

Grit.

A JOURNAL OF NATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PROHIBITION.

VOL. XX. No. 51.

Twopence.

SYDNEY, MARCH 3, 1927.

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



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A STARTLING INCREASE.

BOOZE STIMULATES THE GROWTH OF EVERY EVIL THING.

The startling increase in crime in N.S.W. will be dealt with in a special article; we need only mention here that there were 14,298 more cases of crime of all descriptions in 1926 than in the previous year. In addition to this there was also a very large increase in motor accidents—258 killed and 4580 injured. No one needs to be told that the prime mover in both increases was drink. We print some of the drink incidents that make up these startling figures.

FINED £5.

CAR DRIVER IN ACCIDENT.

Bathurst, February 15.—The motor accident near Raglan on Sunday, in which five persons were injured, had its sequel at the Bathurst Police Court, when Lawrence Tabley, of Clovelly, was charged with having driven a car while intoxicated.

Constable Kent, of Kelso, said that shortly after the accident he found Tabley lying on the road in a drunken condition. Defendant stated that he had had some whisky after the accident, and this had made him worse.

"I will be careful in future," he is alleged to have said to the constable. "I have been lucky to escape as I have."

In imposing a fine of £5, Mr. Scobie, S.M., said that he would not interfere with defendant's license.

The "Daily Telegraph" makes the following comment:

"The P.M. at Bathurst convicted a man of having driven a motor car when he was in a very drunken condition, but refused to take away his license. The reason for this forbearance probably was that, in case of an accident, the license is useful, for it enables the police to find out the name and address of the driver.—X."

AUTOCRATS OF THE STOEKOLD.

Melbourne, February 16.—Every time a ship is due to leave for New Zealand the firemen make merry. Time after time vessels on the New Zealand run have been held up by these lords of the stokehold, who consider it infra dig to appear on board in an even near state of sobriety.

To-day the steamer Moeraki, for Wellington, was delayed more than three-quarters of an hour.

At the hour of sailing three firemen were missing, and some time later, as the result of a search of waterside public houses, two of them staggered aboard and promptly went to sleep on the poop.

An emergency fireman was called upon, and the ship was then ready to leave.

STABBED BY HIS WIFE.

Melbourne, February 14.—Thomas McMurtrie, aged 59, of Melbourne-avenue, East St.

Kilda, was admitted to the Alfred Hospital yesterday with a deep wound in his back.

His condition is serious, and the police have not yet been allowed to interview him.

The official record of McMurtrie's admission to hospital states that he was wounded with a French bayonet-knife during a domestic quarrel at his home.

The police were not informed of the stabbing till midnight, but early this morning detectives arrested Lillian McMurtrie, aged 57, wife of the injured man.

It was alleged that Mrs. McMurtrie had been drinking and was in a very excited state when the alleged stabbing occurred.

EXPLOSIVE RUM. TWO MEN INJURED.

CASK THAT BECAME A BOMB.

Parkes, February 16.—A cigarette dropped casually . . . a rum cask nearby . . . an explosion . . . one man removed to hospital, another injured.

It must have been the "real stuff"—real pre-war rum. Not the rum distributed to the Australian troops in France, but real, undiluted rum—the stuff one hears about, but never drinks!

F. Reynolds, railway foreman, was standing in the backyard of the Railway Hotel, one foot resting on the rum barrel—which was empty. He was talking to Garry Coleman, an engine-driver, recently transferred from Armidale. Evidently he had had little experience of the rum kept in Parkes.

He threw the butt of a cigarette accidentally into the bung-hole of the barrel. There was a terrific explosion, just like the report of a double-barrelled gun. Pieces of the cask flew in all directions.

Reynolds was thrown violently through the air, and hit the ground with great force, sustaining severe injuries, the muscles and flesh being torn away from one leg. He also suffered from shock, and was removed to hospital.

Coleman sustained a cut on the shoulder from a flying piece of wood.

LARGELY INCREASED PROFITS.

The accounts of Carlton Brewery Ltd. for the year ended December 31 last disclose substantial increase in profits. Revenue from rent, interest, etc., was £57,821, and dividends on shares in other companies amount to £100,883, compared with £89,430 for 1925. Net profit for the year was £118,644, compared with £105,305 for the previous 12 months, and £93,292 for 1924. With £58,454 brought forward there was available £177,098. Dividend, including interim payment, is at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum, as against 12 per cent. in 1925. The amount required is £114,379, leaving £62,719 to be carried forward.

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WHY DOES A WOMAN? THE SIAMESE TWINS' EDUCATION AND LAW.

By JOE LONGTON, Special Representative in America for the Sydney "Sportsman," for "Grit."

One of the features in life that has puzzled me most is why a woman will tolerate—for a lifetime—a drunken husband that beats her, blacks her eyes, starves her and her children who live in rags and poverty and then congratulates herself upon escaping from the clutches of a former admirer whose only sin was getting stout froth in his moustache—and sucking it out.

The following excerpts are from the "Los Angeles Times":

"No matter how big a man may be in this world, the undertaker will use the same screwdriver."

Apropos the Governor of Oregon, whom some aver had a period of depression that others refer to as "pay day." An editorial ejaculates:

"Gov. Pierce of Oregon, an ardent Prohibitionist and dry-law enforcer, is apparently a little depressed at the results of his efforts in the good cause. At any rate, on the eve of relinquishing his office as chief executive of our sister State, he said, 'Prohibition, as we have it in America, is not succeeding. People cannot be legislated into being temperate and must be educated to it.'

"Like other enthusiastic reformers, evidently Gov. Pierce has found the road he set himself to tread steeper and narrower and thornier than he expected. But therein he should find no reason for turning back. His first statement is too precise, his second requires amplifying.

"Prohibition may not be succeeding to the extent expected by its more uncompromising advocates. Neither is it failing to the extent desired by its more active opponents. And while it is true that you cannot legislate people into being moral and temperate, it is also true that education has accomplished little except where it has been backed by the authority and compulsion of the law. Whenever education starts a movement to regenerate humanity it must have in reserve the whip or the hobble.

"Weaning a whole nation from habits formed through generations of ancestors is not to be accomplished, even by a constitutional amendment, in a year or a decade. It cannot be achieved by moral suasion alone. That was attempted in the United States for fifty years without affecting the national yearly tribute paid to the rum forces. Perhaps it cannot be entirely brought about by Prohibition as represented by force without moral suasion.

"But the nation can be made sober and 'dry' by a combination of these two agencies; Prohibition to cut off the supply and education to abolish the demand. The two will work admirably together where each by itself has the hardest kind of sledding. Prohibition by reducing the supply of strong liquor undoubtedly diminishes the demand. On the other hand, education by decreasing the demand can hit a knock-out blow at the sources of the supply. Of course, when the demand is dried up the supply automatically ceases.

"Gov. Pierce has done the cause of tem-

perance a good turn by drawing attention to the need of carrying on the educational side of the fight with stronger and straighter marksmanship. Of late there has been a tendency in 'dry' circles to place their chief reliance on the political side of the question and to believe that so long as they can lobby successfully at Washington the cause of Prohibition is safe.

"Those who hold such views forget that it was education that in the first place made the passing of the Eighteenth Amendment possible. That same education must be used in reaching the man in the street, especially in the big cities. Nor can this be done primarily through the churches, which appeal mostly to those who need no repentance. It must be stressed in the public schools and inculcated in the literature and amusements that reach the majority of ordinary, everyday mortals. Prohibition will finally win because it is physically, economically and morally right. In this direction the friends of temperance need to keep on crusading. At present they are over-occupied with the alcoholic supply and entirely too negligent in dealing with the demand."

"DRY" FACTS FROM A "WET" PRESS.
And as we go down the line we get the following, which should interest the Australian patriots in the habit of seeking "dry" facts from a "wet" press:

PLASTERERS' WAGES ADVANCE.

Phoenix, December 5.—Notice has been 1, the scale of wages will be advanced to 12 dollars a day (£4/8/-).

WAGE PACT SIGNED.

Chicago, December 10.—Two thousand persons employed in the cloak-making industry in Chicago have signed a three-year contract which provides for wage increases and the five-day week as an operating policy.

PROHIBITION FACTS.

The United States now has twelve agreements with foreign nations to combat smuggling of liquor into this country: Canada, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Mexico, the New Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Spain, Sweden. Treaties are pending with France and Belgium. The boot-legger will soon have unanimous difficulties in the way of his trade.

WHISKY NOT A MEDICINE, SAYS MAYOR. HAS NO PLACE IN HOSPITALS OF CITY.

Long Beach, December 5.—Whisky or other alcoholic liquors have no place in medicine and they are anything but medicinal necessities, in the opinion of Mayor Filmore Condit, who is preparing to oppose any efforts to tamper with the city's present charter, so far as its "little Volstead" clause is concerned. There is no good reason for liberalising this city's bone-dry charter, he declared, and he announced that he intends to present his views on whisky in hospitals to the committee of the Board of Free-

holders having in charge the revamping of that particular part of the charter. Requests made to the City Council that the charter be modified to permit the use of alcohol in Long Beach hospitals have not been acted upon. It is predicted that similar requests for the modification of the local Prohibition clause as a whole will be presented before the freeholders have completed their charter revision work. It is to combat these requests that Mayor Condit plans to urge upon the freeholders the necessity for leaving the Prohibition clause in the present charter stand.

"Alcohol is not a medicinal necessity in hospitals. The American Medical Association in 1917 adopted resolutions favoring prohibition of alcoholic liquors and discouraged their use for medicinal purposes. There is no reason why the Long Beach bone-dry charter should be changed," Mayor Condit declared.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL FAILURE IN PROVINCE PREDICTED.

Detroit, December 5.—The wet political victory in Ontario should have the effect of arousing American dries to the realisation that they have a powerful and resourceful foe, declared Bishop Thomas Nicholson, of the Detroit area of the Methodist Episcopal Church and National President of the Anti-Saloon League of America, in commenting upon the conservative victory in the Provincial election last Wednesday.

The result of the election, Bishop Nicholson said, was the sharpest challenge yet received by American Prohibition.

"The Ferguson victory," he said, "is a clean-cut challenge to our enforcement, especially in Michigan. For the first time border States in this region will have an opportunity to observe both experiments in close comparison, or competition would perhaps be the better word. We are not afraid. In fact, we welcome the opportunity to compare notes with Canada over the next five-year period."

Bishop Nicholson declared the "illusory palliative" of Government control would "show up in its true colors in Ontario. If the liquor evil can't be suppressed, how much less chance is there to regulate it? The ultimate result will be to give added evidence that the only way to deal with this nefarious traffic is to pull it up root and branch.

"The Ontario organisations that fought so long for Prohibition withered up and died as soon as their objective was attained," he continued. "They underestimated the forces against them. Prohibition organisations in this country may well take a lesson from the Canadian situation and maintain unimpaired vigilance. Enactment of a law is only half of the victory."

As to the advantages of Prohibition Bishop Nicholson said:

"The State of Kansas, where they have had Prohibition for nearly fifty years, bears indisputable evidence of its remarkable benefits when enforced. Last year Kansas had fifty-four counties without a single commitment for insanity, ninety-six counties without any inebriates; thirty-eight counties without any poorhouses; fifty-three counties without any persons in jail, and a majority of counties without a representative in the State penitentiary."

PROHIBITIONISTS!

TAKE NO RISKS REGARDING THE STATE ELECTIONS.

See that the right candidate is SELECTED for your constituency.

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



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"LARGE INCREASE IN POPULATION."

INTERESTING JUDGMENT BY JUDGE EDWARDS.

Last year two people submitted petitions to the Governor for the granting of publicans' licenses at Palm Beach. The petitions came on for enquiry before the Licenses Reduction Board in November last, and by unanimous decision they were rejected on the ground that the increase in population, which the Act of 1919 requires the applicant to show, had not been large enough.

Both applicants appealed, and the appeals came on for hearing before Judge Edwards on February 11 and 14. The decision of the Licensing Magistrate was upheld, and the appeal dismissed, so that Palm Beach is safe from an hotel for another three years.

The meaning of the phrase "large increase in population" has been differently interpreted by different judges, but whatever his view of the border line between a large and a small increase in population Judge Edwards made it very clear that under no circumstances whatever could the increase in population at Palm Beach be considered the "large increase" that was in the mind of the Legislature when the Act of 1919 was passed. His Honor even ventured to suggest that the increase was so small that the applications bordered on the ridiculous.

For the sake of future reference some figures with regard to population at Palm Beach may be recorded. According to the objectors the permanent residents in 1919 were 44, and in 1926 55; the cottages numbered 67 in 1919, and 102 in 1926. According to the police, the permanent residents numbered 31 in 1919, and 60 in 1926, while the cottages numbered 63 in 1919 and 100 in 1926.

During the months that had intervened since the original hearing the applicants had been at pains to compile a series of new figures with regard to the residents and the cottages at Palm Beach, and these naturally showed a very much greater increase than those given either by the police or by the objectors. For an hour his Honor listened patiently and accepted for the sake of argument the correctness of the new figures, but he was obviously not convinced. Counsel for one petitioner early recognised that the case was hopeless, but his associate was more sanguine. He clearly explained how there was more sea than land within the mile radius of the proposed site, and how the population might be greater if it could. This his Honor admitted, but smilingly ruled that he was concerned with what was and not what might be. Even an invitation to Palm Beach to view the spot failed to prove a red herring. His Honor failed to see how the fresh sea breezes or the beautiful residences would alter mathematical facts. When the applicants had at length exhausted every device for increasing the population Judge Edwards gave his judgment.

"It seems to me," said his Honor, "that the decision of the Licensing Bench is correct. I am not concerned with whether it is desirable to have an hotel at which people can spend pleasant week-ends at Palm Beach. I am only concerned with what I have to decide under the Statute, which declares that the applicants must prove a large increase in population since 1919 within a

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

The Field Staff has been engaged in the metropolitan area during the past ten days. Services were held at Auburn, Strathfield, St. Peters, Tempe, Greenwich, and City Temple with meetings at Bourke-street (Surry Hills) and Auburn.

Mr. Piggott completed his Mountain campaign with satisfactory meetings at Leura, Lawson, Hazelbrook, Woodford and Springwood. His lantern talk on New Zealand proved an interesting programme.

At the coming week-end the staff will be on the North Coast between Kempsey and Wingham. Fifteen church services and about a dozen other meetings are on the programme.

Mr. Crawford Vaughan has been visiting the West, holding conferences at Parkes, Forbes, Orange and Bathurst, and speaking in the open-air at each place. His review of that part of the field of campaign will be given elsewhere.

A big batch of educational leaflets was sent to helpers in various parts of the State during the past week. The response from our friends to our appeal for a systematic house-to-house distribution has been very encouraging. More workers are, however, still needed, and we shall be glad to hear from these, particularly in the country districts.

Our petition in relation to six o'clock closing

mile radius of the proposed site. When talking of population I think it is an abuse of language to talk of two or three persons as 'population.' The Legislature had in mind large numbers of persons. When I find that within seven years the population has increased, even when the most favorable figures are taken, from 140 to only 280 odd, it seems an abuse of language to say there had been a large increase. If the magistrates had come to any other decision than they did it would have been so unreasonable as to be wrong.

"It has been put to me that in other cases, as for example Tuggerah, the Court granted a license in similar circumstances. Here there was an increase from 61 to 240 residents in five years, and of 16 to 102 houses. I do not know what I should have decided in that case, but I am inclined to think that the applicant was a very lucky man.

"In the present application the houses have increased from 57 to 109, according to the applicants. The increase is not nearly so large as in Tuggerah. Furthermore, in Tuggerah the increase in the population was from 61 to 240, that is nearly quadrupled. In the case before me it is an increase from about 140 to 280, which represents double. The two cases are not sufficiently parallel to persuade me to give up my views in preference to those of the judge in that case. It would simply be playing on words to hold that such an increase was a large increase."

The appeal was therefore dismissed, and costs were awarded of three guineas in each case to the Crown, and twenty guineas in each case to the objectors.

Mr. W. J. Bradley, instructed by Mr. W. H. Drew, appeared for the applicant Gow; Mr. Clancy, instructed by Mr. H. J. Aspinall and Son, appeared for the applicant, Cooper; Mr. V. H. Treant, instructed by Miss M. B. Byles, appeared for the objectors; Mr. C. E. Weigall, K.C. (Solicitor-General), appeared for the police.

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

ing and liquor enforcement has been held up by the second attempt of the Government and the liquor interests to get the Liquor Amendment Bill through the Legislative Council. The result of this is not known as we go to press. Whether they succeed or not, we shall proceed with whatever phases of that matter as will be suitable. It must always be remembered that what the liquor interests ask for is not all they are seeking to obtain.

The petition for the additional hotel at Kogarah has been declared to be in order, and the hearing is expected about April 11. Strenuous work has been put in by our local committee. They are now preparing their evidence to put before the Licensing Bench.

Chullora hotel petitions come up at Parramatta this week. Strong evidence against is available.

The petition for an hotel at Harbord, near Manly, is complete, and may be down for hearing at the next sittings of the Metropolitan Bench.

There was a very large gathering at a meeting in Auburn to protest against the effort to get an hotel at North Auburn. Addresses were given by Mr. Albert Lane, M.L.A., and Rev. H. Putland. Afterwards a campaign committee was formed, with Mr. Mitchell as president and Mr. Aderman as hon. secretary. Good work is being done here to prevent the hotel coming into this residential area. A counter petition is being numerously signed.

Eventually the first effort to obtain the required petition for an hotel at Lane Cove was not successful, for the applicant is still pursuing his purpose. There may be a definite stage in connection with this in the near future. Workers should never let up on their efforts in regard to these. The liquor interests can never be charged with failing to be persistent. Too much money lies in success for them to be half-hearted.

The Labor Women's Convention in Sydney has joined up with other Labor organisations in protesting against the Liquor Amendment Bill. They have declared it to be against the principle of the Early Closing Act, and also the best interests of the Labor Movement. They were unanimous on the motion. The Trades Hall secretaries also petitioned the Government against the measure. Just who then is supporting the Government in the matter?

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WE WONDER.

If a good woodcutter would cut bad wood, how much good wood would a bad woodcutter cut if a good woodcutter would cut bad wood?

If a noisy voice annoys a nosy oyster, how many nosy noises would annoy a nosy oyster if a nosy voice annoys a nosy oyster?

If a shipshape ship shop stocks six ships, how many shipshape ships would six ship shops stock?

NEW SOUTH WALES PROHIBITION ALLIANCE

Headquarters: 321 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Our Objective: The Abolition of the Liquor Traffic.

Our Weapons: Education and Legislative Action.

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

PROHIBITION IN THE WEST.

By CRAWFORD VAUGHAN.

My trip to Parkes and Forbes has confirmed the conviction that the strength of the Prohibition sentiment enormously outweighs the strength of the organised movement. Prohibition is finding friends in the most unexpected quarters, and the result of recent legislation and of projected legislation is to create a favorable atmosphere for our ideals. People are everywhere enquiring how it can be right to shorten industrial hours and at the same time to propose to extend liquor-trading hours. The country shopkeepers are indignant and alarmed at the proposals to abolish late night trading in shops, and to leave liquor bars open after 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Such legislation is driving a wedge between the liquor interests and the general trading interests. It is realised that the great predatory liquor monopoly is able, as Sir Joseph Carruthers said, to move Parliaments, when the genuine trading community cannot even get a hearing.

Never was the time more opportune for the Prohibition Army to go over the top. The liquor interests are everywhere discredited as a result of their tactics over the Liquor Amendment Bill. If the Bill be received in the Legislative Council, as Mr. Lang threatens, and is forced through Parliament by an iron despotism, the differences between the Lower and Upper House on the question of the admission of wine bars to the privilege of serving liquor with meals up to 9 p.m. will in itself set the country in flames. Whether the Government retreats from its present position and abandons the Bill to its fate, or presses on with their liquor programme, they will find they have sown the wind only to reap the whirlwind.

Parkes is typical of a large number of country centres in its attitude on Prohibition. There is an outward manifestation of complete indifference to the issue. The work of enthusiasts like Miss Bowditch and Mr. D. Kelly, Mr. Reece and others, has however not been in vain. Business men will not come out openly and proclaim themselves to be with us from the housetops. Even the Church people, apart from the ministers, are quiescent. It isn't easy to get dyed-in-the-wool Prohibitionists together and organise an effective fighting force. But, after all, that is a complaint common to every movement whether it be religious or political. The laborers in the vineyard are all too few, and the vineyard all too large.

The meeting which I held at Parkes on Tuesday last was rather an exception to this rule. It was well attended, and was earnest and enthusiastic. It was decided to reform the Branch and to undertake a systematic campaign for the next elections, and for the poll of 1928. Another meeting has been called for to-night to discuss plans and details. The view is taken that decentralisation is essential, and the proposal to establish an area centre at Orange finds favor in these Western towns. The general sentiment of the whole countryside is strongly against centralisation. Politically, the State is dominated by the County of Cumberland, which has more than half the representation in Parliament. The banking system, it is

LIQUOR BILL RE-INTRODUCED.

The re-introduction of the Liquor Amendment Bill is one of the many strange happenings in the life of the present Parliament, and probably will be the biggest burden the Lang Government will put upon the Labor Party for future election campaigns. The opposition to the proposed amendment has been so varied that there can be no question about public opinion on the matter. And some of the strongest protests have come from Labor quarters. No one has more right to speak for the rank and file of the Labor Movement than the Trades Union secretaries, and their petition against the passage of the Bill was almost unanimous. The Labor women are properly represented by the Women's Convention now in session in Sydney, and they are completely in accord in opposing the measure as being against the principle of Early Closing, and also the interests of the Labor Movement generally.

These expressions taken in conjunction with others from churches, Temperance organisations, and representative bodies, clearly indicate that the wishes of the people so emphatically expressed in 1916 regarding six o'clock closing are still the same. Yet the politicians Labor and Nationalist, persist in their attempt to make concessions to a traffic which at best represents a selfish indulgence, and at worst is the greatest curse of the community. Does Parliament no longer represent the people? Is democracy being

felt, also tends to centralise finance, the money of the country being largely used for metropolitan development, thereby aggravating the evil. In the administration of government a large proportion of the taxation raised in the country is expended at Sydney head offices. The Alliance suffers to some extent from this deeply-held country sentiment against centralisation, and there is a general feeling of satisfaction when it is realised that we are shaping our organisation in the direction of decentralised control.

In Forbes, judging by the poor response to our call to reconstitute the local committee, one might have drawn quite wrong conclusions. The evening open-air meeting, at which the Mayor presided, was a most pronounced success. Here once more was evidence of the difference between the public sentiment and the machinery for registering it effectively at the polls. What the Forbes Conference lacked in numbers it made up by its representative character, but it would be idle to say that we can rest satisfied with things as they are. The enthusiastic chairman Mr. J. T. Woods, secured the approval of the gathering to the proposal to hold a special meeting to consider means of extending the usefulness of the Branch. Each one present was asked to bring ten to the next meeting, which will be held in a fortnight's time. Rev. Wesley Booth and Rev. Cruickshank, who were present, will give their cordial help. In the evening I received a splendid hearing from a large audience, and it was easy to see that the general sentiment was largely with us. This manifestation of goodwill had a cheering effect upon our own stalwart supporters.

crucified? Are the greed of one class in the community and the selfishness of another to be allowed to stifle the finer aspirations of humanity and the popular will? For years there has been a struggle to have the people allowed their right to deal with a great social evil. Whatever semblance of this which they possessed has been taken away, and now the false apostles of democracy are endeavoring to destroy the little the people were able to obtain when they were permitted to use their own prerogative.

Advocates of the Liquor Amendment Bill who say it is not an interference with six o'clock closing are simply allowing themselves to say what the liquor agents want them to say. It was declared that spirits in Norway and wine in Ontario would not interfere with local Prohibition, and it is being declared now that light wine and beer would not break down the prohibitive law in U.S.A. If some people believed the former or are prepared to accept the latter, the liquor agents certainly do not, for either is regarded by them as a sure road to the restoration of lost privileges. So it is with this measure. Baulked for the time being only, it may be of their desire for an extension of ordinary trading hours they are seeking to obtain this by a political subterfuge in which they are finding willing agents among both parties. Serving liquor with meals up to 9 p.m. would make the enforcement of six o'clock closing impossible, and the law a farce. Then the next step would be easy.

Public indignation has been stirred as never before, and there will be no calming of public feeling until the election has given the people an opportunity of dealing with the politicians who have betrayed them.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION TO "GRIT" IS 11/-.

"Grit" subscriptions received to 25/2/27, and where not mentioned the amount received is 11/-: Mrs. J. Grant, 30/1/28; H. R. Brighten, £1, 30/10/28; Mrs. Mellenish, £1, 30/7/28; Hon. A. Bruntnell, £1, 30/9/28; Dr. E. V. Barling, £1/1/-, 30/5/28; H. W. Frost, £1, 30/6/28; W. H. McGrath, £1, 30/9/28; D. Burgess, 30/12/28; A. V. Downie, £1/2/-, 30/12/28; Miss Grimwood, £1/2/-, 30/12/28; Miss Richardson, 26/2/28.

The following are paid to 30/12/27: Mrs. Dickinson, Rev. D. A. Gilsenan; Miss M. Hardwick, W. Lloyd, Mrs. McDade, G. Walker, Mrs. Lemaire, Mrs. McLachlan, Mrs. Lipscombe, Rev. W. Pearson, E. J. Bignold, Arch. Charlton, Rev. J. Dykes, H. C. Harte, £1/8/3; Sir Clifton Love, Mrs. Medd, Rev. E. J. Rogers, £1/1/-; Hon. J. Garrard, J. Sheddon Adam and 9/- educ.; E. W. Bolus, R. B. Coates, J. Bicket, C. B. Byles, Mrs. E. J. Coleman, £1/12/-; W. H. Green, C. Gambrell, Dr. W. L. Liggins, J. McKeown, £1/2/-; Rev. J. Penman, F. Lindsay Ryan, 10/1; W. Robbins, J. Reid, R. Cocks, Ekin and Co., W. Evans and 4/- educ.; Mrs. G. A. Killick, £1/2/-; J. F. Edgar, P. N. Slade, People's Palace, Miss Richards, Mrs. West, Mrs. Yansen, Mrs. W. Bradley, J. A. Perry, Mrs. A. Settree, Mrs. Service and 4/- educ.; J. Campey, A. A. Sterland, H. Sheffield, £1/2/-; S. B. Weatherlake, Mrs. Hull, 11/11.

VOTE PROHIBITION BEFORE PARTY

THROWN OUT BY THE COUNCIL.

SCATHING CRITICISM OF THE LIQUOR BILL PLOT.

In the past two issues of "Grit" we have printed extracts from the speeches made in the Legislative Assembly on the second and third readings of the Liquor Act Amendment Bill. The measure was sent to the Legislative Council and was read a first time in that Chamber on February 7. The second reading took place on the following day, when the bill was rejected by 25 votes to 22 votes. Several trenchant and scathing speeches were made against the measure, even by members who are not even temperance men, let alone Prohibitionists.

The Hon. A. C. WILLIS, who was in charge of the bill, moved the second reading in a speech embodying substantially the same arguments as those employed by Mr. McKell in the Lower House. He urged that to continue to levy the 3 per cent. for the Compensation Fund would be "somewhat like obtaining money under false pretences."

The Hon. SIR J. CARRUTHERS: Like the motor tax!

The Hon. G. BLACK: Will drinking stop at 9 o'clock?

The Hon. A. C. WILLIS: No, I am not so sanguine as to believe that.

The Hon. J. H. WISE: You fight for the fat man who can afford these things.

The Hon. SIR JOSEPH CARRUTHERS: I desire to protest against the Government going on with this bill to-night. . . . I was told that the Minister had made a proposal to some of my colleagues in the House not to go on with the Liquor Bill to-night. . . . We understand that the Premier has been down and demanded of his Ministers here that they should break their promise and go on with this bill to-night.

The Hon. A. C. WILLIS: That is not true. The Premier has not been near the place.

The Hon. SIR JOSEPH CARRUTHERS: Perhaps he sent a message instead, and was here in spirit, if not in body. . . . I am not a temperance man at all. Nobody can say that I am now taking up a fanatical attitude. . . . I do not know of anything more calculated to injure the liquor trade than this bill. . . . It will create more advocates of Prohibition than all the arguments I have ever heard in my life. . . . This bill will be the recruiting sergeant for scores of thousands of votes which will be cast in favor of Prohibition. Men will say: "This influence is too great; it can move Governments, it can move Parliament, to set aside the law of the country and the referendum poll; to set aside the sacred provisions of the statute which prescribed that a referendum should take place in years which are past. It can discontinue the payment of money to the compensation fund, thereby putting hundreds of thousands of pounds into the pockets of those engaged in the trade." . . . You cannot fool all the people all the time. . . . There are hundreds of licenses which might possibly be reduced by the Licenses Reduction Board, so that no man can tell what amount of compensation may be required. . . . With the right hand the Government reaches out to wring more money out of the taxpayers, whilst with the left hand it dispenses hundreds of thousands of pounds in gifts to this powerful trade. . . . And now the referendum is to be wiped out. The public can go anywhere it likes.

The Hon. SIMON HICKEY: I range myself with that very considerable section of the community who classify themselves as moderate drinkers. I have no interest in the sumptuous feeders who will be advantaged by this measure. . . . During the past five years we have spent more in liquor than we recovered in the shape of gold right back to the year 1851. . . . While our mineral wealth

is falling, our thirst appears to be rising, with a froth on top of it. . . . This measure cuts deeply and vastly into the sacred principle established here at the referendum which resulted in the adoption of 6 o'clock closing, and yet it may succeed. . . . If it were proposed to close hotels a quarter of an hour earlier, not less than one thousand soap-boxes would have to be requisitioned as aids in accomplishing that purpose, accompanied by referendum, while thousands of bung-holes and spigots would be opened to pour free libations over the people in order to prevent the loss of that quarter of an hour. But when it comes to an addition of three hours to those during which liquor can be sold, one hardly dares to assail the position of the Government. . . . What is happening in this country is that the liquor interests are backing two parties. That accounts for many things.

The Hon. J. H. WISE: I have listened to many second-reading speeches in this Chamber, but I never heard one so weak as that made by the Vice-President of the Executive Council in moving the second reading of this bill. . . . I ask the Vice-President of the Executive Council if any of the Trade Unions passed a resolution asking for the introduction of this bill? I ask him if any deputation from any of the Unions has waited upon the Government to demand this alteration of the law? If the middle classes have not asked for it what about the capitalists, the employers, the judges, the archbishops and other dignitaries of high degree? Has any deputation representing them waited upon the Government to ask that the closing of the hotels should be extended to 9 o'clock? If this alteration has not been asked for by the Unions, or the middle classes, or by the capitalists or by the dignitaries, has it been asked for by the mothers and wives of the workers? It seems to me that whatever has been done has been transacted in the language of the deaf and dumb. . . . What price will be charged for the dinner at the hotels in Woolloomooloo, Surry Hills, and the outlying districts of the metropolitan area? Two courses will be supplied for 1/- or less. It is not the dinner that the hotelkeepers will trouble about. They can afford to give the dinner free if they can get diners to remain on their premises from 6 to 9 o'clock to spend their hard-earned money. . . . If the House allows this measure to go through the worker, instead of going home to his wife and children at the end of the day, will go to the hotel, and unfortunately, when he gets the taste of liquor he will remain there. . . . I plead with the House to think seriously of the temptations which it will place in the path of the working man if it agrees to the passage of this measure.

Hon. J. CULBERT: I contend that this bill is a class and sectional piece of legislation

that is giving a further privilege to an already privileged class. The average worker cannot afford to go to hotels to buy his meals there. . . . However we may define the word "meal," there are counter-lunches served in hotels to-day which are even more substantial. . . . All that would be necessary to enable all hotels in Sydney to serve a meal within the terms of the bill up to 9 o'clock would be to remove those counter-lunches to some other room. . . . The liquor trade employees are covered by a Federal award which, as we know, according to a recent decision of the High Court, overrides State awards, where the question at issue is one of hours. If it is contemplated to introduce something by way of an amendment in

LIQUOR BILL.

THROWN OUT BY N.S.W. UPPER HOUSE.

The New South Wales Legislative Council last night, by 25 votes to 22, rejected the Liquor (Amendment) Bill. Nine Labor members crossed the floor of the Chamber and brought about the defeat at the second reading stage.

Earlier in the day representatives of the Liquor Trades Union and other Unions directly interested waited on members of the Upper House Caucus and demanded the rejection of the bill. The main objection was that the extension of hours for the serving of liquor would mean increased working hours. It was understood that the Caucus agreed to postpone consideration of the bill pending further negotiations with the Unions.

Despite the promise given by the Upper House Caucus, Mr. Willis, apparently acting under instructions from the Premier, proceeded with the second reading of the bill. This so enraged Labor members in the Upper House that when the vote was taken they brought about the defeat of the bill.—
"The Worker."

Committee to override the Federal award, I have very great doubts as to its effectiveness.

Hon. G. BLACK: The passage of this bill would introduce a law inconsistent with the laws of early closing. It would make the administration of the Licensing Act impossible. I do not see how the police could enforce the law when there are so many loopholes. . . . I have been told that one or two hotels have already started to enlarge their dining-rooms in the belief that this bill is going to be passed into law. . . . I shall be delighted to vote against this bill. It appears to me to be an entire abrogation of the law.

Hon. W. E. V. ROBSON: No doubt this bill is the result of powerful pressure that

(Continued on next page.)



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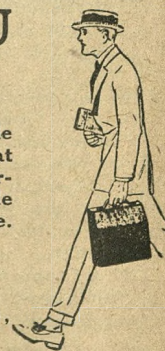
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Thrown Out by the Council—

(Continued from page 6.)

has been brought upon the Government by the liquor interests of this State. The people of this country declared most emphatically, a few years ago, that the hotels should and must be shut at 6 o'clock. The Vice-President of the Executive Council says that the law is broken almost universally to-day. That is not the fault of the law, it is the fault of the administration of the law. . . . But no matter how you may try to safeguard this measure by a provision as to what a meal shall be, and that sort of thing, you will not be able to safeguard it against abuse. . . . We should not tamper with the express decision of the people in the interests of the man who occasionally dines out. . . . Young fellows who have sufficient money at their command and a social status which brings them into the class that thinks it is fashionable to dine out at hotels . . . will seize the opportunity of dining away from their homes and of learning the drink habit. That is a bad thing for the younger members of the community. . . . We have had no petitions in support of this legislation. It has come upon us like a bolt from the blue. . . . There is no reason whatever for the bill. I object to a powerful influence in this community being able to force legislation through behind the expressed will of the people.

Hon. F. S. BOYCE: I have no doubt that if the voice of New South Wales were sought to-day, such has been the success of 6 o'clock closing that it would be found that the majority would be three to one. . . . We all begin to suspect and to inquire why it is that for no apparent reason we are asked to go behind the will of the people as expressed by referendum and vote for 9 o'clock. . . . The bill is full of points. We have been told that they are to supply a two-course meal consisting of fish or flesh and a cooked vegetable. A sardine is a fair sample of a fish, and a chipped potato I suppose would do for a cooked vegetable.

Hon. SIMON HICKEY: And a saveloy would do for flesh!

Hon. F. S. BOYCE: Exactly, it would do splendidly. What is a second course? Is a cup of tea a course? Is bread with butter a course? I can very well imagine that our friends of the liquor trade would very soon overcome all legal difficulties.

Hon. J. ASHTON: I do not think the conscience of the community has ever received such a violent shock as it has received during the last week or two as the result of the Government's action in connection with this measure. . . . I have been in the politics of this country for thirty odd years, and I know that it has been a matter of anxious concern at every general election how the liquor vote would go. . . . One of two things has happened. The Government, unapproached by any outside person, has been counting up the factors in the next general election . . . or, some outside authority has approached the Government and has suggested that, in exchange for concessions in the shape of special legislation, the Government would get certain support. . . . It is a terrible blot upon the politics of this country if it can be established that either one or other of the political parties or both are to be influenced by a powerful section of the community such as is affected by this measure. . . . Everybody knows—it is being barked in the streets of Sydney to-day—that this legislation is the outcome of some improper bargain.

Hon. G. WRENCH: I consider it the dirtiest class-distinctive measure that the Labor Party, aided and abetted by a section of the people with whom I am not in sympathy, has ever attempted to pass into law.

The bill was rejected by 25 votes to 22 votes.

Griffiths Bros.'

SIGNAL COCOA**IS MOST INVIGORATING****MAKE INQUIRIES ABOUT IT.**

KING BEER.

The autocrat before whom all political leaders tremble is King Beer, who sits on his hogsheads and laughs scornfully at all lesser potentates.

In the N.S.W. Parliament this session was to have been the Country Session. The needs of the rural districts were to get the attention that Government after Government had denied them—and so on.

But all that has suddenly been altered. The breath of new-mown hay which might have sweetened the debates of a country session has been completely smothered by the strong alcoholic breath of old King Beer, who has mysteriously taken charge of the session in the interests of gentlemen who desire to drink alcohol with their meals between the hours of six and nine o'clock.

This drastic amendment of the six o'clock closing law has been rushed through with almost intemperate haste and without any attempt to get an indication of the wishes of the people. There has been none of the leisurely consideration that has been given to the long-overdue increases in the basic wage or the suggested alternative scheme of Childhood Endowment.

The mothers and the hungry little ones can wait till Parliament has attended to the demands of King Beer and his luxurious "sozzlers."

It is pretty rotten legislation whatever way you take it. In the old days the battle-cry of the Liquor Monopoly was "Liberty," and the right of every man to have a drink whenever he felt inclined. But this new legislation is only for the "benefit" of gilded youths and luxurious diners who feast in Bacchanalian style at residential hotels from six till nine o'clock.

To enforce the law an army of inspectors will be needed to ensure that every hotel customer is eating with his drinks. But the brewers can afford to smile at the ridiculous possibilities. Their ultimate goal is nine o'clock closing for all bar trade, and the Lang Government's bill is the thin edge of the wedge.

The case for the amended law is taken up with almost wild enthusiasm by Mr. H. D. McIntosh's family paper, the "Sunday Times," which says "that the present law has proved to be unworkable because it is vexatious and unreasonable, and the Government is to be congratulated for recognising the fact. . . . All the Government has had in mind is the legitimate convenience of a large number of eminently respectable people."

No wonder King Beer sits on his hogsheads and laughs!—"The Worker."

In favor of the bill: Akhurst, C. A.; Brennan, W.; Brooks, W.; Coates, J. F.; Concannon, J. M.; Cox, Sir Owen; Cruickshank, R. W.; Farrar, E. H.; Hoad, J. E.; Kavanagh, E. J.; Lane-Mullins, J.; Mahony, R.; McDonald, G. R. W.; Minahan, J. M.; Murray, T. G.; Smith, T. J.; Travers, J.; Wall, Dr. F. E.; Willis, A. C. Tellers: Carey, W.; Pillans, R.

Against the bill: Archer, G. S.; Ashton, J.; Black, G.; Boyce, F. S.; Bryant, F. H.; Buzacott, N. J.; Carruthers, Sir J.; Culbert, J.; Doyle, H. M.; Doyle, T. P.; Hickey, S.; Higgins, J. F.; Keegan, J.; Mackay, Maj.-Gen.; Oakes, C. W.; O'Regan, J. F.; Peden, J. B.; Robson, W. E. V.; Ryan, L. W.; Sinclair, A.; Varley, G. H. G.; Wrench, G.; Yager, A. W. Tellers: Hunt, A. E.; Wise, J. H.

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A Personal Chat with my readers

THE CELEBRATION.

I continue to receive encouraging letters and generous tokens of appreciation. Two of these I value very highly. First, the cartoon to be used next week is designed and drawn by Mr. Jessup, also the words are his, his gift to the celebration. Copies of this cartoon on art paper will be available to all those who care to have a memento of "Grit's" coming of age.

They will cost one shilling and will be sent post free. The money will defray our free distribution of "Grit."

The second is from a very old friend, W. G. Graham, to whom "Grit" is greatly indebted. He writes:

"Many congratulations on your manhood birthday. May your efforts be rewarded with real success. In the past you have provided an excellent paper—unique in its presentation of a worthy cause—at a big loss to yourself. This I have reason to know. May all true moral reformers hurry up and help you.

"I count it a privilege to enclose £5/5/-, my mite to the birthday fund."

Many of the other kindly tributes I hope to use in the issue of March 10.

THE COST OF WATER.

Mr. T. B. Cooper, the President of the Water Board, told an audience the other day how cheap our water really is. The Board's charge is one shilling for every thousand gallons used, or threepence per ton, delivered on the premises. "If you go to a bar and buy it by the ton in beer, and take delivery of it yourself, you have to pay £25 a ton for it" Mr. Cooper says. By the look on the faces of most people seen entering the hotels at our street corners one would imagine that they were after a rare bargain! There is a different expression when they come out; by that time they are not able to appreciate the fact that the bargain was with the publican.

It is curious how we Britishers win cups by using water and then celebrate the victory in tarnishing booze. A successful competitor in a footrace once said, "I have won this cup by the use of my legs. I trust I may never lose the use of my legs by the use of this cup."

I have known many thousands who have died from hanging. They unfortunately were willing to pay £25 a ton for their poisoned water and died from hanging round a pub.

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THE BOY.

What do you think of the boy? Is he a nuisance, the limit, a problem? Read what the "All American Review" has to say about him and then readjust your estimate:

He is the person who is going to carry on what you have started.

He is to sit right where you are sitting, and attend to the things you think are so important, when you are gone.

You may adopt all the policies you please, but how they will be carried out depends on him.

Even if you make leagues and treaties, he will have to manage them.

He is going to sit at your desk in Parliament and occupy your place on the Supreme Bench.

He will assume control of your cities, States, and nation.

He is going to move in and take over your prisons, churches, schools, universities, and corporations.

All your work is going to be judged and praised or condemned by him.

Your reputation and your future are in his hands.

All your work is for him, and the fate of the nation and of humanity is in his hands.

So it might be as well to pay him some attention.

* * *

Give happiness a chance, make its coming possible. I do not ask God for light, I pull up the blind. I do not ask

SET THE STAGE.

Him for air, I open the window. Happiness is as available as light and air, for it is as necessary to us. Strickland Gililan puts it nicely:

Set the stage for cheerfulness all about your home;

Shift the scene for happiness, and more, of it will come.

Build the windows high and wide; make the woodwork white;

Use the sort of draperies that seem to give off light;

Throw away the sombre stuff, leave no place for gloom;

Coziness is stuffiness—let the light have room!

Have a grate with cannel in, or a fireplace with logs;

Make a home that always smiles through rains or snows or fogs;

Clothe the walls in pink-shot gray with tinted leaves and birds—

Fill the place with joyfulness more eloquent than words.

Build it so, no matter how the world may shape your day,

You can hurry home again and still be blithe and gay.

Moods are from environment, not from deeper things—

Who could nurse a grievance in a living room that sings?

Set your stage for happiness; write no cues for frets;

Cheerfulness, invited in, will never send "regrets."

THE EDITOR.

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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Office: N.S.W. Prohibition Alliance, Macdonell House, 321 Pitt-street, Sydney.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions may commence with any issue, the paper being posted for 52 weeks for 11/-; outside the Commonwealth, 12/6.

Change of Address or non-delivery of the paper should be promptly reported to the Manager.

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SYDNEY, THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1927.

LIQUOR BILL IS SPRUNG ON LATE AT NIGHT.

By 37 votes to 25, the Legislative Council restored the Liquor Bill to the notice-paper at a late hour on February 24.

When at 11 o'clock Mr. Willis sprang his motion on the House for the restoration of the bill, he met with immediate opposition. It came from a member of his party—Mr. Spicer.

"I ask Mr. Willis to withdraw his motion until to-morrow," said Mr. Spicer. "This matter was referred to a committee of this side of the House to consider the advisability of reintroducing the bill.

"That committee has not yet reported."

Mr. Spicer voted against the motion.

The division was as follows:

Ayes (37): Minahan, Keegan, Archer, Higgins Ainsworth, Cruickshank, Dickson, Brennan, Dick, Mahony, Hepher, T. J. Smith, Taylor, Wrench, Suttor, Concannon, Willis, Kavanagh, M'Intosh, Malone Pillans, Wall, Coates, Carey, Cotter, Hoad, M'Donald, Waddell, Horne, Cox, Lane-Mullins, Farrar, Bridges, T. P. Doyle, Akhurst, L. Ryan, Percival.

Noes (25): Ashton, Peden, Braddon, Warden, Hunt, Farleigh, Ryan, Connington, Buzacott, Mackay, Boyce, Sinclair, Innes-Noad, Oakes, G. Black, Culbert, Spicer, Wise, Kater, Trethowan, Onslow, Taylor, Earp, Robson.

HOME TROUBLES.

"What's the matter with Grumble and his wife? I hear there is talk of a separation."

"He's a Fundamentalist and she's a Modernist, and they always are scrapping over who is right."

"I didn't know they were so interested in church doctrines."

"Oh, it has nothing to do with the church. He thinks it takes skillet, pots and pans, flour and such things to get a meal, while she is just as sure it doesn't take anything but a can opener."

OUR CRIME WAVE.

INCREASE OF 14,298 CASES OF CRIME.

Drunks and Disorderly Conduct Increased by 1253.

By ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

We have grown accustomed to the stressing of the crime wave in U.S.A. and the glib way in which the wet press seek to associate it with Prohibition. The fact is there is crime in U.S.A. of unusual proportion, but since Prohibition it has been a definitely receding wave. There can be no doubt that Prohibition is to be associated with the "receding crime wave," nor can there be any doubt that our "wetness" is largely responsible for the deplorable state of things revealed in the police report just made public.

STRIKING FIGURES.

During the year 1926 there was a large increase in the number of cases of serious crime, and a marked increase in offences by persons under 21 years of age.

According to the annual report of the Police Department, the more serious offences, which included offences against the person, against property with violence, and also without violence, exceeded the total for 1925 by 1269. For the State the total number of cases under all headings for the year was 14,298 more than that for the previous year.

It was found necessary to provide on the Estimates for a further increase in the strength of the police force, 13 extra commissioned officers and 50 additional constables being provided for.

The total number of offences during 1926 was 116,675, an increase of 14,298 over 1925. This total increase was mainly accounted for under the following headings: Assault, maliciously injuring property, simple larceny, supposed stolen goods in custody, forgery and uttering, drunkenness, bad language and breaches of the following Acts: Gaming and Betting, Arbitration, Land and Income Tax, Liquor Traffic, and Weights and Measures. The number of offences under the Motor Traffic Act alone accounted for an increase of 7891 cases, and this fact was no doubt due to the huge increase in motor traffic.

JUST DRUNK.

The arrests for drunkenness totalled 2811 men and 2418 women, and for drunkenness and disorderly conduct 929 men and 29 women, or a grand total of 31,922, an increase of 1253.

YOUNG CRIMINALS.

As a result of the activities of the four women police constables in the metropolitan district over 1000 juvenile offenders and neglected and uncontrollable children were dealt with before the Children's Court.

Offences committed by persons under the age of 21 years totalled 5347, an increase of 1286. There were 2245 cases of stealing, an increase of 816. Assault and robbery accounted for 27 cases, an increase of 17. Nine cases of assault with intent to rape, an increase of five. There were 22 cases of indecent assault, an increase of three, and 665 cases of offensive behavior, etc., an increase of 82.

SERIOUS OFFENCES.

Referring to serious crime, the report stated that the main increases were: Murder 7, assaults on women 11, bank robberies 8, assault and robbery 10, abduction 10; uttering forged cheques, false pretences, frauds 157; burglaries 118, jewellery stolen 213, deserted wives and children, 46.

The more serious offences, which included offences against the person, offences against property with violence, exceeded the total for 1925 by 1269.

This ought to be disquieting reading to the poor fool who told the press a few weeks ago that he left U.S.A. to come to this paradise of "wetness" for the sake of his family.

OUR SPECIAL BENT.

Cargo pillaging and shop lifting are two of our greatest problems. This, of course, naturally follows on the fact that we have a generation brought up on Sunday picnics and week-end outings, and it has not had time or opportunity to learn the Ten Commandments. Assaults on women and drunkenness loom large in the report, but both are like an iceberg, by far the greater part of them is unseen and unrecorded.

The total cases of wife and child desertion reported were 1364.

SIDELIGHTS.

The total strength of the police force on December 31 was 2991, including 31 trackers.

The nationalities of the members of the police force were: Australians and New Zealanders 2651, English 135, Scotch 77, Irish 84, Welsh 4, other parts of British Empire 10, other countries 4.

The number of applications for appointment to the police force received during the period under review was 1055, but only 182 of these were successful. A total of 606 candidates were rejected for various reasons, while 623 did not pass the prescribed examination.

THE MENACE OF THE MOTOR. KILLED 258, INJURED 4580.

Motor accidents throughout the State during 1926 totalled 1339, resulting in 258 people having been killed, and 4580 injured.

This startling information is contained in the annual report of the Police Department, tabled in Parliament.

In the metropolitan traffic district 144 people were killed and 3660 injured, while in the metropolitan area, outside the metropolitan traffic district, 24 people were killed, and 304 injured in 404 accidents.

The largest number of people killed in the country districts was in the western area, namely, 19, in addition to 74 injured. There the accidents totalled 129.

The north-eastern district headed the list of accidents with 394, resulting in 18 killed and 275 injured.

The number of offences under the Motor Traffic Act and regulations accounted for an increase of 7891 in the total offences against the law during the year. "This fact," the report says, "was no doubt due to the huge increase in motor traffic, and the additional activity on the part of the police, in endeavoring to reduce the number of fatalities and serious accidents."

BOOM IN REVENUE.

The revenue collected under the Motor Traffic Act totalled £1,120,000 as against £866,278 for 1925.

Motor traffic licenses issued numbered 458,441, an increase of 84,800, and the amount of revenue received from these licenses totalled £252,938, an increase of £198,375.

The motor tax yielded £856,354, an increase of £52,905.

The revenue from cabs, vans, and buses was £9119.

The total number of motor vehicles registered or licensed on December 31 was 156,073, an increase of 32,482. Of this total 78 belonged to the Police Department.

IS THERE A REMEDY?

The "Daily Telegraph" in an editorial expresses the belief that "more police would deter criminal acts," but they would most certainly discover and catch more criminals, which would greatly increase our evil record. The same paper sees an explanation of this crime wave in the leniency of the courts, the abuse of the First Offenders Act, and the comfortable conditions of our jails.

These things are after all only small creeks running into the main stream of crime, but the thing starts further back and higher up.

A sense of right and wrong, a regard for others, and a respect for law have their roots in real religion.

Papers like the "Daily Telegraph" that give two pages to sport and betting and half a column to religious news must share the responsibility of the low moral tone and the disregard of the fundamentals of religion.

The absence of religious training and home life is away back of this crime wave. The inability of parents to exercise any control over the children, coupled with the extraordinary high wages paid to irresponsible, is certainly a factor in our downward way. Back to God, back to the Church, back to the Sunday School, back to self-discipline, back to ordinary decency in dress, this is the way of hope. Not a bigger policeman, but a more God-fearing parent is the hope of the future.

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THEY HAVE NOT ENOUGH SHIRT TO MAKE A THUMB BANDAGE.

Please send to

Rev. R. B. S. HAMMOND,
St. Barnabas' Church, George St. West.
Sydney.

AFTER SIX YEARS.

For six years Stewarton in Scotland has been "dry."

The poll at Stewarton on December 4, 1926, shows a majority for No-License of 210. In 1923 the majority was 118, and this year, in weather conditions described by the "Glasgow Herald" as wretched, no less than 83 per cent. of the electorate voted.

* * *
KIRKINTILLOCH.

This stronghold of No-License has once more beaten off the liquor attack. It has now been six years without any licensed house, and will now have three further years of freedom. After nearly ten years of a "dry" regime it is hardly conceivable that the younger generation who have grown up in such surroundings will revert to the former state of things.

Yet Kirkintilloch had a hard fight, for the Trade expended unlimited money and brought to bear all its resources to make this Scottish burgh "wet" again. The Temperance poll remained practically the same as in 1923, but the liquor party managed, by methods that may be imagined, to bring out an additional 370 votes. Yet the town remains "dry" by a majority of 342.

* * *
KILSYTH.

A most interesting account of the first Local Option poll is given by the Rev. W. H. Watson, who resided in Kilsyth at the time. The Temperance poll was then 1376; in 1923 it was 1546; in 1926 it was 1730. The majority in 1920 was 492; in 1923 it fell slightly to 488, a mere trivial decline; now it is 811. This community, like those already mentioned, has had no public-houses nor licensed grocers for six years, and the inhabitants have very emphatically expressed their satisfaction at living under a "dry" regime and their determination not to return to the old evil ways.

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Second Boy: "So can mine, but he uses a stick."

* * *

The other day a small girl saw a fisherman pull a flounder from the waves. She said, "Look, daddy, at the fish with the flat tyre!"

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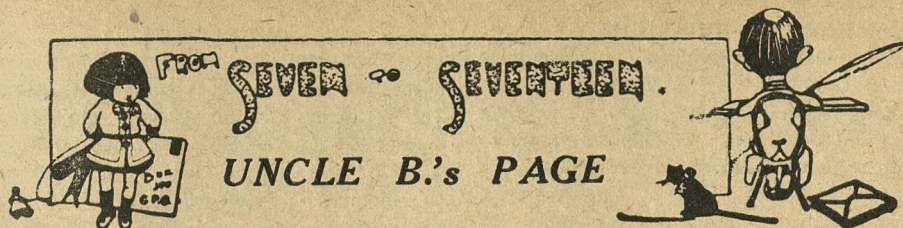
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HON. SCALLYWAGS.

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

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

NOT WISE ENOUGH TO KNOW THE VALUE.

In the autobiographical articles, "Days of My Life," by the late Sir H. Rider Haggard, appearing in the "Strand Magazine," there is this interesting reference to his youthful days:

"Somewhere about the year 1868 my brother Andrew and I were staying at Brimshop Rectory with my Uncle and Aunt Fowle. He was a generous man, and when we boys departed after such visits used to present us with what he called an honorarium, or in other words a tip. On this occasion, however, no honorarium was forthcoming, but in place of it he presented us with a sealed envelope which we were strictly charged not to open until we reached a certain station on the line.

"To this day I can see the pair of us fingering the envelope in the railway carriage in the happy certainty that Uncle Fowle had surpassed himself by presenting us with what the thin feel of the paper within assured us was a five-pound note. The station was reached at last and we tore open the envelope. From it emerged a sheet of blue paper on which were inscribed two texts, those beginning with 'Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way,' and 'Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.' We stared at each other blankly, for the state of our finances was such that we had counted on that tip and did not quite appreciate this kind of holy joke. Oddly enough, this piece of blue paper has chanced to survive all the wanderings of my life; as I write I hold it in my hand. Would that I had acted more closely upon the advice it conveys!"

You know the difference in value between a big penny and a little sovereign. You do not have to be told that "all that glitters is not gold," and that there is no folly greater than sacrificing the future to the present. You will remember how Esau did that; his appetite for the moment-blinding him to all his needs in the long future.

A house is no stronger than its foundations, and you, my young friends, are laying the foundations of your life now. Do not leave God out of your life, for not only will that bring you regrets, it may bring you disaster.

UNCLE B.

I made a mistake in my last issue; I stated that Arthur Wheen obtained the M.C.; it was the M.M. with two bars.

I wonder if this will catch the eye of some Hon. Ne or Ni who will take a prayer and practical interest in some little child if I send them the name and address. Let me know and I will write full particulars.

UNCLE B.

OUR LETTER BAG.

WHEN THE MINE FAILS.

Beryl Passlow, Linburn, writes: I am nearly on your black list, I know, but you will have to excuse me for not writing at Christmas as I had the earache most of the time, but I am alright again. While at Adelong I went to a picnic; there were only four girls about the same age as myself. We had great fun. We had our dinner and then went to the Adelong Falls, and saw a water-wheel about three yards wide and twenty feet long and twenty feet high out of the water. We also had a good day at Batlow—a great fruit-growing place—about twenty miles from Adelong. We took our grandma and grandpa and had our lunch on the bank of a creek. Then my little sister, my brother and myself went in paddling. Then we went to see the big fruit-packing sheds and all the wonderful machinery that grades the fruit and so on. After we had three and a half weeks' holiday at Adelong we came back to Toogong to my auntie's place, three miles out. We stayed there a week, and on Thursday we left and started off for Orange. We got to Orange at half-past nine; we all went into a fruit shop and each of us had a fourpenny ice cream. After that we went to the park and had dinner. Then my cousins and myself went and had a lovely swing on the beautiful swings. You ask me how I got "Grit." My mother gets it. You also ask me what sort of a place Linburn is. Well, Linburn is an old mining place. But most of the people have gone, and there are only nine families left.

(Dear Beryl,—So when the mine failed then Linburn began to decrease! Everything is dependent on something else, and we do well to remember that. The tree can't do without soil, the soil can't do without rain, the rain can't do without clouds, the clouds can't do without wind, and the wind bloweth where God wills it. We always get back to God if we go far enough.—Uncle B.)

* * * *

A LOVELY HOLIDAY.

Mary Williams, Bark Hill, writes: I received my letter in "Grit" before Christmas. I had a lovely holiday. We have been in

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swimming a lot in Lake Victoria, and I can't swim yet, but I can dog-paddle. The lake is always nice to swim in. I am in the fifth grade now. In the holidays our uncle came down and brought his wireless set to our place. He stayed at our place over a month, and when he went back to Melbourne he left the wireless set at our place. I will be eleven on the first of April. I got a sleeping doll from Santa Claus, and another little China doll and a little dolly's bath. At church when we sing the children's hymn we stand up and sing it by ourselves. At collection time all the girls sing a little children's hymn to the people and the minister.

(Dear Mary,—So you can dog-paddle. That is fine; but it is much easier to swim. Swimming is like being a Christian: it is a fine combination of trust and effort, only you must trust first. Don't be afraid, the water will hold anyone up if they will let it; then making an effort is so much easier.—Uncle B.)

* * * *

THE LOVELY WATER.

Amy Williams, Bark Hill, Bairnsdale, writes: I read my letter in "Grit" in the holidays and the answer was very nice. I spent my holidays very nicely. Mary and I went out to Garsfield for a while. Muriel and Beryl Condon came down for Christmas to stay a little while. I got a big sleeping doll and a little doll and a dolly's bath from Santa Claus. It has been very hot. When we came home from school we went down for a swim and it was lovely. The blackberries are ripe now. We got some the other night and they were lovely. Yesterday Mary and I went up to Mrs. Greenwood's to get the mail. Before Christmas the teacher gave all who could say the 23rd Psalm a Testament, and Amy Woodman was the best, so she got a little leather one, and all the rest got a green one. Three of our Emperor gum moths come out.

(Dear Amy,—I notice that all my Ne's and Ni's seem to love the water, and bathing in it is a great delight. While it is very nice if you are good and treat it well; it can be very nasty if you are stupid or naughty. All God's gifts are like that; water, fire and electricity are all wonderful and can do glorious things, but if we treat them wrongly they can kill us.—Uncle B.)

N.S.W. Prohibition Alliance

(Continued from page 4.)

FIELD APPOINTMENTS.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4.

8 p.m.: Open-air Meeting, Kempsey.

Rev. H. Putland.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6.

11 a.m.: Kempsey Presbyterian Church.

3 p.m.: Country Methodist Church.

7.30 p.m.: Kempsey Methodist Church.

Rev. H. Putland.

11 a.m.: Smithtown Anglican Church.

3 p.m.: Kinchela Methodist Church.

7.30 p.m.: Gladstone Methodist Church.

Mr. O. A. Piggott.

11 a.m.: Beechwood Methodist Church.

2.30 p.m.: Wauchope Methodist Church.

7.30 p.m.: Port Macquarie Meth. Church.

Mr. C. E. Still.

11 a.m.: Wingham Methodist Church.

2.15 p.m.: Tinonee Methodist Church.

7.30 p.m.: Taree Methodist Church.

Mr. H. Macourt.

7 p.m.: Enmore Tabernacle.

Mr. Paternoster.

MONDAY, MARCH 7.

8 p.m.: Methodist Hall, Kempsey.

Rev. H. Putland.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9.

8 p.m.: Wingham.

Rev. H. Putland.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11.

8 p.m.: Lantern Lecture, Pt. Macquarie.

Mr. O. A. Piggott.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13.

11 a.m.: Jones Island Methodist Church.

2.30 p.m.: Arundle Methodist Church.

7.30 p.m.: Cooperook Anglican Church.

Mr. O. A. Piggott.

7 p.m.: Auburn Methodist Church.

Rev. H. Putland.

11 a.m.: Beecroft Anglican Church.

Mr. C. E. Still.

MONDAY, MARCH 14.

8 p.m.: Lantern Lecture, Cooperook.

Mr. O. A. Piggott.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15.

8 p.m.: Lantern Lecture, Taree.

Mr. O. A. Piggott.

A BIRTHDAY GIFT.—"The Southern Cross," by Fairlie Thornton. 1/6. Wm. Tyas, 558 George-street, Sydney. Better than a birthday card.

RED OIL—RED LIGHT?

It was dusk as she stopped at the roadside filling station. "I want a quart of red oil," she said to the service man. The man gasped and hesitated. "Give me a quart of red oil," she repeated.

"A q-q-quart of r-r-red oil?" he stuttered. "Certainly," she said, "my tail light has gone out!"

PUT IT OVER.

A very shrewd lawyer was defending a man accused of house breaking, and said to the court:

"Your Honor, I submit that my client did not break into the house at all. He found the parlor window open, and merely inserted his right arm and removed a few trifling articles. Now, my client's arm is not himself, and I fail to see how you can punish the whole individual for an offence committed by only one of his limbs."

"That argument," said the judge, "is very well put. Following it logically, I sentence the defendant's arm to one year's imprisonment. He can accompany it or not, as he chooses."

The defendant smiled, and with his lawyer's assistance unscrewed his cork arm, and leaving it in the dock, walked out.

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MOONSHINE.

A telescope which is twice as large as any heretofore constructed is being built in Paris. The reflector will be nearly twenty feet in diameter. It will bring the moon within ten miles of the earth. This ought to increase the moonshine in the stilly night.

MY DAILY MESSAGE

By M. PRESTON STANLEY.

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"Is there such a word as buxom?"

"Sure is! A cowboy said his horse would buck some if I got on it."

Minister: "Dear brethren—and when I say brethren I mean the brethren to embrace the ladies."

TUNEFUL HOLD-UP.

"De collection dis mornin'," said the Negro minister, "am foh de purpose ob makin' up de deficit in yoh pastor's salary. De choir will now sing—and will go on singin' till de full amount am realised."

CAUGHT IN THE ACT.

A man from the West Adams district drove in town. It was his custom to park his car on Grand Avenue. When he went for it at night it was missing. Right away he got into action, going downtown to the police station and telling them all about it. When he got home he related his woes to his wife.

"I should not care if it was stolen," consoled she. "There are leaks in the gas tank and radiator, and it is about done for."

A radiant smile spread over the owner's face. "Do you know," he exclaimed, "I never parked that car on Grand Avenue; I left it at a garage for repairs. I'm going after it."

He did, and was joyously riding up West Adams-street when a police officer held him up. "Hey," charged the officer, "come with me. We're looking for that car; it's been stolen."

DIDN'T NEED THE LIGHT.

"Just as Millet and the widow started up the aisle to the altar every light in the church went out."

"What did the couple do then?"

"Kept on going. The widow knew the way."

MODERN.

Hard-boiled Little Girl: "Gimme one ticket, an' make it snappy."

Ticket Girl: "But, honey, there are two of you; how about the other little girl with you?"

H.B.L.G.: "Aw, ain't we half sisters? Add dat up!"

DIFFERENT NOW.

Bessye Bearden, president of the Women's Democratic League, said in a New York address:

"Wide horizons open before the modern girl. There's politics, there are the professions, business—everything. But the modern girl makes a great mistake when she breaks with the past altogether."

"An elderly man said to a young man in a kindly voice:

"You wish to marry my daughter. Can you cook, sew, wash and iron, sweep, darn, nurse children, shop—?"

"The young man gave a puzzled laugh.

"Why ask me if I can do those things?" he said.

"Because," said the elderly man, "my daughter can't."

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DAILY INSPIRATION.

By FAIRELIE THORNTON.

SUNDAY.

"Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice."—Phil., 4, 4.

A religion that makes you miserable is no true religion. Throw it off as you would an old coat for a new one. "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." Abundant life brings abundant joy. Tennyson says:

"'Tis life of which our nerves are scant—
More life, and fuller that we want."

A religion of gloom is a religion of the tomb, and should be buried there. "That your joy may be full" was the desire of Jesus. "Glad tidings of GREAT JOY" the angels brought to the world. "But," you say, "I have nothing to be joyful about." "Rejoice in the Lord," if you cannot rejoice in anything else.

"Rejoice and be glad the Redeemer has come,
Go, look on His cradle, His cross, and His tomb."

Think what His coming has brought into the world and to you, and if you have never taken the gifts He came to bring, take them NOW. "The GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Is it "life and fuller" that you want? Here it is in Him. "Of His fulness have we all received." In Him was life, and the life was the light of men." Throw wide the windows of your heart and let the sunshine in. "To them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death" there is come a great light. "Arise, shine, for thy light is come!"

MONDAY.

"The joy of the Lord is your strength."—Neh., 8, 10.

Joy is a great rejuvenator. Sunshine brings strength. Have you ever felt the joy of seeing sunshine after a heavy downpour of rain? After the skies have worn a leaden hue for days, causing depression and gloom, and the children have pressed their faces against the window pane, saying, "Rain, rain, go away, don't come another day"; when even Nature seemed sobbing and the skies raining tears, as the sun again burst forth with smiling face, has it not put new hope, new energy into you? So, when the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings on you, the days of your mourning will be ended. "Thy sun shall no more go down." Life will be one long glad spring.

Perhaps your mournful dirge is, "For love I sigh, for love I pine"

What is it that gives most bliss in this world of sin and care,
Is it not in knowing this, that in some-
one's love we share?

And this gift is for you when you take the gift of love offered in Jesus Christ.

God so loved the world and THEE that He sent His Son to be

Once your sacrifice for sin, that your life He so might win.

You can say with as much truth as St. Paul, "He loved me and gave Himself FOR ME." Is not that enough to make your heart dance for joy? The fruit of the Spirit is not "gloom, despondency, mistry," but is love, joy, peace."

TUESDAY.

"As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing."—2 Cor., 6, 10.

Yes, even in tribulation you can rejoice if you have the peace of God in your heart. The joy will underlie all the sorrow, and be deeper than the pain. Knowing that your

light affliction is but for a moment and will work out for you a far more exceeding weight of glory, you will rejoice that you are accounted worthy to share Christ's sufferings. The trials which would weigh down a person without faith will be wings to lift you to the skies. You will realise as never before the sympathy of the "Man of sorrows." You will find that He is such a PRESENT help in trouble, that His nearness will compensate for the loss of other things. Even in sickness you will feel that "underneath are the everlasting arms" of love, and will be able to sing:

"I've found a joy in sorrow,
A healing for all pain."

The bitter waters of Marah will be sweetened with His love, and you will pray in sincerity, "Nearer my God to Thee, e'en though it be a cross that raiseth me." So the joy of the Lord will be your strength, and you will go on your way "as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing."

WEDNESDAY.

"The fruit of the Spirit is joy."—Gal., 5, 22.

Joyous Spirit chase away
All the gloom of sin I pray.
Joyous in the midst of pain,
Tribulation will be gain.
Joyous though all things conspire
To frustrate each fond desire,
Joy which can new strength impart,
Cheering with Thy love my heart.
Joyous, when except for this,
Life would hold but little bliss,
Like the sun pour forth Thy ray,
Chasing all earth's gloom away.
With Thy healing words of balm,
All my troubled spirit calm.

THURSDAY.

"Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart; wait on the Lord."—Ps., 27, 14.

Discouraged, are you? Disheartened with the little progress you have made, if progress at all? Perhaps your own follies have surprised you. "Who can understand his errors?" was the complaint of the Psalmist. He had been surprised that he was the very man whom he had condemned. None know their own weakness until they begin the Christian life. You thought you were fairly good till then, and all would be plain sailing. But the nearer you got to the light the clearer you perceived the specks in your own character. That is a sure sign of progress. "Ah, but," you sigh,

"I am weary and sore discouraged with evil I cannot stem;
My faults are so strong and many, and I cannot conquer them."

Listen not to the tempter. Now is the time when he persuades you to give up. He first tempts to sin, and then tells you there is no hope, reproaches you with your falls. "Rome was not built in a day." Nothing is ever accomplished unless you keep on at it, even after repeated failures. You think you could never reach the saintliness of the Apostle Paul. What did he say? "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." Not I WAS chief. Not that he committed sin every day, but he needed to be kept from sin each day. He was a sinner saved by grace, moment by moment. "Apart from Me ye can do nothing." You thought the work was done when you promised to be a Christian in truth. Paul said, "In me dwelleth NO good thing." Give up looking for goodness in yourself. You will never find it there. "Every good gift is from above." Christ has finished the work

of redemption, but He, which began a work in you, will not finish it until you have let Him work it out. Nothing 'worth doing can be done without Him. "Of His fulness have we all received, and grace for grace.

Grace to conquer every sin;
Grace the goal at last to win.

Despair of yourself, but never despair of your power in Him. "Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart, wait on the Lord." "They that wait on the Lord shall RENEW their strength."

FRIDAY.

"Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God that worketh in you to will and to do of His good pleasure."—Phil., 2, 13.

Bend yourself to His sway. Let Him work in you to will and to do as He pleases. He will not work without your consent. "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking UNTO JESUS, the author and finisher of our faith." A man cannot be saved from a sinking ship while he clings to his treasures and refuse to leave that ship. He must fling aside every weight, and firmly grasp the rope flung out to him. A man cannot win a race while he is carrying some heavy weight to impede his progress. What is the weight which is hindering you in your Christian life? Ask the Holy Spirit to point it out. It may be something in which others see no harm, but which you know does not conduce to your spiritual welfare. It may be something which you had never thought wrong. A tiny insect can destroy a crop of fruit, for insects and faults have a habit of multiplying themselves. Whatever hinders your growth in grace is a sin to you. Cut it off, though dear as a right eye.

SATURDAY.

"Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation."—Matt., 26, 44.

Watch when life's sun is shining,
For few can stand its glare.
Watch as the day declining
Hides many a lurking snare.
Watch when the night is falling,
The Tempter never sleeps.
Blessed is he who watcheth,
And constant vigil keeps.

Watch when the heart is aching,
Sighing in vain for rest;
When Time from you is taking
All that you loved the best,
Watch, lest the Tempter stealth
From you your faith in God,
Remember Christ your Master
This very path has trod.

Watch when the path grows narrow,
Lest you should turn aside,
Forget not One has promised
To be your constant Guide.
Heed not the voices calling
To tread the broader way,
Lest when dark night is falling
Into sin's pit you stray.

Have you read Fairlie Thornton's new book, "THE SOUTHERN CROSS, OR THE WORLD UNSEEN"? Send for it to-day to Wm. Tyas, 558 George-street, Sydney; 1/6.

* * *

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THE AUSTRALIAN COMMISSIONER IN U.S.A.

By AN AUSSIE in U.S.A.

Sir Hugh Denison arrived in San Francisco on October 29 to take up his official duties as Australian Commissioner to the United States. He was cordially greeted by the business men of San Francisco, lunched and otherwise entertained. The California branch of the English-Speaking Union gave a dinner in honor of Sir Hugh and his wife. The Commissioner stressed the friendship and co-operation existing between the two countries, their similarity in size and natural resources, and the perpetuation of white supremacy. He advocated compulsory voting.

Unfortunately, Commissioner Denison was tactless in discussing with a reporter the burning problem of Prohibition in the United States. He said: "They will never slip Prohibition over on Australians as they slipped it over here." Two reasons stand out among many for the belief that the statement was an error.

First, the official Commissioner from one country to another ought not to sneer at the organic law of the new land he enters.

Second, there was no "slipping over," regardless of public or private view on the main subject.

The first Prohibition amendment was introduced into the United States Congress by Congressman Blair of New Hampshire in 1876. So far as the U.S. Constitution is concerned, the amendment has been to the fore in public consideration for the intervening fifty years, and for nearly one hundred years the fight has been on in the States.

The additional general charge that the dry law was "slipped over" while the soldiers were at war is pure buncombe. Thirty-three States had voted dry before war was declared, some of them months, and many of them years before. All the members of the State Legislatures that voted for the Eighteenth Amendment were elected before men were called to the colors. If there had been no war, there couldn't have been a particle of difference, because the Legislatures do the voting on Constitutional amendments. If the two or three million soldiers had been hame and voting, scattered all over forty-eight States, their votes could not have changed the situation on any important legislation, pending or passed. As stated, the soldiers, like other citizens, cannot vote directly on such an issue as amending the Constitution. It is too bad that this is the case, but it is the law. Two-thirds in Congress and forty-six out of forty-eight States do not support a charge of "slipping over."

"BE KIND-TO-ANIMALS" WEEK.

R.S.P.C.A. APPEAL.

To help on the good work of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, now in its fifty-fourth year in this State, a special appeal for funds is being made during "Be-Kind-To-Animals" Week, March 6 till March 12.

The Society's activities cover a wide range, from inspecting travelling stock, saleyards, wharves and piggeries to the treatment of pit ponies.

Among its other good works the Society maintains the King Edward Dogs' Home at Waterloo and a home for sick or injured horses at Little Bay, and also attends to the disposal of stray or diseased dogs and cats in a painless manner by its lethal chambers

in various parts of the city and suburbs, as well as in a number of country centres. To show the magnitude of this work it might be added that last year 8000 cats and dogs alone were dealt with by the Society's staff. Many of these animals were suffering from infectious diseases easily communicable to human beings or other animals.

"Humane Sunday," March 6, will be celebrated by special services in churches throughout the city, suburbs and country, and the campaign will be officially launched at Farmer's Exhibition Hall on the afternoon of March 7, when the Chief Secretary, Mr. Lazzarini, will represent the Government.

Sports meetings and indoor entertainments have been arranged throughout the State with a view of raising funds so that the Society can continue its humanitarian work with renewed vigor.

Ordinary membership is secured by a donation of 5/- or more, and subscriptions or donations should be forwarded to the Society at its office, 114a Pitt-street, Sydney.

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Prohibition Has Brought Wealth.

"The prosperity of our people is, to my mind, due primarily to Prohibition," said Isaac Franklin Russell, senior professor in New York University and former Chief Justice of the Court of Special Sessions of the City of New York, recently to the "Daily News."

"The signs and proof of our progress and prosperity are seen in increased savings bank accounts, in the enormous amount of life insurance maintained, in higher wages, and in the investments made throughout the country in radio apparatus and automobiles," he went on.

"Furthermore, the growing patronage and support of our universities are simply staggering.

"Prohibition has not annihilated crime; but it has reduced the calendars of our inferior criminal courts. If the Prohibition law is inadequately enforced in New York City, the same thing can be said of all of our laws."

WORSE THAN SANDPAPER.

They sat within the parlor dim,
And this is what she said to him:
George, dear, if you can't behave,
I wish you'd go and get a shave.

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AN ORGAN RECITAL.

The story is told of an army veteran who returned to the home of his boyhood to attend a banquet given by the old boys. The diners were all men he had known as youngsters. He expected them to take over old times.

"Instead, one talked incessantly about his

bad liver; another discoursed on his weak heart; a third had a lot to say about his kidney trouble, and so it went on. When the veteran returned to his home he was asked how he enjoyed the banquet. 'Banquet!' he snorted. 'It wasn't a banquet. It was an organ recital.'"—Sir James Percy, in the London "Evening News."

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