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Amarillo, Texas.

PROHIBITION COLUMN

(Advertisement). Let every prohibitionist in Amarillo be busy from now till next Saturday working to get as many people here to meet Col. Ball, Senator Sturgis and Dr. Jones as possible. They will discuss in a thoughtful and attractive way the issue of statewide prohibition. It will be a great question competently discussed by distinguished men. Everybody, pro or anti, ought to hear them. Let us be sure that everybody knows about this great meeting.

What Bryan Says.

From the list of mighty men claimed by Col. Wolters in his platform of local self-government, there is one name conspicuously absent, that of Col. Wm. J. Bryan, thrice nominee of the Democracy of the United States for the presidency, and easily the greatest thinker of two centuries on economic and governmental questions. Why is this omission? There's a reason. Col. Bryan has refused to bow the knee to the liquor Maloch. He has said: "Your fallacy in this, that you talk about fairness in regard to saloons, whereas, if you will read the lexicon of the saloon keeper, there are two words that do not appear, 'fairness' and 'justice'." There is no fairness or justice about the saloon, and you might as well understand that these words can't be used of the liquor business.

"A saloon at the best is a nuisance and never tolerated except as a necessary nuisance. Nobody defends the saloon. They apologize for it, but they never defend it. You can't find a state in this Union or a part of a state where the people asking for a saloon ever urge it as a moral center, an educational institution or an economic asset.

"It is understood that the saloon is not a blessing. Go and examine the homes of your great liquor dealers, the rich ones, and see how near they are to a saloon. Go with a petition and ask them to join with you in putting a saloon near their residences, and they are the last ones to do it. They will put a saloon by the house of a poor man and not only deprive his property of value, but run the risk of ruining those about the saloon, but they do not put it near their own homes.

"The saloon is not a good thing. It is a center of vice and crime. It is the first place a police officer goes when he is looking for a criminal and it is the first place closed when there is a riot in the town. It is a bureau of information on every vice and only tolerated for fear, if you close it, you will have something worse than the saloon."

Again he says:

"The town in which I live is dry, Lincoln, Neb., with more than fifty thousand people, has not a saloon in it. It went dry a year ago last spring and, after one year of no saloons, the saloon interests submitted the question again under our initiative and referendum, which, when adopted in Lincoln, the liquor interests were all against. They said the temperance fanatics would be submitting the saloon question all the time, but the initiative and referendum was adopted and the liquor interests were the first to use it. They got used to the initiative and got the referendum for the majority against the saloon was raised from two hundred and something after one year."

The Question of Enforcement.

In view of the admitted and appalling evils of the saloon, there is left but one question, if any at all, as the basis of any honest vote against the statewide amendment. The speakers of Fort Worth convention seemed to recognize this fact, and, in one form or another, devoted their entire efforts to propagating the idea that the difficulties of statewide enforcement are insuperable. It was not seriously denied that the great unit of sovereign power under our form of government is the state. Indeed, from Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson down to the present time, this has been the principal tenet of Southern statesmanship. It is also the firmly established doctrine of the courts of the whole country, state and federal. The state is everywhere recognized as the real political unit. The federal government is an aggregation or collection of these political or governmental units, while the counties, precincts, and towns are but subdivisions or fractional points of the state unit. This great fundamental fact is recognized by an unbroken line of authorities holding that in passing upon the constitutionality or validity of an act of congress the question always is, has the authority to pass such an act been conferred upon congress by the federal constitution? But in passing upon the constitutionality of an act of a state legislature the question always is, has the federal constitution or the constitution of that state forbidden the legislature to pass such an act? The distinction is that the federal government can only exercise powers conferred upon it by the federal constitution, while the state government has all power with in its territorial limits not denied to it either by the federal constitution or the state constitution. Proceeding upon the same fundamental idea it is firmly settled that a local county or municipal government can exercise no authority unless that power is conferred upon it either by some provision of the state constitution or by some act of the legislature. The state is the sovereign. With it lies the great body of undelegated and undefined sovereign powers. The result is that the county can only act by authority of the state. So of the town or city. It cannot do a thing except by authority of the state. Not a single act of any city or town council or any county commissioners' court can stand unless the state has authorized the local body to take such action. Thus it is that local option or local prohibition cannot exist in any county or subdivision thereof except by authority of the state. The state is the power that must deal with this question. Why not deal with it by means of laws co-extensive with its limits so that the same law will apply to every portion of the state? What is there about a saloon that the state should suppress it in one county and legalize it in another, suppress it in one precinct of the same county and legalize it in the adjoining precinct? Is it not equally and uniformly harmful where ever it exists? Is it not equally subversive of the peace and good order of the community everywhere it goes? There can be but one answer. The logical unit for prohibition is the state.

The orators who held forth at Fort Worth were nearly all lawyers. They recognized the fact that their contention was against the logic of the case. So they put forth a special plea to the effect that public sentiment is so strong against prohibition in some sections that it could not be enforced; that the enforcement of state laws is through local tribunals and when local sentiment is against the law it becomes a dead letter. For this reason it was argued that the state should not be called upon to enforce prohibition except where it has first been ascertained by means of a local option election that public sentiment is strong enough to elect the saloon to vote it out of a particular county or precinct. It was said over and over that such a process system and the success of it was dwelt upon in many varying terms of eulogium. It was the best system ever devised by the wisdom of man. It had been perfected through many years of trial and patient endeavor. It had been pushed to a marvellous point of perfection. Why turn away, it was urged, from this tried and efficient method of dealing with the admitted saloon evil to experiment with something more radical? How easily a bunch of mercenary advocates can forget, the cry of the difficulty of enforcement in the very same that those same orators have urged against local option in every precinct and county election ever held in Texas. The bootlegger, they have always said will take the place of the saloon and bad as is the saloon, the bootlegger is still worse. You can't enforce local option, they have always said, even if you vote it. It never was enforced anywhere, they said. But now, bless your life, they see beauty and perfection untold in local action. Senator Watson has discovered dozens of dry counties in Texas where nobody is even charged with a violation of the liquor or local option laws. The local option way has become the easy way, the safe way, the best way, the perfect way, the only way. Really this is a duplicity and extraordinary trifling with a great social and moral problem tries the patience of one accustomed to consistency and integrity of thought. But such is the slogan of the saloon power for this campaign, and it will be heard from now on till the polls close on July 22d. One of the distinguished speakers at Fort Worth declared that he was opposed to licensing any saloon, but that he loved Texas too well to see her adopt a law that she could not enforce. The thought of such a thing was so humiliating to him that he would rather leave the saloon alone, leave the people to struggle with it by piecemeal subdivisions, leave the social order and well-being of every community exposed to the perpetual attacks direct and indirect of the saloon power. It seems to us that the public avowal of the state's inability to cope with this monster evil is more humiliating than would be an honest effort to grapple with it however great the difficulties of success. Are we ready to lie down and say that even the liquor conspirators are stronger than the state? To do so is to proclaim the reignancy of anarchy; it is to avow the incapacity of the people for self-government.

But the supposed insuperable difficulties of statewide enforcement are predicated upon an untrue position, to-wit, that the statewide law would necessarily depend upon the local support it would have in the different communities upon local officials and local governmental machinery for its enforcement. This would not necessarily be so. The legislature would have full power in enacting laws to carry out the amendment to provide fully for throwing the whole power of the state into the enforcement of the law wherever violations were attempted. If one set of officers proved recreant to their duty provision could be made for their removal. If juries in one county proved refractory, the venue could be changed to other counties. If mobs should gather to protect the saloon, the militia could be thrown against them. The arm of the state is by no means so short as the saloon orator supposes. The state has the power, in fact the state alone has the power, to wipe out the saloon.

Of course the law against saloons would not enforce itself. No law for the suppression of wrong does that. But why is it supposed that the people of a county can enforce prohibition when they adopt it by their votes and yet the people of the state with all its great sovereign powers cannot enforce it when they adopt it by their votes? There is no reason in such a position. The fact is that it is precisely because the difficulties of local option enforcement are greater than those of statewide enforcement that the liquor interests prefer local option. The real thought behind all their oratory is this: "If they can defeat statewide prohibition, they can continue to maintain themselves in the great cities where the breweries and wholesale liquor agencies are located. There they can concentrate their forces. From their strong centers they can work out over the state in two ways: (1) by operating in the dry counties through bootlegging joints, later-

WEDS WITHOUT OWN KNOWLEDGE

Chicago Alien Asks Judge to Dissolve Union Ignorantly Made

Chicago, Ill., June 7.—Phillip Fishmin told Judge Cooper of this city how he was married without knowing it, and that he wanted the marriage dissolved. Fishmin said that he inquired at the county clerk's office for a peddler's license, and that with him at the time was a young woman friend. He was handed a slip of paper, he said, and was taken with the girl to Justice Stacey's marriage parlor. He told the clerk he thought he was swearing to something on the permit when he and the girl said the customary "I do." Later he found that he had a wife. They tried to make the best of it, he said, but it was not successful.

SEED CRUSHERS TO MEET IN NEW YORK

New York, June 7.—The annual convention of the Interstate Cotton Seed Crushers' Association met at the Hotel Astor today with the largest attendance in the history of the association. Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama were represented by large delegations.

The feature of the initial session was the address of President B. F. Taylor of Columbia, S. C. Mayor Gaynor delivered an address of welcome and Vice President R. L. Herlin, of Texas, responded for the visitors.

Prominent speakers to be heard at the several sessions of the convention include Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief chemist of the Department of Agriculture; Judge Henry C. Hammond of Augusta; Walter D. Nash of Atlanta; Julian L. Brode of Memphis; and Henry R. Towne, president of the Manufacturers' Association of New York. The Produce Exchange and other commercial organizations of the metropolis have joined in making elaborate arrangements for the entertainment of the visiting cotton seed crushers and their ladies. This afternoon the visitors were taken on a sightseeing trip around the city and harbor. Tomorrow night the convention banquet will be held at the Hotel Astor, with President Taylor as the guest of honor.

Lutherans in Conference.

Washington, D. C., June 7.—The General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the United States, the oldest of American bodies, assembled in the Luther Place Memorial Church in this city today for its forty-fifth biennial convention. The conference is attended by several hundred delegates representing 300,000 members of the church. The sessions will last a week or longer. Proposals for a closer affiliation with other denominations in church and mission work will be discussed. The conference also is expected to take the final steps for the adoption of the new common Lutheran hymnal.

Wisconsin G. A. R.

Green Bay, Wis., June 7.—Although the annual encampment of the Wisconsin G. A. R. does not begin until tomorrow the trains brought in a vanguard of the veterans and their friends today, and the large number of early arrivals indicates that the attendance will exceed the expectations of the local committee of arrangement. In honor of the encampment the business streets are profusely decorated with flags and bunting.

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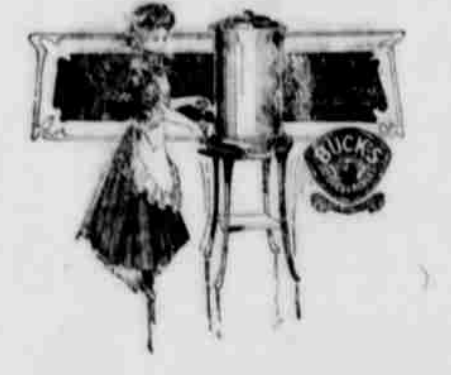
ing violations of the law and defeating the enforcement of local option; (2) every two years they can bring on a local option election in any county they may choose for that purpose and by pointing to the violations of the law which they have fostered, appeal to the people to vote off local option on the ground that it has failed of enforcement. The people of Potter county cannot forget how the enforcement of local option which they adopted in 1907 was thus prevented and the saloon finally restored in 1910 by exactly these tactics. Nor can our people forget that in the campaign of 1910, the principal argument urged against local option was that it had been tried for two years and failed to prohibit. The pros were jeered at and reviled as being responsible for the law and lawless bootlegging joints which the anti orators said had taken the place of nice, decent, well regulated, law-abiding, licensed saloons. In other words the alleged absolute impossibility of enforcing local option was the one argument urged incessantly, vociferously, vehemently and frantically, against local option. The same men who made those loud-clangling appeals to Amarillo voters are now on the stump in other portions of the state describing the beauties of local option, painting its perfections and sounding its praises. They are trying to save local option now simply because they think they can turn on it next year from their fortified strongholds in the great cities and destroy it through their old reliable agencies, the bootlegger and the biennial election. "When the devil was sick, the devil a saint would be. When the devil got well, the devil of a saint was he."

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