

The Booze Business is On the Run

The following newspaper items clipped from recent issues of the papers shows the rapid progress of the prohibition movement in all parts of the country.

Prohibition in 1914.

Providence Journal: No student of social and economic problems can afford to ignore the developments of the past year as regards the liquor traffic. Irrespective of our personal views on the subject, we must mark with interest the following facts:

1. The sale of vodka was abolished in Russia by imperial decree at the outset of the war, and within the last few days beer also has come under the ban at Petrograd.
2. France has forbidden the traffic in absinthe.
3. The open hours of English public houses have been curtailed.
4. On March 1 a state-wide prohibition law went into effect in Tennessee.
5. On July 1 West Virginia inaugurated state-wide prohibition.
6. On November 3, constitutional amendments forbidding the sale of liquor were adopted in Arizona, Colorado, Oregon and Washington.
7. A majority of the national house of representatives on December 22 voted in favor of submitting a prohibition amendment to the states.

The opponents of prohibition can indeed point to the rejection of prohibitory amendments in California and Ohio and to the failure of the house resolution at Washington to secure the necessary two-thirds vote, but they can not point to the abandonment (in 1914) of prohibition by any state where it was already in force.

The prohibitory area in the United States is steadily on the increase, through constitutional amendments, state-wide prohibition laws, or county, municipal or township option. Considerably more than half the population of the country now lives in territory from which the saloon has been legally banished. The facts are

impressive enough without explanation or argument.

"Dry" Russia Grows Rich

A London cablegram, dated January 25, says: A dispatch to Reuter's Telegram Company from Petrograd says M. Kharitonoff, comptroller of the Russian treasury, speaking before the duma budget committee today, declared that owing to the great increase in the national savings, due to prohibition, the extraordinary outlay occasioned by the war had caused no great suffering as yet in Russia.

As proof of this, M. Kharitonoff said the national savings in December, 1913, which amounted to 700,000 rubles (\$250,000), had increased to 29,100,000 rubles (\$14,550,000), in December, 1914. He added that the total savings for 1913 amounted to 34,000,000 rubles (\$17,000,000), as compared with 34,000,000 rubles (\$42,000,000), for 1914.

"Drop Liquor or Seek New Jobs."

A special dispatch to the Philadelphia North American from Milton, Pa., dated February 5, says: Leave liquor alone or seek work elsewhere is the sum and substance of a notice posted conspicuously about the plants of three of Milton's largest manufacturing companies as part of a "Safety First" program for the protection of employer and employee.

Contrary to the usual result of such edicts by employers, workmen do not consider the order an encroachment on their personal liberties and have joined heartily in the observance of the rule. The only opposition has come from saloon men, who are beginning to feel the effects of the order.

That rum has no business in the conduct of modern manufacturing industries because it impairs efficiency, promotes accidents and causes more waste than any other agency, large employers of men have to contend with, is the earnest belief of the executive heads of the three Milton firms, the Milton Manufacturing Company, the American Car and Foundry Company and S. J. Shimer & Sons, three of the largest producers of bolts, nuts, woodworking tools and cars in the east.

In keeping with this belief, the three industrial plants have taken an absolute stand against the liquor traffic. They have issued an absolute order that their men must taboo liquor or be replaced without notice with men who will pledge themselves against it by refusing to sign applications for licenses and by total abstinence.

Thirty men were discharged by the American Car and Foundry Company because they signed liquor license applications.

No Liquor Ads in Papers.

A press dispatch from Montgomery, Ala., dated February 10, says: Both houses of the Alabama legislature today passed over the governor's veto a bill to prohibit newspapers published in the state from printing liquor advertisements, and to prevent circulation in the state of papers published outside of Alabama which carry liquor advertising. The new act, which goes into effect immediately, also prohibits liquor advertising by circular, bill-board, display or otherwise.

Resents Libel of Brewers

A press dispatch from Topeka, Kansas, dated February 10, says: Kansas has been libeled by the liquor interests. So declared the senate in a concurrent resolution, copies of

which will be sent to every legislature in the Union.

It stated that the liquor interests have published statements that prohibition in Kansas had caused an increase in crime, death rate, homicide, suicides, divorces and juvenile delinquencies. The resolution states that the reverse is true of prohibition, and adds:

"All such charges are libelous and false, and do but represent the sentiments of men, who, when this state expelled the saloon, were compelled to leave Kansas for her good."

Idaho Falls in Line.

American Issue: Governor Moses Alexander, of Idaho, a Jew, in his message to the legislature recently convened, recommended not only that a resolution be passed to submit to the voters of that state in 1916 an amendment to the constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, but also that the legislature pass a statute prohibiting the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages to become effective on and after the first of January, 1916. He urged this latter enactment because of the necessity of raising barriers against the liquor interests of Washington and Oregon which are to leave those states by January first next.

In accordance with the governor's recommendation, the legislature has already submitted a proposition for a constitutional amendment to go into effect May 1, 1917, and to be voted on by the people at the next general election. This action was taken January 21. It passed the senate with but one opposing vote, and passed the house unanimously.

The passage of a prohibitory statute to take effect January 1, 1916, is also a foregone conclusion.

Sees End of Liquor Traffic.

A Press dispatch from Pottsville, Pa., February 4, says: Harry E. Paisley, of Philadelphia, treasurer of the Reading railway and allied corporations, severely criticised the liquor traffic in a speech made before 500 representative men of Pottsville today, at the annual banquet of the Pottsville Y. M. C. A.

There was prolonged applause when he declared that the one service for the uplift of society today is the bringing about of the death of the liquor traffic. He said the handwriting is on the wall, and all liquor dealers and brewers would do well to get out of the business at once. Paisley stated that a big brewery was recently erected in Philadelphia, and the owners placed an immense placard on the top with the inscription: "The last word in brewery building."

This caused much laughter as the speaker told of the comments made upon it by citizens as being prophetic.

Wineless Banquet Held

A Chicago telegram says: One hundred officials of the Illinois Steel Company attended a wineless banquet and gave to charity the money usually spent for champagne at these affairs.

Instead of a dinner at \$5 a plate at a downtown hotel, the officials gathered in the clubrooms of the works where the dinner cost \$1.

The \$4 was given to charity.

Prohibition for Montana

A press dispatch from Helena, Mont., February 9, says: The lower house of the state assembly passed today the house bill providing for state-wide prohibition by legislative enactment after killing the senate bill providing for prohibition by an amendment to the state constitution. Should the senate refuse to accept the house bill and insist upon the

adoption of its measure, the assembly will be deadlocked on the question of whether the state shall go dry or stay wet.

"Dry" Arkansas June 1, 1915.

A Little Rock, Ark., dispatch, February 6, says: Today, Governor G. W. Hays signed the state-wide prohibition bill and it becomes a law.

The state-wide bill was passed by the house some days ago and yesterday was passed by the senate by the astonishing vote of 33 to 2.

Because the senate added some minor amendments, the bill was returned to the house. The house immediately approved of the amendments and the bill went to the governor who placed his John Hancock on the measure without delay and the bill is now a law.

The measure takes effect on June 1, 1915. One of the provisions was that the bill does not disturb the few licenses already granted.

No Liquor With Sunday Meals.

An Albany, N. Y., dispatch, February 9, says: Sunday sales of intoxicating liquors in hotels even with meals would be prohibited by a bill introduced in the legislature today. For twenty years the state has permitted the serving of liquor with meals on Sundays.

Drive Rum From Politics.

An Indianapolis dispatch, February 4, says: Declaring that the democratic party can not afford to stand with the brewer and saloonkeeper against woman suffrage, Secretary of State Bryan, in a speech at the banquet of democratic editors here tonight, denounced the liquor traffic and also said that woman suffrage was sure to come. He said:

"A man is known by the company he keeps, and I want to tell you now that the man who prefers the saloon-

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