

From

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# WEALTHY HOOCH HOUNDS SCORED

Governor Ferguson Says Enforcement  
of Prohibition Laws "Mockery  
of Justice, Stench"

REWARD \$500 IS OFFERED

Governor Will Pay That Amount for  
Arrest of Any Violator Worth  
\$5,000—Poor to Pen

By United Press.

AUSTIN, Nov. 28.—Offering a  
reward of \$500 for the arrest and  
conviction of any person worth  
more than \$5,000 for violation of  
the prohibition laws, Governor  
Miriam A. Ferguson issued a for-  
mal statement scoring the high-  
brows of Texas.

She characterized the prohibi-  
tion law as one for the rich and  
against the poor. She made scath-  
ing remarks about judges who use  
liquor themselves and send home  
brew manufacturers to the peni-  
tentiary. She said in effect that  
if the rich were continued to be  
allowed to go free for liquor law  
violations and the poor sent to the  
penitentiary for them, then "jus-  
tice becomes a mockery and law a  
stench in the nostrils of all law  
abiding persons.

The statement in full:

"I, Miriam A. Ferguson, governor  
of this state, charged with the en-  
forcement of the laws of this state, do  
hereby offer a reward of \$500 for the  
arrest and conviction of any citizen of  
this state worth in property or money  
as much as \$5,000. The funds at my  
command are limited, but I will use  
every cent available to continue this  
reward in force. The enforcement of  
the liquor law is for the rich and  
against the poor.

"If a big newspaper publisher from  
a North Texas city can carry liquor  
with him, dispense pints by the dozen  
among his friends and while under  
the influence of intoxicants, display  
himself in a public place because he  
is worth a million dollars and not be  
molested, while the poor and unfortu-  
nate are daily sent to the penitentiary  
for having a single pint, if a promi-  
nent ex-official and millionaire pub-  
lisher from a South Texas city can  
buy all he wants and have it sent to  
his residence just because he has a  
big newspaper and never have his de-  
relictions inquired into by any officer  
much less indicted; if a prominent dis-  
trict judge in a central Texas city can  
try bootleggers and at the same time  
drink bootleg whiskey, if wealthy busi-  
ness men can fill their lockers with  
liquor and boast about it to their  
friends and not be molested while the  
penitentiary is full of poor devils with  
neither friends nor money because  
they were found guilty of having a  
pint in their pocket or making home  
brew for home use, then indeed if all  
these things happen is justice a mock-  
ery and law a stench in the nostrils of  
all law abiding people.

"I am not undertaking to justify the  
poor in the violation of the law but  
I here and now call upon all officials  
of this state from the biggest down to  
put the same law in force against the  
rich as is now enforced against the  
poor.

"Let our Methodist friends, who  
seem so much exercised about the pow-  
er pardon of the governor, help us  
detect and convict a few of the big  
highbrows and we will have then done  
a big thing and shown that in this  
land of democracy all men, regardless  
of their wealth, are equal before the  
law.

"If the rich of the country were not  
patronizing so many of the bootleg-  
gers and aiding them to violate the  
law, then the bootleggers would have  
to go out of business for lack of busi-  
ness.

"If those who criticize me for lax  
law enforcement will now join me in  
the arrest and detection of those who  
are most to blame for the violation of  
the liquor law, then indeed will jus-  
tice be done.

"Done this 28th Day of November,  
A. D., 1925.

Signed, Miriam A. Ferguson"