

# Statistical.

PROHIBITION in Iowa having attracted a great deal of attention recently we give this week a general statement regarding that State. This does not exhaust Iowa by any means, but will do for the present. Next week we will deal with Kansas. Our readers will do well to preserve these statistical statements.

## PROHIBITION IN IOWA.

Iowa first adopted Prohibition in 1855. In 1858 it having been discovered that the law was retarding the progress of the State it was modified to permit the sale of ale, beer and wine. During the war period the prohibition of the sale of spirits fell into disuse. A constitutional amendment was carried in 1882, was declared unconstitutional, but the legislature passed the present law in 1883. As in almost every instance the prohibitive law never did have the support of the majority of the electors. On the constitutional amendment June 27, 1882, there was polled for the act 155,436, against 123,677, majority 29,759; total vote 281,113. For Governor the following year was polled 327,266 votes, and for President a year later 373,877 votes. It will be seen at a glance how large a number of people abstained from voting on Prohibition. That the law has not been successful, even to the extent of reducing in any reasonable percentage the sale of liquor, nobody will deny. Even the sporadic attempts at enforcement in certain places leads only to ill-feeling, penalty and expense, and are quickly abandoned. To-day we do not believe there is an honest attempt at enforcement in any municipality outside of those where no money would be sold no matter what law might be in force. And more liquor is sold in more places to-day in Iowa than was sold under license. Let us give you some statistics on this subject.

Following is a table giving the number of government licenses issued from 1882 to 1892, inclusive:

	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892
Wholesale Dealers, only.	35	42	52	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54
Retail Dealers.	5,041	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300
Wholesale Dealers, and Retail.	5,076	5,342	5,352	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354
Wholesale Dealers, and Retail, and Liquor.	5,076	5,342	5,352	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354
Wholesale Dealers, and Retail, and Liquor, and Beer.	5,076	5,342	5,352	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354
Wholesale Dealers, and Retail, and Liquor, and Beer, and Wine.	5,076	5,342	5,352	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354

In 1885, the year after the prohibition law took effect, the retail licenses were 5,349; eleven months in 1892 show 5,846. Further comment is unnecessary. Perhaps it will be claimed these are all drug stores? Mr. Spaulding, secretary of the

Iowa State Board of Pharmacists, puts the number of drug stores at 1,356. How many of them are of the character of the drug stores we visited in Des Moines is not known. Further, the annual report of the State Temperance Alliance, delivered at Des Moines, in March, 1890, stated: "The Alliance has the name and post office address of every one who has paid a government tax for the purpose of selling liquor." More than that, they published a list giving the number for each town and county, making a total of 5,867. (Government returns for 1889 only give 4,012.) In this table Clinton is credited with 105, Burlington 170, Dubuque 288, Cedar Rapids 193, Des Moines 202, Council Bluffs 140, Davenport 275, Ottumwa 155, Sioux City 351, etc., etc.

Iowa has 1 liquor license to every 455 of population, as compared to one for every 771 of population in its high license neighbor Nebraska.

The law prohibits the manufacture of liquor within the State. There are now many brewery licenses issued, and the product for a number of years past has been as follows:

	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892
Barrels.	107,272	125,494	174,529	188,200	188,200	188,200	188,200
No. of Brewery Licenses.	78	78	78	78	78	78	78

Of course the amount manufactured is inconsiderable as compared with the amount consumed, but the running of about 20 establishments turning out 3,577,536 gallons of beer is a curious commentary upon the law and its enforcement.

How has Prohibition affected crime in Iowa? In 1880 Iowa had 493 prisoners in her penitentiaries and jails per million of population, and in 1890, 497. The following table shows the number of criminals sent to the reform school, jails and penitentiaries since 1884, when the prohibitory law was passed:

	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892
Reform School.	21	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132
Jail.	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Penitentiary.	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Total.	39	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150

For the same years we may give the number of convictions for more serious crimes:

	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892
Burglary.	38	44	62	62	62	62	62	62	62
Larceny.	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
Assault.	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
Wholesale Dealers.	35	42	52	54	54	54	54	54	54
Retail Dealers.	5,041	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300	5,300
Wholesale Dealers, and Retail.	5,076	5,342	5,352	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354
Wholesale Dealers, and Retail, and Liquor.	5,076	5,342	5,352	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354
Wholesale Dealers, and Retail, and Liquor, and Beer.	5,076	5,342	5,352	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354
Wholesale Dealers, and Retail, and Liquor, and Beer, and Wine.	5,076	5,342	5,352	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354	5,354

A feature in connection with the prohibitory law is to be found in the following table, showing for the same years the court expenses for criminal prosecutions in the State:

	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892
Fines Imposed.	\$65,343	\$65,343	\$65,343	\$65,343	\$65,343	\$65,343	\$65,343	\$65,343	\$65,343
Fines Collected.	\$33,381	\$33,381	\$33,381	\$33,381	\$33,381	\$33,381	\$33,381	\$33,381	\$33,381
Cost of Prosecution, including District Attorney's Fees.	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$3,250
Total.	\$101,974	\$101,974	\$101,974	\$101,974	\$101,974	\$101,974	\$101,974	\$101,974	\$101,974

There were eighty-four more convictions in 1884, the first year after license, than in 1882, and yet the cost of prosecutions in 1882 amounted to nearly \$200,000 more than in 1884. County Attorneys received \$84,027 in 1882 as against \$28,239 in 1884. We beg to commend these figures to those who profess to believe that Prohibition would effect a saving in the cost of the administration of justice.

Let us give one detail. In 1889 Polk County, which includes Des Moines, paid \$92,446 in court costs, of which \$57,755 was Justice and Police court costs. In the summer of 1890, on the authority of the "Register," and which authority we are assured has never been denied, in the first six months there was taken from the treasury, for the criminal costs of Justice Courts in that city alone, over \$200,000. Of this amount \$11,000 went to five Justices, the remainder to their constables, witnesses, jurors, etc. This was all outside of the ordinary Police Court, where ordinary criminal cases are disposed of, and was mostly in the shape of seizure business. This paper raised such a row over the seizing of a bottle of beer at a cost of \$5, and then trying and convicting it at a cost of \$10 to \$15, that in a measure the practice had to be stopped. It is now largely run at the Police Court, where "John Doe" and "Richard Roe" are daily on trial.

Now, take the question of the increase or decrease of population. Have the peoples of the land, throbbing with anxiety to live under the glorious privileges of Prohibition, flocked in countless numbers to settle within the borders of Iowa? A fairer, a more fruitful State is not to be found in the Union. The following table of comparison with surrounding States, all of which have licenses, gives the facts of the case:

	1870	1880	1890
Iowa	1,004,609	1,424,613	1,901,806
Illinois	2,530,491	3,677,871	5,358,337
Wisconsin	1,004,620	1,314,497	1,906,300
Minnesota	429,536	780,773	1,248,288
Nebraska	122,893	452,462	1,068,910
Missouri	1,173,250	2,168,390	2,679,184

Will anybody explain the decreased immigration into Iowa and the increased immigration into all these neighboring states, north, south, east and west, and leave out the prohibitive law as the factor. Twenty-seven counties actually decreased between 1880 and 1890. Illinois increased three times as much as Iowa, Wisconsin

went ahead of her by nearly 100,000, Minnesota's increase was about double that of Iowa, wicked Missouri's more the double, while over 600,000 people traveled across prohibition Iowa to get into licensed Nebraska.

As to the statistics as to poverty in Iowa. In 1880 the proportion was 75 paupers in almshouses per million of population, while in 1890 the percentage had increased to 848. In other words, in 1880 with a population of 1,024,015, Iowa had 1,165 persons in her almshouses, in 1890 with a population of 1,911,806 she had 1,621 paupers. In 1880 the ratio was one pauper to every 1,394 inhabitants, in 1890 after a term of Prohibition, there was one pauper to every 1,178 inhabitants.

Now take the figures as to insanity. The Superintendent's reports of the State Asylum show as the average number of patients in two successive years as follows: (year ending 30th June in each case)

	1883	1891
Monroe Pleasant	22	30
Independence	22	30
Clarinda	22	30
Total	1070	1302

The statement is made in connection with the above: "In addition to the number of insane confined in the hospitals, there were, on June 30th, 1891, 737 public insane cared for in the various counties, and sixty-six private insane persons. Forty-nine of the counties had county asylums where incurables were confined. Practically all, if not all of the county asylums have been built since 1883 in order to relieve the State Asylum of the incurables. The total insane in the State hospitals at the end of the last biennial period was 1,958, and the total in the State 2,761." Of course we do not charge this enormous increase in insanity to Prohibition, but as the prohibitionists have raised that issue they are "welcome to the conclusions to be derived therefrom."

In conclusion we have only this to say: Prohibition is and has been a screwing face in Iowa, but the farce seems more and more played up to the end. We do not see now the end a great deal more might be said.

## THE WOMAN IN THE CASE.

ONE warm day in the mountains of Tennessee I rode up to a house where there was a woman drawing a bucket of water with an old-fashioned well-sweep and asking if she would give me a drink. She was only too glad to be hospitable and brought me a gourdful. As I drank at it slowly and with evident relish, she watched me curiously.

"Party good either you air ridin', she ventured.

"Thank you, yes; ye belongs to a friend of mine."

"Party nice-looking yerself," she added, in quite the same tone she had used in speaking of the horse.

"Thanks I respand, surprised in blushing, but she never noticed it.

"Are you married?" she went on.

"No, I'm a bachelor."

"Reckon yer about ex well off that way, 'napp a better letter. I'm married myself."

"Well, I think it would have been a great improvement over my present condition if I had married some good, sensible girl ten years ago and settled down. I'm sure I should have been a happier man."

She thought for a minute before answering.

"Likely," she said at last; "but how the woman be feelin' by that?"

Of course I had an argument to offer, but when I went away, ten minutes later, I could see plainly she was thinking about the woman in the case.