

character, but can a man see the evil effects of his business day after day and feel that for every ten cent piece he puts in his pocket he is dealing out a poisonous drug and not become hardened and degraded?

This will be called fanatical. Well—what makes fanatics? It is looking on at the by-play between the temperance and the liquor parties of to-day. A person cannot take an interest in the cause of temperance and think very much on the subject, without becoming more or less of a fanatic. He is not very much in earnest if he don't.

It is to be hoped that the people of Oregon will be prepared, and feel the necessity of keeping up their labors after we get the amendment we so much desire, and make ours the champion State in the successful carrying out of prohibition.

S. S.

**BAND OF HOPE ORGANIZED.**

I organized New Era Band of Hope with 32 good members; Geo. Randal, Superintendent; Frank Casto, Assistant Supt.; Lottie Casto, Secretary. Many others will join soon.

—LEVI LELAND.

**The Iowa Idea of Reform.**

**IT HAS COME TO STAY.**

**How They Did It.**

BY S. H. HEDRIX.

NUMBER I.

It is now three days after the election in Iowa, and the victory is ours. The constitution is amended as follows: "Art. I, Section 26. No person shall manufacture for sale or sell or keep for sale, as a beverage, any intoxicating liquors whatever, including ale, wine and beer. The General Assembly shall by law prescribe regulations for the enforcement of the prohibition herein contained, and shall thereby provide suitable penalties for the violation of the provisions hereof."

It is my object to contribute a series of articles to the temperance department of the HERALD for the good cause in general, and I hope in this way to help and hasten the day when the rum traffic shall be driven from the land.

I feel so happy over the result of last Tuesday's election. I am not sure that I can do what I desire to do by way of telling how we did it. I shall speak of the past, and await future developments. As events transpire facts can be stated. To prophesy what will be, is to say

the least, not always certain. I have been a citizen of Iowa for seven years; all this time I have been among the people in cities,

towns, villages, country chapels and school-houses, often in the colleges, high schools and common schools; in the court rooms, political gatherings of all parties; among preachers, lawyers and doctors; among the wise and otherwise, rich and poor, high and low, until I am pretty well acquainted with Iowa, especially this south-east portion of the State. In these seven years we have had, in some portions, wet seasons, crop failures, with our full share of tornadoes, fires, etc. In the last year these have been unusually severe and destructive to life and property. Our prospects for a fair corn crop is not good, yet through all this, it is astonishing to notice the energy and progress of the people. Out of all these calamities, and against all these obstacles our people have battled successfully. True they grumble a great deal more than is necessary and become nervous on the approach of storm-clouds; they shudder at the lightning flash and run to the cellars at the roar of the winds; and also fear the small pox. With all this, however, they are indeed a mighty people. They generally accomplish what they determine to do. For many years we have had a strong prohibitory law against high wines, with an exception in favor of wine and beer, and authority for incorporated towns to license wine and beer saloons. Many towns, at different times, adopted local prohibition, and kept out saloons; but the saloons around at other towns sought every opportunity to send in liquors in jugs, kegs and bottles in boxes. It was

a question at almost every city election, "License or no license?" All manner of schemes were resorted to, to defeat any and every effort to restrain the traffic. Under license for beer, almost all sold whisky. It was difficult to convict the seller, as witnesses claimed inability to tell whether it was wine or whisky; also whether it was made from grape grown in Iowa or narcotics imported from Europe. The dealers found it a short and easy road to outrun the statute. Therefore, many people, and all the whisky men said: "Our law was the strongest that could be made, and it was almost a total failure." This was argued by the rum interest to get it repealed, but this

always called forward a demand for the repeal of the wine and beer exception, and the utter banishment of the saloon system. This was met by our opponents by declaring that the people were not ready, and they would, therefore, compromise by keeping hands off; let those have prohibition that want it, and those towns that want saloons could have them. So matters went from year to year. If a town elected a prohibition council then it was claimed there was more drunkenness; business was declining, and other towns were getting all the trade. The whisky men were always first to see and proclaim this state of affairs. The papers took it up for them, and, by another year or two, the people were led to license again. When this happened all the saloonists, whisky dealers and brewers said: "See what experience teaches." Then came the question of high or low license, and finally a compromise, but always low enough to save the saloons from banishment. The conflict was, therefore, irrepressible. It was always increased by the rum element, who persisted in selling whisky contrary to law. Under the law they could not sell to minors, but boys got drunk; they could not, legally, sell to habitual drunkards, but they did; and, in the mind of many, nothing could be done to help society from all the consequent disgrace and ruin of home, happiness and safety. While the pious prayed one way the rum elements swore another, and kept up their work of destruction. The good people began to urge total abstinence as never before; the colleges, schools, churches, families and all the various temperance organizations, renewed their efforts; the religious press spoke louder, the secular press, in many cases, also joined in the cry against this waste of property, home, character and life. Then came the "Ribbon" movement. "What now?" said the rum men. "It's another crusade to go around the beer saloons to pray." But not so. The people gathered all together; the pious ones prayed; the enthusiastic exhorted the drinkers to quit, and many of them did, some only for awhile, others held out faithful. This increased the exhorters. Everybody, almost, sang songs, sang as never before; sang of the sorrowing widows and orphans; the little girl's plea to the police to send her papa home: "I'm

sure he'll not do it again;" the mother's anxiety, "O, where is my boy to-night." Every phase of sorrow found expression in the songs, prayers and speeches in the Ribbon clubs. Then that mighty array of statistics, showing the direful effects of the traffic came before the people, and therefore an amendment to the temperance creed called "prohibition for the seller." Many wanted "moral suasion only," just as some want "faith only" in religion; but logical argumentation soon drove moral suasion to accept the aid of prohibition. The rum element did not doubt their ability to cope with moral suasion for the drinker, and education for the masses any way, if that education could only be held to necessarily give them a license. Hence they said: "This moral suasion only is the true doctrine of reform." But educated minds and honest hearts were ready to accept the theory of prohibition.

As a theory it grew every day. Whatever growth it ever had before, of one thing I am certain, it took on its present stalwart manly shape from the songs, facts, figures and arguments which found the public ear in those Blue and Red Ribbon club-rooms. There it ceased to be and speak as a child. There it became a man and put away childish things. In the meantime many men became so thoroughly convinced of the evils of license and the correctness of the theory of prohibition, that they sought to organize a political party, with prohibition as its chief cornerstone. Whatever may have been their motives and capacity, they failed in their objects. That their efforts to revolutionize the political parties may have done some good is possible. That it is better that they did not succeed in that way I do not question. That their failure caused all to accept our present plan will not be denied. That the final results of the present victory will be every way more effective and satisfactory I have not the shadow of a doubt. Good men who, in years gone by, labored so hard in a righteous cause, may not be willing to acknowledge this, but such a great victory as this now gained in Iowa, is not done in a year or two. It was much easier to accomplish it through the political parties than to kill them and build up new ones. In a country like ours, politics is here to stay. When

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