POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1920

PROHIBITION GOOD FOR GRAND RAPIDS

Vast Improvement in Two Years — Happier Homes, Stabilized Industrial Life, and Lessened Crime.

(New York Evening Post.)

Two years of prohibition in a typical American city, Grand Rapids, Mich., soupled with steady employment and wages which kept ahead of the cost of living, and the results of these to the community, are reviewed in a special number of the Survey today. The study is of striking public interest in connection with the whole question of prohibition and the advantages from its enforcement.

The choice of a city in which prohibition has been in effect longer than in the country at large gives grounds for forecasting the results which may be expected in other communities as the result of national prohibition becomes

While the Survey's study does not make the assumption that its findings constitute a prophecy of the effects of prohibition throughout the country, since conditions differ and degrees of enforcement vary, and since the effects of regular employment and wages are included in its scope equally with prohibition, the evidence is so impressive that a practically conclusive advance case is presented in justification of national prohibition as a social measure.

Two Conducted Inquiry.

The investigation was inspired b

Justice' Louis D. Brandeis of the Survey from Justice' Louis D. Brandeis of the Supreme Court. It was conducted by Winthrop D. Lane, who studied the results of elimination of the legalized lion traffic, and by Bruno Lasker, who udied the results of steady work and

good wages.

Grand Rapids was chosen as a city in which prohibition had been in effect long enough to give evidence of its effects and which had a representative range of industries, unaffected by prolonged strikes or unemployment, together with typical wage scales and living costs. The work was done with the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce and the Council of Social Agencies and leading citizens.

merce and the Council of Social Ageneties and leading citizens.

Reviewing briefly the history of Grand Rapids, the report attributes its character today to three factors: "The personality of its industrial pioneers its racial composition, and trees." The combination of these influences and their effects upon the evolution of the present community are interestingly analyzed; and an important part of the report is an illustrated section on the city's trees and their value in creating a pleasant environment.

With this historical setting and after considering the relation of these three factors to the life of the city, the report summarizes briefly the results the past two years of the three influences of rising wages, steady employ ment, and freedom from drunkennes





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ST. JOHN. erial Pharmacy, 14 King square. y Ann's Sweet Shop, 79 King

Mary Ann's Sweet Shop, 148 Charlott street.

J. Benson Mahony, 2 Dock street.
R. W. Hawker, 528 Main street.
J. H. Driscoll, 109 Brussels street.
George K. Bell, 297 Charlotte street.

WEST ST. JOHN.
The Taffy House, 215 King street.
FAIRVILLE.
Fairville Drug Company, 18 Main

street.
ST. STEPHEN.

and an open liquor traffic.

The first and most important result noted is in the homes; an increasing happiness in the homes; an interest in home life, and incentive toward buying

and greater interest in shop concerns, coupled in some cases with more restlessness and a larger labor turnover, which forced employers to study conditions of work and human relationships and problems of retaining experienced employees more closely.

Beyond these two major good effects a whole series of other advantages are indicated.

indicated.

Health conditions show an improvement, with lessening of tuberculosis and infant mortality and growing attention to questions of hygiene. Together with this goes more recreation, due to increased, savings and n. re resources for automobiling and boating and outdoor sports of all sorts, while amusement places have full houses all the time.

Thrift Follows Extravagance.

Thrift has accompanied or followed the first period of free spending, also and with a growth of savings bank accounts and an increase in the number

and pawnshop transactions and accurultion of funds for substantial home in provements or self-development. Crin begins to disappear; and with the poliforce smaller and the jail almost empt the county farm goes untilled for lac of prison labor.

More money for private use has brought greater readiness to spend for public purposes and services also, at well as for philanthropy. The whole tone of the community is found to be higher; and public opinion almost unanimously backs up the strict enforcement of prohibition, realizing these benefits and seeing also "the younger generation growing up without a taste for alcohol."

Two longer divisions of the report cover fully in detail the investigation of elimination of the liquor traffic, illicit manufacture and sale of liquor, and the general results on social life, and the investigation of the effects of good wages and steady work, with a forecast for the future drawn from the facts of the present, which points to some of the industrial problems of readjusting relations between employers and employees likely to follow upon the increased mental activity of workers no longer dulled by drinking.

The pages of the report are filled with definite personal instances and testimony showing what good average industrial conditions and prohibition, the letter most strikingly, have done for Grand Rapids, and making a fascinating document full of promise for the future of America if such conditions car be generally established and maintained.

FRENCH COMMENT ON PRES. WILSON

L'Homme Libre, formerly M. Clemen-

ceau's personal organ, says:

"We do not know that the downfa
of the retiring president is a benef
for France when we are told by th
American press that the Republican
will come into power with a programm
of reaction, with a programme of tari
against our exports and above all ac
cording to the new president himsel
with a theory that the Versailles Treat
is the most colossal blunder of moder

son the man. It says: "The memory of our immense debt due President Wilson should guard us against harsh criticism of him who we received at Brest and Paris as the savior of France. But, alas, all is forgotten—the efforts of the man for the safety of our country, his noble initiatives for the maintenance of peace and his entire role to which some day historians will give homage. At this moment none of this exists in the thought of the reactionary French people. Those who trembled for their safety and welfare in 1917 believe themselves today so sure of the future that they need pay no tribute of gratitude."

La Democratic Nouvelle asks:—"After all, who is this Harding, and does he deserve that we should so completely lose our heads over him? Both Harding and Cox are insignificant without a background. Their qualifications are monstrous nerve and ability to make ten speeches daily.

"What Harding has said and promis-

ten speeches daily.

"What Harding has said and promised is not of the slightest importance to us, because he is only a politician and does not know himself what he will domorrow. France must understand the she can count only on herself for he own interests."

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