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W. C. T. U. WORK

PROHIBITION AND AGRICULTURE

Refutation of Silly Story Told of Baneful Results of the Kansas Policy.

(By the Kansas Commissioner of Agriculture.)

People in the East read a lot of learned editorials in the daily papers (space usually paid for by the brewers) about the "terrible effects" of prohibition in Kansas. Recently an editorial, with the caption "One Object Lesson," floated the rounds in which the assertion was made that agriculture in the state of Kansas has suffered severely from the prohibition regime, and that Nebraska has far surpassed Kansas in her agricultural attainments, largely because of the great help afforded by the liquor traffic in that state. The assertion was made that Nebraska raises more corn than Kansas and that immigrants will not come to Kansas because of prohibition policy. A copy of this editorial was submitted to the Hon. F. D. Coburn, state commissioner of agriculture of Kansas, and Mr. Coburn's exhaustive reply follows. The readers of the National Prohibitionist will doubtless be interested in the facts stated by Mr. Coburn because of the answers which this will furnish them to statements that are widely made:

It is not for the possibility that the average reader, unacquainted with Kansas, might thoughtlessly accept the statements of the anti-prohibition editorial as facts, I would deem the matter too absurd to merit attention. It is merely another flounder of the anti-prohibitionists, a gasping at a straw by sympathizers with the liquor interests to prolong their notorious business. Having no moral grounds to stand upon an effort is made to show that in Kansas where prohibition prevails, there are but few people and little prosperity.

As a matter of fact, Kansas never had so many people or so much money as now. Because Nebraska grew more corn than Kansas in the year 1908 it appears all clear to the writer of the editorial that it was an account of anti-prohibition in Nebraska. While the friends of liquor claim great virtues for it, this is the first instance I recall in which favoring seasons and productivity of the soil were declared dependant upon the sales of beer and whisky. It requires a somewhat more imaginative mind than I possess to comprehend how the prosperity of the farms is inseparably linked with the liquor business.

There is no germ of truth in the conclusions drawn in the editorial, and like most of those who strive to make a point against prohibition its author makes assertions that are not in keeping with the facts. As an example of this is cited his statement that "in 1890, if (Kansas) produced 25,000,000 bushels of corn less (than Nebraska)." The report of the United States department of agriculture for that year, on page 297, gives Kansas' yield of corn at 55,269,000, and Nebraska's at 55,310,000 bushels. It is merely a coincidence, of course, that the author should select, as he did, the corn crop for comparative purposes, and strange as it may appear, corn happens to be the one crop of Nebraska's about which the state may with some propriety boast. Since corn was chosen for comparison, and Nebraska's exceeding in this crop in 1908 was due to the absence of prohibition the explanation should be interesting as to why Kansas, with prohibition for nine years preceding, raised in 1899 upwards of a hundred million bushels more corn than Nebraska, worth over \$13,000,000 more; or in 1898, when the Kansas crop was greater than Nebraska's by 14,000,000 bushels, and worth \$10,000,000 more, or why the Kansas crop in 1896 was worth more by six million dollars? Was it due to prohibition in Kansas? In 1899, yielded over 13,000,000 bushels more corn than Nebraska! In 1900, over 8,000,000 bushels more, or 370,000 acres less, and was it due to lack of liquor that Kansas' crop of 1903, being six or seven million bushels less, was worth over \$12,000,000 more?

As the editorial writer chose to exploit corn, the most noted product of Nebraska, he might as well have chosen indiarubber, for the effects of prohibition should be gauged by the production of wheat. Previous to 1900 Nebraska never produced enough wheat to come within the six states leading in its production. That year her output, 24,801,900 bushels, ranked fifth, while Kansas was first with 82,488,652 bushels, or more by 222 per cent. Since, in five or six years Kansas has ranked first in wheat, and has raised four crops each larger than was ever produced by any other state, while the best rank at any time attained by Nebraska was fourth. In these nine years Kansas has raised an average of thirty-three and one-third million bushels more wheat annually than Nebraska, and the aggregate was nearly eighty per cent greater. Yet, the author of this "One Object Lesson" says: "The wheat product of both states is almost equal." He argues that because Nebraska has raised more corn in a given year it is traceable indirectly to Nebraska's having unrestricted booze, and following this line of reasoning, shall we attribute Kansas' superiority as a wheat state to prohibition?

But, if there is any merit at all in such comparison, it would be more fair to take, not the single product for which either state might be most noted, but rather the two crops most prominent in each, which admittedly are corn and wheat. In combined worth of these two products, as reported by the United States department of agriculture, Kansas has led Nebraska by wide margins in every year save three, since their beginning. Referring specifically to the years used by the editorial writer to make his point with corn alone, I find that in 1890 the Kansas corn and wheat were worth \$20,728,070 more than Nebraska's; in 1890, \$11,706,662 more; in 1907, \$12,267,000 more, and in 1908, \$13,529,000 more. Still, it seems his desire to have his readers believe, as he says, that "a study of actual conditions affords convincing proof that Kansas began to decline in rank of wealth giving states immediately after the moment of the adoption of the policy of state wide prohibition." This was in 1890. The year following the aggregate value of farm products was forty per cent greater; in 1890, their value was \$121,127,645; in 1900, \$187,796,406, and in 1908, \$277,733,963, not including the live stock on hand, which in 1908 was worth nearly \$200,000,000. This is the way Kansas has declined in wealth getting on a constantly ascending scale, and that Kan-

sas has the money is indicated by the fact that her banks have on deposit over \$155,000,000, and of this amount \$165,000,000 represents, directly, the surplus earnings of agriculture. This champion of booze says that "the intelligent European immigrants do not and will not enter into a state wherein to invest their means if the idiosyncy of prohibition prevails," and hence "more people went into Nebraska to become farmers than went to Kansas." If this is true, it must be apparent to all that farming in Kansas is vastly more profitable, as our fewer husbandmen have greater incomes from their farms, and consequently the per capita value of products would eclipse by far that of Nebraska. It would also indicate that those who go to Nebraska care more for liquor than for lucre. If abundance of intoxicants is the desideratum, then Kansas, shows the population as 1-656,800, or a gain since the federal census of over twelve per cent, and a large proportion of the incomers went to the farms.

There is, however, no authority for the assertion "that more people went into Nebraska to be farmers." In fact, the latest available data, given by the United States census of 1900, shows that there were forty-five per cent more people engaged in agricultural pursuits in the Sunflower State than there were in Nebraska, and that 61-806 families in Kansas owned their farms free, as against 38,976 for Nebraska. The same authority shows that the increase in population from 1890 to 1900 was 2.9 per cent in Kansas, and seven-tenths of one per cent in Nebraska. The 1908 enumeration of Kansas gives the population as 1,656,800, or a gain since the federal census of over twelve per cent, and a large proportion of the incomers went to the farms.

As to the "European immigrants," the United States census in 1880, taken prior to the adoption of prohibition in Kansas, shows the population as 1-656,800, or a gain since the federal census of over twelve per cent, and a large proportion of the incomers went to the farms. Nebraska drew more foreigners than Kansas. Neither state, however, has as large proportion of foreigners now as in 1880, for the last census gives 14.7 per cent of Nebraska's population as foreigners, a falling away of nearly five per cent, and 8.6 of Kansas, a decrease of 2.4 per cent. That Kansas has more nearly maintained her population of foreigners, with prohibition, than did Nebraska with her continuous anti-prohibition, certainly argues for Kansas and her laws.

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THE ONE REMEDY which absolutely contains neither alcohol (which to most Women is rank poison) nor injurious or habit-forming drugs.

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In all the above most important particulars, the "Favorite Prescription" stands absolutely alone—in a class all by itself—as woman's most reliable and trust-worthy remedy in time of sickness and distress. It is a pure glyceric extract made from American curative roots, found by long time experience most valuable in curing woman's weaknesses and derangements. The leaders in all schools of medical practice have endorsed each of its ingredients as of the best known remedies for the complicated affections for which it is recommended. These professional endorsements should count for far more than any number of lay testimonials. A booklet full of them sent free on receipt of name and address. WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, R. V. Pierce, M. D., Pres., Buffalo, N. Y.

needs 811 of the state's 2,439 brewers, maisters, saloonkeepers and bartenders to quench its daily thirst, while 134 clergymen are apparently able to care for the spiritual necessities of the municipality. A temperance lecturer might find in these conditions some explanation of the loss of 28,000 population by that city in the ten years ending with 1900, but this editor possibly prefers to overlook the cities, or such showing, and leave us to infer that the farmers and stockmen in Nebraska must from time to time gather in Omaha to draw agricultural inspiration from the foaming steins, and amid the saloon's uplifting associations make plans to improve their farms, elevate the conditions of their homes, improve the educational facilities of their children, and encourage the morality and sobriety among all. His assertions would point to the conclusion that anti-prohibition is the state's chief virtue and asset for attracting home-savers and investors and leave the impression that there would be no particular excuse either for going to Nebraska or remaining there were it not for the abundance and accessibility of beer.

Those who circulate reports that prohibition is hurting Kansas are dealing with fool's fiction, and are probably unwilling to know the facts, or knowing, prefer to ignore them. Comparisons based on official statistics of the latest United States census, the United States Department of Agriculture and the Board of Agriculture show that Kansas with prohibition is far better off materially than Nebraska with anti-prohibition.

However, the strongest argument is not that prohibition pays in dollars and cents, but that its greatest benefits are found in wholesome and helpful influences on mankind, and the state would be for prohibition if it meant financial sacrifice, for she values manhood above money.—National Prohibitionist.

DON'T GET A DIVORCE

A western judge granted a divorce on account of ill-temper and bad breath. Dr. King's New Life Pills would have prevented it. They cure constipation, causing bad breath and liver trouble, the ill-temper, dispel chills, banish headaches, conquer colds, 25c at all druggists.

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The young minister temporarily officiating at Hanks' Falls for the summer met Ehud Leffingwell as he came walking to church on Sunday morning, says Harper's Weekly. "How do, Mister Leffingwell?" he cried, cheerfully. "Going to church this beautiful morning?" "Hay," asked Ehud, who was pretty hard of hearing. "Hay?" "Are you—coming—to—church?" roared the minister. "Nah," Ehud responded, "Lookin' for my cow. She must 'gout out the barn last night. It tookked the hasp, I cal-late, ar' jest strayed—'" "Come—on—to church," the minister shouted cordially, "and after preaching I'll tell you the congregation, and they'll help you. You'll get your cow much quicker." "B'jocks! (I'll go ye," said Ehud, heartily, and fell into step with the young minister. At the church door he was overcome by modesty and declaring that he didn't have his Sunday-go-to-meetin' clothes on, insisted upon sitting in one of the most distant pews.

He didn't hear the sermon at all, but he could tell when it was over by seeing the young minister fold up his manuscript and put it away. This done, the young minister began to make announcements. Ehud raised his right hand in a great heathy scoop behind his ear, but still he heard nothing.

"My dear friends," said the minister, "it affords me great pleasure to tell you that on Tuesday evening next, at the hour of six o'clock, there will be celebrated at the home of the bride's parents the wedding of Mr. Edward Stoutenbora, one of our most esteemed and promising young men, and that charming, estimable young lady—as beautiful as she is good—Miss Mehitabel Dodsworth."

As the minister ceased everything well arise in his pew. "An' ye might, ad, parson," he shouted, "that her eyes ain't mates an' she's a teetle mite lame in the off hind leg."

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When it is recalled that Apoplexy, Heart Disease, Cancer—and even Consumption—are due to poor digestion and poisons thus transmitted to the blood, and throughout the system—the importance of maintaining good digestion is at once realized.

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12:20 pm	11:18 pm	Dade City	Ar 5:15 am	4:58 pm
1:48 pm	1:10 am	Wildwood	Ar 2:35 am	2:35 pm
2:45 pm	2:10 am	Ocala	Ar 1:35 am	1:37 pm
4:40 pm	4:30 am	Waldo	Ar 11:40 pm	11:37 am
6:00 pm	6:15 am	Baldwin	Ar 10:17 pm	10:15 am
6:40 pm	7:00 am	Jacksonville	Ar 9:30 pm	9:30 am
7:50 pm	9:05 am	Jacksonville	Ar 5:00 pm	7:15 am
11:40 pm	12:45 pm	Savannah	Ar 1:10 pm	2:45 am
4:20 am	4:50 pm	Columbia	Ar 10:25 am	11:40 pm
11:56 am	12:25 am	Raleigh	Ar 8:45 am	5:10 pm
5:40 pm	7:50 am	Portsmouth	Ar 9:00 pm	9:25 am
5:05 pm	5:30 am	Richmond	Ar 10:40 pm	12:25 pm
8:25 pm	8:50 am	Washington	Ar 7:30 pm	9:05 am
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