

# Grit.

A JOURNAL OF NATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PROHIBITION.

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## DON'T YOU HATE IT? THE RUTHLESS CRUELTY OF DRINK.

Day by day the juggernaut of civilisation continues to mangle and kill, to torture and insult, to disease and degrade. The following are just some of the horrors of drink. You will notice that the liquor curse is common to the whole world, and whether it be England or Russia, Africa or Australia, it leaves its cruel mark on young and old, rich and poor alike:

### FOR DRUNKEN DRIVERS.

Mr. Perry, S.M., is determined to put down drunken driving. He described drunken drivers at Central Police Court as "menaces to public safety."

"You'll get no mercy from me," he declared. "You drunken drivers must be kept in subjection—I'm going to do all I can to put it down."

There were three cases of a similar nature before him. Frederick James Martin, 42, a laborer, was fined £20, and was disqualified from holding a license for 14 months, on a charge of having driven a car in Dowling-street while he was under the influence of liquor.

John Murray, 45, a taxi-driver, was also fined £20, and his license was suspended until November 3. He was further disqualified from holding a license until 12 months after that date. Murray was charged with having driven his taxi-car in Elizabeth-street on Saturday night while he was under the influence of liquor. Violet Richardson, 52, domestic duties, was fined £2 for having driven a horse and buggy in Pitt-street on Saturday night while she was under the influence of liquor.

In Martin's case, "You won't be able to drive again now for 14 months," said Mr. Perry, S.M.

Murray, it was stated, steered an erratic course down Elizabeth-street on Saturday night, finishing up by knocking a woman over.

"If anybody should keep sober it's a taxi-driver," said Mr. Perry.

Reckless driving can be reduced, if not quite eliminated, by persistent police action, backed by co-operation and uniform exemplary punishment by the Courts.

Mr. Laidlaw, S.M., set a good example when he fined a drunken driver with two previous convictions £20 and took away his license for five years.

### COLLISION WITH TRAM.

Following a collision between a car and a tram in Botany-road, Waterloo, as a result of which the occupants of the car were injured, Horace Baker, 35, polisher, of Anzac Parade, Kensington, was charged at Redfern Court with having driven while under the influence of liquor.

Baker, who limped into Court, had a large piece of sticking plaster on his forehead.

Sergt. Johanson said defendant drove the car along Botany-road about 11.45 p.m. Near

Gardiner's-road it collided with a tram. The tram was severely damaged, and the car had to be towed to the police station. In the car were empty beer bottles.

When Sergt. Dennis, police prosecutor, asked if defendant was very much under the influence of liquor, witness replied that he saw Baker two hours later and he was still under the influence.

Witness added that defendant had a passenger with him at the time of the accident. Both were taken to Royal South Sydney Hospital, where defendant's companion had 13 stitches inserted in a wound in his head, and defendant three stitches in a similar wound.

Mr. Longfield, S.M., fined Baker £15, with 27/- costs, or four months' jail, and suspended his license until its expiration on September 4.

### THIRST OF A RUSSIAN. STORY WITH A MORAL.

A case that suggests the battle and kingdom that were lost for the lack of a ha'penny nail occurred in Moscow recently, when the Russian Supreme Economic Council was cut off from the outside world for three months because one of its minor employees succumbed to a thirst for vodka. The Russian Supreme Economic Council, it may be explained, is the State organ which directs and supervises the work of those State industries which are not of All-Union, but of purely Russian, significance.

The task of stamping and despatching the mail sent out by the Supreme Economic Council was entrusted to a clerk named Murnin, and for Murnin the State-monopolised vodka, with its pre-war alcoholic content of 40 per cent., possessed a fatal fascination. His modest salary did not satisfy his bibulous demands. So he hit on the idea of converting the stamps at his disposal into cash, and the cash into vodka. The unstamped letters and packets he thrust into his desk, with a vague idea that some day

somehow he would succeed in sending them off.

This state of affairs continued for three months, and might have gone on indefinitely if Murnin, as a result of his alcoholic indulgence, had not failed to report for work on two successive days. There was an inquiry about some mail, the drawers of the absent clerk's desk were opened, and the pile of unsent correspondence, which had reached huge proportions, was discovered.

A curious feature of the affair is that the syndicates and trusts and factories and other subordinate organisations which failed to receive their instructions from the Supreme Economic Council, as a result of Murnin's embezzlement, functioned very much as usual.

### FASHIONABLE LONDON CLUB RAIDED AND DEREGISTERED.

Mrs. Irene Merrick, sister-in-law of two peeresses, and daughter-in-law of the "Queen of Night Clubs," Mrs. Kate Merrick, was fined £150 and £52 costs for selling intoxicating liquor without a license at the Manhattan Club.

The prosecution said that the club was situated in a basement in the West End. It had an iron-barred door flush with the pavement, and a sliding peep-hole, which permitted scrutiny of intending visitors.

Two policemen in evening dress, who visited Mrs. Kate Merrick's club on May 16, were given cards of admission to the "Manhattan" establishment, which they visited on three occasions.

The magistrate ordered the club to be struck off the register.

(The Earl of Kinnoull married Miss May Merrick on the 7th inst.)

We fools buy things we can't afford,  
And sneer at old-time ways;  
When naught remains for bed and board  
We fall on evil days.  
But commonsense through all survives,  
When bad colds we endure,  
We save a coin to save our lives  
With Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

### PASS "GRIT" ON.

A FACT WORTH KNOWING:  
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SIGNAL COCOA  
IS MOST INVIGORATING

MAKE INQUIRIES ABOUT IT



## REASON'S LONG FIGHT WITH APPETITE. THE WHOLE WORLD EMERGING FROM THE SHADOW. OF THE BOTTLE.

By ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

Twenty-eight years ago only one-seventieth of the area and one-sixteenth of the population of the United States were under laws demanding the complete prohibition of the beverage use of alcohol.

In 1928 and for the period of the last eight years it has not been legal in the United States of America to obtain alcohol for beverage purposes.

A "dry" world is now only a question of "When?" To answer "Never" is to place yourself among those who said we would never fly, never have submarines, and never have wireless, and never have any real progress.

To say that the Prohibition law is broken is only to prove that we are not yet fully civilised, and such law is on the same footing with all other laws which without exception are broken.

Our laws are but our crystallised ideals; they are the high standard that calls us to restrain, and the upward march, and when generally observed they become the point of advantage from which we reach to yet higher things by the call and protection of still better laws.

### WHY PROHIBITION?

Within 100 years life insurance companies from barring the total abstainer now offer him a special premium. They now declare alcohol to be the enemy of longevity.

Within 50 years medical science has reduced alcohol from a first place among remedies to among the very last. They declare it is the enemy of health and unnecessary in sickness.

Economists have discovered that money invested in liquor gives less work, and imposes greater disabilities on the worker than invested in any other business. It is economically a brake on the wheels of progress. Modern business management has declared the beverage use of alcohol to be a promoter of inefficiency, a producer of accidents, a prolific cause of untrustworthiness. Moralists have never been disputed when they have called attention to the physical degeneracy, moral failure, home destruction, child depravity, and social disorder inseparable from the beverage use of alcohol.

World champions and world explorers with one voice have declared they best do their best without using alcohol. No restraint on the beverage use of alcohol suggested by the ingenuity of man has been left untried. Appetite joined with greed of gain and defied all such restraints, and the world tired of failure has turned purposefully towards Prohibition.

### WHAT WARRANT FOR SUCH AN AIM?

Seventy-eight years ago the State of Maine went "dry." It was ridiculed, maligned, and attacked in every conceivable way. It remained "dry."

Forty-eight years ago the State of Kansas went "dry." The concentrated fury of the wealthiest trade in the world broke over it. In 1880, by a majority of less than 8000, this State banished liquor-selling places—in 1905 by a majority of 406,000 they decided to remain permanently "dry."

Thirty-eight years ago the State of North Dakota went "dry" and became the target of every joker, and the "paradise of the boot-legger," but the jokes grew stale, the boot-legger went to jail with other law-breakers, and the State remained "dry."

Then State after State went "dry" after innumerable fights, after exhaustive educational campaigns, after every conceivable



REV. R. B. S. HAMMOND.

effort had been made to find out the facts. When 32 States were "dry" the National Parliament of U.S.A. by a two-thirds majority in both Houses submitted to the 48 States the Eighteenth Amendment of its Constitution which would for ever make the nation "dry." Forty-six out of the forty-eight State Parliaments in both Houses ratified this amendment, and on January 16, 1920, a great nation of 105,000,000 people committed themselves to the highest ideal ever imposed by a people on itself.

### HOW IT MUST BE JUDGED.

Prohibition must be judged like the Great War. The Allies knew disaster at Gallipoli, they knew a sad and pitiable retreat at Mons, they knew the calamity of the Lusitania, and many a loss, many a setback, and many a dark hour—and in spite of it all they won.

The forces for Prohibition do not deny or dispute defeats and discouragements, but they proclaim themselves victorious as surely as were the Allies.

Prohibition is not a wave, it is a river. Its progress is genuine even if its course is winding, and its end is sure, even if it does pass through frowning mountains.

Do not make the unpardonable error of mistaking some lawless backwater for the main stream of Prohibition progress.

Don't allow a freckle on the back of the girl's neck to blind you to the beauty of the girl's face.

### NO LONGER AN EXPERIMENT.

The anti-alcohol war in Canada and in the continental countries fluctuate, but it does not and will not cease. Liquor control has never controlled, regulation has never regulated, and wherever alcohol is sold as a beverage drunkenness and disaster naturally follow. Prohibition after 100 years of education and 70 years of demonstration in U.S.A. reached finality when eight years ago liquor was for ever outlawed in U.S.A.

The opponents of Prohibition ignore what it has done, and with the uttermost unreason fasten on exaggerated and oftentimes untruthful statements about what it has never done. The survival of our civilisation demands that reason must triumph over appetite.

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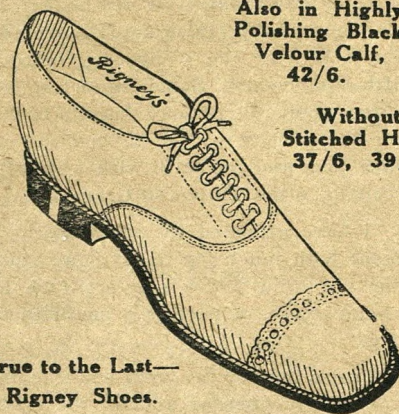
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## PRAISE AND THANKS.

### THE WONDERFUL POWER OF PRAYER.

#### MORE TESTIMONY FROM THE TOWN HALL.

In a recent issue of "Grit" some account was given of the remarkable testimony to the efficacy of prayer furnished at the fifth anniversary of the Town Hall Intercessory Service.

The notes of praise and thanksgiving regularly received at that service are a source of so much hope, comfort and inspiration that we cannot revert to them too often in these columns. They constitute the most convincing and final answer to scepticism. You may theorise as learnedly as you please about prayer and descant at length upon its psychological basis, but you will not alter the fact that praying people for the most part know nothing about psychology and would not pray at all if they did not believe that a personal and loving God answers prayer in accordance with a definite promise communicated to mankind by His Incarnate Son.

Our sceptical friend, whose objections have from time to time been noticed in "Grit," has a ready-made answer to this. Of course they do, says he. People who think alike naturally refer similar effects to similar causes, but that isn't a proof that their reasoning is sound. But this bit of logic overlooks the fact that praying people belong to every class in the community, and vary infinitely in education and customary environment. Such being the case, how comes it that they all think alike on the subject of prayer, unless their way of thinking is the right way? Why are all people agreed that two and two make four, or that the earth is a sphere, or that the way of the transgressor is hard? Simply because the truth of these propositions is demonstrable. If, therefore, millions of minds, differing in all else, are agreed as to the efficacy of prayer, the conclusion is irresistible: to them the truth has been demonstrated.

And so, without more ado, let us turn once again to a fresh batch of testimony, and ponder some of the praise notes tendered at the Town Hall on the Wednesday following the fifth anniversary. Some are merely notes of appreciation; others more definite in illustrating the variety of the difficulties confronting men, and the faith with which they are brought to the Throne of Grace:

(1) "I have attended the meetings in the basement with much joy to my soul. In my loneliness I find great comfort and help after being there. I enclose a small thank-offering."

(2) "Praise God for the great soul-inspiring meeting last Wednesday and for the piles of thanknote offerings for prayers answered. My soul was joyful in the Lord for His manifest presence. Also for the great Prohibition meeting on Monday night. Praise the Lord. He will give the victory and sweep the curse of drink from our land. I pray definitely for this and know you all do so too."

(3) "Enclosed find £1 towards your good work and a thankoffering to Almighty God for His great goodness to me since my husband died. The trials have been many and dark hours too, but blessings have been more. I asked your people to pray for a lost daughter, and news has come that all is well with her. God has preserved her. I do thank you and believe that your prayers on my behalf have been successfully answered."

(4) "Return thanks for a man who has found employment after an anxious time."

(5) "I wish to thank God for answered prayer. I was at last Wednesday's anniversary, and heard a request. I immediately said, 'Lord, include me in that request,' and I am thankful to say the Great God heard me, for I was out of work and in financial trouble. Since, my financial trouble has vanished and good employment is promised me."

(6) "Return thanks: God has answered our prayers and I have been enabled to sell my house and make arrangements for my family."

(7) "Praise God for employment found for one for whom prayer was offered here."

(8) "Thank our Father for His many blessings to me and mine, and for His special help during a financial strain. Please ask Him to help us against the present time when there is money, owing that has to be paid very soon."

(9) "Will you please give thanks to the Lord for His goodness to me in answer to prayer."

(10) "We return grateful thanks that a nephew (13 years old) has enlisted in the service of the King of Kings. Pray that he may continue steadfast and that his sister may also answer the call."

(11) "Praise God that the young man asked to be prayed for that God would open his way for some Christian work. This is being done. Continue to pray that he will be kept very near to Jesus, and ever be faithful. His mother is praying earnestly."

(12) "Return thanks for the conversion of a young man last Sunday at our church."

(13) "Praise God for the conversion of my husband and in answer to prayer some time ago."

(14) "One who is trying to serve the Master desires to offer her thanks to Almighty God and our Father for wonderful recovery from severe operations two years ago, and continued robust health ever since."

(15) "I sent a request for prayers for my mother who is well over seventy. She had almost quite lost the use of her legs, and the doctor told her she might as well know she could never get better. I told her that there was no hope from treatment or medicine, and that the only hope was to ask God. I sent the request to you dear people, and, of course, we prayed ourselves. The result is she is here in this meeting as well as any lady over seventy could expect to be. In fact she is smarter than myself, and I am a little over forty."

(16) "Will you please return thanks to our loving God for many clear and definite answers to prayer since the beginning of these meetings, and for His wonderful goodness to His unworthy servant who writes these words, especially for the restoration to health of my nephew, for whom prayers were asked some time ago. He is now back at his old occupation. Also for a crippled man and his blind wife who were deprived of their invalid pensions, which have been restored to them."

(17) "Return thanks to our Heavenly Father for His keeping power through an  
(Continued on page 10.)

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## BEWARE!

The public are threatened with an avalanche of misstatement, exaggeration and untruth about

## PROHIBITION.

Whole pages of this vicious propaganda will appear at great cost in nearly every paper in the State. It has no other purpose than to protect wealthy liquor-sellers and selfish drinkers.

## AN OUTRAGE.

The Union Theatres and other Picture Shows have contracted to display a 20-minute 600-foot film for a week, paid for as an advertisement, in the time that their patrons have paid for that they may be entertained.

You have a right to resent this, to protest and demand your money back.



# GRAINS OF GOLD WORTH PICKING UP!

## Judge Not Before You Know.

Put yourself in the other fellow's place when you are tempted to judge him. Make sure he is not doing his best—before you advise him to. Most likely he doesn't know any better. Probably he'll be happy to do it your way when you tell him how and why. Try him!

## As Lonely As Robinson Crusoe.

You'd hardly think it possible in this busy world that many men are as isolated as Robinson Crusoe on his island. They live among people who misunderstand them. They have no pals and no companionship. As far as sympathy and encouragement are concerned they might as well be on an island too. They're very lonely. Will you keep a look-out for them in future and make them feel you a friend?

## Setbacks Not Disasters.

The setbacks you've struck so far are not really disasters. If you think they are you may be sure you haven't been 'smashed hard enough to crack the shell of your hidden abilities. When they sent Galileo to prison for saying the earth moved round the sun he did not sit on his pallet and weep. He set to work to discover that a hollow column was proportionately stronger than a solid one.

## Getting the Right Perspective.

There was a man once who always put on spectacles when about to eat cherries. He loved cherries and these spectacles enlarged them and made them look more luscious.

It is a good idea to put your own enlarging spectacles on your enjoyments. Make the very most of them. On the other hand look through the wrong end of the telescope at your troubles so that they appear just as small as they are.

## The Perfect Day Make it Complete

Make this a rule: Never a day without a laugh. Never a day without a book. Never a day without a friend. This is the way to be sure, every evening, that you've come to the end of a perfect day.

A little music, a little friendship, a little fun or family sentiment—never let a day go by without them. Let them be the sweetmeat, to take away the taste, after your daily dose of work.

Hot air makes balloons go up—men come down.

\* \* \*  
The man who is always howling is never likely to be a howling success.

\* \* \*  
Character and work are the pillars of success.

\* \* \*  
Plenty people can't sing—everyone can laugh.

\* \* \*  
If your temper is good, keep it—and be sure not to lose it if it is bad.

\* \* \*  
The man who has credit does not try to live upon it.

### "IT ISN'T DONE!"

When you see a man in need,  
Though he be a broken reed,  
Do not strive that man to shun:  
It isn't done!

Should you see a way to rise  
'Neath a camouflage of lies,  
Whatsoever may be won:  
It isn't done!

If one whispers: "Come with me,  
And a bit of life you'll see,"  
You'll be wise that "life" to shun:  
It isn't done!

Should you ever tempted be  
To forsake sobriety,  
Never deem it merely fun:  
It isn't done!

If your conduct will not square  
With your conscience to a hair,  
Pull yourself together, son:  
It isn't done!

If, though on your bended knee,  
You the straight way fail to see,  
Never take the crooked one:  
It isn't done!

## An Ant? Or an Aviator?

To an ant the world looks about a foot square. To a man high up in an aeroplane the view is vast and miraculous.

Some men are ants and see no farther than their noses. Others are aviators with broad far-seeing vision. Be an aviator if you can; see farther than your own immediate horizon. Your world is so small really, and it's likely to close in upon you.

It's so easy to lose sight of the real issues of life in the midst of grappling with the immediate ones. Get up in your aeroplane—look over the top of them—see the greater, grand goal in the distance and pilot your plane that way.

## Campaign Meetings

### Rev. R. B. S. Hammond

- July 5.—Hornsby, Masonic Hall.  
July 8.—Haberfield, after Church Rally,  
School of Arts.  
July 9.—Marrickville, Town Hall.  
July 10.—Mosman.  
July 11.—Drummoyne.  
July 16.—Orange.

EVERY THURSDAY  
MACQUARIE PLACE  
1.15 p.m.

Mr. HAMMOND DEMANDS QUESTIONS.

### Mr. Reg. Stephens

Formerly Chief Stoker, H.M.A.S. Australia.

- July 8.—Taree.  
July 9.—Dungog.  
July 11.—Muswellbrook.  
July 12.—Quirindi.  
July 13.—Tamworth.  
July 15.—Armidale.

### Mr. R. J. C. Butler

Director, W.A. Prohibition League.

- July 9.—Culcairn.  
July 10.—June.  
July 11.—Cootamundra.  
July 15.—Bathurst.  
July 17.—Young.  
July 19.—Harden.

### Father and Son Welfare Movement

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## WHO SAYS SO?

### WHOM WILL YOU BELIEVE—THE INTERESTED OR DISINTERESTED PERSON?

By BREN PEMBURY, for "Grit."

In a campaign such as we are now engaged in there is a great danger of our people forgetting certain simple rules of guidance when discussing the question of Prohibition with opponents. Let us reiterate a few facts which should always be in the minds of our friends.

#### WHO SAYS SO?

Mr. Hammond often asks his audiences to base their judgment of any statement on the reliability of the person making the statement. We shall do well if we always do this. For instance, we have every right to expect the leaders of the Prohibition Campaign to speak the truth, and we have every reason for being doubtful of any statements made by our opponents.

#### THE FIRST TO TELL.

Take the statement made by the liquor party that Prohibition has failed in U.S.A. Now every Prohibitionist should be quite sure of this fact: IF PROHIBITION FAILS IN U.S.A. OR PROVES TO BE THE WRONG METHOD OF DEALING WITH THE LIQUOR PROBLEM, THE LEADERS OF THE PROHIBITION PARTY WILL BE THE FIRST TO ADMIT THE FAILURE.

#### A GOOD PRESBYTERIAN.

Some days ago I met a friend who is a good Presbyterian (of course I am well aware that all Presbyterians are good, some better than others) and my friend was very disturbed in his mind about certain statements made by a Rev. W. Heathcote. This Mr. Heathcote is paid a princely salary by the opponents of Prohibition to say that Prohibition has failed, and we readily admit that Mr. Heathcote earns his salary. I listened to all my friend said and then I wanted to know this: Two men make statements and one statement contradicts the other. Which statement am I to believe? Let us see who it is who makes the statements.

Presbyterians should be impressed by the fact that the President of the Anti-Saloon League of America is the Rev. Scott McBride, D.D., a prince of the Presbyterian Church. Scott McBride says that Prohibition is a success. It is reasonable to suggest that when a man like Scott McBride, with his reputation at stake and the honor of his great church to uphold, says that Prohibition is proving a blessing to the people of U.S.A. such a statement may be accepted as truth against the statements of a thousand liquor advocates.

#### "COMMONSENSE" AND PRIESTS.

I have just got the fourth copy of "Commonsense," the paper issued by the "Citizens' Rights, etc., Association." Why on earth the publication is called "Commonsense" I don't know; maybe the people who run the paper don't know either. Some weird and wonderful statements appear in

this liquor advocates' paper. For instance, this is what our opponents say about Roman Catholic priests:

"It (Prohibition) brings religion into contempt because certain priests are doing an enormous trade in sacramental wine."—"Commonsense," June, 1928. Page 4.)

I hope our Catholic friends will appreciate this compliment of the liquor party to their priests. Although many priests are opposed to Prohibition, I do not hesitate to say that the suggestion made by "Commonsense" that priests will stoop to the meanest and most contemptible of practices is a gross and wicked libel.

#### "COMMONSENSE" AND THE POLICE.

Not content with attempting to bring priests into contempt "Commonsense" has this to say about the police:

"It (Prohibition) brings law into contempt, because (so I am informed, and I see no reason to disbelieve it) every policeman has his price."—"Commonsense," June, 1928. Page 4.)

So that is the liquor party's estimate of the police. It would be interesting to get the opinion of the police on this matter. And who is this that is afraid of corrupting the police? It is common knowledge that of all the agencies of corruption in politics and social life the liquor traffic is the worst. This traffic has bought parliaments and polluted the public life again and again. It will go on buying protection so long as protection can be bought, and "Commonsense" knows this, knows it, perhaps, better than anybody else. It would be a good thing if our friends would confront liquor defence speakers with these statements and see how they try to wriggle out of them.

#### WHAT IS YOUR DISTRICT DOING?

How is the fight going in your district? Drop a line to "Grit" and let us know what is being done, who is doing and how it is being done. Are leaflets being distributed, is a canvas being made? Have you made sure all Prohibitionists are on the roll? This is vital. Are you sure no dead men are on the roll? And have you got a committee working? Any pithy campaign notes will be printed if you send them along.

#### GET THIS SIGN UP.

Here is a suggestion for a sign. Get a friendly signwriter to do it or collect the cost from a few friends:

LIQUOR.  
SAVE  
OUR  
SHARES

PROHIBITION.  
SAVE  
OUR  
SONS

VOTE THUS [X] IN TOP SQUARE.

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# A personal chat with my readers

## THE ONLY CHANCE IN 15 YEARS.

We have suffered sadly at the hands of bribed and intimidated politicians, they having outnumbered the clear-visioned, backboneed group. The liquor protecting politicians have denied us the right to vote on the liquor issue for 15 years. It is monstrous that a democratic people should have no opportunity to give expression to its will. At last the chance has come our way, and we are ill-prepared to make the most of it. Probably 200,000 will vote for the first time on this question, and they know little or nothing of the question except through the liquor defending propaganda.

Probably 100,000 will never have another chance of voting on the liquor issue, since there is no provision for a further vote. What will you do with your only chance? What will you give to bring so great a boon to your State?

A young lady, who had suffered much in her home through drink, was once conversing with a gentleman on the temperance question, when he remarked that her enthusiasm in the cause of temperance amounted to fanaticism. She went home and wrote a thrilling poem, from which I quote the following lines:

"Go, feel what I have felt;  
Go, bear what I have borne—  
Sink 'neath the blows a father dealt,  
And the cold world's proud scorn,  
Then suffer on from year to year—  
The sole relief the scorching tear.

"Go, weep as I have wept,  
O'er a loved father's fall—  
See every promised blessing swept—  
Youth's sweetness turned to gall—  
Life's fading flowers strewed all the way,  
That brought me up to woman's day.

"Tell me I hate the bowl—  
Hate is a feeble word;  
I loathe—abhor—my very soul  
With strong disgust is stirred,  
Whene'er I hear, or tell,  
Of the dark beverage of hell."

Prohibition just acts like a brake on a runaway horse and trap. It may not stop the progress immediately, but it will certainly slow it up, and will eventually be the principal means of stopping the runaway.

Let us clamp the Prohibition brake on the liquor wagon.

We go this way but once, O heart of mine,  
So why not make the journey well worth while,  
Giving to those who travel on with us

A helping hand, a word of cheer, a smile?

We go this way but once. Ah! never more  
Can we go back along the self-same way,  
To get more out of life, undo the wrongs,  
Or speak love's words we know but did not say.

We go this way but once. Then let us make  
The road we travel blossomy and sweet  
With helpful, kindly deeds and tender words,  
Smoothing the path of bruised and stumbling feet.

## WE JUST GO ON GOING ON.

I wrote to 1000 clergy some weeks ago. I told them of a gift that I was sending them with the goodwill of a friend of the clergy. Less than 150 troubled to acknowledge the gift or

## ARE YOU ON THE ROLL ?

You are responsible.

Enrolment is Compulsory—so is  
Voting.

This is something you must do.

respond to an invitation to express themselves on the matter about which I wrote.

That is indeed discouraging, but one can only do like the so-called common laborer:

He does his job, without a single thrill,  
Or any visions of the end in view.  
He works, because his needs compel him to  
And there is rent to pay and mouths to fill.  
He gains, in time, a sluggish sort of skill  
To save his strength, that when the day is through

He may be human for a while, and do  
Within his limitations, what he will,  
He does not know, nor knowing, would he care,

That he is vital to all splendid schemes  
Of grace and beauty. He would dumbly stare

If you should tell him he was building dreams

In steel and stone. He works because he must;

The drudge, without whom all our dreams are dust.

So wise folk go on laying the foundation of the occasion when our dreams will come true.  
We do well to say and go on saying: "I

# GRIT

A JOURNAL OF  
NATIONAL EFFICIENCY  
AND PROHIBITION.

"Grit, clear Grit."—A pure Americanism, standing for Pluck, or Energy, or Industry, or all three. Reference probably had to the sandstones used for grindstones—the more grit they contain the better they wear.

Editor: ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.  
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Phone: MA1355.  
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SYDNEY, THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1928.

do the very best I know how, the very best I can, and I mean to keep doing so till the end; if I do not see the fruit of my efforts, still I know there will be fruit in due season and I will live on in that faith. I will take little heed to the criticism of those who, not knowing what I know, and not knowing all the facts associated with what I am doing, cannot possibly rightly judge me.

*The Editor*

MACQUARIE PLACE,  
EVERY THURSDAY, 1.15,  
HAMMOND ANSWERS  
QUESTIONS.

## IF PROHIBITION IS MORALLY HARMFUL WHY DO METHODISTS ENTHUSE OVER IT

New York, March 29.—No one of the 57,384 men and women members of the 386 churches in the New York Methodist Conference can vote for Alfred E. Smith if he is nominated for President of the United States and remain in good and regular standing.

"We hereby declare that whatever his politics may be we will not vote for any man for President of the United States or for any other public office who is not avowedly dry," is one of the planks in a platform adopted unanimously this afternoon by the 129th annual New York Methodist Conference. It is expected that all the other Methodist conferences in this State will take similar action.



## THE TOWN HALL DEBATE.

### A GREAT GATHERING IN GOOD HUMOR.

### A POOR DEFENCE OF A GREAT EVIL.

Alcohol pollutes whatever it touches. It enervates where it does not enslave.  
It destroys slowly that which it does not degrade quickly. It aggravates every  
evil it is not entirely responsible for.

It was an unusual gathering, held in the Sydney Town Hall on June 28th. Half the great hall was reserved for the defenders of booze, and half for the believers in Prohibition. There was nothing in the appearance of those in the hall to give any suggestion as to their mental attitude on the question. It was an audience of eminently respectable people, quick to express appreciation and responsive to the humors of the debate. The Hon. W. A. Holman, formerly Premier of the State, and one of the most masterly debaters in the State, presided. In a few well chosen words he commended the speakers and outlined the nature of the discussion. It was not an orthodox debate which would have provided a right of reply, but it was an opportunity for both sides to present their case in 30-minute speeches, and the two following speakers to have 20 minutes each. No vote was to be taken.

#### THE CASE FOR PROHIBITION.

Mr. Hammond was given a most enthusiastic reception as he stood up and declared, "We affirm that we need, can afford and are justified in voting for Prohibition with compensation." He explained that Prohibition only referred to the beverage use of alcohol, as the law made ample and definite provision for the sacramental, medical and industrial use of alcohol. In defending liquor and facilities for obtaining liquor our opponents were defending the greatest criminal of all time. Like any other criminal alcohol had a right to be defended, but as an old cricketer he pitied the defenders, for they were undoubtedly on a "wet" wicket.

We need Prohibition because the ages have proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that it is a racial poison destroying, when it did not handicap, children before they were born. It is a brake on the wheels of progress, the demolisher of homes, a burden on the shoulders of philanthropy, a lodestone diverting democracy from its best, a juggernaut guilty of unspeakable cruelty, an anti-social agent, acting as a monkey wrench in the social machinery, making many a man a brute, many a woman a martyr, and many a child a victim. The first step, declared Mr. Hammond, was to outlaw this evil thing.

Our most notorious bushranger was Ned Kelly. After he was outlawed he did more harm and obtained more publicity than before, but his days were numbered, and his end was sure, and now there is no remembrance of him, except in the wax works. This was a fair analogy and a true indication of what would happen to alcohol when outlawed. If civilisation is to continue we must exercise social control over individual action.

No method yet employed, be it religious, educational or legislative, had yet succeeded in controlling or regulating the drink evil. Our courts revealed that in 1917 we had 62 convictions for drunkenness each day; in 1927 we had 112. Since we last voted there had been 425,516 convictions for drunkenness in N.S.W. Mr. Heathcote would tell the audience that Scripture stated that wild asses quenched their thirst with water. The speaker paused as he said, "and it is passing strange that so many humans had not the sense of a wild ass." The unproductive expenditure represented in our drink bill of £13,222,000 last year was the most gigantic waste from which we suffered. We spend £60 every minute in which the bars were open in N.S.W., and had spent £134,000,000 in this way since we last voted.

Its social wreckage was to be seen in every hospital, every institution of a philanthropic kind, and it was a menace to every charity, vitiating every gift and every humane effort.

#### WE CAN AFFORD IT.

The liquor interests naturally exaggerated and over-emphasised the probable cost of Prohibition.

The Reduction Board had given us the data upon which to base our assertion that it was not likely to exceed £10,000,000.

This was to be compared with the fact that in the three years before we could hope to vote again it would cost us to keep the liquor evil not less than £40,000,000, and 100,000 convictions for drunkenness, besides an army of unemployable.

We were law-abiding citizens, and when the law said that a bad, inefficient and dishonest servant must receive a week's wages or a week's notice we paid, paid with resentment, but we paid well assured it was a cheap way of getting rid of an incorrigible and impossible servant.

Mr. Hammond then made five convincing and unanswerable statements, which he assured his audience would not be even referred to by his opponents. This part of his address will be published in next week's "Grit."

#### THE REV. WYNDHAM HEATHCOTE.

Mr. Heathcote is a cultured and travelled gentleman who was many years ago ordained to the Anglican ministry. He spent the first seven minutes of his time in expressing his resentment at being described as an ex-Anglican minister. While it is very many years since he held a Bishop's license, and since then has at least three times been in charge of Unitarian Churches, yet for some years he has devoted his talents to opposing Prohibition.

He claimed that "once a priest always a priest."

At this stage many in the audience grew restive, and urged him to "have a go at Prohibition."

He said that he found nothing in Mr. Hammond's speech to reply to. It was lacking in "philosophic thought."

The chairman had to restrain the gusts of laughter that swept over the greater portion of the audience and Mr. Heathcote appealed to "the hysterical women to restrain themselves." He seemed lacking in appreciation of how delightfully amusing he was.

His contemptuous reference to Mr. Hammond as a mob orator provoked an adverse demonstration. He then pictured Mr. Hammond as leading Prohibitionists to the penitent form and confessing his wickedness, and theirs, for relying on statute law rather than the Grace of God. Liquor was not a material thing. It was an appetite, and therefore beyond the control of law.

If liquor were an evil thing, why compensate it? The Prohibitionists were with him in this, and told him that the only reason why they did so was because a liquor bewitched Parliament had imposed upon us such a law, and being law-abiding people we met this condition which we held to be unnecessary and unwarranted in equity or ethics.

He closed his address with an entirely false analogy. "Would you destroy the legal profession because some lawyers are scoundrels?" "Would you destroy a church because of an unworthy minister?"

He then incorrectly stated that every province in Canada had gone back on Prohibition.

#### THE HON. CRAWFORD VAUGHAN.

Mr. Vaughan received a fine reception, and merrily scored off the irrelevant and incorrect statements of the last speaker. Mr. Heathcote had quoted a bit of doggerel to the effect that

Four and twenty Yankees, feeling rather dry,  
Went across the border to get a drink of rye;  
When the rye was finished they all began to sing,  
"Who the devil's Coolidge? God save the King."

Mr. Vaughan wanted to know why they bothered to go over the border for a drink when, according to Mr. Heathcote, there was more drink available in U.S.A. than before Prohibition, and since it made them disloyal and misbehave themselves why have any rye at all?

Mr. Vaughan, whose American and Canadian experience covered about two years, made many telling points, and again and again evoked applause.

#### MR. PRENTICE.

The last speaker, who is best known as formerly announcer to 2BL and as a Theosophist, explained that he broke the law in U.S.A. for two reasons. Firstly, because he wanted a drink; secondly, because he wanted to prove how easily the law could be broken.

(Continued on page 10.)



**A GERMAN AND THE MOVIES.**

In an interview with the Chicago "Daily News" of March 2 Richard A. Bermann, German novelist, expresses the opinion that the movie industry is rapidly headed for death. Herr Bermann is a special correspondent of the Berliner "Tageblatt," the largest paper in Central Europe, and his travel books have a wide circulation in Germany. He gives several reasons for his belief that the moving picture industry is doomed, reasons which it is not necessary to enumerate here. The following observation by Herr Bermann, however, is of interest to American "Issue" readers. He said:

"In America the movies would have been dead long ago if it were not for Prohibition. Prohibition makes it so people have no place to go to spend the evening except to a movie."

**Praise and Thanks—**

(Continued from page 4.)

operation, in answer to your prayers and my prayers."

(18) "Some time ago you prayed for Mrs. —, who had been seriously ill for some years. She is now restored mentally and physically. We thank our Heavenly Father."

Let the reader pay especial attention to the testimony embodied in paragraph 15 for it particularly well illustrates the argument for the efficacy of prayer. Here we have the case of an old lady deprived of the use of her legs. The usual procedure is adopted: the doctor is called in, and his verdict is "old age: nothing can be done." Most of us would agree with him. But, all natural sources of aid being exhausted, these people turn to God, and He does the impossible—the old lady is restored. Two facts here are beyond dispute: the helplessness of the doctor and the restoration of the old lady after prayer. By what process of logic are we to be induced to believe that these people were deluding themselves? Looking at these notes of thanksgiving collectively, we are struck once again by the great variety of the troubles taken by praying people of God. What other evidence is required to prove that the efficacy of prayer does reside in the faith of praying people in a promise? There is no other theory of prayer which can account for, or will preserve, its observance.

**N.S.W. HOMES FOR INCURABLES  
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**The Town Hall Debate—**

(Continued from page 9.)

He then launched into a series of comparisons of non-Prohibition years with Prohibition years. He failed to respond to Mr. Hammond's challenge to compare "wet" years with "dry" years, and he refrained from any attempt to question or detract from Mr. Hammond's convincing statements. He asserted that Prohibition could not be enforced, because one had only to forbid a thing to create in everyone a desire to do it.

He asserted that a great general had said that the best way to capture Berlin during the war was to place it out of bounds and then every Aussie would have hopped into it. This absurdity provoked much contemptuous laughter.

He stated that there were clergy so lost to all decency that they would make policemen's batons out of the cross of Christ.

He asserted that if it is right for any one section to deny the rest a drink, it would be equally right for the drinking section to insist upon every total abstainer drinking a bottle of lager every day. He asserted that the Association he represented admitted that there were many evils associated with drinking. It would, he said, be foolish and futile to deny this. Already, however, regulation had reduced hours and guaranteed the purity of drink. Here the publican had a fixed address; in U.S.A. he had been driven into back and disreputable streets, and could not be found if the police wanted to pay him any attention.

The speaker concluded an unconvincing address by stating that "America was so wet to-day that if the water supply was turned off it would not be noticed by the people unless there was a fire."

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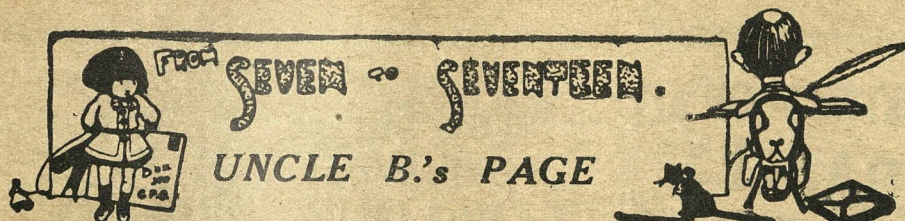
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All boys and girls between the age of seven and seventeen are invited to join the family of Uncle B. Write only on one side of the paper. Send the date of your birthday. There is no fee to pay. If you do not write for three months you are a "scallywag."

Address all letters to Uncle B, Box 390F C.P.O., Sydney.

### DID YOU HEAR ME?

I think some of you must be deaf or asleep, or very busy with other things. Did you hear me say "Shun"?

Did you hear me say "at the double"? I wonder how it is that some of you are still marking time. I heard a mother in the tram the other day say to a small boy, "Get a wriggle on." This is what I am saying to you now. I had a perfectly splendid little girl named Ida, in to see me yesterday. She is using 50 copies of "Grit" each week and actually selling them.

She brought me in ten shillings. That is fine.

If only I had 100 such little helpers! And my family is so big that I actually hoped to have 1000 like her.

Please shake a leg and tell me that you won't be a drone in my family or a scallywag, and that you will make up for lost time in the next few weeks.

Cheerio! Even if we get fed up we will carry on. Even if we get some nasty things said to us we will just smile and go on-going on.

UNCLE B.

### OUR LETTER BAG.

#### A HELPER.

Eric Arnett, Bonville, North Coast, writes: I am a bit slow writing I know. I would have written before, but I knew we would be shifting, so I didn't bother. Well, Uncle, I like my new home very well. It is about six miles from the beach. Bonville is a great place for aeroplanes. We have seen about six since we came here. We saw Kingsford Smith's monoplane fly over last Sunday. I will try and sell some copies of "Grit" for you if you send them along; about six will do. We are milking 65 cows at our new home. When the milk is separated it is put in a big cask on the trolley. The trolley has to be pushed off, and then away she goes down the line to the pigs. There are eighty pupils attending Bonville School. There are two teachers. I like my new teacher very well.

(Dear Eric,—I am so glad to have your help, and hope you do well with your effort to sell "Grit." I am pleased to know you like your new home. You must tell me more about it when next you write.—Uncle B.)

#### AMMUNITION.

Alma Oliver, 51 Mackenzie-street, Leichhardt, writes: Will you kindly wipe me out of your scallywag list, and I will promise not to be on it again. We have just finished

our school examination, and I have not had time to write. Will you kindly send me some ammunition, as I will be only too glad to distribute it and help in the "War against Booze." Our temperance band has broken away, and we are left to do our bit by ourselves. Our pledge was a splendid one, as follows: "With God's help I solemnly promise to abstain from all alcoholic drinks as wine, beer, and cider. Further, I promise not to buy, drink, sell or give alcoholic liquors while I live. From all tobacco I'll abstain, and never take God's name in vain." We went to the Prohibition procession last Saturday week. All the drunkards were singing out, "Lunatics! Wowsers!" and we were shouting back, "Go your hardest; you only have three months to go!"

(Dear Alma,—I am proud of my little helpers, and hope they will send for all the ammunition they can use. This is a real war, and we dare not spare our time, our money, or ourselves. Only a few weeks in which to work, and it must be real work if we are to win.—Uncle B.)

#### ANOTHER SOLDIER.

Una Waters, Holly Road, Burradoo, writes: I am asking you to please send me some copies of "Grit," so that I may distribute them to my friends. Our midwinter holidays start on Friday for a week, and I will be very glad to have a week from school. The Bowral High School had a play day last week, and it was a very good success. I have been sick with cold and have been home from school the last few days. We have had our half-yearly exam., and I think I will pass. We have not yet received our marks so I cannot tell yet.

### LET ME DO IT!

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*Lou Southwell*

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Phone: MA 1355.

(Dear Una,—So you are now a soldier in the army of the Lord, and are using up some ammunition. Please use as much as you can and just let me know. I will send it to you.—Uncle B.)

#### A NEW NI.

Edna Horner, Margaret-street, Wyong, writes: I would like to join your big family and be a Ni. I am ten years of age, and my birthday is on the 14th April. I am in fifth class at school, and I have a very nice teacher. When Mrs. Baines went away the little girls and boys in her class gave her a present. It was a beautiful big hand-bag.

(Dear Edna,—I am pleased to have you join my big family, and hope you will write regularly. Will you tell us what Wyong is like when you next write.—Uncle B.)

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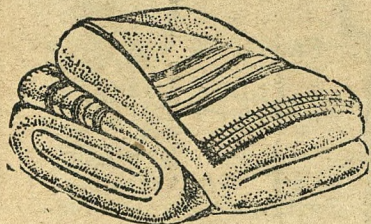
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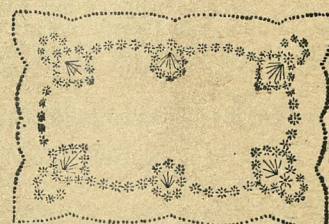
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## DAILY INSPIRATION.

By FAIRELIE THORNTON. Author of "Sunset Gleams," Etc.

### SUNDAY.

"Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established."—Prov., 16, 3.

"If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established."—Isa., 7, 9.

Have you committed your works to God? You have taken something in hand which you believe it is His will you should do, but sometimes faithless fears assail you as to its ultimate success. Perhaps failure has already dogged your steps, barriers barred your way, difficulties risen up, enemies assailed you. Have you committed it to the Lord? If not, this is the secret of your failure. When we commit our money to the bank we do not begin worrying as to whether it will be safe there. You think perhaps you have committed your work to God. Why, then, all the faithless fears that have beset you? Surely He is worthy of our confidence, whose works they are. We are just His tools, and what He does must stand for ever. Have we been willing to let Him use us just in His own way, or have we been trying to do things in our own way? Have we not been leaning to our own understanding instead of trusting Him with our whole heart? "If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established." Even apparent failure may be the stepping stone to success. As to obstacles, no man ever attempted anything worth doing who did not meet with them. That is no sign that the work is not of God, but a sure sign that it is. The enemy is sure to stir up all his forces, and use all his tactics when his fortress is assailed. Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might, and not one seed you sow shall fall to the ground. You may not see the issue, and it may seem to die; but it SHALL rise again to immortality. Let your thoughts be at rest; go straight on; do God's will, and it shall abide forever.

### MONDAY.

"I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work."

Yes, we must work for Jesus, while it is called to-day.

The night is fast approaching, and daylight hastes away.

We must obey His bidding, and use the powers He gave

For Him, and for His only, who died our souls to save.

Yes, we must work for Jesus, though none the work may own.

We know that He will own it, if done for Him alone.

We may not see the issue, and it may seem in vain,

But it shall rise again, we know, in fields of harvest grain.

### TUESDAY.

Bible reading has gone out of fashion to a large extent. So many get a smattering of its contents, and have some vague idea that there are certain texts there, take others' opinions for their own, especially if they cast a slur on some of its teaching, and thinks themselves competent to criticise it when necessary to their own comfort and easing of conscience. It is surprising the amount of ignorance there is regarding its inner meaning and real teaching, even amongst those who call themselves Christians. The Bible needs study to get at its real meaning. For instance, some cannot believe Jesus was really and truly the only begotten Son of the Father, because the genealogy of Joseph is given, not knowing

perhaps that Mary was the cousin of Joseph, and therefore came from the same line, but the genealogy of the males is always given in Bible history. Because it is not stated specifically by each of the four Apostles, does not in any wise lessen the proof of a fact, but is rather evidence that it was too well known a fact to reiterate. Then how many argue that the Bible countenances wine drinking! In the Bible corn and wine denote all sorts of good things. But we must remember that the juice of the grape was the wine most in use, not the strong spirituous liquor as has since been distilled into. There was strong drink in use which is reprehended in many parts of Scripture, and probably two kinds of wine. It is not likely that the wine Jesus transformed the water into was an intoxicating drink, or that the wine used at the last supper was fermented. Unleavened bread was only permitted to be used. No leaven must appear. Is it likely it would be allowed in the wine? The new wine Jesus made was, of course, similar to the pure juice of the grape, which cannot harm anyone. This which has tonic properties was also recommended by Paul to Timothy. There were many vineyards in Palestine. The grapes of Eschol were finer than any, but wine was forbidden to all the priests and those in the Tabernacle service, also to the Nazarites and those dedicated for God's work. It is not, therefore, likely that intoxicating wine would be used by the priests at the feast of the Pass-over.

### WEDNESDAY.

"Wine is a mocker; strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."—Prov., 2, 1.

How many who think themselves wiser than the wisest of men are deceived thereby. What man most wishes that his heart believes. Many persuade themselves that what pleases their love of drink is beneficial to them. Many doctors will recommend what they know pleases their patients. Of course, no conscientious doctor will do so; but some have elastic consciences, and it all helps to fill their own pockets and bring grist to the mill. Why do insurance companies charge less to a total abstainer than to a non-abstainer? It was the rule in England, when I was there, and no doubt continues. They know the chances of long life lie with the abstainers. Therefore, if a man insures his life, and is in the habit of taking intoxicating liquor, he is far more likely to succumb to disease, or to meet with early death.

### THURSDAY.

"When Israel was a child then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt."—Hos., 11, 1.

God is always calling us. Of old He called His chosen ones. He called Abraham to leave his home and go forth to a strange land. He called Moses to deliver His people from bondage. He called Samuel to deliver His messages. He called Gideon to save His people. He called the prophets of old to warn men of their evil ways. He called His disciples one by one to Himself. And has He not been calling us from childhood's earliest days? Many a time we have heard His voice calling us away from things that would hinder us, calling us to service, calling us to seek His face. We have heard His call in the Sabbath bells as they bid us lay aside our worldly tasks, and worship Him. His "voice is as the voice of many waters." Has He not often called you in the circumstances of life? You remember that day when the death angel hovered over your home, the day when your loved one was

taken away, the day when sickness laid its hand on you. Have you answered those calls? Those who refuse to heed His calls now will one day call upon Him in vain.

### FRIDAY.

"There are, it may be, so many voices in the world."—1 Cor., 14, 10.

Many are the voices calling—calling us from truth astray.

Only One can keep from falling in the straight and narrow way;

Calling us to seek our pleasure in this passing world below,

Luring us from heavenly treasure, leading us to grief and woe.

When to any voice we hearken other than the voice of God

All the path begins to darken which before we gladly trod;

Then the storm doth overtake us, lightning flash, and thunders roar;

God seems almost to forsake us, and we hear His voice no more.

When we call in our distresses then He hastens to our aid;

Once again with love He blesses, and we are no more afraid.

Oh, that men would sound His praises for His wondrous works to men!

From the dust the poor He raises, brings them back to strength again.

### SATURDAY.

#### God's Drawings.

"I drew them with bands of a man, with cords of love."—Hos., 2, 4.

God is not only always calling us, but He is always drawing us, drawing us with the cords of His love, in which there is a strange magnetism. The wonder is that any can resist it and break those cords. He draws us away from the things which would enchain us, the world's empty toys; draws us by His grand attraction to seek those things that are above. He will force no man's will, but He seeks to draw, not drive, all men to Himself. "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Me!" The sight of His love thus manifested surely ought to draw all men to Him, if anything would. "The love of Christ constraineth us." "We love Him because He first loved us." The more we watch His dealings with us, the more we shall find that God's love is the essence of His will. If we could only believe that He loves us better than we love ourselves, that what He wills for us is just what we should choose. Could we see the end from the beginning as He sees it, disappointment to us then would seem but an angel of light, sent to bring us such blessings as we had not dreamed of. When we take our own way in preference to His we always find it a path of thorns. How often has He to say to us: "O that thou hadst hearkened unto Me, then had thy peace been as a river." A self-chosen path is always a path of misery. "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly," but, alas, how many find this true? "Your sins have withholden good things from you."

Sometimes He draws us away from the busy crowd of worldly cares and toils, and says: "Come ye apart into a desert place, and rest awhile!" He perhaps lays us on a bed of sickness, in order to draw us closer to His heart of love. We were in danger of forgetting our soul's true Lover, and He wants to speak to us His words of love. "He has many things to say to us," which we cannot listen to among the "crowd, the hum, the shock of men," so He draws us aside; alone with Him, the world shut out, we find Him to be a very present help. Oh, that we might always yield to His drawings until at last they draw us to Himself on high.



## "A WORKING MAN'S LETTER." LABOR AND THE PROHIBITION REFERENDUM.

By P.C.

"Liquor advocates contend vociferously that the workers are strongly opposed to Prohibition. Never was a more malicious untruth propagated. The workers are naturally temperate. Their minds are generally occupied, if not progressively developed. Most occupations require physical exertion. These two things do not produce intemperance."

These words are quoted from a paper contributed to the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science by Mr. T. D. Styles, editor of the Pennsylvania "Central News." It may be presumed that a contributor to the journal of a learned society knows what he is talking about. In fact, greatly daring, we venture to suggest that Mr. Styles is a more reliable witness to the merits of Prohibition than is Mr. Herbert Dowling.

Who, the reader will undoubtedly ask, is Mr. Herbert Dowling? Frankly, we don't know, but we do know he is a most fortunate man. While the "Herald" has refused to print hundreds of sane letters from well-known people in favor of Prohibition, they have printed this letter from an entirely unknown person who may never have done a day's work in his life, under the caption "A Workingman's Letter." In it he proclaims himself to be an Australian worker, since he concludes what he has to say with the words, "I would like to hear other workmen have their say on this matter." Mr. Dowling, according to the "Herald," writes from "Miller's Joint" (sic), which sounds uncommonly like a sly-grog "joint." He damns Prohibition in America up hill and down dale, although there is internal evidence in his letter to show that he has never been in America.

Mr. Dowling informs us that the American workers are becoming the hopeless victims of "hooch" obtainable from the bootlegger, and he says:

"The continued indulgence of this last on the constitution of the average man or woman is such as to leave me in no doubt whatsoever as to the effect it would have upon the moral and material welfare of the citizens of this country should they drink it in any quantity, as they undoubtedly would do, in the event of the poll next October going in favor of the 'drys.'"

The grammar of this sentence is not beyond reproach, but we must take such grammar from Mr. Dowling as he possesses and be thankful that it is no worse. It is more interesting to note the implications and inferences involved in his remarks. To paraphrase the passage from his letter quoted above, what he says, in effect, is this:

"The Australian worker will go to the dogs if we carry Prohibition. He will do so because he is such a boozier and so

inveterate a law-breaker that he will consume such vast quantities of 'hooch' as completely to ruin him morally and materially."

This is a fair and accurate interpretation of Mr. Dowling's position. Its absurdity is obvious, because, if the workers are already as depraved in their inclinations as Mr. Dowling would make out, they have neither moral stamina nor material welfare that "hooch" could damage more than they are damaged already. By what right does Mr. Dowling thus traduce all his fellow workmen? How does he know that they will consume "hooch" in such vast quantities? He may possibly speak for himself, but we have yet to learn what his qualifications and authority may be for representing Australian Labor generally.

According to Mr. Dowling, the Australian worker must be a sorry sort of social degenerate, far below the American worker in the social, physical and moral scale, because it is beyond all question, on the testimony of every responsible and trustworthy witness, that Prohibition, far from having the calamitous effect prognosticated by Mr. Dowling, has had precisely the opposite result in so far as the American worker is concerned. We challenge Mr. Dowling to disprove any one of the following statements:

- (1) The American worker is more prosperous and contented to-day than he ever was before.
- (2) The American worker has more money in the bank to-day than he ever had before.
- (3) The American worker has better home and furniture than he ever had before.
- (4) The American worker owns more property than he ever did before.
- (5) Blue Monday is a thing of the past.
- (6) The labor turnover is lower to-day than at any time in the industrial history of the United States.
- (7) The American worker receives higher wages, works shorter hours, and has more constant employment than he ever had before.
- (8) Industrialists generally throughout America state that Prohibition has been a great blessing to the workingman.

For the edification of Mr. Dowling we quote the official index-numbers of real wages in various cities of the world, on the authority of the United States Labor Bureau:

### REAL WAGES, OCTOBER, 1926.

Philadelphia .....	183
Ottawa .....	157
Sydney .....	137
London .....	100
Berlin .....	63
Rome .....	48

Even the sluggish intelligence of Miller's Joint should be able to see from these figures

that as the opportunity to get liquor increases, real wages fall. These are facts, not theories.

We have already quoted Mr. T. D. Styles, a reputable American witness, at the head of this article. But let us quote him again:

"The social effect of the closing of the bars," he writes, "was first felt in the homes. As a rule, the workers spent at home much of the time that they previously passed in the saloon. The moving picture theatres, fraternal orders and Labor Union meetings are better attended. It is but reasonable to conclude from this that the family relations were at least, in a measure, improved. Another effect was the increased steadiness of employment. . . . Prohibition has also had a beneficial effect upon the workers in an educational sense. There is no doubt that it has increased the regularity of attendance at school, and it has also done much to lessen the humiliation of children obliged to attend school with clothes not up to the standards of the community. The drunkard's child is becoming conspicuous by his absence. But a more immediate and probably greater effect is plainly noticeable at any kind of meeting of workers gathered in large numbers for discussion. . . . Now almost without exception, when workers meet to discuss their affairs, the meetings are more largely attended and all are sober. This fact is largely responsible for the new awakening of thought in the ranks of Labor."

But, of course, awakened thought is the last thing that such persons as Mr. Dowling know anything about or have any desire to experience. If we thought that Mr. Dowling's views represented the real mind of Australian Labor, then, indeed, we should despair of its future and doubt whether even Prohibition had any power to elevate the rank and file of Australian workmen.

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