

Grit.

A JOURNAL OF NATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PROHIBITION.

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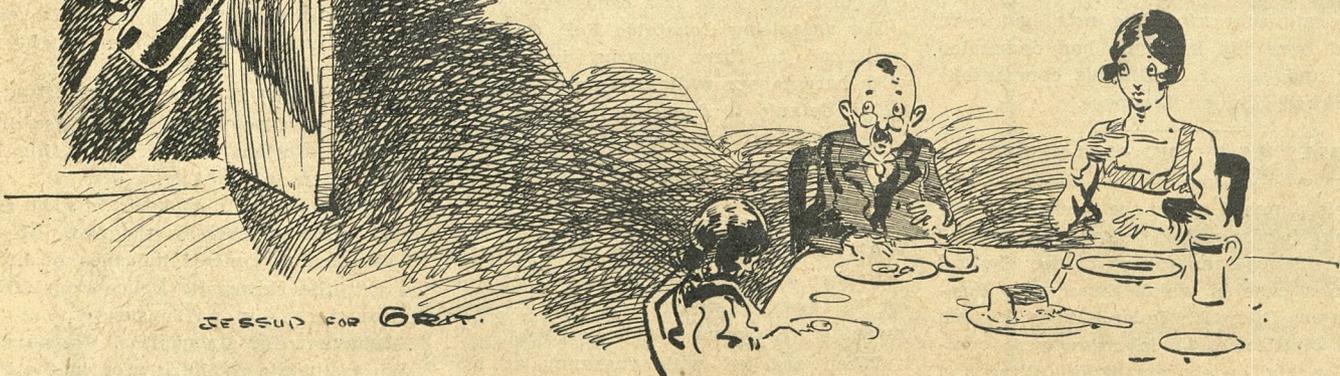
Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by post as a newspaper.



Alcohol is a thunder cloud in the blue sky of every festivity.

Alcohol is the kill-joy in any holiday party.

Alcohol is the incorrigible thief stealing sense, manhood and decency in all gatherings.



THE SKELETON IN THE CUPBOARD.

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WORSE THAN ANY PLAGUE.

THE SORRY, SORDID DRINK STORY.

If it's eat with Jones or drink with Smith,
Which should a chap enjoy?

Booze with no shoes, or shoes with no booze
For himself and his wife and his boy?
I can do without drink but I can't without
food—

For myself and my wife and my boy.

So long as we give legal protection to
booze-sellers, so long do we proclaim that we
are not yet civilised.

The following story of sordid horror has
the vote of a majority behind it and the
law's permission:

THE CURSE OF THE COUNTRY.

The Wagga (N.S.W.) police have had a
busy time during the holidays, nearly 40
arrests having been made. Thirty-two cases
were dealt with at the Police Court on De-
cember 26. They varied from a charge of
having assaulted Constable Crowhurst to
charges of indecent language, drunkenness,
and riotous behaviour.

Drink was a part of every case.

Cowra, N.S.W.—The Police Court cases for
the year numbered 666, of which 300 were
convictions for drunkenness and 64 for bad
language.

Drink is a great inspiration to language.

PUNCHED HIM ON THE NOSE.

"I tendered a pound note in the Macquarie
Hotel, Wentworth-avenue, to pay for two
drinks for a friend and myself, when the de-
fendant snatched the money from my hand."

This was portion of the story related by
George Sykes at the Central Court.

Mr. Williams, S.M., inflicted a fine of £5,
or a month's imprisonment, on Martin Mc-
Guinn, 28, laborer, on a charge of stealing
from the person on January 2.

Sykes said that after the note had been
snatched from his hand, he had demanded
it back, and one of McGuinn's companions
had punched him on the nose.

ROBBED OF £5 AND ASSAULTED.

"Daley grabbed me by the throat, while
McRitchie punched me in the stomach. They
then took £5 from my pocket and ran away."

This evidence was given at the Central
Court in a case in which three men, Ray-
mond James Riley, 22; Roland Daley, 25, and
William McRitchie, 39, laborers, were com-
mitted for trial on charges of assaulting and
robbing Robert Walker on the evening of
December 29. Bail was fixed at £100 in each
case.

Walker said McRitchie approached him in
George-street West and asked for money to
buy drinks. He replied that he had no
change, and walked away. Several hundred
yards further on he glanced back and saw
that the man who had accosted him, together
with two others, was following. He crossed
into Mountain-street, in which the defend-
ants overtook him and the assault took place.

Summoning the assistance of three police-
men, Walker gave chase, and the men were

subsequently arrested. All pleaded not guilty
to the charge and reserved their defence.

BEER BOTTLE THROUGH WINDOW.

After having consumed a bottle of beer,
John Morrison stood in front of a shop win-
dow in Church-street, Parramatta, and hurled
the bottle through two plate-glass windows.

At the Parramatta Court his prank cost
him £4 or 14 days.

BUTCHER ON SPREE.

Craddock William Greenway, 37, was fined
£5 by Mr. Williams, S.M., at the Central
Court, or a month's jail, on a charge of
having stolen a ham, valued at 16/-, the pro-
perty of John George Almond.

It was stated that the ham was taken from
the steamer Hurunui, on which defendant
was employed as a butcher. He was under
the influence of liquor when found with the
ham in his possession.

POLICEMAN ASSAULTED.

Albert James Coady, 38, was charged at
the Glebe Police Court with having assaulted
Constable Henry Bell, and William Thomp-
son, 23, was charged with having assaulted
Constable George Wright. Both men were
also charged with having used indecent lan-
guage.

Constable Bell said that, hearing indecent
language being used in the yard of the Forest
Lodge Hotel, he arrested Coady, and was
taking him to the police station when Coady
struck him a violent blow on the chin, which
knocked him down. While he was on the
ground defendant punched him about the
body and "kneed" him a lot about the ribs.

Defendants said they were drunk, and did
not remember what had occurred.

For assaulting Constable Bell, Coady was
sentenced to three months' imprisonment
with hard labor; while Thompson was fined
£5, in default 10 days, for resisting arrest.
Each defendant was fined £2, in default four
days' imprisonment, for having used inde-
cent language.

WANTED TO BE HAPPY LIKE OTHERS.

Reuben Kirk, 38, a gardener, when found
on Taronga Zoo wharf at 5.30 on Christmas
morning was found asleep on a seat.

When charged with vagrancy at North
Sydney Court he said he once had a big list
of clients, but someone had stolen his list,
and then took his clients from him.

He, therefore, was destitute, except for 7/6
earned from a man at Bellevue Hill the day
before. He went to Taronga the night be-

fore to drink a bottle of wine which he
bought with the 7/6, as "everyone else was
happy" and he wanted to join in the cele-
brations.

On promising to get a berth on a foreign-
going ship, Kirk was remanded for one week.

"FOOLS LIKE YOU."

The story of how a man suspected of ped-
dling cocaine evaded the clutches of the law
was unfolded before Mr. Laidlaw in the Cen-
tral Court, when Jack Cusack and George
Jackson were charged with assaulting the
police.

Constable Nelson told how, on the night
of December 29, he was questioning a man
in the Haymarket.

"I have reason to believe," he observed,
"that the man was directly concerned in the
cocaine traffic. He has only one leg, and is
suspected of being a central figure in the
dope ring."

Constable Nelson related how the two ac-
cused approached him. "Cusack demanded
that I leave the man alone as he was a
cripple, and when I explained that I was an
officer, he struck me with his clenched fist."

In imposing a fine of £5, with the option
of two months' imprisonment, the magistrate
severely reprimanded the accused.

"It is fools like you," he declared, indig-
nantly, "that prevent the police from exe-
cuting their duty. You were half drunk, and
interfered in a matter that had absolutely
nothing to do with you."

CONSTABLE GETS ROUGH HANDLING.

Francis Burns was fined £5 at the Police
Court for having assaulted Constable Crow-
hurst. He was also fined 10/-, and ordered
to pay £1/16/6 compensation, on a charge of
maliciously damaging a police uniform, and
was further fined 15/- for being drunk and
disorderly.

Crowhurst said that defendant attacked
him with a beer bottle, but was overpowered
after the constable had been roughly handled.

PUNCHED HIS WIFE IN THE EYE.

George Olsen, 40, a groom, was drunk and
irritable when he arrived at his home at
Wickham.

When his wife spoke to him, he responded
by punching her in the eye. He made a
row and a general nuisance of himself.

At the Newcastle Police Court Olsen was
bound over in a £20 surety to be of good
behaviour for six months. He promised not
to assimilate so much grog in the future.

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THE ELECTION A VICTORY FOR PROHIBITION.

THE PEOPLE DECIDE TO KEEP THE SHIP OF STATE IN DRY DOCK.

It was "a great dry victory," exclaim the Prohibition organisations and their spokesmen, as they view the election returns. As they see it, the Presidential contest was "a great referendum on Prohibition"; and Governor Smith lost, not because he was a Democrat, but because he championed the wet cause. By the same token, Hoover, say the dries, did not win because there were more Republican than Democratic voters, but because he favored the dry side. Governor Smith, observes the South Bend "Times," "made Prohibition the major issue in his campaign," and his defeat "gives the dries some reasonable grounds for their claim that he lost because of his stand on Prohibition." The election of Hoover convinces this paper that the people are either overwhelmingly against the wet movement, or else considered the Prohibition question settled. And, it adds: "Either way, the result provides no comfort for the wets."

Furthermore, points out the Raleigh "News and Observer," "in almost every close Senatorial fight, a dry was elected to the Senate, thus strengthening the Prohibition forces in the Upper House." Of course, admits the Mobile "Register," "Prohibition was not the only factor in Smith's defeat; others of deep moment contributed to the result. But the forces opposed to the return of the liquor traffic were militantly organised against Governor Smith and his pronounced wet views." It was a case, remarks Mrs. W. R. Pattangall, of Maine, "where the Nineteenth Amendment, giving women the vote, saved the Eighteenth." In the opinion of not a few dry authorities, the overwhelming defeat of the New York Governor should remove the issue of Prohibition permanently from the field of partisan politics. As the Chicago "Journal of Commerce" explains:

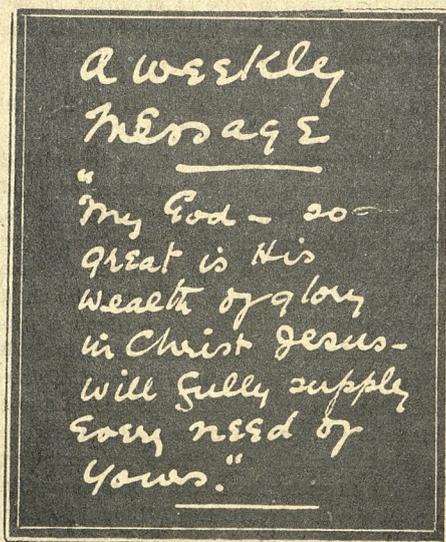
"Mr. Hoover's election means that the Prohibition laws will be maintained in their present essential form for at least four years, and, if he should be re-elected, for at least eight years."

"Governor Smith's election would have been the signal for the beginning of an earnest effort to increase anti-Prohibition sentiment throughout the country and build up an anti-Prohibition majority in Congress."

What of the Congressional elections? According to Washington despatches, the dries gained strength in both House and Senate. Senators Bruce of Maryland and Edwards of New Jersey, outstanding wet leaders, were defeated. Successful dry Senatorial candidates were Townsend of Delaware; Patterson of Missouri; Walcott of Connecticut; Herbert of Rhode Island, and Glenn of Illinois. Congressman White of Colorado, and Hill of Maryland, both wets, were also defeated. The present House of Representatives, says an International News Service

despatch from the capital, "has sixty-three outspoken wets; the new House will have between fifty-five and sixty." With Senator Reed of Missouri, a bitter opponent of the Anti-Saloon League, on the retired list, the wet opposition in the Senate will be less aggressive than it has been, predicts F. Scott McBride, General Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League. In fact, he declares:

"This is the end of the Prohibition fight in the Democratic Party. After what happened to Governor Smith, the Democrats will not dare to nominate another man who favors a change in the Eighteenth Amendment."



From the Woman's Christian Temperance Union comes the flat statement that the Hoover victory may be traced to the women of this country. According to the Secretary, "No issue other than Prohibition could have sent women to the polls by the millions." And a spokeswoman for the Woman's National Committee for Law Enforcement has this to say:

"It was not the tariff, nor the farm issue, nor prosperity, but the menace of the return of the old saloon which led millions of women who had never voted to cast their first ballot for Herbert Hoover. It was the fear of this menace which made hundreds of thousands of other women forsake for the time being their party allegiance to vote for the man with whom they believe this Amendment will be safe."

A statement by the Anti-Saloon League of New York says:

"The election of Hoover was a referendum on Prohibition. Smith would have made a better run against Hoover if he had been dry. He would have held the Solid South, and would have made deep inroads in the dry agricultural West. If Smith had been dry and the Republican candidate wet, there

can be no doubt that Smith would have been elected.

"Second, the vote was a referendum in the State of New York. If Hoover had been wet he could not have carried the State, and if Smith had been dry at least 100,000 dry Democrats who voted for Hoover would have voted for Smith."

"The people have indicated, with a finality that is unmistakable, that they will not have a wet for President," notes the Richmond "Times-Dispatch," and this is also the conclusion reached by the Minneapolis "Journal," Memphis "Commercial Appeal," Nashville "Tennessean," Raleigh "News and Observer," and the Emporia "Gazette." Furthermore, declares the Denver "Post":

"Those wets who profess to find encouragement in the result of the election point to the fact that the popular vote of over 14 millions given Al Smith is the largest ever polled by a Democratic candidate. But they overlook the fact that he suffered the most overwhelming defeat ever administered to a Democratic Presidential nominee.

"The wets fool themselves by considering only the popular vote. But the thing which counts is the vote by States.

(Continued on page 10.)

Mother

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Should guard your child's health!

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AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S TEMPERANCE SUNDAY.

A movement has been set on foot to inaugurate an Australian Children's Temperance Sunday—Sunday, June 9, being the day set aside. There is likely to be a very hearty co-operation in the various States of the various Temperance Societies to make this day a day of great usefulness. It is to be a Children's Sunday, and all services held that day will in some way demonstrate the child's need, the child's temptation, the child's future. All kindergarten, child and youth organisations will be requested to take part in this great day's services. Ministers will be requested to organise services in their own Churches, inviting to the services all children's organisations — Boys' Brigade, Scouts, Girl Guides, Football, Tennis and Cricket Clubs. Ministers will be expected to exchange pulpits and those who have the gift for writing to prepare articles for the press. The importance of an Australian Children's Temperance Sunday cannot be estimated. "The child is the citizen of to-morrow." It is fitting that the child should have one Sunday in the year in which to learn how to conquer the drink evil.

50,000 TEMPERANCE PLEDGE CAMPAIGN.

Last year 10,000 Temperance Total Abstinence Pledges were signed under the auspices of the Band of Hope Union of N.S.W. At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee a resolution was unanimously carried that during 1929 an objective be made of securing 50,000 Total Abstinence Pledges. A challenge will be thrown out to the other States to secure a quota according to their population. Temperance Pledge Cards can be secured without cost by writing Ernest Trafford, General Secretary, Band of Hope Union, 140 Elizabeth-street, Sydney. Recently a Sunday school was visited in the metropolitan area where there were present nearly 500 children—only 20 of whom had signed the pledge. In the Sunday schools and day schools of your district how many children are there who know what a Total Abstinence Pledge means? Here is a wonderful opportunity for useful preparation for the future and for real constructive work. Will you help?

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RANDWICK, BAND OF HOPE.

A few months ago the Randwick Presbyterian Church Band of Hope was reorganised under the able leadership of Miss Broadley. Its growth and development have been remarkable, and it is likely in a few days that this Band of Hope will meet weekly: (1) For juniors; (2) for seniors. The management of this Branch is entirely in the hands of the young people, and as with all young people's organisations, which are left to the young people to organise, is successful. We most heartily congratulate Miss Broadley on the great work she is doing.

WILLOUGHBY UNITED CHURCH BAND OF HOPE.

The Willoughby Band of Hope to conclude their year's work invited a number of children from the Sydney City Mission for an afternoon and tea, at which also Xmas presents were given to the visitors. Games were played, songs were sung, and the children of the City Mission were given a good time. Mr. Bevis, who has charge of the Willoughby Band of Hope, is to be congratulated upon his year's work. His success is due to his love of God, his love for children, and his resourceful brain, which is ever anxious to give his Branch Band of Hope something new. We will be watching Willoughby Band of Hope, not only for its growth of membership, but for its new ideas and its efficiency.

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

We want you to send to our office and ask for "HELPS TO PARENTS IN EXPLAINING MATTERS OF SEX TO THE YOUNG," issued by the Bishops and General Synod, together with 10 White Cross booklets suitable for parents, boys and girls.

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SEES PROHIBITION BENEFITS.

Sam S. Williams, president of the Sam S. Williams Voucher Club, an organisation of friendly interests toward men leaving prison, writes to J. H. Larimore, Director of Publicity of the World League Against Alcoholism, as follows:

"Since the saloon has gone out of business there has been no more need for the mission. The mission of to-day is a mere downtown church. I remember going to McCall's Mission in New York City and seeing drunkards standing up along the sides of the walls. The first time I visited the place after Prohibition there were only 22, including the workers, present. The last time I went there were only 18, including the workers and myself.

"I used to conduct six or seven funerals a month for poor, drunken men who had left no money for burial expenses. It's been a long time since I've had a funeral since the new liquor laws were passed."

CLEANED OUT.

Wife: "The doctor says that he has given you a new lease of life."

Hub: "That so? Well, he didn't leave me much with which to pay the rent."

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GRAINS OF GOLD WORTH PICKING UP!

You Can Do What You Want to Do.

Think you can, believe you can, know you can, and—whatever it is—you will.

When Cecil Rhodes was 21 his doctor told him he had six months to live. He went to Africa, won 700,000 square miles of land for England, put Central Africa into the British Empire, and lived for twenty-eight years.

Thomas Edison lost his job as a telegraph boy when he was 16. "You'll never get on," his boss told him. He lost three other jobs the same way. When he was 23 he arrived in New York without a penny.

Edison became the most prolific inventor in the world. He has taken out over 1000 patents. England gave him £30,000 for one of them.

Henry Ford is the world's most successful manufacturer. He was a dunce at school. On his father's farm he said he was going to make "a carriage go without horses." His people had fears for his mind. When he put an old engine on the family buggy he was the joke of the country.

Ford is the richest man in America today. His factory makes more cars than any other in the world. He has organised a Union of 80,000 men and he is the leader of it. He has shown every other man what can be done.

These men believed in themselves. Each said "I can." And he did.

Their jobs were bigger than yours, perhaps, but the principle in all jobs, big or little, is the same. Think, believe, know you can—and you will.

"There's a thousand can't-be-doners

For the one who says 'I can,'
But the whole amount of the deeds that count

Is done by the latter clan."

* * *

By What You Are You Are Where You Are.

A cannon ball will go just as far as the powder will send it. You will go just as far as your energy sends you.

Ability is absolutely necessary, but "ability" is an empty shell without the powder of energy to back it up.

The modern locomotive has the ability to pull a long train—when it has the energy.

You have the ability, but have you the energy? How much time do you devote to improving yourself after working hours? The man who works eight hours a day has sixteen to himself. Think this over seriously.

You are where you are by what you are. Where are you?

You will go in the direction of your mind. If you think failure you will probably fail. If you think success you have made the first step to succeed. Your mind is the compass of your career.

* * *

Think all you speak, but speak not all you think.

* * *

Keep trying; it is often the last key opens the door.

LIFE—AN OPPORTUNITY.

Life isn't so bad. Trials there must be; disappointments are bound to be; trouble has a habit of turning up occasionally—and yet, isn't it a glorious adventure just to be alive and breathing and sensing and experiencing and struggling and hoping and loving?

Just think how uninteresting it must be to be dead. Then consider the opportunities there are for making the world a better place because you are in it and part of it.

What are you doing with these opportunities? Ignoring them? Going through life hitting on two cylinders?—or climbing its hills with all of your power of ambition and determination turned on?

There's a lot of fun in doing things. If you don't believe it, try doing absolutely nothing for a while. See how tired you get of loafing.

But you'll never get any fun out of doing things unless you put some joy into them. "Just be Glad" is more than a phrase—it's the secret of helpfulness. And unless we are helpful we can't get very much happiness out of life.

—"Play."

Study the life of a man who has become an outstanding success. You will find that he began life by doing the little things well—and never broke the habit.

* * *

There is no royal road to excellence, and no amount of genius will ensure success without perseverance.

* * *

Earthly prudence is a large part of heavenly providence.

An Eagle's Message to the Envious Earth.

A wise old owl, a cawing crow and a silly goose met in convention and discussed the flight of an eagle.

The goose felt sure that the flights of the eagle were but "fancy steps" in the sky.

The old owl squinted and blinked as he watched the eagle's wings eclipse the sun.

The crow could see no carrion in God's blue canopy.

And it was decided by the three foul minds to bring the eagle down to earth.

But while these low-minded men and women of the bird creation considered ways and means to bring the eagle down to their level, the great spreading wings of the glorious bird carried her with slow, majestic motion higher and higher into the heavens, up nearer the Great Eternal.

The eagle's soul was filled with the rapture of rising. She could, with her piercing eye, sweep the whole earth, but the envious three were lost in the distance, in the dust world.

And the only message sent to the silly goose, the wise old owl and the cawing crow was a feather that fell in the flight.—From the Scrap Book of F. D. Van Amburgh.

* * *

Mighty Napoleon Refuted His Faith.

The religion of right, of faith in the future, is the most beautiful force in the world today. This is not the incantation of one person; it is the universal belief, the rock-founded, ages-tried sentiment of millions of beings who know it is bigger than creed or church.

Voltaire, in his sneering, misguided many men; but at the last he made one bold acknowledgment which refuted his whole life work: "If there had not been a God, it would have been necessary to invent one."

The avowed destroyer of all creed, the great contender against the church, the aggressive, agnostic Napoleon, on his way to life prison, pointed to the night sky and said: "Say what you please, someone created and controls all that."—The Silent Partner.

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The devil may have his faults, but at anyrate he never puts off till to-morrow what he can do to-day.

We are a nation of kids. We pay more for our amusements than for our education, and then deplore the ignorance of the crowd. We know more about the odds on a horse than the character and policy of political candidates, and then are frantically disgusted to find we backed a crook in politics who never gave us a run for our money, or one whose buffoonery made us a laughing stock in the eyes of other countries. We know the names and averages of all the cricketers, but do not know if the book of Amos is in the New Testament or the Old, and wonder why our boys and girls can't play the game of life with a straight bat.

Last year 472 racecourses were licensed under the Gaming and Betting Act. The law says gambling is wrong and harmful, and then provides 472 places where you can gamble your own or the boss's money for all you are worth.

At the present time there are licensed in this State 13 theatres or buildings specially constructed for staging plays; 65 theatres and public halls with a seating capacity of over 1500 persons each; 453 picture shows with accommodation for between 500 and 1500 persons; and 1951 halls and temporary structures seating less than 500 persons.

THE NEW PUB.

Turrumurra is threatened with a new pub. This garden portion of Sydney was very mildly interested in the Prohibition referendum and contributed probably £50 towards a "dry" State.

Alarmed at the menace at their own front door they subscribed at a single meeting £200 to fight a single drink shop.

Men, strangely enough, were not ashamed to say they were not Prohibitionists so long as someone else's home, boy or neighborhood was being threatened, but were ardent Turrumurra Prohibitionists. The selfishness, the littleness of it!

The same spirit is evident in practically twenty places now threatened with a law-protected drink shop.

The master liquor-sales promoter is Mr. Trautwein; he was successful at Maroubra, Coogee and elsewhere. He generally uses an ex-policeman as his offside, and being "a good sport" and "generous," he meets with much "success."

Bitter opposition to the erection of an hotel in John-street, Lidcombe, opposite the public school, was voiced at the Lidcombe Council, when L. Trautwein submitted plans for the erection of an hotel to cost £12,000.

Alderman Wilson said that the building was a fine one, but it was nearly opposite a school where there were 1500 pupils, and in the centre of an excellent residential area. One hotel building application had been approved by the council a few hundred yards away in the same street, and surely the council would not allow the erection of two hotels. It would be a terrible example for the children. He moved that the council disapprove of the site and forward a communication to that effect to the Licensing Board.

Now will you listen to the booze-seller?

Alderman Freitas, himself an hotel-keeper, said he was not opposed to an hotel in the street, but it seemed a rotten sort of business granting two such hotels, and one of them right opposite the public school. No matter how well an hotel was conducted, there were always some drunken men about.

Alderman Merry said that if an hotel were built opposite the school, the little children would not always be safe, especially with the great number of sex crimes at present being perpetrated.

The council decided to approve of the plans, but to disapprove of the site, and to forward an intimation to that effect to the Licensing Board.

These are the places that a majority of people in N.S.W. voted to continue in this State, and rather than pay them to go, and go for ever, "good people" refused to vote or gave an approving vote.

DRINK AND BE SOBER.

The following extract from the Melbourne "Sun" of December 14 is interesting, particularly as the recipes given are suggested by one of Melbourne's premier barmen, and contain no alcohol:

"CITY HOTELS GIVE IDEAS FOR COOLING DRINKS.

"Yesterday's heat brought thirst, and the question, 'What is a good summer drink?'

"Mr. Jimmy McIntosh, of Phairs Hotel, who has been mixing drinks for thirty-four years, gives the following recipe:

"In a glass put a dessertspoonful of castor sugar, the juice of half a lemon, a dash of bottled lemon squash, a little orange bitters, the juice of half an orange, and two tea-spoonsful of passion fruit juice. Put in a little soda water, and mix well with ice.

"The result, he says, is a desire to put on an overcoat.

"Another city hotel yesterday advised two or three slices of lemon, with a sprig of mint,

crushed in the bottom of a glass, with lemonade poured on top.

"Another suggested fruit cup. Juicy fruit—lemons, oranges, or strawberries—is crushed in the bottom of a glass, with a dash of lemon juice. On top pour three parts of ginger ale to one of ginger beer, and a little raspberry vinegar, and put in ice."

Do licensees need watching? Our readers may judge for themselves after noting this fact, that in 1926 no less than 1064 Victorian licensees were convicted of law-breaking; 1053 in 1925, and 847 in 1927. Surely comment is superfluous!

THE FAMILY IS FIRST.

A Southland goat rancher who complained that he couldn't pay alimony and buy goat feed was told by a local judge that as between feeding one's family and one's animals the family comes first, so he was ordered to pay up. It appears that the rancher will have to dispose of one or two of his stock in order to make the settlement, which shows there is more than one way of getting a man's goat.

FILL THE COFFERS AND JAILS.

Quebec, under the old license system, had 400 places where liquor could be purchased. Under "liquor control of Government" the number has reached 2000.

Quebec's public debt in 1920 was 40,000,000 dollars. In four years it had increased nearly 100 per cent., or 75,000,000 dollars.

Quebec City must not be mistaken for Quebec Province. The city is now "wet," but most of the province remains "dry" under Local Option. The biggest city in Quebec Province is Montreal; it, like Quebec City, is "wet." These cities talk grandiloquently of the "vast revenue" the province receives from the sale of the alcoholic poison. It has not yet decided to give a badge of honor to the town drunks for having sacrificed themselves, their health, morals and hopes for the future that the province may have revenue. Of course the province houses them in its jails and various asylums, and gives them a pauper's funeral. What more could these patriotic drinkers ask for?

We do not know if Quebec has worked out the story of child degradation resulting from its liquor revenue scheme, but it will certainly be no different to the Holland experience.

Investigations conducted by A. Don in Holland, covering 4340 children, concerning the relationship between intellectual progress of children and the use of alcohol was as follows, per 100 pupils:

	Good.	Fair.	Bad.
Abstaining	34.6	48.8	16.6
Drinking occasionally ..	23.6	52.8	23.6
Drinking daily	14.7	40	45

According to the Associated Press, the Federal R.R. administration of Germany has ordered milk markets installed at strategic points for the convenience of the employees—that they might substitute milk for alcoholic beverages. Thus temperance and Prohibition go forward.

LIQUOR-PROTECTING POLITICIANS IN W.A.

POSTPONE PROHIBITION REFERENDUM.

By R. J. C. BUTLER, for "Grit."

It is generally admitted that if you sow you may reasonably expect to reap. Here in Western Australia we are doing some reaping. Whenever we have had an opportunity to plant a new Parliament we have generously planted a crop of liquor-protecting politicians. The result is quite in keeping with the law of cause and effect. Our Parliament has rushed a Private Members Bill through, which takes away the right to vote in 1930. Permit me to tell the story.

LOCAL OPTION GOES.

In 1921 a local option vote was taken. The result of that vote was so favorable to the Prohibitionists that the liquor party became frightened. It was obvious that another local option vote would send several big districts "dry." The liquor people decided that the best way out of the difficulty was to get local option abolished, and in its place have a State-wide poll. The cry for the State-wide poll was raised, and a small section of the temperance people walked—or rather were led—into the trap which the liquor people had laid, and this small section joined voices with the liquor advocates for a State-wide poll.

The leader of the Government in those days was Sir James Mitchell, and Sir James jumped at the opportunity to abolish local option. A bill was introduced, which did the thing the liquor party wanted. This bill, which became the Licensing Act, made a contract with the people that a Prohibition poll should be taken in 1925 and every fifth year after. In 1925 the poll was taken and the Prohibitionists did remarkably well. Since that poll the Prohibition League has been preparing for the 1930 vote.

THE PROHIBITION POLL GOES.

Now comes the next big step. A few days before the closing of the last session of Parliament Mr. H. Mann, M.L.A. (a gentleman who, at the last election, had the whole-hearted support of many leading Prohibitionists), introduced a bill to postpone the vote from 1930 to 1935. The bill was supported by all sections of the House, and was carried in the Assembly on the voices. A division

was forced in the Legislative Council and the bill went through with a big majority. The position now is that in this State we have reaped the natural harvest which comes from planting liquor-protecting politicians.

THE BRIGHTER SIDE.

Now that the liquor party have done this thing and we have had time to reflect I can see much good in the situation. In the first place the Licensing Act was never acceptable to Prohibitionists. It is an Act which unduly favors the trade and is most unfair to our people. The decks are now cleared for action, and the clearing has been done by our opponents. The way is now clear for our people to do some of the things which are long overdue. Instead of using our energy in the 1930 referendum we shall be able to devote all our time to two things, one the work of getting ready for the next State elections. It is possible that we shall be able to now take a more definite part in the election of candidates. Our people are ready for a big forward move. This action of the politicians has given our movement new life and vitality, and I venture to say that the next few months, between this and the next State elections, will be the most worrying time ever spent by some of the men who so glibly gave their protection to the liquor traffic.

A CASH GIFT.

There is one aspect of this subject which we shall not fail to emphasize. It is this: The bill to postpone the referendum for five years is a very handsome cash gift to the liquor party. To fight the 1930 poll would have cost the trade at least £50,000, probably more. I hope the Secretary of the Liquor Trades Defence Union will be decent enough to find time to write a nice letter to Mr. Mann, M.L.A., and tell him that the trade wishes to say thank you; and as the letter should be written before Christmas, I might further suggest that Mr. Mann, M.L.A., might appreciate a little gift, just as a slight token of the respect and admiration the trade has for Mr. Mann. I hesitate to suggest what the gift should be, but doubtless Mr. Dobbie will decide whether to make

it a pen-wiper or a silver-mounted toothpick. A direct saving of £50,000 should be worth at least one, or even both, of the presents suggested. I make this suggestion because I should hate to think that Mr. Mann's gallant service to the traffic is overlooked.

BENEVOLENT SOUL.

"I've come to ask you if you'll subscribe to this deserving charity."

"Certainly. I'll give you this cheque now."

"But it isn't signed."

"I know. I wish to remain anonymous."

*** * *
JOYKILLERS.**

Just coming out of the ether, Pat was elated to hear the operation had been successful.

"Don't be too sure about it," advised a patient in the next bed after the doctors went out. "They left a sponge in me and had to cut me open again."

"They reopened me, too, looking for one of their instruments," the occupant of the bed on the other side of Pat chimed in. Just then one of the surgeons returned.

"Anyone seen my hat around here?" he asked.

Pat promptly fainted.

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A Personal Chat with my readers

THE NEAR GREAT. St. Paul has written into the history of men that of faith, hope and love. The greatest of these is love.

While the thirteenth chapter of first Corinthians has immortalised love, and the eleventh of Hebrews has set out the glory of faith, it must not be forgotten that "hope" has been divinely placed between these two greatest of qualities.

It seems to me that the quality we all need just now is the courage born of hope. As we look back on God's ways with us our faith is strengthened; as spiritual experience broadens and deepens our understanding love grows; but as we look around us and ahead of us hope dies within us.

To be big of good hope, to be buoyant with expectation, to be sure of rain when there are no clouds, to be confident of the sun's coming when you can feel the darkness and the chill has entered into your very marrow—that is the quality we need to-day.

The love of many grows cold, the Church stands pathetically deserted, money dominates the calculations of even the children.

Once children ran a message to oblige. Now they want to know how much they are to get for doing it.

Once the men on the job had an eye on finishing it. Now they only have an eye on the clock.

Once a religious crisis or need drew people together in prayer. Now it sends them in a committee of ways and means, ending with a resolution to see how pressure can be brought to bear on someone else to do the job that is their own.

Is there any hope?

Is a revival of religion possible?

Can a Parliament be elected that will be free from crookedness, buffoonery and cowardice?

Will parents ever control and teach their children?

These and a dozen other questions come to mind, and I ask myself is there any room for hope?

When we look at the frost-hardened earth and the bare trees we know that Spring will not fail to come with its miracle-working power and clothe the earth and the tree with a mantle of beauty.

God, who has blessed the earth with un-failing springtime, has not forgotten that mankind needs a spiritual springtime even more than does the earth.

Because we need, so greatly need, a revival I may confidently hope for it.

Lillie H. Canfield writes:

I wish the little crushed hopes that lie So deep in my heart would not wake and cry

When Spring comes. They have lain so still, I prayed that the pain and tears might kill The tender buds. But the soft Spring sky Stirs them to life again . . . and I . . . I could forget . . . if they would die!

But hope will not die. Thank God.

* * *

A MORAL FAILURE! Mr. Curtis, K.C., Mr. Fuller, showman, and now Mr. Peters, ice cream king, have all been to U.S.A., and returned chanting the liquor man's slogan—"Prohibition is an economic success, but a moral failure."

It would be safe to bet £1000 to a used tram ticket that none of these men entered a church in U.S.A., or had a personal chat with a religious or moral leader.

It would be equally safe to make the same bet that they have never read or heard that every Protestant Church, the Y.M.C.A. and the Salvation Army have emphatically reiterated their conviction, year after year; that the moral worth of Prohibition far outweighs its economic worth.

If the moral guardians are satisfied with Prohibition, who is it that has taught these church absentees, these strangers in the circle of moral uplifters, to chant like parrots, "Prohibition is an economic success, but a moral failure"?

Have they ever been concerned about the moral failure of our licensed liquor system in Sydney?

There were more convictions for drunkenness in the Central Police Court of Sydney in one year than for a similar period in all the Courts of the City of New York, with a greater population than the whole Commonwealth of Australia.

It is time someone told these good folk that a shoemaker does well to stick to his last, and that if they will confine themselves to the business side of things they will be listened to with respect, and we clergy will expect them to listen with respect to what the Churches have to say on the question of morals.

* * *

PLANT A TREE. I wrote a few weeks ago about tree-planting, and strangely enough happened to meet one of the wealthy men of Australia a few days afterwards, and heard him hold forth on tree-planting.

I then came across these lines by Joyce Kilmer:

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

GRIT

A JOURNAL OF
NATIONAL EFFICIENCY
AND PROHIBITION.

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

Editor: ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

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SYDNEY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1929.

A tree that looks at God all day
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

The Editor

TARDY BUT RELIABLE.

In "The Light of the Ages" by Myrtle Strode-Jackson is an amusing story about Mrs. W. E. Gladstone, wife of the "Grand Old Man" of the Victorian political era. Mrs. Gladstone was entertaining a certain bishop, and at the breakfast table they were discussing the disturbed state of Europe. Mr. Gladstone—then British Prime Minister—had not yet come downstairs. After commenting with some concern on the seemingly inextricable tangle of world affairs, the bishop remarked:

"Well, it is a great comfort to me in all these extremely difficult problems to feel that there is one above who knows all and in whom we may safely trust."

"Yes, indeed, bishop," replied Mrs. Gladstone earnestly, "I agree with you, and he won't keep you waiting long now, I assure you. He will be down directly."

ADVENTURES IN HELPFULNESS.

IN THE WAKE OF SANTA CLAUS.

A gift and a kind word—
How each enriches the other!

By ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

It is said of Christ as of no one else, "He was kind to the unthankful and the evil," and His kindness was of the big, uncalculating, generous and hopeful variety.

He never lent. He gave.

He never imposed conditions, but always responded to need.

The best for the neediest was His rule. He was a veritable Niagara Falls of generosity, and the best of us are but as the spray that arises from these gigantic, never-ceasing Falls.

We really do not help people by doing things for them; but effective help is only given when we make it possible for them to do things for themselves.

It is pathetically true that those who are willing to be carried are not worth carrying.

The chap who is always polishing a bench with a hard-luck story can best be helped when the sweat rolls off him and the corns come as honor marks on his hands.

There are many folk, however, who have been left more dead than alive on the high-ways of life, and like the man who on his way from Jerusalem to Jericho fell among thieves, such people need to be temporarily carried and placed in the care of those who can restore their fitness to go out once again equipped to stand on their own feet and earn a living in self-respecting ways.

THE WOMEN AND THE CHILDREN FIRST.

Those who have least opportunity to provide for themselves, and whose need is greatest, of course have a first and irresistible claim on us who would commemorate God's Christmas generosity by some kindness to His less fortunate children. Our saving system controlled by Mrs. Hammond all the year round afforded us the pleasure of paying out £57 to 47 mothers who had slowly but surely saved from their scanty store a little for special occasions and special needs. Eighteen families had parcels of suitable clothing given to them.

Fifty-six families had parcels of groceries worth from 20/- to 30/- taken to their homes.

Thirty-five old-age pensioners were given substantial help, and perhaps no one was more pleased or benefited than they.

Seventy families involving 275 children received such help as a week's rent, suitable foodstuffs, or necessary clothes.

Fourteen little children were taken shopping and enjoyed the thrill of buying new clothes. Forty boys had an outing.

This represents 226 women and 556 children.

THE MEN.

A great deal was done for men in various ways, but, alas, it was pitifully inadequate. Men out of work, men unfit to work, men in-

capable of doing anything well enough to make anyone glad to employ them, men with unusual gifts sacrificed to some appetite, men whose tools of trade were in pawn and sometimes the ticket sold, men who had a job in prospect a fortnight ahead, men who wanted the fare back to jobs they had left, men who hated the city and wanted a blanket before walking out, men just out of jail, men who had deserted their ship, men who were too old at fifty, misfit chaps from the Old Country, men expecting to be jailed and those who found cadging easier than work.

On Christmas Day, after morning service, I raced off to the City Night Refuge and Soup Kitchen, where the committee had planned to give a Christmas dinner to men. Finding the arrangements had been delayed, I started to lay tables, dish up the dinner, pour out the tea, and we made a happy start at 1 o'clock. By 2.50 we had in three sittings given a truly magnificent hot dinner of meat, vegetables, plum pudding and fruit to 393 men. When I got home it was 3.30. I was wet through with perspiration and just too tired to think of anything but lying down.

After a magnificent evening service, and when at 10.20 I was closing down for the day, the 'phone rang. I said, "Hello!"

A voice replied, "It is the 'Telegraph Pictorial' speaking." I answered, "If you were near enough I would put a match to your old paper. Whatever do you want at this hour of the night?" The voice said: "We want to know what you had for Christmas dinner." I replied: "Surely it is someone speaking from Callan Park! What does it matter to anyone what I had for dinner?" The voice replied: "I have been put on to the job of finding out what some of the best-known citizens had for their Christmas dinner." I laughed at him and told him it was difficult to take him seriously; and I am quite sure I failed to convince him that it was literally true that I had no dinner of any kind, and the kind of tea that a canary might have considered lean.

Newspapers have become gossips of the worst kind; they leave those they pick on with no more privacy than a goldfish in a glass bowl on the front table.

FOURTEEN DAYS OF CHRISTMAS.

A feast or a famine has never appealed to me, and I accept the challenge to make it a little less feast so that there may be a little less famine. On the Wednesday evening before Christmas 250 men attended my regular week night service for men only.

Such men look upon holidays with fear and dread. From Saturday, the 22nd of December, until Wednesday, January 2, the out-of-a-job man has a barren outlook.

In that period I gave a meal to 808 men—this does not include the Christmas dinner at the Soup Kitchen—and in addition gave a bed and a meal to 964 men. On Boxing Day 260 men attended my usual meeting for men, and on January 2 240 attended. On these two nights 62 men professed to turn to God and pledged themselves to trust in the Lord Jesus.

Since I began these meetings ten years ago 1625 men have professed conversion, and many of them have given a most substantial proof of the reality of their profession. On Christmas Day one old-time city derelict sent a pound from U.S.A. to go in the offertory, which amounted to £56, a gift of grateful hearts for the Saviour, Who is also Friend.

I received and spent in the Christmas fortnight about £350. I hope my friends are satisfied with the way I administered their generosity and will accept my thanks and the thanks of those helped for a truly wonderful Christmas time.

Those who sent me Green Coupons will be glad to know that I cashed them for £33. I am hopeful that this form of contribution will continue, and that many more will help in this way.

HAMMOND'S HOTEL.

During December I added 12 more beds to this hotel, where I now provide for 36 men. They are all young and registered at the Labor Bureau.

In October, November and December we provided 2068 beds, and during that time we actually got away to permanent jobs 51 men. During these three months only two men abused the privileges of the hotel, and many who obtained casual work paid a little into the expense account of the hotel.

I am now anxious to get at least 40 pairs of pyjamas. It is healthier and cleaner for men to get out of their day clothes when they go to bed, and in the winter a pair of pyjamas is almost equal to a blanket.

"PROHIBITION IS AN ESTABLISHED FACT."

"Of course, I believe in Prohibition. What man does not when he withdraws to the secret chambers of the mind for an honest consideration of the questions that concern him.

"All the ranting and having about Prohibition that sometimes breaks out in Washington means little, if anything. It hasn't changed a law and it won't change a law. The politicians shrieking for wine and beer know very well that they will never legally buy wine and beer in this country. Prohibition is an established fact in our law, and observance of the law is growing throughout the country.

"A little more honesty everywhere, it seems to me, is all that is needed to neutralise the disrespect for all law now charged up to Prohibition. Here and there Prohibition has stirred up considerable dishonesty and violence; Prohibition didn't create the dishonesty."—Martin B. Madden, late Chairman of Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives.

The Election a Victory for Prohibition—

(Continued from page 3.)

"The electoral-college system prevents a few thickly-populated States from dominating all the rest of the country. It keeps sectionalism out of the Government as far as possible. It is designed to put all the States on an equal basis, so far as possible, and to give each of them an equal voice."

LONDON PAPERS AND AMERICA'S "DRY" ELECTION.

Mr. Hoover's sweeping election to the American Presidency on November 6 was received by the London press not only with enthusiasm on the new President's own account, but also with unconcealed interest in the "dry" principles for which he stood.

The "Evening Standard," especially, came out nobly on this occasion. Not only did it issue a striking poster, but also told us in an article in its issue of November 5 that the women of the New York Branch of the W.C.T.U. were spending the whole night in prayer for the defeat of Mr. "Al" Smith, Mr. Hoover's opponent. This particular bit of news was set out in black type, so as to attract special attention.

In its "special" edition, issued on November 7, the "Evening Standard" announced, "Tremendous Prohibition Wave," in an enormous headline, and stated later on the same page: "The victory is greeted as a smashing triumph for Prohibition. This issue, it is urged, should now be fought out on a non-partisan basis." On another page of the same issue the following statement was made: "Militant Prohibition societies throughout the nation were jubilant as full returns gave Mr. Hoover his overwhelming victory. Members of 'dry' organisations who had conducted a strenuous campaign against Governor Smith, because of his avowed intention to propose modification of present laws controlling the enforcement of the Prohibition amendment, took their share of the credit of Mr. Hoover's election. They construed it as meaning the concurrence of the people of the United States in favor of Prohibition as it exists to-day. The election of Mr. Hoover emphatically places the possibility of Prohibition modification at least four years distant, if it does not eliminate it once and for all. . . . The Anti-Saloon League of the United States and the Women's Christian Temperance Union, assisted by numerous anti-vice societies throughout the country, were among the principal opponents of Governor Smith."

In its "late night final" edition, on the same day (November 7), the "Evening Standard" emphasised particularly the part played by American women in Mr. Hoover's election. Following upon a headline, "Women's Dominant Part in a 'Smashing Victory for Prohibition,'" came the following statements: "Mr. Hoover's victory in the U.S. Presidential election—the most decisive in American history—reflects the determination of the women voters to continue the 'dry' regime." "The women have said their last word on Prohibition as an election issue."



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"The women liked Hoover's pledge of rigid enforcement of the Prohibition amendment." "No one disputes that it was the women who this year decided the identity of the 31st President. It is estimated that 40 per cent. of the voters this year were women."

Another of London's evening papers, the "Evening News," also made interesting comments on the same subject. Its issue of November 7 contained a large headline, "Tremendous Poll for 'Dry' Hoover," with another smaller headline lower down the page, entitled, "Voice of the Women."

The "Morning Post," of November 8, headed its account of Mr. Hoover's victory by a sub-title, "Landslide Due to Prohibition and Religion," and also asserted, "The country has crushingly rebuked the attempt to modify Prohibition by defeating Mr. Smith, not only in the South, but in the supposedly 'wet' East, where his own State of New York and the 'wet' States of Maryland and New Jersey have found its proposals to modify Prohibition of insufficient merit to give him their votes."

Dad (seriously): "My boy, don't you think it's about time for you to stand alone?"

Son (cheerfully): "Sure, dad. I can stand a loan any time."

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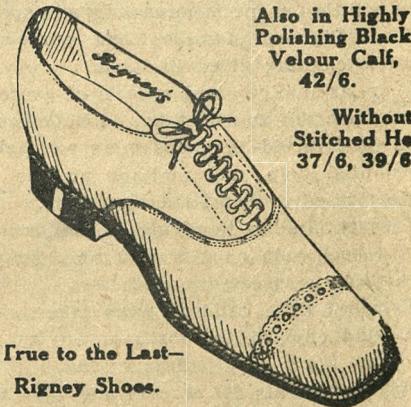
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"THAT WOULD SPOIL IT."

A fine little chap did a very nice and kind thing to an old and very evidently poor woman. A gentleman being struck with the unusual manly and courteous way in which the boy acted went up to him and said, "I would be glad to have your name and address, my boy. Such an act as yours, which I have just witnessed, should have recognition." The little chap just touched his hat and said, "I would rather not give you my name; that would spoil it," and hurried away.

There is little doubt that he reflected the teaching of his mother, and the example of his father. Someone has very wisely said, "Politeness is like an air cushion: there is nothing in it, but it eases the joints wonderfully."

If you don't let your right hand know what your left hand is doing you may think you will be overlooked and go unrewarded, but being thanked and rewarded often spoils a good deed. And, anyhow, why can't we wait until He who says, "Not a cup of cold water given in His name shall be forgotten," shall say to us, "Well done"?

UNCLE B.

OUR LETTER BAG.

A BIRD LOVER.

Amy Williams, Bark Hill, Bairnsdale, writes: While I am writing this letter there is a rufous-breasted whistler singing to us in the pine trees. To-morrow we are having "Bird Day," which we like very much. The bottle brush is out now. As we are driving along we often pick some for Miss McDonald. The bushes are laden with beautiful blooms. We are shearing at home. I like watching the shearers at work. On the shelf at school there are five pieces of pussy willow and two blue birds flying through the pussy willow. There is a little striated tit's nest in the hedge in the schoolground, but some naughtily little boy took three eggs out of the nest. We were very glad to have you at Forge Creek to preach, and I think everybody still remembers your sermon. Then the Monday picnic trip to Belle View was delightful, wasn't it? Everyone was pleased that you enjoyed yourself with us Ne's and Ni's up there, and on the boat. We had an enjoyable time; so did the grown-ups. The photos that were taken in the studio on our return are very good on the whole for such a big group. You look to have a big family. Several people were wondering whom we were all seeing off at the Bairnsdale

station when they saw all the colored streamers.

(Dear Amy,—I love to read about those who are really interested in birds and flowers—both of them interest me very much. I wonder did you ever see a leaf butterfly. When it is chased or in danger it sits on the side of a twig and folds its wings, and it is really difficult to distinguish it from a leaf. I had a wonderful visit to Forge Creek, and hope some day to come again.—Uncle B.).

A PICNIC.

Vivian Williams, Forge Creek, via Bairnsdale, writes: I hope you had a merry Christmas. We had a picnic last Saturday. I got a gun and a balloon off the Christmas tree. I won the shell race and got a shilling. All the other prizes were books and toys. We had our final examination, and I passed to go up into the fourth grade. I am glad I passed my final examination. I am nine now, so I should go up. Gertie is to come home next Friday, after six weeks' holiday in Sydney and Melbourne with Uncle Emrys. She called once to see you, when you were away, but we hope you saw her later.

(Dear Vivian,—You evidently had a good picnic. If one does not get too sunburnt, and the ants don't join the mosquitoes and gobble you up entirely, and if you don't fall in the water or tear your clothes, then a picnic will be a delightful thing. I won't forget the very, very nice picnic I had when you all took me up the river and gave me such a good time.—Uncle B.).

A WONDERFUL DAY.

William Williams, Forge Creek, via Bairnsdale, writes: We had a picnic last Saturday, and I shall tell you all about it. Miss McDonald arranged for two motor launches to take us all—children, parents and friends—from Paynesville on the Saturday morning. We all drove to Paynesville, and set off for the back beach on a glorious, calm, sunshiny day. We wish that you had been there with us. Mr. Wilson came, but Rev. Webb could not, though he wanted to. When we arrived, we carried everything to the picnic ground, and walked over to the ocean, and when we got to the top of the hummocks we felt the lovely fresh breeze and noticed the greenish blue of the ocean. We had rides down the hummocks in a fish box, and gathered shells before we returned to dinner. After clearing away the children went back for a paddle, while Miss McDonald, her sister and my big brother Dave got the Christmas tree ready. Every child was given a present off it, and the teacher gave five prizes for tennis, spelling and best work in

school. Denzil Scott and I had no presents on the tree, but just our names on a piece of cotton that we had to follow till we found our presents up trees, which we had to climb. Everyone received a balloon as well. Mr. Wilson gave out the presents and prizes. Then there were foot races on the lake side; then there were competitions on the ocean side. I came first and my sister Mary came second for sand castles, and my brother Vivian came first in the shell race. We had what we call a "spider race," the spiders being the seed of the marram grass. We all stand in a line and throw them in the air, and follow them as the wind blows them hopping over the sand to the top of the hummocks, the owner of the first over the top winning. It is a great game. After tea we all went across the lake in the cool after an enjoyable day.

(Dear William,—You not only had a lovely day, but you have written a splendid account of it. That was a good idea to send you climbing up a tree for your present. They must have thought that you were a human possum.—Uncle B.)

TRYING MY BEST.

Dulcie Southwood, Monteith-street, Turramurra, writes: It is our school holidays now, and we have six weeks. I am trying my best to write a lovely letter. There are some
(Continued on page 12.)

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Seven to Seventeen—

(Continued from page 11.)

bush fires around here. I saw a lot of crawly things this morning. I saw two lizards and one spider. At night some beetles flew in on the verandah and my little brother caught them and let them go again. I hope all my cousins are well. I haven't got much news to tell you. I have to write so that I won't be a scallywag. I hope all my cousins will have a glad New Year.

(Dear Dulcie,—I always like to read of anyone who is "trying their best." If you do that you may not always succeed, but we Christians do not have to be successful, but we must be found faithful—that is "doing our best." I was so glad you paid me a little visit. I wish more of my Ne's and Ni's did so.—Uncle B.)

NEW ZEALAND OR SYDNEY.

Vivian Broad, Kokaho Native School, Waikaremoana, New Zealand, writes: Miss Harlow posted my letter to you, but I haven't seen it in "Grit," so I think you mustn't have got it, so I am writing you another. I am in standard three and I am nine. We have not been long in Tuai. We used to live in Sydney, where you are now. I would rather live in New Zealand than in Australia, because I do not like the great heat of Australia. Would you like to live in New Zealand, Uncle B.? Here are two riddles for my cousins:

I have only one foot, but thousands of toes;
My one foot stands, but never goes;
I have many arms, and they're mighty all;
And hundreds of fingers, large and small.
None e'er saw me eat—I've no mouth to bite,
Yet I feed all day in the full sunlight.
In the summer with song I shake and quiver,
But in winter I fast and groan and shiver.

Answer: A tree.

What has eyes, but cannot see? Answer: A potato.

(Dear Vivian,—You ask me which would I sooner do—live in New Zealand or Australia? I have no hesitation in saying New Zealand. I love New Zealand, and I love the snow and the climate. I am not a bit keen on Australia, though I was born in a suburb of Melbourne called Brighton.—Uncle B.)

A SAD STORY.

Aubrey Dawson, Kokaho Native School, Waikaremoana, Wairoa, Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, writes: I was very sorry when Miss Harlow told us that you could not come over to New Zealand. I am distributing those temperance papers that Miss Harlow gave me. The election is very close now. I hope the Temperance Party will win here. It would make a big difference to New Zealand. People would have more money in their pockets than they have now, and the world would be a better place to live in. I have a sad story to tell you that shows the evils of intemperance. A school-boy, Toby White, cut the story out of the daily paper and brought it to school. It is called "A Callous Mother." This woman was sentenced to two months' imprisonment in Eng-

land for neglecting her children, aged eight and four years. She went to Banbury Fair and left them foodless and without fire. Then late at night she sold the eldest one for half a pint of beer to a caravan dweller, and tried to give the youngest one away. The love of drink had indeed destroyed her love for her children. A level-headed business man wrote the following relative to when the American people would vote their country "wet" again. Said he: "It would happen when children prefer a drunken, abusive father; when wives enjoy husbands who spend their pay in hotel bars; when railways decide to employ drinking men as enginedrivers; when life insurance companies consider steady drinkers as better risks than abstainers; when athletes who train on beer and wine beat total abstainers; when doctors tell their patients that a hard drinker has a better chance to pull through a serious operation than a total abstainer." Don't you think, Uncle B., that man spoke very truly? One of your Ne's, Tio Karaihe, has been very ill. He has been away from school for two months.

(Dear Aubrey,—Thank you for your splendid letter and most interesting and impressive story. I hope that Tio Karaihe is better. If you get a chance give him my love, and say I hope he will soon be able to write to me again.—Uncle B.)

PROHIBITION DOES PROHIBIT.

By WILLIAM C. HOLLISTER.

Business men and manufacturers, and employers of labor generally, in overwhelming majority, concede that Prohibition of the liquor traffic has been an important factor in bringing about the era of prosperity now generally prevalent throughout the United States.

In a recent discussion of the Prohibition question at the Hamilton Club in Chicago, I referred incidentally to the fact that, before Prohibition, employing printers were frequently confronted with the absence of at least 20 per cent. of their working forces on Mondays and days following holidays.

I said this had now been reduced to less than 1 per cent., and that many great printing institutions reported every man and woman in his or her place after every Sunday and holiday throughout the year.

The speaker who followed me was a building contractor, who said that in his line it was a common occurrence, up to the beginning of the World War, for 50 per cent. of his employees to absent themselves on Mondays and on days following general holidays.

He added that the liquor question had been practically eliminated from the building industry, and that absences due to drink had steadily dwindled, year by year, since the Prohibition law first became effective, nearly nine years ago.

The liquorite minority works unceasingly to broadcast its propaganda, and it is regrettable that well-meaning men and women unconsciously aid the nullificationists by re-

peating stories regarding the great increase in the amount of liquor now being consumed, usually emphasising the fact that many men and women, as well as boys and girls, who never drank before, are now drinking more than they would if we had no Prohibition law at all.

These unconscious propagandists overlook the fact that intoxicated persons are very rarely seen now, whereas in the old days it was not unusual to encounter several in a walk of a few blocks.

My brother, Edward J. Hollister, of Rockford, Illinois, who travels almost constantly, has interviewed one hundred and seventeen passenger conductors in the last year or two, and only two of that number have not said promptly, in reply to the inquiry as to the effect of the Prohibition law on their work, that there were now long periods in which not a drunken individual was encountered on these conductors' runs, whereas in pre-Prohibition days the annoyance caused to both passengers and trainmen through loss of tickets and quarrelsome, helpless, drunken passengers was almost unbearable.

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Young Husband (breathlessly): "I got your wire and came at once. What's happened?"
 Young Wife: "Oh, darling, you're too late! Baby had his toe in my mouth, and he looked so pretty!"

* * *
 Bobbie lay over his mother's knee while she repaired the torn seat of his trousers.
 "I'm a gentleman."
 "What makes you think so, Bobbie?"
 "'Cause I'm giving up my seat to a lady."

* * *
 A colored soldier was walking post for the first time in his life. A dark form approached him. "Halt!" he cried in a threatening tone. Who are you?"
 "The officer of the day."
 "Advance!"

The O.D. advanced, but before he had proceeded half a dozen steps the dusky sentinel again cried "Halt!"
 "This is the second time you've halted me," observed the O.D. "What are you going to do next?"
 "Never mind what Ah's gonna do. Ma orders are to call 'Halt!' three times, den shoot."

* * *
THE CORRECTION.
 "At Bermuda," narrated the husband, "we hired one of the glass-bottomed boats from which we could see the brilliantly colored fish laying on the bottom of the ocean."
 "Lying," gently corrected his wife.
 "Not a bit of it! Really, it's the truth!"

* * *
MARRIED MEN DO IT ALSO.
 Marie: "How is your bachelor friend?"
 Henry: "The last time I saw him he was mending slowly."
 Marie: "Why, I didn't know he'd been sick."
 Henry: "He hasn't. He was sewing buttons on his clothes."

Henry Ford dances nothing but the schottische, and so we suppose that the old Lizzie's predilection for the shimmy must have been an acquired instead of an hereditary trait.

* * *
 "There is one word that is always pronounced wrong."
 "What word?"
 "Wrong."

* * *
BLOWING HER UP.
 Well-meaning Old Lady: "Thank you so much for your song, my dear. It took me back to my childhood days on my father's farm. When I shut my eyes and listened to your singing I seemed to hear the gate creaking in the wind."

* * *
SOMETHING ELSE.
 The vicar's wife was enthusiastic and appreciative about the new curate, and when she called on an old lady parishioner she turned the conversation in his direction.
 "You know," she said, "he is capable in so many ways, but what I like about him most of all it's that he is a real altruist."
 "I'm surprised to hear that," exclaimed the old lady, "for I heard him singing last Sunday, and I could declare he was a tenor."

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ALCOHOLISM AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

In September, 1927, the delegates of Finland, Sweden, Poland, Belgium, Denmark and Czecho-Slovakia submitted a proposal to the Assembly of the League of Nations asking that a commission of experts in the matter of alcoholism be instituted "to study the aspects of the question of alcoholism lying within the competency of the League of Nations." The Assembly decided that the proposal of the six Governments would be discussed in September, 1928.

During this time the anti-alcoholic organisations endeavored to enlighten the Governments and the public on the true bearing of the proposal, which did not tend to introduce international prohibitive measures with regard to alcoholic beverages, but to ensure the scientific study of the questions. On the initiative of the International Bureau against alcoholism over 300 public welfare societies, in 25 different countries, among them many national medical bodies, adopted resolutions in favor of the proposal. On their side the liquor trade organisations continued to proclaim that the Finnish proposal aimed at introducing world Prohibition; they spoke of an international offensive against wine and adjured the League of Nations to reject the proposal without further discussion.

Their appeal was disregarded. The wine-growing countries themselves, whose opposition was most to be feared, declared themselves ready to negotiate with the Finnish delegation at Geneva in order to come to a compromise and, on September 14, Prof. Voionmaa, Finnish delegate, presented this compromise, accepted by the French delegation, to the Second Committee of the Assembly, which unanimously adopted it.

Instead of creating a special commission on alcoholism, the Assembly requests the Health Organisation of the League of Nations to collect full statistical information on the question. To comply with the wishes of those who make an essential distinction between the deleterious effects of good and bad qualities of alcohol, the Health Organisation is requested to give prominence to this point.

The second clause deals with the repression of the smuggling of liquor, and evil specially affecting the Northern countries.

(Continued on page 16.)

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SUNDAY.

"Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called."—1 Cor., 7, 20.

The path in which your feet are set,
Though rough and bare,
Tread with no feeling of regret—
God placed you there.
Had it been easy, or perchance
Had you essayed
Another in your ignorance,
Prone to evade
Ways that are difficult, wherein
Defeat seemed sure—
You ne'er had learned to conquer sin,
Or to endure.
God's purposes you may not know,
Or how, or when,
He will to us the meaning show
Beyond our ken.
Yet when pain grips us, or we feel
Life's strenuous call
To duty we may not repeal,
Nor yet forestall—
Then, then, O comrade, buckle on
Faith's armor sure,
Nor doubt that you will find, anon,
Strength to endure.

—Anon.

MONDAY.

"He knoweth the way that I take."—Job, 23, 10.

Remember it is the will of a wise God that we submit ourselves—Who has His eternal reasons for the events He prepares for us—Who sees the various uses of the situations in which He places us—Who does nothing haphazard, and Who knows results before He has taken His measures.

We may, indeed, be uneasy about the situations we prepare for ourselves, for we do not know ourselves well enough to decide what is best suited for us, and in our choice we usually consult the interests of our passions, rather than those of our soul.

But the Christian, submissive to God's will, is comforted by knowing the Wisdom of Him in Whom he trusts. "God has His reasons," says he, "for placing me in this situation, and, though they are unknown to me, they are none the less wise and adorable. I must not measure His incomprehensible views by my poor, limited knowledge. I cannot see where the ways by which He is guiding me will lead. But since His hand has traced them, I have but to walk without fear."—Avanturine.

TUESDAY.

"He shall choose our inheritancè for us."—Ps., 47, 4.

"Seekest thou great things for thyself, seek them not."—Jer., 45, 5.

I have had dreams of grander work than this—

Some seal of greatness set on hand or brow;

Sometime, somewhere a work of greater bliss,
Not here, not now.

Some work which leads more near the mighty God,

Like that of dwellers on the mountain brow;

This common work is all too near the sod
Of here and now.

But He who plans for each his work and place,

And kindly teaches when we ask Him how,
Will surely give to each the needed grace
Just here and now.

No need that I should stumble up the hill
In search of blessings; I but humbly bow
My head in sweet content to do His will
Just here, just now.

—Anon.

WEDNESDAY.

"He that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack."—Ex., 16, 18.

Prosperity and abundance of earthly goods do not enable us to dispense with frugality, simplicity, or self-denial. Though, like the Israelites, we may have gathered more manna than our brother, we can only reserve for our own use the measure prescribed by the law of Christ. Otherwise, Jesus would have forbidden indolence, luxury and extravagant pleasures to the poor and unfortunate, whilst their unhappy condition renders such a prohibition unnecessary.—Masillon.

"To whom much is given, of him shall much be required."—Luke, 12, 46.

THURSDAY.

"Without covetousness, be content with such things as ye have, for He hath said I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee, so that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."—Heb., 13, 5, 6.

When thou hast Christ thou art rich, and hast enough. He will be thy faithful and provident helper in all things, so that thou shalt not need to trust in men.

For men soon change, and quickly fail, but Christ remaineth for ever, and standeth by us firmly unto the end.

There is no great trust to be put in a frail and mortal man, even though he be profitable and dear unto us, neither ought we to be much grieved, if sometimes he cross and contradict us.

They that to-day take thy part, to-morrow may be against thee; and often do men turn like the wind.

Put all thy trust in God. Let Him be thy fear, and thy love; He shall answer for thee, and will do all things well, and as is best for thee.—Thomas A. Kempis.

FRIDAY.

"The fashion of this world passeth away."—1 Cor., 7, 31.

"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof, but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."—1 John, 2, 16, 17.

Why dost thou here gaze about, since this is not the place of thy rest? In heaven ought to be thy home, and all earthly things are to be looked upon as it were by the way.

All things pass away, and thou together with them. Beware thou cleave not unto them, lest thou be caught, and so perish. Let thy thoughts be on the Highest, and thy prayers for mercy be directed unto Christ without ceasing.

A man is hindered and distracted in proportion as he draweth outward things unto himself.

—Ibid.

SATURDAY.

"Day unto day uttereth speech."—Ps., 19, 2.

There's a prayer that should be said,
And a book that should be read,

Every day.

There's a work that should be wrought,
And a battle to be fought,

Every day.

There are duties to be done,
And victories to be won,

As soars and sets the sun,
Every day.

—W. N. Davenport.

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Thomas Cook, the founder and promoter of world-wide travel service, is known everywhere; but comparatively few people, it is safe to say, know of Thomas Cook's deep interest in, and his intimate identification with, the anti-liquor reform.

While still a young man, Thomas Cook became deeply interested in the crusade against alcoholic beverages which Father Mathew, of Ireland, was leading and which had extended into England, where young Cook was employed as a wood-turner, at the same time doing some work as a missionary under the Baptist Association. He soon made himself a name as an active and emphatic opponent of intemperance and was appointed secretary of the South Midland Temperance Association in Market Harborough. His zeal for the cause was so great that it led him, at his own expense, to print and publish pamphlets relating to temperance. He was the founder also of the "Children's Temperance Magazine," which was the first English periodical of the kind.

In June, 1841, Mr. Cook walked from Market Harborough to Leicester, a distance of fifteen miles, to be present at a large meeting of the friends of temperance, to be held in the Leicester Amphitheatre. During this long walk, he read of the opening of an extension of the Midland Counties Railway. It occurred to him that the new railway might be turned to useful account in furthering the temperance cause. At that time he knew little of railways, having travelled only over the Leicester and Swanington line from Leicester to Long Lane.

An arrangement had been made to hold a large public gathering, at Loughborough, of the members of the temperance society and their friends. Suppose, thought Thomas Cook, the railway company were to consent

to run a special train from Leicester to Loughborough for the occasion, the success of this meeting would be assured! In a speech he made at Leicester at the meeting that evening, he asked those who approved the suggestion to hold up their hands. The majority responded to his request, and he determined to approach the officials of the road. When he presented his request to John Fox Bell, secretary of the company, Mr. Bell's reply was, "I know nothing of you or your society, but you shall have the train." He also handed Mr. Cook a contribution toward preliminary expenses.

On July 5, 1841, the train for which Mr. Cook had bargained carried 570 passengers from Leicester to Loughborough and back, at 1/- a head, to attend the temperance rally. The success of this excursion train was an epoch in the life of Thomas Cook. His name was widely advertised and other societies applied to him for advice when they wished to arrange for excursions. He found a new and unexpected opening for his energies, to which he thereafter devoted his time, with what remarkable success all the world knows.

The notion of running an excursion train for the convenience of a party who were desirous of making a demonstration in favor of temperance was the exciting cause of Thomas Cook's making the simplification of travel a business for himself in order that it might become a pleasure to his fellowmen.

To-day there are 183 officers of the Thomas Cook and Son scattered all over the world. It can well be said that the sun never sets on Cook's offices. The firm publishes a large number of travel magazines, but it has been its policy never to accept advertising for liquor in any of its publications. The son and the grandsons have consistently carried out the policy initiated by the founder.—"Union Signal."

PENSIONERS AS VICTIMS OF ALCOHOL.

"Perth, August 3.—In the Police Court today a licensing inspector said a most objectionable feature of the illicit drink trade was the way in which sly-grog sellers obtained money from pensioners. It had been noticed that many cripples, who were incurably addicted to drink, and who had been placed on the prohibited lists at the hotels, handed over their scanty pittance on pension day to these sharks, who found that pension money was better than other money, because it was easier to obtain. It was a pity that some scheme could not be evolved whereby the needs of certain pensioners could be provided for by the department in charge instead of paying them money."

The point to remember is that liquor is the same in its effects whether sold illicitly or by the licensed trader. It creates for it-

self an appetite which so dominates its wretched victim that his poor pittance must be sacrificed to procure it, even though he may starve for bread. And although prohibited, as a pensioner, from obtaining liquor at an hotel, it is more than likely that it was in an hotel that liquor was given its first chance to forge its fetters upon him. These wretched pensioners are but another illustration of the fact that alcohol degrades all with whom it comes in contact—the man who consumes it and the "sharks" who supply it for the gain of filthy lucre at the expense of a soul.

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PASS "GRIT" ON

HEAVY DRINKING, NOT POISON, CAUSES ALCOHOLISM DEATHS.

Heavy drinking of ordinary alcoholic liquor, not "poison" liquor, is the cause of the majority of deaths from alcoholism in Massachusetts is the conclusion of the State Commissioner of Health, Dr. George H. Bigelow, in a statement just issued.

He deals a straight blow at the assertions so freely used as wet propaganda that poison liquor is chiefly responsible for the alcoholism death rate at the present time. Alcoholism deaths are fewer now by a third in proportion to population than in the average pre-Prohibition year. Dr. Bigelow's facts put the responsibility for what alcoholism mortality remains straight upon the drinker himself who, refusing the protection Prohibition would give him, deliberately continues to provide himself with liquor and acts on the principle, "Drink it while you've got it."

"What is killing people who now die of alcoholism," says Commissioner Bigelow, "is what killed them back in the days of the high alcoholic death rates of 1916 and 1917 and before, namely, ethyl alcohol, grain alcohol or 'good pure' alcohol."

"Ethyl alcohol is, has been, and always will be a poison," and this poison "cannot be tolerated by the body" when used immoderately. To heavy drinking of "good, pure alcohol" and to the tendency to drink heavily when one has liquor are apparently due "the vast majority of cases of alcoholic deaths in Massachusetts."

Dr. Bigelow bases his conclusions on the results of examination of thousands of liquor samples and experiments with animals conducted by Dr. Reid Hunt, Professor of Pharmacology at the Harvard Medical School. No increase in other toxic substances in liquor has been found since 1920, and in the experiments "in no case were there indications of the presence of substances significantly more poisonous than ethyl alcohol."

The Health Commissioner's data emphasize anew the fact that nobody need die of alcoholism; that it is a self-incurred disease; that even supposedly pure alcoholic liquor carries a danger to health in the ethyl-alcohol poison which it contains.

It is not Prohibition, but encouragement of drinking that enables alcoholism still to drag off some victims to the grave.—"Scientific Temperance Federation."

TEAM WORK.

To comply with the law, all studios have schools for the children who work in the various productions.

At Fox's recently there were two urchins who did not take kindly to lessons between scenes. Often they had to be rounded up and sometimes could not be found at all. The climax came one day when the teacher found this note on her desk:

"Jim can't come to skul, heez got the be-leak. I'm helping him."

GRIT SUBSCRIPTIONS.

"Grit" subscriptions received to 12/1/29. and where not mentioned the amount is 11s.: Miss Meg Gordon, 9s., sales; Miss Ida Southwood, 14s. (2 weeks), sales; Mrs. Evans, 2s. 6d., 30/12/28; D. J. Wilson, 7s., sales; per Rev. G. W. Payne, 5s. 6d., 30/6/29; Mrs. I. Gardner, 10/1/30; Rev. F. Morrish, 2s.: W. H. Mitchell, 21s. (special); J. Newton Scott, 10s.; A. R. Maple Brown, 22s., 30/12/30; Miss I. Brown, 22s., 30/12/28; Mrs. E. Thorne, 6/12/29; W. McWilliams, 1s.; Miss L. Roberts, 5s., 30/12/28.

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Alcoholism and the League of Nations—

(Continued from page 13.)

The Economic Committee of the League of Nations is asked to study the conventions existing on this matter and to submit to the Council any proposals arising out of its conclusions.

A last paragraph states expressly that the resolution does not refer to wine, beer or cider. If this signifies that there is no question of proposing international measures against these beverages, we all agree, for every Sovereign State must be free to take any measures against alcoholism which it deems fit without the intervention of any international organisation. If, on the other hand, it means that the abuse of wine and beer cannot be a cause of alcoholism this theory has long been scientifically proved false.

However modest its terms, the resolution adopted by the Assembly is of considerable importance for the fight against alcoholism. The greatest association of States which has ever existed recognises thereby that the question of alcoholism possesses an international importance so great that it must be dealt with on the same footing as tuberculosis, cancer and other diseases. Further, the strictly impartial investigations which the Health Organisation is called upon to undertake will help to convince public opinion, still so ill-informed and so indifferent, of the gravity of the evil. All who have at heart the fight against alcoholism will be grateful to the Governments which have raised the question at Geneva and to the Finnish Government quite especially.

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