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The Keystone Watch Case Co.  
Philadelphia



O. A. KREAMER

JEWELER AND OPTICIAN

INDEPENDENCE, OREGON

## LICENSE COSTS FARMERS MORE

This fall the voters of Polk county and of the state in general are confronted by what is beyond question the greatest issue that is placed

before them for approval or rejection. It is the question whether or not the prohibition amendment and law shall be voted into our state constitution and made a part of our legal code. While it is the greatest issue, it is very little thought about by some of our people. It affects different classes of people in different ways. Because this is true, every person who believes in government by the people should seek to attain a working knowledge of the issue at stake. With this in view, we submit a few facts that may show in a general way the

relation of this great question to the farmers, who have a right to know the truth in regard to an institution that so vitally affects them and their welfare.

First we assert that the saloon makes taxes for the farmer. This fact is one that the friends of the traffic have constantly denied and sought to put aside. But nevertheless the cold stubborn fact remains, and cannot be refuted by any exponent of the traffic. For proof we need only reflect on conditions in communities where the saloon exists. It is a matter of common knowledge that, under the license system, the license money goes into the city treasury, while the community outside of the corporate limits gets no benefit from it whatever. Yet on the other hand the farmer of the outside communities is compelled to suffer the consequences. The liquor men ask "How suffer?" It is universally declared by impartial students of the liquor problem and by the courts of our nation that the saloon is the most prolific source of misery, debauchery and crime. Statistics show us that in the prisons of our various states from 60 per cent to 90 per cent of the inmates are there as a direct or indirect result of the saloon. In our own state 85 per cent of the criminals in our penitentiary are there from the effects of the traffic. This is true also concerning our county jails. And how does this affect the farmer? It can be easily seen. Eighty-five per cent of the taxes he pays for the correction and punishment of the commission of crime is paid to take care of the direct product of the "regulated" licensed liquor traffic. In other words, he pays more than five times as much to keep down crime growing out of the liquor traffic as he does for that growing out of all other sources combined.

Nor is this all. The state through taxation maintains an institution for the feeble minded. Statistics also show that fifty per cent of the inmates of that institution are there as a result of the influences of alcohol. Also for this the farmer pays.

So we might continue to show how the liquor business affects the farmer. Yet the advocate of license and regulation would have him believe that such an institution is a benefit to him and his interests. The truth is that there is nothing that costs him more. And when we consider that it is the farmer who pays the larger share of our taxes, is it not fair and just that he should share in the right to decide whether or not the saloon shall continue within the fair state of Oregon? And when he

has a right knowledge of the situation, he will not vote for the retention of this nefarious business.

Again, the liquor traffic destroys market for the farmer. While it doubtless consumes a large per cent of some of the farm products, as of barley and rye, yet in the aggregate for this state it consumes only about 2.4 per cent of farm products, while of the farm products of the United States as a whole it consumes only about sixty-four one hundredths of one per cent of the farm produce. Should this amount and the capital that it represents be turned to some legitimate channel, it would greatly enhance the welfare of the farmer, his community and his state.

Divide the money spent in the American saloon among twenty leading necessities of life and it will utilize \$100,000,000 more raw material than is now used in the manufacture of drink and give employment to 1,517,000 more men. From these facts how is the prohibition of the traffic an enemy to the farmer? How is it an enemy to any business except the liquor interests themselves? As the foregoing is true as to the nation in general, so it is correspondingly true in our own local communities, notwithstanding the fact of the unfavorable circumstances with which they have been surrounded. Everywhere the saloon exists, it is an enemy of prosperity and cannot be defended as its friend. And everywhere its work has been eliminated to any extent, its prohibition has been a corresponding benefit to the people of that community.

As the liquor traffic is condemned from a financial view point, so it must be condemned along all other legitimate lines. There is no redeeming feature about it. It cannot bear the test of intelligent scrutiny. And today the question is no longer "Is it a bad thing?" but "Will the voters, realizing that it is the enemy of their welfare and good government, rise up in their might and with the power of the ballot, on November 8, deal the blow that will deprive it of its legal protection in our state and thus take one more step toward its total destruction?" If they are alive to their interests they will not hesitate in so doing. But if they are to be deceived by any misleading contentions of the advocates of high license, regulation, "Home Rule," or some similar trap that the liquorites have set for them they will without doubt be sacrificing their own interests in order to fill the coffers of a few social parasites who wish to profit by them and give nothing in return. The citizens of Oregon have had enough experience with the saloon. It is time now to get rid of a bad proposition when we have a chance. **ELMER BARRETT**  
Dallas, Oregon.

### CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Methodist Church.**  
Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 10 and song service at 7. Everyone is welcome. **J. Weber, Pastor.**  
**Calvary Presbyterian Church.**  
Regular services will be held next Sunday both morning and evening the pastor preaching at both services. Evening service begins at 7:30. Special music by the Calvary choir. The public cordially invited.

**Dr. Duganne, Dentist,** over Independence National Bank. Bell phone 121; Independent, 4410.

## OREGON DRY CAMPAIGNERS

Thursday night of last week Mrs. Armour captivated the largest audience that has assembled for months at the woodman hall in Dallas. So forceful were her arguments against the "Home Rule" bill and for statewide prohibition that many who were wavering decided to make Oregon dry. It is reported that one city official who had been rather inactive has become so enthusiastic that he is working hard for a dry state.

Mr. J. M. Glass did good work for prohibition, both at Dallas and Independence. In his lectures he shows that the local status of the liquor traffic is favorable to prohibition. He also gave many evidences that the saloon is a losing proposition financially and a curse mentally and morally.

Come to the Haloween social at the K. of P. hall and bring a basket. This is a "Shadow Social" and you will have a good time.



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about the big "drive" that's going on down at this meat market. No! That's really too bad.

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(Paid advertisement)

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