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**EDITORIAL** 

## PROHIBITIONISTS' PHILOSOPHY.

## By DANIEL DE LEON

T the March 13th hearing held by the Inter-State Commerce Commission at Kansas City one of the witnesses examined was E.L. Wilthoyt. The gentleman's testimony was interesting; aye, wonderful. He gave a detailed account of the ways of a certain corporation to ferret out competitors, and smoke them out of existence. That particular passage of Mr. Wilthoyt's testimony was as follows:

"I was instructed, while agent for the Company at Topeka, to watch all shipments of goods by our competitors to that point, ascertain the name of the shipper and the point of distribution."

"How would you get information from the railroads as to your competitors' shipments?"

"I never went to railroad officers. My instructions were to get my information from employes of the railroad. I WAS ALLOWED \$8 A MONTH TO SPEND WITH RAILROAD EMPLOYES, BUYING DRINKS, AND MAKING MYSELF A GOOD FELLOW."

What Company was that which, as this agent indicates, had its agency at all the leading railroad centers, and furnished them with money to intoxicate the railroad employes into giving away the names of the shippers? The inquisitive reader is requested to "quarantine" his curiosity for a moment, and first look at this other picture.

"Fairhaven, Mass., March 13. Prohibition triumphed at yesterday's election in this town, the home of H.H. Rogers. Mr. Rogers was one of the most active canvassers against the liquor traffic. All day his automobile, driven by himself, was seen dashing in and out, bringing in voters and taking them home again. In the nearby church the ladies of Mr. Rogers' Temperance Ass'n. were praying all day for his success. When the triumph of the cause of temperance, which he has so much at heart, was announced, Mr. Rogers received an ovation from his fellow townsmen and women."

The curiosity of the curious reader will now have increased. He will now also want to know, who this perambulating lump of dissemination of sobriety is, and what his occupation. The readers' curiosity may now be simultaneously satisfied both as to E.L. Wilthoyt, the agent of the Company that promotes booze, and H.H. Rogers, the inspired and prayed-for agent of Prohibitionism.—

Mr. Wilthoyt was the agent in the pay of the Standard Oil Trust;

Mr. Rogers is the head and front, and the front and hind legs of the Standard Oil Trust.

H.H. Rogers is not the only rampant Prohibitionist in the intoxication-spreading Standard Oil Trust's cabinet. There are the Wardwells, of this State, for instance. Nor is H.H. Rogers the only wrecker of homes, through his capitalist "genius", who has a seat of honor—national, state or local—in the councils of the Prohibition party. The sight of these worthies, these hypocrites, who besmirch a noble cause, the Cause of Sobriety, is a phenomenon producible only by the Capitalist Class—it alone of all previous ruling classes preaches Good only as a mask to give it all the freer swing to do Evil: it preaches "honor" so as to practice dishonor: it preaches "religion" so as to be free to practice heathenish atheism: it preaches the "sanctity of the family" so as to cover its tracks in its course of blasting the family: it preaches "patriotism" so as not to be detected in treason: it preaches "law and order", as it is now doing in Colorado and Idaho, as a cloak to practice disorder, rapine and murder: it preaches "Prohibitionism" only to be all the better able to dope the people.

Such is the Philosophy of the Capitalist Class.

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