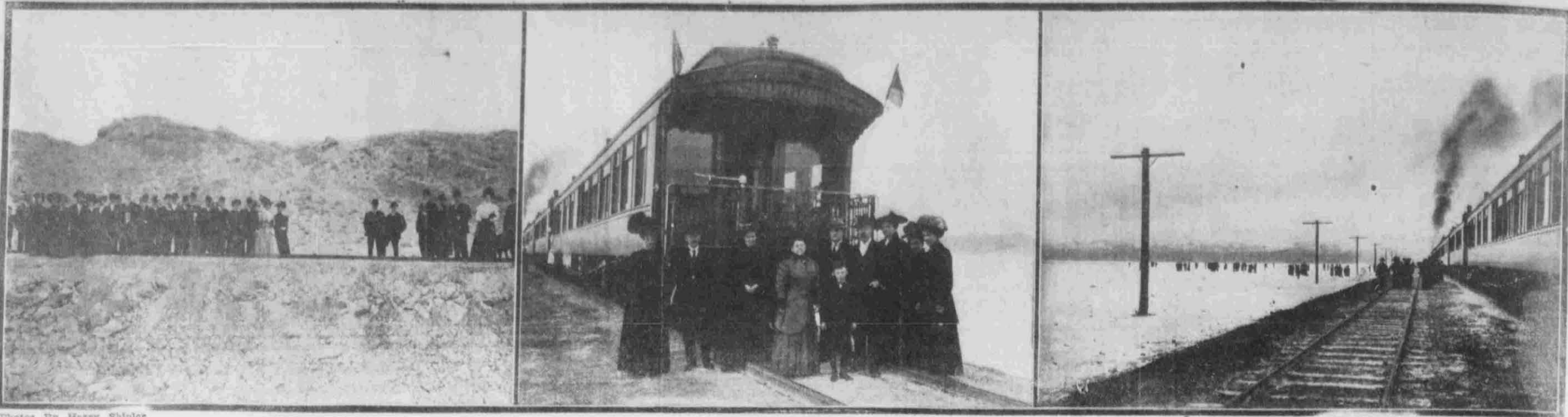


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Dubuque's Old Saloon Days Gone Under New Regime

Special Correspondence.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Feb. 11.—The old order has passed. The whirl of time has brought about a transformation in the affairs of the river town, but nowhere is the altered situation more apparent than in the old Key City—the town where it was said state laws had no place, where public sentiment was the one criterion by which the individual felt himself bound—the old "State of Dubuque."

It was not many years ago that it was customary on opening a saloon in Dubuque to throw the key into a well or some other place where recovery was impossible. It was only a short time before that that nearly every grocery and every general store handled intoxicants. The jug was a common and popular sight, nor did it bear either the vinegar, sorghum or kerosene label. Good whiskey then was on sale for little more than the government tax, and was looked upon as more in the nature of a household necessity than it ever will be again.

When the town was wide open.

Twenty years ago, when Dubuque county had not more than two-thirds its present population, there were more than 250 saloons within its border. Today there are 21 in the city and 23 in the county outside.

The lumberman of the north had not yet denuded the lands of Minnesota, and Wisconsin of their timber, and the Dubuque levee was a scene of activity at all hours of the day and night. There were ship chandlers, a packing house, general outfitting establishments and "lumbering" joints. All were busy. Few steamers passed the Dubuque wharf without stopping and many of them tied up here at the end of their voyage.

The packet, with its gay passenger list, lent color to the throng; the negro roustabout, the most picturesque character perhaps in American life, with his rollicking gait, carelessness of the morrow and his primitive philosophy, lent mirth, while the lumberjacks and raftsmen furnished a rugged setting of brawn and independence. These made the town a cosmopolitan place. All these, with the decline of river traffic, have passed to other scenes or ceased to exist.

Trend toward temperance.

Dubuque today has a population that is as stable as a New York town. This change has brought with it a change in public sentiment, but it is also true that these altered conditions do not carry with them a full explanation of the present change.

The wide open town in Iowa belongs to the past. It is becoming a thing of the past, wherever legitimate business is transacted. There are those who point to the fact that more than 25 years ago a temperance crusade swept the country, and they explain the situation by stating that this altered conditions do not carry with them a full explanation of the present change.

The truth is that the stress of modern business has not only placed a premium upon sobriety, but it has, in a majority of cases, refused to accept of its workers anything less. It was not many years ago that the saloon business men made a practice of drinking liquor. Many men of prominent business, intoxicated. It was looked upon in the individual as an amiable indiscretion. Today it will not be tolerated. This able men point to as the basic reason for the present change. Testimony is not needed upon, but only urged as the safer

course; temperance is absolutely demanded.

HOW THE CITY WAS REFORMED.

Through all the years of legislation against the liquor traffic in Iowa, Dubuque concerned itself little with regard to what the law might be. When the present saloon law was enacted, following the experiment with prohibition, it paid the mullet tax, but so far as adding by the regulations regarding hours of closing, lunch, chairs, tables, etc., is concerned, the law meant as well never have been placed upon the statute books.

Public sentiment began to crystallize for law enforcement about six years ago. Disaffection was shown in many quarters regarding the violation of the law. Mayor C. H. Berg issued an order that was obeyed at times—closing all saloons at 11 o'clock each night.

Archbishop J. J. Keane, always an ardent advocate of temperance, then became active. He was vigorously supported by Dr. George L. Cady, of the First Congregational church. These ministers were ably reinforced by the clergy of the city in general. Public orations were delivered in the cause of temperance and mass meetings were held. C. A. Rankin, "the molder orator," father of the state marshal movement in Iowa, came into the field. Dr. Cady, in order to secure information and data regarding the expenditures of saloon reform, disguised himself and went among the saloon patrons.

Facts and figures were presented and the demand for more complete law enforcement became so general and so insistent the saloon men themselves, with few exceptions, began to observe religiously the 11 o'clock closing order of Mayor Berg and to remain closed until 2 o'clock on Sunday afternoon.

Among the saloon men were several who persisted in violating the regulations, with the result that Dr. Cady and Archbishop Keane commenced actively the work of enforcing the law. Injunction proceedings were begun against every saloon keeper in Dubuque county. Meanwhile the temperance advocates, backed by Gov. Cummins, Atty-Gen. Byers and the Anti-Saloon league, were carrying on similar work in other river towns.

ENFORCEMENT MADE COMPLETE.

The efforts of the Dubuque crusaders culminated in the summer of 1907 in an injunction decree closing the saloons all day Sunday and at 11 o'clock each night, abolishing the free lunch and placing other restrictions upon the traffic. An appeal was taken from this decree of partial enforcement, and the supreme court held that such a decree was illegal and ordered that the full provisions of the mullet law be unmodified therein. This was done and January 1, 1908, found every saloon in Dubuque strictly complying with the law, with about 50 out of business.

It is a long road that has been traveled, and there are some economic problems to be met by the county owing to the curtailment of the income from the mullet tax, because of the reduced number of saloons, but the present situation is not improving the hardship that naturally might be looked for in so radical a change, and general satisfaction is expressed.

The period just preceding the enactment of the mullet law was the heyday of the saloon in Dubuque. With nothing but a government license to pay, it required only a few hundred dollars to start a saloon and three months' waiting up like mushroom in the night. An empty building would be converted into a drink emporium in the passing of 24 hours.

But following the enactment of the mullet law a great many saloons were driven out of business, not because there was any pretense at living up to the provisions of the law, but because the county treasurer's office insisted on the payment of a license of \$500 a year. The amount necessary for a year's license under the mullet law had been previously regarded as a sum saved free, with the provision that the saloon was to be a small scale, and with the number of saloons curtailed those left in the business began putting on style.

RECOLLECTIONS OF CAPTAIN MONT.

It was about this time that the woe of the restaurant man began. Captain Leona, a typical Kentucky colonel, was the originator of the whole new lunch system in Dubuque saloons. Mont came to Dubuque in 1894, and opened a saloon in lower Main street. The exterior of the place, which had been painted green with a huge red light in front, gave the saloon the name "Red Light," and the Green Front.

Free lunch had been served in Dubuque saloons before, but it remained for Mont to open the eyes of the natives. All the delicacies of the season were served free, with the provision that lunch was for patrons of the place. Patrons were welcome to partake of it so long as they transacted business with the proprietor man behind the saloon counter, but let a patron attempt to rent in the matter of purchasing a drink every time he visited the lunch counter and the long arm of the bearded Kentuckian would be laid.

Mont made a fortune out of this place, and after he had been running it about two years he concluded the idea that Dubuque was behind the times in the matter of saloon and restaurant accommodations, a supposition that was notoriously true, but which broke the first man to discover that fact.

In Main street, and after a few trips to Chicago and New York, announced that he would give Dubuque the real thing in the line of wet goods emporiums and restaurants. He fitted up the most elaborate saloon in the west, and in the room adjoining he installed a magnificent cafe. The latter was the equal of anything in Broadway, and to add to the gorgeous scenery Mont imported some real French waiters and a couple of chefs from New York.

Six bartenders were imported from Chicago, and then Mont announced to an expectant public that he was ready to give up to date Dubuque a chance to spend its money. On the opening day, when everything was free, Mont did a stupendous business, but when he instructed his hardened money getters to take in the sheets the business dropped off. In the course of a week three bartenders and as many waiters and one of the chefs were looking for new positions. The following month saw another delegation take trains for the east, and within three months after the place was opened Mont's son was behind the bar, while the colonel himself looked after short orders in his palatial restaurant.

Some months later the unappreciative citizens of Dubuque saw the place go into the hands of a receiver. The venture had cost Mont thousands of dollars. And all this came about by making too swift progress in the matter of saloon reform. The thirty element wanted a trading stamp or a hot

sandwich with their lager, and Mont's high toned place went to the bad.

"TIM" SHEA, PAST MASTER IN POLITICS.

Unlike Captain Mont was the one and only "Tim" Shea, saloonkeeper and politician. During the boom days Shea was located at Clay and Fourth streets, where he conducted a saloon and boarding house. He elected himself alderman of the Second ward, and once within the sacred confines of the council he placed himself at the head of the street committee. In this capacity he had the hiring of all the men who worked in the streets, and it was his invariable custom to employ his friends, or rather the men who sold their coats against the railing of his bar.

Shea amassed a small fortune in this place, but when the saloon business began to grow more dignified he moved into Main street, taking the stand vacated by Arthur O'Malley, a pioneer in the business. In this new place Shea put on considerable style. The story is told that it was his custom on dull nights to make the rounds of the neighboring saloons and later to return to his own place with the cream of the spending population of the city.

Patrick Sutton, at present the pioneer member of the police department, was one of Dubuque's early saloonkeepers, and many are the humorous stories told of incidents happening in his place. Sutton's saloon was the first place John L. Sullivan made a dash for when that

worthy made his initial visit to Dubuque. It is recalled that a crowd gathered at the place to see the champion and so anxious was "Paddy" for the welfare of his distinguished guest that he knocked down half of his regular customers in order that the Boston man might have plenty of elbow room. Later in the day Sullivan and Sutton and a crowd of the favored adjourned to a back room, where they had a friendly set-to with the gloves. It is recalled that Captain Mont, after he went broke, still retained some thing of his former humor. A friend had sent him two half grown wolves from Wisconsin. Mont advertised an extensive turkey lunch on a given night. An unusual crowd assembled. The lunch was there, but so were the two wolves, both chained to the leg of the table on which the turkey rested. They were the most vicious looking pair of brutes ever seen in Dubuque, and despite Mont's suave invitation to the crowd to help themselves the turkey was intact the following morning.

RACE SUICIDE

as President Roosevelt calls it is not nearly the menace to increase in population that death among infants are. And eight of ten of these deaths are directly or indirectly caused by bowel troubles. McDev's Baby Elixir cures diarrhoea, dysentery, sour stomach and all infant ailments of this nature. Just the thing for teething babies. Price, 25 and 50c. Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Store, 112 and 114 South Main St.

CHEWING OF GUM IS GOOD FOR THE TEETH

That the chewing of gum is not the pernicious habit it was once considered seems to be a growing opinion among dentists who have given the matter careful study. Some eminent members of the profession even go so far as to say that under certain conditions it is actually a very beneficial thing, particularly for children.

Only when the teeth are in their proper position with each of them performing its functions as nature intended can a child develop perfectly and attain the highest standard of beauty that is inherent to his type. One tooth slightly out of its normal place is sufficient to spoil a face which might otherwise show the most harmonious lines. These defects can never be remedied if the child is fed on hash, crow quettes and other pre-digested food. What he must have is something more solid which will give the muscles of his jaws sufficient exercise and thus force the teeth into their right places.

Many dentists are advising parents of children whose faces are too narrow and whose jaws are not sufficiently developed to make them chew gum. The constant exercise has a tendency to widen an otherwise narrow jaw and thus make room for teeth that show evidence of crowding each other out of place. Chewing gum steadily for three or four hours a day has most desirable

results in changing the dwarfed formation of a child's jaw. Even when there is no defect of the teeth or jaw to be corrected, gum chewing is beneficial because it exercises the muscles of mastication, thereby improving the digestion and the consequent nourishment. One reason why so many people ruin their health by rapid eating is that as children their jaw muscles never receive enough exercise. It is quite generally agreed that, provided the gum used is pure and wholesome, it cannot possibly do harm either to a child or to an adult. And in many cases it may accomplish great good not only in developing the muscles of mastication and aiding digestion, but also in keeping the teeth clean and white. When the child's gums are tender and easily irritated by the tooth brush, gum chewing becomes almost a necessity.—N. Y. American.

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