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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1914.

NATIONAL PROHIBITION.

The regulation or suppression of the sale of alcoholic beverages is and will remain for many years in this country largely a national matter, notwithstanding any local laws that may be passed on the subject. It is possible, in an agricultural state such as North Dakota, where there are no large cities, so to enforce prohibition laws as to bring about conditions better than would exist under a license system, and better than would exist under any form of county or other local option. But even in this state, where the conditions are as good as they can be anywhere for the enforcement of such a law, great difficulties have been found in securing even a reasonably good operation of the law. The Herald believes that the prohibition law has been and is a good thing for the state. It believes that conditions under it are better than they would be if the sale of liquor were made legal. But with the difficulties which have arisen here, the evidence is pretty clear that there are many states, and many localities in most states, in which a prohibition law would be a farce.

If a prohibition amendment should be submitted to the states for ratification, it would be quite possible for it to be ratified by the necessary number of states and yet by the representatives of only a minority of the people. And the entire nation would in that case be placed in the position of enforcing a law dealing with personal customs and habits, against the wishes of a majority of the people. No law could be a success under such conditions.

It has been said sometimes that the federal government has been so successful in its efforts to suppress the manufacture and sale of intoxicants without the payment of the required revenue duties that it has demonstrated its ability to take care of the whole situation. Such prohibition as the national government undertakes need, and that which it would be concerned to undertake under a national prohibition law are so different that they are not comparable at all. The interest of the federal government in the subject at present is solely a revenue interest. No federal restrictions are placed on manufacture or sale other than the payment of taxes. If the taxes are paid the federal authorities have no further interest in the matter. No federal protection is granted to the liquor dealer. There is no federal policing of his premises. All of this is left to the state, which may permit or prohibit, regulate and police, as it sees fit. The task of the federal government in connection with the liquor situation is therefore a relatively easy one. And yet, it has been found difficult enough, and it is necessary to maintain a large force of men to see that taxes are paid as provided by law. Let the situation be taken out of the hands of state governments entirely, and the task will be multiplied in difficulty many fold. Imagine the suppression of the liquor traffic in such a city as New York, for instance. The problem of preventing moonshining in the mountainous districts of the south would be insignificant in comparison. It would require an army of deputy marshals constantly on duty, and private stills would come into operation in a thousand cellars. These things are apparently not appreciated by those who advocate prohibition by federal amendment. They are so great that the plan seems to be altogether impracticable, especially at this time.

STILL THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY.

Chicago Herald: A campaign to stimulate immigration to the south.

DON'T FUSS WITH MUSTARD PLASTERS!

Musterole Works Easier, Quicker and Without the Blister.

There's no sense in mixing up a mess of mustard, flour and water when you can so easily relieve pain, soreness or stiffness with a little clean, white MUSTEROLE.

MUSTEROLE is made of pure oil of mustard and other helpful ingredients, combined in the form of a pleasant white ointment. It takes the place of the out-of-date mustard plaster, and will not blister!

MUSTEROLE gives prompt relief from Sore Throat, Bronchitis, Tonsillitis, Croup, Stiff Neck, Asthma, Neuralgia, Headache, Congestion, Pleurisy, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Pains and Aches of the Back or Joints, Sprains, Sore Muscles, Bruises, Chills, Frost-bitten Feet and Colds of the Chest (it often prevents Pneumonia).

At your druggist's, in 25c and 50c jars, and a special large hospital size for \$2.50.

Be sure you get the genuine MUSTEROLE. Refuse imitations—get what you ask for. The Musterole Company, Cleveland, Ohio.



has been launched by the Southern Commercial congress, now in session at Washington.

The announcement is not novel, but extremely significant. Any country in which efforts are made to stimulate immigration on a large scale on any particular section is still a land of opportunity.

Nobody ever hears of a movement to stimulate immigration from one part of France or Italy to another part. No commercial congress tries to induce people to move from one section of England to another. Every section has all the people it can take care of; generally a few more.

Here it is different. In spite of the increase of our population, in spite of the accompanying increase of national wealth, we have sections that offer opportunities to immigration as great as were offered—perhaps even greater—in the early days of the republic.

Then the lure was free land—the broad expanses where any man willing to brave the hardships of frontier life could own a farm.

Today the inducement is cheap land. In brief, the inducement differs more in degree than kind from that formerly offered.

We sometimes hear a deal of discontented talk from people who go on the theory that the days of opportunity are over in this country—that everything has been grabbed and held at high prices—that we have already approached a condition resembling that of thickly settled European states.

The theory is wholly wrong. There were never better opportunities for pluck and energy and an extremely small amount of money to acquire a home and a farm than exist today in this country. And there never was a time when the land thus acquired could be made to yield more substantial cash returns.

Too many people keep their eyes glued on thickly crowded cities and on occasional industrial disputes. Let them look out on the country—let them consider the significance of immigration movements—and they will see that this is still the land of opportunity for the real homeseeker.

PROSPERITY.

Most appropriately, as a means of adding to the good cheer of the season, comes the publication of the government's figures on crop production and prices for the year. North Dakotans are especially interested in the returns for their own state, and a glance at the figures presented must be highly satisfactory and encouraging to every citizen of the state.

The value of the eight principal farm products of this state for the year 1914 is placed at \$144,000,000, which is an increase of practically \$40,000,000 over the value of the same products produced in 1913. North Dakota has approximately 700,000 people. Her eight principal farm crops have brought to the state enough money this year to give every man, woman and child in the state more than \$200. The increase over last year is more than \$50 per capita, or 30 per cent. On the basis of five members to each family, this gives the state an income from these crops alone of over \$1,000 per family. No other state in the Union can make such a showing.

It must be remembered, too, that this is only the income from certain farm crops, and that it by no means represents the total income of the state. Nor, if we are to estimate correctly just what it means, can we figure on the distribution of that income among the entire population. While a large majority of our people live on the farms, many thousands of them live in the cities and villages, and are engaged in activities other than farming. We have not at hand the figures on relative rural and urban population, but it is safe to assume that there are enough urban residents to bring the actual farm income from these chief crops up to \$1,500 per farm family. To this there must be added the income from stock raising,

from the poultry industry, which is assuming important proportions, and from the many minor crops which form important additions to the income of almost every farmer.

To arrive at the total income of the state, we must also consider a number of other items. The coal mining industry in the west is important, and many men are making good incomes in that field. The manufacturing and other productive industries in the cities contribute their share. The total income of the state, therefore, reaches large figures, and the income per capita and per family is brought to a point where it is, we believe, unequalled and unapproached anywhere in the United States.

What does this mean to the people of the state? It means abundant cause for thankfulness. It means a sense of comfort and security, of confidence in the state and of permanence of its prosperity, for what has been accomplished even in the past year is but a slight indication of the possibilities for the future. It means that while in many parts of the world, and of our own country, suffering and privation prevail, our people are rich in all material things. It means that we may start on the work of the new year with renewed courage and hopefulness, continuing to build broadly, and to make liberal provision for the larger life which our material prosperity makes possible. It means, too, that we are able, as we have demonstrated that we are willing, to minister to the comfort of the needy and the afflicted, whether they be of our own land or elsewhere.

What does it mean to the business of the country, this marvelous prosperity in the Northwest? It means that North Dakota is today the most desirable market for everything that can be used to advantage on the farm or in the home. Our people are able to buy good goods, and to pay for them. They are not spendthrifts, but they are sufficiently awake to the demands of real progress to be ambitious to have the best possible homes for their families, the best possible buildings for their stock, and the best equipment in and out of doors, and the best of everything that goes to aid in real living. They are not restricted to the bare necessities of the primitive man, but are in the market for the things that make life liveable in all its forms. For many of the things they need our people must look elsewhere. And the men who are engaged in the work of making and selling goods such as are needed in any thriving community will find their very best markets today in the state of North Dakota.

FEWER AND BETTER DRAFTED LAWS DESIRED.

Christian Science Monitor: The cause of law reform in the United States has many aspects. One is reduction of the number of new statutes. Another is perfection of the forms of those still deemed necessary. It is not enough to embody the ideal of justice; the definition of that ideal must be in such precise terms and so carefully worded that officers pledged to enforce it, judges set apart to interpret it, and citizens under obligations to obey it shall know just what it means and shall be saved from the discovery that the statute clashes with other laws. In other words, a perfect law is as unassailable in its form as it is in its content.

A state legislature, generally speaking, makes little provision for security, well-drafted legislation; nor has congress any such staff of experts as belongs to the British parliament. But to the credit of some of the states of the American Union be it said that they at last realize the need of sounder methods; and the higher legal organizations of the country also are enlisted to induce law-making that, as far as its technical form goes, shall reduce opportunities for dispute to a minimum. Because Wisconsin some years ago called in legal advisers that were men of character to aid legislators and citizens in putting their "bills" in shape, and thus supplement-

Benner & Begg advertisement for Christmas gifts. Features: 'The Store Accomodating', 'A Tip From Santa', 'Buy Your Xmas Gifts at These Special Holiday Prices', '39 Hours More to Do Your Christmas Shopping', 'Four Big Days of Silk Values', 'Handkerchiefs the Ideal Gift', 'Embroidered Aprons', 'Kayser Silk Hose', 'Handbag Specials'. Includes prices and descriptions of various items.

ed other expert advice from state university specialists in economic and sociology, a very small part of its advanced legislation has proved vulnerable when tested by litigation.

In Our School

BY PAUL WEST. (Illustrated by Moser.) TUESDAY. Genevieve Hickox read a poem about Christmas & brot it to school this morning. We do not care to describe Gen's party habits, but as she has held off till now without inflicting her will on us this Christmas we will forgive her by presenting this one, it goes: O Christmas is a pesisunt time For them which gets presents & things. But a how unhappy it is If nothing to you it brings: The parents of certain persons I know Are so tender hearted & kind That they will give them luvly things & all their bad behaviour not never mind. But o if they got what they deserve They wouldnt get toys & books & games. But wishing to be desent I will not hear ment on any nams. This may be a good enuff pome, but if Genevieve thinks she is going to share any favors by saying we dont deserve any Christmas presents she is rong. It is too lat, say we, we know our parents have already bot about all they are going to. Boys Cheated Agn. Walt White & Hen Van Ness got ocheeted out of the money they was going to make off of Henery Hood the butcher for cutting Christmas trees for him yesterday. Walt & Hen borrowed their fathers saws & hatchets & put in the hoel afternoon cutting the trees & got 10, which they hidged all the way down to Henery's, two at a time. It was that was splendid, even finer than those up on his place where he had bot the rites to cut some, & he sed maybe he would pay Walt & Hen moar than five cents apiece which was the first prise he maid on the trees. So they was feeling pritty good by the time they got the last ones down to the stoar, it being pritty lat then, almost supper time & dark. Henery sed that was all rite, & then he sed: "Now to show you I aint like sum parties in this stinky vilidge I am going to keep my promise & pay you 5 cents each for these trees, & tomorrer if you have time you mite out me sum moar if they are anny, they being awful scarce this yeare. Are they anny moar where you got those?" Hen sed they was oonly a few, & Henery sed, "By the way where do you get thesee, anyhow?" Walt sed: "Why up by Hadley's Hill." Henery ast him was it annywhere ners the oald Morgun farm, & Walt sed: "Yes, Mister Hood, that is where we got thesee trees, nobody using that place no moar." Then Henery got mad & toald them to get out of the stoar, & they sed, "But dont we get paid for the trees?" "You do not you runn oobern," Henery sed, "because the Morgun farm was where I paid five dollers for the rite to cut Christmas trees, & you must think I'm an idjut to pay you for my own trees." So what could Walt & Hen do but get out or be kicked out? They are pritty may thought & do an blassem them, because how did they know they was selling Henery his own trees, any we?

Excuse me," said Bridget, putting her head in at the cashier's window. "But do OI understand that yes Iind money here on character?" "Why—yes," hesitated the cashier. "Thin Oid' loike 50, arr, in moine," said Bridget, producing a number of gray references. "They's stvin uv thim from me previus implyers—"

The Most Futile Thing in the World.

—By Webster.



TRYING TO HIDE THE PRESENTS FROM THE CHILDREN

A Few Humorous Stories

A pompous city official upon reaching his home one evening found the street blockaded and a heap of earth piled against his doorstep. Observing a workman wielding his shovel in a nearby ditch, he accosted a passing policeman and complained that the laborer was trespassing upon private property. "What do ye mean by trow'ing dirt on th' gintleman's steps?" demanded the officer, pompously. "Sure, an' there's no other place t' trow it, d'ye mind?" replied the workman indifferently. "Well, thin, in that case, ye'd better dig another hole an' trow it in there."

Victor Murdock of Kansas was one day expatiating upon the wonders of that state to a group in the house cloak room and he told this tale: "A stranger from the east was proceeding through a certain section of Kansas when he observed what seemed to him to be a tall chimney rising above the monotonous level of the prairie. "What is that chimney used for?" he asked the man with him, a native. "Somebody building a factory in that out of the way quarter?" "That ain't no chimney," said the other. "That's Hank Lewis's well. Cyclone come along an' turned her inside out."—Everybody's.

Chief Justice Doherty used to relate an experience which befell him during a visit to a country house in Ireland. His friend, the host, sent a car to the railway station to bring him to the place. He had not gone far



As Clean as Coal Can Be

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