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KANSAS ODDITIES.

If you wish to find where social and moral reform by means of law runs riot, go to Kansas. The State that can produce Susan B. Anthony and a Prohibition law, such as it is, does not stop at trifles.

There is Mrs. Mary Lease, a Mrs. Lease, who now, by the way, claims to be "a descendant of a Scotch Duke," and proposes to establish female masonic lodges, says that she became possessed of the secrets of the order by pecking through the wicket in a private door of a lodge room. Mrs. Lease who is a prominent Prohibition and social reform lecturer does credit to her principles.

KINGMAN, KAN., is a moral town. It is a misnomer, punished by both imprisonment and a fine, for a resident to allow his chickens to trespass on his neighbor's property; it is also unlawful for minors to be on the street after 8 o'clock in the evening unless a satisfactory excuse for their presence can be offered. Attendance at a political meeting is considered a sufficient excuse.

CONCORDIA, KAN., school board has decided that hereafter lady teachers shall not be allowed to marry without the consent of the said board, and in all solemnity have unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Inasmuch as it seems to be the custom of lady teachers of the public schools of Concordia, Kan., to contract marriage without the knowledge or consent of said board, therefore be it

Resolved by said board of education, that should any of the lady teachers of the Concordia schools hereafter commit matrimony during the term for which they have been elected, they shall forfeit a sum of money equal to one-half a month's salary, provided they take a home man, and a sum equal to one month's salary in case the groom is imported from some other country or State; in either case the lady shall cause a card of invitation to be sent to each of the board of education."

The Populists having appointed a lady, Mrs. Eva Blackman, a member of the police board of Leavenworth, Kan., she promptly signalled her advent to office by dismissing two police constables on the ground that they were bachelors and that bachelors should not be allowed office of any kind. Good married Populists were appointed to the vacancies.

On Monday, Senator Cockrell, of Missouri, presented to the United States Senate petitions emanating from the Iowa Pharmaceutical Society against an increased tax on alcohol on the ground that it is one of the necessities of life. "Imagine that," exclaimed the Senator, "Alcohol an absolute necessity in Prohibition Iowa."

The United States Senate Tariff Committee have managed the Wilson Bill in many important particulars of interest to Canada. Barley is increased from 20 per cent. under the Wilson Bill, to 25 per cent.; Barley malt from 25 per cent. to 40 per cent., and hops changed from 8c. per lb., to 20 per cent. ad val., which will be a considerable decrease. This rate of duty on barley and malt is practically prohibitive.

THE SUPREME COURT.

Will Hear the Argument on Prohibition in May Term.

At the opening of the present term of the Supreme Court, Hon. Mr. Curran, Solicitor-General, appeared, and made application for the fixing of a date for hearing the argument in the reference on the Prohibition question. Justice Fournier, acting for the chief justice, announced that the test case submitted by the Dominion Government would be put off until the next sitting of the court, which will be in May. This it is understood, has been done to allow Sir Henry Strong, chief justice, to be present and join in the argument. Solicitor-General Curran agreed that the case be put at the head of the Ontario list, as would be most convenient to all parties concerned. They would know exactly when it would be argued if this was done. The court agreed to the request. Meanwhile Mr. Curran will notify the different provinces of the action of the court.

ONTARIO BREWERS.

Decide to Form an Incorporated Body—Officers Elected.

A MEETING of the Ontario brewers was held at the offices of Messrs. O'Keefe & Co., Toronto, on Tuesday of last week when there were present among others: Messrs. Eugene O'Keefe, Widmer Hawke, Robert Davies, Thos. Davies, J. M. Lottidge, R. Bowles, L. J. Cogrove, John Lalett, John D. Bennett, F. Eider, S. F. Rau, W. C. Weatherly, F. Langton, J. E. Jardine, Joseph Karman, Peter Bernhard, David McCarthy, George Labatt, Hume Blake, Henry Carling, A. McBean.

Mr. O'Keefe presided and arrangements were made to incorporate the "Brewers' Association of the Province of Ontario."

Among other business transacted was the unanimous passing of a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. A. Holte, who up to the present time has been the energetic, active and painstaking secretary of the Association.

It was decided to render all possible assistance to the Licensed Victuallers Association recently formed in Toronto and now being organized throughout the Province not only as regards the Convention to be held on April 4th, but in their general work.

The following officers were elected: President—Mr. J. M. Lottidge. Vice-President—Mr. John Labatt. Secretary-Treasurer—Mr. Eugene O'Keefe.

Executive Committee—Messrs. Robert Davies, R. Bowles, L. J. Cogrove, F. Bauer, W. Wheatley, S. Winslow.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

MR. LOUIS P. KRIBS, the representative of the brewers and distillers of Canada before the Royal Commission on the liquor traffic, appeared before that body at a special session held in Montreal on Friday last. Mr. Kribb presented his views in a pamphlet of nearly 100 pages. He was under examination all of Friday. On Saturday morning, Mr. F. S. Spence, the agent of the Prohibitionists, was examined, and in the afternoon Mr. Kribb was again on the stand. His examination not being completed, another session will be held to-day, March 8th, when his testimony will be continued. Mr. Kribb summarizes his evidence as follows:

1. It is wrong in theory and impossible of effect.
2. It contemplates a tyranny that cannot be justified by even the good its promoters ostensibly seek.
3. It increases the evil sought to be removed, and develops other and far greater evils.

4. It is based upon an atrocious injustice to a large section of the community, and boundless tergiversation towards a large legitimate trade.

5. It is fostered by gross exaggeration, moral and scientific error and immoral and dishonest doctrine.

6. It breeds perjury in the courts, knavery in politics, unrighteousness in the pulpits, and contempt for law among the people.

7. Where attempted to be enforced it destroys a reputable and open traffic only to drive it into the hands of the most disreputable classes, robs the community of those wise restrictions they are content to submit to, opens the way for wholesale adulteration, gives free play to all that is evil in the traffic, and offers opposition to only that which is good.

8. Under it crime increases while prosperity decreases, it destroys industry while furnishing ready assistance to the blackmailer, the bootlegger and the professional prohibition agitator.

9. It asks, for its success (which it even then fails to attain), powers not granted under any other law, rolls the citizens of a fundamental principle of British law, viz., that he shall be held guilty until proven innocent; elevates to the magistrate's bench men utterly unfit for the position, and in their hands justice becomes a mockery; depends for evidence to convict largely upon the scum of creation—the base professional informer, the character assassin, and the social thug who betrays his host through the very means by which his hospitality was offered.

10. It robs the young man of his manliness and his moral sense, and develops in him sneaking, quibbling, lying or open defiance of law; where attempted to be enforced it breeds in the community of the open saloon, but initiates him into the mysteries of the disreputable "joint," the unsavory "dive," the grossness of the kitchen bar, the dangers of the "jug" and "bottle" brigade and the drinking club; where not attempted to be enforced familiarizes him with open, constant, flagrant violation of the law until he loses all respect for the majesty of the law.

11. Professedly designed for the moral regeneration of man, it throws aside the Word of God to take in hand the policeman's club.

12. It is based upon a false assumption, presupposes a condition of affairs that does not exist.

13. It deprives the country of a large revenue under false pretences.

14. It is unchristian, unjust, unworkable and unnecessary.

On Friday and Saturday the Commission will sit in Ottawa which will conclude the taking of evidence. Considerable

progress, it is understood, has already been made in the preparation of the report which will be presented at the coming session of Parliament.

ORGANIZATION.

THE work of organization of the trade is proceeding vigorously. The distillers are already thoroughly organized, the brewers at their last meeting decided to become an incorporated body, and the licensed victuallers organized are meeting with every encouragement. On Friday the London members of the trade, both manufacturers and retailers held a meeting and formed a strong local association. On Tuesday a meeting for the County of Elgin was held at St. Thomas. About fifty members of the trade were present and the gathering was most satisfactory in every respect.

The Toronto Association held a crowded meeting on Tuesday at which several stirring addresses were delivered.

The Convention in Toronto on April 4th is expected to be one of the largest ever held in the Queen City.

INLAND REVENUE RETURNS.

The Inland Revenue Returns for the Toronto Division for the month of February are as follows:

Spirits, Ex. Warehouse	853,262 21
Malt	11,335 04
Tobacco	1,190 00
" Factory	21,725 76
Cigars	1,030 11
" Warehouse	1,473 75
Vinegar	1,130 72
Methylated Spirits	2,063 88
Petroleum Ind. Fees	431 90
Fines and Seizures	14 28
Other Revenue	50

This is a slight decrease as compared with the corresponding month of last year, but nevertheless, considering late months shows a fair improvement.

A NEW DODGE.

MR. G. D. MELLENDORGE, of the Madison Hotel, Madison, Ind., writes under date of the 19th inst., in the *World*: "On the 7th instant J. O. Dodge, of Boston, Mass., engaged rooms for Drs. Barbrick & Richards, who are not known in this city, stating that they would be here for two days. Dodge left an order on Dr. Barbrick for his board, but up to this time nothing has been seen of the party."

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