

203

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## Does it? Who Says It?

The following extract from the pen of Lora S. LaMance we take from the little book, "Destroying the Destroyer." It gives some interesting figures which we want our readers to see:

Who says prohibition is a failure? The brewer and distiller? Yes, they say it. Who else says it? The saloonkeeper and the bartender? Yes, they say it, and say it a dozen times a day. The sot in the gutter? Yes, he says it, and he certainly looks like it was a failure. The man who violates the liquor laws? Certainly he says it, and does all in his power to make it so. The whiskey drug gist? Yes, both of them are the chief abettors in their community of that very state of affairs.

Who says prohibition is a failure? The gambler? Yes, he says it, and he associates with the very set that would make it a failure. The whole set of boot-leggers, joint-keepers and blind-tiger men. they say it. Of course they do, and do their best to make it so.

What does the United States Government say? Fifty miles of saloons closed in 1908, and the liquor bill less the year before by \$17,000,000.00. That's going some. And in 1909, forty-one saloons closed a day. Sixty miles of them closed in the year, over two million less barrels of whiskey drunk, and the estimate drink bill lowered by \$412,000,000.00.

What do the liquor men say among themselves? Julius Liebman, the head of the United Brewery of the United States in an address to the brewers in June, 1909, said that the prohibition wave has cutrailed the output of beer in the United States over five million barrels in eighteen months' time.

In a private letter to a saloon-

keeper friend, one of the largest wholesale wineries in the country lamented that "Here in Virginia we are fighting for our very existence; if this thing continues much longer we shall all be broke, even if we win." Which may not be an over-grammatical sentence but one plain to understand. The writer continues: "In the last year we have lost over \$300,000.00 of established trade, legislated out of existence."

Do you ever say that prohibition is a failure? Think a minute. Do you want to train with the crowd that is always saying this? Use your common sense. If as much whiskey is sold under prohibition as under license, in the name of common sense, why do not all the saloon-keepers work for prohibition, save their license money, and sell as much as ever? When they move heaven and earth to defeat prohibition and pour out money like water to do this they acknowledge by their actions that prohibition prohibits altogether too well to suit them

## Why Not Pension Worthy Mothers?

John Wilson, a plasterer lived happily with his wife and two small children in his own home in the suburbs of a city. One day he disappeared, leaving his wife to face the cold world, short of money and weakened by the anxiety and the strain of maternity consequent upon the birth of a third child soon after his desertion. To be with her children Mrs. Wilson sought work she could bring into her home and became a laundress. Her average earnings were barely five dollars a week. That sum hardly provided food. She lost her home and went to live in three tiny rooms. For four years she toiled for her children. Then she

appealed to the Juvenile Court for help. "I don't want you to take my children from me," she told the judge. "I will not part with them under any circumstances. What I ask is that the state give me the amount of money that it would have to spend for my children if they were put in an institution. With that help, I could take good care of them and help them grow up to be good men and women."

Do you think she got what she asked for?

"You are a good mother," the judge told her, "and you deserve the assistance you ask for. I am sorry to say that it cannot be given. There is no provision in our laws for such assistance. The only way I can legally help you is by putting your children in a home for orphans."

What this mother had asked for was that the state, instead of spending so much per capita for her children's maintenance in an institution, should give her the same amount of money for her children's maintenance in their own home. In short, she had asked for what is technically known as a mother's pension.

Last November, the women of Boise met and organized a Mother's Pension Association. The object of this association, as stated in its constitution, is "to join with other organizations in assisting unfortunate mothers to provide for children dependent upon them, and especially to prevent the separation of children from worthy mothers." The membership is to consist of "women willing to give their time, strength and means in assisting women less fortunate than themselves."

At the same time the women will present a bill to the State Legislature asking, not for mothers' pensions, mark you, but for a