

## HUBBLE SPEAKS ON THE HOBSON BILL

Continued from page one

wearing with such charming grace all of these years. Truly there is no sounding the depth of human folly.

Of course that sounds big, does it not? But let us compare these figures with the cost to the nation of the byproducts. We find upon examination the 400,000 brothels and gambling halls have an annual patronage of 20,000,000 persons, an income of \$600,000,000 or \$30 for each patron; 30,000 cost an aggregate of \$70,000,000; the 5,000 police stations cost \$15,000,000; the 10,000 jails, prisons, etc., cost another \$40,000,000; 10,000 asylums, almshouses, etc., cost \$50,000,000 and last but not least, the 5,000 hospitals, sanitariums and dispensaries costing nearly \$600,000,000 annually to the nation, including the 1,000 undertakers who perform the last rites for the 700,000 alcoholic victims, the annual toll of the liquor traffic; all underestimated.

The above low estimates are based on the government statistics of deaths by alcoholic disease, and report 25,000,000 people who trace their appearance in our different courts to their own or someone else's use of strong drink. The cost of the annual maintenance is based on transportation of witnesses, prisoners, accomplices, guards, etc., besides food and clothing for dependents in the custody of the several institutions, and includes lighting, heating, repairs, printing, water, fuel, ice, medicine, witnesses, doctors and lawyers paid by state and municipality. This forms a total of \$1,375,000,000.

To that we add the wages of the 1,500,000 employees of the above mentioned asylums, jails, hospitals, courts, etc., estimated at \$750 each would total another \$1,125,000,000 annually. Then there are the 2,000,000 unemployed who roam our streets, roads and railways from January to December, who cost the nation an average of \$1,500,000 daily for food, fuel, clothing and medicine through public and private charities which adds another total of \$547,000,000. To that we still add on another \$500,000,000 in unpaid bills that is annually carried to the profit and loss account of our grocery, fuel, clothing, rent, hardware and drug dealers besides doctors, etc., and the end is not yet, for we still have a loss to the nation's productive industries of \$1,000,000,000 in damaged and unsalable products, accidents, wrecks and its toll of destroyed or damaged public and private property by the 25,000,000 drinkers while under the influence of the drug.

### UNCLE SAM HOLDS THE SACK.

Here we sum up and find the liquor traffic pays our treasuries the sum of \$1,200,000,000 to run our city, state and national governments with, (notice the word run), and while the other industries of the nation of less importance (?) pay \$2,747,000,000 to help along. In other words it takes \$3,947,000,000 to care for the byproducts of the liquor business, such as the courts, asylums, jails, hospitals, etc., the liquor people raise \$1,200,000,000 of it in taxes, fines and court costs, while the balance of \$2,747,000,000 is paid by the other industries of the country. Now if that is not good business ability on the part of Uncle Sam, where are you going to find any? If our expert mathematicians who are operating our tax system cannot solve this problem how can we?

So we find an annual loss to the taxpayers direct of \$3,947,000,000 and on closer inspection we find that the 2,000,000 unemployed and 700,000 who die from preventable alcoholic diseases

have a normal producing capacity of \$5,000 each when sober, or a total of \$13,000,000,000 per year. Then the producers who drink, (over 10,000,000 in number), lose to our industries every year 10 per cent of their producing value, or \$500 each, another \$5,000,000,000 in lowered efficiency and lost time while under the influence of liquor, to say nothing of mortgaged homes, starved wives, ignorant children and lost manhood and honor.

Thus we discover that Uncle Sam loses every year \$22,447,000,000 either directly or indirectly from the liquor traffic. But suppose it was only half that amount. Just suppose the traffic was destroyed and we had half of that vast sum to divide among the 25,000,000 drinkers of our country. That would mean \$448.00 each to spend on home necessities, such as new homes and furniture; more food, clothing and fuel; more education for children and vacation for families; more bank deposits and church offerings. Now what do you think that would amount to in new institutions? Let us consider it.

The liquor people assert that their "real productive (1) industries," not including gambling halls, brothels, etc., (they don't claim them) represent a permanent taxable investment of \$5,700,000,000 in the form of 7,000 factories, etc., 60,000 farms, 500,000 homes, 250,000 saloons, etc., 50,000 stores, banks, schools, real estate offices, etc., and their total production of liquor, etc., will not value \$4,000,000,000. On these figures we will base our estimate of what the product required for our \$11,223,500,000 will create in shape of extra institutions and their assessable valuation. Their production of liquor is about 65 c on every dollar invested.

That would mean one third of the eleven billions added to itself or \$14,964,660,000 worth more industries than we now have to supply this extra demand, with all of our saloons, breweries, factories, etc., turned into productive lines of trade besides. In other words if this great waste is stopped and diverted into the channels of necessary production it will create more than three times as many more of these various lines of industry than we already have, with the liquor producing machinery changed from destroyers to real economic producers.

We would then have 180,000 more farms for food, fruits wool, cotton, etc.; 21,000 more factories and mills; 150,000 more wholesale and retail clothing, furniture, grocery stores, etc. including banks schools and churches, 60 more railroads of 1,000 miles each, besides employing 9,000,000 more people to operate them and 1,500,000 more homes. Half of the material demand would be taxable, so we add that half of the \$11,223,500,000 to the other \$14,964,660,000 and we have the extravagant sum of \$20,576,410,000 more assessable property then we now have; three times what the liquor industry is worth. (Then remember that we only used one-half of the annual waste which we found to be \$22,447,000,000.) If we tax that 20,576,410,000 at 6 per cent the same as the liquor industry we have the tide sum of \$1,234,584,600 or \$34,584,600 more than we get from them fines and all, besides the taxes we now waste going into good legitimate civic improvements.

### SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT.

In light of the fact that Uncle Sam would save an annual waste of over \$22,000,000,000 by prohibiting the manufacture of liquor, employ about ten million more people at an average wage of \$750 each per annum, decrease the deathrate 700,000 a year beside untold misery and poverty; lower the cost of living by turning all the grain, fruit

and vegetables, consumed in the useless manufacture of alcohol, back into the marts of necessary trade and food production, with which to supply the people saved from alcoholic deaths; employ the 2,000,000 who were unemployed, but would then be employed to help supply the extra demand of all these, besides that of the 25,000,000 drinkers who then would spend their whole earnings for more substantial things pertaining to life, health and pursuit of happiness; turn all of these breweries, distilleries and vintages back into lines of useful production and their operators into producers instead of destroyers; and at the same time get over \$1,000,000,000 more tax than we now receive at one half of present assessment; I do not believe in light of these facts that we have any cause for worry about the outcome of a problem that is causing so many nightmares among our overanxious statesmen. Do you?

### THE END IN SIGHT.

Now a word as to how near we are to the end of the fight and I will close. On Jan. 1st, 1913 we had over 70 per cent of the total area of the nation under prohibitory law, and over 55 per cent of our population living therein; over 60 per cent of our voters in favor of prohibition anyway they can get it, (only some have not moral courage to assert themselves on account of their business) while 50 per cent of those who vote for open saloon are disgusted with the business and will vote for its extermination; they only vote for the saloon because they feel they are losers through operation of "blind tigers" who pay no license.

You can readily see by this dear friends that it only depends upon how soon we induce Congress to pass the Shepard-Hobson bill on to us to vote on, for our country to be free from the carnival of misery and debauchery, and to assist you to see that we are close to the end I quote an excerpt from the National Liquor Dealer's Journal which says:

"The argument that prohibition does not prohibit is merely one of expediency; it is neither moral nor ethical. If no better reason can be presented by the friends of the alcoholic liquor trade, their discomfiture is sure."

The same organ seeks to rally the liquor forces to renewed battle by disclosing a situation they admit means certain death to them if victory goes to the temperance people. It says:

"The united forces of the opposition will strive to write prohibition of the manufacture, importation, and sale of alcoholic liquors into the federal Constitution. If they succeed, it is the death-knell of the liquor business as a recognized industry."

Can they succeed? To amend the Constitution requires the ratification of three fourths of the States, or thirty-six of our forty-eight commonwealths. Nine of these are now entirely in the prohibition column, and eighteen more are in major area and policy under local prohibition laws; it will not be difficult to swing these eighteen into line if the question of national prohibition is raised, but irritation aroused by inefficiency of local or even State prohibition turns the mind and purpose of its friends to a national policy with the strength of the whole government behind; thus we may safely count on twenty-seven States as sure to ratify the national amendment; nine more are needed, and judging from recent experience, especially the West Virginia case, the possibility to get them is not a superhuman task."

### ASKS FOR CO-OPERATION.

Thus you see we are near the conclusion of our battle for better economic conditions and lower cost of living; so I ask you to assist me in my work of distributing our magazine which we publish in Washington, D. C., for the purpose of educating the voters that we cannot reach otherwise than by free distribution through the mails and a personal canvass. This magazine contains a petition to Congress in the back which we request them to sign and send into a parish committee which we organize to facilitate their early distribution and use.

Trusting you will give me your hearty co-operation in this matter I thank you for your good attention and interest in our great cause.

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I had dreadful nervous headaches and prostration, and was scarcely able to walk about. Could not do any of my housework.

I also had dreadful pains in my back and sides and when one of those weak, sinking spells would come on me, I would have to give up and lie down, until it wore off.

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