

Why A Dry Red Cloud Again?

Because the experiment, so far, has proved satisfactory.
Because it has not been fully tried out yet.

There has been some boot legging, and there will be some during the next year.
That is to be expected.

The saloons brought with them some bad characters and it developed others.
Many of them have disappeared. The others will also disappear if the dry policy is made permanent.

There has been little attempt to enforce the law by prosecution of boot-leggers.

Nor do the majority of those who favor prohibition insist upon more prosecutions.

We do not believe in the necessity of a constant or expensive resort to the criminal laws.

We take the chance of a small amount of illegal sales.

The harm that results from the sales of the unlicensed vendors is a negligible matter compared with the harm that results from one licensed saloon.

Indulgence in liquor is not made popular by the sneaks who sell it in violation of law. There is little danger of our boys being attracted to the fairs of the boot leggers.

There is little fear that new drunkards will be made to increase the list of the victims of drink by the arts of the unlicensed seller, who must hide his traffic from the eyes of the respectable element of the community.

We have made whiskey selling in Red Cloud disreputable.

We have discovered that there are some who are willing to be disreputable, and have their lack of regard for the opinion of good people advertised.

We have discovered that there are people in this city who regard imprisonment in jail without concern or a sense of humiliation.

It is sad that we have such people in our midst. But there is very little danger that they will make vice popular.

It is only a matter of time when they will give up their unlawful occupation. When the better element of the city show them the contempt with which they are regarded, their numbers will diminish. Two years more of dry policy will make the illegal sales of liquor of no consequence. At any rate the city is doing nothing to popularize vice. It is not making money from pandering to the drunkard maker. It is not giving respectability to the wrecker of homes, the destroyer of manhood.

In two years, we believe, that no man has bought liquor from a boot-legger, whom the saloon had not previously debased.

In two years we believe no young man has learned to drink from the unlicensed sales of liquor.

If there is a home whose resources have been squandered by a drunken husband during the past two years, we have not heard of him.

If there is a man of any significance in the city who now wastes any large part of his time or money in drink, or association with the low and vicious, we do not know his name. Gentlemen for whom the community felt considerable respect were often seen in company with the licensed sellers of liquor, often seen in their saloons. They gave the saloon and the sale of liquor something of their respectability.

These men are never seen in association with the boot-legger, are never loitering about his place of business.

Young men are never looking wistfully into the windows of the criminal's secret places of business.

We do not ask a more rigid enforcement of the law. We have no complaint to make of the laxity of officials in enforcing the law in the past. We are satisfied that any officials will do their duty when that duty is made clear and manifest to them.

We know the lack of funds in the city treasurer for the discovery, prosecution and punishment of crime. We ask but little help in this direction.

What we do ask is that the city do nothing to give the saloon business legal sanction. Let liquor selling continue to be a degrading, criminal occupation, to be pursued in secret, by disreputable men only, and it will die out of itself.

We do not expect to prevent the drinking of liquor. There is perhaps half as much liquor drunk in this city as when we had the saloon. Individuals have it shipped in for their own consumption.

We do not object to this. Those who ship in liquor for their own consumption are the people we desire to protect. They are usually people who are competent to restrain their appetite.

Less than half the liquor now drunk or purchased in the city is provided by the violators of law.

Their sales constitute but a small

matter, as compared with the sales of an open saloon.

The saloon has cultivated a taste for drink in hundreds of people in the vicinity of Red Cloud.

The restoration of the saloon will intensify this appetite for alcohol, and add scores of beginners to the list of toppers.

The boot-legger has not made a drunkard or started a young man on the downward path.

He has provided the former victims with an occasional bottle. He has never dared solicit or tempt the sober or the young.

No man invites a friend to go to his den to partake of a social glass. One saloon takes from the people for the consumption of liquor eight or ten thousand dollars a year. It must do that in order to pay the license, buy the liquor and pay the big profits to the saloon keeper. We do not believe that amount of money, or anything like it has been spent for liquor in Red Cloud in the past year.

It is absurd to suppose that a city or school district realizes any gain out of the license money.

Extorting it from the people indirectly by a license to the saloon, is the most expensive mode in which to collect a tax.

For every dollar that gets into the school fund or city treasury in this manner the real taxpayer has to pay one to five dollars in addition. The merchant loses a per cent of his trade, a per cent of his collections. A man can't buy whiskey and calico with the same dollar.

He can't buy beer and sugar with the same change.

He can't maintain his credit with the merchant and pay cash at the bar of the saloon.

The saloon was never conducted in accordance with the law.

The best saloon keeper was a constant violator of the law. The worst a greater offense, and a far greater menace to the peace and morals of the city than all the illegal vendors combined. Let us not go backward. The city is becoming temperate. The young men are growing up clean and strong and free from the habits engendered by the saloon.

Let us not prepare pitfalls for them.

The Great Destroyer

This article is a very brief digest of a speech made by Hon. Richmond P. Johnson of Alabama in the United States House of Representatives on Feb 2, 1911. The speech at the time made a profound impression on the members of the House and is considered one of the best brief statements ever made on the whole liquor question. It was during the Boer war that the British government found that the average Englishman did not measure up to the standard of recruiting and the average soldier in the field manifested a low plane of vitality and endurance. Parliament was alarmed and instituted an investigation. It was found that the cause of this national degeneracy was alcoholic poisoning. As a result the British Government placarded the streets of one hundred cities warning the people and appealing to them in the name of the nation to desist from drinking alcoholic beverage. The French and German Governments soon followed.

In the summer of 1910 an international conference on alcoholism was held in London to which most of the great nations sent delegates. After a most thorough investigation the representative medical leaders of the conference drew up a report in the form of a statement defining the nature of alcohol as follows: "Exact laboratory, clinical and pathological research has demonstrated that alcohol is a protoplasmic poison, and its use as a beverage is destructive and degenerating to the human organism. Therefore its use should be restricted and limited in the same way as any other poisonous drug". It is a well known fact that the white corpuscles in the blood under ordinary conditions attack and destroy the disease germs that seek lodgment in the body. Alcohol, even when used in small quantities paralyzes these corpuscles and renders them ineffective. It is no wonder the mortality statistics show, as they do, that a total abstainer has nearly twice the hold on life that the average drinker has and about three times the hold of heavy drinkers and those engaged in the liquor traffic.

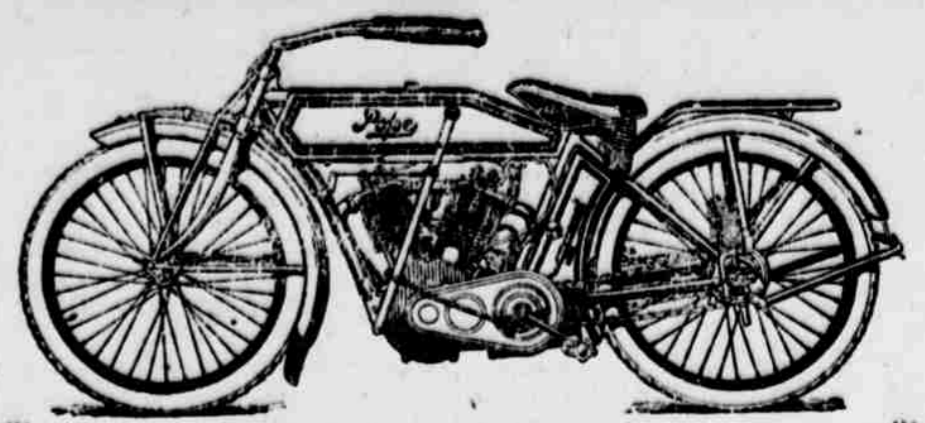
The comparative figures show the appalling fact that alcohol is killing off as many Americans every year as all the wars of the world have killed in battles in 2,300 years. In the United States are about one million confirmed drunkards of whom three hundred thousand die every year. Alcohol is the curse of the red man and the black man. It has conquered some of the noblest white men. It is the ever-shading cause of crime, pauperism and insanity. It blights the progeny of man. By scientific tests it is estimated that the wide use of alcoholic beverage in this country causes a loss of fully 21 percent in the efficiency of the Nation's producers. The production of wealth is at the rate of \$32,000,000,000 yearly; the loss due to lowered efficiency is therefore fully \$8,500,000,000. The economic loss of those cut off untimely is estimated at \$5,000,000,000. Again it is estimated that the cost of providing for the added crime, pauperism, idocy and insanity produced by alcohol in the United States and paid for by direct taxation exceeds \$2,000,000,000. Adding to this our annual liquor bill of \$2,000,000,000, we find the total economic burden laid upon the Nation by King Alcohol is between sixteen and seventeen billions of dollars, more than half of all the wealth produced by the nation. But alcohol is not only destroying the wealth of the nation but the nation's life is at stake. If the nation degenerates another will rise to take her place. This has been the history of the world since national history began. America is the hope of the world. The star of Empire hitherto has made its way westward. But there is no longer any westward. In America the star of Empire finishes the circle of the world. Here if anywhere we must develop a thoroughbred race of men. But how can this be done when the great destroyer strikes the families down as fast as they rise.

Last year on an average every saloon in the United States was the cause of the death of three men. This year also each saloon will kill three men. Each saloon in the United States has on an average 20 men made heavy drunkards who are mortally wounded. Each saloon, on an average has 100 men made regular drinkers who are seriously wounded. In the full light of the facts I can not look upon any saloon otherwise than as an assassin, the most barbarous, atrocious of assassins. The first duty assumed by any Government is the protection of its citizens. It is incredible that the governments of the world should long continue in league with assassins. When the nature of alcohol is better understood, no community will longer tolerate these conditions.

From the standpoint of the state there is but one decision: This great destroyer must himself be destroyed. The first means toward this end is to bring the facts about alcohol before the people. The average man is a rational being. If undegenerated, he shares with other creatures three elemental attributes—the instinct of self-preservation, the impulse to rise and

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better himself, the instinct to protect his progeny. Therefore the average man can be cured by taking to him the truth that alcohol strikes at his life, stops, then reverses his evolution and blasts his progeny. The problem, therefore is to take the great vital truths to the vast multitudes of the people. In the broadest sense it is a problem of universal education. This work must be done in the home, in the school, in the church in fact, wherever the opportunity offers. Abraham Lincoln, once remarked that the next great war would be a war against the liquor power. That war is now on. Organization in this war as in every other is necessary in order to win. No nation has yet kept this great destroyer in its midst and survived. America is not different from the nations of history. One or the other must perish. It is war to the death and we line up on one or the other side. It is often said by the enemy that,

"Prohibition does not prohibit". Let it be shown that it does prohibit to a marked degree, but let us realize that getting prohibition is but part of our war. The second part is its enforcement. Prohibition can prohibit. To say that it cannot is nothing less than a boast that Democracy is a failure and that the Government is lost. We can all go forth to this battle with a song on our hearts, each to do his full duty, knowing that whatever betide, whether the heavens fall or the earth melt away, whether our eyes see the final victory or whether we die in the conflict, that, "The Lord of Hosts is with us", that, "The God of Jacob is our refuge".

FOR SALE.

I will sell at Auction on the streets of Red Cloud Saturday, March 22, a wagon load of Seed Potatoes.

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