

MAGNITUDE OF THE BREWING BUSINESS

STEEL AND IRON WORKS, ROLLING MILLS AND BLAST FURNACES COMBINED, AND COTTON GOODS FACTORIES ONLY TWO INDUSTRIES IN UNITED STATES WITH MORE CAPITAL INVESTED.

The following communication appeared in the Oregonian of Sunday last:

Salem, Or., Nov. 29.—(To the Editor.)—Few persons have even a very dim conception of the magnitude of the brewing business and the important factor it is today in the commercial and industrial life of this country. It is very doubtful if the average conservative business man would for a single instance encourage any movement or the passing of any legislation that threatens the destruction of the brewing industry if he realized the disastrous blow such action would be to the progress and welfare of the business world at large.

When a people as a whole are prosperous then is the time when "isms," fads and extreme ideas receive their greatest encouragement or are good-naturedly or thoughtlessly allowed to grow and flourish. Only after harm has been done does calm judgment come to the surface to take in the serious nature of the result.

Lately there has been a spirit of destruction passing over this country under the guise of reform. In many instances these reform movements were justifiable, but in others they had their conception, because of flagrant abuses, in individual cases, and instead of attempting to cure these abuses a course is pursued that has for its object the total destruction of everything directly or indirectly, remotely or otherwise connected with the said abuse.

So it is in the case of the brewing business. Because of a non-enforcement of the administrative powers of a commonwealth or community, low dives are allowed to exist and thrive. Because some persons will abuse drinking and turn themselves into drunken sots, prohibition is advocated as a cure-all. However, it is not the purpose of the writer to discuss prohibition at this time, but to show to the people at large what one result would be if the country adopted prohibition.

According to the United States census report for 1905, the capital invested in this country's greatest industries are as follows:

Brewing and malt houses	\$563,570,996
Iron and steel mills, blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills	936,327,839
Cotton goods	613,110,655
Lumber and timber products	517,224,128
Flour and grist mill products	265,117,434
Paper, etc.	277,444,471
Agricultural implements	196,740,700
Slaughtering and meat packing	219,818,627

The above comparative statement is cited in order to show the position the brewing industry holds among the most important commercial factors of the country. It stands today as the third great industry, as far as capital invested in concerned, in the United States. This table can be verified by any skeptical person by sending for Bulletin No. 57, Census of Manufacturers, in 1905.

Any person at all conversant with business affairs knows that the capital invested in the brewing business is done so permanently. The investment has very little value unless the

industry is in operation. It is therefore apparent that an investment of almost \$600,000,000 is at the mercy of the "so-called" temperance movement. What would be the effect if an industry of this magnitude were utterly destroyed—for destroyed it would be if prohibition were enforced. The destruction of this one industry would leave in its wake a trail of desolation in which the wrecks of a score or more other industries, involving hundreds of more millions of dollars would be strewn. Among these latter industries would be the cooperage manufacture, the glass and bottle factories, ice machinery manufacture, the hop industry, the barley industry, the malt industry, brass and copper supply houses and manufacture, beer bottling machinery manufactures and many other industries directly and indirectly connected with the brewing business.

It can be readily seen that the destruction would reach nearly a billion dollars, and yet there are a vast number of apparently conservative-minded people who sit back and complacently watch the spread of a movement that has for its very object the total destruction of so valuable an asset affecting the future continuation of the progress and prosperity of a nation.

Does any one for a moment imagine that the financial condition of this country would remain unruined during the wiping out of a billion-dollar investment? Imagine the cutting off at one blow the annual sale of \$500,000,000 or more of manufactured products! In wiping out a market for the sale of \$200,000,000 worth of agricultural and other raw products; in forcing into idleness hundreds of thousands of deserving employees, and in cutting off \$100,000,000 from the revenue of our national government.

Is there any law of God or man that justifies an action which means such absolute destruction and confiscation as would be the case if prohibition had its way and were enforced in this country?

Of course, the writer anticipates that the Prohibitionist will call attention at once to the millions of dollars that the people of this country might save if they did not purchase the product made by the brewing industry. They would claim such a useless expenditure. They would forget that the hand that pays for the product is by no means the same hand that is employed in bringing the product into existence. The man who pays for the product does so voluntarily—yet the Prohibitionist by law would prevent him from exercising this privilege. The man who gains his livelihood in producing the product, the Prohibitionist would rob of his right to earn a living and despoil his property-interest. All this he would do in the name of law.

Much more could be said pro and con upon this point of the subject, but after all is said and done, the fact remains—that Prohibition would wipe out of existence all the millions as stated heretofore, and would otherwise raise the havoc that would naturally follow as a matter of course. In its place, for a monetary and industrial standpoint, what do we get?

F. G. DECKEBACH.

Markham on Mixed Metaphors.
Edwin Markham, at a dinner, said of mixed metaphors: "When I was teaching in Los Angeles I used to read every week a little country paper whose editor's metaphors were an unfailing joy to me. Once, I remember, this editor wrote of a contemporary: 'Thus the black lie, issuing from his base throat, becomes a boomerang in his hand, and, hoisting him by his own petard, leaves him a marked man for life.' He said in an article on home life: 'The faithful watchdog or his wife, standing at the door, welcomes the master home with an honest bark.' In an obituary of a farmer he wrote: 'The race was run at last. Like a tired steed, he crossed the harbor bar, and, casting aside whip and spur, lay down upon that bourne from which no traveler returns.'"

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KEEP DRY TO STAY WELL HERE

Advice of Noted Authority, Also Gives a Simple Home Prescription for the Trouble

Now is the time when the doctor gets busy, and the patent medicine manufacturers reap the harvest, unless great care is taken to dress warmly and keep the feet dry. This is the advice of an old eminent authority, who says that Rheumatism and Kidney trouble weather is here, and also tells what to do in case of an attack.

Get from any good prescription pharmacy one-half ounce Fluid Extract Dandelion, one ounce Compound Kargon, three ounces Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla. Mix by shaking in a bottle and take a teaspoonful after meals and at bedtime.

Just try this simple home-made mixture at the first sign of Rheumatism, or if your back aches or you feel that the kidneys are not acting just right. This is said to be a splendid kidney regulator, and almost certain remedy for all forms of Rheumatism, which is caused by uric acid in the blood, which the kidneys fail to filter out. Any one can easily prepare this at home and at small cost.

A Memory of a Lost Delight.

A fireplace anyone may have, and to me the wonder is that our civilization has abolished the very soul from our northern homes. Fire is no longer the joy of the household, but the slave, imprisoned in the cellar. Ah, but it was delicious, when the old fashioned family sat together in the great kitchen around the huge fireplace. All the evening we told stories, ate doughnuts, drank cider, all the time paring apples and hanging the long festoons of quarters from the beams. But the dear little mother, she it was who told the best stories, while she was knitting mufflers and socks, or mending our well-worn clothing. There were no parlors at all in those days, and as for thrummed pianos, we had not yet heard of them. At 9 o'clock, honest and drowsy, we knelt and thanked God for life and love and home. Our bunks and beds and trundle beds were all in close proximity, and from every one of them we could see the flames, still jumping up the chimney while the big firelog was slowly eaten through. There was not one millionaire in all the world, and indeed we were not worried over the affair.—From "Around the Fireplace," by E. P. Powell, in The Outing Magazine for December.

SHE OUGHT TO KNOW.

The Lady Mentioned as the Bride-to-be Denies Story.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Portland, Dec. 5.—Tonight's Evening Journal will state that the cause of the sudden departure of Forest Smithson, world champion hurdler and track athlete of national reputation, from Yale college yesterday is due to the fact that he is soon to be married to Miss Josephine Beber, of Forest Grove, Oregon. Miss Beber denies the report.

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AMERICA'S PRECIOUS STONES

Turquoises Lead in Numbers—Few Opals to Spoil Our Luck.

So far as is known at present this continent is not very liberally supplied with precious stones. Statistics in the United States were not gathered until 1899, when the census bureau announced at \$188,807 the value of the output of precious stones for that year.

The latest report on the subject is that of 1902, when the output reached \$328,450. This does not include the haphazard picking up of stones by stray seekers after them, so that the real crop of gems is probably more important than the figures show.

According to the statistics from 1896 to 1902, diamonds were found in only three of those years, 300 in 1899, 150 in 1901 and 100 in 1902, a somewhat significant decrease. Since that time the alleged Arkansas diamond field has come into notice and the leading item of the list will again have figures instead of the single word "none" set opposite it.

Most of the precious stones reported have weird and unheard of names, such as prehnite and diopside. But in the number found turquoises lead the rest with 130,000 reported. Next comes sapphires, 115,000 of which were found in 1902.

There were 30,000 tourmalines, 1200 crystal quartz specimens, and even 2000 anthracite ornaments were found worthy to be included in the report. There were 1000 emeralds and 4000 beryls, but the sad state of the epidote and the diopside hunters may be inferred from the fact that the discoveries of these stones fell from 250 in 1896 to none in 1902. Neither, alas, were there any prehnites or uibulites.

No wonder this is a lucky country if wearing opals has anything to do with it. In 1902 only fifteen were found, and during the three preceding years we apparently sported none at all. At least none were discovered in our possession.

Ramie Cloth in China.

The introduction of ramie cloth into England and other countries has engaged the attention of experts all over the world for several years past, but it is only very recently that any real success has been attained. Ramie is well known as a China grass, and grown in unlimited quantities all over the country. It is used in raw state by the Chinese for the manufacture of a coarse cloth, rope, etc. The great difficulty has been the softening and degumming of the fiber, which has rendered it almost impossible to weave a pure ramie warp.

A process has been discovered by W. McGregor Smith (well known in Shanghai and the east generally for over 50 years, and the father of the sugar industry in China), who, on September 20, gave a successful demonstration, in the presence of a number of Shanghai gentlemen, of the process, by means of which the ramie fiber, direct from the market, becomes a soft filasse, far superior to cotton yarn and very much like silk. The process lasts but ten minutes and is most simple.

The ramie is first placed in a vessel containing boiling hot water, to which is added some secret composition, and after boiling four and one-half minutes it is washed, bleached and thoroughly degummed. The fiber comes out almost snow white and, as stated before, is very much like silk. The fiber is not in the least injured by the process, but rather strengthened, and it is said to be ten times more durable than cotton.

Specimens of ramie mixed with cotton, wool and silk were exhibited, in addition to the pure ramie threads and cloth. Ramie can be successfully dyed without the least injury to the fiber.

The cotton market at present being so uncertain and subject to so much "cornering" and silk being scarce and high, ramie would appear to have a great future, and it will doubtless in time play an important part in the clothing of the world. It has been repeatedly tested in mixing with cotton at the Yu-sing cotton mill in Shanghai, under the direction of Thomas Currie, a capable spinner from Oldham, Lancaster.

The following letter from him, written in Shanghai in September, will speak for itself:

"The yarn contains 50 per cent of ramie or China-grass fiber and 50 per cent cotton and has been spun entirely on cotton-mill machinery. I do not consider this a good sample of what a mixture of 50 per cent ramie and 50 per cent cotton is capable of, as the nolls were cut by hand not even enough to mix with the short cotton staples, and I worked the sample throughout on the first

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machine that doffed, irrespective of counts or hank.

"I am positive from my experience with ramie that it can be successfully mixed with all American cotton and will improve the strength and evenness of the product when judiciously mixed, and the only additional expense to cotton-mill machinery will be a cheap cutting machine that may be designed by any engineer."

There is at present an unlimited supply of the fiber and an unlimited demand, and the industry should prove one of the biggest in China.

To compare the probable prices, ramie will be put on the market at a slightly higher cost than cotton, while, compared with the price of silk, it will be some ten times cheaper.

A local company is about to be floated in China for the purpose of acquiring McGregor Smith's process for China, Japan and Corea. Mr. Smith is also the inventor of a decorticating machine, the rights of which the company will also acquire.—Shanghai Mercury.

Women with good complexions are never "homely." Good blood makes good complexions. Lane's Family Medicine makes good blood. All druggists sell it for 25 cents.



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Training of Children

Should this couple marry? Could they agree? "Love is earnest" and be happy together through life. Or would the timidity of marriage reveal opposing tastes and aspirations, like dislikes that would render domestic felicity impossible? Don't fail to hear Mrs. Jean Morris Ellis, Christian Church, Friday night, her celebrated lecture "Matrimony." As it is and as it should be. No sensational, but practical common sense. Mrs. Ellis will explain how to tell the signs of love in the head and face, how to tell a flirt, a jealous minded or a real loving motherly person, will explain courtships, wrong and right, and how to manage mother-in-law. Couples paired on the stage at close of lecture. Match-making scientific, amusing, but not blind. Admission free. Phrenological examinations given daily in the parlors of the Christian church. Don't miss this chance to have your character read by a truly competent phrenologist. Saturday night Mrs. Ellis will lecture on the "Signs of Character in the Face, Hand, shake, walk, etc."

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