

The Nationalization of the Liquor Traffic. Extracts from a report by the Progressive Society of Lincoln by J. Burrows, Sunday afternoon, February 23, 1892.

The nationalization of the liquor traffic is the subject assigned me to present to you this afternoon. What do we understand by the term nationalization? It signifies placing under exclusive national control or giving the government the monopoly of it.

This identical plank was subsequently adopted by the people's party of the state of Ohio. It was offered to the state convention of the people's party of Nebraska at Hastings in 1891, and rejected. It was also offered to the State Alliance at its last annual meeting in this city, and rejected.

Let us now briefly analyze the proposition. It first declares the prohibition of the liquor problem lies in "abolishing the element of profit which is a source of constant temptation and evil."

As an adjunct of profit, as a means to increase the cash receipts, the saloon is made a social institution. Men there meet their boon companions, smoke, treat, laugh, crack jokes, tell stories, throw dice, indulge in games of chance and recreation.

The next clause that meets us in our analysis is, "through agencies and salaried officials in such towns and cities as shall apply for such agencies." Why, this is actual prohibition.

Thus far what does our analysis show? That the proposition will destroy the element of profit in the saloon; and this is applicable to the distillery as well. The element of profit being destroyed, the saloon as a social institution, or as an institution of any kind, is destroyed.

Speaking of this aspect of the subject, Edward Bellamy, in *The New Nation* of February 18th says: "Our prohibition friends object to the nationalization of liquor proposition on the ground that it is a compromise of principle."

Under our present system when license to open a saloon is denied permits are granted to druggists to sell for medicinal purposes. There are occasionally druggists whose principles are not really immaculate.

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that he is not feeling very well when he is accommodated with a drink. The tramp can have his bottle filled. The habitual village toper can do the same. Under the Massachusetts proposition, when a town votes "no" upon the local option question, the druggist would not receive permits to sell for medicinal purposes, but agents would be appointed to make such sales exclusively, and the salaries of such agents would be made independent of the amount of sales.

Before proceeding to consider the position of the prohibitionists on this proposition I wish distinctly to state that I do not advocate it as an opponent of prohibition, but rather as its friend. I am a prohibitionist to the extent of wishing to see the traffic in ardent spirits as a beverage utterly prohibited and destroyed.

On the contrary, I believe if all efforts to maintain a political party were abandoned, all non-prohibitory offices foregone, and the energetic and able work that has been devoted to that purpose directed to the adoption of the prohibition amendment, that prohibition would be in force in more than half the states in a few years.

The strange, the amazing part of this subject is now to be stated, viz: The only opposition thus far developed against this proposition has come from the prohibitionists themselves. If the proposition should gain sufficient strength as to seem in danger of gaining general approval I have no doubt the rum power would rouse to the exigencies of the case, and make a battle against it.

Some persons object to the moral turpitude involved in the government engaging in the liquor business in this wholesale manner. To this I might reply that the government seems to be in that business now. It supervises the distilleries at its own expense. It furnishes bonded warehouses for the product, where it may remain to ripen, free of tax until sold, the distiller being able to hypothecate the government receipts for it to obtain money with which to manufacture more—a money bill with the government guarantee back of it.

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I have now nearly exhausted the time allowed me in which to present this subject, but have not by any means exhausted the subject. Is it not strange—is it not depressing to realize that after six thousand years of possession of this planet—after two generations of evolutionary development—mankind finds itself discussing the expediency, humanity, legality, of permitting a portion of its members to sell or give liquid poison to another portion of them? Has there been mental and moral evolution coincident with the physical? Has humanity been educated by the experience gained in succeeding ages? As the race measures over and over the cycles of time does the Eternal bestow larger powers? Do men of the present glorious age—if it is glorious—possess greater faculties of sense or finer moral perceptions than men of the ages of Zoroaster, Buddha, Confucius or Jesus Christ? And if they do how long is the sordid selfishness and grasping cruelties of our present ill-adjusted social system to debar the world from the practical realization and application of the accumulated wisdom of the past to the important human problems of the present? It is a veritable riddle of the Sphinx. All around us are the mouldering remains of those who have vainly approached the monster and met the fate of conquering death.

This proposition of the liquor question—among many—demands solution. It demands it importantly. It has had its trial in every family—it is on every Intel, so the heads of every family are responsible to society for an answer to its question. If the present attitude of the race towards it is an illustration of the "survival of the fittest" should not the spirit of mortalking go into universal mourning? Must we wait for the evolution of new forces—the development of more and higher senses—before we can execute the law, "thou shalt not murder"? Must we weary the air with endless unanswered questions and leave them unanswered still? Rather ought not every man and every woman to realize that on him or her personally rests the responsibility of solving this question, which obligation must be persistently responded to at all times and in all places, until the question is solved? Let us take the old truth that in cheerful sacrifice of self for the good of others lays all the moral law, and add to it the new truth which is now being evolved, that the highest responsibility of every human being is to the whole social body instead of to self. If these truths are recognized and given their full weight, will we no longer shirk our responsibility for great moral problems and be content to let everything drift—let our ends be shaped by a fatalism that is fatal to the people, which—by leading us to constantly neglect the promptings of conscience and to accept an indifference which is only another name for selfishness and cruelty—is slowly destroying our spiritual natures.

THE CHOICE OF HIS PARTY. The New York Evening Post (Ind. Dem.) has prepared a narrative record of Senator Hill's political career, "every statement" of which "is based upon official and other evidence sufficient to substantiate the truth of the assertion made." It sums up the record editorially as follows: "The simple facts about Mr. Hill's career are that he learned his first lesson in politics from the man who was first dismissed from the Union army and afterwards a convict; that his chief weapons in political warfare have always been bribery, trickery and party treachery; that he has habitually formed his political alliances with the worst elements of society; that he has from his earliest manhood been a man of moment never associated with the respectable elements of society, but with the debased and depraved; that he has conferred the public offices within his gift upon the men who were most violent and unscrupulous in doing his political bidding; that he has secured the control of the state senate, with which he has ended his career as governor, is the logical and fitting culmination of a busy lifetime of political crime. That a man with such a record as this should presume to offer himself as the candidate of a great party for the presidency of the United States, is the most astonishing event in our political history. Nothing approaching it has ever happened before, or is likely ever to happen again, for it is preposterous to assume that the experiment can meet with anything except overwhelming rebuke and failure."

Cannot Long Exist Together. Universal suffrage and great landed estates cannot long exist together, for either the owners of estates must restrict suffrage or that right of suffrage will in the end divide their estates.—Gov. H. M. Plaisted (Maine).

A Noble Discontent. Speaking of the Hon. J. B. Burrows, the Kearney *Advocate* writes that he taught distrust and discontent. And so it is said of all men who try to awake people to existing abuses and the need of reform. On the tongues of those who are satisfied with the present order of things it is always a crime to preach for a change, because it sets up distrust and discontent. But in sober truth, distrust and discontent are the main factors in all progress. Discontent with what is, must be felt before men will move for something better. Distrust with the present controlling men and powers, must precede any effort to change them. The man who is content with the trust and discontent is the true evangelist. Deprived of these, man would rot and die from the face of the earth.—Lincoln Herald.

It is to be said about that St. Louis platform that it had got lots of sound sense in it.—Lincoln Herald.

President Beers of the New York Life Insurance company resigned the other day, and the company voted a life pension of \$25,000 per year to him. Whose money was that?—Progressive (N. C.) Farmer.

"Get off my back," says the toiler, "Why! Just look what an improvident road you're walking on, and right beyond are the golden gates," says the rider as he cracks the well worn whip.—Justice.

Thoughts From New England. For the Farmers' Alliance. I read in the Boston papers that B. W. Perkins had been appointed to fill out the unexpired term of Senator Plumb in the U. S. Senate. Three days after this I received my western papers so learned that Gov. Humphrey had named several names in consideration, but had made no appointment. Another case in point was the Ohio senatorial caucus. At least two days before I read in the Alliance papers that no choice had been made. I read in eastern papers that John Sherman had been renominated. The reason of all this is the difference between the telegraph to the mails. The eastern papers were correct, and the western papers were in time; but the reason why I speak of it is to draw a moral from another and parallel fact. For a month after the late election I kept reading in these eastern papers that the people party in Kansas and Nebraska had "cut no figure" in the result; the party's vote had fallen off greatly over the vote of 1890; it was disintegrating and would never be heard of again. At the same time these papers were publishing these lives my western papers brought me the truth; that the people party in Kansas and Nebraska had "cut no figure" in the result; the party's vote had fallen off greatly over the vote of 1890; it was disintegrating and would never be heard of again. At the same time these papers were publishing these lives my western papers brought me the truth; that the people party in Kansas and Nebraska had "cut no figure" in the result; the party's vote had fallen off greatly over the vote of 1890; it was disintegrating and would never be heard of again.

Provisions. LARD—By the tierce, 70c. HAM—Sugar cured, 10c; boneless, 8 1/2c. Bacon—Breakfast, 8 1/2c; side, 7 1/2c. DRIED BEANS—10c per barrel. SHOULDERS—80c.

Lincoln County Alliance. Holds its regular meetings at K. of L. Hall, Lincoln, Neb., the first Friday of each month at 2 p. m. Wm. Foster, Secretary, Saitillo, Neb.

See advertisement of ground oil cake on page seven of this issue. We call your attention to adv. of un-taxed tobacco made by Meriwether & Co. in this issue. Ask your dealer for it. Will retail 200 photograph albums at wholesale prices. C. M. Leighton, 145 S. 10th st.

Madison County Alliance. The next meeting of the Madison County Alliance will be held at Battle Creek, Neb., on Saturday, March 13, 1892. As business of importance will be brought before the meeting a full attendance is desired. NANCY HANES, Secretary.

Local and Miscellaneous. LINCOLN MARKETS. Live Stock. Market steady; fair demand with prices unchanged. COWS—\$4.00 to \$5.00. CALVES—\$4.50 to \$5.00. BUTCHER STEERS—\$3.00 to \$4.00. HAY and Grain. The quotations on wheat, oats, and corn indicate about what is paid at the elevators. The market is a little better for wheat as the supply is low. WHEAT—No. 2 Spring, 66c; No. 3, 65c. OATS—No. 2, 35c; No. 3, 34c. CORN—No. 2, 24c; No. 3, 23c. FEEDING—No. 2, 18c; No. 3, 17c. PRICES—No. 2, 18c; No. 3, 17c.

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FLAX SEED FOR SALE. A choice article of clean Flax Seed for sale at Alliance State Agency, at lowest market price for cash. 281 J. W. HARTLEY.

Barred Plymouth Rocks. AT WALNUT GROVE. Eggs for hatching \$5.00 per 15. Also Mammoth Bronze turkey eggs, \$3.00 per 5. Woodcock broods, high scoring birds used. Pure and fine, eggs guaranteed. 27-28 Mass. St. S. H. Sawyer, Waverly, Neb.

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House Furnishing Goods. Glass, Chinaware, Crockery, Light and Heavy Hardware Department. The biggest drive in hatchets it has ever been your good fortune to behold. A solid cast steel hatchet, warranted, that sells for \$1 every where. Only 25c. White wash brushes, 10c each. Also a fine line of kalsomining brushes. The Western Wash Machine, \$5.50. Fearless wringer, regular price \$5.50, our price \$2.15. Wooden bowls 3c each. Wash boards, 8c each. Dinner sets, \$7.98, worth \$25. Copper bottom wash boilers, 60c. Milk and butter crocks, 5c per gal. Cups and saucers, 35c per set. Dinner plates, 15c per set. Folding ironing tables, 95c each. Clothes baskets, 50c each. Clothes hampers, 80c. Madame Streeters flat irons, 3 irons, 1 handle and stand, 90c. Solid copper tea kettles, \$1.15 regular price \$2.50. Scrub brushes 5c each. All colors fancy sheet paper, 24 sheets 5c. Metal top syrup pitchers, 5c. 3 ring clothes bars, 50c.

Furniture Department. Bedsteads \$1.95, any size, worth \$3.50. Bedsteads \$2.75, any size, worth \$5.00. Bedsteads \$3.75, worth \$6.50. Bedsteads \$4.50, worth \$7.50. Bedsteads \$5.50, worth \$8.50. Bedsteads \$6.50, worth \$9.50. These are good beds, all of them, and made of hard wood. The beds from \$3.35 up are oak. Springs and mattresses at the same low price, which enables us to do a rushing business. Bed room suits, maple, 10th century finish, \$10.50. 3-piece suits, \$14.50 and \$16.50. Cheval suit, \$19. Other suits at \$18.50 and \$19. Oak suits at \$23, \$27, \$29, \$30 and \$35. We carry just as good furniture as any furniture house in Neb., but our prices are lower. Bed lounges at \$8.50, \$10.50, \$12.50, \$15 and \$16. All have woven wire springs. Center tables at \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.25, \$2.50, \$3, \$4, \$5, \$6, up to \$11. All first class goods. Book cases in great variety. Fine line of oak extension tables, latest styles, any price you wish. We undersell them all on chairs and rockers.

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Complete line of notions at lowest price ever given. Turkish towels 3c each. Curling irons 5c. Pins 1c a paper. Metal dress buttons 5c a doz. Writing paper 120 sheets for 12c. Envelopes 3c a bunch. Good lace 8 in. wide 5c a yd. " 12c a yd, worth 30c. Lead pencils rubber tipped 10c a doz. Night Gowns from 45c to 95c, worth from 70c to \$1.50. Skirts at all prices. Large all linen towels 10c each. Good handkerchiefs 1c each. Very nice handkerchiefs 5c a yd. Very wide ribbon all colors 5c 1/2 yd. 50c celluloid finish playing cards 12c. Bargains in millinery.

It Pays to Trade at the Leader the Cheapest Store in Nebraska. THE LEADER, 12