

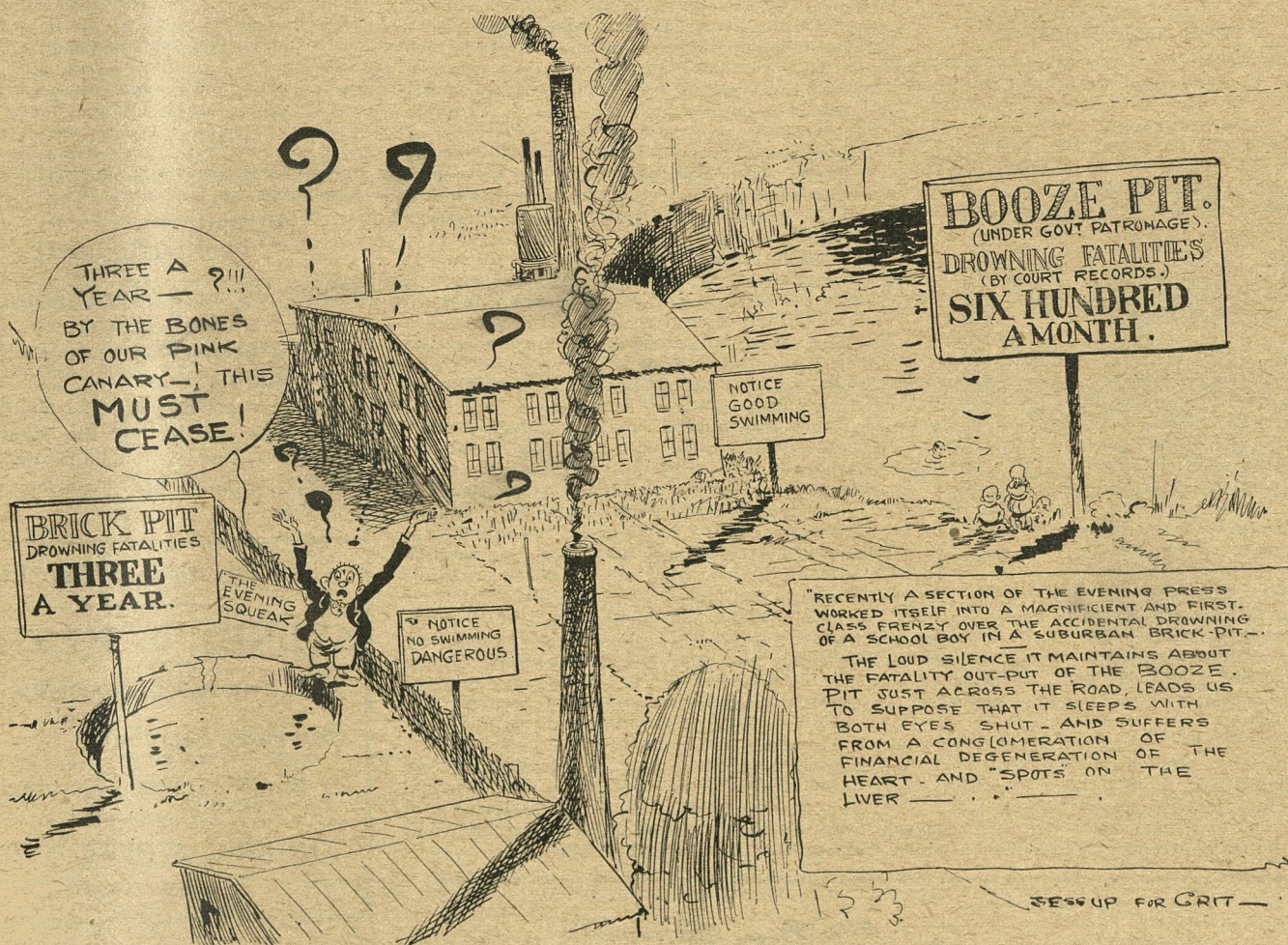
Grit.

A JOURNAL OF NATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PROHIBITION.

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THINK THIS OVER.

FACTS AS STATED BY AUTHORITIES.

Prohibition, especially on a nation-wide scale, is commonly regarded as the work of women. Those opposed to it never tire of blaming woman suffrage and woman's activities in politics for their trouble.

Leave it to the men, they say, and we would soon be rid of the Volstead Act, if not the Eighteenth Amendment. All of which sounds rather funny when you realise that Maine, the first State in U.S.A. to obtain Prohibition, did so 60 years ago, and did not give the franchise to their women until fifty years after; and that Wyoming, the first State to give their women the franchise, did not obtain Prohibition till forty years afterwards.

THE ANARCHIST.

"It will never obey any law but a bone-dry law honestly and vigorously enforced. Everyone of the rock-ribbed Prohibition States knows you cannot make terms with John Barleycorn that he will respect. This was proved again for more than the ten-thousandth time when last year Ontario found that its 4 per cent. beer law increased bootlegging."

SENATOR ARTHUR CAPPER.

Prominent Merchant Testifies to Value of Prohibition.

The late John G. Shedd, of the board of Marshall Field and Co., Chicago, after an automobile tour of the East covering nearly 3000 miles, expressed his belief that Prohibition was a great factor in the tremendous increase of bank savings in the country. In an interview, as reported by the daily papers, he said: "The benefits from Prohibition which have accrued to working men and their families in the last seven years cannot be stressed too strongly."

NO BEST WITH ALCOHOL.

When Dr. Lorenz, a noted European surgeon, was being entertained at a banquet he was noticed to turn his wine glass upside down as soon as he sat down to table.

"Why, doctor, no wine?" said someone near him.

"No, thank you," was his answer. "I am a surgeon. Men, women and children trust me with their lives. I must keep myself at my best, or be untrue to those who trust me."

A splendid reason why every employee should not take strong drink. Alcohol clouds

the judgment, dulls the wit, makes the grasp fumbling, the muscles and touch sluggish and uncertain. It prevents the man doing his best. "To put alcohol in the human brain is like putting sand in the bearings of an engine," said Edison.

RAGS ARE SCARCE.

After 40 years as a ragpicker, a New York man has quit. He says women wear so few clothes now, and use so many discarded garments to clean their autos, that there's no money in the business any more.

It takes more rags to clean an auto, than to clean a tumbler, anyhow.

WHAT IS FAILURE?

We hear a great hue and cry these days about the failure of the Eighteenth Amendment. Undoubtedly strict enforcement of Prohibition law is difficult and probably impossible. Spectacular instances of failure are easy to find. But the croakers who are making so much noise in the social and political pond ignore a most shining example of its success—the increased efficiency of industry, which has made it possible to maintain war-time wages in days of peace; and which enables contractors to maintain a full quota of workers, notwithstanding holidays and Sundays.

Prohibition is not a moral question. It surely ought not to be a political issue. It is a business question, a question in economics, and should be studied on this basis alone. That it has increased enormously the efficiency and welfare of the individuals who make up this mighty nation there seems not the shadow of a doubt.

When Prohibition went into force in Dallas, Texas, some years ago, under the local option laws, the first noticeable effect was a greatly increased sale of children's shoes.

In 1922 there were 22,415,148 savings accounts in the United States with 15,314,000,000 dollars deposits in savings banks. In 1925 there were 43,850,000 savings accounts with 23,134,052,000 dollars to their credit. During the same period of Prohibition the number of stock-holders in building and loan associations increased almost unbelievably. During the same year the automobile industry wrote an amazing record of national and individual prosperity.

These are the facts that tell the true story, rather than the antics of foolish men and women who value their so-called personal liberty more than they do the progress and prosperity of the nation.—Editorial in "The Earth Mover," December, 1926.

THE MELTING POT.

Between 1899 and 1925 nearly 18,000,000 foreigners, representing forty-seven tribes and nationalities, legally entered the United States—not counting those who smuggled themselves into the fold. So it is perfectly plain that a large percentage of Americans were not born in the land they now live in.

Think over this when you discuss the enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment.

POLL OF EDITORS ON PROHIBITION.

At a meeting of the National Editorial Association, held in Los Angeles, a survey was made to ascertain the opinions of the delegates on the question of Prohibition. The poll, according to "Zion's Herald," of Boston, covered 170 newspapers from 31 different States and "resulted in a vote of over 100 in favor of strict enforcement of the Volstead Act, 29 for modification, six for Government control of liquor, and three for repeal." More significant than this, the "Herald" continues, "was the report on the amount of drunkenness in the country since national Prohibition has gone into effect, 110 stating that there was less drunkenness in their particular communities and only 15 saying there was more." These figures were given by local editors who are in closer touch with community conditions than almost any other group of people. Commenting on the result of the survey, the editor of the Newton (Mass.) "Graphic," who made the investigation, says: "It leads emphatically to the conclusion, that no matter what particular sections may flout the Prohibition law, the country as a whole is dry."

PROHIBITIONISTS!

TAKE NO RISKS REGARDING THE STATE ELECTIONS.

See that the right candidate is SELECTED for your constituency.

Then give him the fullest support so that in the new Parliament the right of the people to a vote on the liquor evil may be provided without the handicap of compensation.

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JUST DRUNKS.

THE PROBLEM, THE PATHOS AND THE POSSIBILITY.

In Fourteen Years 115,890 Drunks at the Central.

By ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

On January 10, 1912, I took my first total abstinence pledge at the Central Police Court, Sydney; in the fourteen years since then I have taken 24,601 pledger there. I wish I had the pen to tell the wonderful story that lies behind those figures. I have seen struggle, failure, vileness, callousness, pitiable weakness and overwhelming shame, but I have seen much more than that. In these fourteen years I have seen flowers growing in this rubbish heap of humanity. I have seen monumental success rise from the ashes of what appeared to be hopeless ruin; I have seen character emerge from these filthy rags of humanity, as does the clean linen paper emerge from the filthy rags that scavengers collect.

WHY I WENT.

I was present when a magistrate dealt with 27 drunks in less than a quarter of an hour. These drunks were a moral, domestic, social, industrial and physical problem. They were an enormous cost to the community, and eventually a permanent charge on the State. Yet they received no consideration, and it was difficult to say how the treatment meted out to them could possibly be more inhumane, stupid or futile.

I spent years petitioning the authorities for the right to experiment with the pledge. They did not see it would do any good. I retorted, "Did the present method do any good?" They were frank enough to confess that it did not.

To fine people who have no money, with the alternative of jailing them when they were not criminal, was beyond defence. At last I was given my chance with a shrug and a smile of sceptical tolerance.

I knew—

One step won't get you very far;
You've got to keep on walking;
One word won't get your story told;
You've got to keep on talking.
One inch won't make you very tall;
You've got to keep on growing.
One pledge won't get you very far;
You've got to keep on helping.

SOUP AND SHAVES.

For four years I took two gallons of hot soup each morning to the prison yard. Then my funds utterly failed me. It seemed to me just mockery to tell a man not to have a bad drink if I did not supply or put him in the way of a good one. To tell a man who was unwashed, unshaven and unfed to go and get work was a cruel and foolish piece of counsel.

These men did not want a sermon, they needed a friend; they did not need advice so much as an opportunity. It was up to me. I turned my school room into a place where they could come with no other recommendation than their need. We have had thousands mend their clothes, clean their boots, and shave themselves in this church hall.

It is true they have stolen my razors, "pinched" my hat, and abused me for suggesting that in so doing they were killing the hen that laid the golden egg. I am not a scholar, nor am I a business man, but I have an orderly mind, and I take off my hat to the law of cause and effect. When a man deliberately gets drunk and deliberately "steps on the gas," I cannot call the climax

an accident. When a man deliberately prays and deliberately goes on praying, his mastery of himself is certainly not an accident.

DO THEY KEEP IT?

When I go into the jail yard, I sometimes think it may be the off season for all the flowers, but there is one exception, and that is the blooming idiot.

This would discourage me if I did not recall that if I was not that kind of an idiot I was one of several other kinds.

I have become an incurable optimist. I have seen the hopeless become hopeful, the utter failure achieve success, the vacillating crystallise into steadfast purposefulness. A watchmaker challenged me one day by asking, "Well, are you still messing around with drunks?" I replied, "You seem to be still messing around with watches." "Yes, but I make them go," he answered. I then handed back my watch which four months ago he had "made go." I then, feeling myself well in the saddle, informed him that I treated drunks like he did watches, and when they were wound up daily, cleaned occasionally and kept reasonably I did not object to their stopping sometimes, knowing that it would not take much to start them again. "No charge this time, thank you!" Being a good sort he smiled and invested a bit in drunks.

A business friend of mine, who thinks in percentages, deprecated the hopefulness of my undertaking. I pointed out that he was counted a successful man in spite of the bad debts on his books, the bad investments he had made, and the small return from some of his departments. I work on a percentage basis, I told him, and 83 per cent. of those who have signed the pledge at the Central Police Court have not returned to the Court during the period in which they were pledged. This is a success beyond the dreams of business men.

THE STAR OF HOPE.

There is no short cut, no easy way, no absolutely certain cure for the drunk. His trouble is a complicated one, involving him physically, socially, and morally. If you put him physically right as the doctor can, and leave him a prey to his social set and unsupported morally, you may be sure of disaster. If you put him socially right, leaving him morally flabby and physically poisoned, he is certainly a one-horse sinner with a two-horse load, and won't make the grade. What then can be done? There is no answer in a sentence to this question, but there is hope, real hope.

A setting hen may be a loafer, but she gets results; a praying man may be old-fashioned, but like the hen he gets results. It will not be easy, it may not be immediate, but the reclamation of the drunkard is possible, and a thousand of my friends bear witness to the truth of my assertion. Of course our present system will manufacture them much quicker than we can cure them, but that will only be until we decide that prevention is better than cure.

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I PERSONALLY KNOW OVER ONE HUNDRED MEN WHOSE PANTS ARE TOO WELL VENTILATED FOR DECENCY, AND WHO FEEL LIKE WALKING ABOUT SIDEWAYS WITH THEIR BACK TO THE FENCE.

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W. E. WILSON, Hon. Secretary.

PROHIBITION WITHOUT COMPENSATION.

To be decided by Referendum, with bare majority, in State and Local Areas, and to operate within two years.

LAKEMBA INDIGNANT.

PROTESTS AGAINST PROPOSED HOTEL.

Every effort is being made to strengthen the case of the objectors against the proposed hotel at Lakemba. The committee which has it in hand is preparing additional evidence, and many new witnesses are available.

A very enthusiastic meeting was held in the Picture Palace on Sunday afternoon, at which there were present most of the representative people of the suburb. Mr. G. D. Clark, who presided, outlined the position as created by the decision of the Licensing Bench. He regarded the situation as one calling for the most serious consideration and energetic action. Their appeal to Quarter Sessions would have to be supported by the strongest possible evidence to indicate the feeling of residents regarding the license.

Mr. W. C. Clegg, who represented the objectors before the Licensing Bench, outlined the method of procedure, and urged that everything possible be done to secure evidence which might be expected to weigh with the Judge.

Miss Rogers and others also addressed the meeting.

On the motion of Mr. A. A. Jones (President of the Returned Soldiers' Branch), seconded by Mr. Chisholm, the meeting expressed strong protest against the opening of a public house for the sale of liquor in Lakemba at a site opposite the Picture Theatre and within 100 yards of the Soldiers' Club, and pledged itself to assist by all possible means the License Protest League in their appeal against the decision of the Licensing Magistrates.

This was enthusiastically supported by the meeting.

Similar meetings are being planned on the Sunday afternoons prior to the hearing of the appeal.

EDUCATION BY LITERATURE.

During this year it is proposed to extend the plans for the distribution of educational leaflets. A good deal of valuable propaganda was done last year, with the help of friends in various parts of the State, who regularly placed leaflets in the letter boxes of their towns. It was, however, only a small part of what needs to be done.

Our endeavor will be to have this literature distribution carried out systematically in every important centre. To this end we invite the assistance of our friends. Leaflets are being prepared, and enthusiastic Prohibitionists anxious to do something for the cause are asked to let us know they are willing to help in this way. Tell us right away, and the literature will be forwarded to enable a start to be made as soon as holidays are finished.

This is important. Friends will, we feel sure, see its importance, and want to help.

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CAMPANGN NOTES.

Our field programme for 1927 is being got into shape, and promises greater activity than ever. It is hoped to widen its scope by obtaining the fuller co-operation of ministers generally, so that there shall be some presentation of the case for Prohibition in every pulpit a couple of times during the year.

A series of special suburban rallies is being planned. These would be in certain key centres, and are intended to rally our friends to a bigger and more united effort against the liquor traffic.

It is also proposed to take steps to extend the teaching of temperance to young people. This important part of educational work would repay anything put into it.

Rev. H. Putland was the special preacher in the Granville-Guildford Methodist Churches on January 9, and during the past week-end and this week he has been in the Armidale-Glen Innes district.

Addresses were given by Mr. Still at Sutherland, Miranda and Heathcote. Mr. Saunders was in the Sutherland district, and also at Northbridge; and Mr. Macourt at Newtown and Mascot. Mr. Evan Richards visited Sutherland, Caringbah and Concord. During the coming week-end the staff will be engaged in the suburbs.

In the first two weeks of February a programme of services and meetings will be carried out on the Mountains, between Springwood and Mt. Victoria. Ready co-operation is being given by many of the ministers. As there are likely to be many visitors there from various parts of the State, these meetings will have special importance.

An application for an hotel on Lyons-road, between Drummoyne and Five Dock, is down for hearing on Monday next. There was an application for removal of the license of the Birkenhead Hotel, Bridge-street, Drummoyne, to a site on Lyons-road near the first named spot before the Licensing Bench this week.

The petition for a publican's license at Terrigal will be heard shortly.

There is no indication of a diminution of the number of petitions for new liquor licenses, showing clearly the line of activity of the liquor traffic, which is seeking to entrench itself fully. This will have the effect of making monetary compensation more of an impossibility than ever. Huge prices have been paid for some of the new licenses transferred shortly after being granted.

The Alliance President, Rev. H. C. Foreman, is taking a well-earned vacation at Terrigal. Miss Southwell, our Secretary, is holidaying in Tasmania.

Mr. Baird, an enthusiastic Prohibition worker in West Australia, has been visiting Sydney, and Rev. F. J. Barnes, of Tasmania, also is here, attending the Orange Grand Lodge sessions.

From Rev. A. G. Manefield and the Quarterly Meeting of the North-West Methodist Mission has come an expression of appreciation of the recent educational campaign conducted in their district by our representative. They are to plan for another tour during the spring of this year. We are encouraged by this appreciation of work done.

Mr. O. A. Pigott, known to many Prohibitionists in this State, will take up duty with the Prohibition Alliance on January 30, when he will visit Kiama as our special delegation. An able speaker, he will be appreciated by those who hear him.

This page is devoted to the activities of the N.S.W. Prohibition Alliance—Edited by Henry Macourt, Publicity Officer.

BROADCASTING ON THE AIR.

WOMEN'S CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WILL TALK TO LISTENERS-IN ON FEBRUARY 1.

Arrangements have been made by the Women's Consultative Committee with Broadcasters Ltd. for a wireless talk to the public on February 1 from 3 to 3.30 p.m. This committee is representative of the Representative Women's Prohibition League, Women's Christian Temperance Union, Business Women's Prohibition League and N.S.W. Prohibition Alliance, and is engaged in educational propaganda in the interests of better social and home conditions and the abolition of the drink traffic.

Miss E. M. Andrews, the capable secretary of the committee, will broadcast on their behalf on this occasion, and her talk is likely to be particularly interesting to those who will be able to hear her, as she has at her command a considerable amount of information concerning social conditions here and elsewhere.

The whole question of alcohol in relation to human life and national well-being is so important the talk will be opportune, and Broadcasters are doing a public service in providing the facility for it being widely heard. Attention is frequently being drawn by world authorities in some phase of this question, stressing its seriousness to the community, therefore anything which would tend to focus the public mind upon it is valuable.

FIELD PROGRAMME.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23.

11 a.m.: Haberfield Presbyterian Church.
7 p.m.: Leichhardt Presbyterian Church.

Rev. H. Putland.

10.30 a.m.: Balgownie Anglican Church.
2.30 p.m.: Fairy Meadow S. School.

7.30 p.m.: Bulli Anglican Church.
Mr. A. G. Saunders.

11 a.m.: Punchbowl Anglican Church.
7 p.m.: Bankstown Anglican Church.

Mr. C. E. Still.

11 a.m.: Botany Methodist Church.
7 p.m.: Rosebery Methodist Church.

Mr. Evan Richards.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30.

11 a.m.: Haberfield Methodist Church.
3 p.m.: Five Dock Brotherhood.

7.15 p.m.: Five Dock Methodist Church.
Rev. H. Putland.

7.15 p.m.: Hornsby Anglican Church.
Mr. C. E. Still.

7 p.m.: Mascot Methodist Church.
Mr. Evan Richards.

11 a.m.: Kiama Methodist Church.
7 p.m.: Kiama Anglican Church.

Mr. P. A. Pigott.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR 1927.

In connection with our country organising campaign, Hon. Crawford Vaughan is visiting the following centres during the week:

Wagga Monday, January 17.

June Wednesday, January 19.

Goulburn Friday, January 21.

Queanbeyan Saturday, January 22.

Conferences for the formation of local committees are being held at the above centres, and open-air addresses will be given. During February Mr. Vaughan will speak at Kempsey, Wauchope, Taree and Wingham, and later he will address conferences at Parkes, Forbes, Orange, and Bathurst.

Conferences are also being called in metropolitan electorates, the first being Rockdale, on January 25.

NEW SOUTH WALES PROHIBITION ALLIANCE

Headquarters: 321 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Our Objective: The Abolition of the Liquor Traffic.

Our Weapons: Education and Legislative Action.

PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS MEN'S AUXILIARY.

THE PEACEFUL REVOLUTION IN INDUSTRY.

"Prohibition has fundamentally changed the Labor outlook," said Mr. Crawford Vaughan, addressing the employees of the Westinghouse Brake Co., at Concord, on Wednesday last. "The old dividing lines of Labor and Capital had largely disappeared in America," he went on to say, for as the U.S. Congressional Committee reported in 1925, Labor was fast becoming a Capitalist. Labor Unions owned shares in trusts and corporations, and managed and controlled most successfully a string of Labor banks, with an aggregate capital of £30,000,000. This peaceful revolution, due to Prohibition, must inevitably have a profound effect upon Labor throughout the world, sweeping away old antagonisms and reducing almost to a minimum the number of industrial disputes. Even in England there was evidence of a new attitude of Labor leaders on such questions as industrial efficiency, and the closer co-operation of employer and employee. The workers were not likely to strike against a company in which they held a substantial interest in shares, as was the case with railroads the Steel Trust, and other large capitalistic concerns in U.S.A. There were clear, unmistakable signs that Labor Unions of America realised that only by increased industrial efficiency, by cutting out waste of every kind, could high wages be accompanied by reduced cost of living.

Australia, which 20 years ago led the Labor world, was now behind U.S.A. in its industrial outlook. It was even behind England in this respect. Class consciousness was still being preached here, and industrial efficiency was still at a low ebb. The result was that high rates of wages were proving to be an illusion, for they were discounted by the ever-rising cost of living. We still thought in the terms of Labor and Capital as though these two essential elements in production were natural antagonists instead of partners. There was no reason why Australian labor should not largely control its own share of capital, and become owners of a string of Labor banks, and at the same time be admitted as a shareholder in industrial and commercial enterprises, as was the case in U.S.A.

In conclusion, the speaker said that while Prohibition was not the final word in social reform, it was the first essential. The expenditure of £31,000,000 in liquor in Australia was an appalling economic waste, of which Labor probably paid £20,000,000 a year. A still greater loss, estimated by Roger W. Babson at four dollars to every one dollar saved by the elimination of the drink bill, was due to the loss of economic efficiency arising from liquor. Mr. Vaughan said that until they stopped this appalling diversion of Labor's earnings from the coffers of the Brewery Combines into the banking accounts of the workers, there was no hope of improved social conditions. Until the liquor evil was abolished industrial awards by Governments and Arbitration Courts must remain

SITUATION IN NORWAY.

LIQUOR INFLUENCE OVERRIDES PUBLIC WELFARE.

The cabled statement that the Norwegian Parliament proposes to end the Prohibition law once more calls attention to the extent to which liquor influence goes in politics.

The Government of Norway had for the last several years prohibited by law the manufacture, sale or importation of intoxicating liquors containing as much, or more than, 12 per cent. of absolute alcohol. The law was adopted in response to the demand of the people as the result of the referendum held in October, 1919, upon the question of making permanent the prohibition of the beverage liquor traffic that had been effective during the war period, the result of that referendum being a majority of 184,344 in favor of continuing Prohibition in Norway. The voted stood 489,017 for Prohibition and 304,673 against Prohibition.

Economic pressure brought to bear by France, Spain and Portugal affecting the trade treaties between those countries and Norway finally compelled the Norwegian Government to agree to purchase a certain quantity of spirits and strong wines each year. France, Spain and Portugal all terminated their trade treaties with Norway, and then, under threat of closing the markets of these three countries to Norwegian fish products, compelled the Norwegian Government to become responsible for buying a large quantity of intoxicating liquors from these three countries. The Norwegian Government in 1922 yielded in part to this demand, and when the question came up for decision in the Norwegian Parliament in March, 1923, and that body faced the necessity of buying outright from these three wine-producing countries a yearly quantity of strong drinks amounting to 1,850,000 liters, the economic difficulty was so great that by a narrow margin in both Houses of Parliament the prohibition of wines containing up to 21 per cent. of alcohol was lifted. Thus there is presented a glaring illustration on the part of the Governments of France, Spain and Portugal of the violation of the principle of self-determination for small countries.

as disappointing as were mirages to thirsty travellers.

Despite a little personal antagonism shown by a few, the general reception accorded the speaker was courteous, and his remarks were listened to with close attention.

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This Page is devoted to the activities
of the Prohibition Alliance—Edited
by Henry Macourt, Publicity Officer.

DAFFODILS.

One of our friends will donate £5 worth of daffodil bulbs to the Alliance funds. Therefore, will anyone desiring some get in touch with us, and let us know any special ones they require. The bulbs will not be ready until early in the New Year, but it will help to have the orders as soon as possible. Particulars and prices are as follows. Those who have had similar bulbs previously speak very highly of them:

	Each.	Doz.	Per 100.
Ard Righ	3d.	2/-	10/-
Barrii Conspicuus ..	5d.	4/-	28/-
Emperor	4d.	3/-	20/-
Empress	4d.	3/-	20/-
Figaro	2d.	1/-	7/-
Golden Spur	3d.	2/6	15/-
Hoboken (new)	1/6	15/-	—
King Alfred	1/6	15/-	90/-
Mme. de Graaff	6d.	5/-	—
Princeps	3d.	2/-	10/-
Sir Watkin	4d.	3/-	20/-
Alsace	3d.	2/6	—
Elvira	4d.	3/6	—
Autocrat	3d.	2/6	—
Albatross	6d.	5/-	—
Cardinal	4d.	3/6	—
Diadem	4d.	3/6	—
Glitter	3d.	2/6	—
The Star	4d.	3/6	—
White Queen	6d.	5/-	—

Half dozen of any one variety at the dozen rate.

Orders can be received up till end of February.

PROSPERITY AND PROHIBITION

It is desired to draw your attention to the fact that the tidal wave of prosperity that has swept over U.S.A. with Prohibition, shows no sign of subsiding. "Increasing stability has marked business development in the United States during the past five years, and wages are at a maximum of purchasing power, according to the composite judgment of leading industrial and financial executives of the country, says a statement just issued by the National Industrial Conference Board under date November 15." We quote from the "Christian Science Monitor," of November 16, 1926:

"Increased business activity during the current year, in spite of the tendency toward lower prices, is cited as significant. The lower prices are the result of greater economy in production and distribution, and of credit economics," according to Magnus W. Alexander, President of the Board. "Combined with the prevailing high wage levels in the United States, these lower prices have resulted in the highest purchasing power ever known," he declared.

"Real weekly earnings," the report says, "are now about 29 per cent. higher than in 1914; 9 per cent. higher than in 1920; and one per cent. higher than a year ago."

In view of the ever-increasing cost of living in Australia, the general tendency of prices to decrease in U.S.A., despite rising wages is a significant fact, which business men cannot afford to ignore.

PASS "GRIT" ON

VOTE PROHIBITION BEFORE PARTY

WHO SAID MODIFY?

By GIFFORD GORDON, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

Four years spent in diligent personal study of American Prohibition should entitle one to speak with considerable confidence on that important subject. I wish to record here-with the chief convictions that have laid hold upon my mind concerning this great venture in social legislation.

IF PROHIBITION WINS IN AMERICA IT WILL WIN EVERYWHERE.

If Prohibition established itself as a permanent and effective policy in the life of this nation it may prove to be America's most unique contribution to the civilisation of the world. If Prohibition succeeds in America it will eventually win its way throughout the whole earth. But if it fails here, if the American people who are renowned for the enterprise with which they push their projects to a successful issue, are compelled by the logic of events to repudiate Prohibition, the effect of such failure will be unspeakably disastrous to the movement for Prohibition elsewhere in the world.

THE WETS OF ALL NATIONS AGAINST THE DRYS OF THIS NATION.

No one is more conscious of this than the liquor interests themselves. They know that the prolonged success of Prohibition in America will eventually mean the doom of the liquor traffic throughout the entire world. Hence the wets of all nations are in league against the drys of this nation. It is a most intense and dramatic struggle that is going on. The outcome might be uncertain were it not for the fact that the stars in their courses are fighting on the side of those who in the name of humanity are slowly but surely driving the liquor traffic from the face of the earth.

THE PUBLIC CONFUSED ON THE ISSUE.

It cannot be doubted that there is much confusion in the public mind as to how Prohibition stands at the present hour. Many of its friends even are in doubt whether it is winning or losing, "coming or going." The clamorous propagandists of the old wet order have raised such a din about the alleged failure of Prohibition, such a shouting about the evils it is supposed to have brought upon us, and have pushed through the public press such a campaign of distortion and mendacity as to the actual position and achievements of Prohibition that multitudes all over the earth, not excluding many Americans, have been grossly deceived as to the real value of Prohibition to these United States.

MISTAKES.

At the outset I wish to correct certain misapprehensions, which are still current, concerning the history of the Prohibition amendment or the method by which it became the law of the land.

PROHIBITION UNDEMOCRATIC!

Everywhere I go I still find people who declare that Prohibition is a minority movement. It came, we are told, not by the will of the majority but by the adroit manipulation of a comparatively small group of enthusiasts who hoodwinked the politicians into believing that the people wanted it. It is not an expression of the popular will. It is not a democratic institution. The people have it but they do not want it, and never have wanted it.

2235 DRY COUNTRIES BEFORE NATIONAL PROHIBITION.

Those who thus affirm overlook the impressive fact that by the time that national Prohibition became effective 33 States had, on their own account, adopted a Prohibition law, and that as a result of either Local

Option or State Prohibition no fewer than 2235 counties were in the dry column, leaving only 305 to the wets.

DECISIVE PLURALITIES FOR SUBMISSION AND RATIFICATION.

They also fail to appreciate the significance of the overwhelming pluralities in favor of Prohibition as recorded in the Congressional vote for submission and the vote of the State Legislatures for ratification. The favorable vote in the two branches of Congress totalled 347 as against 148 unfavorable, while in the 48 State Legislatures 5079 members voted for ratification of the Prohibition amendment and only 1265 against it. Since it is not the habit of politicians to run counter to the wishes of their constituents in such reckless and wholesale fashion, these enormous political majorities can only be accounted for by the existence of an impressive popular majority for Prohibition.

THE MOST POPULAR AMENDMENT.

Our friends forget, too, that the amendment providing for national Prohibition was ratified by a larger number and greater proportion of States than any other amendment in the constitution. Five of the fourteen States then existing did not ratify the Bill of Rights made up of the first ten amendments to the constitution; three of thirty-six States did not ratify the anti-slavery amendment; eleven of the present forty-eight States have not ratified the woman suffrage amendment; but only two States failed to ratify the Prohibition amendment. Facts of this nature ought to silence forever the foolish assertion that national Prohibition is not the will of a majority of the American people.

PROHIBITION NOT A REPRESENTATIVE MOVEMENT!

Another notion still enjoying too large a vogue among American citizens is that national Prohibition is a sectional movement—that the people responsible for it belong almost exclusively to the ultra-religious and ultra-emotional class. On the contrary, no achievement of democracy was ever more representative. Scientific and professional men, leaders in social life, educators, preachers, the captains of industry and commerce, the champions of sport, medical associations, insurance companies, railway corporations, retail and wholesale business, philanthropic and reform organisations, the home, the school, the bank, the hospital, the church—all had a hand in ridding the Republic of the stain and terror of the licensed liquor traffic. Because this traffic was an enemy to all it brought down upon its head the opposition of all.

PROHIBITION THE RESULT OF WAR FRENZY!

A more prevalent misconception is that Prohibition is a hasty and ill-considered movement resulting from the artificial and abnormal stimulus of the great war. It was put over on the crest of war-time excitement. In the language of Senator Edwards, it was "foisted upon a war-crazed people."

NOT AN IMPOSITION BUT A GROWTH.

Prohibition was not foisted on the American people. No external authority dumped it on the democracy of this country. If came not as an imposition from without but as a growth from within—as the normal, irresistible self-assertion of the American conscience in judgment upon a great evil. The process of growth has extended over a century. It is one hundred years since Lyman Beecher declared that the "national remedy

for intemperance is the banishment of ardent spirits from the articles of commerce." This statement suggests the idea of national Prohibition. Nourished and vitalised by a continual process of education, tried out experimentally over ever-widening areas, until it became the adopted policy of 33 States and 2235 counties, justified by the failure of every other method of dealing with the liquor traffic, Prohibition is the matured and final method of ridding the world of the scourge of beverage alcohol.

THE WAR HASTENED THE COMING OF PROHIBITION.

We are quite prepared to admit that the great war accelerated the coming of national Prohibition. This was only natural since the war itself provided a background against which the unspeakable folly and terrible iniquity of the liquor traffic could be clearly seen by multitudes other than Prohibitionists and reformers. In those stern days England admitted that alcohol hindered the army, delayed munitions, kept thousands of men from war work, hampered the navy, delayed transports, threatened the mercantile marine, destroyed food supplies, wasted the financial strength and shattered the moral strength of the nation. No wonder she reduced the time in which liquor could be lawfully sold to something like 4½ hours per day! Under stress of the war France admitted that strong drink was as much her enemy as Germany, that it had cost her in men and money as much as the war itself, that it was responsible for great hereditary evils, a great many mad men and women and consumptives and most of her criminals, that it decreased production enormously, raised the cost of living and increased poverty, and that it decimated and ruined France to the great delight of Germany. The amazing thing is that a country could admit such an indictment against strong drink and yet retain it as a legitimate industry. It is not surprising, then, that if the war could bring home to non-Prohibition countries like France and England the manifold evils of intoxicants it would speed up the coming of Prohibition in America where that policy had already laid firm hold upon the heart of the nation.

BUT PROHIBITION WOULD HAVE COME HAD THERE BEEN NO WAR.

But the inevitable trend toward national Prohibition had set in long before the war. Those who think otherwise ignore or forget that the U.S. Senate, which voted 65 to 20 to submit the national Prohibition amendment, was elected one-third in 1912, one-third in 1914, and one-third in 1916. They overlook the fact that the House of Representatives, which voted 282 to 128 to submit the Prohibition amendment, was elected in 1916, with national Prohibition a vital issue in the campaign, five months before America entered the war. It was really a pre-war Congress that submitted the Eighteenth Amendment. They fail to remember, too, that no fewer than 32 States ratified national Prohibition after the war had been fought and won—when the terrific responsibility and anxiety of waging the war were no longer upon us. The wets had plenty of time after the war to have prevented ratification had it been possible to do so. All they had to do was to keep 13 State Legislatures from endorsing the amendment. These three facts alone show how utterly wrong is the contention that national Prohibition is a product of war-time madness.

(Continued on page 10).

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FATHERS AND SONS.

A NEW MOVEMENT.

This week has seen the opening of the Central Bureau of the Father and Son Welfare Movement of Australasia, an organisation designed to strengthen the ties of father and son to one another, to the home and to the Church, and to give advice along the lines of Social Hygiene, Personal Problems (especially relating to sex instruction), Civic Responsibility, and Community Service.

His Excellency the Governor, in accepting the position as patron to the Movement, has expressed the pleasure his doing so affords him, and he hopes that its objects will secure the support and sympathy of the people of the State.

A strong Central Council has been formed, and an Advisory Committee, consisting of leaders in the religious, medical, educational, commercial and industrial life of the community, is in course of formation.

In these days of unspeakable crimes the establishment of a Central Bureau, where parents may obtain sane advice concerning the training of their children, and where young people may receive wise counsel and procure safe literature to further guide them in the solution of their life problems, should appeal to all interested in the future of Australia.

By carefully prepared illustrated lectures, and by the screening of special films, this new organisation hopes to reach many thou-

sands of parents and young people annually in city, suburban and country centres.

The important work of directing the Movement has been entrusted to Mr. P. J. L. Kenny, whose many years' experience in work with young people in this State and in New Zealand has proved him to be a specialist in dealing with subjects which perplex alike father and mother, youth and maiden.

The following gentlemen constitute the Central Council:

President: Dr. Richard Arthur, M.L.A.

Vice-Presidents: Archdeacon Charlton, Rev. R. B. S. Hammond, Dr. J. S. Purdy (Metropolitan Medical Officer), Dr. Harvey Sutton (principal medical officer, Department of Education), and Mr. F. C. Moore.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. W. E. Wilson.

Hon. Secretary: Rev. M. Wilson-Park.

Councillors: Rev. W. J. Grant, B.A., Dr. Donald Luker, and Messrs. Waller Jones, F. H. Searl and J. Tamlyn.

As previously reported, the Council of Churches has endorsed the scheme, and by special resolution wished Mr. Kenny and those associated with him every success.

We hope next week to publish the names of the Advisory Council.

Mr. Kenny will be pleased to be of service to any communicating with him or calling at the Central Bureau, M.U.I.O.O.F. Building, Castlereagh-street, Sydney.

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Vodka and Industry.

Prague, Oct. 5.—Recent reports from Russia show that the reintroduction of the sale of vodka is having a serious effect both on morals and on the whole industrial system. Drunkenness among the workers is more than ever a scourge, and critics in the Soviet press itself declare that, in spite of orders from the Central Council, the factory managers have not the courage to combat the evil, and their position is not made any easier by interference from the workers' organisations. It appears that the good work done by Dzeriinsky during his directorship of industry to introduce discipline into the factories has been to a great extent nullified by this step.—London "Observer," October 10, 1926.

**FROM 300DOL. TO 5DOL PER MONTH
FOR POVERTY RELIEF.**

Dr. Lee W. Beattle, pastor of a Baptist Church in New York City, in speaking at a Harlem Church in defence of Prohibition recently, gave some figures compiled in his work as head of a settlement house there, which tell their own story of the worthlessness of Prohibition. Dr. Beattle said that Prohibition had brought undreamed of happiness to the slums of this and other cities. Nowadays, he said, there had been months when his settlement did not need to spend 5dol. a month for relief, whereas 300dol. was common in the saloon days.

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A Personal Chat with my readers

AN AUSTRALIAN IN U.S.A.

On page six of this issue there will be found the first installment of a most convincing statement by Gifford Gordon. He says:

"In July, 1921, I began an investigation of American Prohibition and continued it until December, 1922. The results of that investigation were summarised in my pamphlet, 'Hold Fast, America,' and later presented in a book of some 300 pages entitled '35,000 Miles of Prohibition.' The year 1923 I spent in Australia lecturing on Prohibition as I saw it at work in this country. In February of 1924 I returned to America. Here I have remained checking up on my former survey and telling the public from pulpit and platform the things I firmly believe concerning Prohibition.

"My faith in Prohibition is being constantly justified and strengthened by what I see it accomplishing in defiance of the sinister forces which are seeking to overthrow it. As a national policy, Prohibition is eminently worth while, eminently worthy of its place in the constitution, eminently worth observing, eminently worth enforcing, and every man, woman and child in the Republic should know it. It is in the hope of strengthening the public confidence in Prohibition that I send forth this new pamphlet."

Born in South Australia, Mr. Gordon knows both the Commonwealth and U.S.A., and he writes a story all Australians have reason to thank him for.

* * *

THE SCALE.

I wonder if you ever noticed that we weigh our friends and our enemies in different scales? We also weigh our faults and our neighbors' faults in different scales.

We have a fair amount of sympathy for a man with a damaged leg, but often only contempt for a man with a damaged will. Did you ever think that out? A man may be quite happy with a damaged leg, but he cannot possibly be happy with a damaged will.

I want you to read with care my article in this issue on page three. I am pleading for more hopefulness and understanding sympathy for the drunk.

In the heart of the Arabian Desert, in its oasis of date-palms, by the bend of the great river in the village of Ana, there dwelt two men. The first was known as the Saint, so great was the intensity of his devotion to all things pure. And the other was called the Sinner, and he was hated and reviled of all men, because in evil and in shame he passed his days.

Now it came to pass one night on the full moon, that as each gazed upon the splendor thereof their hearts were filled with despair. And in the tense madness of this silver-

stained moment the Sinner performed a noble deed, and the Saint succumbed to a crime.

And the next day, in the market-place, nothing was talked of but the sin of the Saint and the noble deed of the Sinner.

And the people were filled with pity and admiration for the Sinner. "We have misjudged him," they cried, and they clad him in purple and anointed him with nard. But against the Saint they were full of wrath. "What a man we have worshipped!" they cried. "Away with the hypocrite." And seizing hold of him, they cast him forth into the desert.

And as the Saint lay there, wounded and weeping, he felt a hand laid on his shoulder, and heard a voice saying: "Fool, what cause has thou to weep and wonder? Learn, that the slightest vice in a virtuous man excites horror and condemnation; the slightest virtue in a vicious man, pity and adoration—for in water the presence of a hair is detected; no blemish is visible in ink."

* * *

TIMES HAVE CHANGED.

Mother is now dubbed old-fashioned. It is true she is an old dear, but her standards are hopelessly impossible. We hear this on every hand. Now we ought to insist that this is not due to her being wrong or her standards false, but it is due to the fact we live in an age that takes a pride in dodging work rather than in doing it well, in having a good time rather than in making good, in self-pleasing rather than in fulfilling our obligations to our Creator. A little shine on her nose now worries daughter quite as much as a lot of dust on the furniture used to worry her mother. An absence of clothing worries daughter not at all, the obligations of motherhood do not appeal to her, and she dances gaily to the empty life that waits her when the bloom is off her youth and there is no child to love her and no grandchild to interest her. T.M.H. has written this of mother, and it seems as though there will not be many of whom it is true in another generation:

O noble soul in fragile body set,
A dull drab lot and weary has been thine
Which well had overcome a soul less fine;
But thou hast battled, and wilt battle yet,
And ever rise supreme. Through suffering
Thy faith was ever clear. Thy patience rare
But greater grew with greater grief and care.
And calmly still awaits all life can bring.
Disappointment's bitter way was thine,
Thy dearest hopes were left unrealised,
Yet patiently thou gav'st up what was prized,
And toiled and strove that I might realise mine.

So will I strive. I shall not live in vain
If I to half thy splendid strength attain.

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.
Address: Box 390F, G.P.O., Sydney.
Office: N.S.W. Prohibition Alliance, Macdonell House, 321 Pitt-street, Sydney.

SYDNEY, THURSDAY, JAN. 20, 1927.

MY CHRISTMAS EFFORT.

Will all those who so graciously and generously helped me to help others this Christmas time bear with the delay in writing the story of the great undertaking.

I am finding it very, very difficult to keep pace with all that clamors to be done. I have all the material for a story of Christmas helpfulness and hope it will appear in the next issue.

* * *

SCIENCE AND RELIGION.

Religious people have frequently been afraid of science, and scientific people have in like measure been contemptuous of religious people.

It is as though the hen was afraid of an egg and the egg contemptuous of the hen. This might be excusable, since neither have the intelligence to recognise that back of them both must be a Common Creator Father. Our fears and contempt for one another are without such excuse. Sir Oliver Lodge is honored by scientists all over the world, and increasingly grows the confidence of religious people in this outstanding man.

In his sixth Hailey Stewart lecture, at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, London, last month, Sir Oliver took as his subject "Death and the Hereafter."

Sooner or later, he said, science would find itself bound seriously to ask, and attempt to answer, the question, "Is death the end?" He believed the answer would be that experience, learning, and character formed a persistent entity which could continue amid other surroundings.

It seemed to him that the existence of a spiritual world and of beings and intelligences above present-day humanity, grades as numerous above as we already knew them to be below were being gradually proved.

Whether the life hereafter would be happier than the present one depended upon what we had done here, how we had made use of our opportunities.

It seems that the scientist is slowly finding out what the religious have always known and been sure of.

The Editor

ALCOHOL IS A LIAR.

TRUST NO ONE IN THE LIQUOR BUSINESS.

By JOE LONGTON, for "Grit" Special Correspondent in U.S.A. for the "Sportsman."

"Two sons of Ham," both descendants of "The Ham Tree," were arguing as to which had the better education.

"Black Niggah! does you all know what deceit am?"

"Suttingly, I does, Rastus."

"Den what am it, Niggah?"

"Well, Rastus, when I leans over in a pair ob tight breeches and hears de seat go rip, I knows dat's de seat."

If the Prohibitionists of Australia hear a noise unaccountable for, that sounds like the seat being ripped out of something, they'll know that the seat has been ripped out from under the Wets in America, and that those not prostrate have been booted overboard with it, and "Slimy Phil" Hill, the Wet Leader that Senator Weller, the Maryland Dry, got the toe of his boot into, and kicked into the category of last year's bird's nest.

The following are excerpts from the Los Angeles "Times," the world's greatest, cleanest, largest, and most welcome newspaper, where a decent home is concerned:

GETS HIS OWN EVIDENCE.

Judge Bryant, 75-year-old jurist of Nebraska, who has been sentencing liquor-law violators to jail on bread-and-water meals, got tired listening to doctors explain that the prisoners were dying because of the slim diet. So he put himself on a five-day bread-and-water trial, which ended with a loss of ten pounds, but perfect health. From now on the Court promises expert medical evidence of this kind will carry no weight, and the bootleggers will continue to get the same old variety of justice.

SOME ENLIGHTENING FIGURES.

Increase in Bearing Acreage of California Vineyards.

	Bearing Acreage.		Forecast.
	1921	1926	1928
Wine Grapes .	105,000	156,945	170,300
Table Grapes .	60,000	144,200	148,300
Raisin Grapes .	197,000	352,091	344,600

MIXED METAPHOR.

"Prohibition poisoned Chicago" carols a wet contemporary. "With John Barleycorn in the seats of the mighty there's little hope for justice." But as a purist there's no hope whatever for the writer who puts John Barleycorn in more than one seat at a time. His logic, too, is as poor as his English, unless it is wrong to assume that moonshine and not Prohibition has poisoned the Windy City.

LEAGUE AID SOUGHT FOR PROHIBITION.

Geneva.—A demand that the League of Nations enter the battle against alcoholism was made last September. August Zaleski, Foreign Minister of Poland, presented the petition from delegations from Poland, Sweden, and Finland. He emphasised that the evil of alcoholism is made worse by the absence of co-ordinated international action against the abuse of drink.

A document among the members of the League Assembly refers especially to the smuggling of alcoholic liquors into the United States in defiance of its Prohibition law. This is a disgrace to civilisation, it is declared, nullifying the praiseworthy efforts of people and Government to solve the alcoholic problem.

The pamphlet states that the United States and the Baltic countries have negotiated

treaties to end this evil, but it insists that without uniform national action there can be no hope of success. The League of Nations, it is said, can settle this problem so important to humanity.

A FAR-REACHING KICK.

Of Prohibition affecting an inherent right of man to "eat, drink and be merry" as he pleases Dr. Parker said:

"Inherent rights end when public good is affected. Drinking lowers inhibitions, and every man knows that if he can get a girl to drink he has her three-fourths of the way where he wants her. I never saw liquor do any good except in rare medical cases. Why, even Mussolini insists upon absolute sobriety as one of the requirements of his leaders.

"I am certain that the law never will be modified; its beneficent results are already too obvious to those who really know the facts. When a nationally known rubber company has stated that hundreds of Monday morning absences amongst employees was a common occurrence, whereas now they are so rare as to be subject to penalty, it shows that the economic effects of Prohibition are being felt.

"Young people," she said, "are finer today, more altruistic, more desirous of giving service and being useful than they ever have been before. Statements to the contrary, tales we hear of youthful wildness, are largely pure propaganda, a part of the plan to discredit them because so many are carrying on the Prohibition campaign. This propaganda even has been spread deliberately to Europe. But I know what I'm talking about when I say that America is safe. Her young people are all right. It's some of the older ones I worry about."

A FIRST LESSON.

The Jewish adage, "If you do not mistrust, you never trust," brings to my mind an instance where a Jew promised to give his son his first lesson in the whisky business, he being a distiller.

Arriving at the age of 15 he went to his father and said: "Poppa, you promised to give me a few pointers on the whisky business when I became 15. I'm that age today."

Taking the boy out in the yard, he pointed to a ladder leaning against the house, and made Ikey climb it.

When Ikey got to the top he said: "Ikey, jump into poppa's arms." Ikey jumped. Poppa sidestepped, and Ikey, legs outstretched, straddled the ground.

Looking painfully up at his father, he said: "You said you were going to give me my first lesson in the whisky business, fader, and instead of that you are responsible for these injuries I have received. You told me to jump, and that you would catch me. You did not catch me, fader."

"Son," said the father, "that is your first lesson in the whisky business. Trust no one in the whisky business!"

From the Hebrew we get much of the advancement permeating America to-day. Protestant England first gave the Jew his freedom, and the Protestant knows his worth, and appreciates and encourages him.

CITIZENSHIP REFUSED DUE TO DRUNKENNESS.

Astoria.—Arrest for drunkenness is sufficient ground for refusing to grant citizenship in the United States, according to Circuit

Judge J. A. Eakin of this country. Because he admitted having been arrested twice for drunkenness the petition of John Pesonen was denied with prejudice for five years. "Drunkenness is an immoral act, and an offence against the Constitution under which Pesonen sought naturalisation," the Court said.

FITTING THE CRIME.

For two years or more police judges in Kansas City have made it a rule to send drunken automobile drivers to the municipal farm. There with a ball and chain, anchored to the hind leg, they have been required to put in eight hours a day at breaking rock or building roads. The officials say that one treatment is usually ample. They either quit drinking or driving.

FORD WEEK FIVE DAYS.

Detroit.—Following many months, during which the innovation was tentatively tried out, the five-day week for workmen in the plants of the Ford Motor Company have been adopted as a permanent policy it was officially announced at the close of 1926.

The short-week plan was experimentally projected in some of the Ford plants late in July. The effort since had been to give it gradual general effect, so that normal production should not be disturbed.

Such workmen as seem to deserve it, it was indicated, will receive as much for the five-day week as they had been getting for six days. But this will depend solely on merit, it was asserted.

Another feature of the policy adopted by the Ford organisation is that eight hours will constitute a day's work, and that there will be no extra labor, classified as overtime.

For the past four years Ford employees have been working on an average of but five days per week, and being paid accordingly. Two days the 100,000 or more employees have been idle without pay, while plans for a "forty-hour week" were being worked out. It was something that could not be decided in an overnight conference.

JUGGLING WITH FACTS.

Washington.—Wayne B. Wheeler, of the Anti-Saloon League described the Moderation League's "second annual screed against Prohibition" as being "as foundationless as the first one." The Moderation League's report on a survey of Prohibition conditions in more than 1500 cities was made public in New York, comprising statistics and other information gathered since the review of the situation last year.

"It juggles figures," Mr. Wheeler said, "by ignoring increased population, failing to compare conditions now with licensed days and failing to take into account greater activity in arresting intoxicated persons.

"Of course, there are more drunken auto drivers arrested now than formerly because we now have over 20,000,000 automobiles, compared with a few thousand some years ago. The lie about increased drunkenness among youth was nailed by the recent survey made by the 'Literary Digest.'

"If the dry States were half as bad off as this report asserts, the voters in these States would not continue to send solid delegations to Congress to strengthen national Prohibition, and elect State legislators and public officials to uphold and enforce their State Prohibition laws."

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PASS "GRIT" ON

Who Said Modify?—

(Continued from page 6.)

PUT OVER WHILE 2,000,000 BOYS WERE IN FRANCE!

Equally as false is the assertion, still sponsored by anti-Prohibition apologists, that Prohibition was put across while and because two million Americans were away fighting in France. This assumption implies a gratuitous slur upon your soldiers. A great number of these men belonged to churches and were opposed to the liquor traffic. Many of them had voted against it in their respective States or counties before going to the war. Moreover, since their return not a few States—Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, California and Massachusetts, for instance—have conducted referendums on Prohibition issues which have resulted favorably to Prohibition.

PROHIBITION UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

I am amazed, also, to find that not a few people regard the Prohibition amendment as unconstitutional, their contention being that it was adopted in a manner that did violence to the constitution. The trouble with these people is that they are in radical disagreement with the United States Supreme Court, the final authority in the interpretation of the constitution. This august body, after listening to arguments to the contrary presented by several of the country's most powerful lawyers, affirmed the legality and constitutionality of the amendment and declared that it "must be respected and given effect the same as other provisions of that instrument." This should be enough for every true American citizen.

LET US SUM UP.

To sum up this part of our discussion: National Prohibition is the voice of the American democracy; it is a thoroughly representative institution; it is the result of a hundred years or more of education and experimentation; it is the most popular measure ever written into the constitution, being placed there by political majorities and a legislative unanimity greater than that commanded by any other amendment; its constitutionality is impregnable; as part of the constitutional law of the Republic every true blue American citizen will obey it regardless of his private opinion, and he who disobeys it cannot with truth claim to be a 100 per cent. American.

OBSTACLES.

We are now ready to notice some of the main obstacles against which Prohibition has had to contend. It may be said that all the difficulties encountered in the enforcement of Prohibition are rooted in that spirit of lawlessness which has always been an inherent feature of the liquor traffic. In the old days of license, the most disobedient people on earth were the liquor dealers—manufacturers and vendors alike. They scoffed at all measures regulating their business and brazenly flaunted their standards of defiance in the face of the flag and the Government for which it stands. This contemptuous attitude toward law has produced a multitudinous progeny equally as contemptuous.

RUM-RUNNING.

First there is the smuggler. He is in the front line of the foreign offensive against American Prohibition. He has set up a rum row, more or less formidable, opposite our coastal cities, and has organized fleets of bootlegging automobiles for the transport of contraband liquors across international border lines. He has proved quite a problem in certain of our great maritime cities and at certain points along the Canadian and Mexican borders. Aroused at last by the prolonged insult offered by these unprincipled conspirators against the laws of a friendly nation, the United States Govern-

ment has risen in its strength and scattered rum row upon the high seas. The foreign offensive against American Prohibition, as seen in the smuggling industry, will eventually become as defunct as piracy.

THE BIG THREE.

Much more formidable than the smuggler is that unholy trinity—the moonshiner, the bootlegger and the bootlegger's patron. The moonshiner in defiance of the law manufactures alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes. The bootlegger in defiance of the law sells this illegal product. The bootlegger's client maintains both the bootlegger and the moonshiner in their criminal profession by providing a market for their illicit wares. Neither moonshiner nor bootlegger would exist commercially were it not for the man who buys their stuff. He may be a man of great wealth and social position, but he bears the brand of the law-breaker and carries the stigma of disloyalty to the constitution of his country. The great problem of enforcement is to shatter this criminal triangular entente, and all the decent elements of society should have a hand in the task.

DEFECTIVE JUDICIAL MACHINERY.

The weakness of much of your machinery of justice is proving a serious hindrance to effective Prohibition. Courts have been overcrowded, cases of violation have dragged on indefinitely without being brought to trial, thousands of cases have been nolle prossed, juries have shown a very injudicial sympathy with law-breakers, judges have imposed very mild penalties for very serious offences, and policemen have, in thousands of instances, shut their eyes to the most glaring infractions of the law.

The widespread violation of the national Prohibition law is symptomatic of the widespread violation of all law—symptomatic, mind you, not casual. Prohibition is not responsible for this, but the failure of your criminal jurisprudence to function satisfactorily is largely responsible for it. The recent survey of the Missouri Association for Criminal Justice informs us that in St. Louis in 1924 no fewer than 13,444 major crimes were reported but only 374 were punished. In face of this startling revelation what can we expect but a widespread disregard of law, and who but a violent partisan would place the blame for the current spirit of lawlessness upon the back of Prohibition?

THE POLITICIAN AND SPOILS SYSTEM.

The politician, too, has often proved an obstacle to the free and normal working of Prohibition. Prohibition unfortunately has been linked up with what is known as the "spoils system." Under this system politicians have appointed enforcement officers not because of any special fitness for the task but as a reward for political favors or out of regard for personal or party interests. Consequently the enforcement of Prohibition has often been entrusted to men who were opposed to it, who were incompetent, and who frequently violated the very law they were supposed to administer.

THE METROPOLITAN PRESS.

The metropolitan press must also share the shame of seriously incommending the Prohibition law. The attitude of many of the great dailies has been unfriendly and unfair in the extreme. There are not a few fine exceptions, I admit, but generally speaking the metropolitan press has been pronouncedly hostile. It has held Prohibition up to ridicule, exaggerated the violations of it, boldly proclaimed the policy of modification which would amount to nullification, and suppressed all reference to its good results. It has done its best to defeat the law and then jeered at it as a failure and a farce—an attitude as unsportsmanlike and cowardly as it is un-American. The rural press has been on the whole loyal to the law, and much of

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THE STAY-AT-HOME VOTER.

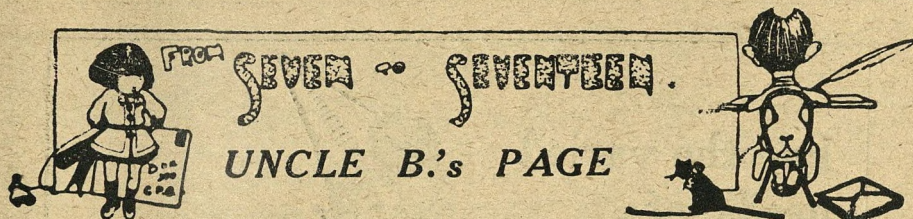
The stay-at-home voter is another serious obstacle to Prohibition. I have lived for months in a city where by actual survey it was found that from 40 to 70 per cent. of the members of the churches did not vote. Their failure to vote allowed the city administration to fall into the hands of a group who defy the constitutional provision for Prohibition, snap their fingers at both national and State enforcement codes, and protect the bootlegger in his lawless industry. The many church members who flagrantly shirk the responsibilities of the ballot are in large measure to blame for the corruption that pervades like a pestilence much of our political and civic life and retard in no small degree the beneficent progress of Prohibition.

(To be continued.)

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BUSY, BUT NOT SO BUSY.

Many of my dear scallywags explain to me how busy they have been, and I just wonder if. . . You see, I have seen a little dog let off the chain, and he was busy; he ran after every other dog, chased a cat, trotted down a dozen back yards, and raced after a bird. He came back with his tongue out, his side heaving, tired after being so busy, but he had done nothing and brought nothing back with him. It was only puppy business, which is another name for play.

"Our hours," said a nature student, "are nothing to the birds. Why, some birds work in the summer 19 hours a day. Indefatigably they clear the crops of insects.

"The thrush gets up at half-past two every summer morning. He rolls up his sleeves and falls to work at once, and he never stops until half-past nine at night. A clean 19 hours. During that time he feeds his voracious young 206 times.

"The blackbird starts work at the same time as the thrush, but he lays off earlier. His whistle blows at half-past seven, and during his 17-hour day he sets about 100 meals before his kiddies.

"The titmouse is up and about at three in the morning, and his stopping time is nine at night. A fast worker, the titmouse is said to feed his young 417 meals—meals of caterpillar mainly—in the long, hard hot day."

When you are as busy as a bird then I will excuse you.

UNCLE B.

OUR LETTER BAG.

100 P.C.

Hazel Crawford, "Moomoombin," Alstonville, writes: I suppose you are wondering where I have got to. Well, I am still here, and am working very hard now, getting ready for Xmas. I went for the Sunday School exam., and got 100 marks in my division (No. 7). I got a certificate, an annual, and the teacher presented me with a book for getting the highest marks in our school. We had a concert for our school, and our class sold the most tickets (about £11 worth); not too bad. We broke up on Friday, 17th, and we go back on the 24th January five weeks altogether. I suppose we will have lots of fun in the hols. I wonder are you going any-

where for your hols. I suppose if you left your letters too long they would overwhelm you when you got back. Well, I must say good-bye now, wishing you and all the chums a very happy New Year.

(Dear Hazel,—We all put our hands together, and give you a very hearty clap for your splendid exam. work. I hope you are having a lovely holiday, and that you will write and tell me all about it.—Uncle B.)

* * * *

THE MERRY-GO-ROUND.

Una Waters, Holly Road, Burradoo, writes: We had our examination all last week, and I passed in it. I got four hundred and fifty-five marks out of six hundred. There have been awful fires up here. Bowral town was lit up very prettily for Back to Bowral Week. All the nights there was the merry-go-round and the ocean wave. I went on the merry-go-round and the ocean wave. The last night I went on them they made me sick. I was that sick that I could hardly walk home. At the Back to Bowral concert there were songs and recitations, and a ring march and the Maypole dance. I was in the Maypole. I must close now, with love to all my ne's and ni's, and yourself.

(Dear Una,—I am not a bit surprised that you found the merry-go-round was disturbing to your lunch, and was a "merely come up," as far as it was concerned. I hate them. I am so glad the rain has come at last.—Uncle B.)

* * * *

OUR HON. NI.

Elsie Strike, Auburn, writes: It is somewhere near time that our "Grit" sub. is due, so I am enclosing 11/6 in these few lines. I hope you have a good New Year, Uncle, and good success with "Grit" and Prohibition, and also in your various other labors. I wonder what sort of a Christmas you had, a very busy one, I guess, whatever else. We had a Christmas service at 7 a.m. and it was very good, one of the best Christmas services I have enjoyed. Well, Uncle, I thought I would not write any more letters to page 11. I thought I would get my four young-cousins enlisted in your family and let them write instead of me, but I find I'm still young enough not to want to break away from our page altogether. When I open "Grit" up after looking at the cover page, I always turn to page double one, then to the Editor's page, and then to the D.I.P., so you see where my first interests still are. One of my cousins has so far written to you, and I think the others will be. They said they wanted to, and they certainly seemed interested. Talking about cousins reminds me that I went out to see one, who I suppose is your oldest "nephew." I wonder do you remember him? He lives at Arn-

cliffe. He has not written to you for a long time now, but he can't write much now, because of the pain in his hands and arms; but still he hasn't forgotten you. While Mr. Nicholson was here we had a real good time, and were glad when he extended his mission another week; even then many of us were sorry to let him go; but, of course, there are hundreds of people needing him elsewhere, so we had to be satisfied to let him go and set ourselves to work again in the usual duties of Church life, though most, if not all, with more encouragement and fervor than before, and there is much to be done in Auburn yet before we can say it is a saved town. There is no doubt Mr. Nicholson did a lot of good here. There were about 500 passed through the Enquiry Tent, and we will never know how many more were helped who did not make it known. As the ministers gave such good reports of the meetings there is hardly need for me to say anything more, and yet there is much that could be said, but I think if I start I won't know when to stop, and then my "cousins" will be feeling glad that I do only write once a year; otherwise, I would be taking up too much room in "Grit"; but still I'm a bit big, so I am allowed a little extra space, eh Uncle? I was able to go to the Mission, every meeting except two, and I was sorry to miss these. Still I was able to go over to Chatswood for the first Monday night's meeting that Mr. Nicholson had over there; and it was good to be back in the old tent again. But it was better still to hear the message: "Ye are My friends," not us saying "Christ is our friend"; but Him saying: "Ye are My friends." It's a wonderful love and condescension, isn't it, Uncle? "I call you not servants, but friends." The trip across to Chatswood was good, and enjoyed by all, I think, and we sang most of the way over, and people looked to see what was passing. Of course, we sang hymns and the choruses Mr. Nicholson taught us; and we don't know but what some of them caught the message and went on their way singing, or perhaps seeking for a happy heart such as ours. I was in the 'bus that "fired." As near as possible we got into the same 'bus coming back as going over, but you can guess we didn't stay in it long; but nobody was hurt, and only the motor of the 'bus was burnt; so we had very much to be thankful for. The most of our 'bus load did the round trip, and so came home by train, boat, tram, or train. Going over the 'bus backfired three times, and it seems a singular thing that Mr. Nicholson during the meeting prayed three times for our safe journey home. It seems that he must have felt somehow that there was danger lurking round our homeward track. Some of us could not but help notice this fact; however, we were protected from any hurt. Well, Uncle, here's nearly two pages about the Missions after all, and yet I haven't said much; but I guess I had better ring off this subject now, and move on to something else. Hasn't the rain been beautiful? To-day is somewhat wet. Yesterday

(Continued on next page.)

Seven to Seventeen—

was fine, but cloudy here, and Christmas was an ideal day so many people remarked upon the beauty of it here, and it was beautiful and fresh going up to church and coming home, too. It is good to know that the country people are getting their share of rain too now. Isn't it? Well, I'm going to return to the previous subject, Uncle; but only to say that I hope all my "cousins" and others too who may be likely to read this, will go to hear Mr. Nicholson, if they have the slightest opportunity to do so. But before they go I hope they will forget the bad and untrue reports they have heard and read of him. If they do that they will be able to take him and his message as they really are, and not as they were represented, or misrepresented, rather. Well, Uncle, I could go on writing pages yet, but I must stop, although I haven't put a great deal of news into this, have I?

P.S.—They say a woman's letter isn't a letter unless there is a P.S. at the close and some go so far as to say that *that* is the letter; but I just want to say: Don't wonder if you won't get this for a few days, as I haven't got the p.n. yet, but will be getting it to-morrow or Wednesday, all being well.

(Dear Elsie,—Your letter is just splendid. I wish a few more of my hon. scallywags would follow your example and write me such a letter as you have done. We will all enjoy hearing from you again.—Uncle B.)

THE WONDERFUL GUEST.

Ellison Nicholson, Wilde's Meadow, via Mossvale, writes: I am afraid I have become a scallywag again, but I have made up my mind not to be one any longer. I am on my holidays at Wilde's Meadow, and am enjoying it very much, but I'm sure I would enjoy it better if the sun came out, because it has done nothing but rain or drizzle since I have been here. Still when I know it is doing so much good to the country, I am satisfied and I am sure there will be some sunshiny days yet. It is a lovely place, because the house we are staying in is up on top of a hill, and we can look over the valley. There is a big tree close by that has branches close to the ground, and we have a lot of fun on it. Every day my brother and I go for the milk, and we have a lovely time climbing over fences and crossing the stream. This stream is very beautiful, because it has willow trees all along its banks, and must be shady and cool in hot days. On Sunday we went to the Presbyterian Church at Bowral, which is 13 miles away, and we enjoyed it very much, because it was children's day, and they had a children's choir, which sang very nicely. At night we went to the Methodist Church, which is five miles away at Robertson, and we heard a very good sermon about there wasn't any room for Him in the inn. The minister pleaded with us to make room in our heart for Jesus, and I feel very happy. I let Him into my heart years ago. Coming home the fog was so bad we couldn't see where to go, but soon

we came to a place where it became clear, and we were not so late in getting home after all. I am enclosing in this letter something nice for your Xmas fund for poor children from the Nicholson family. I must close now, wishing you a Merry Xmas and a happy New Year.

(Dear Ellison,—I am so glad you wrote, and most of all I am pleased that you wrote that long ago you received into your heart the wonderful Guest who comes to us like He did to the manger, and His coming makes all the difference in the world. I hope you are enjoying Wollongong, and that the sunshine you missed at Wilde's Meadows has caught you up by now. On behalf of the poor, I thank you all for "the something nice."—Uncle B.)

THE SILVER MEDAL.

Ian Barrie, Wooroona, Nambucca Heads, writes: We came out to the beach last night to stop for the holidays. I am almost sure I am on the scallywag list, because I know it is such a long time since I wrote to you. Would you please cross my name off the list. We got about three or four inches of rain

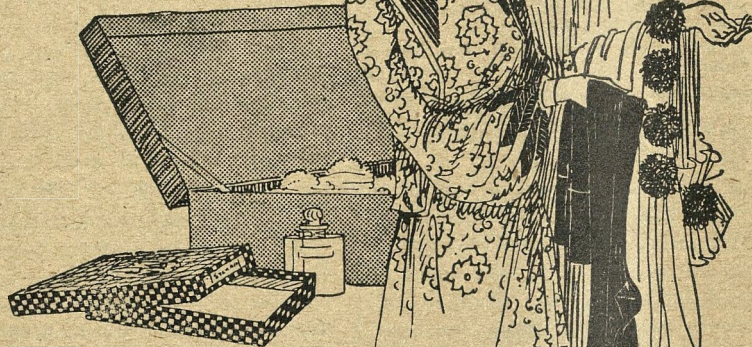
here not long ago, so the drought is broken up here. I suppose you saw about it in the papers. Mary got the silver medal at school this year, and I think she deserved the gold, for she worked very hard for it. A happy New Year to all.

(Dear Ian,—So you think Mary ought to have had a good medal. Well, I am glad she won even a silver one. I wonder if you will write and tell me more about your holidays. Give my love to "the lady who won the medal."—Uncle B.)

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION TO "GRIT" IS 11/-.

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Money talks, but it doesn't speak when it passes a poor relation.

Among the things that go to sleep when darkness falls is the conscience.

There is a time in every young man's life when he either makes a fool of himself or allows some girl to do it for him.

Bobby was becoming interested in anatomy.

"Mother, I know where my liver is, but where is my bacon?"

SURGERY SMILES.

Hardup (to doctor): "Really, doctor, you are most inconsistent. You tell me I must not worry, and here you have sent me a bill nearly as long as my arm."

WHY GO?

In speaking of the recent Catholic conclave in Chicago, Dr. Jones, Presbyterian divine, said:

"Regardless of creed or denomination, it was one of the greatest boosts for religion that has occurred during the present century in this country. For some reason religion, more than any other one thing, is filled with backsliders.

"Indeed, too many of us are like Rastus. 'Rastus,' said Parson White, 'Ah'd like to see you in church. Whyfore does you-all stay away like you do?'"

"Why, parson," exclaimed Rastus in pained surprise, 'dey ain't no need fo' me to come to church, yo' done converted me last August.'"

Early to bed and early to rise and you dodge most of the expensive temptations.

It may be true, as the scientists say, that stretching is an aid to health, but it doesn't seem to help truth any.

THE ESSENCE OF LAZINESS.

The Society for Stroking Animals sent an official to see a man who was said to ill-treat his dog. The official found the man working in a field. Near him sat his dog, barking lustily. "What's the matter with him?" said the official. "Just lazy," said the owner. "But laziness doesn't make a dog howl like that." "Perhaps not, but he's sitting on a thistle."

HE'D HAD ONE.

In one of the Indianapolis High Schools an English instructor was discussing with a literature class the author's ideals as judged from his book. Wishing to bring the idea closely home, she said: "All of us have our ideals, and our ideals are the best part of us. They bring out the best there is in us. Now, John," she asked, "what is your conception of an ideal?"

John blushed to the roots of his hair and stammered: "Well, er—I had one last year, but she left school."

TO THE POINT.

The young mistress of the house entered the kitchen, carrying herself with great dignity. She had come to call the cook to account.

"Jane," she said, "I must insist that you have less company in the kitchen. Last night I was kept awake by the uproarious laughter of one of your women friends."

"Yes, mum," said Jane, cheerfully. "I know; but she couldn't help it, mum. I was telling her how you tried to make a cake yesterday morning."

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DAILY INSPIRATION.

By FAIRELIE THORNTON, author of, "The Southern Cross," etc.

SUNDAY.

"Thou wilt ordain peace for us, for thou also hast wrought all our works in us."—Isa., 26, 12.

"It is God that worketh in you to will and to do of His good pleasure."—Phil., 2, 13.

How much needless worry and fret to the Christian worker would be saved could he only realise the truth that it is not his work at all, but God that worketh through him His works! "Thou wilt ordain peace for us," not worry, "for Thou also hast wrought all our works in us." We are co-workers with God. We are His tools. He does not see fit to do His work without us. In a sense, the tool does the work, but it is useless out of the hand of its master. Put yourself and your work into His hand, let Him work in you to will and to do of His good pleasure, and there will be no more anxiety about the work, no more friction with other workers, no more despondency about it being an apparent failure. "The wise and their works are in the hands of God." "They shall not labor in vain nor bring forth for trouble." Whether you are a hewer of wood, or drawer of water, however obscure a corner yours may be, you can say, "My work is with my God." Let your heart's desire be to be

"Only an instrument ready

His praises to sound at His will,
Willing should He not require me,
In silence to wait on Him still."

MONDAY.

"If this be the work of men it will come to nought, but if it be of God ye cannot overthrow it."—Acts., 5, 39.

As Thy righteousness, not mine,
Fits me for that place divine,
So my works must all be wrought
All of Thee, or come to nought.
Come, then Saviour, dwell within,
For Thyself the victory win,
Work Thy mighty works in me,
I Thine instrument would be.

TUESDAY.

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." God never commands impossibilities. He nowhere tells us to hate ourselves. "Love thyself last, cherish those hearts that hate thee," says one. One wonders if he carried that out. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor AS thyself," says one greater than Shakespeare. That implies that do you love yourself, "for no man ever yet hated his own flesh." Paul, one of the most selfless men that ever lived, writes: "When Jesus tells us to love our neighbors as ourselves, He means, I think that we should endeavor to put ourselves in another's place, as far as possible, to be as considerate of his comfort and convenience as of our own, to do in all things as we like him to do us." "And who is my neighbor?" Anyone you meet on the highway of life, even if he be of a different "set" from your own, some poor wayfaring man of another class who needs your help. Jesus was no respecter of persons. He looks not at the color of man's skin, for He hath made of one blood all nations of the earth. "God so loved the world" that He made no distinction, and He commands us to love even as He loved.

WEDNESDAY.

"Even to your old age I am He, and even to hoar hairs will I carry you."—Isa., 46, 4.

Age is a time of loneliness. The old companions have outstripped one in the race, and when the age of 50 is passed, the pace down hill is very rapid. One looks around,

and where are the friends and companions of youth? All flown to distant worlds or distant lands. The ties which bind one to earth grow looser and looser, and it is well it should be so. "As the outward man decays the inward man is renewed day by day" in the Christian. To such this promise comes. There is a text for every possible contingency of life, and the aged are not forgotten. Are you dreading old age and fearing being a burden to others? Then remember God has left a special promise for you. He will carry you, even as He carries the lambs in His arms, yes, even to hoar hairs He will carry you as a mother carries her child. "Even I have made," He says, "and I will bear, even I will carry and will deliver you."

THURSDAY.

"He will not fail thee nor forsake thee."

Be with me, Master, when the night is falling,
And shadows deepen o'er the homeward way,

When fears would haunt me, dread of ills appalling,
As twilight deepens, and fast fades the day.

Be with me as I enter on the dim unknown,
And lead me to the light around Thy throne.

Be with me, Master, when the path grows lonely,
When comrades have outstripped me in life's race;

Leave me not, Master—if I have Thee only
I shall have light e'en in the darkest place.
Let me but see Thy presence close to me,
I ask but this—'tis all I need to see.

FRIDAY.

"Consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."—Heb., 12, 3.

Are you misjudged, reproached, falsely accused, are your best actions misconstrued? "Consider Him." "They vehemently accused Him." Do even your brethren sometimes place stumbling blocks in your way, perhaps misinterpret your noblest deeds? "Consider Him." "Neither did His brethren believe in Him." Do those you love reward you with hatred, those you serve with ingratitude, those you trust with treachery? "Consider Him." "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not." "Lo, he that eateth bread with Me hath lifted up his heel against Me." "For My love they are My adversaries, they have rewarded Me hatred for My love." That is what that meant to One whose name was love. Rejoice if you are counted worthy to suffer shame for His sake whose heart was broken by love. Does all your labor seem to fall on barren soil? Do men reject your words, perhaps pass them by with silent contempt? "Consider Him." "He was despised and rejected of men." His work seemed to end in failure. Taunted even in death at being unable to save Himself or prove His kinship. Oh, "consider Him, and your light affliction," which is "but for a moment," will not be considered worthy to be compared with His, nor with the glory yet to be revealed.

SATURDAY.

Consider Him—thy Master—

When thou art wearied sore,

When heart and hand refuses

To think or labor more.

Consider Him when fainting

Beneath the noontide heat.

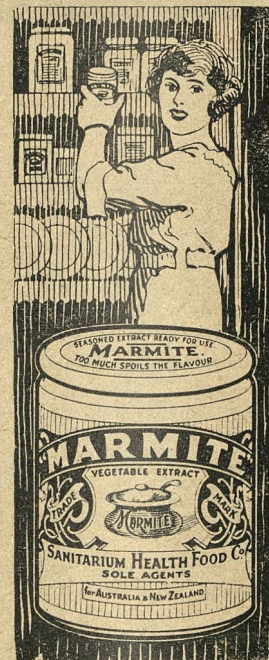
He never ceased His work of love,

Or listened to defeat.

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CHRISTMAS AND CANCER.

CHEERFULNESS, FAITH, AND PATIENCE.

Thirty minutes by motor from Sydney brought us to "Moorong," the beautiful home for cancer patients at Ryde, erected 2½ years ago by the committee of the N.S.W. Homes for Incurables. I had several times visited "Moorong," but as we motored along on this particular evening I wondered what my impressions would be on this visit, for it was Christmas Eve, and we were to be present at the Christmas tree entertainment.

One naturally associates only happiness, fun and frivolity with a Christmas tree, and how could these be possible when all those for whose benefit the entertainment had been arranged were not only incurables, but suffering from that most dreaded of all maladies—Cancer?

As we alighted and stepped through the gaily decorated lounge to the beautiful garden court, where the tree had been erected, a number of "hurrahs" greeted us. They came from Mrs. Brightsoul, who, sitting up in her bed, waved merrily a bunch of Christmas cards that she had received that day.

Anyone with a fit of the blues should pay Mrs. Brightsoul a visit. She is the life of the home, and her cheery presence brightens the lives of the other patients and drives despondency right away. As we inspected the wards at the conclusion of the entertainment Matron pointed to the beautiful lamp shades and other lovely decorations, the work of Mrs. Brightsoul.

Listen to the New Year's message forwarded by this cheerful sufferer to the editor of "Gems," that weekly sheet of brightness, circulating amongst the patients of so many hospitals and homes for the sick:

"As we are on the threshold of a new year, let us all endeavor to do our best in all things. May we look for the sunshine of life with the knowledge that there is always something to be glad about, even in our darkest and saddest hours, for there are many sweet surprises awaiting us—kind friends and loyal hearts, striving to help us through the great battle. May our humble souls be ready at the end of the fight to enter the haven of peace, and hear a gentle and loving voice say, 'Come unto Me, ye weary, and I will give you rest.'"

But to return to the Christmas tree. The tree, as I have already said, was erected in the centre of the garden court, and was borne down by its load of gifts, all of which the scores of bright electric globes amongst the branches made visible.

Hospital architects would do well to visit "Moorong," for I know of no other hospital so conveniently and comfortably arranged. The building, which is all on one level, consists of four sections arranged in a square, in the centre of which is a beautiful

garden of palms, shrubs, lilies and other flowering plants, and this was the site selected for the function.

The patients, with the exception of three very bad cases, two of which have since died, sat in their chairs or reclined on their beds on the verandahs surrounding the garden, for Matron and her staff had seen to it that every sufferer unable to walk, but

fit to be moved, had been wheeled out in his or her bed.

The proceedings opened with Christmas carols, after which Rev. C. S. Stubbin, Rector of St. Ann's, Ryde, offered a most appropriate and beautiful prayer. Father Christmas then commenced his work of love, personally presenting to each person gifts from the tree.

There were presents for the well as well as the sick, for the young as well as the aged, for friends of the nurses had forwarded their presents, as had also the mothers of the children who were there, to brighten the

(Continued on next page.)

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Christmas and Cancer—

occasion, for what would a Christmas tree be without the kiddies?

More carols, some Christmas songs, beautifully rendered by visiting soloists, to the accompaniment of not only the piano, but of several canaries, which indeed, sang throughout the whole proceedings. A few words of gratitude to Almighty God for His goodness by the Chairman, Mr. W. E. Wilson, the Doxology, in which all joined, and the Benediction brought a happy evening to a close.

From "Moerong" we motored round to "Weemala," the other home, about half a mile away. For years the residence of the late Hon. Henry Moses, "Weemala" is beautifully situated in lovely grounds. From its verandahs and balconies the patients have a panoramic view stretching for many miles. As we drove through the gates and looked down upon the Parramatta river and the city it seemed as though the fairies had been at work, judging by the thousands of lights glistening in the distance.

A programme very similar to that already described took place in the social hall, but, unfortunately, owing to the absence of an elevator nearly 40 patients were unable to be present.

Certainly Father Christmas visited them all in their rooms and gave them their presents, and everything possible was done to brighten the lives of these sufferers, but the real pleasure of the festive season was missed by these upstairs bed-ridden patients.

Who will forward a cheque to the Secretary, 72b King-street, to help instal an elevator, thus making many bright hours in the beautiful grounds surrounding "Weemala" possible for these ever-cheerful suffering ones?

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