

LOCAL CLUB WOMEN PRESENT THEIR VIEWS

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up by parked trucks or other vehicles, and an oncoming automobile cannot be heard on account of the noise of the mill, and while wending ones way thru all the obstructions one is very apt to be struck and hurt badly if not killed. Something must be done before a serious accident does happen.

To me the old city gravel pit at the end of second street is another problem to be taken up with the city council. There is an ordinance prohibiting the dumping of rubbish or refuse of any kind, this seems to be ignored though, and great truck loads of refuse is dumped, including loads of old tires from garages, that are burned causing a terrible smoke and odor at the very doors of residents. Other than being unpleasant it is a breeding place for obnoxious insects and rodents, therefore very unhealthful.

It seems that a greater part of these undesirable conditions must be over come by definite intelligent steps taken to hold higher ideals of citizenship and more immediate service than now prevails. This can be accomplished by arrangement within our club with the help of other clubs, as a beginning, whereby two or three can make themselves familiar in detail with some of these problems, and the by discussion with the common council secure co-operation toward the betterment of our small city, both by ordinance and education.

In considering the question of Community Problems, I feel that this club should be congratulated on its interest in this topic, to me for the reason that it is a self-evident fact that women have come to play a tremendous part in the civic life of every community, not only by using the ballot intelligently but by initiating and carrying to a successful conclusion so many movements looking toward a healthier stronger community life.

To somewhat limit the field to some of the immediate and pressing problems, may I call your attention to the following facts?

We are all interested in the welfare of our school children, therefore, I will discuss it first. The care of children out of school hours should receive sympathetic and intelligent study and care, for the reason that many children are roller skating thru the business district and on the streets at will, thereby jeopardizing their own lives as well as the lives of others, which condition could probably be remedied by an ordinance.

The establishment of playgrounds as a branch of municipal activity is of comparatively recent origin. At the close of 1913 there were 1050 cities where supervised recreation was supported wholly or in part by municipal funds. Only nine of these cities started work prior to 1900. Why can't Tillamook follow their example? Not because of size, for many cities included in the 1050 are much smaller than our own little city. It is essential to the success of the public playground that the play be supervised.

Opportunity to play well-organized game and to use gymnasium apparatus has drawn children from the streets and given them a reasonable outlet for their energies. The toughest gangs have been broken up and the petty crimes which children commit have been almost entirely abandoned where grounds have been opened. All, together, the advantage to the community is tremendous. The most powerful and generally significant of those perverting forces which required the negative interference of government is the liquor traffic. The eighteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States prohibits the manufacture, sale, transportation or exportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes. Is Tillamook

abiding by this amendment? Decidedly not, for proof I will refer you to a dance or public gathering and advise you to take particular notice.

The American saloons were places of thoro demoralization and not only the direct harm done by them was enormous but they exercised a vast and baneful effect on politics. The battle for prohibition was a long and bitter one but that does not effect the present liquor problems, "Moonshine."

What can do more toward the demoralization of our younger generation? Absolutely nothing can equal it, as it is very often poisonous and affects the user the remainder of his life. It is much easier to become attached to Moonshine than it was to become a drinker of clear bonded liquors. But why? Merely because it is usually drugged so the drinker becomes a fiend. Should this be allowed to progress and cause the ruination of so many of our young people should we allow our posterity to be invalids and cripples from the use of drugged beverages?

Another community problem of due importance is that of dancing and dance halls. The majority of people during this age and day like to dance. As you well know dance halls not only cause the ruination of many of our young people but cause the divorce courts to be constantly employed. In many dance halls liquor is sold on the premises or near by and there is seldom any chaperonage for young women and the whole atmosphere is demoralizing. Dance halls have become much more common in the last few years, with the introduction of the new styles of alleged dancing, which can be easily picked up without any instruction. In view of the evils which undoubtedly flow from the community dance halls many good people advocate their entire suppression. The desire to dance is, however, so inherent that it would appear to be better to try to redirect that desire than to undertake the hopeless task of suppressing it. Recreation during the winter months must be largely indoors and it is a very encouraging fact that properly conducted dances, with good music and good dancing floors can compete successfully with cheap commercial dances. Places where dancing may be enjoyed without access to intoxicating liquor and with proper chaperonage should be established by municipal activity.

To be a successful community the residents must be congenial. They must be ready to welcome new comers. Often a well respected family through necessity move to an unknown town or city and there they are shunned by the people. No one "calls on" the mistress to greet her and let her know she is welcome to their community, no one speaks or advises in a friendly way the gentlemen. Why wouldn't that family become downhearted and eventually become knockers to the municipality? This occurs frequently in our own little city of Tillamook and we should not allow it. Let us try to abolish it by calling on our new neighbors and not wait for a formal introduction before speaking to them on the streets.

Cities the size of Tillamook need a curfew and along with it we need to enforce its meaning. Mere children take advantage of the automobiles and stay out till the wee hours of the morning and think nothing of it. Although they may be innocent of any wrong doing, lack of sleep isn't the best thing for a growing child. If one walks up the main streets late at night there they see school children or children under 18 years of age wandering around. To a stranger in town this gives a false impression, they think that we don't care or provide for the welfare of the younger set. There is no need of having a Curfew unless it is strictly enforced and if we had a proper one we would insure the lives of our children besides doing away with much of the joy riding so prevalent in town at the present time. It would also help to abolish the habit of young couples spooning in public places. It is a common occurrence to see a car along side of the road with a couple entwined, in each others arm sitting in it. Although sentimentalism and love is natural throughout the world it need not be advertised. At the beaches is another place where love-making is made public. What excuse is there for this? None because most of the girls have homes where they can entertain their friends. This is not like a crowded city where the girls live in one room and have no place to take their beaux. Spooning in pub-

lic places before the keen eyes of small innocent puts bad thoughts in their innocent heads and keeps them from attending their personal affairs. Oh for the days of the old gray mare when modesty prevailed and innocence was so common.

This being a stock country to a considerable extent there is, in my opinion a very low ideal regarding the care of stock, pasturing the same and moving the same about from place to place, as evidenced recently when a cow very precipitously a man driving her, and entered the home of another where she caused a good deal of nervousness and did considerable damage. Moreover, other people persist in staking cattle all over the city without regard to the damage they do to others or the appearance they create. It is possible that this condition could be remedied by an ordinance restricting the free run of cat-

le about the city, or the proper enforcement of the existing ordinances. Much disturbance is also caused by dogs, cats and chickens as we probably all have experienced and require no detailed discussion.

Although there are many more subjects under the title community problems I feel that I have touched the more important ones and hope that the Kill Kare Klub will combine their efforts to better our vicinity.

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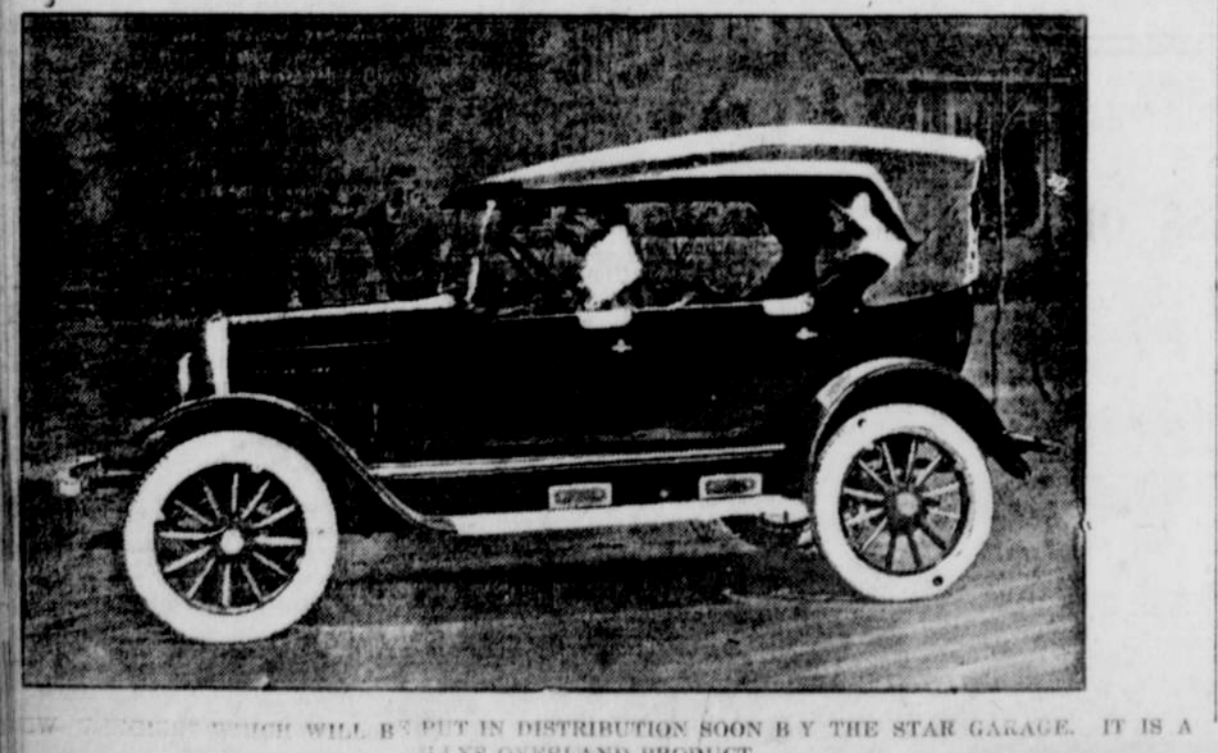
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