

INDEPENDENCE ENTERPRISE

CHARLES EDWARD HICKS

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WHICH IS RIGHT?

There seems to be quite a burden resting upon the editor of the Itemizer. As a real estate man he sends out literature praising Dallas and Polk county and showing that it is a very profitable investment to settle in Dallas or the county. But as a champion of the liquor traffic, he states that Dallas is not prosperous.

Now which of his attitudes is right?

During the last two years Dallas has built forty-five houses; thirty-four were built by those favoring a dry town. The college greatly increased its endowment. The Gall hotel spent \$13,000 in improvements. A high school has been built. Contractors say they have had more work this last year than in five years previous.

Since the saloons have been voted out, Dallas has "purchased a rock quarry, installed a crusher, purchased a roller, and has macadamized a least twenty blocks of her streets. Even the churches have prospered. Note what the Itemizer itself says: "Religious interests seem to be awakened in Dallas as never before. We have five pastors in all the churches, and they are doing estimable work."

It seems that Mr. Fiske's "dry" literature he has sent out over the country is more reliable than his editorial pages.

A SHALLOW PLEA

The Observer asks, "Who are the more interested in the welfare and prosperity of Dallas and Polk county, the editors of the Dallas newspapers or the traveling speakers who visit the town to speak on the respective sides of the prohibition question?"

This is a plaintive plea for the citizens of the county to take the word of the Observer as authority rather than that of men who differ from him on the liquor question. The editor forgets that it is through hundreds of citizens of Dallas and Polk county, many of whom have more property in Polk county and pay more taxes than he, that are securing these "traveling speakers" to fight for a dry county and state. These men have no paper by which they can express themselves. Besides, while they think right, they do not all have the power to express their thoughts. Hence they get the "traveling speakers." What is curious to note is that all the dry speakers in Polk county do not get as much money for their work as the few wet ones that have been working in behalf of the "Greater Oregon Home Ruin Association." The fact that a man pays taxes in a city does not necessarily make him an authority on questions of moral importance. The saloons, breweries, etc., pay taxes, yet their word has no weight morally with the thinking world.

EDITOR TAKES TOO LOW A VIEW

In his article of "More Cold Facts" in last Friday's issue, the editor of the Observer says that Dallas loses \$2400 a year because of no license from saloons. He states that the tax levy is higher now than when wet. True, but the improvements show where the money has gone. Under the license plan the city improvements were sadly lacking. But is Dallas the loser in that she does not get the \$2300 license? Who paid that license? The saloon keeper? No—the wage-earner who spent his money in the saloon. In other words, by the license system, the wage-earner, the very one who can least afford it, pays the city expenses, and the property owner and the man of money pays less. Is this fair? Under the present regime, the taxes are paid by the men who can afford it most. In this age when we emphasize so much the doctrine of the "Brotherhood of Man," we certainly should not seek to load upon the weak the burdens belonging to the strong.

STATISTICS NOT DAMAGING

The statistics obtained by the Observer relative to Albany do not damage the cause of a dry state or county. The fact is the tax rate has not increased because the property valuation has increased and this is due to two facts: First, the citizens of Albany have ceased being leeches upon the liquor traffic and are now free. The child can be spoiled by being dependent upon the father. The citizens of a city lose their initiative when depending upon the license of the saloon for the revenue to run their government. As it does the boy good to have to "make his own way" and brings out of him all his good qualities, so it does a city good to be freed from her state of dependence upon the license and become independent. She, then, first feels her true power and the spirit of civic pride is aroused. Under this impetus she does things. Another reason for the increased valuation is that Albany is now more desirable place in which to live. Last summer at the Chautauqua a physician of that city was asked "how prohibition affected Albany." He replied that "if Albany had not been dry for the past four years the chautauqua would have been impossible. Albany is now independent and a more desirable place in which to rear children and build a

home; hence the greater property valuation, and the many valuable improvements, and no raise of tax levy, but even should the tax levy be higher now than before, Albany is still ahead in that it is a cleaner, purer and more desirable place in which to live.

THE REAL ISSUE REFLECTED

Whiskey is thicker than water. This fact will account for the Observer's hopping over to the democratic party. It is generally admitted by republicans that the Observer has done nothing less in taking up the defense of an imaginary attack on the character instead of the official conduct of the sheriff of Polk county. That Sheriff Grant is "wet" is known to every man, woman and child in the county. It is known by the editor of the Observer and the "defend" of the sheriff is purely "a wet matter." The criticism of the Enterprise by every other man who can muster up courage enough to insinuate that we are unjust in this matter, when sifted down, resolves itself to the wet and dry controversy. If anyone undertakes to defend the official conduct of Sheriff Grant during his term of office, stop to enquire what is the motive.

During the campaign of the primaries the editor is said to have been so conscience stricken with party loyalty that his friends say it was the straw that nearly broke the camel's back to support the assembly candidate for congress instead of his old friend and insurgent Mr. Mulkey.

Mr. Hayter promised to stand faithful to the republican candidates. How faithful he has proven is instanced in the support he is giving to the democratic candidate for sheriff.

J. L. Castle for County Treasurer
Having received the nomination for County Treasurer on the Republican ticket, and believing myself qualified to attend to the duties of the office to the satisfaction of the people, I wish to say to the voters of Polk county, to give me their support in the coming election, and it will be thankfully received.

22-23 J. L. CASTLE
(Paid advertisement)

MONMOUTH NEWS

Mrs. W. R. Graham went to Salem Saturday.

Mrs. DeWitt went to Falls City Thursday.

John Remington went on a business trip to Idaho Tuesday.

Mrs. P. E. Chase went to Corvallis Monday.

D. M. Guthrie called in town while en route to his home from Corvallis Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. White visited friends in Salem Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton McGowen of Independence visited at Paul Tacheron's Sunday.

Mrs. J. R. Remington and Mrs. J. Lindsay returned from a pleasant week at Newport Wednesday.

William Riddell and sons shipped some fine goats to Ontario and some to Washington.

John Remington went to Idaho on a business trip last Tuesday.

Mr. Harvey has moved to the farm recently purchased of F. H. Mulkey, while the Mulkeys have moved into the house recently vacated by Mrs. Hyde, in town.

Mrs. M. E. Percival returned to her home in Madras after three months pleasantly spent in the Willamette valley and Newport. She went by way of Portland where she will visit for two weeks.

Rufus Dog of new Salem called on friends here Monday.

A large residence on Main street, owned by Mrs. Gardner of Eugene, was totally destroyed by fire Friday night between 8 and 9 o'clock. The origin of the fire is unknown. The house had been vacant for the past month. It is understood that there was no insurance.

Postmaster O. A. Wolverton and Mrs. Irene Dalton of this place were united in the holy bonds of matrimony at the residence of Rev. W. A. Wood on Wednesday October 12, 1910. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Wolverton wish them a happy and pleasant life.

"Shadow Social" at K. of P. hall next Monday night, Hallowe'en. Come and bring your basket.

Remember the Hallowe'en "Shadow Social" at K. of P. hall, given by Fraternal Union.

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W. R. ALLIN, D. D. S.
DENTIST

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FRUIT DRYING STOVES & STEEL HOP STOVES

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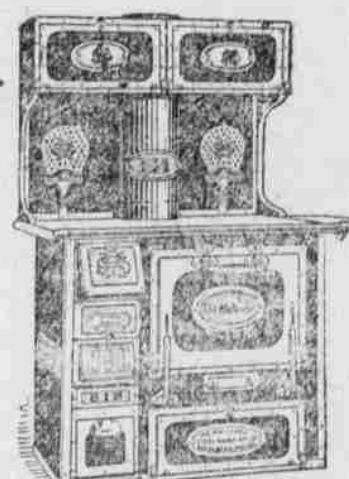
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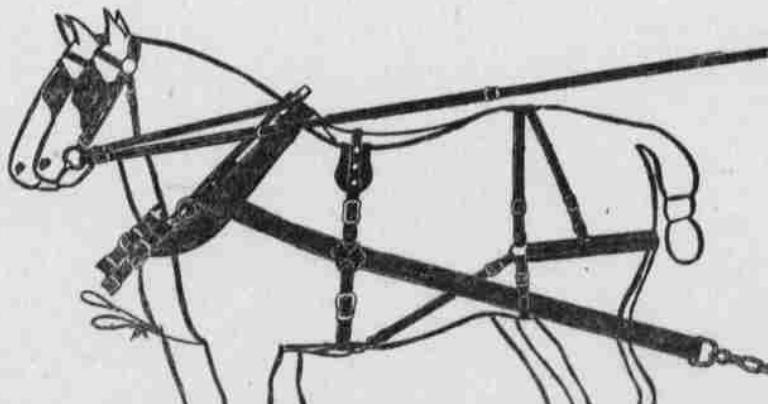
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out of Portland. Ranges and heaters occupy an apartment. Their entire floor space is 14,500 feet.



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