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LIQUOR PROBLEM HAS SOME NEW PUZZLES

Dr. Edward H. Williams, in The Medical Record, Says Insanity and Crime Increase in "Dry" States; More Spirits Being Used.

Dr. Edward Huntington Williams, of Montclair, N. J., formerly a member of the New York State Hospital Service, in an article on "The Liquor Question in Medicine," appearing in the current issue of The Medical Record, says that, in spite of the fact that physicians, individually and collectively, have always been ardent advocates of temperance, the diseases that are known to be caused by alcoholic excesses appear to be increasing rather than diminishing.

The writer points out that, although at a recent meeting of the World's W. C. T. U., doctors were severely criticized for using alcohol in any form in their practice, the medical textbooks now in existence probably constitute the greatest temperance library in the world. The methods of the creators of this great library may be questioned, but not their motives, he asserts.

"Moreover," says Dr. Williams, "physicians are ready to accept any method of combating disease if such method can be shown to be effective. So that, if the various organizations that advocate prohibitive liquor legislation could show encouraging results, there is no doubt that medical men would look less askance at their methods."

"These advocates of prohibition, through such organizations as the W. C. T. U., the Scientific Temperance Federation, Anti-Saloon League, etc., have had a quarter of a century in which to demonstrate the worth of their theories in actual practice. Largely through their efforts, all states have passed laws requiring the study of scientific temperance, physiology, and hygiene, and in some states at least the law requires oral teaching of these two last branches for children as yet unable to read." Furthermore, prohibitive legislation against the liquor traffic has increased to such an extent that at present fully one-half the people of the country are said to be living in what is claimed to be 'dry' territory. So that all school children are now taught the dangers of excessive alcoholic indulgence and half the adult population of the country is forbidden to obtain liquor except by unusual and complicated methods of barter. Surely such sweeping legislation ought to get results.

Twice as Much Whisky Drunk.

"But in the face of this legislation we find at the present time that more than twice the amount of whisky is consumed annually in the United States than was consumed seventeen years ago. More liquor of all kinds is consumed per capita today than ever before in the history of our country. And the diseases that are known to be caused by alcoholic excesses appear to be increasing rather than diminishing. Moreover, the government statistics for the last census period show that certain diseases which are attributed to excessive alcoholic indulgence, directly or indirectly, have increased more in the group of states where prohibitive legislation existed at the close of the period, than in the United States as a whole.

"Thus, according to this report, there was a gain of 4.4 insane persons per 100,000 population, committed to the institutions of the country during the census period. But during this same period, the gain in the eight prohibition states was 7.3 per 100,000—almost twice the gain in the country as a whole. Moreover, the greatest gain in any state, with a single exception, was in prohibition Maine, where the number of insane increased 21.2 per cent per 100,000 inhabitants, while 'wet' Nebraska holds the record at the opposite extreme with a decline of 27.6 per 100,000 during the same period.

"When we add to these facts that the record for homicides in 1912 went to Memphis, in prohibition Tennessee, with 64.3 homicides per 100,000 population, as against license Philadelphia's 1.4 (the lowest record for the year); that Bangor, Me., a prohibition city for thirty years, has a record of arrests for drunkenness in that year of one to every nine inhabitants, and that Kansas, the veteran standard bearer for prohibition, has more insane than seventeen of the 'wet' states scattered across the country, and more paupers and convicts than her unregenerate neighbor, Nebraska, the results of prohibitive legislation are not encouraging, to put it mildly.

"Moderation is no definition of temperance," said an enthusiastic feminine speaker at the World's W. C. T. U. meeting a few weeks ago. She might have added, 'neither is prohibition.'

Paresis Has Its Own Germ.

"It has been repeatedly stated by such men as the late Dr. J. S. Billings

and John Koren, both of whom were actively engaged in the work of investigating the subject by the committee of fifty, that there are no reliable data on the mortality of alcohol in the United States. For the causes of many diseases are still unknown, and what appears to be an etiological truth today may be branded as false tomorrow by some fresh discovery.

"The recent discovery of the cause of paresis by Drs. Moore and Noguchi offers an example, and, it so happens, applies directly to the case in hand. Paresis is included in the 'tentative approximation' of deaths from alcohol, yet we know now that the disease is caused by a specific germ. Paresis is uniformly fatal, represents some 12 per cent of all forms of insanity, and figures conspicuously (about 7,000 deaths annually) in the death rate among the quarter of a million insane persons in the United States. It is obvious, therefore, that the discovery of its cause alters very materially, even tentatively, the approximate death rate estimates. It also confirms the statement of Dr. Billings and Mr. Koren, and refutes any dogmatic statements made hitherto as to the number of deaths from alcohol which included paresis as an alcohol-produced disease.

"Thus, Fahr, in a series of 300 autopsies on chronic alcoholics, found that 'chronic nephritis caused the death of but eight cases, and was less commonly noted than in hospitals with patients of a better class.' That 'arterio-sclerosis was apparently less common than in bodies of non-alcoholics of corresponding age.' And 'Baumgarten found cirrhosis of the liver in only 6 per cent of autopsies among hard drinkers,' of which seems to raise the question as to whether rich foods, sedentary habits, mental states, etc., do not play a part sometimes attributed to alcohol, and perhaps explains the opinion of Dr. Emery of the Manhattan Life Insurance Company that 'a man who is an over-eater is not likely to live as long as some excessive drinkers.'

"The advocates of prohibition are responsible beyond a doubt for the increase in prohibitive legislation; the people as a whole are responsible for the increased consumption of liquor; and doctors must be credited for the reduction in infant mortality. So that we have at least three facts for consideration.

"However, without attempting the difficult task of solving so complicated a riddle, we can put a finger upon one fact that undoubtedly has considerable bearing upon the increase of certain diseases attributed to alcohol. This is, that the consumption of the injurious spirituous liquors has increased more than that of the milder beverages, and owing to the relatively small bulk of such liquors, they seem to be used in greater quantities proportionately in prohibition territories. In their vilest, most deadly fuel-oil form they constitute the principal ammunition of the ubiquitous 'suitcase peddler' in the 'dry' regions. And no one questions that these deadly concoctions influence very materially the mortality statistics.

The Alcoholic Is Abnormal.

"To clinicians and students of heredity, however, it is becoming more and more evident that the really important factor in producing insanity, alcoholism, drug psychoses, etc., is a deeply seated hereditary defect, not merely the result of environmental conditions. In short, that the alcoholic is a person quite different from the man who occasionally takes a glass of beer. Dr. Thomas W. Salmon has expressed this view in the single sentence, 'In a world of drinkers the alcoholic is an abnormal type.'

"Dr. M. J. Rosenau expresses the same sentiment in another way: 'It is necessary to recognize that what may be inherited is not the result of alcoholism, but rather the disposition that led the parent to become alcoholic.' And the Galton laboratory offers the same conclusion in the sentence, 'If, as we think, the danger of alcoholic parentage lies chiefly in the direct and cross-hereditary factors of which it is the outward and somatic mark, the problem of those who are fighting alcoholism is one with the fundamental problem of eugenics.' It also expresses the fear that 'it will be long before the temperance reformer takes this to heart.'

"The recently organized societies for promoting practical eugenics are based on such conceptions of the relationship between heredity and disease. And these organizations are just as pronounced advocates of temperance as the older and more intolerant societies, even though they do not advocate radical legislation. Like the older organizations, they attempt to 'strike at the root of the evil,' but, unlike them, they distinguish between roots, and branches, and twigs.

President May Attend Mass.

The New York Methodist conference, by a vote of 80 to 73, voted down a resolution requesting the president to discontinue the practice of attending with his official family Thanksgiving day mass at the Catholic cathedral in Washington because of its alleged national significance.

The Oregonian's Latest Political "Job"

THE CHOSEN TWELVE.

Ben Selling, clothing merchant. John Gill, book merchant.
Amadee M. Smith, lawyer. D. C. Lewis, lawyer.
Fielder A. Jones, baseball magnate. Oscar W. Horne, bricklayer.
Andrew C. Smith, physician. E. V. Littlefield, lawyer.
W. F. Woodward, drug merchant. Plowden Stott, lawyer.
Lee B. Hendricks, railway conductor. S. B. Cobb, manufacturer.

Platform and Slogan.

"In response to a large petition from taxpayers, urging me to be a candidate for the purpose of securing relief to the taxpayer, I am now a candidate. If elected, I will oppose all needless appropriations. I will work for and vote to abolish all useless boards and commissions. There are nearly 100 state boards, commissions and commissioners handling public money. Many of these perform service of value, but there should be a general consolidation in the interest of co-ordination, harmony and economy. Lower taxes next year and thereafter will be the end I shall seek."

The ballot slogan adopted is: "Taxpayers' candidate and lower taxes in the future."

Those Who Fell for the "Job."

Ben Selling
Dr. Andrew C. Smith
Oscar W. Horne
E. V. Littlefield
Louis Kuehn
Plowden Stott
D. C. Lewis
Lloyd J. Wentworth
S. B. Huston
John Gill
S. B. Cobb

The Oregonian's Call.

"An Address to the Voters of Multnomah County and the State of Oregon: This is at once a statement of conditions that confront every citizen and a call to public duty.

"We take this method of bringing to the general attention the pressing need of appropriate steps toward measures of relief from the oppressive burdens of increasing taxation, and for introducing in our Government more prudent and effective methods of economy, industry and accountability. We have the faith in the destiny of our state that is common to all patriotic citizens. But we feel that there is an imperative necessity that our present welfare be protected and our future prosperity be assured by the assumption of the responsible duties of Government in the Legislature by earnest, careful and experienced men. We have no purpose of making war on any group of men or class or system or of advancing the special interest of any political party, but we have been impressed with a growing sense of apprehension over the universal trend toward public extravagance and we are certain that something must be done to put on the brakes. It is our purpose in this manner to solicit a number of our well-known citizens to become candidates from Multnomah County for the lower house of the Oregon Legislature.

"It is a startling fact that the total cost of government in Oregon in the past decade has increased from three-fold to five-fold; and it is also a fact that state, county, city and school district have alike shared in the increase. The total taxable valuation in the State of Oregon in 1905 was \$308,000,000, with a population of less than 500,000. The total taxes paid to the state in that year (not including the public schools) was approximately \$1,000,000. In 1913, with an estimated population of 800,000, the assessed valuation of all property is \$954,000,000, and total taxes paid by all counties for state purposes is \$4,165,000. This is the direct tax upon our people, and does not include the public revenues from automobile licenses, corporation taxes, inheritance taxes, fish and game licenses, and the like.

"We are obliged to say that we have seen no satisfactory sign that taxes in state, county, city and school district are soon to be materially reduced, though we are willing to assume that all public officials are anxious to do what they can to alleviate this serious situation. But they are face to face with laws which require large expenditures, and with a system which calls for many—far too many—employees on the public payrolls. We are convinced that there is a lack of co-ordination between the various branches of our government and much unnecessary duplication of service and effort by various commissions, bureaus and boards, and the waste of much public money in unprofitable activities. We are aware that the state tax is by no means the largest tax paid by the citizen, but we believe that an example of caution and great deliberation in state expenditures by our Legislature will be followed in county and city; and we are sure, also, that laws requiring retrenchment in the expenditures for state, county, city and school district may be, and should be, enacted by the Legislature.

"The County of Multnomah has 12 members of the Representative branch of the State Legislature. We intend no reflection upon any member of our past Legislature or upon any candidate for the forthcoming Legislature; but we are firmly persuaded that, if our representative form of government is to survive there must be confidence in the Legislature and respect for its members; and we are within the bounds of moderate statement when we say that the Legislature has in recent years declined in the common regard. It should not be so; it must not be so. The Legislature may be restored to its proper position of importance, dignity and influence if its deliberations shall be marked by a sincere and intelligent reward for the general interest.

"We believe that the only way to bring about this desirable and necessary condition is to elect to the Legislature citizens of demonstrated capacity and known repute. It is of the highest importance that Multnomah County send to the Legislature as representatives 12 men having common aims, and a common understanding, rather than 12 men with divided purposes and individual ambitions, and with no definite or generally acceptable plans for remedial legislation.

"To that end we invite the following citizens to become candidates before the Republican primary for Representatives in the Legislature from Multnomah County on a platform of retrenchment in public expenditure and of greater efficiency in the public service, and we pledge to them our diligent and continuous support in procuring their election and our co-operation if they shall be elected in every plan for the common benefit:

"Ben Selling, Amadee M. Smith, Fielder A. Jones, Dr. Andrew C. Smith, William F. Woodward, Lee B. Hendricks, John Gill, D. C. Lewis, Oscar W. Horne, E. V. Littlefield, Plowden Stott, S. B. Cobb.

"We shall hope for an immediate and favorable response from these citizens who we know have no political ambitions to promote, and to whom for the most part the duties of a public Legislator may be accompanied by a measure of personal sacrifice."

The Oregonian's Endorsement.

"The entire twelve are representative men who are seeking to discharge a public duty. They are men who are above the suspicion of personal interest or political purpose. They will go to Salem, if they shall be nominated and elected, with the definite aim of promoting economy and efficiency in state, county and city government. That is all. Most of them have had experience in legislation and they have been impressed in an unusual degree with the necessity of doing something worth while for the taxpayer and plain citizen."

IMPORTANT LEAGUE MEETING

Liberal League to Consider Timely Matters April 15.

The women's Equal Rights League will hold its next regular meeting Thursday evening, April 16, in Selling-Hirsch hall on Washington street between West Park and Tenth streets. Every working woman is requested to come to this meeting. Don't forget the dance at the same place the following night. Best of union music and good floor managers. All good people come.

Wednesday evening, April 15, the Oregon Liberal League will hold its regular semi-monthly meeting at Bartenders' hall, 205 1/2 First street. Every man interested in protecting organized labor in the state of Oregon and particularly in Portland should be present. Important business affecting several crafts of organized labor will come before the league.

THE CANAL TOLLS ISSUE.

Exemption from Panama Canal tolls will, it is estimated, save the American Coastwise Shipping Trust \$1,000,000 a year.

Would a Democratic Congress vote \$1,000,000 a year to this trust in the form of a direct subsidy?

If not, its plain duty to American farmers, merchants, manufacturers and laborers who were taxed \$350,000,000 to build the canal and who will be taxed \$12,000,000 a year to maintain it, is to repeal the indirect subsidy of \$1,000,000 a year carried in the Coastwise Shipping Trust's tolls exemption.

Why should the government tax all the citizens to put \$1,000,000 a year into the pocket of a favored few?

The fact that the exemption violates a national treaty is of secondary importance to this violation of the spirit of democracy.

BUILDING TRADES FAVOR SHOW

Theater Will Entertain Union Men April 20 in "Lion and the Mouse."

April 20 will be Building Trades Night at the Star Theater, when "The Lion and the Mouse" will be given. The plot has to do with the problems of capital and labor and the show will be intensely interesting to all men and women who are studying social and industrial problems. The show will begin at 7 o'clock. No change in prices will be made.

The crowd which attends the special attractions will indicate to some extent the strength of the building trades in aiding show houses which stand fairly toward them. The effort to pack the house when The Star puts on a problem play is in keeping with the spirit of the building trades in showing appreciation for the efforts of the management of The Star to be fair to all branches of organized labor.

LABEL LEAGUE HAS CANDIDATE

Miss Anna R. Miles Endorsed for Queen of Rose Festival.

The Portland Card and Label League has placed a candidate in the field for Queen of the Rose Carnival. Miss Anna R. Miles, 712 Washington street, is the candidate. She is a member of the Garment Workers' Union. Her friends wish the support of organized labor in this campaign. Save your coupons from the daily papers and vote them for Anna Miles. In the next issue of the Labor Press a picture of Miss Miles will be printed.

Cuban Married Women.

In Cuba a woman never loses her maiden name. After marriage she adds her husband's name to her own. In being spoken of, she is always called by her Christian and maiden name. To a stranger it is often quite a task to find out whose wife a woman is. Never hearing the wife called by her husband's name, a person does not associate them together. The children take the names of both parents, but place the mother's name after the father's.

MITCHELL FOR COMMISSIONER

Labor Leader Appointed to Good Birth in New York.

John Mitchell, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, and for many years a vice president of the American Federation of Labor, was last week appointed by Governor Glynn as a member of the Workmen's Compensation Commission of New York, created under a recent act of the Legislature. Mr. Mitchell's appointment was immediately confirmed by the State Senate. The position carries a salary of \$7,500 per year.

MILLIONS HUNGRY IN GALACIA

Terrible Suffering Reported From Austrian Famine District.

Starvation reigns in Galacia, according to recent reports. In good part the wholesale starvation that has set in there is due to almost total crop failures the last two years. The eastern half, adjoining Russia, is the worst affected. The population of this vast territory numbers between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000, and more than 1,000,000 are on the brink of starvation.

RESERVE BANK MUST SERVE SEVEN STATES

Pacific Coast Draws Lightly in New Scheme of Banking; Total Resources Fixed at \$1,831,648,369, with 7548 Banks Interested.

The people of Oregon will be interested in a study of the location of the reserve banks provided for under the new currency bill. The thoughtful man or woman will find opportunity to size up the importance of the Pacific Coast in comparison with the little Eastern states by comparing the territory given to the bank at San Francisco with the field of the Philadelphia institution.

The reserve bank organization committee has divided continental United States into 12 banking districts and selected 12 cities where federal reserve banks are to be situated under the new currency law. This, the first decisive step toward the establishment of the new system, was announced, after three months' study of business conditions throughout the nation, including hearings in the financial centers.

The cities chosen are: New York, Boston, Cleveland, Atlanta, St. Louis, Kansas City, Philadelphia, Richmond, Va.; Chicago, Minneapolis, Dallas, Tex., and San Francisco.

The 12 districts, their scope and the capital of the banks to be established in them, are as follows:

District No. 1—Boston. Reserve bank will have capital of \$9,931,740, with 446 national banks as members. Territory, New England states.

District No. 2—New York. Capital, \$20,687,616, with 478 national and number state banks (not given) as members. Territory, state of New York.

District No. 3—Philadelphia. Capital, \$12,993,013, including 800 national banks and several state banks. Territory, New Jersey and Delaware and part of Pennsylvania.

District No. 4—Cleveland. Capital, \$11,621,535, with 724 national and several state banks. Territory, state of Ohio and part of Pennsylvania.

District No. 5—Richmond. Capital, \$6,543,281, with 475 national banks and a number of state banks and trust companies. Territory, District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and part of West Virginia.

District No. 6—Atlanta. Capital, \$4,702,780, with 372 national banks, etc. Territory, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, part of Tennessee and part of Mississippi.

District No. 7—Chicago. Capital \$13,151,925, with 984 national banks, etc. Territory, Iowa, part of Wisconsin, all of the southern peninsula of Michigan, viz., all that part east of Lake Michigan, part of Illinois and part of Indiana.

District No. 8—St. Louis. Capital \$6,219,323, with 434 national banks, etc. Territory, Arkansas, part of Missouri, all Illinois not included in district 7, all Indiana not in district 7, all Kentucky not in district 6, and all Mississippi not in district 6.

District No. 9—Minneapolis. Capital, \$4,702,864, with 687 national banks, etc. Territory, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, all Wisconsin and all Michigan not in district No. 7.

District No. 10—Kansas City. Capital, \$5,594,916, with 835 national banks, etc. Territory, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, all Missouri not in district 8, part of Oklahoma and part of New Mexico.

District No. 11—Dallas. Capital, \$5,634,091, with 726 national banks, etc. Territory, Texas, all New Mexico and Oklahoma not in district 10; all Louisiana not in district 6 and part of Arizona.

District No. 12—San Francisco. Capital, \$8,115,524, with 514 national banks, etc. Territory, California, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada and Utah and all Arizona not included in district No. 11.

In a supplemental statement the committee gave the following statistics used in determining the cities and districts:

No.	Area, sq. miles.	Population
No. 1	66,465	6,557,841
No. 2	49,170	9,113,279
No. 3	39,865	8,110,217
No. 4	183,995	7,961,022
No. 5	173,818	8,519,313
No. 6	233,860	6,695,341
No. 7	176,940	12,630,383
No. 8	146,474	6,726,611
No. 9	437,930	5,724,893
No. 10	590,649	6,306,850
No. 11	404,826	5,310,561
No. 12	693,658	5,389,303

According to this statement there will be at least 7548 banks of all sorts members of the system, with total capital and surplus of \$1,831,648,369.

Keep Away From Great Falls.

The Building Trades Council of Great Falls, Mont., has issued a warning to all building trades workers to stay away from that city, because trouble is anticipated.