

Grit.

A JOURNAL OF NATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PROHIBITION.

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**"A LITTLE ALCOHOL DOES
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BE SHOCKED OR BE ASHAMED.

THE WORLD'S MOST PATHETIC TRAGEDY IS WRITTEN IN TWO WORDS—"DRUNK AGAIN."

If these incidents that liquor turned into accidents do not shock you then you may well be ashamed of yourself. Real religion makes us sensitive; the absence of it is proved by callousness.

FAMILY OF EIGHT IN TWO ROOMS. DEPRAVED MOTHER AND STARVING CHILDREN.

Shocking scenes of squalor, depravity and privation were witnessed at a house in Newtown by a representative of the "Labor Daily" who, acting on the suggestion of an indignant local resident, visited the locality for the purpose of making an investigation.

In a tiny, dilapidated cottage, composed of two living rooms and a kitchen, in an unpretentious lane jammed between two larger thoroughfares, a family of eight exists in an atmosphere of frightful poverty.

At night, when the interior of the dwelling is rendered even more uninviting by the fitful illumination of a stump of candle in a discarded beer bottle, the six children lie huddled together, covered by flimsy blankets that have long since ceased to induce warmth.

The ages of the wretched children range from 17 years to a mere nine weeks, and on the pinched and wan face of each is stamped the indelible hallmark of hunger and misery.

The father of the family ekes out a precarious living from the sale of sweets at a picture theatre, but his pittance is barely sufficient to keep his starving children alive.

Their mother is an inveterate drinker and the few shillings earned by the breadwinner invariably find their way to the nearest hotel.

The baby is ill-nourished and weak and is continually crying piteously for food that is rarely forthcoming.

The floor of the dwelling is littered with garbage and abounds with vermin and filth, and over all hangs a sickening odor that defies the penetration of sunlight and cleansing fresh air.

During the whole time the family has resided in the district people in the vicinity declare they have never seen a bed sheet on the clothes-line!

Compassionate neighbors bitterly resent the impotence and the inactivity of the authorities.

A woman residing next door to the unfortunate family has frequently offered to take care of the tiny baby, but has mostly met with abuse and a demand that she attend to her own affairs.

The delicate, pasty face of the tiny child becomes more pinched and wan each day, and always the significant conglomeration of discarded bottles in the filthy yard grows larger.

Local residents became so indignant some weeks ago that the police were summoned and the woman was arrested on a charge of neglecting her children.

Many of the neighbors were subpoenaed, but several days before the hearing of the case they were informed that their evidence would not be required.

Subsequently, the woman appeared before the Bench, and following a severe magisterial admonishment was told that she must send her children to school and that she cease drinking.

She was also given a fortnight to vacate her dwelling on account of her repeated failure to pay rent.

One of the children, a tiny, frail girl of six years, was asked recently by a neighbor if her mother had been sending her to school regularly.

"School," replied the astonished youngster. "Why, I left school ages ago!"

Local residents have frequently written to the Child Welfare Department on the matter, but so far their requests for assistance in so needy a case have been unanswered.

Will not the police or the Child Welfare Department do something about this shocking scandal?

EXPENSIVE DAY OFF.

Archibald Coulter's afternoon cost him £2, plus drinking money.

At Parramatta Court he was charged with behaving riotously in Church-street, Parramatta.

Sergeant Williamson said that Coulter was standing in a shop swinging a huge suitcase around his head. He was drunk at the time.

ONLY GAVE HER WHISKY.

The Maitland police are silent on the full circumstances of the injury to a girl of 18 years, who, with another, was given a car ride by strangers on Saturday night, and is now in hospital.

It is understood that the girls were walking along High-street, when they were accosted by two strange men, who asked them to go for a trip in a motor.

The girls accepted, and the car sped along Bolwarra-road. Here the reports of what happened vary. One is that a girl jumped from the car, and, striking her head on the road, sustained concussion.

Another account is that one girl left the car and went for a walk with one of the

men. On returning she found her companion was sick.

"What have you done to her?" she is said to have asked.

"I only gave her some whisky," came the reply.

The girl became alarmed, and demanded to be taken home. This was done, and the other girl was taken to the hospital.

DOMESTIC DISCORD.

"It is not the first time he has done that sort of thing, but I always withdrew the charges for his mother's sake," said William Wilson, at North Sydney Court, giving evidence against his son, Ronald Wilson, who was charged with having damaged property to the value of £1 on October 30.

The father said his son came home drunk—he was always drunk—broke open the door, pulled pictures off the wall and smashed them.

Mr. Fletcher, S.M., ordered the son to enter into a bond in £10 to be of good behaviour for twelve months, and to pay £1 compensation. "I hope this will restrain you from drinking to excess," said the magistrate.

"METHO." DRINKERS.

Police broke up a drunken orgy when they surprised a party of methylated spirits drinkers in an unoccupied house in Ann-street, Surry Hills.

Four poorly-dressed men and two women were arrested. Charges of "vagrancy" were preferred at the Central Police Station.

BEER PARTY IN STREET.

Charged at North Sydney Court with riotous behaviour in Glen-street on October 30, John McMahon, 28, laborer, was fined £3 or one month, Cecil Annon, 28, laborer, £2 or 21 days, and James Wilson, 26, carter, and Vincent Lewis, 29, carter, £1 each. Sergeant Hamilton said the four men were drinking beer out of bottles, squabbling and creating a disturbance.

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THE DISAPPEARANCE OF BOOZE.

Where is all this booze we hear so much about? asks a writer in "The American Review of Reviews," who, during a two weeks' visit in and about Florida, saw no whisky and heard only one alcoholic laugh. Whisky was offered to him by his hosts on several occasions, but the hosts did not drink themselves, and no bottle was produced. J. Horace McFarland tells us that he travelled 3745 miles in fourteen days, of which 1278 were by motor in Florida. He saw no drinking in Washington or on the train which took him to Jacksonville, and his first thought of it came when he saw a notice at the bottom of the menu in one of the great hotels in Jacksonville warning guests that waiters must not be expected to help in serving intoxicants. Then he remembered a street of malodorous reputation, and curiosity drove him to walk along it to note whether there were any change. Here, too, he saw no signs of intoxication. He goes on:

"From Jacksonville I went by rail to St. Petersburg, and here mingled with many people for several days, travelling about St. Petersburg and Tampa by motor. Nowhere did I see evidences of liquor, nor was it mentioned in my hearing. There was one rather extraordinary occurrence in St. Petersburg which I do not yet understand.

"Desiring to go to a church on Sunday, I was informed that in order to secure a seat I would have to be in the Second Methodist Church by 9 a.m., at which hour I got about the last open seat, the service beginning at 9.15. We were all turned out at 10.35 to afford room for a waiting throng, which would participate in a repeated service at 10.45. I was told that other churches were also doing double-turn work."

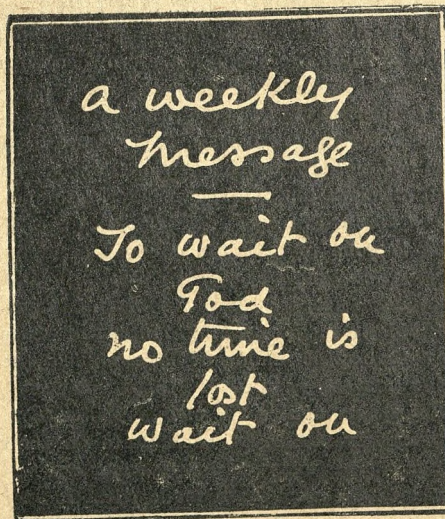
His travels took Mr. McFarland to Palm Beach, where in one of the great hotels a local man suggested that he could have a cocktail if he wanted it. But the local man himself did not want a cocktail, "and there was no evidence of drink in that beautiful dining-room." Later the same evening, in a dining-room of another hotel, the writer "heard a young man laugh in a sort of alcoholic fashion at a table, the only bottle on which seemed to have White Rock in it." Mr. McFarland was in two other noted hotels, in neither of which he saw any sight or suggestion of intoxicants. In Miami, Indian River City, Orlando, Winter Park, Bartow, and Tampa his experience was the same—there was no sign of liquor. In Tampa, even though he visited the annual Citrus Fair while a race was being held, and mingled with great crowds, there was no booze in sight. Liquor was twice suggested to Mr. McFarland in two private houses near Jacksonville, but he did not see it and his hosts did not use it. On the train north from Atlanta, Georgia, he saw a ginger-ale bottle and a flask which looked as if it might have held whisky on the floor of a Pullman toilet-room. Mr. McFarland concludes the story of his travels:

"The truth is, after all, that the Prohibition laws are being enforced a great deal better than most people believe, and I think on the average quite as well as are the laws that punish arson, crimes of violence, and the social crimes.

"That booze and narcotics can be had by those who seek them, I do not doubt, just as I am quite sure that those who wish to steal, burn, and do other mischievous things in defiance of the law can and will continue to do them. They are outlawed, and John Barleycorn is outlawed, and that is the one biggest thing that has happened in, to and through the United States since Columbus landed."

SHOWS SCARCITY OF BOOZE.

A New York Associated Press despatch of August 2 has been given a prominent position in the daily press, generally under scare headlines, which story features the high prices paid for liquor in New York cabarets by Government agents securing evidence. According to the report of these agents, they paid 25 dollars per quart for champagne that proved, on analysis, to be only charged



white grape juice spiked with alcohol, and 10 dollars a pint for rye and Scotch whisky, that was synthetic stock of poor quality.

Wet newspapers will use this incident as argument against the alleged high cost of law enforcement. Whatever it costs it has been repeatedly shown that law enforcement is more than paying its way.

This incident does show, however, that the fool sports who were patronising these so-called high-class cabarets, paying 25 dollars a quart for alleged champagne which proved to be only white grape juice spiked with some alcohol, and 10 dollars a pint for rye and Scotch whisky, are such poor judges of liquor that they are disqualified as expert witnesses as to the effectiveness of Prohibition.

For instance, they tell the public that there is plenty of high-grade liquor available—Prohibition does not prohibit, that it is easy

to obtain it providing one knows how. Do not these exorbitant prices prove scarcity of booze? And if there is plenty of good liquor, why pay 25 dollars per quart for spiked grape juice?

The results of these investigations by the Federal agents are also encouraging, for the Federal Grand Jury found indictments against 138 persons from 26 night clubs on the evidence.

The newspapers report that it cost around 65,000 dollars to round up this evidence, but Commissioner Doran says that the expenses of the agents amounted to only about 9000 dollars, that they had spent their own money and were reimbursed through Government vouchers. He ought to know.

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WHAT IS THE BAND OF HOPE?

The question is continually being asked, What is this Band of Hope that we are hearing so much about? And because the question is so often being asked it has become necessary to again restate who we are and what we are!

The Band of Hope Union is a Society founded 75 years ago for the purpose of teaching and advocating an educational, social, economic and Christian lines "Total abstinence from alcohol," and of joining in one society all children, irrespective of creed, who have signed the Total Abstinence Pledge.

Societies of other Temperance organisations, such as the Rechabites, Order of Good Templars, League of Temperance and others, are affiliated, together with Sunday schools throughout the State, to the Band of Hope.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee of the N.S.W. Band of Hope Union consists of two elected members for each of the Churches—i.e., Church of England, Presbyterian, Congregational, Baptist, Churches of Christ, Seventh Day Adventists, etc.—three members from Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. and kindred organisations, and are elected annually.

THE WORK OF THE BAND OF HOPE UNION.

Work is being done by the Band of Hope Union in every State of Australia and Tasmania, and has nearly 1000 branches, each with a membership of from 15 to 300. The meetings vary in character, according to the locality of the branch and the personnel of the officers. The Band of Hope is a children's temperance organisation primarily, and for this reason the children are encouraged to take part in the meetings either by singing or reciting or reading a temperance paper, besides serving in the various offices which form the local committee. Children never do anything they like in a half-hearted way, and as a rule when they join the Band of Hope they become very keen, and are probably the most enterprising band of missionaries the Church possesses. They scour the district for new members, and many a minister will admit have been the means not only of bringing more children into the temperance movement, but of bringing the lapsed parent and elder member of the family back to Church and to God.

MEETINGS.

Meetings are held once a week, once a fortnight, once a month, sometimes taking the form of a concert, social evening, lan-

tern lecture, educational medical lectures by local doctors, story talks, competition evenings and debates. The Band of Hope meetings are flexible; they are sometimes devotional, sometimes social; they are based on the desire to produce a full-grown man and cater for the development of body, soul and spirit, and Band of Hope meetings offer to the clergyman an opportunity of meeting his children in a way no other organisation offers—i.e., of meeting socially and collectively amid natural conditions the young people of his church. Clergymen complain they cannot get to know their young people. They complain because they have no Band of Hope in their parish; they know nothing of its benefits to the young people and the link it always becomes between minister and people.

BEACH TEMPERANCE MEETINGS.

During the summer months and in school holidays, when the beaches are crowded with children, the Band of Hope specialises in sea-side temperance meetings on the sands. Temperance mottoes are built in the sand, and when completed form the text of the remarks of an efficient temperance speaker. Competitions are held in castle-building, and everything is done to give the children a happy time. They love these beach meetings, and the Band of Hope finds these meetings most profitable in pledge-signing. In recent years more than 2000 children have signed the pledge as a result of these meetings. Children thus signing the pledge receive from the executive office of each State on their birthday a birthday card on which is a reminder of their covenant made with God for their own sake and for the sake of others.

THE CHILDREN'S COURT.

The Children's Court is visited (and services have been conducted) when occasion demands, and junior offenders against the law are shepherded by the Band of Hope Union. In the years that lie ahead the Band of Hope will have much more work to do in and with the Children's Court unless a rapid reformation is made in the present administration of the liquor laws. Juvenile drinkers are on the increase, and drink is claiming as many females as males. Juvenile drinking is to-day one of the gravest of our social national dangers.

HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE EXAMINATION.

Each year, by permission of the Minister for Education, an examination on "Health Hygiene," "First Aid" and "Temperance" is conducted by the Band of Hope Union in

public schools, the cost being defrayed by the Band of Hope. The following is the report of last year's examination:

There were 61 public schools, represented by 1459 examinees, at the examination held on December 5 last. Every child reaching 50 per cent. marks received a certificate, while those who obtained 75 per cent. were awarded book prizes. Excellent work has been done by the examinees. The teaching of Dr. Harvey Sutton through the school magazine was a distinct feature in this examination. His terse statements of the evils of intemperance and the use and abuse of alcohol were in many cases quoted verbatim. In December, 1928, the entries for the examination are expected to be very great, due to the fact that Mr. Mitchell, the Honorary Director of the Examination, has given a full year of his time to the work of making the examination known, and also to the fact of the many valuable prizes to be awarded at the examination this year.

New South Wales Band of Hope Union.

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The Rev. R. B. S. HAMMOND,

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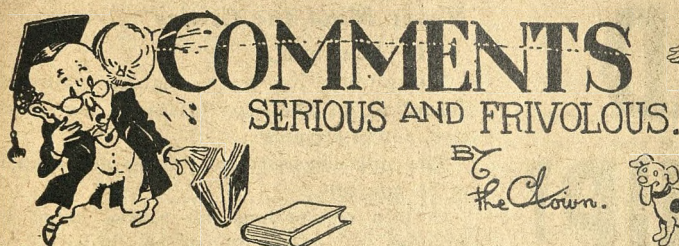
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The struggle to make ends meet keeps a flapper's hands busy when she sits down. She makes a brave showing in her effort.

Years ago, when the ladies were first given the franchise, a public man was called upon to propose their health, and he did so in a neat, apposite and effective speech, which was remembered by all who heard it.

All he said was: "The ladies—once our superiors, now our equals."

Ever since then the ladies have been slowly but surely claiming their equality.

Mr. Eric G. L. Fowler, owner of the Belgravia Hotel, Footscray, Victoria, applied to the Licensing Court at its sitting last week for its approval of plans for alterations to the hotel. Mr. L. J. Murphy (Messrs. Luke Murphy and Company), who appeared for the applicant, explained that plans had recently been approved, but those submitted that day were for additions. They included increased bar accommodation, a bottle department, a bar parlor, a bulk store and a women's saloon.

Superintendent Connor said that he did not understand why provision for a women's saloon was being made.

Mr. V. Tanner (who comprised the Court): Is this hotel used by motorists?

Mr. Murphy: Yes.

Mr. Tanner: Then, in my opinion, a women's saloon is a very convenient adjunct.

The plans were approved. The estimated cost of the work is £3800.

Could you have anything more modern and more insane? A magistrate who thinks that women, motoring and facilities for drink harmonise has surely qualified for a mental hospital.

The inventor of stainless steel should help out politicians and liquor exploiters with a system of stainless stealing.

Our wine business is in a bad way. It is true it is a very insignificant industry in proportion to other staple industries.

Area of Chief Crops in Australia.

1925-26.	Acres.	1925-26.	Acres.
Wheat	10,201,276	Barley	374,876
Hay	2,832,003	Sugarcane	288,872
Oats	1,013,233	Potatoes	136,925
Green forage	1,055,210	Vineyards	111,697
Orchards	297,140		

The vineyards are only partly for wine production, since they produce 11,796 tons of table grapes, 244,694 cwt. of currants and 495,566 cwt. of raisins. The squeal of the wine trade suggests that one pig caught in

a gate makes more noise than 1000 sheep in a paddock.

The Federal Government has spent £1,170,778 as a bonus to the wine industry, and now it has granted permission to blend wines in bond and hold them for two years, and is to be asked to finance this "poor" industry while it prepares to meet the over-sea markets.

A cable from London says:

"With reference to the depression in the wine trade reported last month, and the unfair competition from grape juice imported from Greece, upon which an excise duty of only 1/- per gallon is paid, wine-growers and the Agents-General agree that steps should be taken to stop the evasion of duty. The wine-growers suggest a duty reduction on Empire wines to a flat rate of 2/-. The Agents-General have cabled their Governments accordingly, but are not acting till replies have been received. It is understood that the States have been urged to approach the Federal Government, with a view to concerted action in approaching the Imperial Government."

If you can't see the wine grow, you can still hear their whine!

COMPENSATING.

A vast number of people hate to pay anything; nothing is more attractive to them than a free seat in a show. Many wanted Prohibition, but, like our public education, it must be free—nothing to pay.

Having rejected Prohibition, because it was to cost us something, we are now busy paying for the liquor business. The non-drinker pays for the vast machinery necessary to handle drink-induced crime, sickness and poverty. The drinker has to face the higher cost of drink.

There are nine hotels in the township of Young, and in future 2/- a bottle will be the regular price for beer at seven of them.

Seven hotelkeepers attended a meeting to consider the position in regard to beer sales, but a licensee of a house where bottle liquor has been sold at lower prices was not present. However, one man who had dropped

the price of bottled beer by 3d. came into line again.

It is thought in some quarters that there is a danger of a price war on similar lines to that being waged at Goulburn. This is, of course, only about 1000 p.c. profit, but that, of course, is a mere trifle. We are prepared to go for our beer and pay for it, but, bless your little heart, our milk must be brought to us, and we enjoy owing for it. This is the hallmark of being highly civilised.

HURT ONE, HURT ALL!

A lesson for Prohibitionists may be learned from the position in Narrandera. When the "Sydney Morning Herald" drops all journalistic standards and comes out boldly for Booze, we abuse it, cry shame, and go on taking the paper.

The "S.M. Herald" grins. When drink makes the roads dangerous, and our friends are injured, in our indignation we howl a malediction, and then vote to continue these conditions. The Trades Unions progress and succeed because they do more than talk.

Unless Narrandera hotelkeepers back down and purchase their ice supplies from the local ice works, all imported ice, as well as hotels using it, will be declared black so far as members of the Narrandera Branch of the A.L.P. are concerned.

The decision is the outcome of a recommendation of the Vigilance Committee appointed some time ago to investigate an allegation that a member of the Labor League, who was also interested in the local iceworks, was being victimised because of his attitude in connection with the recent Prohibition Referendum.

The committee, in submitting its report, which was unanimously adopted at a special meeting of the League, contended that the most valued principle of the Labor Movement was that "injury to one was injury to all," and that, as the local ice was apparently being boycotted, there was no other course open than to use every lawful means to counteract such action.

Go thou and do likewise!

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GRAINS OF GOLD WORTH PICKING UP!

Who Cares? Why Everyone!

We are all creatures of moods. And so we all have moments when we feel as though we were of such small value that nobody cares who we are or what we do. And if ever a man is stranded on the rocks, it is at such a time as this.

Who cares? Why everybody cares! Don't you think that they don't? If they say they don't, they don't mean it.

Your discouraged hour is the discouraged hour of many another, somewhere. Many of them are wise enough to believe that somebody, somewhere, cares. You can—you must believe it, too!

This is a caring old world—hard-faced as it seems to be. It would have been put out of business long ago if it hadn't cared. No matter what your lot, there is someone, somewhere, whose lot is harder, and the chances are that he is sticking it out like a good Australian, with patience and fortitude.

Who cares? YOU care!

For you are a human being. And is not a human being a million times greater than all the birds and animals and flowers and chunks of gold, and all the rubies and diamonds that serve and beautify the place where human beings live and work and walk around?

Whether you care or not counts with you more than with anybody else—much as everybody else cares. Remember that it does not rain all the time anywhere.

* * *

As You Encourage Others You Encourage Yourself.

Perhaps you think Encouragement a very commonplace subject. It is. So is bread. But think what the world owes to bread! Then think what you owe to encouragement.

Bread is made for the body—but encouragement is for everything that makes up the life interest of man.

A human being may be given sufficient bread to satisfy his craving and hunger, but no human being ever received all the encouragement he craved.

To-day, look well at the first few faces you see. Do you think you could pick out one that would not beam and brighten after a little encouragement? Answer—no, not one! Every last member of the human race, every minute of every day, craves—hungers and thirsts—for encouragement.

Then make it one of the busiest habits of your life to encourage everybody you can.

For the more people you encourage, the more encouraged you become. You encourage yourself as you send out your message to others.

Silence toward an insult is the safe, sane and successful way to whip the insulter.

* * *

Take a sincere interest in your work, and a good management will take an interest in you.

* * *

Your job is the test that is put before you to see what you will do.

THE PRAYER OF CYRUS BROWN.

"The proper way for a man to pray,"

Said Deacon Jonathan Keyes,

"And the only proper attitude,
Is down upon his knees."

"No, I should say the way to pray,"

Said Reverend Dr. Wise,

"Is standing straight with outstretched
arms

And rapt and upturned eyes."

"Oh, no; no, no," said Elder Slow,

"Such posture is too proud:

A man should pray with eyes fast
closed

And head contritely bowed."

"Last year I fell in Hodgkin's well

Head first," said Cyrus Brown,

"With both my heels a-stickin' up,
And my head a-pointing down.

"And I made a prayer right then and
there—

Best prayer I ever said,

The prayingest prayer I ever prayed,
A-standing on my head!"

—Sam Walter Foss.

If you take it for your law to do as you like you will not like long what you do.

* * *

The earth is a school for God's children, and one of His best teachers is named Disappointment.

* * *

Those who have not tasted the bitterest of life's bitters cannot appreciate the sweetest of life's sweets.

* * *

It is always easier to criticise the small mistakes of others than it is to make a few large ones ourselves.

Never Mind the Critics Be Yourself.

The minute you try to regulate your life according to the blue-prints of somebody else, you're slipping.

The only successful way to be anything is to be yourself.

Certain conventions, of course, must be adhered to, but the fellow who gives all of his attention to convention and none of his creative energy to hewing a way of his own is like the canary in the cage—always on the move, but never getting anywhere.

Strike out for yourself. Dare to do the thing as seems best to you. Of course the world will criticise. The man who attempts anything and succeeds is sure to be barked at. But—does the big, bright moon pay any attention to the little yelping dog? Not a bit of it. It just keeps on about its business of shining.

And so, if you have a thought or a plan that will shine on a world that needs all the light it can get, for goodness' sake shine!

Never mind the critics. "Whoso would be a man," says Emerson, "must be a nonconformist." Conform with your ideals always, yes, but to blaze with doing and saying and being what everybody else does and says and is.

Patterns are for the unimaginative. Careers, like monuments, must be carved.

* * *

The One to Forgive You Is You.

You are closer to yourself than is any other person. Wrapped within you, and inner sealed, are the precious forces that explain to you what sort of a person you are. You are yourself because you are yourself. You can never be anybody else—notwithstanding the fact that there is within you a little bit of each and everyone who has lived before you, and lives now.

When you do wrong you hurt yourself. You are the greatest sufferer. No one can possibly realise the pain or remorse that your locked heart feels.

It's all there—shut, silent. Other people can't help a bit. They can criticise, smile or sneer at—but they cannot forgive. Real forgiveness must come out of yourself—then go back from whence it came. For you are the one most wronged by yourself. Therefore forgive yourself.

But forgive yourself openly and freely—making no exceptions.

And after you have done it, away with all sentimental bosh and blubber. You are then a new being. You are the same as though you were about to start new. Start then. And be happy in the matchless power that you have in forgiving yourself.

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THE REASONABLENESS OF PROHIBITION.

(By PRINCIPAL LADE).

As surely as the stick was meant for the snake's back and the axe for the neck of the barren hen, so Prohibition was made for "booze."

No man who studies the drink problem carefully should shy at Prohibition. Prohibition is the remedy that the nature of the liquor evil invites. The cure is precisely adapted to the disease. Drunkenness is a drug evil, just as surely as is the disorder of opium addiction. The man who is drunk is drugged. He may be reckless, weak-minded, unfortunate. He may be ill-born, badly trained, under economic pressure or subject to domestic irritation. Whatever other element enters into his condition the chief responsibility for his deplorable state rests upon a drug—the drug alcohol. Why then should we not adopt the same procedure in coping with the drink evil that we pursue in dealing with the opium evil? Our first line of defence against drug addiction in general is to reduce the accessibility of the drug. We confine the drugs morphia and cocaine, etc., to the shelves of the chemist. So satisfied are we that this is the sane and effective method that we do not establish Band of Hope or institute pledge-signing crusades against opium. Indeed, as regards the opium evil it may be said that we do not directly employ the method of moral suasion at all. We do not beseech men to abstain from opium. As far as we can we make it impossible for them to do anything else but abstain. We put the drug out of their reach and have no further worry. That the master method against drug evils is Prohibition all are agreed. The members of the Citizens' Rights and Liquor Reform Association, who so strenuously oppose the principle of the prohibition of the liquor traffic, are heartily in favor of the prohibition of the opium traffic. All their stock arguments concerning "the liberty of the subject" and the folly of trying to "make men moral by Act of Parliament" are abandoned when they have to deal with opium, of which the Chinese are the chief consumers. We can picture the hostile reception that would be accorded by the C.R. and L.R.A. to a deputation of Chinese gentlemen praying that their rights as moderate opium smokers might be respected. If it is an outrage to deprive the Australian of his alcoholic dope, on what grounds do we deny to the Chinaman his opium dope? If regulation and license is the sound method in the one case, why is it unsound in the other? Whilst it is freely conceded that alcohol is not so dangerous and mischievous a drug as opium, yet its ravages are on a scale to excite the deepest concern and to justify the most drastic remedies. Since these evils are akin in nature, though different in degree, it is hard to understand why Prohibition should be remorselessly applied in the one case and scoffed at in regard to the other. Is not the right of the Chinese gentleman to his pipe of

opium as indefensible as the right to the English gentleman to his glass of wine or beer? There are grave possibilities of abuse in both cases, and if to obviate that abuse the Government has the right to forbid the use of opium, it has an equal right to forbid the use of alcohol.

Let us pursue this analogy between alcohol and other drugs a step further. Suppose that out of a tearoom in Argyl-street men were observed to stagger daily at 6.30, flushed, talkative, and quarrelsome, unable to walk steadily and quite unfit to drive their motor cars, would we think the situation called for moral suasion or for police interference? Would we report our observations and suspicions to the Ministers or to the health officers? Would we contend that men had a perfect right to buy and sell doped cake and medicated sandwiches, and that the responsibility for the moderate use of these good creatures of God rested entirely on the consumers, and was no concern of the citizens generally? We are all agreed that a tea shop which served its clients thus should not and would not be allowed to carry on; and yet liquor shops which turn men out doped and dangerous are licensed all over the Commonwealth.

Having shown that Prohibition is sound in theory I now proceed to inquire how it works in practice. It will be granted, I think, that the attitude of the citizens of the United States towards Prohibition after eight years of trial is a better criterion of success or failure than statistics that are available for us. If Prohibition is such a screaming and costly farce as liquor advocates maintain, is it conceivable that the strict enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment would be inserted as a plank in the platform of each political party? If the dry measure were such an obvious failure as liquor propaganda suggests, why did the Senate Commission find that Prohibition "was economically sound and morally right"?

But as a set-off to the figures of the wet propaganda take these facts. Clarence Darrow, eminent criminal lawyer and avowed wet: "It is safe to say that statistics do not show that there is an increasing trend of crime in America. We must not confuse reports of murders with convictions for murder. During the month of March, 1923, in Chicago there were 26 cases of murder reported. It is extremely unlikely that more than two of them were cases of out-and-out murder. It was heralded to the world that in Chicago in 1922-1923 there were 498 murders. As a matter of fact convictions for murder were 82.

Statistics of convictions for drunkenness per year in British cities compared with arrests for the same crime in New York City from 1919-1925 per 10,000 of the population: Glasgow, 77; Liverpool, 68; Edinburgh, 99; New York, 13.9. In recent years, since the adoption of Prohibition in America, the convictions for drunkenness in London have run about three times the arrests in New York. Arrests for drunkenness per 10,000 in Paris per year for period 1911-1924, 50.5; in New York, 25.88. Berlin is half the size of New York. On New Year's night 1925-26 the police made 450 arrests in Berlin alone. Six were killed, 353 were wounded in drunken brawls, and there were eleven attempts at suicide.

A few months ago there were about 6000 smuggling, moonshining and bootlegging cases pending in the Courts of Germany.

The British Industrial Commission, after a thorough investigation of American industrial conditions, reported in 1927: "Prohibition is responsible for American prosperity in two ways: First, a great decrease in absenteeism and a great improvement in the quality of the output; second, the withdrawal of hundreds of millions of dollars from worse than useless channels to circulation in advantageous trade."

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A Personal Chat with my readers

AN UNUSUAL WILL.

I have known Christian people sign an atheist will—that is, a will that denied, ignored and excluded God. I have known Christian people will their means to their children knowing that such wealth would accelerate every evil tendency and indulge every weakness which they deplored. You may wonder if there is any place for Christianity in Business or Politics, but surely there is no room for even a shadow of a doubt that your faith and your devotion to Him who died to be your Saviour, and now lives to be your Friend, should be declared in an unmistakable way in your "last will and testament." I was very struck by the following portion of a will lodged for probate last week in Melbourne.

Mr. William McCleary, a retired school teacher, made a will on January 12, 1928, leaving £3839. His will may be called "the will of a grateful man," and is one of the very, very few such wills I have heard of:

To Mr. George Woodhouse, head teacher of the Grahamvale State School, Mr. McCleary left £500 "as a slight recompense for a kind and profitable act which he formerly did for me." To Mrs. Ethel May Cooper, who was sewing mistress in the Orrvale State School during the years, or part of the years 1914-15-16, Mr. McCleary left £700. In his will he said: "About 12.30 p.m. Miss Anderson would arrive at school, after coming 3½ or four miles, and she was generally tired. The junior teacher and I would assail her with difficult pieces of poetry or difficult words, and request explanations. She good-naturedly explained them to her own satisfaction, and generally to the satisfaction of our critical and censorious minds. This sum is bequeathed as a solatium for any exasperation that we may have caused her thoughtlessly or banteringly." A sum of £700 was also given to Mr. John Ambrose Murphy. "This is given for his kind acts and for his pleasant companionship during a period of seven years while I was boarding and lodging at his father's house at Devenish West."

Mr. McCleary also gave £200 to the Inglewood Hospital, of which he was an inmate for two or three months about 35 years ago. He bequeathed to the Goulburn Valley St. George Lodge of Freemasons £200, to be placed to the lodge's charity funds. The balance of his estate will go to the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Victoria, to be applied to the fund known as the King Edward VII. memorial scholarship fund.

RELIGION IN BUSINESS.

The following is quite as unusual and striking as the will I have just referred to:

Marshall, Field and Co., Chicago, Illinois, have an unbroken record of 75 years' observance of the day of rest. This well-known firm explained the reasons in their 75th anniversary newspaper advertisements. The copy informed readers that the founders had an old-fashioned background, and drew the shades Saturday night, because they felt the seventh day should be devoted to rest, worship and family life, with freedom from thought of business. The present owners are actuated by the fine ideals of the founders, and concluded the impressive story with: "Is this old-fashioned custom good in days when so many old-fashioned customs are being crowded out? We like to think so. We like the idea that on the first day of the week the church and the home should come first. Strong churches and strong homes build strong cities. All the great words of business—service and courtesy and kindness and truth—have their inspiration in religion. And prosperity is only permanent where there is reverence and mutual trust and faith."

* * *

EFFORT.

In a week or so you will be looking at the school report of your boy or girl. I wonder if you make it the occasion of a little confidential and affectionate talk with your child.

We are all responsive to a word of encouragement, and we are all attracted to those whom we feel understand us, and children even more so than we grown-ups. The following lines are not poetry, but they are wholesome sense:

He brought me his report card from the teacher, and he said

He wasn't very proud of it, and sadly hung his head.

He was excellent in reading, but arithmetic was fair,

And I noticed that there were several "unsatisfactory" there;

But one little bit of credit which was given brought me joy—

He was "excellent in effort," and I fairly hugged the boy.

"Oh, it doesn't make much difference what is written on your card,"

I told that little fellow, "if you're only trying hard.

The 'very goods' and 'excellents' are fine, I must agree,

But the effort you are making means a whole lot more to me,

GRIT

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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.

Office: Room 712, 160 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.
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Postal Address: Box 390F, G.P.O., Sydney.

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SYDNEY, THURSDAY, NOV. 29, 1928.

And the thing that's most important when this card is put aside

Is, to know, in spite of failure, that to do your best you've tried.

"Just keep excellent in effort, all the rest will come to you.

There isn't any problem but some day you'll learn to do,

And at last, when you grow older, you will come to understand

That by hard and patient toiling men have risen to command,

And some day you will discover when a greater goal's at stake

That better far than brilliance is the effort you will make."

* * *

We all know the handshake that makes us feel as if we had just taken a dead fish in our hand.
A LOOK AND A TOUCH. We know the "cold look," the absence of sparkle in the eye that gives the lie to the words of welcome.

'Tis the human touch in this world that counts,

The touch of your hand and mine, Which means far more to the fainting heart Than shelter and bread and wine.

For shelter is gone when the night is o'er, And bread lasts only a day,

But the touch of the hand and the sound of the voice Sing on in the soul away.

No one is impressed with "gush," "smug compliments" or "frothy inquiries." It is the sincerity, the real interest, that we appreciate and that we do well to cultivate.

Benjamin Jowett wrote: "It is a hard thing to be in the world and not of it; to be outwardly much like other people, and yet to be

(Continued on page 10.)

POLITICIANS AND THE LIQUOR EVIL.

CORRUPTION IS NOT A PARTY LIABILITY, IF YOU CAN IGNORE YOUR ACCUSERS LONG ENOUGH OR PLAY MARTYR.

By ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

Frank Richardson Kent is a journalist known in U.S.A. for his daily column appearing in many papers on "The Great Game of Politics." He asserts in his new book "Political Behavior" that "politics is a concrete profession practised for livelihood by men who, for the most part, train themselves as consciously as do lawyers, doctors and dentists." There are big souled amateurs, however, who break into politics, but they don't last long.

I can recall E. J. Loxton, K.C., in this State, and the press this week tells of another:

"Canberra is a comfortable club for members and a nightmare for civil servants," said Mr. W. Watson, M.H.R., explaining why he is not seeking re-election.

"It appears to me that the chief aim of politics is to create as much trouble as possible between employers and workers," he said, "and then to make political capital out of the bother."

"During the last session I got heartily sick of it all, and would leave the Chamber for the billiard-room to escape the meaningless wrangle."

"To sum up, Parliament is not a bad place for members, providing they are satisfied with a position that keeps people in a state of turmoil and supplies the press with controversial and exciting copy."

Technique in politics is the art of seeming to say something without doing so. This requires much practice and some natural gift.

The cardinal principle of a well-grounded politician is that it is folly to discuss live issues unless forced to do so.

Politicians are no worse than lawyers, doctors or parsons. The lawyer pulls the wool over the eyes of the jury, the doctor colors the water, makes it bitter and charges 10/6 for nothing; the parson, well, he covers up a lot of his ignorance and laziness under a nice social manner, and the politician just humbugs the voters who generally respond to being well and truly humbugged.

THE HON. J. R. LEE.

It will be remembered that Mr. Lee was a lay preacher in the Methodist Church. He was attracted to politics as a sphere in which there was abundant scope for his sincere desire to make the world a better place to live in.

Mr. Lee came into prominence when Mr. T. J. Ley achieved notoriety in 1923 by fixing in the Liquor Amendment Bill 1928 as the year for a referendum, when he had pledged himself definitely and without equivocation to an immediate referendum, which he defined as one within twelve months. Mr. Lee, in spite of having pledged himself to an immediate referendum, joined

the Hon. Albert Bruntnell and supported Mr. Ley. It was both inexcusable and unpardonable, but then it did not really matter politically since the anti-liquor vote was not organized and could be held in contempt.

Mr. Lee having acted as Government Whip was in line for preferment.

He was not a lawyer, and had of course no qualifications for the position of Minister for Justice, but then many a lay man had been Minister for Health; a former Minister for Railways had for his sole qualification the fact that he once did six months' temporary work as cleaner on the railways, and therefore there was excellent precedent for making Mr. Lee Minister for Justice.

A LETTER TO MR. LEE.

The following letter was sent to Mr. Lee:

"May I recall the significant action of the late John Storey in refusing to obey the law and fix a date for the liquor referendum in 1919, also the very great determination of Mr. Lang, who overcame unprecedented obstacles in extending the hours for the sale of liquor to 8 p.m.

"One cannot help asking, Is determination and strength to be exclusively exercised in favor of the liquor interests?

"Your Government has definitely pledged itself to a Liquor Reform Bill. A majority of the Cabinet are confessedly out of sympathy with the liquor evil. Will you now show such strength and determination as will add immensely to your prestige and good name?

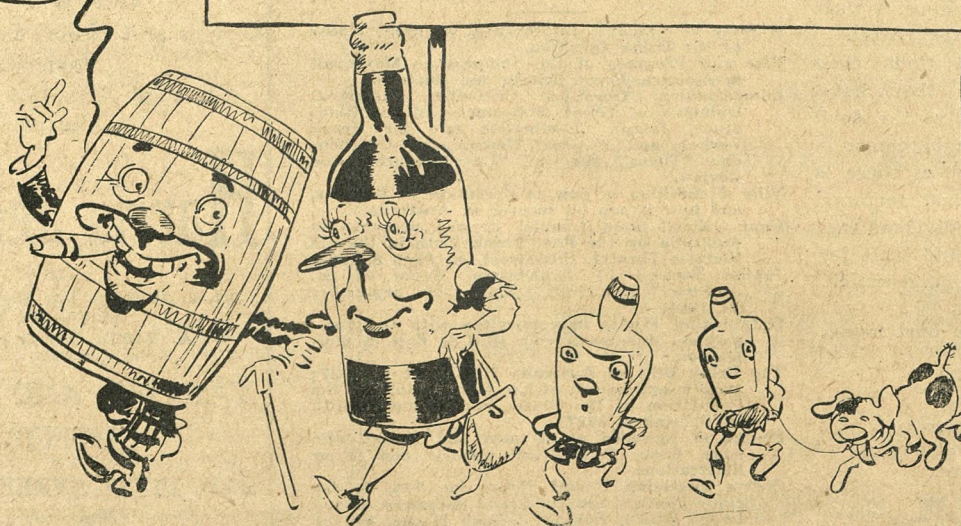
"For 15 years anti-liquor people were kept from their right, provided by law, of expressing themselves on the liquor evil. It

(Continued on page 10.)

WEEKLY MESSAGE.

"POLITICS IS THE ONLY WELL-OILED MACHINE THAT GENERATES FRICTION."

THE BLOKE WHO SAID THAT MUST KNOW SOMETHING. EH! MISSUS?



THE LIQUOR QUESTION IN POLITICS.



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A Personal Chat with My Readers—

(Continued from page 8.)

cherishing an ideal which extends over the whole of life and beyond; to have a natural love for everyone, and to get rid, not of wit and good humor, but of frivolity and excitement—to live selfless according to the will of God, and not after the fashion of men and women."

* * *

THE BIGNESS OF THE INSIGNIFICANCE.

We are so easily hoodwinked and size impresses us, and material things seem most of all desirable.

I was very much struck with some lines I read in the New York "Churchman." Here they are:

"The lichens hush the granite into dust,
 The iron shield trembles at the raindrop's thrust,
 The sunbeam pockets the glacier snow:
 Love blossoms out of hates of long ago."

* * *

THE PRICE OF PARENTHOOD.

Many are now shirking parenthood, and the carelessness of their early days is paid for when they sit alone in the evening of their life, unloved and haunted by bitter regrets.

Parenthood pays cash and finds their children the best possession they have. Those who shirk parenthood give the devil a post-dated cheque, and when he comes in the chill of the evening to collect there is no way out—we pay to the last farthing. Godly children are the greatest dividend that may enrich those who watch and wait for the call Home. Mouzon W. Brabham writes:

Father, to-day I bring to thee
 This boy of mine whom thou hast made;
 In everything he looks to me;
 In turn I look to thee for aid.
 He knows not all that is before;
 He little dreams of hidden snares;
 He holds my hand, and o'er and o'er
 I find myself beset with fears.

Father, as this boy looks up to me
 For guidance and my help implores,
 I bring him now in prayer to thee;
 He trusts my strength and I trust yours.

Hold thou my hand as I hold his,
 And so guide me that I may guide;
 Teach me, Lord, that I may teach,
 And keep me free from foolish pride.

Help me to help this boy of mine,
 To be to him a father true;
 Hold me, Lord, for everything,
 As fast I hold my boy for you.

The Editor

A BOOK EVERYBODY SHOULD READ

THE GOOD TEMPLAR MOVEMENT.

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Politicians and the Liquor Law—

(Continued from page 9.)

is surely a reasonable and small thing to ask that the Government provide in an emergency Amending Liquor Act that no further licenses be granted until the promised Reform Bill becomes law. You impose no hardship on any community in doing this, and it is in harmony with your promise of reform, and will meet with very wide approval. Any refusal of this reasonable request can be easily used to discredit the Government, and you know how suspicious the public have grown at the special protection, privilege or favor extended to the trade that is generally credited with paying for all it gets."

ALWAYS FAVORING LIQUOR.

In the last twenty-five years in N.S.W. there is no single instance when any Parliament has done a strong thing to protect the public against the liquor exploiters.

Every proposal to limit the liquor evil has been postponed, handicapped or thrown out. Always the strength has been on the side of this wicked monopoly. This, of course, is due to the fact that politicians hold the Prohibitionists in supreme contempt, and on the other hand they greatly esteem the favors of the liquor people "whose trade is their politics," and even more greatly fear them.

The average politician has no regard for what you think, say or believe; it is how you vote that concerns him. To date there is no evidence that the anti-liquor vote is of sufficient importance to inspire strength and straightness on the liquor issue.

It is true 350,000 people voted for Prohibition at any price on September 1, but they are a rabble politically, and until they are organised the public will obtain no protection from the growing menace of alcohol.

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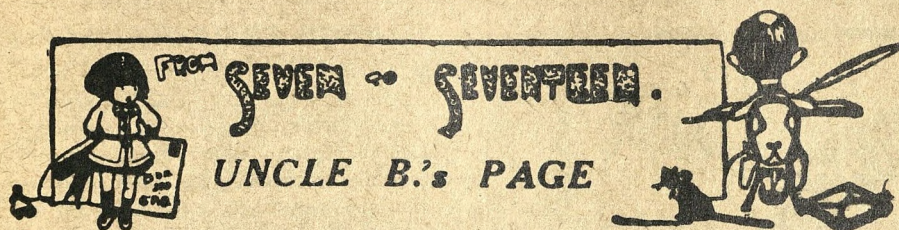
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THE VALUE OF A PROMISE.

Promises play a tremendous part in our lives. Our success, our happiness and our goodness all depend on promises. Keeping one's word counts for more with a banker than anything else. It creates credit. No one can go far as a borrower unless he pays when he says he will. A broken promise means a broken borrower. The banker tips you off as unreliable, and you get no more credit.

A careless promise may destroy your good name. Be slow to make promises, and very much slower to break them. Our homes are built on promises, for when two people begin to break their marriage promises then the home begins to go to pieces.

Our friendships are dependent on promises, and few friendships can survive a broken promise. Our religion is entirely based on promises—God's promises to us, and ours to Him. Have you ever made a list of all the promises you have ever made? That is a very wise thing to do. They are more valuable than money in the bank. Promises are the fibre of your character, and broken promises are like holes in a window.

UNCLE B.

OUR LETTER BAG.

UNCLE JIM.

Arthur Woodman, Forge Creek, Victoria, writes: We have a lot of flowers at "Romawi." Uncle Jim lives there. He is going to make me a scooter. He tells me stories, and helps me draw boats. We have five kittens, as well as those ten cats.

(Dear Arthur,—So you have an Uncle Jim, and he seems the right sort of uncle if he makes scooters and tells stories. You will have lots to tell me in your next letter, for it will include the Christmas time.—Uncle B.).

A LOVELY PLACE.

Vera Waddell, Arcadia, via Hornsby, writes: I am very pleased that I receive a "Grit" every week. I like reading it, so does mother and father. I like going to school. I am in second class at school. There are seven children besides myself. We go in a subsidised buggy. I live two miles from school, so you see it is a long walk, although there are other children who have much further to walk than that. Have you ever been to Arcadia? I am sure you would think it a pretty place. There are orchards everywhere. I would not like to

leave it, as I like it very much. We have a horse and a cow, and three cats and a dog and several hundred fowls, so you see we have quite a lot to look after. I feed the chickens every morning and afternoon when I come home from school.

(Dear Vera,—I am so glad you live in such a lovely place, and like it so much. It is such a pity when people do not like the place they live in. It is a good rule, if you can't have what you like, to like what you have.—Uncle B.).

A GOOD STORY.

Aubrey Dawson, Kokako Native School, Waikaremoana, Wairoa, N.Z., writes: I hope when you come over to New Zealand you will visit your N's and Ne's in Tual. I have just been reading in "Grit" Jack Wilsher's story about the little sick girl that ate the carrots instead of drinking the claret. A Maori boy in our school, called Major Iriwhare, said, when he heard the story: "The next time I am ill I will eat carrots, and see if I get better." Here is a good story told by Canon Wilberforce. It has a good moral in it. The story is called "What Spoiled His Sleep." A little boy heard his father, when he came down to breakfast, muttering and feeling very uncomfortable, as most men feel after drinking over night. "I had a dreadful dream last night," he said, "and I can't get over it. All night long there seemed to be three rats sitting on my chest. One rat was a fat one, one was a thin one, and the other was a blind one." "Father, I can tell you what that dream means," said the lad. "You can?" asked the father. "Yes, I can," he replied. "The fat rat was the publican; the blind rat, father, was yourself; and the thin rat was mother and me." I think there

is a good lesson in this story. After school I work in a grocer's shop. When I go round for orders I am going to deliver some of the literature you sent us. I am going to sow some Prohibition seeds, and I hope we will reap Prohibition in N.Z. some day.

(Dear Aubrey,—I am glad you told us that story; it is a very good and true one. I am so very, very sorry I was unable to come to New Zealand to help in your poll, but, alas, I am very much overworked and tied up with many responsibilities.—Uncle B.)

FROM N.Z.

Joe Glass, Kokako Native School, Hawkes Bay, N.Z., writes: It is a long time since I wrote to you. I think that you think I am a scallywag, "but better late than never." Miss Harlow read us your letter. We hope that when you come over to New Zealand you will come and see us. Then we will take you to see our beautiful Lake Waikaremoana, and we will have a picnic there. I wish there weren't any hotels in New Zealand. This would be a better country to live in. Here are some puzzles for my cousins: 1. What pudding makes the best cricketer? Batter. 2. What liquid never freezes? Hot water.

(Dear Joe,—I am very disappointed to miss the picnic you promised me, but perhaps I will come over and see you some day. Thank you for those puzzles.—Uncle B.)

(Continued on page 12.)

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Seven to Seventeen—

(Continued from page 11.)

WHAT A FEAST!

Molly Matamua, Kokako Native School, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand, writes: Will you have me for one of your Ni's? This is the first time I've written to you. I hope you will come up here some time. We will be glad if you come up here for your holidays. Some of the children are writing to cousin Huirua Erueti. She is sick in the Napier Hospital. Her eyes were very bad, but they are better now. We had a big feast at the party yesterday. We had jelly, peaches, fruit salad, cherries, plum puddings, cake, pork and potatoes (cooked in a Maori oven), mince pies, jam tarts, and many other nice things. It was King Waipatu's birthday. Did you like parties when you were a little boy, Uncle B.? My brother Mac. is ill to-day, and cannot come to school. I think he ate too much mince pie at the birthday party.

(Dear Molly,—That was a tremendous feast. I wonder you were not all ill. You know when I was a boy they used to say, "All boys have hollow legs." That was the only explanation as to how they managed to eat so much. I am so pleased you are my Ni, and hope you will send me your photo.—Uncle B.)

A WORTH-WHILE DISTINCTION.

Fanny Sullivan, 3 Kennedy-street, Dubbo, writes: The Dubbo Eight-Hour sports were on Monday, October 1. We all went over to see the procession. It was very good. I went in one of the races, but did not win a prize. One of my brothers got sixpence and the other one won one shilling. Our school started on Tuesday again. I came top in our quarterly examination and captain of "A" block. I take charge of thirteen girls in our class. We have four blocks—"A," "B," "C," "D."

(Dear Fanny,—It would, of course, have been nice if your legs had brought you, in first in the race, but it is much better that your brains brought you out top in your

class. Brains are better than legs, anyhow.—Uncle B.)

FROM TASSIE.

Aubrey Locke, "Pomona," Premaydena, Tasmania, writes: It is a long time since I wrote to you, Uncle. I had a post card sent to me from Big Brother Joe Longton. It was a nice one. I also had a letter from Mr. Arnold Ford, who said he came to know me through my letter in "Grit." He also sent me a packet of stamps, which were very nice. They were all new to me except three. The weather is getting warmer now, but in some parts of Tasmania there have been floods.

(Dear Aubrey,—I am glad you wrote again. It is nice to have Ne's and Ni's in every State. I am glad Big Brother Joe sent you a card. He is truly a most wonderful man. How many different kinds of stamps have you? I may be able to send you some.—Uncle B.)

Father and Son Welfare Movement

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LARGE BREWERY PROFITS.

Absorption of competing concerns has enabled Carlton and United Breweries, Ltd. (Melbourne) to show great expansion in earnings in recent years. Net profit for 1914 was reported at £274,115. That for the year ended June 30 last is shown at £442,021, an increase of £25,731 on the previous year's admitted result.

Increased amounts are disbursed among shareholders. Both preference and ordinary capital received 17½ per cent., against 16½ per cent. for the previous year, and absorbing £341,250, while £2500 is paid to four vendor companies. Transfer of £98,271 is made to reserves.

Shareholders' funds total £3,195,628, of which £17,500,000 is ordinary capital, £200,000 preference capital, £1,072,503 reserves, and £173,125 profit and loss credit balance. Outside liabilities amount to £393,510. Against these stand assets aggregating £3,589,138, of which £800,000 represents purchase considerations, goodwill, etc., £248,065 brewery freeholds, £454,402 hotel freeholds, £377,315 plant, £316,829 stock, £937,396 sundry debtors, and £362,443 cash.

A PILGRIM IN PICARDY.

(By B. S. Toureroe, 1927.)

Garden Cities Without Alcohol.—At Longueau (a suburb of Amiens), the Garden City of the Nord Railway Co., is one of the modern industrial developments. The company has built, up to 1927, some 15,000 houses for those who were homeless in 35 centres, the larger of these garden cities being at Longueau, Tergnier, Lens and Arras, and smaller ones are at Valenciennes, Bethune, Rouge, and other places. In all these an effort is made to assist parents to bring up healthy children with some knowledge of craft. There are creches, maternity homes, beautifully-planned schools, with large opening windows, dispensaries, etc. There are night schools, libraries, music halls, gymnastic and sport clubs, and this is all run on business lines, the residents having a voice in the management.

There has been an amazing decrease in the infantile death rate, and the birth rate has risen each year. Plenty of ground is around each house, and pets of many kinds are kept—goats, rabbits, pigeons, dogs, fowls, etc. In the pregnant words of the author, "It has been found the wisest policy not to allow the sale of alcohol." Could it be otherwise in a garden city?

During 1927 there were imported into West Africa the following quantities of spirits: Nigeria, 619,674 gallons; Gold Coast, 1,295,712; Sierra Leone, 38,236; Gambia, 3674. With the exception of Gambia the figures show a considerable increase compared with 1926.

PASS "GRIT" ON.

**TRUE AFFINITIES.****DEPASS-KEY.**

An announcement received from Mr. and Mrs. Victor Hamilton DePass of Jacksonville, Florida, is the engagement of their sister, Miss Isabel Foster DePass to James Turner Key of Columbia.

GALE-BREESE.

Zona Gale is now the wife of William Breese. Weather prediction: Little cyclones around the house.

* * *

PAROCHIAL GRATITUDE.

"St — 's, Regent's Park, is being closed during August for repairs. A special thanksgiving service is being held at 11 a.m. to-morrow."—Evening paper.

* * *

RETICENCE RECORD.

H. L. Loveless testified in his suit for divorce that his wife had kept silent for fourteen months. This beats the previous record of fourteen seconds held jointly by several women.

* * *

BALKY AT THE POST.

Helen: "So Peggy's new boy's a Scotchman? How does he treat her?"

Mabel: "Very reluctantly, I believe."

NEW CANADIAN CATHEDRAL ORGANS, by Sherlock Manning.

Church and Home Models, 21 Stops,
12 Sets Reeds.

These instruments are capable of the combination of a Pipe Organ. Very Powerful Tone, and easily operated bellows. Considered by several eminent Organists the greatest Organ value in Sydney.

CASH OR TERMS.

Sole Agents:

G. H. MARTIN and CO.,

10 Queen Victoria Buildings,
GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY.

PUSS! PUSS! PUSS!

A grammar school boy handed in the following composition on "cats."

"Cats that's meant for little boys to maul and tease is called Maultese cats. Some cats is reckernised by how quiet their purrs is and these is named Purrsian cats. The cats what has very bad tempers is called Angorie cats, and cats with deep feelins is called Feline cats. I don't like cats."

* * *

CLASSIFIED NEWS.

Caller: "Look here, I want to see you about this paragraph announcing my resignation from the Chamber of Commerce."

Editor: "But it's quite true, isn't it?"

Caller: "Quite. But I should like you to explain why you've printed it under 'Public Improvements.'"

* * *

TOUCHING FIDELITY.

Mae: "Since you have broken your engagement to Jim because your feelings toward him aren't the same, why do you keep his ring?"

Mabel: "Because my feelings toward the ring are still the same as ever!"

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

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

You will never regret the expenditure of ONE SHILLING in providing yourself and family with knowledge on the most important subject of sex in the purest style.

THE AUSTRALASIAN WHITE CROSS LEAGUE,

56 ELIZABETH STREET, SYDNEY.
W. E. WILSON, Hon. Secretary.

WHO'S WHO IN BARGAIN LAND.

Shopgirl (to another behind the counter, as a customer comes in): "Mamie, will you wait on this woman?" (Then to the customer): "This lady will wait on you."

*** SO CARELESS.**

Lives of great men all remind us,
As their pages o'er we turn,
That we're apt to leave behind us
Letters that we ought to burn.

GREAT SALE OF LANTERN SLIDES.

The Rev. J. J. WILLINGS, who is to sail for England in the New Year, desires to sell a large stock of Lantern Slides: Scenic, Lectures, Comics, Stories, Temperance, and Religious.

Lists on application.

Prices from 5d. each. Apply early.

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Invalids, and Others
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DAILY INSPIRATION.

By FAIRELIE THORNTON.

SUNDAY.

"The Lord did not set His love upon you, nor choose you because ye were more in number than any people, for ye were the fewest of all people. But because the Lord loved you, and because He would keep His oath which He had sworn unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen."—Deut. 7, 7, 8.

The children of Israel, we are told in the New Testament, were typical of all the children of God, who should have the faith of Abraham, although not his natural descendants. God chose this nation to illustrate His dealings with men. All these things were written for our example, the Apostle to the Gentiles writes. God's love and tender care and guidance of these people was but a sample of His tenderness to all who will take Him as their deliverer.

Many start out in the Christian life when their hearts are young and tender. They take Jesus as their Friend and companion at the beginning of life's journey, and go forth from the bondage of sin to follow Him. Their hearts are full of love as they realise the love of Jesus to them. No cloud dims the simple childlike trust which they place in Him. No shadow or doubt crosses their minds. But as years pass on, and the sophistries of men assault their faith, as they begin, too, to see something of the holiness of God and the infinite depth of sin, their belief in His special love for them becomes somewhat dimmer. As they look at themselves for some reason for the love of God to themselves they find none, and the simple faith of a little child is replaced by a sort of clinging to a forlorn hope, while they sigh in vain for the joyful experience they seem somehow to have lost back in the years of long ago. We should remember that God does not love us for what we are, but for what He is. Looking at ourselves we shall find no reason for satisfaction there, and the more we grow in His grace the less we shall see of good in ourselves. It is only by "looking unto Jesus, the author and FINISHER of our faith," that we can persevere to the end. Just in proportion as His love we see so will our love to our Redeemer be, and we can only love Him because He first loved us when there was nothing in us to love.

MONDAY.

"O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"—Matt. 14, 31.

When Peter essayed to come to Jesus on the water he forgot everything but his desire to reach his Master. That faith which enabled him to make the plunge held him up, but as soon as he looked away from Jesus, and saw the waves were boisterous, immediately he began to sink. If you once take your eye off the Saviour, and begin looking for anything in yourself or elsewhere to save you, you, too, will begin to sink. From first to last there is only one hope of salvation. He is the Alpha and Omega of our faith and our salvation. All our good works will have to be thrown overboard. We can only enter the port empty-handed. All our righteousness is of Him, and every virtue we possess, and every victory won, are His alone. Of all the redeemed it was said, "They overcame him—the enemy—by the BLOOD OF THE LAMB."

TUESDAY.

"O give thanks unto the Lord. He is good, for His mercy endureth forever."—Ps. 107.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for His mercy endureth forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, for His kindness faileth never.

They wandered in a solitary way; they found no lasting city,
Hungry and thirsty they fainted, but He saved them in His pity.
They rebelled against His precepts; they fought against His Spirit,
He sent His angels to deliver, for He would not disinherit.
They murmured in their blindness, though He sent them food from heaven,
Yet still He showed His kindness, and again they were forgiven.
He saved from their distresses, when they asked Him to deliver.
Their foes He backward presses, and refused to help them never.
They sought Him when He slew them, but when He saved, forgetting,
They turned to earthly idols, and the sin so oft besetting.
Yet patiently He bore them all through the days of old.
His cloud still floated o'er them, His love ne'er once grew cold.
O give thanks unto the Lord, His mercy faileth never:
'Tis God is our God; yea, forever and forever.

WEDNESDAY.

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."—Prov., 28-13.

God is very long-suffering and patient, but we must not presume on His kindness. There is a danger in dwelling on the everlasting mercy of God, of the sinner taking advantage of His goodness, by indulging in his evil propensities. Although God was so patient and long-suffering with His people of old, yet punishment invariably followed the offence. God was said to inflict it, but in reality the sin brought its own punishment. When the people murmured against the food God had provided, which was sufficient to supply all the nourishment they required, He granted their desire and sent quails. But what was the consequence? They filled themselves until the food became a poison in the system, and many fell from the disease engendered thereby. Sin does not injure God, but the sinner. He is grieved for the sinner's sake, and has given all His laws in His great kindness and consideration for the welfare of the creatures He has made. If man infringes those laws, he must pay the penalty. Yet still God waits patiently, hoping He will turn from his folly, and is willing to help man to overcome the sin which doth so easily beset human nature, whatever that sin may be. "His mercy is upon them that fear Him." That mercy is always ready for those who will confess and forsake their sin.

THURSDAY.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul! Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thy diseases, Who redeemeth thy life from destruction, Who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies."—Ps., 103, 3-4.

Forgive, O Saviour! each unworthy feeling,
Each thought which has not come direct from Thee;

Each word, the fruit of sinful thought, revealing

The want of love and inward charity.
All actions which alone from self-love springing

Have not found favor, Jesus, in Thy sight.
All needless care, from want of faith, grief bringing—

All doubt and darkness where there should be light.

All deeds undone which might have helped another,

All words unsaid which might have saved some soul.

All willingness God's call to work to smother,
All shrinking from the call to reach some goal.

All want of courage to stand out with boldness

Upon the side of truth, when men would sneer.

All lack of zeal for God's own cause—all coldness—

All dread of ills to come—all coward fear.

Forgive each sin by me long since forgotten;

All sin I never thought to be a sin.

All darkness by my want of light begotten,
O come! and make all clean and new within.

Let Thine own Spirit purge my inmost being
And dwell therein, the root of every good.
So shall I dwell within the light all-seeing,
In perfect peace, and be with love imbued.

FRIDAY.

"Thou knowest my thought afar off."

We see our surface thoughts, but seldom fathom the depths beneath. Often our motives are far other than we think. Of course, things from the depths often rise to the surface, but there is much there that we have never guessed. But God's omniscient eye can pierce where human gaze is blind. He sees the hidden works that move the springs of action. "There is not a word in my tongue, but Thou, O Lord, knowest altogether." "He is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Not a word! Think of the words you have ever uttered—thoughtless words, unkind words—perhaps deceitful words; idle words, impatient words—each the expression of your thought; and He has noted them all. What need to pray, "Keep a watch, O Lord, over my lips; keep the door of my mouth, and let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be always acceptable in Thy sight"?

SATURDAY.

"As he thinketh in his heart, so is he."—Prov., 23-7.

Think kind thoughts, and thou shalt find Kindness in another's mind.

Do kind deeds, and thou shalt see Those good deeds come back to thee.

He who looks with jaundiced eye
Many specks in all can spy.

Love will look for good in all;

Love an answering love can call.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR XMAS PRESENTS?

Save shopping, and send for Fairlie Thornton's Gift Books.

"Heart Cheer," 1/6; "The Southern Cross," 1/6; "Sunset Gleams," 2/6. Postage, 2d each. Also "Kindly Greeting" Cards, with verse, by Fairlie Thornton, six different in packet, for 1/1, post free. The whole series sent post free for 7/- from Wm. Tyas, 558 George-street, Sydney; Christian Workers' Depot, 145 Commonwealth-street, Sydney, or others.

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PROHIBITION AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

By HAVEN EMERSON, M.D., Professor of Public Health at the Columbia University, New York.

While it is not possible to prove that all the reductions of sickness and death rates, and all the benefits to the home and the family which have been widely observed throughout the United States in recent years have resulted from the outlawing of the commercial traffic in alcoholic beverages, it is both evident and wholly reasonable to believe that the greatest single influence, not previously brought to bear upon the conditions of life in our country, which has caused in whole or in part the improved security of life, the greater material wealth and better standards of the family and the home, especially among the mass of wage-earners and particularly as affecting women and young people, has been the reduction in the use of alcohol for beverage purposes. These effects, so far as sickness and death records are concerned, were most striking and of great importance in the first two years of national Prohibition.

Following the sudden and unprecedented drop in deaths and sickness, which came immediately upon the taking effect of Prohibition legislation, to be seen in the experience of the year 1920, there was a reaction, cultivated by law-breakers of all kinds and by large masses of persons especially in the eastern and north-eastern cities and States, particularly those of foreign birth or parentage, which in part nullified the influence of the Prohibition amendment and its enforcement Act and caused a marked return towards the conditions which had prevailed before national Prohibition.

At no time since 1920 have the conditions, social, medical, or economic, been as bad as they were prior to that date, except that in a few cities of the eastern coast, representing no more than 7 per cent. of the entire population of the country, the death rate from acute alcoholism has within the past two years nearly reached the pre-Prohibition level.

The following are the more important items offered as evidence of benefits due chiefly, if not wholly, to the direct and indirect results of Prohibition:

1. The death rate from alcoholism fell to 19 per cent. of the pre-Prohibition rate, and in spite of subsequent rises the rate is now less than 75 per cent. of the pre-Prohibition rate. Only in the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, where the violations of the law have been most flagrant and public opinion strongly alcoholic, has the death rate from alcoholism in any single year since pre-Prohibition equalled the average rate of the last seven pre-Prohibition years.

2. The death rate from cirrhosis of the liver fell to fifty-four and three tenths per cent. and has never been nearer than fifty-seven and four-tenths per cent. to the pre-Prohibition rate.

3. The general death rate (all ages, all causes) has for the entire post-Prohibition period been at a lower level than in any single year before Prohibition.

4. The reduction in the general death rate has been more marked for women up to thirty-five and for both sexes under twenty than for the population as a whole.

5. The male death rate from all causes has in the decades under forty-five years more nearly approached that of females than at any other similar period.

6. The tuberculosis death rate has fallen at all ages and for both sexes and for both whites and negroes faster than for any previous period.

7. Admissions to mental diseases hospitals for alcoholic psychoses have been at a lower rate in proportion to all admissions since Prohibition than for any previous similar period of time.

8. There have been apparently a reduction in the incidence of cases of drug addiction, coming under hospital care at the same time that there has been a reduction in hospital admissions for acute alcoholism.

9. There has been an actual increase (in terms of the value of the dollar in 1913) in the savings insurance policies, and assets of building loan associations per capita of the population at a rate not previously experienced.

10. There has been less delinquency from alcoholism.

11. There have been fewer crimes against chastity.

12. There has been less brutality to and neglect of children in their homes because of alcoholism.

13. A small fraction of all material relief is now needed because of alcoholism as a cause of dependency.

14. There has been an increase in the proportion of all children who have continued in school beyond the minimum grades required by law.

15. A large proportion of the commercial, philanthropic, State and other institutions for the care of alcoholic patients have been closed since Prohibition.

16. The conditions of the aged and infirm in county and other poor farms have improved and the mean ages of almshouse inmates have increased from forty-four to sixty-six years among men and from thirty-three to sixty-one among women inmates.

17. There has been an increase in the per capita consumption of milk and milk products at a faster rate than during any similar period before Prohibition.

These statements are all supported by figures drawn from reports of the Bureau of the Census at Washington or other official sources and by charts computed from these figures.

LIQUOR BANNED FOR ELECTION IN NICARAGUA.

By order of President Adolfo Diaz of Nicaragua the sale or possession on one's person of distilled liquors will be forbidden throughout the country on certain specified days during the registration and voting period. The President came to this decision after conference with the National Board of Elections. The order will be enforced by the Nicaraguan National Guard. The decree provides that all Government distilleries and liquor warehouses shall be padlocked on September 1 and the keys deposited with officers of the National Guard. The possession of aguardiente, the native brandy, is forbidden between noon on September 17 and noon on November 10. The purchase and sale of other distilled liquors is barred on each of the five registration days and on election day, and also for the twenty-four hours preceding and following each of these dates.

HE OUGHT TO KNOW.

HOTEL OWNER'S ADVOCACY.

"The United States, in my opinion, is better off with Prohibition," said Mr. J. F. Child, who controls a chain of residential hotels in Hawaii.

Mr. Child arrived from Honolulu by the Sonoma, and with Mrs. Child and his son intends visiting the capital cities with a view to inquiring into the hotel business.

"Whether Prohibition is a success or not," he answered in reply to a question, "the United States seems to be doing pretty well. Of course," he added, smilingly, "I may change my opinion after I have completed my tour of Australia."—*"S. M. Herald."*

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J D.P. Digesto

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PASS "GRIT" ON

GRIT SUBSCRIPTIONS

'Grit' subscriptions received to 23/11/23, and where not mentioned the amount is 11s.: Mr. Evan Griffiths, 24s. 9d.; Mrs. Hobson, 15/11/29; Master Keith Hart, 17/11/29; J. W. Read, 10s., 17/10/29; T. Matheson, 17/11/29; Miss Old, 30/12/29; Mrs. Schwartz, 30/6/29; Mrs. Chas. Chapman, 6s., don.; W. N. Mascord, 23/11/29; John Lane, 4s., sales; Miss Head, 1s. 6d., sales; Mrs. Walsh, 2s.

The following are paid to 30/12/28: Miss L. Earle (6s.), C. W. Macauley (22s. 6d.), C. P. Taubman, B. Hook, Mrs. Moginie, Mrs. Brigden, W. J. Sayer, Mrs. M. Young.

THE DANGER LINE.

"Nobody knows exactly where his particular danger-line has to be drawn in the matter of alcohol. In the case of motorists it has to be drawn a good way short of manifest drunkenness. A man may be perfectly sober to all appearance, and yet may have consumed sufficient alcohol to disable him in a road emergency. The danger-line varies enormously as between man and man, but really the only absolutely safe rule is one of abstinence at the wheel."—"The Sheffield Daily Telegraph."

WATCHING HIS STEP.

"I don't know what's the matter with that little man over there. He was so attentive a few moments ago and now he won't even look at me."

"Perhaps he saw me come in. He's my husband!"

Rigney's Shoes

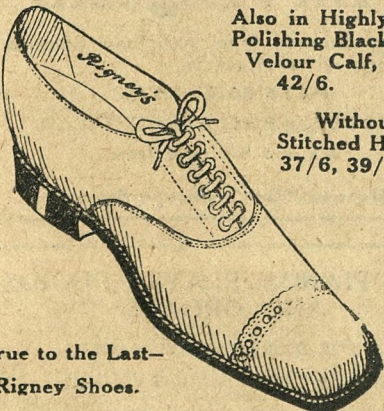
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TAN WILLOW CALF OXFORDS.
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get everything so
spotlessly clean
& bright?

Yes, ma'am, it do
look nice but it's
very little trouble
when you use
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