

B. Finch, to whom is attributed the suggestion for the high license law of Nebraska, the first in this country, regretfully says, "It was the greatest mistake of my life." The resolution of the Nevada Liquor-Dealers' Association voices a sentiment which licenses everlastingly tend to create. They say :

"Resolved, That so long as our business is licensed by the United States, State and County, we consider it perfectly legitimate and honorable, and do not think we deserve the censure which is constantly being heaped upon us."

This logic is irresistible with the people. It is largely responsible for that undertow which for these many years, in spite of all our efforts, has been sweeping us farther and farther to sea. The editors of *The Voice* sent to all the mayors of Illinois questions regarding the effect of the high license law in that State. They have received 79 answers; 47 of these declare that the effect has been to decrease prohibition sentiment, 14 notice no change, and only 18 think that the law has tended to increase prohibition sentiment. So it appears that high license is actually a step from, instead of toward, prohibition. In a letter just to hand Dr. Herrick Johnson confirms this conclusion.

4. Local prohibition, whether by town, county or State, is necessarily defective, inasmuch as it cannot prevent the introduction of liquor from adjoining counties or states; it can prevent the manufacture, but cannot protect itself against inter-state commerce, nor is it practicable for it to do so. This defect can be remedied only by National prohibition, and this can be secured only through an amendment to the Federal Constitution. And this would greatly simplify the work necessary to suppress the liquor traffic. The government has already at hand the machinery which could, if proper authority is given, accomplish the work. The Internal Revenue system, which now places an officer in every brewery and distillery in the land to prevent the manufacture of "crooked" whiskey, could close, if so ordered, all breweries and distilleries; and the present Custom House machinery could take care of all importations from abroad. The government, with machinery similar to that with which it prevents the manufacture of "crooked" whiskey and the importation of smuggled goods, could prevent the manufacture and importation of liquor. This method of procedure would give prohibition a tremendous advantage in many ways.

5. So strong has the liquor power become with its enormous capital and its ramifications, and so thoroughly organized is it as a political power, that it is impossible to secure the rigid enforcement of prohibitory law by the dominant party, as parties are now constituted, even though the law is passed by a majority vote of the people (in Maine the vote was, last September, three to one in its favor, and yet, on the testimony of General Neal Dow, the dominant party most reluctantly enforces the law, because of threats of the