

Some Startling Comparisons

	Tax Rate for City Purposes	License Money
Streator	\$6.05½	\$ 32,000
Joliet	5.59	138,000
Decatur	5.06	57,000
Moline	4.36	63,000
Peoria	4.25	180,000
Rock Island	4.01	58,800
Rockford	3.896	54,000
Jacksonville	3.87	"Dry"
GALESBURG	3.74	"Dry"

be cast against the passage of a county local option bill, or in favor of a township repeal bill. Everybody knows that the governor of the state has great influence upon legislation if he chooses to exercise it. It is possibly true that any man who will sit in the governor's chair, in view of the very close contest between the liquor interests and the temperance forces, will be in position to influence the passage or the defeat of any important temperance or liquor measure.

We reiterate what we have many times said. The temperance Republican voters of Illinois cannot afford to vote for Mr. Wayman. They cannot afford to take the risk.

Beardstown—One Saloon to Every Fifty-five Voters

It is not particularly hard to enter the saloon business in Beardstown with the license fee only \$500 and many accommodating brewers. So there are twenty-three open saloons which is one to every 275 inhabitants. Just think of that! Do you know what that means? It means that one saloon, is supported by an average of but fifty-five men assuming only those of voting age are served with liquor in a well-regulated (?) saloon. Here as everywhere the saloon breeds crime and destroys life. If you do not believe this, scan the following record and see what you make of it:

Record of Crime.

One day last fall a man named Ed White, an ice wagon driver, a frequenter of the saloons of Beardstown, was found dead with his skull fractured. He had been struck by some blunt weapon, presumably a club. That same day White had been seen drinking in several saloons with a man named Kelly. This Kelly was a newcomer in Beardstown and although little was known of him, he had already gained the reputation even among saloon men, of being a tough customer, Kelly escaped and has never been apprehended.

Some four years ago two men, Richard Ashcraft and George Humphrey were shaking dice and buying drinks in one of the Beardstown's many saloons. A drunken fight followed. Ashcraft although a large man weighing over 200 pounds was no match for his opponent who stabbed him repeatedly. Ashcraft with the blood gushing from his many wounds staggered out of the saloon to a doctor's office where he expired.

Humphrey is now in the penitentiary thinking it over. Yes, whisky is truly the workingman's friend.

In the summer of 1911 a farmer named Utter came to Beardstown from Fredrick some five miles away. He remained in the saloon town for two days, drinking continuously. About two a. m., of the third day his body frightfully cut up and mangled was found in one of the train-yards. Today his widow is fighting life's battle for herself and several small children.

Just a few months ago one of Beardstown's prominent citizens was found drowned. He was known as a hard drinker and in fact had been seen in one or more saloons on the day of his death. These cases could be multiplied but they will suffice to show the murderous effect of whisky and the saloon. One of the Beardstown merchants recently said in commenting on the "wet" and "dry" situation:

"I suppose we will have to have a couple more murders here before the crowd is ready to vote out these places."

That tells the sentiment of the "wets" exactly. "A couple more murders!" Truly, why not? Or a dozen? or a hundred? What will it actually take to make our American men realize that the open saloon is the most vicious and most unnecessary relic of barbarism that now remains with us?

The pauper question is not a pleasant one, either, for the citizens of Beardstown to face. Their poor house never lacks guests because the saloons of Beardstown are making them faster and faster! And the fact that the tax rate is close to \$6.00 whereas in most no-license towns it is no more than \$4.00 does not help the logic of Beardstown's "wet" voters, either. But gradually, be it said, public sentiment is changing and in another two years the saloon will doubtless be a thing of the past in this Cass county town.

State Grange for County Option

We are coming to realize the terrible drain upon humanity and the enormous loss, not only in dollars and cents, but in life, happiness and the welfare of the whole people through the liquor traffic and the saloon. All of our charitable institutions, including our jails and prisons, are filled largely as a result of the liquor traffic.

Not long ago, I visited an asylum in this state, where the superintendent told me that over 75 per