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## THE AVERAGE MAN

Many looking at this picture will say, "That's me."  
When a man has ground at his task for a certain number of days, months and years, he begins to ask himself what he is doing, and WHY he is doing it.

He notices that he gets older and slower, and that the machine at which he works, whether it be a pen, a typewriter, a plough, a ribbon counter, or a lathe, it is always just as hard to work, always calls for the same amount of strength.

All of us, big and little, rich and poor, miserable or supposedly happy, are fastened to a treadmill and MUST work, whether we want to or not.

This earth itself is a great treadmill, whirling round and round majestically, and we little insects, fastened to its surface by gravity, are tied down here and have got to work in some way or other in spite of ourselves.

The baby opens its feeble eyes in the cradle to find itself working its little arms and legs IN SPITE OF ITSELF.

The child runs and plays, the little girl works at her dolls, preparing for future motherhood, and the little boy works at various kinds of effort that forecast his future work.

The old man works often harder than the young, because of his interest in children or grandchildren and his anxiety about them.

Each of us has his treadmill, for even the man who gives up his life to vice and self-indulgence is the victim of powers stronger than himself, and his treadmill is one of the most horrible and most painful.

Millions of men work patiently, steadily and monotonously in millions of difficult treadmills that might be labelled "THE SUPPORT OF A FAMILY." Their youth begins with enthusiasm. Courtship and marriage come, and gradually they settle down into the dull, daily grind, relieved and rewarded only by their love for their wives and children. Such men, very often, as they plod bravely along without any real idea of giving up, ask themselves if it is worth while and if they would not have done better to stay free.

To each one the task that he is doing seems trivial and unworthy. But among them all, they are doing the greatest work in the world.

They are keeping children in school. They are giving to the earth a better generation of men and women to follow this one. They are the great army of patient self-denying men, working unknown and unapplauded, for a generation to come. The world doesn't recognize them individually now, and it will not in the future. Neither will it recognise in the future the self-indulgent man who now seems and who feels so important.



"He Thinks His Life Is Wasted, but It is Not Wasted."

Almost every one of us human beings living in dull fashion, doing the same thing day after day, rebels at times. Not a day passes without men asking themselves if life is worth while.

Worth while or not, isn't the question. We can't jump off the earth, whether it be worth while or not to stay here—gravity prevents that. We can't leave this life whether we like it or not. Self-respect, religious faith, and a compulsory force, known as "the instinct of self-preservation," keep us here.

The best thing for us to do is to look at the bright side of the world.

The little boy going home with a prize for good conduct sees a world all gilded. And the little boy kept in after school for making a picture of the teacher on his slate sees a world jet black and altogether to be despised.

The world's work has been done by the human atoms, by the soldiers that Charlemagne left dying in the Pyrenees, by the patient, unknown watchers of the stars that came before Copernicus, Galileo, and Kepler, by the nameless, half-savage Phoenicians and their distant predecessors that conquered the seas before Columbus was born.

The earth is a treadmill. And there are fourteen hundred millions of human beings fastened to it. Each has a separate little treadmill of his own. Each in his corner is doing the work that he can do AND THAT HE MUST DO.

One side of the world is black when one side is bright. Try to look always upon the bright side, patient in hard work without losing ambition.

### THOUGHT-READING BY ELECTRICITY.

In the section of psychological medicine at the recent annual meeting of the British Medical Association, Professor Peterson, of New York, read a paper on his experience in the use of the galvanometer as an instrument in measuring the emotions. It has been known for many years that emotional expression in the human being is capable of causing perturbations in a galvanic needle. Peterson happened to be in Zurich, where Dr. Jurg was experimenting in the same line, and, together, they made a long series of most interesting observations. The subject for experiment was placed in an electrical circuit, by resting the hands or feet in copper plates. In the circuit was also a galvanometer, with a particular registering apparatus, by which its deviation could be accurately read. Apparently any length of connection can be established, and in many of the experiments the test person was in an adjoining room, altogether away from the recording apparatus. When the test person is placed in circuit, there is a rapid rise in the galvanometer curve, which they attribute to the emotion of expectancy. This result differs much with different individuals. Each subject was then tested by the following procedures:—

A loud whistle.  
Fall of a heavy weight with noise.  
Multiply 4 x 5.  
Multiply 9 x 11.  
Multiply 8 x 12.  
Test person called by name.  
Where do you live?  
What is the capital of Switzerland?  
What is the capital of France?  
How old are you?  
Are you married?  
Were you engaged once before?  
What is your first name?  
What is your wife's name?  
Is she pretty?  
We have now finished.

This series, with some variations, was given to each person three times. It was found that every stimulus which awakened an emotion was marked by a deviation of the galvanometer needle, according to the acuteness of the emotion, and that the deflection of the needle was proportional to the acuteness of effect produced. Repetition exhausts the power of stimulation.

The most striking feature of the experiments was in testing the subject by putting a series of words, to each of which he responds by the first word that comes to his mind. Whenever a word happens to awaken an emotional complex, the galvanometer wave shows greater range of disturbance. One person showed notably higher waves three successive times with the following word associations:—

The Sun—burns.  
Floor—parquet.  
Pay—write.  
Warm—the stove.

Professor Peterson (as reported in the "British Medical Journal") continued as follows:—"From our experience we felt sure that some emotional complex must be hidden behind these words, though there was nothing in the words themselves, aside from the high curves, to distinguish them from other similar and ordinary associations which he had given. Asked about them he was ignorant of any special significance in them. After distracting his attention for some time, we asked him what the word 'floor' suggested to him at the moment, when he suddenly said, with surprise and embarrassment, that recently a stove in his apartment had broken, burned the floor, and he had to pay for a new stove and an entire new floor, while there had been a great danger from the fire. Thus the galvanometer had revealed an unconscious complex."

Professor Peterson looks on the galvanometer as a measurer of acute emotional tone, and capable of registering emotional conditions in the subconscious or the unconscious spheres.

"How far this method of study with galvanometer and word association may prove useful in attaining to a knowledge of hidden matters in the minds of neurasthenics, hysterics, the insane, and criminals, it is impossible to foresee; but that it is a new and valuable method of exploration in psychology is already beyond question."

No other specialist present at the gathering having had any experience of the method, there was no discussion on the matter, but Professor Peterson is an expert of high standing, and the author of a standard American text-book on nervous and mental diseases. If further experience should show these observations to be well founded, there might be a conceivable basis established for the explanations of certain phenomena of thought-transference which are now wrapped in mystery, or altogether rejected as nothing more than coincidences.

### WHERE THE KING'S TOYS ARE KEPT.

#### AN INTERESTING ROOM AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

At Buckingham Palace there is a room devoted to the storage of various toys which kings and queens at one time played with. There may be seen in this interesting collection of playthings a wooden rocking-horse given to King Edward by the Prince Consort when His Majesty was five years old. On the neck of this horse, who was known once in the Royal nursery as Jupiter,

may be seen the name Edward, carved by the little boy who was born to be the King of the British Isles.

A bright gun-metal cannon, 18in. long, mounted on a steel carriage, stands next to the horse. It was His Majesty's favourite toy, and was presented to him by the late Duke of Cambridge. It is a working model of one of the early types of breech-loading guns, now, of course, quite out of date; it was capable of sending a small bullet through an inch board at a distance of 100yds, and was given to the King when he was seven, but His Majesty was not permitted to use it until he was ten. A gun range, 150 yards long, was then chosen at Windsor, where the King used often, under the watchful care of an old artilleryman, to make practice with this splendid toy.

Another extremely interesting toy is a fine model of a schooner designed and made by William IV. It is not a very big model, being only a little over 12in. in length, but it is absolutely accurate in every detail. This model vanished for a time from the Royal collection of toys when it was lent to Prince Edward of Wales, who used frequently to sail it on Virginia Water when at Windsor. It was, however, replaced in the collection recently.

Queen Alexandra's favourite doll is among the most treasured articles in the collection. The doll is clad altogether in white, and all the garments were made by Her Majesty when she was a very little girl, long before she had any idea that she would be one day England's Queen. The doll was added to the collection by the express desire of the King, and was brought over from Her Majesty's home at Denmark a few years ago.

Many of the toys in the collection were made by their Royal owners. For example, there is a wooden model of a fire-engine made by the Prince of Wales, a flagstaff made by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, and a wheelbarrow constructed by the late Duke of Edinburgh.

The toy most recently placed in the collection is a splendid kite of ingenious construction, made by little Prince Henry of Wales.

The Royal children are taught to take good care of their toys, and are not permitted to break them when they are tired of them. When a toy ceases to please its Royal owner it is sometimes placed in the collection, but if not considered to be of sufficient interest for such a purpose it is given away, usually to the family of someone connected with the Royal household.

Though many of the Royal toys have been carefully stored away for some years past, no regular collection was made of them until King Edward ascended the Throne, when His Majesty conceived the idea of gathering them all together and placing them in a special room at Buckingham Palace.

There are over 500 toys now in the collection, but many of these are really very valuable models of beautiful design and workmanship, and can scarcely be regarded as ordinary playthings. For example, there is an exquisite silver model of the first Paris Exhibition, which was presented to the Princess Victoria on her tenth birthday by the late Empress Frederick. This model is said to be worth several thousand pounds, and is the only complete model of the exhibition in existence.

Even more valuable is the model of a diver clad in full diving costume, presented by the German Empress to Prince Edward of Wales a few years ago. It is of pure gold, and was made by a Polish artist, who spent several years in completing this beautiful little work of art. Such models are ornaments rather than playthings.

# A Prodigal at McAuley's Mission

A FORMER CLERGYMAN'S CONFESSION.

[It will add interest to this article to tell you it was contributed by a "derelict" who recently, hatless and shoeless, "blew in" to the McAuley Water Street Mission, New York. It has all the latent pathos of a drunkard's testimony and appeal. It was written by one once an honoured clergyman, as an "aftermath of debauch, when the soul is in utter distress and wails its penitence in a deathless minor. As we pray for the salvation of the penitent writer, shall we not resolve, with Dean Farrar and Abraham Lincoln, to abstain ourselves for the sake of example to our weaker brethren for whom Jesus died?]

It was in the early morning hours. No one was about but the attaches of the Mission when this derelict "blew in." He had no hat, no coat, no collar, no shoes. His visible garb consisted of shirt, trousers and socks. Where was the rest of his clothing? He had sold it for drink. Yes! sold it for drink and acknowledged it. Do you know what that frenzy is? God forbid. You do know what thirst is? That is nothing compared with the drunkard's desire for drink. You, maybe, know the irritation that follows a burn in the flesh. It would be a relief to the drunkard if that might be substituted for the burning thirst for drink. Is not the young man or woman a fool who takes chances on such experiences when safety is assured by abstinence? Most young men and some young women put themselves in danger of drunkenness. Jack and Charlie and Mary and a host of others say:

"Why, I am in no danger of abusing myself with drink. A glass of wine or beer will hurt no one." There are thousands of drunkards in this State. From whence did they come? Out of the multitude of tipplers! How do you know that it will not be you next?

"But," it may be urged, "I do not belong to the same social order as these drunkards." Come with me.

Blackwell's Island in the East River is known almost everywhere the name of New York is known. There is the most conspicuous "work-house" in America. Who are its inmates? Principally men and women who were sent there because of drink. Ninety per cent. of the prisoners are the product of New York "gin-mills." Fully fifty per cent. of all commitments are "drunks." From what rank in life do these people come? Perhaps it would be difficult to make a very correct census, as most prisoners conceal their identity as much as possible.

One incident that came under my personal observation shows something of the motley throng as well as the social character of it. The van in which the prisoners were taken from the station-house to court was over-crowded—two prisoners must sit on the seat with the driver in full view of the jeering crowds in the streets through which they pass. These were a negro and a white man handcuffed to each other. Together they had occupied the same cell the preceding night. The white man was a professional man, a graduate of college, university and professional school. He was, or had been refined, cultured and sensitive. The creature to whom he was chained was without other raiment than trousers and shoes. He was black as ebony. He had not long been in the country. On both cheeks from eyes to mouth were three deep hideous scars, the insignia of some repulsive heathen rite or fetish. He was a barbarian from some Pacific Island or Interior Africa. Together these two faced the judge—the barbarian first, the collegian next—

both charged with drunkenness. Both received the same sentence—"Ten dollars or ten days." Together to the "Island" they went. Their association, begun in the station-house, was continued in the same cell throughout the incarceration on the Island. Why take chances on such an experience when you may eliminate it by total abstinence?

There is another place where this is even better seen. That is Bellevue Hospital. Have you heard of the alcoholic ward there? If possible, go visit it. If there can be on earth a nearer approach to hell than ward 32, Bellevue, may I never see it! Man after man tied to his iron bed in the embrace of the rum demon, raging with blood-curdling but impotent profanity in hell-sent delirium. (Sometimes every bed is full and the floor covered with mattresses, so great is the demand upon this ward). Who are the poor wretches? Professional men, business men, mechanics, every class. Why take chances on filling such a bed when total abstinence from thy youth up will effectually protect you against it?

The old McAuley mission in New York, which for eighteen years has been under the superintendency of S. H. Hadley, himself a transformed inebriate, doubtless has received more drunkards through its doors than any other institution on earth. Whom do you find there? Yes, the man from the lowest walks of life, sociologically. By this I mean those born in low environment and without great endowment. But you will find the professional man, the business man and the skilled mechanic as well. One week in August last, to this mission came two clergymen at different times. Neither had a coat, one had no outside shirt, only an undershirt. One had fled from his charge drunk but a few days before. That same week there were at the mission men who had been prosperous in business and other professions. An attorney who had held important offices both in England and New York "drifted" in to plead for a prayer in his behalf. He was but partly clad and covered with vermin. The former manager of large apartment houses was another visitor, and he, too, was ragged and filthy. I am telling what I do know and what I with my own eyes have seen.

The other night in the mission I heard a business man say: "A young man who is known to drink will have a hard time getting a job in this town." He uttered the keynote of the present business policy. The young fellow who hopes to get on in the world to-day cannot experiment with drink. The world is moving so fast and competition is so sharp, that an office or store, bank or factory, does not have time to deal with the uncertain contingency of drink. Ability, talent, genius will not save you any longer. There was a time when the supply was not equal to the demand, when the "brilliant" fellow had trial after trial given him. The supply is equal to if not greater than the demand to-day. Firms will not be annoyed with the trouble of a drinking man when they may secure the services of one who does not drink. Suppose you want any kind of a job to-day in our larger cities. What is the first question? "Do you drink?" The ordinary labourer is now-a-days asked for "references as to temperate habits." The labourers at work in the great tunnel under the East River between Manhattan and Brooklyn must be total abstainers, both by order of the contractor and the edict of nature. The contractor cannot afford to have the dan-

ger of a drinking man in that tunnel.

Not so long ago the idea was prevalent that much of the brilliant achievement of the ages was the inspiration of the cup. The poet and romancer of all ages and in almost every literature has given rein to fancy in describing the pleasures and brilliant achievements of wine and other inebriating drugs. The notable exceptions are found in the religious literatures of Mohammedan and Jew. History is challenged to produce one monument to human ideals or ingenuity begotten by drink. Among all the treasures of art and literature, among all the structures of commerce and industry, there is not one surviving product of the cup.

No state has been erected; no battle won; no architectural wonder conceived; no deathless song ever sung; no life-like statue chiselled; no soul-thrilling picture painted; no epoch-making oration uttered; no great fortune or business founded by men influenced by drink.

"Ah!" some one will say, "what of Byron and Poe?" There is no record of either of these having written anything that has lived when "in drink." Neither did Burns. True, some things are the aftermath of debauch, when the soul falls back upon itself in utter distress and wails forth its penitence in some deathless minor, as did David in the Fifty-first Psalm. This but proves the contention that such things could not have been born of drink.

The greatest material argument for total abstinence in modern times is the defeat of Russia by Japan. Russian soldiers and sailors were notoriously intemperate, consuming great quantities of vodka. The Japanese are conspicuously temperate, abstinent. The world is beginning to see that drink reduces the value of a man and jeopardizes the virtue of a woman.

Now drunkenness is but an expression of sin peculiar to some temperaments. Surrender to Christ, and the living of the life that He lived will make efficient total abstinence and also gain Eternal life.

## REASON ENOUGH.

"Once," said a Canadian politician, "I was making a long journey on horseback across the prairie. It was winter, and bitterly cold. As it grew dark I was startled by the sound of another horse's hoofs in the rear, and a moment later a hand was laid on my horse's bridle. I turned and beheld an Indian. 'White man,' said he, 'give Injun drink of whisky and Injun give white man blanket.' Oh, think of it, gentlemen—think of this wild, free, untutored child of the forest ready to barter his warm blanket for a single mouthful of strong drink! It was terrible. I urged my horse on faster. But the Indian again spurred alongside and cried: 'if white man give Injun drink, Injun give white man saddle and blanket.' Oh, my friends, such depravity was terrible! But it was not all! When I refused, he offered his blanket, saddle, and horse for a single drink of whisky."

At this a man in the audience could restrain himself no longer.

"Well," he cried, "why didn't you give him a drink of whisky?"

"What!" exclaimed the orator. "Give him a drink of whisky, and me with thirty miles to go and only half a pint in my flask!"

The King has presented to the Royal United Service Museum, Whitehall, the figure-head (representing George III.), the coat-of-arms, and the stern figures of the Royal yacht "Royal George," launched at Deptford in 1817, and broken up at Portsmouth in 1905. These exhibits will be on view when the museum is reopened later in the year.

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### A SCHOOL FOR LITTLE MOTHERS.

The average mortality among Paris babies—a mortality which might in many cases be prevented if the mothers of the babies had even the most rudimentary notions of hygiene—is 2500 a year. Madame Jeanne Girard and Professor Pinard, of the Paris Academy of Medicine, resolved some months ago to do their utmost to combat this terrible state of affairs, and they have founded a school for little mothers in Paris, which is developing with great success.

The school, says the Paris correspondent of the "Daily Express," has been started in the very thick of the working quarter of Paris, and is run in connection with L'Union Familiale, which is a school for older mothers. Here these are taught household economy and hygiene. They are taught how to feed themselves, their husbands, and their children, and how to make their homes pleasant ones. The union has reduced true economy to so complete a system that it has proved, by numerous experiments among its pupils, the possibility of living, and of living well, at an expense of £1 a month for food. And food is considerably dearer in Paris than it is in London.

In the school for little mothers, little girls of ten, and even less, are taught the care of babies. They are taught how to attract baby's attention, how to bring his memory into play, and how to make him think. A visit to the school in the Rue de Charonne is most instructive.

The children sit in groups of five or six round little tables, and every little table is in charge of a little mother. An older mother, a class mistress, sits in a corner of the room, but she is only there for reference in case the little mothers need assistance. There is a hum of enjoyment in the room, for the babies are learning to model a fowl in clay, and children love pottering about with anything messy as much in Paris as they do in London.

The little mother draws her chicken on the blackboard, then she models it, showing the children every detail of the work. They imitate her as best they can, while she explains that hens lay eggs, and models one. Then the children construct a toy

hencoop, and so the lesson goes on. In another corner of the room the little mothers are being taught how to dress babies, and the babies and mothers are all enjoying the fun.

Here is a class of first aid for accidents, and you should see with what glee small boys of five or six pretend to be suffering terribly from sprains and bruises, and from bleeding noses. For larger girls, a class is going on in another room, and as we pass through it we hear a small curly-haired imp of eleven explaining, and explaining very clearly, too, what she would do with her small brother if he were to get the mumps, and how she would recognise the mumps when he got it.

But perhaps the most interesting of all the classes held in this school for little mothers is the cookery class. It is perhaps, too, the most useful of them all; and the school teachers have had the clever idea of making participation in the cookery class a reward for general good conduct and industry, instead of compulsory. In consequence of this there is not a little mother in the school who is not anxious to become a good cook, and the skill some of these little girls attain is truly wonderful.

### SOLOMON AND SULLIVAN.

An evangelist who was selling Christian literature in the back blocks, was recently accosted by a man, who, being overloaded with beer, was quite fightable. The evangelist was requested to "peel off" and have a "set to" with him; but the answer was, "I don't believe in Sullivan's, but Solomon's style of self-defence!"

The crowd roared.

"And what was that?" they asked.

"A soft answer turneth away wrath."

This somewhat quietened the pugilist, who shook hands with the evangelist and promised to come to the meetings.

For some reason which has not yet been made known officially, but which in all probability is due to the craze for economy, the War Office have decided to abolish their service of carrier-pigeons, the birds having been sold and the lofts destroyed under official instructions.

### A SALVATIONIST'S SACRIFICE.

A striking though tragic incident, emphasising once more the beautiful devotion and self-sacrifice, even unto death, of a Christian pitman recently occurred at Pontycymmer.

As soon as the penitents were invited to the mercy-seat at the close of a Salvation Army service, a working man, wearing his pit clothes and carrying his bait-tin, came voluntarily forward to the penitent-form, seeking salvation. He had been persuaded to attend the meeting by one of the soldiers, and had stood at the back of the hall all the evening. At 9.30 he said he must leave to go on night shift.

But having got him to the hall, this devoted Salvationist was not prepared easily to let him slip without giving him a good chance of being converted. He therefore urged him to stay, saying, "I'll take your turn at the pit."

The kindly offer was accepted. At nine o'clock the Salvationist left to prepare for work; and the other miner went into the inquiry-room.

The meeting was continued until 10.45, and a few minutes after eleven, a messenger brought the news that the roof of the level in which the Salvationist was working had caved in, and that the poor fellow had lost his life.

While the miner with whom he had generously changed places was kneeling at the cross, the faithful soldier who was the means of bringing him there passed to his reward.

### MUTUAL.

A clergyman who had embarked on a ship for a sea voyage came to the purser with his money and valuables on the first day out with the request that he would put them under lock and key until the voyage was over.

"You mustn't think that I wish to cast any aspersions on the character of the other man in my cabin," he said. "I wouldn't like you to think that it was because I didn't trust him that I am doing this."

"Of course not, sir," replied the purser, "besides, the other man has just deposited his money with me, and he made exactly the same remarks in speaking of you."

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## Talk about People

### A Japanese Heroine.

Women played an important part in the early history of Japan. To a woman, the Empress Jingu, belongs the glory of the first conquest made by Japan, that of Korea, A.D. 201. Dressed as a man she led her fleet over the unknown waters across which she alone believed a country lay to the westward. "If we succeed," she said to her chiefs, "the glory will all be yours." I will be responsible for the infamy of a possible defeat." The Koreans laid their wealth at the feet of the conquerors, and the king swore that so long as the stars shone and the waters ran down hill Korea should be faithful to Japan. This achievement of the dauntless Empress gave rise to the proud boast of the Japanese, "The arms of Japan shine beyond the seas." But the most important fruit of her victory was the introduction of Buddhism from Korea as well as Asiatic art, science, medicine, and literature. Jingu, however, was never actually proclaimed head of the Empire. The first female ruler was Suiko, and since her time eight empresses have governed Japan, some of them with great wisdom.

### Queen's Favourite Perfumes.

The yearly perfume bill of the Czarina of Russia is said to amount to £4000. Essence of violet is her favourite scent, and for several weeks in early spring hundreds of women and girls may be seen at Grasse gathering the blossoms from which the Czarina's perfume is made. The German Empress, justly famed for her beautiful shoulders, gives the credit to a certain spermaceti soap, the preparation having a deliciously refreshing odour. While Queen Alexandra displays a decided fondness for lavender water, the Queen of Spain is a firm believer in the virtues of Eau de Cologne. The Queen of Holland, too, finds it so refreshing that a pint of the finest essence of Cologne is poured into her morning bath. At the same time, Her Majesty has a passion for rose water, a large bottle of which is always to be found upon her dressing table.

### Kings as Linguists.

Perhaps the next best linguist to the King among those sitting upon European thrones is the Kaiser, whose French is extraordinarily pure and idiomatic, and who also speaks excellent English, although he has never been able to rid himself of a strong German accent. But the Emperor only employs a foreign tongue on State occasions when it is a case of "noblesse oblige," and even while fully aware of the Czar's dislike to most things German, including the language, he speechifies to Nicholas II.'s polite French toasts in sonorous, guttural German. The Kings of Spain and Italy are also good linguists, and among the queens and princesses of Europe the talent for languages is quite extraordinary, and adds greatly to the grace and charm of modern Court life.

### In Johnsonian Style.

The citizens of Lichfield (Eng.) have just been celebrating the 198th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Johnson, the most renowned of all that city's sons. A group of citizens met early in the day in the market place, and hung a wreath on Johnson's monument, and in the evening the mayor presided at a supper held at the Three Crowns Hotel, the ancient hostelry adjoining Dr. Johnson's house, and where it is whispered the doctor and his faithful disciple, Boswell, had many a famous carouse. The mayor sat in one of the doctor's own arm-chairs and Johnsonian fare, eaten, as far as modern table manners will permit,

in Johnsonian fashion, was the rule of the feast. "Beefsteak puddings, venison, apple pie and tastie Cheshire cheese stewed before ye gridlie fire" filled the menu.

### THE VOTE FOR REDUCTION.

#### SPECIAL COURTS ESTABLISHED.

#### 65 ELECTORATES AFFECTED.

Thirty of the special courts for the purpose of effecting a reduction under the Liquor (Amendment) Act, 1905, of the number of licenses in an electorate have been constituted. At the local option poll taken on September 10 reduction of liquor licenses was carried in 65 electorates, and it is to give effect to the decisions in those districts that the courts are called into existence.

The Act sets out that a District Court Judge should preside at each special court, and where two or more licensing courts have jurisdiction at some place or places within the electorate the chairman of the licensing courts should be members of the special courts for the electorate. Where but one licensing court has jurisdiction within the electorate there should be added to the special court a stipendiary or police magistrate.

In the following electorates Judge Backhouse, Mr. G. H. Smithers, S.M., and Mr. W. M. Macfarlane, S.M., will constitute the special court to cancel licenses:—Alexandria, Annandale, Botany, Camperdown, Darlinghurst, Glebe, Leichhardt, Marrickville, Middle Harbour, Newtown, Paddington, Petersham, Randwick, Redfern, Rozelle, St. George, St. Leonards, Waverley, Woollahra.

At Broken Hill and Sturt the special court will be composed of Judge Gibson, Mr. J. McKensy, S.M., and Mr. W. Le B. Brown, police magistrate.

At Albury the court will be Judge Rogers, Mr. C. E. Oslear, police magistrate, Mr. R. M. Gibson, police magistrate, and Mr. George Stevenson, police magistrate.

At Wynyard the court will be Judge Rogers, Mr. J. H. Nesbett, police magistrate, and Mr. G. Stevenson, police magistrate.

At Allowrie, Judge Fitzhardinge, Mr. H. J. Chisholm, police magistrate, and Mr. H. S. Hawkins, police magistrate, will constitute the court.

At Wollongong the court will be Judge Fitzhardinge, Mr. H. J. Chisholm, police magistrate, and Mr. R. H. Antill, chairman of Picton Licensing Court.

Newcastle, Wickham, Waratah, and Kahlbah will be attended to by Judge Fitzhardinge, Mr. M. S. Love, S.M., and Mr. G. F. Scott, S.M.

At Northumberland, Judge Fitzhardinge, Mr. M. S. Love, S.M., Mr. G. F. Scott, S.M., and Mr. T. H. Wilkinson, police magistrate, will form the court.

### A DOUBTFUL COMPLIMENT.

The following is a quite recent anecdote of Mark Twain. It is told by a Chicagoan, who crossed the Atlantic with him in June on the "Minneapolis." Mark's conversation invariably made the Captain's table very gay. The ladies continually encircled the humorist, and the last night on board he proposed a toast in their honour.

"The ladies," he said, raising his glass and bowing; "the ladies—second only to the press in the dissemination of news,"

## Four Reasons



- A perfect and unequalled equipment.
- Modern labor-saving machinery.
- The finest rolling stock extant.
- Trusted and skilled employees.

These four potent reasons combined with **PERSONAL** attention explain why we conduct more high grade funeral work at **TEN PER CENT** lower rates than any other firm.

## Wood & Company

Funeral Directors,  
Sydney and Suburbs.

Head Office and Mortuary Chapel:—

**810-12 GEORGE ST., SYDNEY**

TELEPHONE 726, &c.

### LOVE, WHERE ART THOU?

A French statistician has been devoting considerable time recently to discovering the reasons for which women are anxious to get married.

His inquiries included questions addressed to ninety-five girls between the ages of fifteen and seventeen, asking them why they wished to get married. The result was as follows:

Five wished to marry in order that they might go out unchaperoned.

Ten because they would then be able to amuse themselves.

Five because their husbands would enable them to travel.

Seven so that they would own their own homes.

Four looked forward to possessing a family.

Three did not wish to marry at all; while sixty-one were anxious to be married, but could give no specific reasons why.

Not one of the girls suggested love as a motive for matrimony. Either the little god had not yet landed his arrow or they were ashamed to admit the fact. Oh, these ubiquitous explanations that do not explain!

### Churchyard under the Sea.

When the British Coast Erosion Commissioners visited Walton-on-the-Naze recently they were shown a spot north of the pier, and about a mile from the shore which was formerly a churchyard. A quarter of a century ago the tombstones could be seen under the water at ebb tide, but the sea has further encroached, and even when the tide is extraordinarily low and the sea clear, the old burying-ground is scarcely discernible now from the sea-level.

## WHY WORRY ABOUT YOUR INSURANCES?

"THE INSURANCE INTERESTS of a Business House are **IMMENSELY** important, and should be looked after by a **TRAINED PERSON.**"

—Extract from Report of Special Committee on Insurance Settlements incident to the SAN FRANCISCO FIRE.

### A. B. PURSELL & CO.

(Established 1886)

INSURANCE BROKERS AND SUPERVISORS

105 Pitt Street, Sydney,  
and at Brisbane.

Over **5 Millions** of Insurances supervised annually by A. B. PURSELL & Co.

We look after the Insurances of many of the leading Merchants and Manufacturers. Small as well as large Insurances supervised without charge.

Amongst our numerous clients we may mention as references the following:—

Anthony Hordern & Sons; John Keep & Sons, Ltd.; Elliott Bros., Ltd.; Farmer & Company, Ltd.

**Anthony Hordern & Sons** publicly thanked A. B. P. & Co. in the 4 Sydney Dailies after their great fire for the way they looked after their **Insurances.**

**GRIT.**  
A PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1907.

## THE LONDON TEMPERANCE HOSPITAL.

For a generation the London Temperance Hospital has achieved the best results without the use of alcohol. All the 133,000 out-patients and about 200,000 casualties have been treated without it. In 28 years, out of 20,000 in-patients only 52 (of whom 33 died) ever received alcohol. This great object lesson is having its influence, the great hospitals are fast coming into line on the question of the use of alcohol, and the old methods of prescribing alcohol will soon be as discredited as the practice of blood-letting.

Abstaining males, during the working period of their lives, have an average expectation of life exceeding by eleven years that of those who drank. This fact, supplied by assurance societies, coupled with the attitude of the medical profession, make an irresistible appeal for total abstinence.

### A COMMON-SENSE SUNDAY.

There are always to be found public men who will "play to the gallery," and by ridiculing what they call Puritanical restrictions, they plead for a rational or common sense Sunday, and the crowd that applauds does so because they interpret his words to mean doing as they "jolly well please."

The common sense of one day in seven as a day of rest has been commented on at all

times by historians and moralists, and countries like France, that have ignored such a common sense plan, have been compelled by the loss sustained to frame laws that will give the rest that individuals and nations have found by experience to be necessary. Physically, mentally, and morally we need a proportion of rest, and one day in seven is the universal minimum standard. Anything that disturbs the restful atmosphere of the rest day is contrary to common sense. Such things as trains and trams, with their nerve-racking whirr and rattle, newspapers and amusements which make demands on us that compel from restfulness, are all a violation of the common sense Sunday.

That we may rest the body in sleep, we shut out the light, not because the light is harmful, or because we cannot sleep in the light, but because darkness or a subdued light is the ideal condition for resting. In the same way we would shut things like amusements out of Sunday, not because they are wrong, but because they are against the ideal condition for rest; they are a reflection on the common sense of Sunday.

Conditions that impose upon a large number, several thousands, a strenuous day of labour, are opposed to the common sense of Sunday. Few people are unselfish enough to take the trouble to estimate the number who are denied a restful day, because thousands want to please themselves, and in their thoughtlessness demand that traffic and business minister to their selfishness.

Lay your hand upon a gay holiday-maker on Sunday and tell him he is wrong in the use of the day, and he will with emphatic language inform you no one is going to interfere with his day off, and when you point to the tram hands that brought him to the seaside, and ask why then does he interfere with their day off, he does not grasp the meaning of your remark. He denies any interference, and yet he compels many to sacrifice the rest day, for which no other day compensates, and there is no common sense in his position. It is true that we have a population of a million and a half, mostly fools—then we can hardly expect common sense to rule, and on the other hand we may surely expect those who are endowed with the saving grace of common sense to unite to safeguard the rest day. In the interest of those who have to work, and also of those who are too foolish to realize the value of real rest, we must oppose the Continental Sunday, which the Continent has proved hurtful, and we shall never oppose it so effectively as when we so arrange our homes and our outings as to stamp them with the hall mark of common sense.

### WHY IS GAMBLING WRONG?

The Melbourne Cup has again been responsible for several thousands visiting the sister State, and on Tuesday last a vast crowd, headed by everybody who was anybody, witnessed a few horses race for a few minutes. What is behind the whole thing? Money! Immense sums of money were won and lost, the excitement was intense, and the result of it must be bad.

There is an old saying: "Whom the gods

would destroy they first make mad," and during racing season thousands cease to be controlled by reason, and that is the essential characteristic of madness.

Many ask, wherein is the wrong of gambling? They seem to think that so long as an action does not produce an immediate and evident evil result it is not wrong, and they will tell you they know dozens of people who gamble and it never did them any harm. They are mistaken; gambling in any form and to any extent is wrong. Gambling is an exchange of property by chance, and the wrong lies not in the excess but in the surrender to chance of acts which ought to be controlled by reason alone and decided by the will in accordance with the moral law of justice or benevolence. The gambling habit exercises a weakening and degenerating influence of its own upon the muscles of character, the two most notorious ways in which this deterioration becomes revealed are cheating and suicide. No one will deny that in all forms of gambling the temptation to cheat has proved too great for most of the gamblers, and consciously or unconsciously they accept a lower standard of honour, and pleading that all is fair in love and war, seek the knowledge and use the means that gives them unfair advantage, by means of which they win money and lose character.

If we could but obtain accurate statistics, we should find that gambling was of all vicious habits, not even excluding hard drinking, the one which predisposed its victims to suicide. Yet one does not quite see at first why gambling should so greatly predispose to suicide. The gambler *prima facie* ought to be a man trained by his life to bear ill luck with fortitude, but self-respect is the soul of fortitude, and the company and surroundings of the gambler inevitably undermine his self-respect. The loss sustained by gambling works upon the gambler like a sudden accident upon a drunken man—it awakens him.

And now, as he looks at the results of his career, only one word can rise to his mind, and that is "Fool!" To add to his distress he reads on the faces of his friends an expression which he understands to mean "Poor fool." Ashamed, crushed, ruined, the wonder is not that so many become insane, but that every ruined gambler does not try the gambler's last and greatest venture, and stake his life on the unknown future.

The madness which ends in suicide is the logical conclusion of the first bet. The man who resolves to abandon reason for a moment in the use of one coin, who finds the deed so alluring that he made it a habit, finds that reason leaves him, and she rightly leaves him, altogether, when he has made the habit cover his whole life.

Nature is profoundly, irresistibly, relentlessly logical when she makes the gambler mad. The question to solve is, what proportion of private persons must be involved in a certain wrong before it becomes a national concern? To this there is no uniform answer, however it is beyond dispute that multitudes find an unspeakable pleasure in the pursuit of gain by chance, and the State suffers, and this is all sufficient reason for all acts restricting gambling and limiting race meetings, and every encouragement must be given to those who aim at further controlling this perverted instinct.

### DESPERATE FIGHTING.

A special correspondent, writing from Muskogee, Indian territory, July 20, says:—"The vigorous war which has been waged on the liquor outlaws in this territory during the past ten months by Special Agent William E. Johnson, of the Interior Department, U.S.A., has reached the assassination stage. Gradually in one way and another Mr. Johnson has drawn the net closer and closer. The railway companies were stopped from bringing the whisky. The Express Companies also ceased to carry liquor. The only means left to obtain the liquor was to attempt to transport it overland by teams at night, but Mr. Johnson soon checkmated this by seizing the teams. In this way 32 horses and 14 waggons, with saddles and harness, have been confiscated, and over 40 men captured and sent to prison; while thousands of dollars' worth of liquor has been seized and destroyed. The price of whisky has gone up from 25 cents to three dollars (12s 6d) per pint. The meeker class of bootleggers have almost wholly been driven out of the business, and only the most desperate class remain. The issue is being fought out with this class at the point of the rifle and revolver. The liquor men offered 3000 dollars (£600) for Mr. Johnson's head, but this has not deterred him from doing his duty, as the following will show. During the last two weeks at Porum—mostly in midnight battles—two liquor men have been shot dead, and one horse killed, while several other men and horses have been wounded. One of Mr. Johnson's men—Sam Roberts—was also killed, and another, Dr. E. J. Sapper, was seriously wounded. The desperadoes fled, but were followed by Mr. Johnson and about a dozen U.S. officers, and after a desperate struggle the whole gang were captured, and are now in gaol, bail being refused. The capture of this gang has operated to discourage others who were devising schemes to smuggle liquor into the territory. Thus the fight against liquor goes on, and Mr. Johnson declares that he will show the brewers and liquor men that Uncle Sam can prohibit the importation and sale of alcoholic liquors."

### THE INDIAN TERRITORY, U.S.A.

For twelve months a great fight has been going on in the Indian Territory between the U.S.A. Government and the brewers to enforce the prohibition of the sale of alcoholic liquors among the Indians. On August 1, 1906, Mr. W. E. Johnson was appointed by President Roosevelt United States special agent to suppress the illegal sale of intoxicants among the Indians, and to thoroughly enforce the Prohibition laws. This is the first time, so far as we can learn, that such a step has been taken by the Federal Government. The choice of Mr. Johnson was excellent, he being a thorough-going Prohibitionist, and for many years one of America's most fearless opponents of the liquor traffic. As joint editor with the Hon. J. G. Woolley of "The New Voice," and a trenchant writer on Temperance topics, he is well known throughout the States. It would have been very difficult to have found a better man for this daring work, as events have proved. Mr. Johnson entered into the fight with great determination, and his exploits during the past twelve months are among the most notable chapters in the annals of Prohibition law-enforcement. The illegal traffic among the Indians and the large number of white settlers in this territory has been directly carried on by the agents of the great brewing firms of Milwaukee, St. Louis, and other parts of the United States. So demoralising was the

traffic to the Indians and others that the Government were compelled to take action, and Mr. Johnson has succeeded in suppressing over 400 of these law-breaking joints, and sending the liquor sellers to prison. So persistent have been the attacks of Mr. Johnson, and so successful have been the results, that these desperadoes determined to murder him and his subordinates; hence the fight has become keener than ever. But with a leader like Mr. Johnson, and the whole force—military and civil—of the United States at his back, there is little doubt as to the result.

### GENERAL BOOTH IN CANADA.

#### SIGNOR MARCONI'S TRIBUTE TO THE SALVATION ARMY.

The General, after, in nautical language, six days' "dirty weather," touched Canadian soil once more at three o'clock on Friday morning (September 20).

The inevitable lecture was a feature of the ship life. For this, the audience squeezed into every inch of space the saloon contained. It was presided over by the wizard of the air, Marconi, the inventor of wireless telegraphy.

Signor Marconi said the sum total of the good work accomplished by the Salvation Army would perhaps never be known. It was increasing all the time, for it was an Army universal, based on Christianity, and conducted on modern, sound business methods, and governed by simple principles. It mostly appealed to the masses, whom it rescued and helped.

Senator Gibson, who moved a vote of thanks, humorously remarked that Signor Marconi might in the future "wire" the General in the Heavenly City, in which case the General would be sure to flash an eternal message of hope for the most despairing.

It was a sign of the times that divine worship was led by the vicar of Rye, that Commissioner Nicol preached, and that Colonel Lawley acted as leader.

The General received a civic welcome at St. John, the capital of New Brunswick.

### LET US SLEEP.

A sensible person—presumably a doctor—has been telling his harassed contemporaries in the "American Magazine" to all sleep as long and as often as they can. It is grand news for the indolent and over-fatigued. Small school boys and girls should not be routed out of bed at unearthly hours on dark winter mornings to get up and do brainwork before they have "had out their sleep."

Moreover, you are adjured to take a nap lasting from twenty minutes to an hour after the mid-day meal. This is a custom which, though it flourishes in the strenuous and efficient Fatherland, is by no means universally in favour.

There are scores of people—otherwise blameless citizens—who never feel so restless or so inclined for fatiguing adventures as the moment they have lunched. These persons will always seek to seduce you into a ten-mile walk, will challenge you to feats of prowess, or failing these, will engage you in some heated and futile argument the moment you rise from the table.

I know a very clever man (says a writer in "Sketch") who maintains that the hours from half-past two to half-past four are the most dreary, empty, and wearisome of the day.

Let us then, hearken to the American doctor, and sleep through part of them if we can.

## Australian Mutual = Provident Society.

FOUNDED 1849.

The Best Mutual Life Office in Australasia.

Head Office: 87 PITT ST., SYDNEY.

Accumulated Funds - £22,500,000  
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Policies effected in this office prove an excellent investment. Most Economical Management. Unequalled Bonuses.

CASH BONUS DIVIDED FOR ONE YEAR, 1906, £664,693.

Every participating Policyholder shares in the distribution of the profits each year.

ASSURANCES CAN BE EFFECTED FOR SUMS RANGING FROM £5 TO £10,000.

General Manager and Actuary: Richard Teece, F.I.A., F.F.A., F.S.S. Secretary: Robert B. Cameron, Manager Industrial Department: H. W. Apperly. Sydney, 27th September, 1907.

### Jap Journalism.

The "Tokyo Puck" is the latest thing in Japanese journalism. It is a sort of Jap "Punch," with coloured pictures and cartoons hitting off the events of the day. The humour is served up both in English and Japanese. Instead of starting to read the "Tokyo Puck" at the beginning of the paper, you commence at the end and read backwards. The witty paragraphs which are printed in Japanese characters are not printed to be read from left to right as we do. They are given in perpendicular lines and are read from top to bottom.

After asking a great many questions of a lady, a barrister felt that some apology was necessary, so he remarked: "I really hope I don't annoy you with all these questions?"

"Not at all," answered the lady quietly. "I'm used to it. I have a six-year-old son."

### THE WINE THAT DOES NOT INTOXICATE.

A Good, Wholesome, Delicious Drink at last. French Wine without the poison of Alcohol. THE FAMOUS "MAS-DE-LA-VILLE" WINE. Recommended by the Rev. T. Spurgeon and others.

This wonderful Wine is a perfectly natural and, therefore, an ideal drink. The "MAS DE LA VILLE" WINES stand in the same relation to ordinary wines as fresh milk does to sour.

Chateau Peyron (white label), Chateau Badet, L'Arlesienne (blue label), Champagne (gold label).  
Reputed Pints, ..... 1/6 and 1/9 per Bottle  
Reputed Quarts, ..... 2/6 and 2/9 per Bottle  
Larger Sizes ..... 2/11 and 3/6 per Bottle  
Sample Bottles of Sacramental Chateau-Badet, 1/- each.  
Champagne ..... 2/6 and 3/9 per Bottle

### AN IDEAL WINE FOR THE HOLY COMMUNION.

In fermented wine the grape sugar (the best thing in the grape) is consumed by the microbe, but in the unfermented, non-alcoholic, French wine, the grape sugar remains.

Order from MANAGER OF "GRIT,"  
BOX 390, G.P.O., SYDNEY

at the Alliance Headquarters, or at the Office of the W.C.T.U., 242 Pitt-street.

Sole Agents for Australia and New Zealand  
WINN & CO., Botany Road, Redfern.

## WOMEN AND THE LAW.

The appointment of Mrs. Mary Quackenbos of the United States to be a special Assistant Attorney-General to Mr. Bonaparte is not an innovation. Women at law have been recognised in the United States for more than a quarter of a century, and at the present time there are more than one thousand in practice. So great has been their rise that women lawyers have held important official positions such as Assistant Attorney-General of the Philippines, Assistant Counsel to the Corporation of Chicago, and Examiner in Chancery to the United States Supreme Court. Some of these lady lawyers have specialised. Thus Mrs. Rosalie Whitney was for many years chief attorney to the Legal Aid Society, a philanthropic concern devoting itself to the cause of New York immigrants, and in thousands of cases she has been able to protect the ignorant foreigner from the harpies who beset his path. Her nominal retaining fee is ten cents. Another remarkable lady lawyer is Miss Florence King, who seventeen years ago was cooking potatoes and scrubbing floors in an Iowa farmhouse. She saved thirty dollars and learned stenography and typewriting, and finally arrived in Chicago with ten dollars capital. At present she is making 20,000 dollars a year, her speciality being machinery. In 1903 she fought a case relating to a patent axle-box for railway cars, and succeeded in defeating a great company with 5,000,000 dollars capital.

## TO RUSSIA BY BALLOON.

### THE "DAILY GRAPHIC" EXPEDITION.

The interest of the world has suddenly focussed upon ballooning and the navigation of the air. At no previous time have so many aeronautical experiments and adventures called for simultaneous attention. The military balloon experiments in England, France, and Germany, the Wellman expedition, the great balloon races in Brussels on Sunday, and in Paris on September 29, and the "Daily Graphic" expedition's attempt to lower the world's distance record of 1193 miles, make a group of events without parallel in history.

The expedition awaits a strong wind from the west or west-north-west, with indications that it will last for two or three days. At the same time special telegraphic weather reports from the Continent must indicate westerly winds over North Germany and Russia. These are conditions that may be expected in September; with them the balloon will accomplish the journey easily. The present record is only 1193 miles, a distance that would be covered in forty-five hours with a wind of only thirty miles an hour.

The "Mammoth" balloon is capable under ordinary favourable conditions of staying up four days, and a speed of forty or fifty

miles an hour may be expected, seeing that the expedition will start in half a gale of wind.

The "Mammoth" balloon is the largest ever made in England for free ascent. Its dimensions and capacity are as follows:—Diameter, 59 feet; circumference, 185 feet 7 inches; surface, 33,333 sq. feet; capacity, 107,963 cubic feet.

The car will be provisioned for many days. It is a two-decker. Above the basket is a platform, reached by a rope ladder. Here will be stored the provisions, and from this point many observations and photographs will be taken. Here, also, will be kept the carrier pigeons, which will be the subject of valuable experiments, and may help to keep the world informed of the progress of the balloon.

The pigeons have been lent by Sir Thomas Dewar, who is having them specially trained over the country they may be called upon to travel.

During this interesting journey many new appliances are to be used for the first time. In particular, the water-floater, which acts on the same principle as the trail-rope, has already won the commendation of Major Baden-Powell and other aeronauts. It is a cylinder with two air-tight compartments and a central chamber filled with water. When full of water the appliance will float. When the balloon tends to rise, owing to the expansion of its gas by the heat of the sun, it lifts the floater out of the water gradually until the additional weight thrown on the balloon checks its upward course. If the balloon tends to fall the floater sinks back until the relief of the strain checks the tendency. Thus an equilibrium is kept. At the aeronaut's will the tail of the floater can be tilted and the water poured out. Some novel electric signalling instruments of Mr. Gaudron's design are also being used. The longest balloon journeys on record are as follows:—

1907. April.—Bitterfeld, near Leipzig, to Enderby, Leicestershire; 600 miles in 19 hours; Dr. Kurt Wegener and Herr A. Koch.

1906. November.—London to Nevy, Lake Geneva; about 410 miles; Mr. Leslie Bucknill.

1900. October.—Vincennes, France, to Korosticheff, Russia; 1193 miles in 35½ hours; Comte de la Vaulx.

1900. October.—Vincennes to Rodom, Russia; 843 miles in 27 hours 25 min.; M. Balsan.

1900. September.—Vincennes to Mamlity; 753 miles; M. Jacques Faure.

1900. September.—Vincennes to Poland; 706 miles; Comte de la Vaulx.

1900. September.—Vincennes to Dantzic; 757 miles; M. Jaques Balsan.

1897. July.—Distance unknown; M. Andree's disastrous attempt to reach the Pole.

1897.—Leipzig; 1032 miles in 24¼ hours.

1870.—Paris to Norway, about 1000 miles.

1836.—London to Germany, 500 miles in 18 hours; Messrs. Green, Mason and Holland.

The photographic results of the journey will be published in "The Graphic."

THERE IS

RELIGION in

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Our **SanitorInm Health Food** dishes command the highest appreciation from those who give them a trial. They are Tasty—they do not cause any disagreeable after effects—they are sustaining—and strengthening.

Send for our . . .

DESCRIPTIVE PRICE LIST.  
Correspondence Invited.

In Address is:

THE SANITARIUM HEALTH FOOD CAFE  
Royal Chambers  
45 Hunter Street, Sydney

A New York druggist is preparing a unique scrapbook. It contains the written orders of some customers of foreign birth, and these orders are both curious and amusing. Here are some that were copied from the original: "I have an acute pain in my child's diagram; Please give my son something to release it."

"Dear Docther, ples gif bearer five sense worth of Auntie Toxyn for gargle baby's throat and obleage."

"My little baby has eat up its father's parish plaster. Send an anecdote quick as possible by the enclosed girl."

"This child is my little girl. I send you five cents to buy two sitless powders for a grown-up adult who is sick."

## FIRE INSURANCE.

### NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE.

Established 1809.

Paid up Capital and Fire Funds, £3,650,000;

Total Funds, £17,800,000

NEW SOUTH WALES FIRE BRANCH.

LOCAL BOARD: MARK S'HELDON, Esq;

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All Classes of Fire Insurance.

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IS THE PUREST  
AND BEST

**WADE'S  
CORN FLOUR**

ASK YOUR  
GROCER FOR IT

ASK FOR

**Pearson's  
Sand Soap**

AND TAKE NO OTHER.

## "CAN AN ACTRESS BE A CHRISTIAN?"

RETURN OF MISS ADA WARD, THE THEATRICAL EVANGELIST.

### HER NEW MISSION.

Miss Ada Ward, the actress-evangelist, who lately caused a big controversy in Australia with her lecture, "Can an Actress Be a Christian?" has just returned to London and has begun a mission throughout England to save girls from the dangers and pitfalls of stage life.

Seen by the "Daily Mirror," Miss Ward said she was more confirmed than ever in her opinion that the pulpit and the stage cannot co-operate under existing conditions for the uplifting of humanity.

"My mission has been attended by wonderful results," she said, "and I was sorry I could not stay there longer. I arrived in Australia in March, and conducted eight ten-day missions in Melbourne, in Tasmania, and at Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong, and Adelaide. The Adelaide mission drew great crowds, and when I delivered my lecture 'Can an Actress Be a Christian?' the exhibition building was filled to overflowing. I am glad to know I reached the hearts of the people, and especially of the young, whose futures are now being moulded.

### CONVERSIONS OF PROFESSIONALS.

"Despite much opposition and misrepresentation I succeeded in converting three or four actresses and actors. These have been somewhat remarkable, although most of them are still on the stage, and are exercising a good influence there.

"The case of one actress is very interesting. I secured an appointment for her husband in New South Wales, and she then left the stage. She has since written saying that she now enjoys real happiness.

"Then I had several hundred letters from parents who, through my intervention, prevented their daughters from seeking a career on the stage. I also got the girls in-

terested, and in many cases induced them to give up their theatrical ambitions.

"In one case, where a girl had got all her things ready, she abandoned the project and joined the Salvation Army.

### PITFALLS FOR SHOWGIRLS.

"Plays have improved of late years in a marked degree, but I am sorry I cannot say that of the moral tone of the stage, as viewed from the professional standpoint. The surroundings have become worse, and the evil effects of existing conditions are wider-reaching. The great source of all this evil is that many trashy pieces are played, for which young girls are required to make a show.

"They go in their youth, and innocence, but generally have very little ability, and the mischief is soon done. The girls become a prey to others, and they realise when too late that they have made a mistake in having anything to do with the stage. It is from this fate that I am endeavouring with all my strength to save our girls.

"Drink is one of the worst evils of theatrical life. I have seen it ruin many fine men and women, and I have also seen bright girls of sixteen and seventeen go on the stage and die the death of drunkards at twenty-one or twenty-two. I have seen clever young men, who should have risen in their profession, debase themselves with drink.

"The worst of it is that these people become content to live such lives, and do not attempt to study. They will not adopt any intellectual pursuit to fill in their spare time, but stupefy themselves with drink."

### An International Postage Stamp.

The international postage stamp adopted by the Rome Postal Congress on the suggestion of Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., was to come into use on 10th October. It is an artistic picture of a goddess, with a background of olive branches, was designed by Grasset, and has been printed at Einsiedeln, in Switzerland. Its value is 2½d, and it will be sold in every country in the Postal Union.

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TWO GUINEA WATCHES

To Readers of this Paper we give  
away 1,000 Silver Watches FREE.

Owing to the enormous success from an advertising point of view, resulting from our Puzzle Competition, which has brought us into direct touch with thousands of country residents who, being so well satisfied with our Watches, are now regular and valuable customers, we have decided, in order to introduce our new Catalogue into other homes, to further extend our liberal offer and give away another thousand Solid Silver Watches. Ladies' and Gents, one to every person sending in the correct answer to the following Puzzle—

**OXR WXXCXXS AXE TXE BXXT**

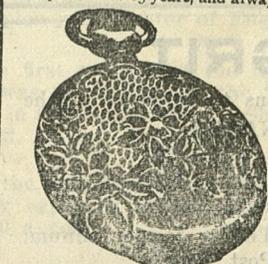
The only condition we make is that if your answer is correct, you purchase one of our Solid Silver Chains (or Gold Filled Warranted Chains) to wear with the Watch. The Chains are of the best quality and latest styles, and give general satisfaction to all, both for quality and price, which is amply proved by the thousands of unsolicited testimonials we have received from all parts of the Commonwealth, printed copies of which are sent free to everyone answering this advertisement, with full name and address. The Watches are Solid Silver, strong, reliable, and are given absolutely free and fully guaranteed. Enclose self-addressed envelope when writing, so that we may inform you whether your solution is correct. Anything you see advertised from year to year is worth your attention, as it is a proof of the test of time. We have now been large advertisers for upwards of 15 years, and always given satisfaction.

Our Limited Space will only enable us to show you a sample of  
Thousands of Testimonials we have received.

Dear Sir,—I received the Watch and Chain alright, and was very pleased with it. I should have written before but I was away at the time it came. I am sending for a Gent's Watch and Chain, also another Lady's Watch and Chain like the one you sent; and I have got an order for three more watches as soon as the people see the one I get from you. Yours truly, George Gayford, Mr. G. Gayford, Hapsburg, Isis, via Maryborough, Queensland.

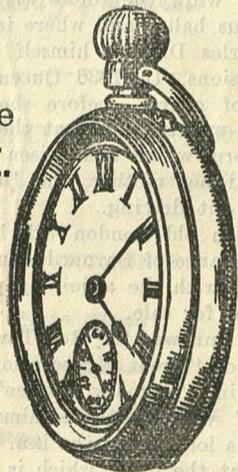
Dear Sir,—I received the Watch last April, it has been keeping very good time ever since, and I am very pleased with it. I have shown it to many friends who think it a very good watch. Enclosed you will find postal notes for another gentleman's silver watch and chain. I remain, yours truly, C. Mengel, Font Hill, Mathinne, Tasmania.

Mr. Arthur Pryme & Co. Dear Sir,—I wrote to you before when I got the watch and chain and told you I was pleased with them. I like the chain very much; the watch goes well. I am sending for a gentleman's watch this time, and chain. Yours truly, Mary Coker, Feat Hill, Mathinne, Tasmania. Address "Puzzle Competition"



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THE PREMISES AGAIN.

**TEMPERANCE WINS.**

**THE BLUE RIBAND OF THE BRASS BAND WORLD.**

The blue riband of the brass band world was won on Saturday, September 28, by the Wingates Temperance Band for the second time in succession, and Lancashire is feeling proud of itself just now.

There was ideal weather at the Crystal Palace for Saturday's festival, and some 65,000 people attended it, which is a big figure considering that music, not football, was the attraction.

The first arrivals got to the Palace before seven a.m., and soon after excursion trains from all parts—from as far as Kirkcaldy, in Scotland, from Wales, from the South as far as Bournemouth poured in thousands, who soon found their way down to Sydenham.

**NORTH v. SOUTH.**

This year's championship contest, and the Festival generally, was specially interesting because of the fight the Southern bands was to make against the North. Accordingly, the concert-room was thronged all day whilst "Gems of Schumann" were showered upon the audience by 17 bands.

The victory of Wingates was a popular one, but the supporters of the South were rather disappointed that Luton Red Cross, which made the best fight of the Southern bands, and whose performance was much admired by the Northerners, failed to get a place in the next six.

In the other sections some Southern bands did well, but honors still rested with the North all round.

A well known Northern player said to the "Morning Leader" representative: "The Southern bands play very well and correctly, but they have not yet got the style of the Northern bands."

**300 BANDS PLAYING TOGETHER.**

After the championship, the contests in the Palace grounds, which were looking their best in the sunshine, attracted the people most. They sat down in groups on the green lawns near each bandstand, and ate their lunch and listened to the music; it was difficult, however, to find a spot where one heard less than three bands together.

The boys' bands were worth seeing and hearing. Very smart in their uniforms they looked, and they got a wonderful volume of tone from their instruments, considering that some of the lads were apparently only ten years of age—some, in fact, played instruments nearly as big as themselves.

**CONCERTINA BANDS.**

The concertina bands also attracted a large audience, most of whom left the hall with a very different opinion of the capabilities of that much-abused instrument. The bands, it may be pointed out, play the real English concertina, which is a very different affair to the cheaper Continental one, which is usually heard in the streets.

At the massed band concert in the evening the handbell ringers' band from Horbury created a great sensation, nothing like it having been seen (and heard) in London before.

There were eight players, who (in their shirt-sleeves) stood at green blaize tables, each man presiding over a number of bells of different sizes. It was quite fascinating to watch the way in which the men seized the different bells and held them up to ring them, the speed at which they worked being remarkable. The effects they produced were remarkably sweet and delicate in tone.

**THE RESULTS.**

At the close of the concert the competition results were announced, and there was frantic enthusiasm on the part of the Win-

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gates' supporters, for their band had achieved a unique honour in winning two years consecutively.

The complete results were:

Championship.—1, Wingates; 2, Goodshaw; 3, King's Cross; 4, Rushden Temperance; 5, Crossfield's; 6 Gossage's.

Grand Shield.—1, South Moor; 2, Rawmarsh; 3, Southwark Borough; 4, Middlesborough.

Junior Cup.—1, Bestwood; 2, Peterborough; 3, Wrightington; 4, Barnoldswick.

Preliminary Shield.—1, Clown; 2, Rockingham; 3, Denaby Main.

Preliminary Cup.—1, Rothwell Rifles; 2, Rowntree's; 3, Dinnington.

Consolation Cup.—1, Caerphilly; 2, Cottingham; 3, St. Pancras.

Reed Band.—1, 1st V.B. Buffs; 2, Swindon; 3, Dewsbury.

Concertina Band.—1, Oldham; 2, Heywood; 3, Heckmondwike.

Boys' Band.—1, Greenwich and Deptford; 2, St. Pancras; 3, East London.

**DICKENS' INNS DISAPPEARS.**

Readers of Dickens throughout Australia will learn with interest that the famous Bull Hotel at Rochester has been sold. It was at this ancient hostelry (says "The Times"); that the Pickwick party "put up" on their drive from London to the country. It was here that Jingle insulted Dr. Slammer, where Tracy Tupman danced with the widow Budger; where Jingle, too, "applied himself with great interest to the port wine and dessert" while the guests were arriving at the famous ball; and where in bedroom No. 17 Charles Dickens himself stayed on several occasions. In 1836 Queen Victoria that was, of course, before she came to the Throne—spent a night at the Bull owing to a storm which had arisen while the Princess and her mother, the Duchess of Kent, were out driving.

A link with old London will be lost by the disappearance of Barnard's Inn, in Holborn, which, with the adjoining properties, is announced for sale.

Barnard's Inn was the Red Tavern which lodged Pip of "Great Expectations;" it is mentioned in "Barnaby Rudge" and in "Pickwick," while Dickens himself for a time had his lodging in the inn.

The hall at the back, which is the smallest of all the halls of the London inns, and which is the dining hall of the Mercers' School, will be saved.

Barnard's Inn dates back to the days of Henry VI., in whose reign it was occupied by Dr. Jno. Mackworth, Dean of Lincoln.

When turned into an Inn of Chancery, it was in the occupation of one Barnard. In the time of Elizabeth 112 students were in residence during term, and 24 out of term.

Fighting-tops in men-of-war were used as far back as the sixteenth century, and the deadly fire which could be poured from them is illustrated in the death of the great Nelson. Drawings of the Egyptian and Asiatic warships of 2000 B.C. show vessels fitted with military fighting-tops.

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**NOT HIS LITTLE BOY.**

An iron hoop bounced through the railings and played havoc with the kitchen window. With a fighting look in her eye the lady of the house awaited the appearance of the hoop's owner. Presently he came.

"Please, ma'am, I've broken your window," he said, "and here's father to mend it." And sure enough he was followed by a stolid-looking man who at once started work, while the small boy ran off with the hoop.

"That'll be two-and-threepence," announced the glazier when the window was whole once more.

"Two-and-threepence!" gasped the lady. "But your little boy broke it; the little fellow with the hoop, you know. You're his father, aren't you?"

The stolid man shook his head. "Don't know him from Adam," he said. "He came round to my place and told me his mother wanted her winder mended. You're his mother, ain't you?"

**Not a Farmer's Daughter.**

Simple-Life Lady (who is determined to undertake herself all the work in her small holding): "Well, Hodge, I think I really have succeeded in making two blades of grass grow where only one grew six months ago."

Hodge (unsympathetically): "If you goes on like that for another thousand years, lady, you'll have a decent lawn."

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## How the World Moves

Brass is the best reflector of heat of any metal.

England produces 90,000 tons of apples yearly.

The average weight of the human heart is 9½ oz.

Early wheat harvests are always the most productive.

A man is generally at his heaviest in his fortieth year.

New York has no fewer than forty-nine Jewish synagogues.

In Cochin China there is to be found a race of black Jews.

The Forth Bridge is 8098ft. long, and cost three millions sterling.

Manchester has the largest free library in the United Kingdom.

A single perfume distillery at Cannes uses 160 tons of blooms annually.

A falcon trained to carry messages has covered 750 miles in sixteen hours.

In 1476 a barrister's fee was 3s 8d, with fourpence thrown in for a dinner.

Nickel and bismuth both have the peculiar property of expanding as they cool.

Frog skin, when tanned though of the thinnest, is one of the toughest leathers.

Germany now has 54 mountaineering clubs, with a total membership of over 142,000.

The sea round the English coast is warmest in August and September, and coldest in April.

Inhaling air by long breaths in a cold atmosphere is the best way to keep the body warm.

London's Lord Mayors have, during the last decade, collected more than £2,000,000 for charity.

The longest English drought in recent times was in March-April, 1893. It lasted twenty-nine days.

The farrier-major of a mounted regiment is responsible for the shoeing of all the regimental horses.

With a Maxim gun something like 600 shots a minute can be fired in a continuous stream of bullets.

All enrolled members of a Volunteer Corps must be natural-born or naturalised subjects of His Majesty.

The stars on the United States coinage are six-pointed, while the United States flag carries five-pointed stars.

The smallest European coin in common use is the Portuguese three reis, which is worth 12-100ths of a penny.

In the west cloister of Westminster Abbey is a gravestone to John Broughton, once champion prize-fighter of England.

The first success of the torpedo in warfare was the sinking of the "Blanca Encalada," in the Chilian War. She had 400 men aboard.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the ordinary expenses of the Navy were only £6000 a year.

A private of his Majesty's Royal Bodyguard ranks in title with a captain of the Navy or a full colonel in the Army.

The battleship "Barfleur" was the first vessel in the British Fleet in which electricity was used to train and fire her guns.

The weight of a warship when she is launched is only a third of what she weighs when finally commissioned for service.

In 1797 Edinburgh raised a force of over 3000 Volunteers, which included a regiment of cavalry and two batteries of artillery.

The Remount Department of the British Army is responsible for the supplying of horses to all the cavalry and other regiments where this useful animal is required.

Each of England's battleships is fitted with various workshops, amongst which may be mentioned a smithy, where repairs to iron-work of every description can be attended to.

The system of "running the gauntlet" was in force in the Army until 1787. The soldier sentenced to "run the gauntlet" received a cut from a switch from every soldier in his regiment.

The practice of clothing soldiers by regiments in one uniform dress was not introduced by Louis XIV. till 1665, and did not become general in the British army for many years afterwards.

Deptford Dockyard was first established as a Government shipbuilding yard in 1573, but was a private yard long before this. In 1577 Sir Francis Drake sailed from there when he made his famous voyage round the world.

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