

So I want to ask you in all earnestness to study this question from all angles, and don't shout for Prohibition because some one else shouts, for I am sure if you study this question you will come to the same conclusion as I have come. Prohibition is no cure.

CHAPTER VI.

Half Truths.

At a recent meeting of the Prohibitionists certain individuals made rash and one-sided statements, with the evident motive of trying to mislead their hearers. Nothing antagonizes a fair-minded man like seeing others deliberately misrepresenting facts.

At this Prohibition meeting a speaker said that 452,000 people were sacrificed every year to the drink traffic. He also stated that the per capita assessment of Kansas, a dry state, was \$1,750, while the per capita assessment of Missouri, a wet state, was \$300.00

The impression such statements have on the public mind is to the effect that drink is the parent of all crime, and poverty. All we have to do, in order to abolish insanity, suicides, poverty, is to abolish the bar, the licensed hotel and the breweries.

Now what are the facts? It will be impossible for me here to go into detail, but I will endeavor to be fair and I won't try to mislead. Let us take suicides. Most suicides are caused by some worry or anxiety or "temporary insanity" as our coroners put it. Our Prohibition friends would have us believe that the majority of such cases, in fact nearly all of them, are caused by drink.

But what are the facts? Bulletin 112, of the United States Census Bureau, gives the following statistics. I cannot here quote them all. The Bulletin gives the record of thirty-eight states. Now notice; twenty states show a lower average death rate from suicide where liquor is