

TWENTIETH YEAR.

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 2, 1890-SIXTEEN PAGES.

NUMBER 137.

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High License Facts.

Condensations From Debates of Messrs. Roosevelt and Webster.

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The Burden of Official Evidence and Reports Against Prohibition.

PITHY AND INSTRUCTIVE STATISTICS.

Growth of Anti and Prohibition Cities and States Compared.

WHERE CRIME AND POVERTY ABOUND.

Hundreds of Reasons Why Prohibition should Not be Engrafted on the Constitution of the State of Nebraska.

The following points have been condensed from the debates of Hon. E. Roosevelt and Hon. John L. Webster:

Nebraska has less than 50 licensed liquor dealers.

Kansas has two drinking places to Nebraska's one.

Prohibition was defeated in Michigan by a majority of 4,000.

Tennessee voted down prohibition by a majority of 27,000.

The amount collected for liquor licenses in Nebraska last year was \$20,000.

Rents in the city of Des Moines, Ia., have depreciated 31 per cent since 1885.

Prohibition would reduce the salary of every school teacher in Omaha and Nebraska.

Hypocrisy flourishes under prohibition; it nourishes lying, perjury and disrespect of all laws.

After three years of prohibition in Rhode Island the obnoxious law was snowed under by 18,200 majority.

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Embroider'd Surahs \$1.25.

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Ladies' Knitted Waists, \$1.50 Each

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Tiger playing cards 5c pack.

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Pozzoni's medicated complexion powder 35c box.

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Cuticura soap 1/2c a cake.

Oakley's sweet violet's soap 12c cake.

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West India bay rum 50c a bottle.

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town or county can vote absolute prohibition as provided by the local option clause.

In Massachusetts out of a total vote on the prohibition question of 210,000 there was a majority of 45,820 against prohibition.

"Temperance in all things is the foundation of every virtue," but the maxim does not influence the conduct of prohibitionists.

Among the 165 incurable insane at Hastings 130 are temperate, 16 intemperate. The former habits of the other 19 were unknown.

Justices in Iowa make a special business of arresting a bottle of beer for 85, and charging \$10 to \$15 for convicting a bottle of beer.

Three years ago Michigan voted again on a constitutional prohibitory amendment as against high license. Prohibition was knocked out.

Vermont only increased one-half of one per cent under prohibition rule while no high license state increased less than twenty per cent.

The bootleggers of prohibition states know no Sundays. Their vile adulterations are on the Sabbath as they are on other days.

There are thousands of people in Iowa who sell whiskey and beer. Do the people of the state pride themselves on its army of law-breakers?

Prohibition as administered in the prohibition states of the union absolutely and actually produce more drunkards than the license system.

The greater part of \$92,000 was spent in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1889 in the facial attempt to enforce prohibition which does not prohibit.

There are in the prohibition state of Iowa over 4,000 places or resorts authorized to sell intoxicating liquors under the laws of the United States.

Within the past year there was an actual decrease of licensed liquor dealers in Omaha from 27 to 248, or thirty-nine less than the preceding year.

The capital of Connecticut has a population of 30,000 and 250 saloons. Omaha has more than double her population with only five more saloons.

Only two states in the union have ever suffered a decrease in population—Maine and New Hampshire—and they are prohibition states of long standing.

High license went into effect in Nebraska in 1881, and closed up many dives. Irresponsible men could not raise the license money and hence shut up shop.

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nessa, both of the latter being high license states.

According to official reports the great mass of criminals in Massachusetts come from the poor, the ill-taught and the ill-conditioned, and not from the drinking classes.

So long as the people will not look upon the manufacture and sale of intoxicants as a crime according to natural laws, prohibition will not be respected nor enforced.

Intelligence, a higher, purer more liberal culture, wider views and more knowledge of the world will have a greater tendency to diminish drunkenness than will laws.

In 1884 fourteen men and women in Maine were convicted of the crime of murder—some of the murders the most inexcusable and cold blooded of any committed in the union.

In Maine in 1886 there were licenses issued by the government to retail dealers of liquors 1,195, as against 859 in Nebraska. That is pretty good for prohibition Maine.

Not a single New England state that has tried prohibition has grown a bit in population, while every state surrounding them has increased wonderfully in population.

The number of saloons in Nebraska in 1880 was over seven hundred, and of that number Omaha, with a population of 30,645, has 150. Total increase in this state in ten years, 150.

In 1870 Kansas had four times the population of Nebraska. A prohibitory law was passed in 1882 by Kansas. Today Kansas has only 450,000 more people than Nebraska.

There are no laws in Kansas or Iowa to close their drinking places on Sunday or at any specified hour of the night. They are "wide open" at all hours of the day and night.

High license reduces the number of saloons and drinking holes; prohibition multiplies them ten-fold, as the history of prohibition in Iowa and Kansas fully substantiates this statement.

In states where there is a prohibitory law they have got more people in the saloons, proportionate to the population, than there are in Nebraska, where a high license law is enforced.

In defense of the argument that saloons under high license produce illiteracy, Maine has got as many people over sixteen years of age that cannot write as almost any state in the union.

The city of Cleveland has over 1,600 saloons and a population of 230,000. Omaha has a little more than half that population, while Cleveland has seven times her number of saloons.

What good that has been gained in Kansas from the loss of the open saloon has been more than overbalanced by the harm that has resulted from the business of the bootlegger and club rooms.

In many Iowa and Kansas towns, where prohibitory laws are supposed to diminish drunkenness, the sign of the beer seller and saloonist is seen displayed on the corner of many private dwellings.

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of Des Moines, prohibition state of Iowa, about the same population, 82,000.

John Bright of England and Governor Andrew of Massachusetts were both of the opinion that drunkenness was ten, if not twenty, times greater twenty years ago than now. They were observant men of the world.

Every Des Moines man who visits Omaha bewails the loss to that city of the big distillery and the blighted effects upon business and general prosperity that prohibition has entailed upon the city and citizens.

Michigan had constitutional and statutory prohibition from 1835 to 1874, when it was repealed. At that time there were 8,500 saloons in the state, and under license regulation the number in 1880 had been reduced to 4,373.

Nebraska has increased more rapidly under its present liquor license system than any other state in the union, and 500 per cent greater than any prohibition state that had prohibition for a period of fifteen years.

In New Hampshire there were 1,442 vacant farms which their owners were compelled to abandon on account of prohibition and seek employment in the manufacturing villages or great cities of the west.

In 1880 Nebraska had one saloon for every 125 voters, or one to about seven hundred and fifty of the population. In 1890 we have one saloon to every 282 voters, which is equal to about one for every 1,570 of the population.

In the language of Hon. John L. Webster, with the progress of civilization has come personal liberty, and with the progress of civilization have been done away with laws that restrained man of his personal liberty.

If Iowa and Kansas should keep their prohibitory laws in force for the next twenty years the census of 1910 will not show an increase in population over that of 1890. There will be the history of Maine repeated.

Wholesale liquor dealers claim that they sell much more liquor in Iowa and Kansas now than before prohibition laws were passed in those states. They sell poorer grades at larger profits than in high license Nebraska.

Seventy-eight towns in Nebraska have prohibition under the local option provision of our high license law. In these local communities public sentiment is adverse to the saloons and prohibition is therefore absolute.

In 1870 the state of Maine had a population of 648,000. In 1890, when the census was counted, they still had the original 648,000. And yet the prohibitionists argue that prohibition will not stagnate the growth of a state.

The supreme court of the United States has decided that no state can make laws against the importation of intoxicants into another state. What folly they for Nebraska to close up her distilleries and breweries by constitutional law.

In 1885 a block of six stores with offices above in Des Moines, Ia., rented for \$5,200 a year and was valued at \$50,000. In 1888 the rental for the same property was only \$3,800 and the owner cannot get a purchaser for it.

The proud spirited youth of this country will not enter a saloon, but very many of them who are bigly inclined will buy whiskey at a drug store. The drug store is the Iowa saloon; the "registered pharmacist" is the bar keeper.

Prohibition would deprive the children of poor people of free text books and school supplies. There could be but one result—these children would be barred out and cheated of an education which would make good men and women of them.

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polluted prohibition—was during the years between 1870 and 1880, increased \$30,000,000, which was more than the agricultural product of the prohibition state of Maine.

The census statistics show that Maine and Vermont have a higher proportion of divorces to marriage than any other state, yet they have been prohibition states for years, and it is claimed that drinking causes domestic unhappiness.

The saloons of Omaha will be closed on election day out of respect and fear of the license laws of the state. In the cities of Iowa and Kansas the drinking places will be open on that day, as they are on all days of the week—unrestrained by any law.

When the high license law went into effect in Pennsylvania in 1888 there were 14,533 saloons in that state. The enforcement of the law cut this number down at one blow to 7,734—a little more than one-half. And there has since been a steady reduction from year to year.

A law forbidding the use—not the sale—of beer or spirits has never been and never will be enacted by any state in the union. If liquor can be sent into a state from another state, how then will a prohibitory law keep a drinking man from securing his favorite beverage?

Only moral education and training can fit a man to live in this world as to resist all the temptations of vice. Rob the youth of Nebraska of free school books by enacting prohibition and you rob them of much that goes toward a proper moral education and training.

The state of Pennsylvania, by repealing prohibition doctrines and voting down the amendment, increased her manufacturing industries in ten years to \$20,000,000 more than the entire amount of capital invested in manufacturing industries in the prohibition state of Maine.

According to the official report of the committee of the Massachusetts legislature, under the five years of a license system in that state there were 11,673 less arrests for drunkenness than there were during an equal period of time under prohibition in the state of prohibition.

Prohibition would raise the tax levy in Omaha and Douglas county to nearly 8 per cent, and at the same time depreciate the value of property 30 per cent to 50 per cent in a few years. Thus would our property owners be caught in the vice, their fortunes waste away to ultimate ruin.

In states where high license was enforced, states surrounding prohibition communities increased in manufacturing enterprises as follows: Massachusetts, 1,140; Wisconsin, 661; New York, 6,585; Maryland, 975; Illinois, 1,932; Minnesota, 1,223; Nebraska, 733. All this within a period of ten years.

The revenue derived from liquor dealers under the high license system for the year 1889 was \$70,818. Of this amount \$64,112 was collected in various towns and cities as occupation tax, and \$18,970 was collected by various counties for saloons located outside of their incorporated towns.

The danger of prohibition being enacted in Nebraska has caused a delay to the investment of \$3,000,000. The investment of this vast sum would furnish employment to a vast number of people and enable them to purchase and pay for a large amount of groceries, dry goods and clothing.

If an Omaha man must have whiskey on Sunday he is obliged to cross the river into prohibition Iowa to get it. Iowa is the paradise of the rumrunner; no license to pay, no law to regulate his business. Who in Ne-

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braska save an irresponsible saloon man, would have such a situation prevail here?

After thirty years of prohibition in Maine there were 403 insane persons in her asylums. This was in 1880. At that time in the Nebraska asylums there were but 175.

Prohibition would bring a worse condition of things to Omaha than is now found in Council Bluffs—saloons everywhere running wide open almost wholly without legal restraint.

Out of the 56 persons in the Lincoln penitentiary convicted of murder only 14 were intemperate and only 5 were under the influence of liquor at the time the crimes were committed.

One of the chief causes of crime is the habit of violating laws by creating artificial ones, says Frederick Hill, a noted English barrister. The people of Iowa and Kansas are just now experiencing the truth and wisdom of the learned gentleman's conclusions.

Where the prevailing sentiment of the people is in favor of prohibition it can be partially enforced at enormous cost, as is evidenced by some towns in Kansas and Iowa. Where the prevailing sentiment is against it, it cannot be enforced at any cost. It is either a high-priced bubble or a complete failure.

The prohibition books state that three-fifths of all the idiots in the Maine asylums were either drunkards or the direct descendants of drunkards. In 1889 Maine had 1,325 idiots. Did prohibition then prohibit drinking? In New Hampshire there had 703 idiots; in Vermont 803; in Iowa 3,314, and in high license Minnesota only 729.

A large number of people are ready and willing to invest their money in buildings and other improvements when they are satisfied that prohibition is defeated. There are also people in the eastern states whose business it is to loan money who have refused to put a cent into Nebraska until they are satisfied that such is the case.

The district and county court dockets in Nebraska show fifteen cases against saloonkeepers and their bondsmen for violation of legal regulations which hold forth redress to injured parents of minors and wives of drunkards. Without the powerful restraining influence of the saloonkeepers' bonds there would be hundreds of infractions of the law and no possibility of redress.

During the year 1889 there were, according to the state prison inspection of Maine, 16,808 persons arrested for drunkenness. Maine contained a population of less than seven hundred thousand people, with a small foreign element in large cities. This is an appalling number of arrests for one year in a prohibition state for street drunkenness.

In Massachusetts, where the people had a free election, and where the intelligence and intellect of that state came forth to cast their ballots, prohibition as a doctrine was snowed under. Is it plausible to tell the people of Nebraska that all the people in Massachusetts who voted against prohibition were saloonkeepers, thugs and drunkards?

Prohibition in the states of this union, where it has been sought to be enforced—either as a constitutional amendment or a statutory law—has done more to break down the commercial industry of those states than any other cause. The surrounding states, where prohibition did not prevail during the ten years from 1870 to 1890 were increasing in population, prosperity and manufacturing industries.

During the years between 1880 and 1890 under the influence of high license, there has been such an increase in population, commerce, products and industries—both in

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mercantile and manufacturing—in the state of Nebraska that it stands without a rival and without a peer in any other state in the union. With such a record as that the prohibitionists ask us to change to the disastrous policy in effect in Iowa and Kansas.

Following the census of 1870 all prohibition states repealed their prohibitory laws save Maine and New Hampshire, and the same in population and the noticeable national development was, in the next decade, satisfactory to all save the two states that cling to prohibition.

It is a maxim of political and social economy that, if we would become rich we should be surrounded with wealthy neighbors. Prohibiting plutocrats would do well to make some estimate of the annual revenues that would be destroyed if the goal of their efforts was reached.

The prison inspector of Maine is forced to say from personal observation and experience that the greatest cause of crime in that state is the lack of good home influence. That being the case, prohibition certainly does not improve the morals of towns, counties of states, or promote good home influence.

Said a Des Moines capitalist yesterday: "Our streets are literally filthy; we have diphtheria scattered over the city; property owners are groaning under their load of taxation; we have plenty of free whiskey, but no saloons and no revenue from the hundreds of liquor dealers. Our streets need cleaning for sanitary reasons."

Keep It Before the People.

Keep it before the people that there is not a state in the union with so few convicts in prison as we have in the license state