Drinking controversial topic at MIT during 1930's

Editor's note: A student poll on drinking and Prohibition taken in 1930 generated a number of remarks, some on the part of the editor and "wino-crickers," (Reprinted from March 34, 1930).

To repeal the 18th amendment would not be consistent with the ideals humanity is striving for. Since strict enforcement is impossible, and present situation is intolerable, modification is the only way out of it.

It is not only the men who must be considered in this problem but also the wives, mothers, and daughters. If your government has the right to impose any law why hasn't it the right to enforce the 18th amendment? Law can take our body for war -- why not our appetite for the good of the majority?

Prohibition is a great social and economic experiment. One decade of half-hearted eye-winking enforcement is not enough to test it. At least half a century should be allowed, with less pecuniary wickedness in high places, before final judgment is passed.

I believe that there should be sale of all liquors but that conditions of sale should be regulated and restrictions possible. We cannot force people to be temperate but industry can demand that they be.

Because a few fanatics are few people get drunk is no reason to prohibit the rest of the population from having liquor. Besides, prohibition has only increased the intake of liquor.

The best way to repeal a law is to enforce it. In this way its undesirable qualities will be brought to light and recognition by all the people will follow.

Senator ballyhoo delated initial aim.

Make a serious effort to eliminate graft and the like among the enforcement forces then I believe prohibition would work.

In any other country I would favor moderate prohibition, but in this country where the very men who make the laws ridicule them and break them, where prohibition is political and not a moral issue, I absolutely oppose it.

Pump the water drier than the Sahara and use the alcohol for food.

It is not only the men who must be considered in this problem but also the mothers, wives, and daughters. They are taking to drink as never before. The only way to remedy this is by more strict enforcement.

Enforcement for a certain length of time at least, coupled with education.

Strict enforcement because constant breaking of one law causes disrespect for others and tends toward demoralization.

Some sort of effective and moderate legislation is desirable. Something more than a noble experiment.

If there were more honesty and less well-minded "following the crowd" in our treatment of this question, the whole trouble would soon blow over.

Such a poll doesn't appear to me to be in very good taste.

I advocate State Legislation regarding the restriction of saloons. Rigorous state laws to deal with drunkenness which endangers public safety. I see no difference between the effects of alcohol and those of other narcotics. Yet no one decries enforcement of narcotic laws.

No other law receives such ill-governed regulation, and yet more

is more beneficial to industry and the morality of the worker.

Prohibition is the beginning of Congress encroachment on our personal liberties [sic]. Although I do not drink, I am not in favor of the act.

To repeal the eighteenth amendment would not be consistent with the ideals humanity is striving for. Since strict enforcement is impossible, and present situation is intolerable, modification is the only way out of it.

Liquor is too expensive now. Am in the upper eighth of the class and un drunk three times a week.

Liquor as a beverage ranks far below dish water.

I favor state control much like Canada's system.

I believe that those who insist on drinking should have access to non-paralyzing stuff.

Any man who goes to Tech must drink once in a while for "Tech is Hell." You can lead a horse to water. My women like boozes, so I drink it.

The Tech should publish gin recipes. Hope all the prohibitionists choke on their ginger ale.

May roses grow redder and blossom like never before.

I wish they would clean out the bath tub in Chelsea where they make it. Down with prohibition supported by hypocrites.

U.S. should deport all the foreign bootleggers and patronize the native [sic] ones.

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"Remarks during and Prohibition taken by students Will."

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