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ECONOMIC, NOT SENTIMENTAL.

The following extract, an editorial taken from the Portland Oregonian, shows the trend of public opinion as reflected the past few years, and emphasized once more in the recent elections.

The elections of April 7 show pretty clearly that the tide of feeling against the saloons is still rising. The liquor interest lost ground both in Illinois and Michigan. In the former state, after a bitter contest, 20 more counties voted to abolish the saloons, making 26 in Illinois where no liquor can now be sold legally. In Michigan, out of 14 counties which voted upon the license question 10 went dry. It requires very little argument to prove that if this process continues the time will come before a great while when there will be no licensed saloons except in the larger cities, and even the assertion that the large cities will never adopt prohibition has less force than formerly, because it is now the policy of the Anti-Saloon league to hem them in with a wide cordon of dry territory and finally swamp the urban vote under that of the rural districts. The tendency is to destroy the liquor trade in large cities by force of general state laws when it cannot be done under home rule.

In recent campaigns against the saloon it has been noticed frequently that economic arguments have almost displaced the old moral and sentimental appeals which were employed by primitive temperance orators. Both the liquor men and their opponents talk of dollars instead of souls. The saloon is attacked and defended from the point of view of its influence upon the wealth-producing and wealth-saving power of the community. The liquor men aver that prohibition throws many men out of work and annihilates large sums of capital which have been invested in breweries and saloons. It thus directly strikes at the prosperity of the country, while indirectly it beggars families and destroys homes. The prohibition orators admit all this, but they reply that if it throws some men out of work to close the saloons, their energies are merely diverted to more beneficial channels. There is sufficient useful work waiting to be done, they insist, to employ every idle hand.

One phase of the subject is the revenue side. Suppression of the liquor trade would cut off from the various treasuries, national, state and municipal, revenues approximating, perhaps exceeding \$500,000,000 a year. Suppression of the manufacture and sale would cut off more than one-third of the present available revenues of the United States. What species of taxation would make up the deficit? For there is clamor also for tariff reform, or reduction of duties on imports. Revenue from sale of liquors is a great matter also in every considerable city.

The anti-saloon forces also contend that if prohibition annihilates the capital which is invested in saloons and breweries, it is quickly replaced in savings banks and farms, so that the community as a whole gains rather than loses. It can hardly be maintained that the manufacture and sale of liquor do anything toward keeping the human race alive, or making it essentially healthier or happier. It is conceded everywhere that the use of liquors is probably injurious to the majority of mankind and even in those rare cases where it does no harm one finds difficulty in showing that it does any good. Moralists are agreed

that the world would be better off if no liquor were manufactured, so far as health and happiness go. One cannot regret, therefore, that workingmen are being diverted from an industry of dubious character to others which are undeniably beneficial even if the transfer involves temporary hardship.

The argument that prohibition destroys capital deserves serious consideration, for capital is the basis of civilization and any process which decreases the total amount that the world possesses is harmful in the long run, no matter how delightful its immediate results may appear. But does prohibition decrease the total of the world's capital? The economic returns from districts where prohibition has been in force for a long time indicate the contrary. The taxable valuation of such districts invariably increases. It is said that the increment has in every case surpassed the value of the property which prohibition threw out of use. Moreover, the Maine and Kansas savings banks hold deposits far out of proportion to their relative population and far in excess of what can be shown in similar territory where the sale of liquor is permitted by law. To these facts we must add one more, that offenses against the law are enough fewer in prohibition territory to cause an appreciable saving in the public expenses and therefore diminish taxes.

The economic argument is therefore against the saloons, and we suppose this is the reason why they must prepare to meet their doom at some time or other.

One advantage of the primary law is that it in a very large measure produces clean methods. The nomination does not necessarily mean an election. Therefore, the successful candidate, after securing the nomination, must conduct his primary campaign so as to merit the support of his opponent at the general election. Each and every candidate before the primaries must of necessity bear this in mind. Hence, as a rule, we have clean primary campaigns. It does not pay to be otherwise.

La Grande Seriously Misjudged.

The city is progressing on all lines, religious, educational and commercial. Every progressive citizen rejoices in every advancing step. The Market day will become a blessing to the city and valley. It is true, however, that the management of this enterprise has seriously misjudged his people. He has assumed that in "crying" his goods and chattels it is necessary to degress, occasionally, and dispense with profanity and vulgarity, both disgusting and incriminating for the entertainment of his hearers.

It was Mr. Lincoln who said, "No gentleman will swear before ladies." The times have dawned when the better sentiment proclaims no gentleman will swear at all. Let it go forth that La Grande would be free from criminal profanity, both in her home-born and visiting citizenship.

W. H. GIBSON, Pastor First Baptist Church.

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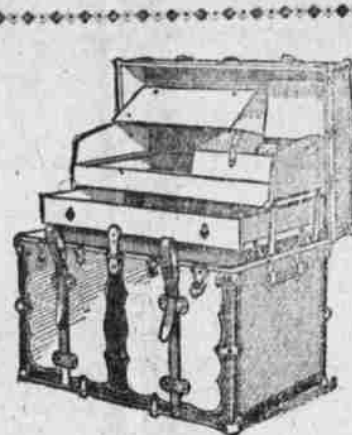
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CANDIDATE FOR DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR CIRCUIT JUDGE

"The law's delays!" Hamlet enumerated that as among the chief reasons why men would "shuffle off this mortal coil" if it were not for the fear of the unknown beyond the grave. So

cent occupants of the bench, but is a system inaugurated years ago when there was but little court business in either Union or Wallowa county. At present the court work in the two



HON. DANIEL W. SHEEHAN, Of Enterprise. Candidate for Democratic nomination for Circuit Judge.

there were vexatious and unnecessary delays in justice when all the world was a stage for the Bard of Avon—before Coke's time; many, many years before Blackstone required a whole volume to tell of the excellencies of the common law and was too near-sighted to see a single defect.

There were delays centuries before the people of Wallowa and Union counties found just cause for complaint, but that makes it none the easier to bear in this year of our Lord.

A county with two terms of court a year and all the remainder of the time the court of justice a "sealed book," must necessarily see the worst side of the administration of justice. Litigants, jurors and witnesses called from their homes and business and detained days and weeks while cases are being brought to issue by attorneys. Wronged litigants seeing their all frittered away by tedious waste until the whole sum in dispute is swallowed up in expense bills. Jurors and state witnesses drawing their pay for many unnecessary days and weeks spent at court, until the total is a very large sum that is a big drain on even so fat a pocketbook as the Wallowa county treasury. These are a few of the ills that past conditions have developed here.

In Union county are long-drawn-out jury terms, the jury trying about one case a week. Cases not at issue and a big expense piling up every day.

This may not be the fault of re-

and the poor are never turned from his door for lack of the fee. He is always on one side or the other of every important jury case, and the people he has done business for in the last 20 years are his strongest supporters for circuit judge, regardless of party.

It is an even score of years since Mr. Sheehan came to Enterprise. He was born in 1861, in Mason county, Illinois, where he received his early education. He came to Union county, Oregon, in 1883, after which he completed his law studies and was admitted to the bar by the supreme court. His success in the practice of law in this county is known of all men. For seven years he and Colonel Ivanhoe were partners. He has been associated with or pitted against the best lawyers in the state, practiced in all courts, state, federal and the interior department, and his 20 years

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