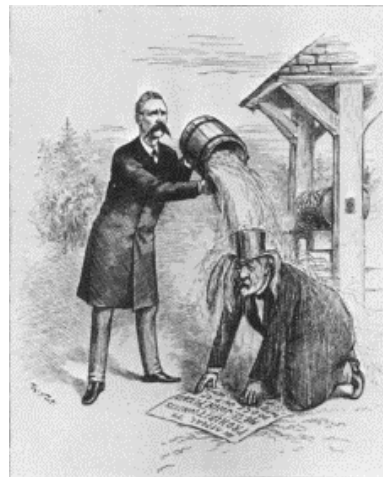
Throughout, the 1880's and 90's, Funk was highly involved in the Kings County Prohibition Party. In 1894, got into some controversy. In the 1893 election Funk had been working to elect Prohibition Party candidates in Kings

County. The standard campaign procedure directed by the county committee was to distribute Prohibition Party ballots to local pastors, along with a letter encouraging them to both vote for and encourage others to vote for the local Prohibition Party ticket. In addition to this, Funk had also sent major party ballots and a letter stating that if one was unwilling to vote for all the candidates on the Prohibition ticket, to consider voting for at least some of them. In response, some members tried to expel Funk from the county committee. But the majority voted against expelling him, and the matter was tabled.

In 1897, Funk ran for Brooklyn Borough President. He received 639 (0.34%) votes and came in 5th place.

Funk died on April 4th, 1912, and was buried at Green Woods Cemetery in Brooklyn. In his life, Funk helped contribute to the publicity and political activity of the Prohibition Party, and through his publishing company had left behind many valuable works that help us in understanding the history of the Prohibition Party.

Sources: "Charter Election - Official Canvass." Brooklyn Daily Eagle (Brooklyn), November 24, 1885.
 "First in the Field." Brooklyn Daily Eagle (Brooklyn), October 14, 1885.
 "Funk Absent But Victorious. The Motion to Expel Him Tabled by the Prohibitionists." Brooklyn Daily Eagle (Brooklyn), July 10, 1894.
 "Isaac K. Funk." Wikipedia. February 14, 2018. Accessed September 26, 2018. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isaac_K._Funk.
 "Isaac Kaufman Funk (1839-1912) - Find A Grave..." Find A Grave. Accessed September 26, 2018.
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/25786677/Isaac-kaufman-funk>.
 "Our Campaigns - Candidate - Isaac Kaufman Funk." Our Campaigns. Accessed September 26, 2018.
<https://www.ourcampaigns.com/CandidateDetail.html?CandidateID=235760>.
 "They Still Love Funk. Prohibitionists Refuse To Expel Their Leader." Brooklyn Daily Eagle (Brooklyn), March 6, 1894.



"Cold Water Comfort. St. John: 'I shall neither withdraw from the canvass nor assume a neutral position.'" Harper's Weekly, October 25, 1884.

St. John in New York

In 1884, former Kansas governor and prohibition activist, John St. John ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for president. He had strong national results, receiving over 147,000 votes. In New York, he received over 25,000 votes. His strong results in New York and his ability to attract disaffected voters away from the major parties arguably led to Republican James Blaine losing the state to

Grover Cleveland, and bringing an end to the Republicans six-time presidential winning streak.

During the election, St. John made dozens of speeches at temperance camp meetings and Prohibition Party rallies. He attracted crowds with hundreds, and at times thousands, of people. He gave his speech formally accepting the Prohibition Party nomination for president at a temperance camp meeting in Cuba New York, to a crowd of over 3,000 people.

On October 18th, he held a campaign event at Chickering Hall in New York City, during which he spoke to a crowd of several hundred people.

In the speech, he made the following statement:

"Some people say our party, that it has not got money nor uniforms nor 80,000 torchbearers. Very True. But we are lighting a torch that will burn forever. We have no influence, they say. Very true. We have not sufficient interest with the railroad companies to secure palace cars to haul us all over the country. In fact, I'm inclined to the belief that, being in the interest of the laborer, it would not be becoming in us to ride through Hocking Valley in a palace car, when laborers are working under the ground with barely enough to live on. [Applause.] We pay our own fare. If we have not sufficient money we go on foot, [cheers.] but we reach our destination. People say: 'oh we don't want to throw away our vote.' Let me tell you that no vote cast for principle ever was thrown away. [Cheers]".

On October 24th, he visited the city of Buffalo for two events. Hundreds of supporters from Buffalo and across Western New York came to see him. A crowd of 300 prohibitionists paraded through Buffalo and converged at St. John's first event. His second event attracted a crowd of 600. He spoke about how the Prohibition Party was a party of principle that championed prohibition. He spoke about how the major parties had abandoned the homes of the country and were siding with the liquor interests. He spoke in favor of women's suffrage and the need to champion the interests of the working class.

When all was said and done, St. John was able to receive the largest presidential vote result that the party had gotten so far at the time, greatly increased public awareness of the party, help attract many people to join the party, and started off a series of Prohibition Presidential candidates receiving hundreds of thousands of votes per election.

Sources: "Blaine's Cowardice. Governor St. John Addresses Two Rousing Meetings." The Buffalo Times (Buffalo), October 24, 1884.
 POCOCK, EMIL. "Wet or Dry? The Presidential Election of 1884 in Upstate New York." New York History 54, no. 2 (1973): 174-90.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/23170001>.
 "St. John in Town." Buffalo Evening News (Buffalo), October 24, 1884.
 "Their Votes Not Thrown Away." New York Times (New York City), October 18, 1884.

"We must recognize drinking for what it is; the physical, mental, and spiritual mutilation of a person" Jonathan Makeley

A Deadly Comparison

Alcohol is an extremely harmful and deadly substance. The pro-alcohol crowd try to deny and minimize its harms. They try to pretend like it's not a problem. But the statistics show that they're wrong. Alcohol kills over 88,000 people in the United States each year. That is more than the 49,000 killed by opioids each year. It is more than the over 17,000 murders and non-negligent homicides committed each year. It averages to about one death every 6 minutes. On average, more Americans are killed by alcohol every two weeks than were killed in the 9/11 attacks. More Americans have been killed by alcohol in the past year than have been killed in every war that the U.S. has fought in the past 62 years. And it has killed more Americans in the past 20 years than have been killed in every war in our nation's history. Alcohol kills 3.3 million people a year worldwide. That is more than were killed in the Cambodian Genocide (1,300,000- 3,000,000), the Armenian Genocide (700,000 – 1,500,000), and the Rwandan Genocide (500,000 – 1,000,000). Alcohol kills more people in 3 years than were killed in the Ukrainian Genocide (1,800,000 – 7,500,000), and kills more people in 6 years than were killed in the Holocaust (11 – 17 million).

The alcohol industry's proponents try to deny and minimize recognition of the harm that their products cause. But when you have a practice whose capacity for destroying lives rivals mass murder, war, and genocide, it is clear that you have a problem.

Links: <https://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/alcohol-use.htm>
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>
<https://www.statista.com/statistics/195331/number-of-murders-in-the-us-by-state/>
<https://www.cnn.com/2013/07/27/us/september-11-anniversary-fast-facts/index.html>
http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/facts/alcohol/en/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_genocides_by_death_toll

Alcohol Kills More People Than AIDS

The World Health Organization's latest reports show that alcohol is responsible for over 3 million deaths worldwide. It amounts to 5.3% of deaths worldwide; over 1 in 20. In addition, it is estimated that 283 million people are addicted to alcohol. By contrast, HIV/AIDS is responsible for 1.8% of global deaths, and over 36 million living with HIV/AIDS.

The highest levels of alcohol consumption tend to be in Europe and the Americas, but some areas, such as China and India are seeing increases in alcohol use.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/alcohol-responsible-one-20-deaths-worldwide-130154640.html?src=mail&src=trk=ma>
<https://www.hiv.gov/hiv-basics/overview/data-and-trends/global-statistics#ref>

"What is morally right can never be politically wrong, and what is morally wrong can never be politically right." Anthony Ashley Cooper, Lord Shaftsbury

News Across the State and Nation

Here are some of the news stories that have been reported over the past month:

From Syracuse.com: Feeding America as released a report estimating that 12% of New York state's population struggles with hunger. The article lists the top 25 counties for food insecurity. Those, from 16th to 1st are Orleans, Cortland, Steuben, Niagara, Montgomery, Oneida, Fulton, Clinton, Albany, Chautauqua, Allegany, Onondaga, Monroe, Cattaraugus, Oswego, Erie, Chemung, Franklin, Jefferson, Brome, New York, St. Lawrence, Tompkins, Bronx, and Kings.

<https://www.syracuse.com/expo/news/entry-2018/09/1855aad73c6600/see-new-york-counties-with-hig.html>

From Sun Community News: Essex County has passed a law raising the legal age to purchase tobacco to 21. They have become the first county in the northern part of the state to join a growing number of counties that have passed tobacco 21 laws.

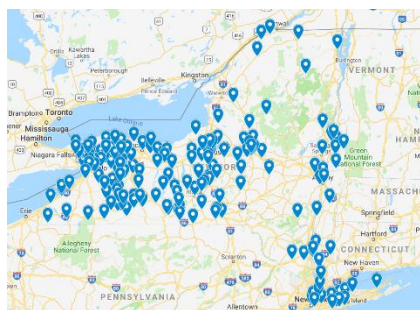
<http://www.suncommunitynews.com/articles/the-sun/essex-county-2018/09/1855aad73c6600/see-new-york-counties-with-hig.html>

From USA Today: Commissioner Scott Gottlieb of the Food and Drug Administration has declared that the use of electronic cigarettes among youth is an epidemic, and has announced that the FA will temporarily ban sales of flavored electronic cigarettes, and will ramp up enforcement against the sale of tobacco products to minors.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2018/09/12/fda-scott-gottlieb-youth-vaping-e-cigarettes-epidemic-enforcement/1266923002/>

From WIVB: Senator Charles Schumer has introduced a bill that would ban people under the age of 21 from engaging in sports betting.

<https://www.wivb.com/news/sen-schumer-wants-to-prevent-people-under-age-21-from-sports-betting/1404954743>



Expanding Outreach

Our public messaging efforts continue to reach an increasing number of people in New York State and beyond. We continue to reach more people over Facebook. Our most recent data shows that content from our Facebook page has been viewed by people in at least 186 communities across the state, in 52 out of 62 counties. We also reached people in 46 other states, and 50 countries.

The Value of Law

Recently, an interesting exchange of comments was made Facebook with the New York Prohibition Party and the Arkansas Prohibition Party pages.

It started when the New York Prohibition Party page posted a quote from 1926 Prohibition Party candidate for governor, Charles Manierre.

Law ought to be on the side of decency and order, and even though not completely successful in its enforcement it constitutes at least a declaration of the intelligence of the citizens as to what is decent and right." Charles Manierre

After that, the Arkansas prohibition party page shared it with the comment,

"Don't fall into the fallacy "You can't legislate morality". We must as a society draw lines that cannot be crossed."

To which the New York Prohibition Party added the comment,

"Indeed. It is possible to "legislate morality" and our society actually does it quite often. Laws against murder, laws against rape, laws against assault, laws against theft, et cetera, are instances of legislating morality. We'd be far worse off if our society didn't take stands on important moral issues. We are currently worse off because our government isn't taking strong action against the alcohol industry."

Let's Do Lunch

In order to help grow the Prohibition Party and to help lay the groundwork for social reform, we must work to reach out to people and encourage them to join in our effort. Since we don't have the kind of resources that the major parties have, we must work with what we have, be innovative, and work to build up at the grassroots level.

One possible way to help attract potential supporters through lunch meetings. Say one has an individual or small group of people who you think might be potentially interested in the party or could become interested if they got the chance to learn more about it. One possible way to approach the matter could be to invite them to lunch or some other alcohol free are of casual social interaction. It can provide an opportunity to talk with them and help promote the party. Furthermore, if one is able to gain some members in an area, it can also provide an avenue for group meetings and helping to establish activities. The Alabama Prohibition Party has found some good success in using such practices. As such, it helps to show that such activities provide a potential avenue for gaining members and building up local level organization.