

CHARITON COURIER

By J. H. WILLARD
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WHERE DO YOU STAND?

(By O. L. Hunt)

The person that criticizes the legal effort that is put forth by the law abiding citizens is a criminal or a defender of such. The criminal and his defender are put into the same keg by the authority of principle and justice.

The person that violates the Eighteenth Amendment to our constitution, and thereby sells bootlegging whiskey—Hootch, White Mule, Jake, Moonshine is a person, that is for the sake of a few dollars, giving out gradual deadening poison, is ignoring authority, and is breaking down the constitution of the United States, for which many of our boys fought and died. For these principles the Revolution was waged. Shall we now, at this day and age, lay down the principles and the flag of our Country to be trodden under the feet of criminals at their own volition, because they persist in having personal liberty and ignoring civil liberty which is the very basis of our constitution?

God's word urgently appeals to us to recognize authority, "Honor the King," which means in American language, "Honor the Government."

The man that quits trading with a merchant because he becomes a member of the "Law-Enforcement League" is a man to be watched, for he is either a violator or a defender of such, which in principle, he is not a whit behind the criminal.

Keytesville will have a bigger trade after it cleans up than it has today. The bootlegger isn't going to quit with the merchant that stands for law enforcement; if he does, he lobbies himself to suspicion as being a violator. No man that is a law abiding citizen, though he himself may not have the courage to assist in this organization, will not oppose the ones that do have the courage to enforce it, but on the other hand they shall respect the

members highly and even the criminal will respect him. I have seen it so in similar cases. The man that is in wrong when pressed to facts will always respect the man that stands for law, principle, and righteousness.

Some men have said, "It doesn't bother me, and I am not going to have anything to do with this law enforcement." Such a person is consenting to the curse of other men and possibly it might be such a one's own near kin, or it might lead to some murder, for so often it is the case in this land of ours. Then such a person would be alarmed, but too late. Mr. Unconcerned man you had better help depress bootlegging now.

One of our alcohol and chemical laboratories tested 40,000 samples of bootlegging stuff, and found that 98% of it totally unfit to be taken into the human system. Some of it ranging to be deadly poison and on down to being less deadly poison; but even the best of this 98% dope will in a short time kill. I ask you, do you want your boy or some other boy to become the victim of this deadly stuff?

The degree of success of this organization depends upon not only the executive committee and officers, but upon every law abiding citizen of Keytesville and community. If every dry man and law abiding citizen will do their part we shall have a clean town in a very short while. The bootlegger cannot hide himself from the eyes of the whole public. Will you help? The very fact that the wet element is opposing this organization is proof that they believe we can do the job—that we will clean up the town and county. If they thought we couldn't do it, they shouldn't be uneasy.

Mr. and Mrs. Law Abiding citizen, don't get cold feet, because there is some criticism being rumored. Remember that it is the bootlegger or his patron or his defender that is handing out such dope. Personally I know that many of the

very best citizens are back of this enterprise of law enforcement. The violators shall do their best to make things look dark and discouraging for a while, but they are sure to be defeated in a few months' time. In six months Keytesville will be a place that the citizens will be much prouder of than they have ever been before. Some are saying, "I should like to see the town cleaned up, but let others than we that are in business do it."

Think, will you? It is a law violation that drives trade away from a town and not law enforcement. The latter draws trade. The person that assumes the attitude that they would like to see the town cleaned up, but won't help do it, is not worthy of the benefits of a clean and orderly town.

Keytesville organized a "Law-Enforcement League" Friday, April 21, 1922. The officers are: O. L. Hunt, chairman; Chris Carlestead, Sec.; and Mrs. T. F. White, Treas. The executive committee are: Garnett Hyde, Wm. H. Burns and J. W. Taylor.

The executive committee was not appointed upon my judgment, but are the men selected by some of the leading citizens of Keytesville. And to annul the apparent lopsidedness, as some have fancied to apply, I shall state that the men that helped to select the executive committee were men from the various churches of the town. And the men that helped to perfect this enterprise were likewise men from the various churches of the town.

All that are 16 years of age and over are eligible to membership. The names shall not be published for a reason that is thought best.

Blank membership cards can be had from any one of the executive committee. After you have signed the card please return it to one of the committee. There is no membership fee.

Report all evidence of any violation of the law, as named in the membership card, to the executive committee; you shall not be implicated in the case.

The membership card reads as follows:

"Law-Enforcement League"
Believing that the 18th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America has been passed for the good of our country and our fellow-men, we do, hereby enroll our names as members of the Law-Enforcement League of Keytesville, promising to give all information that we may have, that is of reasonable evidence, of any violation of the 18th Amendment of our constitution and also of any gambling, to our officers, and thereby standing by and with them for a cleaner town and community.

Be it understood that we are not to

worry the executive committee and officers with vain imaginations. And furthermore, be it understood that said person giving any information leading to the arrest and prosecution of any violator, shall not be implicated in the case except with the consent of the said informer.

And I hereby declare before God and my fellow man, by my signature, that I shall from this day on be free from any violation of the above named laws.

Signature.

A SEATTLE EXPERIMENT

During the war Seattle took over the street car system of the city, paying \$15,000,000 to the owning corporation. Because of inexperienced management, rapid growth of the Washington metropolis or perhaps for other reasons the municipality found itself with a white elephant on its hands. The fare was raised to ten cents and still the city was unable to break even on its investment. Pointing to the Seattle experiment has been a favorite gesture of those opposed to public ownership of utilities northwest is not through, however. Under the plan submitted by Councilman Erickson the fare is to be reduced to three cents and the deficit in operation expenses is to be made up by a special tax on vacant land that has been enhanced in value to traction lines.

Erickson argues that two-thirds of the lots in Seattle are being held for speculation to a large extent by absentee owners who pay but a trifling tax. In May an election will be held to ratify the plan, the legality of the move having been determined to the satisfaction of the Seattle officials.

The Erickson plan is an interesting departure in the field of taxation and municipal ownership and the manner of its adoption will no doubt attract much attention through out the country. What is taking place in Seattle is in line with the general tendency becoming apparent in America, not so much toward municipal ownership, but toward making absentee speculators as well as those speculators in their own home towns who buy land for speculation and will neither improve nor allow others to improve, holding the vacant lands at such a figure that no business man wanting to purchase and improve can possibly make the purchase and make a decent per centage of profit on the investment.

This class of holders should be brought to time by taxation. If they will not improve or sell at a decent figure they should be made to pay a tax that will make holding the vacant land or lots impossible. It seems that scarcely a town in any part of Missouri is not impeded in progress. Such a system of taxation would make a holder do one of two things—either improve it himself or sell out to those who would be willing to improve the lots with modern business houses.—Columbia Daily Tribune.

A MURDERER ANYWAY

"Why should not a drunken man driving an automobile who kills some one in consequence of his irresponsible or drunken condition be tried for murder the same as if he had killed his victim with a gun?" asks an exchange, noting that the Maryland legislature is considering a bill which would make killing by a drunken man in an automobile indictable as first degree murder.

It is probable that all states will be driven to some enactment of this kind in protection of the public before the menace of the drunken driver is abated. Such a statute would only emphasize the principle of law, that, no matter how mentally irresponsible a man may be from drinking, he is nevertheless fully responsible for what he does in violation of the laws.

Every man is presumed to intend the consequences of his acts, and so every automobile driver who gets drunk and maims or kills some one else should be held to strict accountability for his crime.

Murder is the killing of a human being with malice aforethought, either expressed or implied. While the drunken driver may not have formed the intent to kill a specific person, he has deliberately chosen to be reckless in regard to human life generally, so that his recklessness amounts to implied malice.

This is a principle of common law, independent of statutes. In every case, where an automobile driver kills another person, if there is any evidence of recklessness on the part of the driver, he should be indicted for murder.

When such indictments become common, there will be fewer victims of drunken or otherwise negligent automobile drivers.—Milan Standard.

KLU KLUX KLAN IN CHILLICOTHE

We understand they have a Klu Klux Klan in Chillicothe. A Klan of that kind would not be out of order in Milan. An organization of that

kind, which would act for the best interests of the community, would be very beneficial. There are many instances where proof of guilt by law is almost impossible and where public opinion is emphatic and sure of wrong doing, and that is where the Klu Klux Klan is beneficial to a community and teaches everyone to be an honest and respectable citizen.—Milan Standard.

(Say, Brother Milan Standard Man: when you all get through with the three-K boys send them over to Keytesville. We are having the same kind of trouble in catching the bootlegger that you are experiencing.)

First thing the Salisbury Press Spectator, The Brunswick, the Moberly Democrat and the Moberly Index knows they will be wiped off the advertising map by this man Morris with his "Chain of papers." Lets see, there is the three Rustlers—Clifton Hill, Prairie Hill and Jacksonville, and then the newly acquired Huntsville Herald. There are those to be found in this part of the country who would be willing to bet a couple of doughnuts that the Brunswick or the Salisbury Press-Spectator has more honest-to-goodness circulation than all four papers printed by Morris, in spite of the fact that last week he printed a 20-page paper, made up mostly of "boiler-plate," and sadly lacking in real news—the kind that makes country subscribers read the home paper.

Next June there will be a great Sunday school convention held in St. Louis. William Jennings Bryan has been rejected as a speaker because he refuses to give the Darwin theory a place in the deliberations of honest-to-God Christianity. These modern interpretations of the Bible give the average person the jimnies—even going so far as to endorse the Darwin theory—that man is a descendant of monkey, etc. Well, maybe (?). But the Courier still believes that a little more of the religion of our ancestors just at this time would be in order.

Jennette Rankin is slated to appear before several women's clubs and also before a bunch of men in Kansas City. She has chosen for subjects among others, "A Woman's Experience in Politics," "Woman's Part in Civic Affairs," "Her experience in Congress." Ask the People of Montana. They'll tell you of some of her utterances. Her experience as a congresswoman should forever bar her from opportunities of spreading her gush and mush where people who do not know might believe.

The Welfare League of Brookfield, composed of more than 600 women, has taken for a slogan, "No Unfaithful Public Servant," and will insist on a clean up of the city. Unless the steps are taken by the officers, the recall will be resorted to.

In Chicago the poor tenants who have stood about everything possible from profiteering landlords, are about to start a tent colony. Wonder if this will reduce a burglar's outfit to a pair of shears.

And now the Republicans are talking of putting up General John J. Pershing for United States Senator. Past experiences have not shown that great army men make good politicians.

A farmer down near Joplin states that Hyde is a greater pest than the Hessian fly! Can you beat it?

It would seem that the open season for bootleggers in and around Keytesville was on.

Peace is a state of mind—mind your own business.—Wall Street Journal.

SALISBURY

A message was received here last Thursday morning from Hugo, Col., announcing the death of Wm. Mosher, long a resident of this place. The remains were laid to rest here Sunday afternoon after obsequies from the Baptist church conducted by Rev. B. F. Heaton. Deceased was a fine business man and left a good estate to his relatives. Peace to his remains.

The grade school exhibit in Shire's front window was creditable and showed marked training and talent.

Mrs. Aubrey Fellows, who has been in a hospital at Moberly for about two months, recovering from a broken leg, was able to return home Tuesday, and came in on No. 3.

A charivari party was out Monday night giving some newly married couples a jolly send off. This is an old custom that prevailed sixty years ago.

Generally speaking the main roads are in fair condition, but the mud holes are awful, so the farmers tell us.

The Easter offering at the Christian Sunday school Sunday morning was two hundred dollars. This goes to the support of the old people and orphan homes. This was a generous

MONEY FOR FARM LOANS cheaper than that which is advertised at 6%. See us. MINTER-LAMKIN LOAN CO. Keytesville, Mo. 644

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Successful sales in Four
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gift and will be appreciated.

The Mosher funeral Sunday afternoon was largely attended, and the sermon comforting and consoling. Sam Edward and wife and Frank Tannehill and wife of Hugo, Col., were present, but Eugene Mosher, the only brother, was unable to be present.

Judge Montgomery, candidate for Circuit Judge to succeed Judge Lamb, was over Thursday, passing his cards.

Thursday nights rain here was a soaker, and the ground is full of water to an unknown depth.

The track meet at the Capitol was not largely attended from here on account of bad weather.

The son of Soc Yocum of near Bynumville, who has been here under treatment for enlargement of the heart and other ailments, died on Friday and remains were taken to Bynumville for interment.

W. P. Cloyd, the merchant, has been on the sick list a few days, but is again able to be about.

S. M. Ehrhardt remains about the same, but has rested easily the past few days.

The First Christian church is now without a pastor, but the board is on the lookout for one.

Ed Hamilton, was in town Tuesday getting ready to break in a new set of teeth and here's hoping he succeeds in making them chew.

NOTICE TO HUNTERS

We will allow no hunting on our and this season.

JOHN KUHLER.
MRS. LEOLA O'BRYAN.
GEO. WAHLBRIK.
ROBERT SCHMITT.
CHAS. WAKE.
ZEAK RAY.
LEW HIRSCH.
TOM CARR.
NELSON RAY.
JOHN CLAVIN.
FRY & SMITH.
F. D. HUDDLELL.
L. L. WHEELER.
J. L. HERSHEY.
E. M. BISHOP.

TYPEWRITERS!

All makes and all styles \$15 up. Some that were used and released by the U. S. Gov't. Bargains. State your needs and we will describe and quote. The LIPSON TYPEWRITER, a perfect office necessary. Ribbon any color 75¢ delivered. Give name and model. Carbon paper 211 100 sheets \$1.50 delivered. Empire Type Foundry, 117 E. Wood Type, Metal Type, Printers Supplies, Buffalo, N. Y.

BIG AUCTION SALE

ON

May 6, 1922

At 2 p. m. sharp

The Dalton Hdw. & Lbr. Co.

Will sell at Public Auction to the Highest Bidder
FOR CASH

Cultivators, Hay Rakes, Plows, Lister Cultivators

Clover Bunchers, Corn Planters, Weber

Wagons, Fan Mill, Oil Stoves, Ice

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