

REPORT OF REV. H. N. PRINGLE OF MAINE

Based on Personal Examination of Situation in Portland.

INCREASE IN DRUNK ARRESTS.

The Portland Daily Argus and the Biddeford Record Discuss Flagrant Violations of Prohibitory Law Throughout Maine.

Rev. H. N. Pringle of Waterville, Me., has just made a thorough personal examination of conditions in Portland touching, the open, illegal sale of liquor. He is a prohibitionist. His written report reads as follows:

"The Odiorna Bottling company, 60-62 Cross street, was raided on my complaint, on Sept. 7 and about \$1,000 worth of intoxicating liquors were seized. We found at this place an immense quantity of empty bottles and jugs in the basement and on each of the two floors above. I think it would be a conservative estimate that there were 1,500 barrels of 'empties' in this establishment. In one room there was a row of bins which would hold about ten tons of coal each. These were filled with empty jugs and beer bottles, like the full ones found at the boat and train sheds the next night In one part of the building were 300 barrels of empty beer bottles ready for shipment to St. Louis. At least \$3,000 worth of empty bottles were left at this establishment, instead of being confiscated for the benefit of the county. I understand that the county officials not only neglect to make such confiscations, but have recently assisted Massachusetts brewers in recovering their empty beer bottles.

"These disclosures are made in behalf of enforced prohibition and represent, we submit, more intelligent support of the temperance cause than the misrepresentation of Wm. H. Anderson, Washington, D. C., the national legislative superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, who in a full page article says (American Issue, Chicago, Sept. 11, 1909): 'We made two visits to Portland and took particular pains to ride about on the street cars and to walk the streets in different parts of the city very thoroughly. We are willing to admit that possibly some of these glib correspondents are telling the truth when they say that they can get liquor, for after a fellow becomes sufficiently soaked in it he develops a sort of instinct or affinity which helps him out in such cases. All we can say is that after going thoroughly over the city, the poorer as well as the better sections, we did not see a single thing which indicated that it was possible to secure liquor, nor did. we see a single man who looked like he had secured it.'

"In fairness to the city and county officials at Portland, we wish to add that, while it has sometimes been difficult to procure warrants and the sentences imposed have in some cases seemed light according to the offense committed, there has been faithful service of the warrant and fair use of the evidence at the trial in every case we have brought. The nullification of the liquor law and the increase of arrests for drunkenness from 3,698 in 1905-6 to 6,366 in 1907-8 in Portland may be attributed to overconservative administration of the law. In Portland no lajunctions are brought against property owners who knowingly let their buildings t . quor | Portland, the leading city of the state, sallers. Those who sell limin are

rarely sentenced to jail in the superior court and almost never in the municipal court. Evidence obtained by purchase or seizures of intoxicants 15 used for only one or two charges, instead of the maximum number. Clerks, nstead of proprietors, are usually arrested when seizures are made. When the coming of the Sturgis deputies is feared by the politicians, four policemen are put on the job of closing the saloons and 76 policemen are ordered to let it alone. H. N. PRINGLE. "Waterville, Me., Sept. 20, 1909."

Drunkenness Increases. (1909) says:

law is laxly enforced in Portland, and Androscoggin county similar condithat the sort of enforcement in vogue tions prevail, although the county is 'is a shame.' and he produces the evi- infested with Sturgis deputies. As dence to back up his statements. He for Penobscot county, a sufficiently finds that the volume of liquor sales | vivid idea of the prohibition farce in has not diminished; there has been Bangor is given in yesterday's dis simply a change in methods. 'There patch to the effect that while the W. seems to be more anxiety in Portland C. T. U. parade went down the street lest the Sturgis deputies be sent there "the saloons were running as usual." than there is lest liquor selling and That is what they have been doing for drunkenness increases, so that license years; apparently that is what they cities put Portland to shame.' 'The will continue to do for years to come. coming of the Sturgis deputies is And these are but the surface signs feared by the politicians,' says Mr. of an "enforcement" which Mrs. Pringle in his letter to the Argus. No Stevens asserts is the best the state doubt. But what have the Sturgis has had in years. commissioners to do with the fears of the politicians? Why should their action be affected by such fears? Their business is to enforce the law, without fear or favor, and without regard to the schemes of politicians."

There is a statute forbidding the sale of liquor to a drunkard. Any licensed liquor seller violating this law may be held responsible for resulting pauperism and his bondsmen may be used to pay cost of maintaining such pauper.

MRS. STEVENS AND PROHIBITION MAIN!

President of W. C. T. U. De scribes Conditions in That State.

PORTLAND ARGUS DEMURS

"The Flow of Liquor Pours Steadily and Constantly Into Maine Through Well Known Channels"-The Record of

Drunks.

Some of the best daily newspaper: of Maine are giving testimony of the failure of prohibition. The Portland Daily Argus of Sept. 18, 1909, con

tained the following editorial: "The prohibitory law throughout our state is enforced better than for many years, and as a whole it has never been better enforced than now.' That is the news Mrs. Stevens brought to her W. C. T. U. audience in Bangor this week. If the news be true it strikes us as one of the hardest blows prohibition has received in many a day. If after over half a century of experience the prohibitory law has never been better enforced than now, its record is one of continuous failure on prohibitionist testimony. How

is the law enforced now? What are the evidences? Here in enforcement has been shown to be a

liquor by wholesale which have been referred to as evidence that the law was being strictly enforced. So notorious have been conditions here that only a few weeks ago the Sturgis commissioners threatened Sturgis enforcement. That the threat has not been carried out further indicates the humbug of enforcement in Cumberland county. In York county things are little better. We quoted the other cay what the Rev. Father Dupont felt constrained to declare publicly in church last Sunday, of his experience in Biddeford: "During the many years Commenting upon the above report, I have lived in Biddeford I have never the Portland Daily Argus of Sept. 24 seen so many drunks on the street in one day as I saw a week ago today." "Here we have the testimony of a And "the prohibitory law has never strong prohibitionist that the liquor been better enforced than now!" In

sham, and to compet the seizures at

Under the surface the flow of liquor pours steadily and constantly in through well known channels, and is distributed through all varieties of agencies. The record of drunk ar rests tells the story-Portland, for instance, with a per capita average three or four times that of "wettest Milwaukee;" Bangor with a record under the Sturgis regime which exceeds any annual exhibit in her history. And so it goes. And yet, according to Mrs. Stevens, the law has never been better enforced in the history of the state than now! What a confession of failure this is!

But no evidence of failure can dis

turb Mrs. Stevens. Since that lady is a professional prohibit onist, this is not surprising. Prohibition advocacy is her business, and naturally she is not going to undermine her business. Let the failure of prohibition be gross and palpable, Mrs. Stevens is ready with her argument in its favor. Prohibition at its worst, she declares, is better than license or any system of regulation. Fanaticism of this ex treme defies facts and common sense It is not to be argued with, but exhibited as illustrating the length to which fanaticism will go. As for the assertion, the facts of experience make it ridiculous. Of the fifteen or sixteen states that long ago tried prohibition, not prohibition at its worst but just prohibition of the ordinary type, nearly all of them have discard ed it, after prolonged trial, for some practical system of regulation, and not one of them shows any inclination to repeat the experiment. Facts do not disturb Mrs. Stevens and her cult but facts are stubborn things that cannot be talked down.

The Worcester Daily Telegram for a year published every day a comparison of the arrests for drunkenness for that day and the same day under license: why has the Worcester Daily Telegram ceased publishing these fig ures? Because, as in the case of At fanta, Ga., drunkenness has increased so rapidly as to wipe out the favorable margin and show a balance on the other side. .

It Is Different Now.

The Anti-Saloon League started out publishing statistics of arrests in At lanta, Ga.; for the most few months under prohibition they looked very well; why don't they publish then

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM KANSAS

Trustworthy Reports on Status of Liquor Traffic. **BLIND TIGER IN PARSON'S BARN**

Editor R. D. Wilson Describes Conditions in Kansas-Total Disregard for the Prohibition Law

Unsupported statements that prohibition can or cannot be enforced are of little value. The reader must have the proof from those who know.

Dr. Joseph P. Pecival, a prominent physician of Norfolk, Neb., in a letter dated Sept. 27, 1909, says: "I lived in Kansas for four and a half years, and during that time I became thoroughly disgusted with the way the liquor question was handled there. I visited the old town two weeks ago and in a town of about 1,000 people I saw eight drunks in one day, which is possible only in a prohibition state. Strict regulation and local license is the only system for regulating the traffic."

Dr. J. F. Callen, editor and propri etor of the Pittsburg Kansan, under date of Sept. 29, 1909, writes: "My paper is outspoken in opposition to prohibition. I am prepared to prove prohibition to be the greatest incubus to business ever invented. I am opposed to prohibition because I have seen the business wrecks that strew its pathway. I am a temperate man and in favor of temperance."

In the Pittsburg Kansan of Oct. 2 appears an item about the arrest of the keeper of a "blind tiger," as follows: "Saturday the police swooped down upon a parcel express and dray man named Ed Gibson, who has been doing a land office business in booze for three months past. Gibson got a bondsman who gave bail in the sum of \$500 for his appearance Monday morning, but when Monday morning arrived Gibson had flown and the bondsman is in debt to the city \$500 if he cannot produce his client. Gibson packed his dray that he had been using to haul booze in and departed for Missouri between two suns. In Gibson's departure Rev. Durboraw of the Eighth street Methodist church loses a tenant and his stable on the rear of his parsonage next to the church is now vacant. One box of beer was all that was left there the first of the week to show the business that had been going on for months in the shadow of the church and on the premises of the pastor. A well beaten path through the alley shows where the thirsty wended their way for irri gation supplies. When the attention of Rev. Durboraw was called to this fact by the Kansan, he explained that the people on Eighth and Ninth streets used the alley a great deal. He said he had to admit the transac tion was a joke on him. But had the editor of the Kansan rented his barn to some one and the renter turned it into a blind tiger supply house and ran it for three months we are loth to think Rev. Durboraw would regard it as a joke from his point of view. Another peculiar thing is that our lynx eyed and keen nosed policemen, who are accused of breaking into sleeping rooms of tenant houses and ransacking other barns and outhouses, passed to and fro within a stone's throw of this place hunting booze venders and never even smelled this place. The superintendent of the same church rented a barn to a blind tiger keeper on East Seventh street a couple of years and had a padlock injunction placed on it. It will now be 1 order for Brother Wooley, the ounty attorney, to padlock the stable

r the Methodist parsonage in order prevent the pastor renting again to me one to run the same kind of usiness. In face of these and other nilar instances, Rev. Durboraw still ntends that prohibition is a success and does not create hypocrites."

The Qld Story. R. D. Wilson, editor of the Kimball, Neb., Observer, resided in Kansas for fifteen years. He writes: "The little town in which I lived in Kansas was what is termed a "wet"-town. For many years we had two joints, operated under the fine levy system. Every month the marshal arrested the joint keepers for selling liquor illegally, and they paid a fine of \$50 and costs per month. A preacher came along and put them out of business. After that there was more drunkenness, and the formerly good town became dead. The large number of farmers who formerly came to town went to other places. With the open saloon the "city dads," of whom I was one, could control the sale of liquor, close the places on Sunday and at 11 o'clock p. m., and at any time regulate them and say who should not get liquor. After they were closed the bootleggers got busy, and we never could in any case lay our finger on the culprit More than that, our streets soon showed the effects of cutting off the license revenue -\$1,200 a year. The city went in debt and is in debt today. although the same amount of liquor is ·consumed,"

The Pittsburg Kansan says: "State taxes are nearly a million dollars in excess of anything levied before! That's the situation in Kansas. Do the the people like it? Not much, but they that dance must pay the fiddler."

Rev. Pringle's Letter.

Commenting upon other seizures of liquor, the Daily Argus says: "If these wholesale liquor seizures do not indicate that the liquor business flourishes in this town, we should like to know what they do indicate. Not only have we the facts themselves, but we have testimony which we suppose the Express will hardly care to question. This Rev. Mr. Pringle, who has just given a demonstration of the sort of 'enforcement' the local authorities have been putting up, will not be classed as a 'defender of the liquor traffic,' even by the Express. What does Mr. Pringle say of the liquor business conditions as he found them in Portland? Why, in his letter to the sheriff a week ago he wrote: 'Last week, in your county and city I bought intoxicants by the case, jug, bottle and glass at hotel and express offices, on the premises, or delivered promptly on telephone request, or as it was peddled by the wagon load from house to house. The only place where I looked for liquor and failed to find it was where we went with a search warrant.' Here is evidence of a liquor business sufficiently wide open for practical purposes, that shows what prohibition in the chief city of the state amounts to. And this condition is not the result of any sudden change, as in Worces ter, or the southern cities just placed under prohibition rule, but it follows upon half a century of prohibitory law and experience in the home state and home city of prohibition! These wholesale seizures are but an incident demonstrating conditions, the normal conditions in Portland. They do not indicate the ultimate trlumph of law enforcement. They were made at the instance of an outsider, and the loca. authorities were simply compelled to act upon his information. The expo sure made by him furnished another illustration of the farce of prohibition in Cumberland county, as elsewhere in Maine. It has also brought about a spasm of enforcement, willy nilly. he we may be sure that it is only a spasm. The influences that have beer potent in the past for lax enforcement will be equally potent in the future. They are in temporary abeyance only. After the present flurry shall be over they will again be in evidence in undiminished force. So it always has been under prohib;tion, and so it always will be. Meantime, it is not strange that Bangor protests against the leniency extended toward Portland in spite of its liquor selling exhibit, when that city is singled out for concentrated Sturgis enforcement. No wonder the Bangor Commercial, after setting forth that exhibit, ex-

"'And yet in spite of such facts as these the Sturgis commission sees fit to confine its efforts to Bangor, Lewiston and one or two other places and let Portland severely alone. When liquor can be so easily obtained it is hardly sufficient for the reply to be made that the local authorities are handling the situation."

The Loup Valley Hereford Ranch. Brownlee, Nebr.



Soldier Creek Col-umbus 17th 160050, a son of Columbus 17th, a half brother of the \$10,000 Champion Dale, and Prince Boabdel 131,-693 at head of herd.

I now have about 30 head of 1907 bull calves C. H. FAULHABER,

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All work will be given prompt and careful attention.

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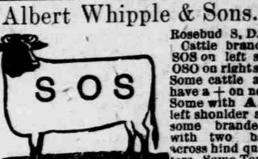
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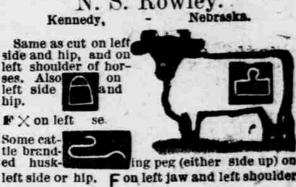
Cattle branded as cut on left side Some O You left on left jaw o

Range on Gordon Creek north of Simeon



cattle branded 8 0 on left side and on left side. Herses branded SOS on left hip. Some cattle branded AW bar connected on both sides and left hip of horses

N. S. Rowley.



O on left hip of horses. N on left jaw of horses

C. P. Jordan.

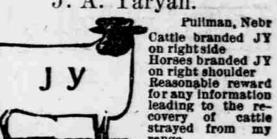


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same as cut; also
CJ BE JJ on right nge on Oak and Butte creeks.

A liberal reward
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John Kills Plenty. Cattle branded same on left thigh, Kange be-

tween Spring C'k and Little White Sawyer Bros.

Oasis, Nebr G. K. Sawyer has charge of these cattle. H rses D 8 on left shoul-

Metzger Bros.

Cattle branded anywhere on left Earmark, square crop right ear. Horses have same brand on eft thigh.

Range on Gordon and Snake Creeks, A Reward of \$250 will be paid to any person for information leading to the arrest and final conviction of any person or persons stealing eattle with above brand.

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