

EIGHT

MOTHER'S APPEAL TO VOTE

A Temperance Worker Who Wants the Ballot

Cities an Awful Case at Colfax Where a Wayward Girl Was Debauched

Editor: Will you allow me space in your paper for a little talk on woman suffrage. Do I understand that our local editors are against woman suffrage? If so, I cannot see why any one could have so little respect for

their wives and mothers and daughters as to have the same routine of corrupt politics to continue to ruin their children, as it has done in the years past, by licensing the saloons. Everyone very well knows that if the Christian women were voters, that they would vote the saloon and the majority of its accompanying evils out of existence, yet men will boast that they are against woman suffrage, not allowing them the rights that they do the drunken voters and saloon keepers, and all criminals at heart. Take such as committed that terrible outrage at Colfax, Washington, on the 23d, reported in the Telegram, such fiends as these men are allowed to vote. But women are not allowed that privilege, as one in a civilized nation, and the crime was a fruit of a saloon. You say that the home is the place for women.

Well, that is true in one sense of the word, but could any mother alive have stayed at home if she had known where her child was that night?

We hardly take up a paper but what we read of some terrible deed,

caused by drink. Then there is a number of women that are property owners and pay taxes, and have to abide by such laws as are now existing, big salaries officers to incur all the unnecessary expenditures they see fit, and the women have to abide by such things year after year. And women have no say in politics, and this is unfair and unjust in the extreme. All drunkards, if they are not so drunk they do not know what they are doing, can vote; all low down hoodlums and criminals at heart, and all hoodlums not caring anything for laws that are right, if enforced, and the negroes can vote. Some are in favor of such a class of individuals voting, and not in favor of their mothers, wives and daughters having the privilege. I am sure that my sex would have a vote beside these.

You say the home is the place for woman; so it is, and if they have done so much to mold the lives of all noble men and women of this age, and the past ages, how much more good might they not do if we could get the existing evils out of their way, we could have purer homes to train our children, and may God hasten the time. You say that 40 years ought to convince people that the river gravel will not do on the streets. It has been more than 40 years that we have had corrupt politics, and we are getting convinced that these places of evil will not do, on top of good gravel or in the streets. I believe the change will work as well for one as for the other.

Yours for justice in the cause of common sense.

The Journal prints below the article from the Portland paper referred to, and which it must apologize for having it appear in this paper, as it is hardly fit to print. The girl, Ina Lee, is one of those unfortunate products of loose marriages, and not the child of a decent American home, and then was the victim of an unbalanced religious sect. Probably the young man had no better preparation for life. The story Mrs. Reynolds asks us to print is as follows:

Colfax, Wash., Jan. 23.—Shocked to the utmost degree is this community over the diabolical crime committed here last night by seven young men, some of whom have hitherto borne good reputations, and whose parents are well-to-do and highly respected citizens. In rooms over the Oxford saloon a young woman, Ina Lee, was drugged and terribly maltreated, and was then left lying in a stupor, to revive as best she could. P. La Francis, Jr., Charles Jacobson and Pat Burke are under arrest in the county jail, and officers are searching for William Hogan, "Speck" Palmer, Asa Adams and Charles Lyons, all of whom, witnesses say, were implicated in the nefarious work. The young woman, too, is at the county jail, in a precarious condition, but the attending physician believes she will recover from the effects of the terrible ordeal. A disgraceful feature in the case is the indifference part played by the police, and there is talk of calling a special session of the council to investigate the alleged misconduct of these officers.

Charles Jacobson, son of one of the prominent families here, met the girl on the street, and took her to the Oxford saloon. There he ordered drinks, and it is alleged that Pleasant La Francis, proprietor of the saloon, sent up a "doped" drink for the girl. At the same time the bartender sent out word to several of his young men friends regarding what was transpiring in the saloon.

After young Jacobson tired of the girl, young La Francis accompanied by Pat Burke, another bartender, and the four other young men whose names are given above, went to the room, and the seven proceeded to hold a drunken orgy. The girl was compelled to undergo all sorts of indignities. Finally one of the young men took up the stupified girl and carried her down stairs into the bar-room.

Police Refuse to Act.
Alexander Kindness, who is manager of the Oxford saloon, during the absence of the owner, compelled them to carry her back up to the room, and went for the police. He met Chief of Police J. B. Mackey on the streets, and informed him of what was going on. Chief of Police Mackey told Kindness that he was going home to sleep, and that the night policeman, Joseph Allphin, would attend to the matter. Kindness found Allphin, but that worthy informed him that the boys were probably having a good time, but that he would go up and see about it. The night policeman never went near the Oxford saloon, neither did he send any one to make an investigation.

After Kindness had tired of waiting for the local police to act, he informed Sheriff Joseph Canutt, and that official proceeded to the scene without delay. When he arrived, however, the young men were gone, and the girl was alone, and in a dreadful condition. She was removed

to the woman's ward of the county jail and cared for. She is now in a state of nervous collapse.

Girl Attempts Suicide.
Ina Lee, the victim of the fiends, is 20 years of age, and is said to be an orphan who was left several years ago by her mother, and put in charge of the Saints' Home located on Union Flat, ten miles south of Colfax. This home is run by a peculiar religious sect, the members of which claim that they are holy and sanctified and that they cannot, by any means, come in contact with sin. The girl is said to be inclined to be wayward, and the saints turned her out in the cold the other day and told her that they could do no more for her. In her desperation she came to Colfax. She is sick and heartbroken, and the sheriff was compelled to lock her up in a cell to prevent her from committing suicide today when she came to herself and realized the condition she was in. In some manner she secured a knife and was about to cut her own throat when the sheriff found her raving in the woman's ward, just prior to the time he locked her up in a cell.

Kindness Tells His Side.
Manager Kindness today said that he used every endeavor to put the boys out of the room over the saloon and for this purpose he hunted up both Chief of Police Mackey and Policeman Allphin.

"Mackey told me that Allphin would attend to the matter," asserted Kindness. "Allphin told me that it was none of his business."

Chief Admits Being Notified.
Chief Mackey admits having been notified by Kindness to put a stop to the orgy but told him that he was going to bed and supposed Allphin would attend to the trouble. Mackey did not report the case to his subordinate officer.

Policeman Allphin in giving his version says that Kindness did not tell him anything about the trouble, and furthermore alleges that he was at the Oxford saloon during the night but heard no noise. Then he went to another part of the city to look after some street lights, so he declares.

Ina Lee tells a straightforward story of the outrage, and her statements are corroborated by Kindness and a man named Sam Tripper, who was a witness to the proceedings.

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