

is not even willing to protect society from the evils which daily flow from his business.

LET THEM IMPOUND THE TAILINGS

A few years ago I was traveling in the mountains of Arizona and my attention was called to a muddy pond by the side of the road. It was so different from the clear mountain pool that I inquired about it, and this was the explanation. In the early days the stamp mills poured the tailings into the mountain streams, but the people below complained that the water which they had to use was polluted. This complaint resulted in the passage of a law that compelled the stamp mill to impound its tailings, and now when the precious metal is extracted from the rocks the worthless stuff that remains is impounded and the waters that flow down the mountains are pure.

Why not make the brewer, the distiller and the saloon-keeper impound their tailings? They draw the young men of the country into their places of business, they crush them, they disfigure them, they extract from them all that is precious and then they pour the tailings out upon society—they make society pay for the insane, the pauper and the criminal. Instead of asking society to compensate them for the small pecuniary loss that they may suffer from the abolishing of the manufacture and the sale of intoxicating liquors they ought to be grateful for the favors which have been shown them. They have by far the best of the bargain, even on the low plane of dollars and cents. They have taken from society immeasurably more than they have paid back to society.

TO BUSINESS MEN

A word to the business men of Ohio. Why do you enter into a co-partnership with the brewer, distiller and saloon-keeper against the people with whom you deal? Your trade, especially that of Cincinnati, is with the territory south of you. The city of Cincinnati built a railroad into the south for the purpose of developing commerce with that section. The southern states with which Ohio has business dealings are now dry with the exception of Kentucky, and in that state a large majority of the counties are dry, Kentucky having the county unit which Ohio abolished last year. In the state of Ohio five hundred and four thousand voted for prohibition last year, and yet a considerable majority of the large business men of the state have been unwise enough to enter into co-partnership with the saloon, a business which is not only the open enemy of the home and a corrupting influence in politics, but is destructive of economic strength and efficiency.

A year ago the business men of the larger cities of Ohio joined the liquor interests in disfranchising the farmers of the state. You then had the county unit and the farmer had a voice in determining whether saloons should be licensed in the county, but you have taken that right from him at the bidding of the liquor interests. You have returned to the city unit and instead of limiting the sale of liquor to those living in the city—that is, to those who are responsible for the granting of the license—you permit a saloon-keeper in a town to sell to the inhabitants of all the country round about. You allow the saloon-keeper to fill a country boy with alcoholic liquor and send him out into the country to spread terror in his neighborhood, and yet you deny a vote to those whose peace is disturbed and whose lives are menaced.

THE SALOON A NUISANCE

Why is a slaughter house a nuisance? Because its noisome odors can not be confined to the land on which it is situated. And who has a right to complain of a slaughter house? Everyone has a right to complain as soon as the odors of the slaughter house reach him. And why is a saloon a nuisance? Because its evil influences can not be confined to the block in which it is located or to the city which licenses it to do business. And who has a right to complain of a saloon? Everyone who lives within the radius of its evil influences—everyone who suffers from the use of the liquor which it sells.

You need not be surprised if these disfranchised farmers administer political punishment to those who have deprived them of the right to protect themselves against the saloon. Last year their choice was between the county unit and state prohibition; today with the county unit gone their only hope is in state prohibition which establishes a still larger unit and gives security over a greater area.

AN INJUSTICE TO GERMAN-AMERICANS

A word also to the German-Americans. A great many of the citizens of Ohio are of Ger-

man birth or ancestry and an effort has been made to identify them with the liquor interests. The German-American brewers have done injustice to those of their name and race by the attempt to make it appear that prohibition was an attack upon all German-Americans, whereas it is simply an attack upon a business. The liquor question raises a moral issue, and no real friend of the German-American will attempt to draw a line between him and the rest of the country on a moral question. Already the German-American organizations are giving voice to the rising protest against the selfish and sordid attempt which those engaged in the liquor business have made to turn the liquor question into a race question. The German-American Alliance in New York has within a year adopted a resolution demanding that representatives of the liquor traffic speak for themselves and not for the German-American Alliance when they appear before legislative bodies. And the German-American Alliance of the United States, at its national meeting at San Francisco, a few months ago, instead of declaring against prohibition declared in favor of reforming the saloon.

The Alliance is to be congratulated upon its refusal to be made the mouthpiece of the brewers in their fight against prohibition, but the plea for the reform of the saloon comes too late. It might have been effective a few years ago, but the saloon has sinned away its day of grace. It made itself the ally of the gambling house and the brothel; it allowed itself to become a bureau of information on crimes and the center of every political and social disease. It is too late to begin the work of purification; if it is to be washed and made clean let it be at the morgue when it lies in state with its victims.

"BLIND TIGERS"

The opponents of prohibition having been driven from every other position have fallen back upon their final stand, namely, that prohibition does not prohibit. They tell us that the law can not be enforced; that liquor will be sold anyhow. They are the only element of society that announces in advance that it will not obey the law; it is the only element that boasts of lawlessness, but even here the facts are a complete answer. Statistics show that in this state there is more illicit selling in wet counties than in dry counties. Only a few months ago the saloonkeepers of Cleveland sent a delegation to the governor to complain of the selling of liquor without license. Those who paid the license protested against those who were selling without sharing the burden of the tax.

But the very language which the advocates of the saloon use in describing illicit sales shows that they understand the nature of their business. When they speak of the place where liquor is sold without license, what name do they use? Do they call the place a blind sheep or a blind goat? No! They call it a "blind tiger!" They name it after an animal which is ferocious by nature—they know the nature of the saloon. Well, if a tiger was after my boy I would rather have it a blind tiger than one which could see, wouldn't you? If a tiger is blind you must look it up; if it can see it can look you up. The man who sells without license must dodge around and keep himself concealed, but the licensed saloon plants itself in the most conspicuous places and sends out invitations to all.

LIKENED TO A RATTLESNAKE

One of the men imported into Ohio to defend the saloon has gone even further than those who talk of blind tigers. He asks "Would you not rather keep a rattlesnake in a glass case than allow it to run loose in the alley?" But why keep a rattlesnake at all? Why not kill it? How many families would be willing to keep a rattlesnake in the house even in a glass case? It must have something to eat and those who feed it are always in danger of being bitten. But to liken the saloon to a rattlesnake—what a confession! And what an apt illustration it is. It must have been by inadvertence that the speaker selected man's earliest enemy on earth, for was it not the serpent that deceived the first pair in the garden? And has it not lived ever since under the curse then pronounced upon it? Is there not additional reason today why the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head? Is not woman today the greatest enemy of the saloon? All praise to the good women of the country whose love for their children and interest in their country make them an increasing influence on the side of temperance and in support of all legislation which has for its object the protection of society from the effects of alcoholic liquor.

The voters of Ohio have an advantage today

over those who voted on this subject a year ago. A year ago the people of this state knew how ruinous alcohol is to the individual, to the home and to society. They knew of the enormous burden which the worshippers of the god of drink fasten upon the country. Two billions and a half a year for intoxicating liquor; think of it! Nearly twice the cost of our federal government, and nearly three times the cost of education in this country from the kindergarten to the university. Is not this appalling? In two years the drink bill would gridiron the United States with macadam highways twelve miles apart, east and west, north and south, and yet instead of this money being used for good roads it is being used to pave the way to perdition.

WAR FURNISHES NEW EVIDENCE

Yes, a year ago the voters of Ohio knew the arguments that can be made against alcohol in time of peace, but during the last twelve months the war in Europe has thrown a ghastly light upon the evils of intemperance. Whatever difference of opinion there may be as to the cause of the war or as to its conduct all must agree that the nations at war believe that they are in a life and death struggle, and all are appealing to the patriotism of their people. And yet patriotism, that impulse, intangible, invisible, but eternal, which has throughout the ages led countless millions to offer themselves a sacrifice upon their country's altar, is no match for the appetite for drink. Loyalty to Gambrinus and Bacchus and Barleycorn is greater than loyalty to king or kaiser or czar. The belligerent nations have been compelled to give attention to the subject of drink. Russia has abolished the sale of alcohol throughout her vast domain; France has legislated against the sale of absinthe; Germany has lessened the hours of the saloon and lowered the alcoholic content in beer; and Great Britain has laid restriction after restriction upon the saloon, lessening the hours and forbidding treating. Why shall we not learn without war what the war has taught the European nations?

THE BEST PREPARATION

There is talk of preparedness, and some urge us to get ready for war. I do not agree with those who think we are in danger, but I am willing to join them in one kind of preparation. If this nation is ever attacked our supreme need will be men—men whose brains are clear, men whose nerves are steady, men who have no appetite that will rob them of their love of country in the nation's crucial hour. Why not prepare by driving alcohol out of the United States? Then if an attack comes every American will be a man ready to do a man's duty and their bodies will be a wall around our land.

GROWTH OF PROHIBITION

And now a word as to politics. I am a democrat. I began making democratic speeches thirty-five years ago and have been in every congressional campaign since, except the campaign of 1898, when I was in the army. I have been on the firing line all these years—the only peace I have had was when I was a soldier. I have been in national politics for twenty-five years and it is now nineteen years since I commenced to run for president. I have been interested in reforms and have rejoiced to see some reforms successful, but it has taken a long time. It took twenty-one years to secure the popular election of United States senators; it took nearly eighteen years to secure an income tax amendment to the constitution, and the fight for the initiative and referendum has been going on nearly that long. Events are moving more rapidly now, but I have never known any reform to grow as fast in five years as prohibition has grown during the last five years, and it has grown more rapidly in the last year than in the four years preceding. We now have nineteen dry states and ten of them have gone dry within the last eighteen months.

No democrat need apologize for being in favor of prohibition. Of the nineteen prohibition states ten of them go democratic at every election, and other democratic states will soon be added to the list. Republicans used to make fun of us democrats; they used to say that they could tell a democrat by the color of his nose or by the wobble of his walk. They can not make fun of us now. The democratic states are leading in the fight and the republicans must help to make Ohio dry; if they want to be in the same class with the democrats. It will be a benefit to both parties to get rid of the liquor element which owes allegiance to no party, and is interested in no principles of government. It is solely concerned with the money to be derived from the sale of liquor. The time has come to rid all the parties of the domination of this element which