

BUSINESS MEN GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON PROHIBITION

(Continued from Page Nine.)

hibition." I think much of this is occasioned by the fact that nearly every city has restaurants in which people can secure what they want to drink with their meals. This naturally diverts from the legitimate hotel business the patronage of people who want drinks with meals. There is no question that all legitimate hotels are living up to the prohibition Act, and at very material loss to themselves. Another large item of expense is the use of liquor by guests who bring it to their rooms, with the resulting damage to carpets and furnishings. I feel confident that every hotel-keeper would welcome the enforcement of the Volstead Act, or its abolition.

LEOP. HARLOW, Attorney, Washington, at the Aator—I think the Amendment is too young for a correct appraisal of its effects. Thus far, the principal effect seems to be a disrespect for law. Everybody violates it, justifying himself by the fact that it was put over on him and that he had no voice in the matter. A highly organized and blatant minority was responsible. I have heard said in Washington that the Amendment will finally be nullified, that Congress will appropriate less and less for its enforcement until it finally becomes a dead letter.

S. G. HATFIELD, Denver, Col., at the McAlpin—People in my section of the country do not mind the present state of affairs. I imagine, because liquor is so easy to get. Prohibition has had very little effect on business conditions in Denver, because we have no industrial foreign population. In cities like Pueblo the situation might be different.

W. A. HAYDEN, linotype machines, Baltimore, at the McAlpin—I think that conditions in general are much worse now than they would have been if Prohibition had not come. I do not know, however, whether the business depression itself resulted from it.

CRIME HAS INCREASED AND LABOR IS RESTLESS.

JOHN J. HAWLEY, Kansas City, Mo., at the McAlpin—Nothing can be said in favor of Prohibition in its relations to conditions in Kansas City and throughout Missouri during the past two years. Crime has increased, new channels of corruption have been opened and labor is more restless and discontented than ever. Most significant, perhaps, is the increase in juvenile delinquency. Youthful curiosity is constantly on edge as a result of the unending discussion about the Eighteenth Amendment, and the spice of danger in satisfying that curiosity is an adventure of the most irresistible appeal. Youth was formerly protected from liquor evils by laws rigorously enforced and heartily supported by public opinion. The Eighteenth Amendment automatically did away with the protective laws, but the liquor evil remains and flourishes in worse degree than ever during the saloon regime.

HENRY M. HIDDEN, drinking cup manufacturer, Cincinnati, at the Waldorf—Business in Cincinnati is worse than it has been in many years, and Prohibition can be held responsible for much of the depression. It is a beer-drinking city, and public opinion is decidedly against the present law. Bad liquor has been responsible for many deaths and much illness. The only solution for the problem is a beer and wine modification of the law.

PAUL H. HUGHES, Magazine Representative, Chicago, at the McAlpin—Chicago offers many more arguments against Prohibition than for it. A number of prominent and wealthy citizens recently organized to lead a fight for modification of the Volstead Act. The Eighteenth Amendment has not had the support of the public, and that has bred disrespect for other laws. Even the United States mails, formerly inviolate, are now the prey of desperate criminals. Crime of all kinds has increased; corrupt practices are more widespread than ever before; labor troubles are marked by extreme violence, and the list of drug and poison liquor victims grows daily. What can the prohibitionists show?

WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY, Attorney, President Olympic Club, San Francisco, at the Belmont—I do not

think that Prohibition has helped business, and there is certainly no indication that it has helped the individual. The very word "Prohibition" is odious to the liberty-loving American people. The Volstead Act has brought about a deplorable set of conditions which does not improve. Placing the country on light wines and beer would solve the problem.

OLIVER JOHNSTON, Wholesale and Retail Shoes, Seattle, at the Aator—Prohibition has helped our section, in my opinion. The closing of the saloon has taken away much temptation to drink, and more working men are buying homes now. Public sentiment was all against the saloons. Now the men who come from Alaska—the loggers and fishermen who formerly spent their money in saloons—invest it in something staple. I do not think that Prohibition has affected business one way or the other.

W. B. JONES, Insurance, Lexington, Ky., at the Martinique—Kentucky, despite its activities of other days, is heartily in sympathy with the provisions of the Eighteenth Amendment. The State is satisfied and prosperous under present conditions. The State is satisfied and prosperous under present conditions. The State is satisfied and prosperous under present conditions.

FRANK J. LEE, salesman, Springfield, Mass., at the Commodore—There is a good and a bad side to almost everything, but I cannot see how Prohibition has helped business. I don't think it has made the slightest difference.

WILLIAM T. LEE, salesman, Bridgeport, at the Commodore—Of course the farmer has benefited in many ways as a result of Prohibition. Farm hands are doing better work. Ask any farmer and he will tell you so. The mills, the factories where numbers of men are employed, will tell you that they are getting better service.

S. A. LITTLE, merchant, Dubuque, Ia., at the McAlpin—Prohibition has not directly affected business in Iowa, but it has created a general discontent, inimical to the friendly, harmonious way in which business is proverbially conducted in that State. Dissatisfaction is evidenced, not only in the cities, but also in the rural districts. Many of the Iowa farmers are of German descent, and beer and wines have always been an adjunct to their social life in the hardworking communities isolated from the pleasure of the cities. Modification of the present law is favored.

MADE DRUNKARDS OF PEOPLE WHO NEVER DRANK.

DR. W. A. LYNOTT, Bartlesville, Okla., at the Aator—I believe that Prohibition has made drunkards out of people who never drank before. After two years it has been found that Prohibition does not prohibit. I believe we should permit the manufacture and sale of whiskey, but not go back to the saloon. People drink alcohol and home brew and will con-

tinues its beer. I think that, taking all classes into consideration, there is a pretty general feeling for the modification of the present law.

CHARLES PETER, Mining Expert, Salt Lake City, at the Aator—Prohibition has in a sense improved conditions in the smaller mining camps in the West. In the larger, however, the men find ways and means of satisfying their craving for liquor, and as they can't get what they want, they get moonshine and other beverages unfit for use. The effect has been very bad; they become sick, wild and unruly, and conditions are much worse than before Prohibition. Personally, I favor restriction, not Prohibition, and would like to see modifying legislation. I believe that better conditions would come with a return of beer and light wines, both of which are helpful beverages. The conditions of which I speak do not obtain only in the West, but also in the mining sections of the East, where the general unrest of laboring men is directly traceable to Prohibition.

G. W. PLATT, stocks and bonds, Cincinnati, at the Commodore—Prohibition has caused absolutely no improvement in business. In fact, it has disturbed conditions very materially. The liquor problem is still one which must be worked out.

R. E. REED, General Contractor, Charlottesville, W. Va., at the McAlpin—Moonshine has always been a problem with us. Now the traffic is more active than ever, and drinking certainly has not decreased. Jails are crowded in the State, and there is a very strong sentiment in favor of beer and wine. Prohibition has worked for business depression. Taxpayers are disgusted at seeing money spent for enforcement without results.

J. S. ROBINSON, fruit distributor, Spokane, Wash., at the Aator—I think labor in our section is far better off under Prohibition, which went into effect in the State before the 18th Amendment. There is more money

WALTER I. PAGE, American Smelting and Refining Co., Omana, Neb., at the Waldorf—Conditions in the West are different from those in the East. New York, particularly, has many visiting pleasure seekers. In the West, the well-to-do have private stocks, not yet depleted. The closing of the saloon was the greatest boon that the laborer could have received. Families formerly came to us asking for money with which to exist after the head of the family had either spent his wages or been robbed of them. To-day these families are saving money. But the laboring class, particularly the foreign element,

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in the banks, and conditions are better in general. The general sentiment in Spokane is against the return of liquor.

SILAS W. ROGERS, Attorney, Little Rock, Ark., at the Aator—I think the conditions under the open saloon were better than those of today, when dope and "white mule" exist, but I think that in time conditions will improve, and that then prohibition will be a good thing. Arkansas was a bone dry before national prohibition. Then business was better; people paid their bills more promptly, and conditions among retailers became excellent. But under national prohibition "white mule" has been prevalent, and all kinds are being manufactured. Many who never drank before do drink "white mule" now, although I think that the workers cannot afford it, and sales are for the most part to men with money, who will soon be afraid to use it.

PLENTY OF LIQUOR; LAW CAN'T BE MADE EFFECTIVE.

ALBERT H. SHIPMAN, retired business man, Palm Beach, at the Biltmore—I have just traveled to New York from Arizona, and on the trans-

—In fact, in any meeting place—it is the unanimous opinion that liquor is obtainable anywhere if one has the price. With that condition prevailing the law cannot be effective. The only benefit which has come from it so far as I can see is to real estate owners whose property formerly included saloon space. Such space is now rented to drug stores or cigar stores, and has in some cases been divided into two or three shops. The owners, accordingly, has no more complaints about his property. While I believe that prohibition would be a good thing if it were really effective, and that liquors and saloons should be abolished, I think that the present law is

too drastic, and that the question should be left to the communities themselves for settlement.

J. W. WEST, Trenton, N. J., at the Commodore—Whatever good has come from the Prohibition act has been offset by deaths and lawbreaking. Everybody carries it; everybody has it in his home; everyone is invited to drink from flasks, although liquor cannot be bought in restaurants or hotels.

A. R. SHIRLEY, manufacturer of evaporated milk, St. Louis, at the McAlpin—There is no evidence of lessened liquor consumption in St. Louis. It is a little harder to get, too

in quality, and costs \$50 a gallon. Crime has increased, labor is more restless than before, and the condition of the poor has not been bettered. Nobody wants a return of the saloon era, but there is a growing demand for modification of the present law, the drastic measures of which defeat its purpose.

E. F. SOULE, Portland, Me., at the Aator—National Prohibition has no more prohibited in the State of Maine than has State Prohibition in the many years that we have had it. But I do believe that it is a benefit for the community to have no saloons in which the youth can be easily tempted.



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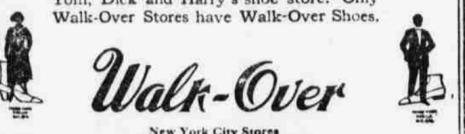
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It would take years to learn to judge leather and good workmanship expertly. You've got to depend upon the reputation of the maker of the shoes for those things. You are the judge of style or pattern. When it comes to a shoe-fitting, it's important to accept the advice of one who knows.

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150 Broadway at Broadway St.

Brooklyn
1355 Broadway, near Gates Ave. | Yonkers, N. Y., 7 N. Broadway
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