

W. C. T. U. COLUMN.
THE W. C. T. U. MEETS EVERY THURSDAY
AT 8 O'CLOCK IN THE Y. M. C. A.
HALL

In order to learn the exact state of affairs in regard to the enforcement of the prohibitory liquor law in Kansas, the Chicago *Daily News* recently addressed a letter to each of the probate judges of the State with the following questions: "How does the number of saloons in your vicinity and the amount of beverages sold at this time compare with the number of saloons and the sales prior to the adoption of prohibition measures? What is the state of crime, particularly, that class of offences which grow directly out of the use of alcoholic beverages, as compared with the period preceding prohibition in Kansas?" As to the result of these inquiries the *News* says:

"Replies have been received from forty-nine of the judges, or from more than one-half of the entire number. The replies show that the question asked by the people, does prohibition prohibit? is answered overwhelmingly in the affirmative. Only five counties—Sheridan, Ford, Clark, Republic and Harper—pronounce the law unqualifiedly a failure; in Kingman it is frankly admitted that the law is 'not enforced' in Rush, Trego, Riley, and Clay, although the replies are rather in the nature of opinion, as are almost all of those above mentioned, instead of statements of observed fact, they are rather favorable than otherwise. With these exceptions the answers show a decrease in the use of intoxicating drinks in Kansas ranging from 50 to 75 per cent., and in crimes and offences growing directly out of the use of such drinks a decrease from 50 to 90 per cent."

These are noteworthy facts. From the nature of their positions and duties the probate judges are doubtless the most competent of all persons to speak on the subject of the enforcement of the prohibitory law, and the showing of the *News* must be in the highest degree satisfactory to all friends of temperance. The saloon must go.

DELICIOUS DOCOCTIONS

There is a book in the market called "Art of Blending and Compounding Liquors," by Joseph Fleishman, evidently a son of Jacob, who practised on his father-in-law, Laban, in this line, and the money-making instinct has become the property of this prince of concoctionists. It is published not for cattle-growers' benefit, in which profession Jacob was an adept, but for the use of saloon-keepers.

This book shows, "how all the leading brands of whiskies, brandies and other liquors and wine are prepared for the trade by rectifiers at the present time." Rules for compounding low grades of whiskey are given in this manual. The basis is "spirits," to which are added coloring matter, prune juice, New England rum and "beading oil," the cost ranging from 75 cents to \$1.28 a gallon. This "beading oil" is a compound of sulphuric acid, oil of sweet almonds and ammonia. This acid, "when swallowed in concentrated form destroys all the tissues it touches." Even when greatly diluted it injures the teeth and the continued use of it exhausts the digestive power. In preparing so-called "rye" and "bourbon" whiskies, bourbon oil and rye oil are used. Bourbon oil is distilled from a compound of fusel oil, acetate of potash, sulphuric acid, sulphate of copper, oxalate of ammonium and black oxide of manganese. Rye oil is distilled from a mixture of fusel oil, benzoic acid, chloroform, sulphuric acid and chloride of potash. Sulphate of copper is a deadly poison. Oxalic acid is a poison that sometimes kills in a few minutes. Fusel oil is said by some authorities to cause the dyspeptic and nervous disorders that follow the habitual use of alcoholic liquors. Those who would like to know what effect these ingredients have upon the human system will find an abundance of information in any dispensatory.

Imported French brandy costs from \$5 to \$10 a gallon. Rules for making seven grades are given. In two of those the place of brandy is supplied by "spirits" and "cognac" oil. This oil is distilled from oil of cocoanut, sulphuric acid, and alcohol mixed in the proportion of two parts of cocoanut oil to one part of sulphur-

ic and two parts of alcohol. Jamaican rum is made out of "spirits." New England rum, and rum essence. This essence is a mixture of sulphuric acid, black oxide of manganese, pyrolygine, oxalic acid, acetic ether, butyric ether and oil of birch.

The ingredients of the essence by which "spirits" is transformed into apple brandy are fusel oil, sulphuric acid, valeric acid, acetic acid and oil of bitter almonds. "The oil of bitter almonds," says the Dispensatory, "is hardly inferior to dilute hydrocyanic acid in its poisonous power. Valeric acid quickens and weakens the heart's action. It causes debility and then paralysis. Two kinds of blackberry brandy—one "a superior article"—are described, and there is no trace of the blackberry in either of them. Oils and acids are there, however, in abundance.

"The methods and recipes contained in this work," says the author, are "all given by one who has been in that line of business for many years."

VIBRATORY POWERS

I had a talk the other day with Dr. D. Hayes Agnew, one of the distinguished surgeons who attended President Garfield in his last illness, upon the subject of the Keely motor, says L. N. Megargee, of Philadelphia. Dr. Agnew's with other well known gentlemen, paid a visit to Keely's shop on North Twentieth street, some time ago and witnessed an exhibition of Dr. Keely's "liberator." That is what Dr. Agnew says about what he saw:

"I do not know whether to believe or disbelieve Keely's claims. He says he disintegrates atmospheric air by sound vibrations, and I am not sure that he has not discovered some new force with unknown properties, for I know the power of vibration. When a man is struck in the head with any heavy instrument and the skull is fractured where the blow falls, but at a point where the vibration concentrate, say at the lower end of a triangular bone. So physicians often find the strongest bone in the skull fractured by a blow that never touched it, but was struck upon the top of the head.

"Let me tell you another instance of the powers of vibration, the tramp in unison of a body of troops over a strong bridge, if there is a large number of soldiers in line, will break the bridge down. That is on account of the vibration increasing in intensity as the troops keep passing over the bridge. An important bridge in France once fell from this cause. It is the custom now to 'break ranks' when troops cross long bridges.

"We have experimented at the university hospital upon the power of vibration to break skulls where the vibrations concentrate. Again and again when a blow was given at different spots on the summit of the skull some bone was broken further down, where the vibrations connected.

"At Keely's exhibition, though I did not stay very long, I saw enough to suggest the probability of his having some great force. The five hundred and fifty pound weight at end of the long lever was raised at once when he opened the throttle of the liberator, showing an apparent pressure of eighteen thousand or twenty thousand pounds to the square inch. There was no compressed air about it, for when the 'force,' whatever it was, was released, no cold was perceptible, as would have been the case if compressed air had been used. Keely may have a force that is so different from any known that we cannot now gauge its possibilities or propensities."

The Attorney-General of Kansas has brought suit against the city officials of Leavenworth who still give permits to liquor-sellers, guaranteeing not to prosecute them for violating the law. A similar suit was brought against the officials of Topeka, which resulted in effectually closing its saloons.

Liquor saloons in North Carolina, where workmen wasted their money, are being converted into factories, where they can make money. The largest saloon in Raleigh is now a shoe manufactory, employing as many men as all the saloons in the city did; another has been turned into a furniture factory.

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