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Gen'l Agent for Western Nebraska



Alliance Law and Order League

ITS PURPOSE:

To Secure Enforcement of Law, Maintenance of Order, Ejection of Honest Officials, Purity of Municipal Matters, Economy of Administration, Promotion of Decency, Suppression of the Liquor Traffic, A Greater and Cleaner City, Morally and Materially.

This space paid for at regular rates and publisher assumes no responsibility for any statements made herein.

LIQUOR SITUATION REVIEWED.

The Law and Order League of Alliance feels that the voters of Alliance and the people living in surrounding territory are entitled to a review of the saloon situation in the city since the last election.

The voters and residents of Alliance decided in December, 1907, to make an effort at the spring election to vote out the saloons. Meetings were held and organizations formed and the result was a majority of 105 votes against saloons.

A mass meeting was called in the City hall soon after the election to show the voters that the city could not be run without license money. The saloon men stated that the temperance element was afraid to face them on this proposition. A number of the leaders of the temperance movement were at the meeting and proved to the audience that the city and school district could be run without the saloon money and their statements at the meeting have been fully verified.

The next move of the saloon men was to refuse to rent their buildings or dispose of their stock of liquors. Four "Soft Drink" parlors were opened and soft drinks and low grade beers were sold. It was later proven that stronger drinks were sold over some of their bars. The temperance element became dissatisfied with the situation and brought two detectives here to locate the trouble. A number of arrests were made and the preliminary hearings were before County Judge Berry.

Among other testimony detectives stated that Carl Kaldel bought a number of bottles of whiskey for them and delivered it to them from Cook & Wilson, receiving pay for same. Kaldel went on the stand and swore that he never received any money from the detectives and never purchased any liquor from Cook & Wilson or any other person or firm for them.

The detectives stated that W. H. Cheney purchased liquors for them from William King and F. J. Betzold. Cheney swore that he did purchase and deliver whiskey to the detectives, but that he did not purchase any liquor from F. J. Betzold. He also stated that he would give the same testimony if he was called in connection with the William King case. As a result of this testimony Cheney was arrested for bootlegging and bound over to the district court. His case is to be reached at the next term of our district court. His bond was signed by William King and F. J. Betzold.

The saloon men and their associates still defied the law and this resulted in the calling of a grand jury by Judge Harrington for our term of district court that met on Jan. 19th, 1909. The petition for this grand jury was signed by seventy-seven of the very best men of Alliance.

When the saloon men and their sympathizers learned of this petition they were greatly excited and endeavored to frighten the petitioners and other persons by telling them that a grand jury would cost the county from \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00. The grand jury cost the county about \$1,050.00 and resulted in a large number of indictments. If the citizens of Alliance and surrounding territory wish the report of the grand jury published the Law and Order League will be pleased to publish it.

Two liquor cases were tried at the session of the district court, following the session of the grand jury. They were the cases of druggist Anderson of Hemingford and Queen Snow of Alliance. In the Anderson case one witness swore that he bought one half gallon of whiskey from Anderson, but stated in the trial that he told Mr. Anderson it was for medical purposes.

He went to his room that night after giving the testimony and evidently did not sleep well. The following morning he remained in his room until about eleven o'clock, or until an officer went for him at the request of the County Attorney to again take the witness stand in connection with the Anderson case. While on the witness stand he stated that he had made a mistake in his testimony the day before and wished to correct the statement. He then stated that he had purchased one-half gallon of whiskey from druggist Anderson of Hemingford but that he did not tell Anderson that it was for medical purposes. He further stated that he purchased the whiskey for the benefit of his threshing crew. He also stated that he did not sign the druggist's register, although a signature appeared on the register purported to be

his. Detective Kendall swore that he purchased a number of bottles of liquor from druggist Anderson and there was other damaging evidence. The jury brought in a verdict of not guilty in this case.

In the Queen Snow case the regular jury panel was exhausted and the sheriff was ordered to call in more jurors. He brought two jurymen to the box who were under the influence of liquor. The third man had been a saloon rouser and connected with gambling games in Alliance. A verdict of not guilty was the result of the trial.

William King and Ed. Reardon plead guilty to the charge of illegal selling of intoxicating liquors and transferred their "soft drink" parlor to Art Wiker for the evident purpose of evading the law. The present status of the liquor cases not tried are as follows:

G. O. Smith, bootlegger, under indictment by the grand jury.
W. H. Cheney, bootlegger, under indictment by the grand jury and bound over to the next term of our district court.

The following persons were also indicted by the grand jury for the illegal sale of intoxicating liquors and bound over to the next term of our district court, to-wit: Cook & Wilson, Georgia Palmer and Nell Thompson.

Some of the above named law-breakers are working to have the saloons reinstated in Alliance and evidently expect to apply for a license if the wets win. The Law and Order League serves notice on them at this time that no person of immoral character; no person proven as an illegal seller of intoxicating liquors and no person guilty of permitting gambling on his premises shall ever receive a saloon license in Alliance again. If a council and mayor are elected that will grant this kind of a person a license there are higher courts to appeal to and this League proposes to make such appeal.

The League wishes also to call the attention of voters of Alliance and the people of the surrounding country to the decision that was rendered by the supreme Court of the State of Nebraska on Feb. 29th, 1909, which holds that all malt liquors are intoxicating and that a license is required to sell low grade beers the same as for whiskey, high grade beers and brandy.

The League believes that the people and voters of Alliance are entitled to this review of the liquor situation in the city and if any further information is desired, the league will be pleased to furnish it.

Fathers, do you wish to legalize institutions by your votes that will continue this state of affairs in Alliance?

The saloon element have defied your votes and they have defied the law; have practically defied the courts and still continue to defy the will of the people as expressed at the last election. If you vote to license saloons you should be willing to furnish them your boys and girls. You take their license money, and they must have the boys and girls in order to continue the business.

How many will you furnish?

The saloon men are on the run. The mass meeting held in the opera house Sunday evening showed how the people of Alliance stand. And they are getting hopeless. They see that the reign of saloons and their accompanying vices is over with. Chancellor Davidson showed them that the financial side of the question is all in favor of no-saloons as well as the moral side. Everyone admits that the moral side is all in favor of no-saloons, but some men are in it for the money and they have been deluded into thinking that with the license money received from the saloons the town is better off.

Chancellor Davidson showed them by actual facts and figures that this is all wrong and that as a monetary proposition there should be no saloons. Hurrah for the Chancellor, may we have more like him. Men who are no afraid to tell the truth.

Now, you voters of Alliance who have been told that Alliance was a poor business town last year because of having no saloons. If you will find that they will tell you that Alliance has been the best town for business this last year of any town in Western Nebraska. And one result of this is that practically every traveling man who has Alliance as his home will vote the dry ticket this year.

These "Knights of the Grip" know what they are doing. They know what good government means and they are going to vote the right way.

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