

TRICKETT OR WAGGONER ?

Is Kansas City Better or Worse Off For Prohibition?

Mr. C. W. Trickett has recently borne testimony to the remarkable effects of the prohibitory law in Kansas City.

It was to be expected that the liquor interests would find some one audacious enough to deny the facts he gave with a view to offset the truth and therefore no one need be surprised that a Mr. Waggoner has written to the Record-Herald on the subject.

Now it always takes more space to disprove a lie than to tell it; but briefly, here are Waggoner's statements and Trickett's answers.

1. **Waggoner:**—Since saloons have been closed in Kansas City, Kansas, there are more vacant houses than were ever known before in the history of the city.

Trickett:—The facts are that there is not a vacant business house in the city that is fit for occupancy.

2. **Waggoner:**—Rents are much lower and practically no building is going on. The

ed by fire, has not been rebuilt.

Trickett:—Of the more than 200 saloon buildings vacated by the closing order, every one that is fit for any other business is rented at a higher price than was paid by the saloon keepers. As to new buildings, Kansas City, Kansas, in 1906, erected three times as many new buildings as during the previous year. The Government reports show the proportional gain in building operation in Kansas City, Kansas, in 1906 over 1905 to have been 209.7-10 per cent, while the next largest gain in any city in the United States was only 77 per cent. The Chamber of Commerce building was a large building and not located in the business part of the town, has not been used for business purposes for long years. It was occupied solely as a flat. Being outside the business district it has not paid interest on the investment, and probably the owner was glad to get his money out of it in the insurance paid.

3. **Waggoner:**—The city has been compelled to issue \$62,500 in refunding bonds.

Trickett:—These refunding bonds were issued to pay judgments rendered in personal injury suits, all of such judgments were rendered at the time when the saloons were open in our city. They do not cover judgments of a later period.

4. **Waggoner:**—There were thirteen murders in Kansas City, Kansas.

Trickett:—Of the cases of murder, I have only heard of seven in our city, and all but one of these murderers have been captured and in their confessions say they were from Kansas City, Missouri. Men get drunk in the Kansas City, Missouri, saloons, squander their money and then come to Kansas City, Kansas, and commit crime. It simply emphasizes the fact that Kansas City, Missouri, ought to close its saloons.

5. **Waggoner:**—There is no prohibition in Wyandotte county because the druggists reported 8000 sales in the month of De-

Trickett:—As to there being 8,000 sales of liquor in the month of December, 1907, I have not verified the figures, but under the laws of Kansas, a druggist is permitted to sell to any person who makes oath that he needs the liquor for medical purposes. There are about 40,000 adult males in Kansas City, Kansas. Even if 8,000 sales were made it would mean that on an average one man of every five had made one purchase during the month.

6. **Waggoner:**—The tax rate was increased in 1906 over 1905.

Trickett:—This is not true and could not be true for the reason that during the past quarter of a century the levy has been to the limit permitted by the statute,

and an increase would be impossible. In addition to this, all assessments of real-estate is made in the month of March of every even numbered year, so it would be seen that the assessment was made prior to the closing of the saloons and there has been no assessment made since that time. The closing of the saloons has not necessitated the raising of any taxes, and the taxes could not have been raised if it had been necessary.

So much for the facts! Now as to the personal worth of the two testimonies, who is Waggoner? Who is Trickett?

Mr. Waggoner was the editor of the Kansas City Globe during the fight for law enforcement in that city, and as such editor he assailed law enforcement and worked in the interest of the saloons, day in and day out, and the paper was the personal organ of Mayor W. W. Rose, who was ousted from office for treason. The political policy of Mr. Waggoner as such editor brought such opposition to the paper that the Management was compelled to dispense with his services, and he has not been connected with any paper or public-affairs of Kansas City, Kansas,

Mr. Trickett is the active and highly respected Assistant States Attorney of Kansas. He has the confidence of the people of the whole State. In the very nature of his official position he is a competent witness as to the facts he refers to. His reputation is such that his testimony has value and weight which are out of all proportion to a discredited political editor who has no connection with the public affairs of the city.

Five Little Foxes

Among my tender vines I spy
A little fox named—by-and-by.

Then set upon him quick, I say,
The swift young hunter Right-away.

Around each tender vine I plant,
I find the little fox—I can't.

Then, fast as ever hunter ran,
Chase him with bold and brave—I can.

No use in trying—lags and whines
The fox among my tender vines.

Then drive him low, and drive him high,
With this good hunter, named—I'll try.

Among the vines in my small lot
Creeps in the young fox—I forgot.

Then hunt him out and to his den
With—I will forget-again.

A little fox is hidden there
Among my vines, named—I don't care.

Then let I'm sorry—hunter true—
Chase him afar from vines and you.

—Sunshine and Shadow.

Illinois Inventions:—The following patents were issued this week to Illinois inventors—reported by D. SWIFT, & Co., Patent Lawyers, Washington, D. C. B. K. Apple, Sterling, Canopy. G. A. Bellfuss, Chicago, Tripod. J. Boda,

Carlton, Mail-pouch receiving and delivery apparatus for railway cars. H. B. Clarke, Highland Park, Filing case. W. F. Elliot, DeKalb, Corn-sheller. J. Ferguson, Creston, Wheelbarrow. C. M. Fox, DeKalk, Explosive engine. J. V. Kruse, Virginia, Road-grader. A. M. Price, Elgin, Cutting mechanism for wrapping machines. W. Rube, O'Fallon, Stove. J. F. Thomas, Elkhart, Stripper. E. R. Willams, Downers Grove, Printing frame. R. R. Zahnter, Fruit, Lathing machine.

Copies of any of the above patents will be furnished to our readers at ten cents each, by D. Swift & Co., Washington, D. C., our special patent correspondents.

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