

HOME RULE IS BUT DISGUISE

Proposed Liquor Law Declared
to Be Same As Infamous
Reddy Bill.

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 29.—At a great mass meeting in the Armory, Judge Earl C. Bronaugh paid his respects to the Home Rule Association's Amendment to the Constitution. There were fully three thousand persons present, and for fifteen minutes Judge Bronaugh spoke. His address was punctuated with applause, evidently carrying the whole great audience with him. He spoke as follows:

"Some six years ago the voters of Oregon placed a very heavy charge of quinine on the tongue of the liquor men when they enacted the Local Option Law. And it has been tasting very bitter ever since. And they have ever since been trying to diagnose their trouble whether correctly or not you may judge.

"The latest remedy which they have prescribed is a bill commonly known as the Greater Oregon Home Rule Bill. And I want to pay my respects to it just for a few minutes. If you have read it you know that it is merely a repetition of the famous, or to be grammatically and rhetorically correct, I should say, infamous Reddy bill. That bill was snowed under deep by voters of Oregon two years ago.

"I will admit that when the direct legislation was first proposed in Oregon in common with many others, I had some misgivings as to the practicability of it. But the steady and persistently intelligent way in which the voters of Oregon have passed upon the liquor laws that have been propounded satisfies me that the average voter is competent to pass upon legislation when the matter is put fairly and squarely before him.

"I notice this morning's paper, and last night's paper, has what purports to be an opinion by the Attorney General of this State, answering in the negative the question as to whether or not this proposed bill will put it within the power of municipalities to nullify the criminal laws of the State of Oregon. I did not know that anybody had announced the proposition that it would. The liquor men have put up a man of straw and have asked the Attorney General to knock him over for them. Nobody who has studied the law supposes for a moment that it will enable municipalities to annul the criminal laws of the State of Oregon. But it will do a few things which I would like to place before you tonight for you to meditate upon.

"Perhaps you know that we have in this State a law which provides that no license shall be granted to a person who has been convicted of selling liquor to minors, or permitting minors to loiter about his saloon; that is, it is the law except in the City of Portland.

"We have another law which prohibits saloon keepers from selling liquor to habitual drunkards. There is another law which prohibits the opening of saloons on Sunday. There is another law which prohibits the licensing of saloons within a certain distance of a public school building. The proposed so-called Home Rule Bill will put it within the power of every municipality to evade those laws. Now, Mr. Liquor Man, will you ask the Attorney General whether that statement is true or not? And see what he says.

"I am not here tonight to abuse anybody. I am not here to abuse men who may disagree with me, I am here to express surprise that the liquor men should have been shrewd enough to secure such an array of reputable and honorable men to stand sponsors for their bill. Many of those men I know personally, and I know that, if the true inwardness of that bill had been explained to them, their names never would have been at the foot of it, and their influence never would have been back of it.

"There are other things this bill proposes to do. Has it struck you that it is at all significant that the clause, 'Subject to the Constitutional and Criminal laws of the State of Oregon,' comes before the clause relating to the suppression and regulation of the sale of liquor? There is also a clause put in the end for the purpose of misleading—I can see no other purpose for it—'Subject to the provisions of the Local Option Law of the State of Oregon, within the limits of the municipality.'

"It is provided in this act that no municipality may amend its charter so as to be in conflict with the crim-

inal laws of the State, or with provisions of the Constitution; but this act does propose, in effect, to amend the charter of every municipality so that that municipality may enact ordinances, regulations and laws which shall set at defiance the laws of the State regulating the sale of liquor. It will also practically nullify the Local Option law, because, if you read the criticism in The Oregonian this morning, you will note that The Oregonian called attention to the fact that it would practically do away with precinct vote and will limit the operation of the Local Option law to the municipality as an entirety. It will do more than this. In many parts of this State, where there are small towns there are large precincts, which include the whole or a part of the town, and a part of the country as well. This law gives the right to the municipality, as a whole, to vote upon the Local Option law, but there is no law that gives a part of a precinct outside of a city right to vote upon the question of the prohibition of the sale of liquor, and, therefore, all such precincts outside of the municipality will be deprived of that right. Also in the municipality in many cities, where it is possible to carry the city dry, a vote may be had upon a precinct, or combination of precincts. That is true in the city of Portland, and in many of the parts of the city, people who do not want the saloons in their residence neighborhood, but are perfectly willing it should be in somebody's else neighborhood, have voted their precinct dry. They would be deprived of that right if this bill becomes a part of the Constitution of the State of Oregon. And think of it! The Constitution, or a part of it, of the great State of Oregon, being framed for you and me by liquor men! I say this is the most outrageous and audacious assault that has yet been made upon the rights of the people of this State!

"Then again, if the amendment is adopted, if any county or precinct votes dry it will be within the power of the liquor men to create a new municipality, however small, within such dry territory which will be invested with authority to license the sale of liquor within the municipal limits, and thereby corrupt the whole district and set at naught the will of the people.

(Rev. H. I. Rutledge. Paid Adv.)

BIG CHANGE IN BUSINESS

**MERCHANT & KAMMERER GOING
OUT OF THE GENTS' CLOTHING
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This firm doing a general merchandise business for some years has decided to do away with a general line of goods and concentrate their entire efforts to a complete and up-to-date Ladies' Goods Store.

They have been very deliberate in taking this step and feel that with the conditions existing here and the needs of the community, have come to the conclusion that one thing well done is worth more than a dozen without proper attention.

In every metropolitan town or city the more successful and up-to-date merchants are specializing their business which enables them to keep in closer touch and install better methods and system in their undertakings.

No one man can be an expert in all lines and buy advantages for a hundred different departments. In all lines of successful business, in all professions, you will find the man that makes a study of one thing and specializes, is the more successful.

Voters and Tax-payers, if you want harbor improvement and want it now, vote for the \$300,000 bond issue and don't let Joe Bennett and Elijah Smith pull the wool over your eyes by pretending that they are your guardian angels. They are only trying to use you for their benefit. —C. R. Peck (Paid advertisement).

Vote for the \$300,000 bond issue No. 368. It means the foundation for a great harbor and harbor facilities. (C. R. Peck, Paid Adv.)

JUST RECEIVED FRESH barrel of Columbia BATTERIES at The GUNNERY.

BASKET SOCIAL at Swedish LUTHERAN HALL, Saturday evening, November 5. COME AND HAVE A GOOD TIME.



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NOW IS THE TIME TO SELECT SAME, WHILE STOCK IS COMPLETE AND ASSORTMENTS GOOD. ALL WE ASK OF YOU IS TO COME IN AND TRY ON BENJAMIN CLOTHES.

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BENJAMIN RAIN-COATS HAVE THE NEW PRESTO COLLAR WHICH IS CONVERTIBLE, EITHER LAYING DOWN AS IN ORDINARY COLLAR OR STANDING AS A STORM COLLAR.

REGARDING PRICES, YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CASH AND CREDIT STORES.

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TELLS FACTS ABOUT "DRYS"

Shows How Elimination of Sa-
loon Licenses Causes Big
Increase In Taxes.

(From Polk County Observer, Dallas,
Oregon.)

Glancing over the pages of the Independence Enterprise, our attention is attracted by a column of argument for a continuation of "dry" rule in Polk county. This is the column in which it is asserted that "men are coming from wet cities to work in the Dallas mills in order to get the protection from liquor afforded them in dry-towns." As this mis-statement of fact has been effectually squelched by Manager Gerlinger, of the Dallas mills, we will not refer to it further.

Reading on down the column, we come to a signed statement by Dr. J. P. Wallace, Mayor of Albany, telling of deplorable conditions in his town. This statement bears no date, but somehow it has a familiar sound. It reads very much like the statement that was used by the "dry" forces in the campaign two years ago until it was worn "slick." However, we are not certain about it, so we will reprint it and see if any of our readers recognize it. It reads as follows:

"The building activity has been much greater since our city went dry. The closing of the saloons has not retarded in the least the growth or development of our city. We have paved with bitulithic pavement fourteen blocks of our streets, and have under contract nine more. We have also laid about eight or ten miles of cement walk since we went dry. The tax rate before the closing of the saloon was eight mills. We were then receiving \$5,000 for saloon license, but the municipality was then running behind and our public debt was increasing. Since the saloons are closed, we have raised our assessment values, and have put our tax rate at six, seven and eight mills respectively each year, but we have also paid all running expenses and applied \$5,000 to the reduction of our public debt, and this year we will spend at least \$10,000 in public improvements.

(Signed Dr. J. P. Wallace,
Mayor of Albany.)

At first glance, this would seem a remarkable statement. But when one investigates all facts connected with taxation in Albany, there is nothing remarkable about it. Desiring to ascertain the true conditions for himself, that he might give them to his readers in return, the editor of the Observer wrote to Albany the first of the week for information. Last night he received a sworn statement from

the Recorder of that city, setting forth the figures as shown by the city records. This statement shows that Dr. Wallace did not give all of the facts in his rather peculiar letter. It shows that he did not say anything about an 8-mill levy raising \$9,062 in 1905 and the same levy raising \$23,863 in 1909. But let us give the Recorder's sworn statement:

Recorder's Certified Statement.

"Albany, Or., Oct. 19, 1910.

"This is to certify to all whom it may concern, that the assessed valuation of all property in the City of Albany, Oregon, as per the assessment roll for the year 1905 is \$1,131,530; tax 8 mills.

"The assessment roll for the year 1906 is \$2,568,620; tax 6 mills.

"The assessment roll for the year 1907 is \$2,602,110; tax 7 mills.

"The assessment roll for the year 1908 is \$2,722,940; tax 8 mills.

"The assessment roll for the year 1909 is \$2,982,000; tax 8 mills.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Albany, affixed this 19th day of October, A. D. 1910.

(Seal) F. M. REDFIELD,
Recorder of the City of Albany."

There you have it complete. An 8-mill levy in 1905, (a wet year,) raised \$9,062, while an 8-mill levy in 1909 raised the enormous sum of \$23,863. In other words, Albany is taxing nearly \$15,000 a year more out of the pockets of its people than it did in 1905, and it is doing it with the same 8-mill levy. How does it do it, you ask? Just like Dallas and other towns do it—by raising the valuation of property when making the assessment. For instance: Suppose the assessor comes along and assesses your house and lot at \$500. An 8-mill levy on that valuation would cause you to pay a tax of \$4. But, suppose that he comes along and tells you he is going to assess the same house and lot at its real cash value, and puts the valuation down at \$2,000. What would an 8-mill levy cause you to pay then? It would cause you to pay \$16. Just four times as much tax as under the old method of assessment, without changing the number of mills in the levy.

That is exactly what has been done in Albany at \$1,131,530 in 1905. Last year it was assessed at \$2,982,000—nearly three times the old valuation. It is probably true, as Dr. Wallace indicates, that Albany has made a good growth in the last four years. But it is not true that it has grown to be three times as large as it was four years ago, and every sane man knows it. The great increase in valuation of property is accounted for by the new method of assessing property at its cash value—a method adopted by Linn, Polk, Benton and every other county in the state.

The Mayor of Albany was careful to quote figures in showing that the tax levy in mills is no higher under dry rule than it was under wet, but he was just as careful to suppress the

figures showing how much money that levy is raising under the new method of assessment.

Let's fight fair. Let's get the facts, and then, when we vote, we can vote intelligently. Our readers will note that the Observer is not forcing its own views and private opinions on them in this campaign. It is giving them the truth, and citing the books and records where such truth may be found.

Let us stick to facts.

(Greater Oregon Home Rule Association, Portland, Oregon—H. C. McAllister, General Manager. (Paid Advertisement.)

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and
Hank and Lank
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Our list for Saturday is as follows:
COOS BAY CAULIFLOWER
FRESH CUCUMBERS, LETTUCE,
CELERY, CABBAGE,
SQUASH, GREEN ONIONS,
PUMPKINS, PARSNIPS,
GREEN ONIONS, RUTABAGAS,
BEETS CARROTS, GREEN PEPPER
BEETS, CARROTS,
GREEN PEPPERS,
RIPE AND GREEN TOMATOES
AND SWEET POTATOES.
BANANAS, ORANGES, LEMONS,
ALL KINDS OF APPLES,
GRAPES, Fresh PINEAPPLES,
CRANBERRIES and
HUCKLEBERRIES.

ALL KINDS OF DRIED FRUITS.
WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED ON THE BREAKWATER OUR BIG ORDER OF THIS YEAR'S PACK OF DRIED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, INCLUDING RED RIBBON CURRANTS, RAISINS, CORN, PEAS, BEANS AND PINEAPPLES.

ALSO SOME FINE
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ASK US ABOUT OUR SPECIAL COFFEE.

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The Bennett amendment means delay, obstruction, penny-wise and pound-foolish, and a big fee for Joe Bennett. Vote it down with a decided vote so that Joe and Elijah will understand that the progressive element is not in line with their job.—C. R. Peck (Paid Advertisement.)

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