

Grants Pass as Example of Prohibition Promise

Vice and Crime Flourished as Never Before

and Failure in Performance

Factories Closed and Business Houses Failed

A year ago Grants Pass, after four years of continuous community perjury and prevarication under a Prohibition regime, threw off the yoke that had throttled its commercial activities and returned to the licensed system through the votes of a heavy percentage of its people. In the ensuing year there has been a gradual resumption of business and enterprises are once more coming to life. In the campaign which led to the overthrow of the dreamers, Ralph Orme, in the Grants Pass Observer, presented some pertinent facts of the situation as it had been, as the fervent Prohis had promised to make it and as it really was. The excerpts following fit the present situation in Salem, and add to the cumulative evidence of Prohibition fallaciousness:

FOUR YEARS ago promises of all kinds were made to the unread voter. The Prohibitionists made declarations which were on the whole contrary to the rights of man, upon which the Constitution of the United States is built. They prophesied that the general morals would be at a higher standard; that more work and industry would be at our doors; that people would pay their debts better than they had been paying them; that money would be an actual burden to those of our town; that the younger people would be better taught and cared for; that our court house would become a place of enjoyment; that crime and vice would be total strangers to our doors and, last of all, that taxes would be lower than ever before known.

Oh! how changed and altered is this beautiful dream of happiness. Instead, the idea that morals would be advanced to a higher plane has been to the contrary had to say: Some of the wrong doing has been among the high-toned "Prohibition class," and their cases were brought before the courts, to be excused.

The thought that work and industry has been introduced into our city is in a way true. The paving was a help, but did the city realize the money paid out to the laborers? No, Woodville and Medford emptied the boys' pockets and filled their stomachs. Four years ago there were two large box factories in operation, but within the past two years they have closed their doors to the caloused sons of toil.

The version that people would pay their debts, has been dashed to the ground within the past month by four stores going into the hands of receivers.

The inspiration that the younger generations will be in better condition has vanished. It is no uncommon thing on Saturday night to see some boys in a tipsy condition, and young girls prowling the streets at midnight. The theory that our courts would become banquet halls has been exploded with a report that sounds to the farthest corner of the Pacific coast. Instead of this dream the proceedings of the courts have been prosecutions to satisfy the wishes of the Prohis. The dream that crime and vice would be ostracised has disappeared. Vice and

crime still come and will continue to come until the heavens and the earth shall pass away.

Taxes are almost three times what they were four years ago, and still the people have their booze. Can anyone explain why this enormous increase has taken place?

And, last of all, that the painted figures of taxes would be far, far below those that had been before known, but, alas, the figures have transposed themselves much higher than any tax levy along the line.

Men were flayed, burned, hanged and massacred because they would not submit to a certain doctrine, but did they submit? No! they were educated to the laws. In the same way will the saloon be fought.

When the people become educated to the belief that the saloon is no more wanted, new ideas will be advanced and the evil saloon will vanish forever and the rights, liberties and justice of mankind will not be affected. This revolution will not come as long as force is used to make man lay down what he calls his rights.

The Courier speaks of it being a bad habit of always seeing things on the dark side. It spoke of it always being darkest before dawn. It has just reversed the theory in accordance with the present conditions. Before the general election in 1908 the financial sun was shining its brightest, but the Prohibition eclipse has slowly enveloped over its bright spot, and at the present date it is almost total. Let us raise this political eclipse by voting a wet ballot in November, 1912.

It is a great pleasure for a Prohi to stand on the street corner and point out undesirable citizens. But what is an undesirable citizen? An undesirable, in the writer's estimation is a man who always has his nose in somebody else's business, because he has no business of his own, and who would run a mile after a "bootlegger" or to a "blind pig" to get a "morning's morning," and then sit upon a dry goods box, with open jack-knife and cologned breath howling "Vote 'er dry, fellers," while his wife, whose face is wrinkled with worry and anguish, and is looking into a steaming washtub, while in a cradle is an innocent babe with rosy cheeks and dimpled hands, waiting for a crust.

Prohibition is an old serpent, which seeks to wind its slimy coils about the freedom of the American people.

The Terrible Tale in Taxes

The tax levy in Ashland, the other city where the same vision was seen, is 48 mills, but Medford, with all her fine improvements, has only a levy of 27 mills, while in Grants Pass the figures show at 37 1-2 mills. To bring you more closely to the statement the writer just made, will quote the figures received from Mr. G. W. Wood, proprietor of the Palace Hotel. In 1902 his building was taxed for \$91.88; in 1904, for \$155.01; 1906, for \$205.02; 1908, the year the city voted dry, his taxes were \$230.37; 1910, they were \$362.74; and in the glorious year of our Lord 1912, Mr. Wood paid \$502.46. Has the value of his property increased with his taxes? Mr. Wood stated: "I was offered in 1908, \$20,000 for my property. I cannot realize that much for it now."

Before we go further into this mixed-up affair let us find out what prohibition is. Let me tell you: It is a law which is used to take away the liberties of one man and give to another. Suppose we turn the prohibitory ruling around and make it a crime for a Prohi to go to church on Sunday or to go to prayer meeting, or make it against the law for a man to take his family out in an auto because people sometimes get killed in auto accidents. Suppose we say it is against the wishes of the wets for a dry to be out on the street after sundown, or prohibit him from kissing his wife or children or even forbid him to drink tea or coffee, postum or cocoa at meal time, and punish him for eating ice cream and drinking soda pop on a holiday. A poor rule that will not work both ways.

Man cannot be made to submit to a rule by force, he must be educated to the idea. We have prisons and dungeons for robbers and thieves, some times murderers and whipping post for wife beaters, but does this punishment bring the individual under any reform; rarely he comes out a new man. Generally he is more uncontrollable, more stubborn and more detrimed.

Vote X Against Prohibition

This space has been purchased by the SALEM WELFARE LEAGUE

Its purpose is to give the voters of Salem unbiased statements and facts regarding the effects of Prohibition, free from emotional surroundings. We have no interest at stake, other than the general welfare of Salem and its people.

JOHN D. TURNER, Secretary.

DRAMATIC NEWS

"THE LURE" TREATS THEMES LONG DISCUSSED IN PRESS

It is no unexpected new development of the drama which has given birth, this season, to which a bold and daring yet thoroughly true and timely play on a great social theme as "The Lure," which is to be seen here Friday night, October 23 at the Grand Opera House, by playgoers of this city. One might readily have predicted this ultimate issue from the steady progress which the stage has been making of recent years towards the larger and more daring treatment of modern problems.

George Scarborough was the first to startle New York playgoers with a white slave drama and his true dramatic power made "The Lure" the pronounced hit of the present season. Such dramas as Ibsen's "Ghosts," George Bernard Shaw's "Mrs. Warren's Profession," Eugene Walter's "The East-West Way," and above all, Brienx's "Damaged Goods" had already established the stage as a forum for the open discussion of these already much-read-about and much-talked-about themes. It would take more than police censorship and arbitrary court decision to determine where the line of the drama should



Scene from "The Lure" Which Comes to the Grand Tomorrow Night.

be drawn, for the stage is today one of the great instruments of public agitation and social enlightenment. It is fulfilling the purpose which it has long been accused of neglecting. Like the dramatists already mentioned George Scarborough in "The Lure" is attacking a present vital world problem.

Call for Bids—For Straw.

The undersigned will receive bids up to 5 o'clock p. m., on Monday, October 27, 1913, for 23 tons of straw. The city reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

CHAS. E. ELGIN, City Recorder.

THE ROUND-UP.

The Stofani sawmill was destroyed by fire at Canby yesterday entailing a loss of \$10,000.

The statutory charge against Robert Coates, wealthy lumberman, of Aberdeen, Washington, and Lillian B. Carter, of Portland, were dismissed in justice court at Roseburg yesterday. The couple were arrested on complaint of Mrs. Coates, October 11.

Having held officers at bay for 24 hours, threatening their lives if they entered his house, at Walla Walla, David Vaughn, president of the Washington Loan and Trust company, yesterday called a physician and asked that he be given medical aid. Officers

are still guarding the house. Vaughn is apparently recovering from the fit of temporary insanity which caused him to barricade himself in his home, Monday night an effort was made to overcome him with gas liberated through a small hole in one of the windows. The attempt was unsuccessful.

Cost-of-living note in Yale Enterprise: "Mrs. W. S. Lawrence was in

town Saturday, procuring butter paper. Mrs. Lawrence states that they now have over 100 hogs and hope eventually to change over from dairying to pork."

Siam exports about nine million dollars' worth of teak a year.

TRY JOURNAL WANT ADS FOR THEY BRING RESULTS

We have just received a LARGE SHIPMENT OF Ladies Patent, Suede, Gun-Metal and Velvet Shoes

PRICED \$2.50 to \$4.00

Special on Children's Shoes—all Leathers—in Button or Lace. Prices 50c to \$2

JACOB VOGT 220 N. Commercial St., Salem, Oregon

Huie Wing Sang Co.

Big Stock Furnishings and Dry Goods

- 75c silk hose, sale, 50c
- \$1.25 silk scarfs, sale, 75c
- \$1.75 union suits, sale, \$1.25
- \$4.00 fancy waist, sale, \$2.75.
- \$10.00 coats, sale, \$6.50
- \$3.75 fancy dress, sale, \$2.75.
- House dress and wrappers, big line.
- Kimonos, \$1.25, \$1.45, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00 and up
- Gents' and ladies' underwear, all kinds.
- Pants, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00 and up

ALL GOODS ON SALE

325 North Commercial St., Salem, Oregon