

OREGON CITY COURIER

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Official Paper for the Farmers Society of Equity of Clackamas Co
M. J. BROWN, EDITOR

HOW ANCIENT IS THE DRINK EVIL?

The contention has been made again and again by those who oppose prohibition that if license were abolished, and the manufacture, sale and use of liquor were entirely unrestricted, we should then have none of the present day evils arising from the use of intoxicants. It has been stated, for instance, as an illustration, that in certain parts of Europe where everyone drinks as much as he pleases there is no drunkenness such as we see in America. But it would be difficult today to find a land where the use of liquor is entirely without legal regulation. Everywhere the evils arising from drink are recognized and laws are made to guard against them. History, however, furnishes us some examples of the conditions arising from drink long before the modern license system was thought of.

About the middle of the 17th century England suffered from a period of frightful moral degeneracy. The administration of the government being under the drunken WALPOLE, immorality and crime ran riot, particularly among the extreme upper and lower classes of society. Men of the aristocracy generally considered it a social duty to instruct their sons in the niceties of immoral licentiousness. Historians believe that this deplorable state of affairs was due to the introduction of gin into England at this time. Signs were seen on every tavern, "We will make you drunk for one penny or dead drunk for two-pence." This was a period of outlawry and riot throughout the kingdom.

TACITUS, the great Roman historian, in writing of the barbarians of northern Europe, tells us something of the effects of liquor upon our ancestors of about 19 centuries ago. After warmly praising the hospitality and family relationship of these people he says:

"Their food is very simple—wild fruits, fresh venison and coagulated milk. In extinguishing their thirst they are not equally temperate. For their drink they draw a liquor from barley or other grains and ferment the same, so as to make it resemble a wine.—Nay, they who dwell upon the banks of the Rhine deal in wine. To continue drinking night and day without intermission is a reproach to no man. Frequent then are their broils, as usual among men who are intoxicated with liquor; and such broils rarely terminate in angry words only, but for the most part in maimings and slaughter."

Thus we see that liquor was the same in its effects upon men 1900 years ago as it is today, and the person who maintains that alcohol ever was anything but a curse to humanity merely shows his ignorance of history.

It is believed that 90 per cent of the physical and moral degeneracy in America today is due to alcoholism, and the same effects must have been evident in ancient times for TACITUS goes on to say that if these barbarians could secure enough liquor it would destroy them. Other ancient historians tell us that the traders of Southern Europe did a thriving business with the northern barbarians—fetching them great quantities of wine for which they eagerly traded their most valuable possessions, such as cattle, horses, furs and even their weapons. This is probably what TACITUS refers to when he says, "they who dwell upon the Rhine deal in wine."

In dealing with the liquor problem there is nothing to be gained by retracing our steps. All those who have gone deeply into the matter are agreed that the only remedy is to place alcoholic drinks absolutely and forever out of reach—nothing but complete prohibition will satisfy those who are fighting the fight for humanity and civilization.

ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

We publish today the communication of a writer who bitterly assails DOCTORS WITHEYCOMBE and SMITH because of their having been associated with the medical fraternity. Our correspondent has a chronic grouse against all medical doctors, whether they treat horses or humans and he thinks that WITHEYCOMBE and SMITH should be defeated upon these grounds.

We find it impossible to agree with this writer's point of view. We do not believe the doctors should be condemned on account of their professional training;—they should be condemned, or not, according to their standing, or lack of standing, as honest men, and according to their ability or lack of ability as statesmen.

Medical practitioners have no doubt committed many blunders and followed many foolish theories; but nevertheless, medical and surgical researchers and experiments have been of incalculable benefit to humanity. There are thousands of human beings alive and well today who would certainly be in their graves except for modern scientific medical knowledge.

We are fighting WITHEYCOMBE and SMITH as candidates for the governorship, because we believe there is a better and more able man for the place; but we should be very sorry to see the republican and democratic candidates defeated because of any unjust prejudice against them as doctors.

By making use of the wonderful sterilizing properties of ultra-violet lights, medical science has found a way to remove

THE BUSINESS MANS PROBLEM

Is generally capital, and how to obtain it. You will have to face the same thing some day. Be prepared for it by forming a systematic savings habit in your youth. Your reputation for thrift will stand you in good stead with your banker should you need assistance in future years.

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the only real objections to the use of vaccines and serums by eliminating all danger of infection.

German savants, working at the University of Baden at Freiburg have found a way to make parturition absolutely painless. This near miracle is accomplished by treating the patient with hypodermic injections of a drug which temporarily eliminates mental sensibilities to pain without interfering with the muscular reflexes,—the mind sleeps but the body remains thoroughly awake. The experiment has been tried in more than five thousand cases, all of which were remarkably successful. At present the treatment can be had only at Freiburg, but if it should prove successful in ordinary practice the American physicians will not be slow to adopt it. In any event the discovery will be the means of relieving humanity of an inconceivable amount of suffering.

No reasonable person would attempt to deny the benefits humanity has derived from the medical profession; but among doctors, as among every other class of men, there are honest and dishonest individuals. That WITHEYCOMBE and SMITH are doctors is neither a recommendation nor a condemnation; but they should be judged according to their standards of truth, honor, and integrity as men and citizens.

LEST WE FORGET

The exploiters of Mexico, at whose head stands VICTORIANO HUERTA, have improved the time afforded them by the mediation proceedings to get possession of an enormous quantity of military supplies, to be used against the Americans if necessary.

The battle of Vera Cruz, which cost nearly a score of American lives, was fought to prevent the landing of a large quantity of rifles and ammunition which the liner YPIRANGA had been commissioned to place in the hands of the Huertists at Vera Cruz. But, after the battle, and while the Americans were still congratulating themselves upon the success the YPIRANGA slipped away and placed her huge cargo in the hands of the Mexican Federals at Puerto, Mexico. Thus supplied the Mexicans are said to be preparing to attack Vera Cruz and if such an attack should take place the unfriendly act of the Germans will likely cost us dearly in American lives.

The YPIRANGA belongs to the Hamburg-American line, a German steamship company whose business depends largely upon American dollars for its support. This fact, and the contemptible treachery of the Germans at Vera Cruz, should be borne in mind by American tourists when purchasing steamship tickets to Europe.

THEN AND NOW

We must really take the editor of the Oregon Messenger to task for publishing a statement which fails to elucidate itself. Does he not know that it is bad manners to withhold the best part of a feast? The Messenger says:

Some folks, even Dr. Withycombe himself, had almost forgotten that he was a candidate for the nomination of Governor a few years ago at that noted gathering in Portland which went into political history as an assembly. It is probable that the Doctor would like to forget it too. But one thing the public is especially strong on in remembering the mistakes and misfortunes of individuals—especially those individuals who would hoo office.

At the primary election in 1906 Dr. WITHEYCOMBE was the successful candidate for the Republican nomination, but was defeated at the general election. In 1910 Dr. WITHEYCOMBE again listened to the seductive songs of the political sirens and was disastrously shipwrecked at the Republican convention. Now in 1914 he has again been successful at the primaries, but, incomprehensible as it may seem, still has a longing for the good old assembly days. Dr. WITHEYCOMBE seems to be incurably retrogressive.

A WORD ABOUT DIVORCE

There are those who deplore divorce. They point to the constantly increasing business of the divorce Courts as a menace to the social and religious well-being of the country. Churches and preachers are particularly bitter against the so-called divorce evil—probably because the latter consider it a personal affront when the marriages they have sanctioned are interfered with. However, in the majority of cases divorce is a blessing. It is an indication of the emancipation of woman from the ancient bondage of matrimony. For countless millions of women marriage has meant simply slavery, and the old way of looking at marriage was to believe that the woman who had guessed wrong in choosing her husband must make the most of a bad bargain; but just as we have outgrown the ancient custom of compelling girls to marry a husband chosen for them by somebody else, we will also outgrow the equally unjust custom of compelling the girl who has made a bad bargain in selecting her husband to live with him no matter how much she may despise and fear him.

Marriage at best is an experiment and just as with experiments of all other kinds, some mistakes are sure to be made—mistakes, which, if certain good people had their way would be utterly irremediable.

Life is very short, and very precious to most persons, but we can only estimate the value of our life by the happiness which it yields us, and marriage has more to do with the happiness of the individual than any other thing. It is horrible to think of the lives ruined by unwise marriage; it is terrible to think of the thousands of women and tens of thousands of children who are struggling to make a meager living for themselves and for a worthless, brutal husband and father; it is heartrending to think of the hideous social conditions which are a result of our clinging to an ancient custom which makes women and children the slaves of men. Our prisons, jails and asylums are maintained largely for those whose parents ought to have been divorced—or rather ought never to have married at all.

Drink is responsible for the majority of unhappy marriages. Let those who deplore divorce show their sincerity by employing their energies to help eliminate this great curse.

In discussing the high cost of living we should seriously reflect whether American methods of food production have not much to do with the problem. In Japan one square mile of cultivated land supplies about twenty thousand persons with food; in Germany a land area less than that of the state of Texas supplies the needs of 58,000,000 persons; France is cultivated like a garden from border to border—but in America the virgin land has hitherto yielded the straggling population an abundant living with so little effort that we have come to believe it would do so indefinitely. So long as people prefer to starve in the city rather than get out in the country and wield a hoe or guide a plow, no remedy will likely be found for present conditions.

In spite of continual rebel victories, the strenuous efforts of the A. B. C. mediators and President Wilson's unchanging determination to eliminate him, Victoriano Huerta still hangs on. Better hang than be hanged is probably his motto.

OREGON COMMENT

About Some Things Political and Otherwise

It is really amusing to watch the sly angling of Doctors Smith and Withycombe to hook the wet vote. Both these men were elected at the primaries by the dry element of their parties—they were handed the nomination for governor with the tacit understanding that they should espouse the cause of prohibition.

But both candidates are now as silent as the Sphinx on the liquor question. Dry republicans and dry democrats are both wondering what to think of these men and are more than half ashamed they did not vote for bona fide liquor men in the first place. The writer believes that both Withycombe and Smith are wasting their time and ruining their chances of election by using a beer keg for a campaign tom-tom. We believe that it is not a question of who shall get the wet vote, but rather of who shall get the majority of the prohibition ballots. These two men are fast losing the friends they had before the primaries and it is doubtful if they can win the friendship of those who were their enemies previous to the 15th of May. These men should not betray the trust reposed in them by the people who nominated them but should stand to their guns and make common cause with the other two candidates against the booze dragon.

With few exceptions the newspapers all over the state are hammering the liquor interests. Editors who, a few years ago were afraid to write a line against the beer bottlers have now buckled on the sword and armor of prohibition and are out to put a period to the reign of King Alcohol in Oregon.

Says the Coquille Valley Sentinel:

"The sweep of prohibition sentiment at this time is very much like that of the abolition wave in the fifties. The spirit of that age condemned human slavery as a relic of barbarism, and the spirit which has judged booze selling as an evil that must cease is scarcely less powerful.

The elimination of the saloon isn't going to make men and women perfect nor to usher in millennial conditions; but it will mark another distinct advance in human development. It means that we have come more and more to realize that we are our brothers' keepers, and as a social organization have determined that at least we will no longer accept bribes to wink at evil nor use the profits that come from debauching youth and destroying manhood in building walks and bridges and improving our streets. The civic conscience is revolting more and more at holding manhood and womanhood cheap and counting money the greatest thing in the world."

The aristocratic Oregonian looks at the liquor problem as purely a moral question which is to be measured in dollars and cents. It speaks rather sadly of the great material sacrifice which the people will have to make to get a doubtful moral gain. This view expressed by the Oregonian has aroused the ire of many people who consider that the gains to be made by the adoption of prohibition are material as well as moral. Speaking for these the Coquille Valley Sentinel says again:

"The prohibitionists know that it will be material gain to stop spending money for that which harms and weakens and destroys—which fills our prisons, our almshouses and our insane asylums—and have the money go for things which benefit and bless. The moral gain is there all right, and it is the most important consideration; but it means material enrichment beyond imagining to root out the liquor business and stop making drunkards and imbeciles."

The big brewing interests are making strenuous efforts to escape the landslide which the prohibition people are putting in motion. They have attempted to alarm the hop growers into putting their money into the fight, and have succeeded to a large extent. These men are feeling themselves sinking in the Slough of Despond have made a pitiful appeal to Dr. Withycombe to save them. And he has probably assured them that he will do so—if the story of his interview with certain hop growers at Salem is true.

One can scarcely blame Withycombe for having sympathy in line with the hop growers, being a professional farmer himself and rather a simple minded man who does not look beyond the present and sees no harm in the crops of growing hops which appear so beautiful to the eye of the agriculturist.

A writer whose letter appeared in a recent issue of the Oregon Daily Journal follows the hopping of the hop a little farther, and the following is a list of consequences as he sees them:

"Hops, breweries, distilleries, saloons, dives, jails, almshouses, prisons, insane asylums, large police forces, saloonkeepers, macquereaux, white slavers, prostitutes, murderers, thieves, thugs, wrecked homes, destitute families, broken-hearted wives, unsanitary hovels, disease, increased taxes to support all the above, physical, moral and spiritual decay—all, in fact, that makes for human degradation."

Now would it not be better for both Smith and Withycombe to cut loose from those corrupt interests which champion the breweries and their associated abominations, and openly and manfully espouse the cause of decency and humanity?

But probably Mr. Smith fears to declare himself for prohibition because of the wet democratic votes such a declaration would drive over to Withycombe and the latter probably believes his campaign would be hopeless without the support of the

Children Cry for Fletcher's

CASTORIA

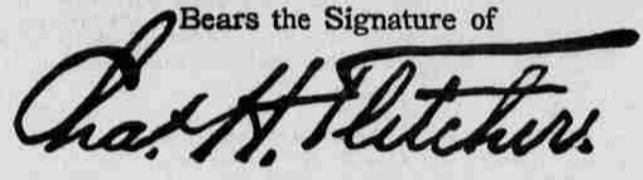
The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

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lordly Oregonian, and that paper is representative of a class of influential Oregonians, of whom the Portland Chamber of Commerce may probably be taken as a fair sample.

Now the Portland Chamber of Commerce have expressed themselves upon the prohibition question. At a recent meeting of that body a straw vote was taken and the result shows how high finance views the abolition of liquid insanity in Oregon.

The Newberg Graphic pays its respects to the Chamber of Commerce and its sentiments are as follows:

"The Portland Chamber of Commerce has made itself the cats' paw of the wholesale and retail liquor dealers, in an attempt to influence the voters of Oregon by taking a straw vote of its members on the question of state-wide prohibition, and thereby gets in bad with many thousands of voters throughout the state who do not oppose to be dictated to, as to how they shall vote on this, or any other question. Out of a total membership of 860 there were 585 votes cast. Of this number there were 111 in favor of prohibition, 470 against it and four blank ballots. The common, every day people of the state, will have a vote on this question in November."

APPROVAL

The Courier wishes to congratulate the City Council of Coquille, Ore., on account of their unanimous vote to eliminate saloons from that town. At a Council meeting early last week, petitions were presented by both wets and dries for and against the granting of saloon licenses. The wets had 389 signers of which the council struck out 52 names as not qualified voters; the dries presented 496 names of which number the council removed 15 names as doubtful.

After listening to arguments from both factions the councilmen unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Be it resolved that, and it is in the sense of the Common Council that it would not be conducive to the peace, good order, health and safety, public interest and welfare of the city of Coquille to grant licenses for the sale of spirituous, malt or vinous liquor or fermented cider, and all applications for such license or licenses shall be and the same are hereby denied and such license refused."

KILLED BY DRINK

Dr. Houseworth, who yesterday performed a post-mortem on the body of Emil Anderson, found dead in his bed Saturday morning, found that

death was caused by excessive drinking. Anderson had been subject to cramped for some time and physically unfit for work.—Coos Bay Times.

Here again is a case of a human being subjected to the agony of a lingering drink mania and premature death, because of the temptation set before him by an irresponsible and indifferent society called the State. Every citizen is accountable for the continuance of these deplorable misfortunes—that is to say, every citizen who has access to the ballot.

The farmer who has neither lightning rods on his barn or house nor carries any insurance is more than likely bucking a losing game. It will be admitted by all who are at all familiar with the lightning rod agent of the olden time that he was not half so much interested in protecting the farmer's buildings from destruction by lightning as he was in getting a good wad of his money, but experience with lightning rods well placed and properly grounded prove conclusively that they are a virtual preventive of losses due to lightning. So well established is this fact that insurance companies grant a lower rate to buildings properly rodged and wired.

A measure of more than usual importance to the agricultural interests of the country has lately passed the lower house of congress by a large majority. This bill provides for federal aid in the dissemination of scientific agricultural information through practical experiments and publications. Under the provisions of the bill state agricultural colleges are to receive funds to finance plans for acquainting farmers with facts established by the department of agriculture. Each state is to get \$10,000 the first year, and this allowance is increased until at the end of ten years it will be \$32,500 a year. Such an appropriation should make possible the rendering of a large and practical service for the important agricultural and allied interests of the country.

WHEN YOU ARE NERVOUS

you have the first symptom of a run-down system, and nervous people too often conceal their aches and pains and suffer in silence, while, if neglected, this condition often foreruns more serious trouble. If those so afflicted would stop taking medicine containing alcohol or drugs which menace the foundations of health, and just take the pure, strengthening nourishment in Scott's Emulsion, it would create new blood to pulsate through the organs, refresh their bodies and build up the whole nervous system. It is rich, sustaining nourishment, free from wines, alcohols or drugs. Shun substitutes.

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If you have from 10 to 50 acres of land you wish to sell, see us about it, that is, if your price is right.

We have First Mortgages on Willamette Valley Farms from \$300 up running from two to five years that we will sell so as to NET the purchaser 6 per cent.

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