

What has been the experience of the United States? Here is the history of its liquor legislation:—

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC—LAWS OF THE SEVERAL STATES FOR ITS REGULATION.

The Philadelphia *Press* has made a special effort to obtain a statement of the methods adopted in the several States and Territories of the Union in dealing with the drink question, and summarizes the answers it has received from the several secretaries of States as follows:—

“Ironclad Prohibition States with constitutional provision against the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors: Maine, Vermont, Iowa and Kansas—4.

“Prohibition State but no constitutional provision: New Hampshire—1.

“States in which Prohibition has been tried, but either for lack of success or change in public sentiment, changed to milder methods: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin—5.

“States and Territories having general and stringent license or ‘local option’ laws: Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, South Carolina, Arkansas, Illinois, Minnesota Nebraska, Dakota and Washington—11.

“States allowing ‘local option’ by special act of the legislature: North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi—4.

“States and Territories having no general laws, and where no special attention has been given the subject: New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Louisiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri, Nevada, Colorado, Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, Wyoming and Utah—14.

“States and Territories from which we have been unable to obtain replies: Florida, Texas, Tennessee, California, Oregon, Idaho and Utah—7. Total, 46.

Day after day we are receiving intelligence that prohibition in the United States is a failure. Eighteen Mayors of cities in the State of Iowa have recently reported on its results; of these, fifteen pronounce it an absolute failure and state that drunkenness is more than ever prevalent. In Vermont the law is not enforced; four hundred and forty-six places for the sale of liquor exist and the business is carried on as openly as if no law had been enacted to prohibit it.

Massachusetts, Connecticut, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin have dropped their prohibitory laws, and have had recourse to legislation to regulate the traffic.

It must be so. Unless Legislation is confined to the proper regulation of the houses at which liquors are sold; unless temperance advocates give up the attempt to force sober, well-intentioned men to yield up their natural right of action and of private judgment, their legislation may pass, but it will never be enforced.

Furthermore, the very existence of Canada at the present time depends upon the settlement of the North-West. Those who are to settle it must be drawn from Europe: from Great Britain, Norway, Germany and France. The Germans make the best of settlers. Let it be understood that a law exists to