

WEBER ANSWERS EDITOR ITEMIZER

In an issue of the Oregonian some time ago, the editor of the Itemizer sought to show that prohibition in Polk county was an utter failure. To substantiate his claim he stated that liquor was being sold constantly in the county and that as long as Marion county was wet, the local option law was not a success. In my reply in the Oregonian, I stated that the editor had either mistaken the facts or he had proved untrue to his constituency. I said that there was only one or two United States licenses in Dallas which was less than any previous year, and that if that was a true index of conditions in Dallas prohibition was a success. But if the liquor was sold anyhow and the editor knew it, and did not raise his voice against it, he was not doing his duty and had no moral right to denounce prohibition.

In order to counteract my article he gave me nearly two full columns on his editorial page. Thank you, Mr. Fiske. Your knock is my boost.

Is it consistent to cry "Prohibition a failure," when a man seems to countenance the open violations of the law? That the law was violated to the knowledge of the editor he practically admits. My claim is that as he failed to properly stand by the law and seek to give it a full chance by raising his voice against the lawlessness, he is inconsistent to come out and say it is a failure.

To permit crime or lawlessness to continue without reproof is, in a sense, to be a party with it. The statement, "Prohibition is a failure," means "We want it to fail."

We do not ask the editor to do detective work. All we say is: "Raise your voice against lawlessness before

you make the wholesale statement in the Oregonian that the local option law in Polk county is not a success.

Mr. Fiske pitifully excuses the sheriff for not enforcing the law. When a sheriff means business and the liquor men know he means business, he need not have to run often over the county to arrest men. They will fear him. But when they feel he is their friend, his word of warning is received with one eye closed. We take no stock in the statement that evidence must first be forthcoming. Who is to decide what is evidence? The sheriff? Some one is accused of theft or murder. Does the officer wait for evidence? It is his business to arrest and let the evidence be decided in court.

The stock objections of the Itemizer are old. It is simply evading the real issue. If a sheriff will make good his oath, he can, and the enforcement of the law will be comparatively easy, but if he favors the lawbreakers and is reluctant to arrest them, then anarchy prevails and the very officer who is elected to honor the laws leads in breaking them. It is the utter disregard for law that has caused so much disgust in the county and skillful manipulators of the facts have tried to blame local option. Prohibition has not had a fair chance in Polk county. It has had against it the allied forces of the liquor traffic who have said in substance: "Do not enforce the law even if the majority say you should." The very violators of the law are the ex-saloon keepers who have always been violating law.

Let the editor give his heart and hand to the cause of law enforcement, and by the way vote for state-wide prohibition and thus help make the liquor traffic which is the most lawless institution in America, a thing of the past. Vote 329, 342, 344, Mr. Fiske, and be truly as you say you are, a "good prohibitionist."

W. J. WEBER

DO YOU WANT YOUR TAXES INCREASED?

Many people in Oregon own property in different parts of the state. Nearly every property owner, in one way and another, would be affected if the county division scheme is not voted down. One of the results of the scheme would be to increase the people's taxes; in some cases, taxes would be doubled. But the people will be guided by sane judgment and will vote "No" to all these measures which, declares the Eugene Register, were foisted upon the public by professional politicians and ambitious little towns. That paper says editorially:

"Nine county division schemes are bidding for enactment under the initiative, in imitation of Hood River county's success two years ago, and the end is not yet. Here is direct legislation gone to seed and disseminating trouble through the fair expanse of Oregon, says the Oregonian.

"The latest is Deschutes county, presenting a petition to the secretary of state and asking to be carved out of the northwest part of Crook county. Umpqua, Williams and Nesmith, with overlapping boundaries, seek independence from Lane and Douglas counties. Umatilla county is wrestling with the ambitious schemes of Orchard and Hudson. Clark desires separation from Grant, Otis from Malheur and Harney. A strip of Clackamas seeks annexation to Multnomah.

"Politicians, office seekers and ambitious little towns are putting up these county partition schemes. More counties will provide additional official places and other patronage. They will also make higher taxes and more trouble for property owners.

"It is reaching a point in Oregon where the electorate will feel obliged to vote uniformly against all these new counties. The voters cannot inform themselves on the many local

details involved, in order to legislate, therefore they are likely to take the view that their safest action will be that of voting "No" on the "whole bunch."

"The Oregonian's position on this matter is correct. It should add, however, that it is important for those who oppose this wholesale formation of new counties to be sure and vote as they feel about it, and put a "No" in front of each one or every proposed new county will carry. The people can put it up to the legislature to frame a fair and just division law that will leave formation of new counties to the territory thus affected and relieve the whole state of responsibility for county formations. This is what the people want and they will get it if they vote "No" on all proposed county schemes at the November election."

SELFISH MOTIVES BEHIND IT.

Office Seekers Promoting County Division Schemes.

Avowed office seekers seem to be among those who are promoting the cause of county butchering in Oregon, according to the Grants Pass Observer in its issue of July 29. Furthermore, the people generally have no conception of local situations as affecting counties where the cry for division is heard. Only about one in ten voters would know what they were voting for. Therefore, the best way is to vote "No" to all of the measures, urges the Observer:

"Two years ago the people voted to form the new county of Hood River out of a section of Wasco county. It is safe to say that 90 voters out of a hundred had no acquaintance with the conditions or geography of the county they divided. The voters will be asked next November to do a good deal more of this kind of county butchering. People who are not at all acquainted with the various territories, will be asked to slice Crook county and make a new county to be called Deschutes. It is proposed to carve up Lane and Douglas counties, and constitute the three new counties, Umpqua, Williams and Nesmith. Umatilla is prey for two proposed new counties, Orchard and Hudson. A piece of Grant county is to be asked to make Clara county, while Harney and Malheur may be clipped off a little to make room for Otis. It is really scandalous and only possible under the initiative. The trouble is that the performance is just commencing and it is not easy to see where it will end. The best way, the only right way, is to vote "No" to all these local measures, of which the people as a whole have no information. The Observer has no idea of the rights in any of these cases, but believes they are just selfish schemes to make little towns county capitals and supply several good county offices for the promoters."

To Voters

Less than 300 voters in the district affected signed the Washington-Multnomah county annexation petition; 500 in the district have signed a remonstrance, practically all outside the district are against annexation, yet you are called upon to vote the addition of practically one-fourth of Washington, one of the smallest counties, to Multnomah, already the wealthiest, most influential and powerful. Voters of the state outside of the counties affected can know but little of these county division measures. We of Washington know nothing of the merits of those not affecting us, and believe such questions should be left to counties affected. Washington county cannot afford to lose this territory and Multnomah does not need it. We ask you to vote 329 X No.—W. D. Wood, Chairman Anti-Annexation Committee, Hillsboro, Oregon.

Reaching the Top

In any calling of life, demands a vigorous body and a keen brain. Without health there is no success. But Electric Bitters is the greatest Health Builder the world has ever known. It compels perfect action of stomach, liver, kidneys, bowels, purifies and enriches the blood, tones and invigorates the whole system and enables you to stand the wear and tear of your daily work. "After months of suffering from kidney trouble," writes W. M. Sherman of Cushing, Maine, "three bottles of Electric Bitters made me feel like a new man." 50c at all druggists.

S. H. McElmurry left Independence Sunday going to visit the I. O. O. F. lodges at Lebanon and Albany. He found them both in good condition. He returned yesterday.

M'INTOSH OPENS BUSINESS HOUSE

J. G. McIntosh has opened a cleaning and pressing parlor in Independence. His place of business is located in the Enterprise building where he will give the people of the town the best service they have ever had, because he is a real tailor and knows how the work should be done, from A to Z, as the saying is. Mr. McIntosh worked for years at the tailoring trade and Independence can consider itself lucky to get such a man to come here and open up a business. It goes without saying that the young men of the city will patronize Mr. McIntosh when they learn that he has opened up shop here.

Oh yes, and by the way, Mr. McIntosh will also do pressing of ladies' suits. He will carry a complete line of samples and will take orders for men's suits only.

He will guarantee satisfaction and any suit or skirt which is not of fast colors will not be experimented with. Prices right and special favors to all.

DEFEAT COUNTY DIVISION.

(Albany Herald)

"There are no less than eight applications for the creation of new counties to be voted upon by the people of Oregon at this fall's election. Though there may be one or more of these new county schemes possessing some degree of merit and are prompted by good faith, it would appear that in the main they are not entitled to the favorable consideration of the people at large, and as a matter of expediency and good public policy all of them should be defeated.

"In the first place the Herald believes that the creation of a new county is a matter devolving upon the legislature and should not be submitted to a vote of the people at large, who cannot possibly have any intelligent idea of the demand for such proposed new counties and are, therefore, in no sense competent to vote upon the measures. What does the average voter of the northeastern part of the state know about the practicability or wisdom of the clamor of the southwestern portion of the state for the creation of a new county? Certainly, in the majority of cases, he would not be able to cast an intelligent vote on the proposition.

"The submission to a vote of the people of the whole state of these various county division schemes, therefore, would seem highly impracticable, if not unwise. Moreover, the success of these various division schemes would establish a bad precedent, which might tend to retard the healthy growth and reasonable prosperity of many counties of the state.

"There are doubtless counties in Oregon which should be divided into two separate county divisions, but these, the Herald believes, should be taken care of by the legislature and not voted upon by the people of the state at large, who cannot possibly judge of the merits or wisdom of the proposed division of a remote section of the state, and in which the voters at large can have no reasonable interest.

"Many of the county schemes up for consideration this fall are without question ill-advised and prompted by impure motives, and the Herald suggests a negative vote on all county measures as the most practical remedy for the present county division epidemic.

Crash, CRASH, Crash

CLOSING OUT SALE

Commencing Saturday, October 22
and will continue to November 1.

Business conditions do not justify our continuing any longer. We are going to put on sale our entire stock of Men's Suits, Overcoats, Dress and Work Shirts, Hats and Shoes, Boys' Long Pants, 3 Piece Suits, Nickerbocker Suits, Ladies' Tailored Suits, Rain Coats and Dress Coats, House Dresses, Sweaters, and to be more explicit, almost everything to wear for everybody.

We Are Determined to Sell Out

We are determined to sell out the entire stock no matter what it will bring irrespective of cost. Now is the time if you need a Suit or Overcoat or anything you may find in our store, as opportunity like this will not knock at your door again. This is not a sale like some people putting up specials but a genuine sacrifice sale, as our time is limited and we must positively sell out everything before November 1st.

Come early and get your selection as at prices we are going to sell our stock will be moving very fast.

A. GROSS

Campbell Bldg.

Independence, Or.

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Light
Sunshine
Cleanliness**

in our factory, Costly Materials and Skill in Making are the conditions and ingredients that combine to make

**Modern Sweets
so perfect a
Candy**

"Patronize the Modern Dealer"
Modern Confectionery Co., Mfrs., Portland, Oregon