

The greatest benefit that has come to Kansas from prohibition is the lessening of crime. Forty-nine (49) counties having sent no prisoners to this institution last year, 1908, and thirteen (13) sent but one prisoner each. The wettest counties in Kansas invariably send the greatest number of prisoners to the penitentiary in proportion to their population.

J. K. CODDING,
Warden, Kansas State Penitentiary.

The Commission Inquiry

The noted Canadian Royal Commission on the Liquor Traffic, visited Kansas and there examined sixty-five witnesses. They learned that there was difficulty in enforcing the law in Kansas City, Kan., which has now about 80,000 population, it being separated only by a river from Kansas City, Mo., where license law is in operation, and that similar difficulty was experienced in Leavenworth, on the Missouri River, which is a military post, and has a large foreign population. Yet many witnesses testified that even in these cities the law had done good.

Since that time amendments have been made in the statute, making it still more rigid, and the sentiment in favor of law enforcement has grown stronger, so that now even in Kansas City, Kan., the law is observed.

The Commission found that in other parts of the state the benefits of saloon abolition were strikingly manifest. More than three-fourths of the witnesses examined unhesitatingly testified to the good done by the law. S. M. Gardenshire, Clerk of the Topeka District Court, said:

We have no criminal business to speak of in this county; and we have not had since the adoption of the prohibitory policy. We have less than four cases on our docket now in this county of 80,000 people, and this court has exclusive criminal jurisdiction.

The State Superintendent of Public

Instruction said:

The effect is grand. I stood before one of the high schools and asked how many of the pupils had never seen a saloon. Out of an attendance of one hundred and forty, over one hundred of their hands went up. We have a term of special training for teachers in the summer months in each county, and I have asked as many as one hundred and forty or one hundred and fifty teachers at this assemblage, how many had never seen a saloon, and in answer the majority of hands went up.

Facts Not Opinions

Before the Commission started out, the Chairman, Sir Jos. Hickson, addressed a letter to Hon. L. D. Lowelling, Governor of Kansas, asking for information regarding state liquor legislation and its effects. In reply, he received the following letter:

Executive Department, Governor's Office, Topeka, April 19th, 1893.
Mr. J. Hickson, Chairman, Montreal, Canada.

Dear Sir,—Replying to your letter of the 4th inst., I have the honor to submit the document, "Prohibition in Kansas," which I think covers most of the points required in your letter. Trusting this will be satisfactory, I am yours very truly,

L. D. LEWELLING,
Governor.

The full title of the pamphlet accompanying this letter was "Prohibition in Kansas; Facts, not Opinions." It had attached to it the following certificate:

"Topeka, Kansas.
"We have examined the statement prepared by the President and Secretary, and the ex-president and ex-secretary of the Kansas State Temperance Union, upon the subject of Prohibition and its results in our state. We find it a fair, honest and true statement of our condition, and we heartily endorse it as such.

(Signed)

"Lyman H. Humphrey, Governor.
"William Higgins, Sec. of State.
"Timothy McCarthy, Auditor of State.
"J. W. Hamilton, Treasurer of State.