

The Battle of the Bottle

An Inquest on the Georgia Saloon

By HARRIS DICKSON

(Reprinted by Permission of the Saturday Evening Post.)

NOBODY suspected that the thing had any intention of happening; it sneaked up on the wary and surprised the vigilant. It must have been one of those coming events which cast their shadows behind. But every post-mortem prophet in the State can now predict that Georgia went dry.

Some have good reasons, many have good excuses, and all have good stories. Here is a story that they do not tell, but it fits:

Uncle Josh Turnover rushed in breathless from the stable and interrupted his wife while she was cooking breakfast.

"Mandy, oh, Mandy! What do you think! That dogged old muley cow has done it up the grindstone."

He did not glance up from the floor.

"You see, Josh, I told you so. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

"I told you so, Josh. . . the war, when the Georgia legislature . . ."

Several years afterward "local option" laws were enacted, the first ever passed in the South. If not the United States. Under these laws each county might determine by election whether or not liquor should be sold. Almost at once the different counties began to hold elections, and in a decade 125 out of 145 counties in the State were dry. The remaining communities almost without exception voted against the sale, carrying the smaller towns and cities within their limits. The larger cities remained wet.

This concentrated the liquor traffic in the cities. By means of railroads, express companies, telegraph and telephone communication, these city dealers were enabled to defeat the law in the smaller counties by making the country express office and depot little better than an adjunct to the city bar-room. The jug trade vetoed the local option law.

This aroused the greatest wrath and indignation, but the people were helpless. Most of them were Democrats, and the Democratic party stood pledged to the local option principle.

In 1898 certain Prohibitionists, headed by the Chancellor of the State University, determined to make a straight fight for State Prohibition. By arrangement with leading Democrats the Prohibitionists furnished the candidate for Governor, hoping that the combination would overthrow the liquor traffic. Honorable Seaborn Wright, of Elbert county, was selected to make the race. He stamped the State throughout that aggressive and his- toric campaign.

At this time 125,000 negroes were entered voters, the largest ever in the State of Georgia. Ducks and geese were the only birds to be seen.

The Prohibitionists were defeated by about 20,000 votes, and have claimed that a large majority white vote was cast for their candidate.

Enter Hoke Smith. Most of the voters returned to the Democrats, where they normally belong, and began to work for State union within the party.

So this State Prohibition with- in their platform—in other words party stood for county op- portunity for State Prohibition. The Democrats, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

Hoke Smith, ex-Secretary of the State, and ex-Secretary of the State, allied with the rail- road through the politicians then successfully resisted every change this. As a matter of liquor dealers seized upon option life-preserver and a aggressively.

not use it on his table. When a mercantile at college, he organized the Knights of Jericho and made a cam- paign for pledges among the young men of the universities in the State. These were total abstinence pledges to last as long as a man remained a member of the order.

In his campaign for Governor he told the people he was a local option- ist and adhered to the view of al- lowing each county to settle this question for itself; but in a local option election he voted against the sale.

He was not one of those local option- ists that wanted an opportunity to allow the stuff to be sold. He said, however, if the State passed a Prohibition law he would sign it. His friends say that in this race Governor Smith ran money out of politics; he drove out the agents of the liquor dealers and the corporations—chased them into a hole and stopped up the hole.

These two interests had always been in combination, and he placed them in a position where they were afraid to spend money in the campaign. He denounced the use of money to hire wagons or ward heelers, to buy votes, or for any like purpose. He did not allow his friends to use money, and demanded legislation that would require every candidate to show how much he had spent, how he spent it, and where he got it from. That paraly- zed the Liquor Dealers' Association, although he was not doing this with a view to Prohibition.

"The Gal in the Fountain." THE Honorable Hoke Smith is a man of means. He is part owner of a large hotel, the handsomest in Atlanta, if not in the South. And there- by hung a tale—or many tales. There was a gorgeous bar at the hotel, and a trickling marble fountain in the centre thereof. The bar was all right, and the fountain was not so bad, but there was a "gal in the fountain." She was not an ordinary gal in ordinary clothes, but a bewitching gal, in no clothes at all.

Robbed in Oriental imagination this dimpled nymph in bronze, with out- spread arms and intoxicating smile, perched herself above the scintillating waters unconscious of the gaze that her innocent attracted. And she was the woman in the case.

Upon every stump throughout the State and in the columns of the press, this unoffending vision of delight was made the sport of jest and the subject of sarcastic comment. Perspiring humorists pilloried the owners of the hotel as partners in the liquor traffic and contaminators of youth. Luck- ily for the gal, she had eyes that saw and ears that refused to hear. Some said she was artistic, some said she was brazen—she is pretty near the truth. She might well have drooped her lids and drawn the shimmer- ing veil of water around her.

The primaries resulted in a sweep- ing victory for Honorable Hoke Smith and a complete vindication of the gal; against four opponents they carried 125 out of 145 counties.

This revolution placed in power very largely the same element that had supported State Prohibition in 1890, together with a youngling in 1906, who favored reform. The Legislature elected in that campaign, as was after- ward developed, believed over- whelmingly in Prohibition.

For many years the rumor passed current throughout the State that a shrewd agent of the Liquor Dealers' Association had been employed to go into each county and do missionary work for the Senatorial candidate favorable to their interests. He paid no attention to the lower House.

There are 44 Senators in the State of Georgia, and 23 constitute a ma- jority. Senators from the six cities might safely be relied upon to support local option; that left only 17 to be looked after. Having secured his twenty-three the missionary rested easy; whatever drastic legislation the House might propose the Senate would block it.

Possibly the liquor dealers were too confident in 1906, possibly they went to sleep; but somehow or other the L. D. A. slipped a cog and failed to get the necessary twenty-three.

After this election and before the passage of the Prohibition bill things happened in Georgia.

First and foremost, people began to suspect a change in their own opin- ions; and in no class was this more readily admitted than in the cities. It may be said that the younger element throughout the South is in favor of reform. In no part of America has the drinking habit so noticeably declined. This is not a revolution; it is an evolution. More and more do their employers demand sobriety; the bar is an impassable barrier to professional and commercial success.

As a rule, they are not opposed to reasonable and proper use of liquor—only to the abuses. They resent the unpunished violations of law by the liquor interests that control the very officers charged with the duty of sup- pressing the same. They resent the Amalgamated "Dive-Keepers" League, organized to secure immunity from the decent laws of every State. They feel indignant at the roughshod manner in which the ward boss tramples the right of respectability. Many of these young men believe that li- quor may be a very excellent thing in its place, and that there ought to be a decent dispensing of it for proper purposes. They even regret the incon- veniences which may result from general prohibitory laws. But, under the present system, they regard the sale and abuse as inseparably linked, creating a traffic theoretically toler- ated by law, but practically superior to it.

The dive-keepers of the South have made the Prohibitionists of the South, more than all other influences com- bined. These low joints have been too often protected by men higher up in the business—men who dominate the politics of the country. This sinister power has been too offensively active in the cities and towns, too loudly in the ears of the police, district attorneys, officers from constable to governor, yea, even the judges of our courts— upon the platform of non-interference with their traffic. Officeholders whose bread and butter depend upon it are forced to make promises—tacit, if not express—and to keep these promises upon pain of political death. So much for what the young men are think- ing.

The railroads of Georgia began to weary of their liquor alliance. They felt the effect of so many wrecks, the loss of life and property, due in a con- siderable degree to drunken recklessness among their employees. It is difficult to tell whether this feeling started at the top or the bottom of officialdom. It probably began some- where about the middle and worked both ways. There is, perhaps, no class of men in the civilized world, man for man, which is soberer than the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Big-hearted, generous and liberal as they are, yet they know how to be cautious about carousing, and good-natured without artificiality of re- straint.

The Bottle and the Throttle. "WHY" said a conductor running into Atlanta, "if I suspected that my engineer was not sober I would not even let him run this train to the near- est side-track. I'd ring him down right here on the main line, and out flagmen, and wait until another en- gineer could be got. If the firemen were drunk they ought to be run on the first side-track and kick back the engine. Our business is too dan- gerous to take chances."

The superintendent cannot com- plain, for back of this engineer and conductor stands the Brotherhood and the O. R. C. So the transcendent line of railroad must be stopped.

The American locomotive engineer has in his keeping millions of human lives and millions of money. To his eternal credit be it said that the in- stance is rare indeed where he hesitates to sacrifice his own life and save his passengers. Upon the steadiness of his nerve and the clearness of his eye depends the safety of helpless little and the throttle and corked up the bottle for good and all. This is true of conductor, brakeman and flag- man, of every working part of that perfectly-organized machine.

That engineer will not touch the lever or turn a wheel until he knows that every man in the train is sober, and that of the train which is to meet him at the next wharf. It mat- ters not whether he pulls a load of cattle or a load of railroad presidents, sobriety is a condition precedent to his moving.

The influence of these men has per- meated every pore of railroad opera- tion, and is felt by every mechanic throughout the land.

The business man is beginning to count the cost and the drain of wis- key waste. Every dollar spent in that way would otherwise go for shoes and hats, for clothing, schoolbooks, and for those bad accounts which he an- nually writes to his creditors.

The net earnings of all the railroads in the United States will pay the na- tion's drink bill for less than sixty days. Prohibition Maine has more individual depositors in her savings- banks than she has registered voters. The business man prefers customers, who patronize the savings bank rather than those who patronize the other institutions.

He keeps sober himself, requires his clerk to keep sober—and he keeps up a mighty lot of thinking.

The business man knows that the money and effort now invested in li- quor is being lost to the State and to the community. Prior to 1886 there was a hand- some bar-room on Marietta street. Its owner quit selling liquor and went into the restaurant business. Two years

largely the same element that had supported State Prohibition in 1890, together with a youngling in 1906, who favored reform. The Legislature elected in that campaign, as was after- ward developed, believed over- whelmingly in Prohibition.

For many years the rumor passed current throughout the State that a shrewd agent of the Liquor Dealers' Association had been employed to go into each county and do missionary work for the Senatorial candidate favorable to their interests. He paid no attention to the lower House.

There are 44 Senators in the State of Georgia, and 23 constitute a ma- jority. Senators from the six cities might safely be relied upon to support local option; that left only 17 to be looked after. Having secured his twenty-three the missionary rested easy; whatever drastic legislation the House might propose the Senate would block it.

Possibly the liquor dealers were too confident in 1906, possibly they went to sleep; but somehow or other the L. D. A. slipped a cog and failed to get the necessary twenty-three.

After this election and before the passage of the Prohibition bill things happened in Georgia.

First and foremost, people began to suspect a change in their own opin- ions; and in no class was this more readily admitted than in the cities. It may be said that the younger element throughout the South is in favor of reform. In no part of America has the drinking habit so noticeably declined. This is not a revolution; it is an evolution. More and more do their employers demand sobriety; the bar is an impassable barrier to professional and commercial success.

As a rule, they are not opposed to reasonable and proper use of liquor—only to the abuses. They resent the unpunished violations of law by the liquor interests that control the very officers charged with the duty of sup- pressing the same. They resent the Amalgamated "Dive-Keepers" League, organized to secure immunity from the decent laws of every State. They feel indignant at the roughshod manner in which the ward boss tramples the right of respectability. Many of these young men believe that li- quor may be a very excellent thing in its place, and that there ought to be a decent dispensing of it for proper purposes. They even regret the incon- veniences which may result from general prohibitory laws. But, under the present system, they regard the sale and abuse as inseparably linked, creating a traffic theoretically toler- ated by law, but practically superior to it.

The dive-keepers of the South have made the Prohibitionists of the South, more than all other influences com- bined. These low joints have been too often protected by men higher up in the business—men who dominate the politics of the country. This sinister power has been too offensively active in the cities and towns, too loudly in the ears of the police, district attorneys, officers from constable to governor, yea, even the judges of our courts— upon the platform of non-interference with their traffic. Officeholders whose bread and butter depend upon it are forced to make promises—tacit, if not express—and to keep these promises upon pain of political death. So much for what the young men are think- ing.

The railroads of Georgia began to weary of their liquor alliance. They felt the effect of so many wrecks, the loss of life and property, due in a con- siderable degree to drunken recklessness among their employees. It is difficult to tell whether this feeling started at the top or the bottom of officialdom. It probably began some- where about the middle and worked both ways. There is, perhaps, no class of men in the civilized world, man for man, which is soberer than the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Big-hearted, generous and liberal as they are, yet they know how to be cautious about carousing, and good-natured without artificiality of re- straint.

The Bottle and the Throttle. "WHY" said a conductor running into Atlanta, "if I suspected that my engineer was not sober I would not even let him run this train to the near- est side-track. I'd ring him down right here on the main line, and out flagmen, and wait until another en- gineer could be got. If the firemen were drunk they ought to be run on the first side-track and kick back the engine. Our business is too dan- gerous to take chances."

The superintendent cannot com- plain, for back of this engineer and conductor stands the Brotherhood and the O. R. C. So the transcendent line of railroad must be stopped.

The American locomotive engineer has in his keeping millions of human lives and millions of money. To his eternal credit be it said that the in- stance is rare indeed where he hesitates to sacrifice his own life and save his passengers. Upon the steadiness of his nerve and the clearness of his eye depends the safety of helpless little and the throttle and corked up the bottle for good and all. This is true of conductor, brakeman and flag- man, of every working part of that perfectly-organized machine.

That engineer will not touch the lever or turn a wheel until he knows that every man in the train is sober, and that of the train which is to meet him at the next wharf. It mat- ters not whether he pulls a load of cattle or a load of railroad presidents, sobriety is a condition precedent to his moving.

The influence of these men has per- meated every pore of railroad opera- tion, and is felt by every mechanic throughout the land.

The business man is beginning to count the cost and the drain of wis- key waste. Every dollar spent in that way would otherwise go for shoes and hats, for clothing, schoolbooks, and for those bad accounts which he an- nually writes to his creditors.

The net earnings of all the railroads in the United States will pay the na- tion's drink bill for less than sixty days. Prohibition Maine has more individual depositors in her savings- banks than she has registered voters. The business man prefers customers, who patronize the savings bank rather than those who patronize the other institutions.

He keeps sober himself, requires his clerk to keep sober—and he keeps up a mighty lot of thinking.

The business man knows that the money and effort now invested in li- quor is being lost to the State and to the community. Prior to 1886 there was a hand- some bar-room on Marietta street. Its owner quit selling liquor and went into the restaurant business. Two years

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of *Aunt Wood*

FOR HEADACHE. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR RHEUMATISM. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR THE COMPLEXION.

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

later, when Atlanta reversed itself, he did not re-open his saloon, but kept on with his restaurant. Today he is reputed to be worth a quarter of a million.

One of the big saloons on Decatur street—the objective point of the riot—is now being converted into a bank.

The ministers of Georgia, with scarcely an exception, are making the temperance question a religious issue. They turn over their churches to laymen for its discussion and arrange the great meetings. They are behind this movement to a man, and, especially in the rural districts, are the real leaders of public opinion.

The negro, like the poor, is with us always. His presence enters into every political question, and is a con- trolling factor in many. The people of Georgia are really becoming very much alarmed over the magnitude of their negro question. They are more and more impressed with the idea that not only the North, but the South, has not been dealing with this question as it should.

Georgia has spent a vast sum of money for negro education, teaching him to read and write and a smattering of grammar, then turning him loose, just as such a savage when he comes out of school as when he entered it. They realize now that they must teach him the A. B. C. of civi- lization. They cannot exercise the same control over him that they did in former years. Georgians feel that liquor ought to be kept from the negro, just as it is kept from the Indian—that it destroys him. This spirit of keeping liquor from him is as much a sym- plom of the weaker race, needing protection as it is a measure of safety for the whites against that weaker race on account of the incitement to crime that comes from the use of li- quor.

Good Negroes and Bad Whiskey. THE negro is a child unable to restrain himself, and the whites must seek safety in the way from him. Yet, in the cities the whites now turn him over absolutely to the bar-keeper, with no restraint upon him, and the greater portion of his earnings pass over the bar.

These dive-keepers sell him the meanest of adulterated whiskeys. One firm was heavily fined in Atlanta for manufacturing a celebrated brand of Scotch whiskey in their cellar. These fighting stuffs are sold to the negro— the kind of stuff that would make a rabbit spit in a bulldog's face.

Build a negro church on one hill and a white church on the next one; they will sing and pray for a generation without the slightest conflict or ill will. Take the pulpit out of each and substitute a bar, and the dragon's teeth raised as once a crop of fighting men bent upon each other's extermination.

The negro vote cuts a decided figure. Sixty days before the Legisla- ture met a local option election was held in a county where there was a large majority of negroes. The li- quor dealers paid their taxes and were preparing to buy their votes to put liquor back into the county. This ex- cited the whites, an intensified hos- tility to local option. The cry was raised, local option won't do any longer, because, the liquor dealers will come down to our dry counties where there are negro majorities, pay their taxes and put liquor back into their hands. For years Georgia has been preparing to get the negro out of poli- tics, and the whites revolted at the danger of the liquor dealers lugging him back for the purpose of putting into his hands something that made him a public peril. There were a good many people in Georgia who concluded for this reason that local option was no longer safe.

The Lesson of the Riots. IN THE year preceding the Atlanta riot there were 21,000 criminal cases in the Recorder's Court of the city; 13,000 of these were negroes, 5,000 being negro women. This showed, to the astonishment of the people and the country at large, that the propor- tion of crime to the population was far greater in Atlanta than in any city of the Union.

Just before the riot there were two cases of assault by negroes upon white women; in the excitement which fol- lowed several others were reported. While many of these rumors were un- true, yet they served to inflame the people.

This riot was brought about, as many believe, by the negro saloons on Decatur street and the congregation of negroes at low dives. The mad purpose at the beginning was to go down these dives and tear them to pieces. These establishments were closed for a number of days, and the people of Atlanta discovered that there was scarcely a need for a Recorder's court.

Such were the appalling facts sud- denly thrust upon the people of the State who had been taught to believe that Atlanta was one of the best-reg- ulated cities in the South, with a low percentage of crime.

Later, the city council, at the in- stance of big liquor dealers, put a

number of these negro saloons back on Decatur street. Indignation spread, and the people of the entire State roused themselves against the traf- fic. A feeling of uneasiness set like some grim spectre beside every hearthstone in the land. They dread- ed the time when another riot might start, spread from city to city, caus- ing a calamity too terrible for con- templation. Men who had never oc- curred before, Prohibitionists placed themselves squarely in the ranks.

Manufacturing interests in Georgia were seriously affected by the fact that, after the payment of their ne- gro laborers—and some of the whites, as well—on Saturday nights, their fac- tories were practically unable to run on the Mondays and Tuesdays follow- ing.

The Georgia Jug Trade. WHEN a train left Atlanta bound for a trip through the parching desert there would be stations where the express-messenger shouted "Jugs off!" and the unloading began. Little jugs, big jugs, medium jugs; white jugs, brown jugs; whiskey jugs, wine jugs, gin jugs; jugs for black and white and yellow cars, women and children, jugs to the right of them, jugs to the left of them. The volleying and thunder- ing came afterward.

"Now look here," said the Prohi- bitionist to the liquor dealer, "we have voted to let whiskey alone and to let you alone, but you won't let us alone. We are willing for you to sell it in Macon or Atlanta, but we won't want it sold here. You send your secret agents around through the bushes, evading our laws and filling our ne- groes with cheap whiskey. If you do not quit it we are going to wipe you out in Atlanta, and everywhere else."

The liquor dealers did not quit; so the Prohibition horse got his tail over the dashboard and ran away.

Dispensaries were never adopted as a final solution of the question. They were used as a Jimmy to pry the sal- loon out of middle-class cities. They supplied liquors with reasonable guar- antee of purity, prevented disorder at the place of sale, and the profits ap- pealed to large property holders in the cities who wanted to reduce their taxes.

In Rome, where there are three white men to one negro, the dispens- ary demonstrated that the negroes consumed more liquor than the whites. They spent at least half of their earn- ings in the dispensary. This could easily be shown by reference to the books.

The dispensary opens at sunrise and closes at sunset. Nothing but chemi- cally pure whiskey can be sold. Three commissioners are elected by the grand jury, one in each year; the com- missioners select manager and clerks. The books are inspected by the grand jury at least three times a year. Whis- key is sold at bar-room prices, not cheaper.

Rome, Georgia, a city of about 8,000 people, formerly received in sal- loon licenses about \$4,000 annually, from thirteen bar-rooms. Last year the net profits from the dispensary