

### SLUSHER SHOWING NO MERCY TO MOONRATS

Special to the Western American.

Astoria, Ore., Feb. 21.—Another "un-catchable" violator of the liquor law, Henry Baumgartner, logger, was neatly jugged by Sheriff Harley J. Slusher a day or two ago, and Henry declares he is going to fight the case in the courts. Henry is a noted woodsman and bear hunter—perhaps the best "Davy Crockett" in western Oregon. He was the cynosure of many admiring glances of plebeian pedestrians as he drove in state about the Astoria streets in his fine new Buick Six.

For reasons of his own, Sheriff Slusher suspected contraband cargo and, on inspection of the car, found two bottles of moonshine and four quarts of wine. The prospective party was postponed right there, while Henry was domiciled in the "can" and the splendid new car was held for confiscation proceedings under the new state law by which a liquor violator, using his car as carrier, forfeits both his liberty and his car. This is the

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first case under the new law in Clatsop county.

Bootleggers are swearing that the new law is a sad blow at the fancy automobile industry, for with car confiscation added to other perils they will hereafter equip themselves with cheap lizzies—used ones at that.

The capture of Baumgartner that evening only whetted the zeal of the Clatsop Sheriff and that of his Chief Field Deputy, Lewis M. Kietzing. They sped away to Seaside, where they found a big party in full swing, the program consisting of "wine, women and song." Armed with a search warrant, everything in legal order, and accompanying Policeman Brown of Seaside, they searched the house and found: A 15-year-old girl, a 16-year-old girl, and a 19-year-old girl, and several young men, all of age. The girls were placed in safe charge and the men were thrown in jail, where later each forfeited a \$50 cash bond and "beat it."

The residue of the "wet goods" in the house amounted to a pint of poisonous "moonshine" and a half gallon of "Dago red." With this filthy and venomous stuff the young men had been plying the wayward girls, with results which can be imagined.

**Heinie Caught at Last.**  
**Slubbers and Begs.**  
All law-abiding Astorians are rejoicing over the capture by the Sheriff of Heinie Fisher, a fat and rosy-cheeked bootlegger and "moonrat"—a new descriptive noun herewith coined for general use—a moonrat being brother to the doperat, or peddler of the poisons which make beasts of men and women. Heinie is about 30 years old. Heretofore he has been "bartending" and peddling industriously, but was always hard to catch. He was tricky and wise.

The Sheriff and Deputy Kietzing visited Fred Palmer's place—Heinie's hangout—on quite a different mission. Heinie became panicky and tried to hide a bottle of moon which he carried for drink-peddling on his fat and ample person. Instantly he was nabbed by Kietzing. In his cell in the county calaboose Heinie's yellow developed fully. He put his arm over his eyes and cried and sobbed exactly like a spoiled kid, caught in mischief, and thus he begged clemency and pleaded for mercy. Later he paid a heavy fine, and next time, if there is one, will get the extreme limit of the law in the form of fine and prison sentence. Somehow Heinie "brought pressure to bear" and kept his dignified name and pedigree out of the Astoria newspapers. However, a large and organized group of law-abiding citizens are determined that Heinie and all his ilk shall rid Astoria of their unwelcome presence; that the infamous traffic in poisonous "moon" shall stop.

**Sheriff Raids Scow and Nabs Old Man.**  
On his way back from Seaside Sheriff Slusher parked his car and set sail across Young's Bay in a rowboat and raided a floating scow owned and occupied by Erick Hauke and his son. The dad is 82 years old, the son about 32. They found a fine 15-gallon copper still and some mash—an exceptionally good equipment. The old man was honest about it and confessed he had been making "moon" a couple of years—"good moon, too," he declared. "I know how," he added, "take plenty of time and make it good, of a quality that won't injure my customers. I didn't make very much, just a little, but awfully good stuff." He declared his son was innocent and himself alone guilty which was, of course, more moonshine.

Leniency was allowed in this case on account of the defendant's advanced age and his promises hereafter to be good.

While Sheriff Slusher's day and night activities have reduced moon-shining and bootlegging to an unexampled minimum, the infamous business continues despite the drastic laws and all efforts to enforce them. The Sheriff says his only policy is to "keep after them," giving them no rest and keeping them ever uneasy, thus making the business extra hazardous and costly.

Kietzing

Many moonrats and doperats and their indulgent friends lately have been complaining to the Sheriff that Chief Field Deputy Kietzing is generally "persona non grata," unwelcome and unpopular as deputy, and urging him to "fire" Kietzing because they don't like him. Sheriff Slusher turns a deaf ear to all such pleadings, because Kietzing's honesty and efficiency are unquestionable. In the meantime, the taxpayers are rejoicing because the revenue from Sheriff Slusher's inflexible policy of law-enforcement is reaching fancy figures and will help greatly to reduce taxes as well as establish better moral conditions.

The construction of a large Masonic Temple in Mobile, Ala., will probably be started during the early part of the year. Masonic Lodges of the city some months ago bought the property upon which the temple will be erected.

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