

THE FALLS CITY TRIBUNE

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BEHIND THE CURTAINS.

When some weeks ago we had the temerity to call attention to the facts, that "wet goods" were being freely sold to minors over Falls City bars; that gambling was going on unchallenged under the very eyes of the authorities, and that panders to lust unblushingly offered their wares in open market, we were mildly taken to task by our astute mayor for representing the city unfavorably to outside interests. Since then every point protested has been openly and fully verified. A weak woman rounded up a gang of gamblers, who were convicted on their own confession. Boys have again and again bought whiskey and other drinks in Falls City saloons, on several occasions getting beastly drunk. Men and women have been in mix-ups too ugly and dirty to speak about. And what has our mayor done? Absolutely nothing so far as dealing with the conditions which are responsible for these ugly spots upon our city. The abuses are committed so openly and brazenly as to compel the conclusion of collusion between the mayor and the vicious elements of Falls City. We have tried to be forbearing. We did look for some relief, but only to be disappointed. Let Mayor Keeling deal with existing abuses, and deal with them promptly. Let him enforce the laws impartially or quit the pretense of trying to govern Falls City. Let him do something in the interest of common decency or show cause why he should not be removed.

THE NEWSPAPER.

Of all men, the local newspaper man needs to be wise and judicious. It is largely left to him to select the community reading matter. To be fair and impartial he must lay aside his dislikes and clear himself of all malice. If the paper you read is to decide the quality of your reading for you, is it not important also that you be careful in choosing the paper which you and your children read? The mind grows upon what it feeds. If your paper caters to the mean and vicious your prejudices will be developed along low and coarse lines. It makes a difference in time upon the character of your household, if you admit into your home a paper that sneers at things clean and decent, and makes mockery or righteousness and truth. To the newspaper is largely committed the task of developing the public consciousness. It is a responsible task, and not all papers measure up to the requirements. It is therefore important that the reader use judgment and discrimination in choosing his reading matter by being careful in the choice of his paper. To subscribe for a paper is in a measure to support its policy, and recommend its principles. This places a serious responsibility upon the shoulders of every subscriber and challenges every man of principle and moral accountability to select his papers with a view to what they stand for and teach.

JUST ORDINANCE.

The city fathers of Morrystown, Ill., have just passed an ordinance compelling saloon keepers to take care of their drunks. They are obliged to put cots in their places and if a man gets drunk he must be quartered until sober and capable of going about his business again. The justice of this ordinance will appeal to every fair minded person. Let the saloon take care of its own waste like any other industry. When a railroad or a manufactory injures an employe by its own negligence it is held liable. Applying the same principle to the saloon, would make the saloon responsible not only for the care of drunks while in that condition but also for the support of the indigent and orphaned and widowed because of the effects of the traffic. That the courts are beginning to take account of this fact and are insisting that the saloon bear its share of the evils that grow out of the business, is seen in the recent decisions holding the saloon liable for damages in suits growing out of such cases.

THE BOY IN THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Parents and educators have been much wrought up over the problem of the boy and the high school. For years there has been a marked disparity between the number of boys and the number of girls attending high school. In almost every case the number of girls attending being very much greater than the number of boys. It is therefore refreshing to note that in the class of 1910 at Broken Bow, Neb., there were twelve boys and only seven girls. It is argued and with good reason that the fact of Broken Bow having been a temperance city for a long time has given the boys a better opportunity and that the result is seen in the greater number of boys finishing their high school course. This much is certain, that saloon prosperity, saloon morals, and saloon sentiment do not savor of enlightenment or culture. And on the same basis that we find a saloon cursed community lacking in these refinements, we should look to find "dry" communities advanced in matters of education and morality. The saloon can no more do business without boys than a saw mill can run without logs. The saloon struck boy does not graduate from our high schools. His sister does, however. The money he "blows in" helps pay the expense of the high school from which she is graduated. As is the way in life, the saloon-warped young men, with his coarse habits and limited culture, marries the high school graduate, and then what? Is it worth while?

MOVING PICTURE SHOW MENACE.

The moving picture show as a form of popular amusement has no doubt come to stay. As a means for satisfying the public craving for something new and diverting the moving picture show has few competitors. And if decently conducted is not only freer from objectionable features than most other similar institutions, but it may also become the means of ministering to the culture and refinement of those who attend. Unfortunately however, public caterers are rarely in the business but from the most selfish motives and instead of making their presentations serve to instruct and edify the public, they are constantly tempted to lower the tone of their pictures. We are heartily sorry to learn that our own show here in Falls City is catering more and more to the depravity of those who attend rather than to their virtues. The show is becoming a public menace and citizens who have any concern for the ideals and morals of their children, will do well to put a stop to their attending. There is absolutely no excuse for the managements using any but wholesome views except it be to deliberately degrade and debauch our youths. In any event we protest against permitting the presentation in public of pictures that are coarse, suggestive, immoral and indecent. It is the business of the authorities to look into this matter and see that the show is so conducted as to be unobjectionable or close the doors.

JOHN ROBINSON'S SHOWS.

They Will Give an Immense Free Street Parade.

A distinguished feature of the John Robinson Shows is the monster, free open den street caravan. Who does not like to see the circus parade? An eventful moment in every small town, and large one, too, for that matter, is the early one, the arrival of the circus train. Long before the long train pulls in on the sidetrack near the depot the crowd is there. There is an army of juvenile volunteers, who are willing to carry water for the elephant just to get a free pastboard entitling them to admission to the show later in the day. Men are there—to see that their boys, who have passed a sleepless night—do not get hurt. Even women find some excuse for going down to the railroad yards are taking a long look at the canvas-covered cars. Boys, who have gathered and sold enough old iron, rags and bones to get 50 cents, enjoy a memorable day, and the streets leading from the farming district to town are covered with every imaginable kind of vehicle.

As soon as the sun is out there is bustle and activity every place. The circus does a land office business, and, as the crowd is pouring into the circus tent from the menagerie at the night performance, the army of employes of the show start to take down the canvas which shelters the cages and the work of loading the outfit onto the train begins. Thousands of tired boys and girls retire after having seen the show, peaceful and contented. The following morning the antics of the clown cause merriment at the breakfast table, and some youths who reside near the circus lot hurry through their morning ablutions in order to go near the ring and see if any change has been dropped by the spectators of the previous night. The John Robinson Shows will be here Thursday June 9, 1910.

Marriage Licenses.

Edward Wisdom, Salem, 21
Allie O'Mara, Falls City, 20
Jeremiah J. Kean, Dawson, 25
Florence Arbuster, Shubert, 20
William C. Margrave, Preston, 32
Ida E. Pribbeno, Preston, 24
Carl C. Schaer, Superior, 28
Anna Elizabeth Sanford, Falls City, 27

How Equal Suffrage Has Helped

Paper read by Anna Kovanda, of Table Rock, Nebraska.

When in 1896 the women of Utah were granted their right of suffrage, they at once banded together and secured the following laws:

A curfew bell at 9:00 p. m. to keep children under fourteen years off the streets.

A law that women teachers in the public schools shall receive equal pay with men for equal work, when holding certificates of the same grade.

A law raising the age of protection for girls to eighteen years.

A law making it a misdemeanor for any minor under eighteen years to buy, accept, or have in his possession cigarettes, tobacco, opium or any other narcotics.

A law providing for the protection of dependent, neglected or ill-treated boys under fourteen and girls under sixteen and for the punishment of persons responsible for their care, who neglect or ill-treat them.

The women of Utah have been active in securing laws relating to municipal house cleaning and free public libraries in cities and towns. In the places of trust they are punctual and faithful. The caucuses and primary meetings are conducted with due regard to decorum, the conventions are more deliberative, and the kindly consideration which the American man has always shown to woman has induced even the roughest type to consider that political gatherings in which women take part must be conducted in a decent and orderly manner. Here women have proved themselves a reserve moral power.

The women of Idaho being enfranchised the same year as the women of Utah began to be active in laying restrictions on all the pre-dominating vices.

One particular feature of their early activity is worthy of mention, that occurred in the city of Caldwell. Immediately after the possession of their rights the women of Idaho secured of their legislature a stringent law against gambling. It was one thing to get a law passed, and quite another thing to enforce it. The men who prospered through the victims in their gambling hells sent up a mighty wall "that their bread was being taken out of their mouth" by the unprincipled and shortsighted band of women. The women in the city of Caldwell, foreseeing such a situation, had secured the election of a mayor sound on moral questions, and one woman as a member of the council.

An ordinance prohibiting gambling within the city limits was duly passed and published and through the vigilance of the good marshal the professional gamblers were reduced to sore straits, and up went their cry, "Our living is gone." The women and especially the mothers were anxious to have the ordinance retained and enforced.

A secret meeting was held by the women making arrangements to have representatives from each ward in the city and interview the councilmen in regard to their wishes. But the saloon men had by no means fallen asleep, they prepared a monstrous petition, signed by prominent professional and business men and were ready to present it at the next meeting of the city board.

The women caught wind of this and hurriedly held another meeting and prepared a remonstrance. Arrangements were made to secure the signature of every woman voter in the city. Also having been informed that the saloon men had planned to fill, with their friends, every available seat in the council room, the women were on hand in great numbers long before the appointed time for the meeting and as the doors were opened they filed in and occupied all the spectators' chairs before their opponents arrived. The gambling men and their friends upon arrival finding themselves outwitted by the women were forced to crowd about the entrance. Just before the meeting opened, the proprietor of the largest saloon in the city entered and handed the petition to the city clerk. It was worded in due legal form, ending with the clause "and we will ever pray." At the close of its reading the councilwoman handed to the clerk the remonstrance. In clear excursive terms it "demanded" that the ordinance be kept upon the statute books of the city and enforced. Then followed the names of a few good men. Often a husband's name appeared on the petition and his wife's name was found upon the remonstrance. As the names of quiet, women seldom seen beyond their own door yards were read out in that assembly, the faces of men grew grave, and it seemed as if they realized for the first time the effect of a woman's voice on a moral issue.

One of the councilmen, an old gentleman who had been of the opinion that a woman would vote as her lord dictated, arose and in clear tones repeated the last clause of the petition, "and we will ever pray," and the first clause of the remonstrance "we demand," and he exclaimed—when before did ever gamblers "pray," and mothers "demand."

On motion of this gentleman, and without a dissenting voice, the vote was indefinitely postponed. A cheer went up from the women, and the saloon men and their friends passed silently from the door. The law, making gambling illegal was established and placed upon the statute books of the state three years later.

The women of Wyoming have always voted since territorial days, and we find that all the laws established for the betterment of mankind and especially those concerning the children and women. Are largely due to their efforts, that the members of the legislature were brought to realize that a condition exists that made the passage of certain laws necessary. The vote of the women in this state is usually cast against a candidate for office who is known to be either incompetent, immoral or otherwise unfit for the place, and as a result the tendency is to nominate better men for office.

Political reforms are nearly always brought about by individuals and seldom by party organizations. The women usually vote for progressive candidates and for the correction of abuses in politics, irrespective of party affiliations. After two years experience of woman suffrage there was a strong movement among some of the prominent men of the legislature to repeal the act of granting suffrage to women. They claimed that it was evident that women were too meddling and it must be stopped. Several caucuses were held to determine the course of action and overcome the opposition. These caucuses were held in one of the largest saloons in Cheyenne and all the power of whiskey was brought to bear on the members to secure a repeal of the woman's suffrage act.

It required considerable time and a large amount of whiskey, and at least the opposition was stifled, the bill was introduced and carried by a strict party vote, and sent to the comell where it met with the same result. It then went to the governor for approval.

He promptly returned the bill with his veto, with the following message: "In this territory women have manifested for its higher interests a devotion strong, ardent, and intelligent. They have brought to public affairs a clearness of understanding and a soundness of judgment, which are worthy of the greatest admiration and above all, praise. The conscience of women is in all things more discriminating and sensitive than that of men; their sense of justice, not compromising or time-serving, but pure and exacting; their love of order not spasmodic or sensational merely, but springing from the heart; all these—the better conscience, the exalted sense of justice, and the abiding love of order, have been made by the enfranchisement and well being of our territory. To the plain teachings of these two years' experience I cannot close my eyes. I cannot forget the benefits that have already resulted to our territory from woman suffrage nor can I permit myself even to seem to do so by approving this bill.

Judge Lindsey has antagonized the telegraph and telephone companies by refusing to let little messenger boys be sent with telegrams to houses of ill fame; he had antagonized the liquor interests by punishing saloon keepers who allowed children to enter their premises; by so doing he had incurred enmity of the great corporations by his fearless exposure of political corruption for which they were responsible and as a result neither one of the political parties re-nominated him, and Judge Lindsey was left without a "party, without a "ring" with all "interests" against him: a man who had been forgotten and forsaken. The woman seeing the stand both parties had taken launched an independent ticket of their own and began to canvas for votes for the judge.

The result of the election rolled up a majority for Judge Lindsey almost equal to the democratic and republican candidates combined. Was not this a splendid demonstration of the power of the woman's ballot on a moral issue? Will any one still doubt that a woman's vote will help to build moral character? The most we assert is that if we pour a clear stream into a muddy one, we shall have a "moving of waters" for the betterment of all mankind.

ANNA KOVANDA,
Table Rock, Neb.

FALLS CITY THURSDAY JUNE 9

NOT IN THE CIRCUS TRUST!

America's Oldest Circus. A Modernized, Stupendous Realization of all That is great in The Circus World! Four Rings, Three Combined Menageries, Hippodrome And Great Wild West, all United in One Greatest Show On Earth!



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1,000 Men and Women! 400 Horses, 555 Rare Animal Exhibits, 15 Male Riders, 15 Female Riders, 10 Menage Acts, 50 Aerial Artists, 50 Gymnasts, 20 Great Ground Acts, 50 Clowns, 6 Big Aerial Thrillers, and 15 Feature Acts!

Three Famous Herds of Performing Elephants—Glascok's—McCammon's and Sidney Rink's Hippotamus, Rhinoseros, Enormous Zoological Exhibit



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COMPLETE WILD WEST—50 Cowboys, 30 Cowgirls, 50 Real Blanket Indians, Mexican Horsemen, Vaqueros, Russian Cossacks and Japanese Scouts. Singalese Dancers And Magicians. Company of U. S. Cavalry in All Kinds of Fancy Drills.

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Warren Travis, Strongest Man Living! Dare Devil Dart! Grand Camp of The Nations, Comprising Hundreds of Strange People From the Dark Corners of The Earth.

\$500,000 Free Street Parade

Two Performances Daily. Doors Open at 1:00 and 7:00 p. m., The Only Big Show Not in The Circus Trust, Consequently There Will be No Advance In Prices For Seats or Otherwise.

Falls City, Thursday, June 9th