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# Grit.

A JOURNAL OF NATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PROHIBITION

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BROWN, WHO RESCUES A FELLOW-CITIZEN FROM THE HARBOUR — IS TREATED TO A COLUMN OF HERO-STUFF IN THE PRESS — AND BECOMES A SUBJECT FOR THE HUMANE SOCIETY'S MEDAL —



WHITE, WHO RESCUES A FELLOW-CITIZEN FROM THE BOOZE-POOL — IS TREATED WITH DERISION AND BECOMES A SUBJECT FOR THE COMIC PAPERS —

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## Bulletin Issued by Information Office, Federal Prohibition Unit and Narcotic Division, Washington.

### RIGHT AND DUTY OF CITIZEN.

"While every citizen of a free country has a right to express his opinion in opposition to a law and to work for its amendment or annulment, every citizen is under obligation to obey the law as long as it exists. He who breaks a law which he does not approve, or which he wants swept off the statute books, has automatically cut himself off from the very things that he is after. This is such a commonplace of democratic government that it seems hardly worth repeating. And yet it does need repeating and illustrating. A Labor leader who wants to have the law of injunction amended and who countenances or connives at a strike against the injunction has lost his standing as a law-abiding citizen. The officer or a corporation, a lawyer, a legislator, or any other citizen who wants the constitutional amendment amended—and he has a perfect right to work for these—who breaks these laws, who countenances or connives at the sale or illegal manufacture of intoxicating liquor, has by the same token lost his standing as a law-abiding citizen. He shows himself on that point to be a disloyal citizen."—Bishop Lawrence, at Trinity Church, Boston.

### OFFICIALS PLEDGE TO MAKE DRY DENVER.

"Every agency of the city administration will be used to dry up Denver."—Mayor Stapleton.

"If necessary, every man on the police force will be thrown into the work of cleaning out the bootleggers."—Chief of Police Williams.

"You can count on the Federal Prohibition forces to the last ditch."—Divisional Chief R. A. Kohloss and Director John F. Vivian.

"We will use special investigators to collect evidence and every man in this office, if necessary, to prosecute the cases."—District Attorney Van Cise.

"Our support is pledged unceasingly to make Denver the driest place on the map."—Assistant Federal District Attorney Bowie.

The plan includes the following:

Padlocks on the doors of places that carry on traffic in illicit liquor.

Abatement proceedings against hotels, big or small, which permit the sale of liquor.

Jail sentences for first offenders in flagrant cases.

Checking up closely on the use of wine for sacramental purposes.

Immediate prosecution of violation cases involving rich and poor alike.—News item, "Rocky Mountain News," Denver.

### STATE WORKHOUSE CLOSED IN RHODE ISLAND.

Rhode Island, where the 18th Amendment has not yet been ratified, contributes the newest bit of testimony to the efficacy of

Prohibition by abolishing its State workhouse.

Since Prohibition came, committals to the workhouse have decreased 72.5 per cent. With the completion of the new wing at the State prison and the establishment in it of the reformatory for men, the few committals from the courts to the workhouse will be received there, but a separate institution will be no longer continued.

For the ten years prior to Prohibition the average occupancy was 211.4. In the four years of Prohibition the average was 58.2.

This disclosure is made in the report of the State Welfare Commission of Warden Charles E. Linscott, in charge of the penal institutions. That the condition is due entirely to Prohibition, he states, is shown by the fact that the State workhouse was the place to which were committed men convicted of being common drunkards, of vagrancy, of being "idle persons, without visible means of support," of non-support, and of being sturdy beggars or offences directly traceable to drink.

In the fifty-two years of its existence the State workhouse has received 31,385 prisoners. In the first year the committals numbered over 100, and increased gradually, until in 1914 they totalled their highest, 240. For the first time thereafter, in 1918, the year's total dropped to less than 200, and was recorded as 156. With the advent of Prohibition, effective war-time Prohibition, the committals in 1919 fell to 18. The greatest number of committals in any one year since has been 77, which is a total less than two-thirds of the smallest pre-Prohibition year.—Editorial, "Christian Science Monitor."

### CO-OPERATION OF HOTEL MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

"I spoke to the Oregon State Hotel Men's Association and asked their co-operation in the enforcement of the Prohibition law in all hotels, and I was assured the full measure of their assistance."—Director J. A. Linville, Oregon.

"Free government has no greater menace than disrespect for authority and continual violation of law. It is the duty of a citizen not only to observe the law, but to let it be known that he is opposed to its violation."—President Calvin Coolidge.

### Gift Books by Fairelie Thornton (Writer of "Daily Inspiration.")

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"LOVE." "LOVE DIVINE."

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INGLIS GRANUMA PORRIDGE MEAL  
INGLIS BAKING POWDER  
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and to enable you to begin the collection of coupons now and from present stocks certain labels from packets, tins, and bottles will be accepted as coupons. When present stocks are exhausted they will be replaced with coupon labels attached.

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# ALCOHOL AND THE HUMAN BODY.

(A paper read by Miss Lade before the Business Women's Prohibition League.)

The progress of any nation is obviously dependent on the physical and mental vigor of its people. Our physical and mental lives, however, are so interdependent that it is impossible to consider them apart in any question of race progress.

We find a set of material conditions attracts the notice of a student. A theory is formulated in explanation. Finally, mankind benefits both materially and spiritually from the practical application of the theory. Thus, by the reconciliation of theory and practice of knowledge and experience, we advance one step farther into the knowledge of the unchanging laws which govern the universe.

Since it is man, however, who must harness these natural forces, it follows that the more thorough his knowledge of his own mind and body, and the greater the application of scientific truth by the individual himself, the quicker his triumph. Accordingly, we might say that science which throws fresh light on the response of the human organism to the operation of great psychological and physiological principles is of paramount importance. To realise the truth of this it is necessary only to mark the results of knowledge as shown in improved sanitation of cities and homes, better factory conditions, pure food Acts, Board of Health, baby clinics, schools for mothers, and finally in revolutionised methods of education in our schools and training colleges. All such organisations are fighting the menace of darkness and ignorance for the sake of a healthier and more intelligent race.

A king amongst enemies of our race is alcohol, against which we must arm ourselves with the best scientific knowledge if we would fight with earnestness and carry conviction. I propose therefore to place before you a brief summary of the most important conclusions contributed by advanced science on the question of the effect of small quantities of alcohol on the human system.

In considering the physiological facts which follow, it must be remembered that all life is fundamentally cell life, and that our bodies are composed of groups of cells. Each cell, however, is necessary to its fellow, and all contribute to the life of the whole. The vitality of the organism then must be measured by the condition of the protoplasm in the individual cell. If that protoplasm or life-bearing substance be poisoned or impaired in any way at all, the whole organism inevitably suffers.

Illustration of what alcohol does to the protoplasmic cell is found in the results of experiments on lowly one-celled animals such as amoebae or on the yeast plant itself.

A yeast plant growing in a natural state after 11 hours developed 2061 cells.

.001 per cent. of alcohol was added—1091 cells remained.

.01 per cent. of alcohol was added—992 cells remained.

.1 per cent. of alcohol was added—852 cells remained.

And with the increasing of the dose to 5 per cent. only 69 normal cells were found to remain.

To amoebae in water was added 1 per cent. alcohol. These tiny creatures developed a narcosis lasting for several hours.

2 per cent. alcohol was added—the cells stiffened and some died.

4 per cent. alcohol was added—the majority died.

5 per cent. alcohol was added—all died.

Crayfish in a 2 per cent. solution of alcohol were found to succumb in a single day. The same results were noticed with other fish on being subjected to small doses of alcohol.

If a chicken's egg be placed in a 5 per cent. solution of alcohol for two hours, or subjected to fumes as strong, the egg germ dies. No case is known where a chick developed from an egg so maltreated.

The effects of alcohol on the human system have necessarily been more difficult to tabulate, but the shrinking and paralysing effect on the human cell is the same as in the case of lower organisms. The following devastating powers of alcohol might well be borne in mind while reference is made to groups of cells in the human system.

1. Paralyses and kills cells outright.
2. Destroys fat, which is largely present in all highly-organised cells.
3. Eats up oxygen.
4. Absorbs water.

The nervous system, though it contains the most highly developed type of cell and can resist even at the expense of other tissues, falls an easy prey to alcohol. It is common knowledge that those who drink alcoholic beverages are easily swayed by the baser emotions.

Again, the cowardly man under the influence of this drug becomes a hero in his own eyes because he loses all sense of proportion. Others rush into dangers of which they cannot judge the seriousness. Hence the number of accidents attributed to alcohol. This poison breaks down the power of intellectual judgment to such an extent that the victim cannot apprehend correctly his immediate environment or circumstances. Diminished will-power and a lowering of general intelligence is another result of alcohol's destroying of the delicate nerve cells of the brain. We are at last certain that industrial and business life must be freed from the disintegrating effect of alcohol if we are to retain our economic status. I have in mind the case of a girl of sixteen who worked for me in a factory. Every now and then her production fell unaccountably. Instead of making a bonus over and above her weekly wage, she fell even below her minimum—the firm in the meantime paying her for work not done. I observed also that she appeared unable to grasp the meaning of anything said to her, and further, that she showed signs of emotional laxness, which had a corresponding effect on those near her. I have found since that her mother is a heavy drinker and that the girl herself has begun to drink.

Under pressure of economic distress another girl made herself half drunk in order that she might go through the marriage service with a man for whom she had neither liking nor respect. Alcohol offered a sure way for the obliteration of all faculties of reason and judgment.

Alcohol therefore destroys that peculiar power of self-control lodged in the nerve cells of the brain. It is the result of man's strivings through all ages, and yet a moderate dose of alcohol can weaken ever so slightly its important function.

(Continued on page 12.)

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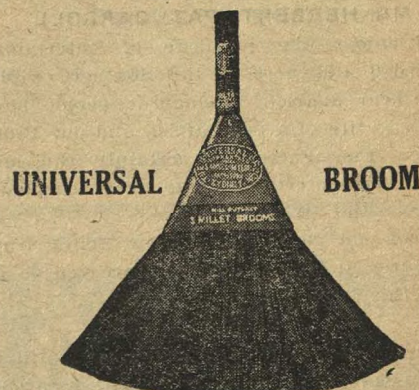
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## FIELD DAY APPOINTMENTS.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13.

11 a.m.: Gosford Methodist Church.

3 p.m.: Lisarow Methodist Church.

7.30 p.m.: Narara Methodist Church.

Mr. R. J. C. Butler.

11 a.m.: Wyong Methodist Church.

3.30 p.m.: Kangy Angy Methodist Church.

7.30 p.m.: Ourimbah Methodist Church.

Mr. Phil. Adler.

11 a.m.: St. Luke's Anglican Church, Liverpool.

7.15 p.m.: Presbyterian Church, Leichhardt.

Mr. Chas W. Chandler.

11 a.m.: Ryde Anglican Circuit appointment.

7.15 p.m.: Ryde Anglican Circuit.

Mr. Chas. E. Still.

11 a.m.: Dooralong Methodist Church.

3.30 p.m.: Jilliby Methodist Church.

7.15 p.m.: Warnervale Methodist Church.

Ex-Senator David Watson.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS.

### R. B. S. HAMMOND.

Monday, April 14: Haberfield School of Arts, at 8 p.m.

Monday, May 5: St. Mark's Parish Hall, Darling Point, at 8 p.m.

Tuesday, May 6: St. Matthew's Parish Hall, Bondi, 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 15: St. Clement's Parish Hall, Mosman, 8 p.m.

## CAMPAIGN NOTES.

### EX-SENATOR DAVID WATSON

is again with us in person as well as in thought.

He has just passed through a very trying and painful time, and we sincerely trust that he will enjoy renewed health and strength for a long time to come.

\* \* \*

### AUSTRALIA'S "DRY COMEDIAN—

#### MR. HERBERT (PAT) CARROLL

still enjoys the privilege of entertaining crowded audiences in the Southern capital and near district. Melbourne people never seem to tire of a good artist, and our Prohibition Fun Factor is certainly the most humorous entertainer who ever accepted a seat on the "Water Waggon."

Look out for Carroll's New South Wales Fixtures in May, and make sure you do not miss his joke of the season.

\* \* \*

Mr. Phil Adler and Mr. Charles E. Still are just completing a tour of the districts around Dungog and Gloucester.

Public meetings have been held in all the principal centres, and everywhere the lecturers have been bombarded with questions and queries bearing upon the political situation and public honor of our (mis)representatives in Parliament.

## "MAKE PARLIAMENT DRY."

### R. B. S. HAMMOND

The Leader of the Prohibition Party, will address

## Monster Meetings

in the Public Interest, which will be held in

### SCHOOL OF ARTS

#### HABERFIELD

MONDAY, APRIL 14th

8 p.m.

### ST. MARK'S PARISH HALL

#### DARLING POINT

MONDAY, MAY 5th

at 8 p.m.

### ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH HALL

#### BONDI

TUESDAY, MAY 6th, at 8 p.m.

at 8 p.m.

### ST. CLEMENT'S PARISH HALL

#### MOSMAN

THURSDAY, MAY 15th

at 8 p.m.

The Prohibition Party expects that every citizen will voice their emphatic protest at these meetings and elsewhere against continuance of the liquor traffic.

You must hear

### R. B. S. HAMMOND

the Popular Leader of the Prohibition Party tell you the reasons why Parliament must be made dry.

Admission is Free. Collection.

## DEATH OF MRS. C. W. CHANDLER.

The friends of Mr. C. W. Chandler will learn with deep sorrow of the death of Mrs. Chandler, which occurred on Tuesday, April 1. A few hours before her death she gave birth to twin boys, and these survive her. On Thursday the body of this mother who had paid the supreme sacrifice of motherhood was laid to rest in the North Sydney cemetery.

Mrs. Chandler, who was a daughter of the Rev. B. and Mrs. Rhodes, was always a keen worker in our movement, and was the constant companion of Mr. Chandler in his work. Before her marriage Mrs. Chandler did splendid service on the mission field in Samoa, and in these island settlements the memory of her work is cherished by hundreds of natives.

The circumstances of her death cast a tremendous burden of sorrow and responsibility upon Mr. Chandler, and at the moment he faces one of Life's baffling mysteries. We trust that the darkness of his sorrow will be lighted by the love and affection of his friends.

## How to Make Good Family Cough Mixture and Save Much Money

Obtain from your chemist or store a bottle of HEENZO (registered name for Hean's Essence), and add it to a large breakfastcupful of hot water, sweetened with treacle or honey and sugar, as per easy printed directions on the label, and you will at once have a family supply of superior quality cough, influenza, and sore throat mixture. No boiling or fussing is needed, the mixture being a matter of but a few moments, yet each lot made will save the user much money.

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# PROHIBITION IN AMERICA.

## OPINIONS OF BUSINESS MEN.

### REPLIES TO TASMANIAN INQUIRIES—INTERESTING STATEMENTS.

Five months ago a meeting of prominent business men was held in Hobart for the purpose of hearing the Rev. R. B. S. Hammond discourse on various subjects, which at that time were prominent in the public mind. During the discussion it was suggested that the business men's committee, which was responsible for the function, should send a questionnaire to leading American business men and business institutions, soliciting first-hand information concerning the results of Prohibition. The suggestion was adopted, and the replies are now available.

Forty-three replies have been received to the questions asked. Of these twenty-six were definitely favorable, eleven were definitely unfavorable, and six were partly for and partly against Prohibition.

The questionnaire asked for the effect of Prohibition on (a) business; (b) employment and employees; (c) taxation; (d) civics and morals.

#### TESTIMONY AGAINST PROHIBITION.

The replies—numbering eleven—generally stated that Prohibition had not effected any noticeable improvement in business, or in the relations between employer and employee. There was a difference of opinion concerning the efficiency of employees. Most of them agreed that Prohibition had led to an increase of taxation. Their statements were against an improved civic or moral spirit, but all declared their opposition to the return of the saloon. They favored light wine and beer, or restricted sale under Government control.

#### FOR AND AGAINST.

Mr. J. E. Burke, Assistant Industrial Commissioner, Chamber of Commerce, Kansas City, Missouri, considered that Prohibition had greatly increased the efficiency of employees, and brought about better relations between employer and employees. Prohibition was a minor contributing factor to increase the number of workers owning their own homes and automobiles. Prohibition brought no unemployment, and properties used in the liquor business were quickly converted to other uses. Crime was on the increase. It was not likely that the old order would be restored, but there was a desire for light wine and beer. Prohibition was put into effect before means were provided for its enforcement.

The chairman of the First National Bank, Chicago, stated: "On the whole, the country districts are probably largely in favor of the present Act, while in the cities there are large sections very much opposed. . . . Savings deposits had undoubtedly increased in recent years."

E. B. Estes and Sons, of New York, state that where the law was enforced there had been improvement in many directions. In communities where there was a large foreign element it was difficult to enforce the law, but in communities made up of pure American stock there was not the same difficulty. It was the general opinion of far-sighted citizens that future generations would benefit.

#### FAVORABLE REPLIES.

Favorable replies were received from business men in New York, Alabama, San Francisco, Kansas, Chicago, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Toronto, Canton (Ohio), Detroit, Florida, Cincinnati, Maine, Milwaukee, Texas, Spokane, Omaha.

There was a remarkable unanimity of opinion concerning the favorable effect Prohibition had upon business, upon the efficiency and prosperity of the workers, and upon social and civic morality. All were emphatically opposed to a return to old conditions.

Mr. S. S. Kresge, of the famous 5 and 10 cent stores, said: "No, never," to the question as to whether he would favor return to old conditions.

The Chamber of Commerce, Maine, declared that Prohibition had made better homes and families, and had greatly increased efficiency.

Holeproof Hosiery Co., Milwaukee: "From an economic and business standpoint there can be no two sides to this question; it is all in favor of Prohibition, not only theoretically, but also practically, as has been conclusively shown in the four years we have had Prohibition. While it is true that a few people drink more than they did before, simply to show their contempt for Prohibition laws, it is equally true that the large majority of the people do not drink at all. There are literally millions of children who are growing up without knowing what it is to see a drunkard on the streets, or a saloon. There are millions of workmen who are spending their earnings for useful things, who are leading a decent life, whereas formerly they were in the habit of congregating in saloons and low places and squandering their earnings that rightfully belonged to their families."

Nathaniel H. Maxwell, lawyer, Cincinnati: "Prohibition has closed up many institutions for the indigent, as well as jails and penitentiaries. The huge Cincinnati jail has been closed, and is rented for manufacturing purposes. From a business point of view, scarcely anyone would return to the old order of things."

Mason and Risch, Toronto: "There is one

thing certain, that the elimination of the saloon or bar where liquor was sold over the counter, involving the very undesirable feature of the treating system, has been an undoubted blessing. Since the bars were closed, it is the rarest thing to see a man the worse for drink on the streets, which was so common under the former system that it occasioned little comment. Those who are responsible for the running of factories well know that since the bars were closed, the attendance at their works on Monday is just as good as that of any other day, and this formerly was not the case."

Mercantile Trust Co., California: "The consensus of opinion of business men of this district is that the commercial business justification of Prohibition is daily felt more in this country."

United States Steel Corporation.—The chairman (Judge Gary) said: "I have no hesitation in saying with emphasis that the Volstead Act and State laws for prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors have been beneficial to the industry of this country, and to the workmen connected with it, and their families."

Whyel Coke Company, Pennsylvania: "First I want to say there is no question of a doubt that every fair manufacturer or business man in this country would say to you that the efficiency of his establishment has been very largely increased; that the men are better satisfied; that many are purchasing homes, others automobiles and luxuries they never dreamed of before, and others are laying aside their money that previously they squandered making life miserable for themselves, their wives and families. While Prohibition is not fully enforced in our several States, I feel sure it is enforced just as thoroughly as many other laws on our statute book."

(Continued on page 12.)

#### THE BEEHIVE NOVELTY STORES

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## "SPOOKS" TO BE APPOINTED.

### METHYLATED SPIRITS AND MURDERS.

#### WHY GIRLS GO WRONG.

#### BOOZE, A MOTOR SMASH AND A GIRLS' DEATH.

##### "SPOOKS."

The "spook" problem has been settled—after a fashion. The two civilian inspectors desired by Mr. Ley are to be appointed for a period of three months "as an experiment," but the scope of their duties is to be determined by a committee of three, consisting of Mr. Ley, Mr. Oakes, and the Inspector-General of Police (Mr. Mitchell). As the two latter gentlemen have been bitterly opposed to these appointments, the victory for Mr. Ley is a Pyrrhic one. However, the compromise avoids a "bust-up" in the Cabinet, and so long as that shaky concern can be held together, nothing else, we suppose, matters much, if at all.

##### REMITTING FINES.

Apparently it is quite a common practice to try and get fines imposed for breaches of the liquor laws remitted. The other day Mr. Ley stated that during his term of office as Minister for Justice he has had no less than 66 such applications before him, one-third of which proved successful. The figures will surprise most people. If applications for remission of fines are as numerous under other Acts as they appear to be under the liquor law, the Department of Justice must be kept quite busy dealing with them. The serious aspect of the matter resides in the fact that it implies very obviously defective administration of the law by the Bench. The Department of Justice is not, one supposes, more inclined to deprive itself of revenue than is any other Department of State, and if in 22 out of 66 cases the circumstances warranted remission, there must have been a laxity in the determination of penalties in the first place which is not reassuring. However, one is so used, by this time, to a lax and inefficient administration of the liquor laws, that nothing connected with them is surprising.

##### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Sir Henry Barwell, Premier of South Australia, told an audience the other day that "Prohibition is not a question of practical politics at this stage." Then he gave the reason: "Because £10,000,000 which would be required for compensation could not be borrowed." Just so. The Rev. R. B. S. Hammond has declared that a referendum on the question of Prohibition "with compensation" would be defeated here, and the policy of the New South Wales Alliance is totally opposed to any compensation. Only so can Prohibition become a question of practical politics, which is precisely what liquor-protecting politicians do not want it to become.

##### £10 A BOTTLE.

The other day Constable C. J. Chuck gave evidence against a sly-grog seller who had supplied him with three bottles of beer for value received. Chuck said he had acted under the instructions of Sergeant Russell. He did not state whether he was wearing his Ambassador's rig on this occasion. The sly-grog man had to pay His Majesty £30, i.e., £10 per bottle.

By the bye, it is very noticeable that the Chucks and other police "spooks" have been very active of late. Is this a part of Inspector Mitchell's drive against the appointment of civilian inspectors?

##### ANOTHER RAID.

Decidedly the police are getting busy. Perhaps their unwonted activity is due to the prospective appointment of civilian inspectors, which they desired to avert. Another raid was made last Saturday on the premises of the Macquarie Cafe, Market-street, and about one hundred bottles of beer, sparkling hock, whisky, and gin were seized. This time Mr. Chuck did not figure in the proceedings, which were in the hands of another official "spook" named Nobbs. It will occur to most people that all these cases go to prove the need for the inspectors asked for by Mr. Ley. The police have so much to do that they can ill-afford the time obviously necessary to clean up the liquor stables. That seems to be a whole-time job, and as it is clear that the police

### OUR RECORD OF SHAME.

#### CENTRAL POLICE COURT.

#### ARRESTS FOR DRUNKENNESS.

Six months ending March 26, 1924.

Males .....	5053
Females .....	899

Week ending April 2:

Males .....	176
Females .....	25

• Pledges signed, 47.

themselves always employ "spooks" on that class of work, there really seems to be nothing left to say against the appointments contemplated by the Minister for Justice.

##### GIRLS WHO DRINK.

In a recent issue of "Grit" attention was directed to the remarkable lack of logic in the utterances of Archbishop Kelly on the question of Prohibition. The reproach must, it seems, extend to lesser lights of the Roman Catholic hierarchy. Monsignor O'Gorman, who has just returned from the United States, told a meeting of the Catholic Women's Association the other night that Prohibition in America is a failure. The evidence he adduces is that "at a hotel at which he was staying, at a dance there were many different wines on the menu for the 400 guests." He added that "there was more drinking now among women and girls, and it was usual for a man to carry a flask of whisky in his hip pocket." Monsignor O'Gorman is like a good many other people—he will believe what he wants to believe on the slenderest evidence, whereas the greatest weight of evidence will fail to convince him against his inclinations. Nobody denies that breaches of the Prohibition laws occur in America. Nobody denies that breaches of the Ten Commandments occur daily in Australia. If Monsignor O'Gorman wants to repeal Prohibition in America, what sort of argument can he advance against the repeal of the Ten Commandments in Australia? They have had a longer spin than Prohibition, but it would not be difficult by his method

of reasoning to show that they have been a failure.

##### HOW GIRLS GO WRONG.

A story was unfolded in the police court this week of a young girl, 19 years of age, who ran away from her home at Glen Innes two or three weeks ago, and came to Sydney, ultimately falling into the hands of the police, who charged her with having no lawful visible means of support. It seems that she fell among the intimates of Chinese and was asked to marry one of them. She also indulged in drinking in Elizabeth-street, and told the magistrate she had a friend in Sussex-street. . . . It's the same old story.

##### WINE LICENSES.

Last week attention was directed on this page to the work of the Licenses Reduction Board in cancelling forty wine licenses in the Sydney and Balmain electorates. The liquor interests, fighting to the last ditch as usual, sought to obtain a ruling from the High Court declaring that the Board has no power to reduce the number of Australian wine licenses. The attempt failed. After hearing argument, the Court dismissed the appeal.

Meanwhile, an interesting case was decided in Dubbo. The local Licensing Board heard an application for the transfer of a colonial wine license to the premises of a recently delicensed hotel. The applicant submitted that his existing premises were not suitable, and that his trade was nil, whereas the delicensed hotel had been renovated and refurnished at a cost of £1500. The police contended that the locality was already adequately served with hotels, and the Bench refused to grant the transfer.

##### A PROBLEM IN PSYCHOLOGY.

It would be interesting to get some explanation of the peculiar psychology of the type of person who takes delight, under the influence of drink, in desecrating churches. A man was committed for trial at the police court this week for having done considerable damage in St. Mary's Cathedral when drunk. He threw brass candlesticks about, strewn the floors with broken glassware, damaged sanctuary lamps, tore altar drapings, and generally behaved in a very violent and graceless manner. What is it that takes a drunk into a cathedral? What impels him to desecrate a church?

##### DRINK AND DIVORCE.

"One evening I saw them sitting in the bar. They were both intoxicated, and Miss B. was sitting on my husband's knee. He said when he saw me, 'This woman will do me.'"

This was the story of a woman who obtained a divorce this week. Her husband had taken a hotel and had become addicted to drink. Then he left her for the other woman. And there are still people in the world who pretend that the drink traffic is not a curse, and that it is tyrannical interference with their liberty to try and close down the open bar!

##### METHYLATED SPIRITS AND MURDER.

Another Yarra tragedy has occurred in Melbourne, and a man is to stand his trial for drowning by force a woman with whom he had quarrelled. It seems that they, with others, had a Bacchanalian orgy on the banks of the river, and the police state that most of the woman's associates were confirmed methylated spirits drinkers. They have some difficulty in collecting evidence of the tragedy as all the participants were "too muddled" to be able to give any coherent account of what happened. Some workmen attempted to intervene, but no notice was taken of their remonstrances.

(Continued on page 16.)



## A MOST DELICIOUS BEVERAGE

# GRIFFITHS BROS.'

## Signal Cocoa

## A MATTER OF EDUCATION.

### A NEW SCHOOL OF THOUGHT.

(By W. D. B. (JACK) CREAGH.)

I came across two interesting bits of information while reading the London (England) "Sunday News," bearing the date of 20/1/24. Educational news is always interesting, and when a new school is opened it is doubly so. The first item dealt with a School for Publicans. Here it is. Now, don't smile too hard or your face may crack:

#### SCHOOL FOR PUBLICANS.

Messrs. Barclay, Perkins and Co., the brewers, have established a school in Southwark-street, S.E., where instruction is given in cookery and the licensing laws, the object being to train future managers of licensed premises.

Now, the above item wants some understanding—managers to learn cookery and licensing laws.

Take cookery. Why do Barclay and Perkins' Brewery Co. want the managers of their tied houses (I expect they are the ones meant) to learn cookery when nearly all of their houses are beer houses and gin palaces, where only liquid refreshment is sold? I know this firm's business well, and for the life of me I cannot understand this last move of the firm, but I certainly will call at the school to find out.

#### COOKERY v. LICENSING LAWS.

There seems to be a big gulf between cookery and licensing laws. When in London in 1922 I saw women peeling potatoes in some of the bars. Does the new school for pub managers mean to show these women their job, or will they learn what is best to buy with the money (sometimes very little) left over after the booze bill has been paid, or will they (the managers) open soup kitchens for the deadbeats that the trade put on the deadbeat market every year? Well, I wish them luck; I hope some good will come out of it.

#### LICENSING LAWS.

In regard to their studies of the licensing laws, I expect the study will be an all-round one. I certainly saw a great need in regard to these laws when in England. They (the publicans) seemed to know a good deal about one branch, namely, how to evade, to sidestep, or commonly called "to dodge" them; for instance, children under 14 were not permitted in bars, but they were; the age is now 18 years. Drunkenness was not permitted on the premises, by law, but it was by the managers. Drinking on the pavement was not allowed by law, but some managers put shelves along the outside so that law-breaking drinkers could put their glasses on. Will the studies help the managers to evade or keep the law? That's the question that up to now has never been solved.

#### EXAMINATION PAPER.

I should suggest the following subjects for their examination paper:

1. How to tell a person when drunk.
2. How to stop a man getting drunk, and what to do when he is drunk and breaking up his home, committing suicide, murder, or, say, assaulting the police or his wife.
3. How to protect their customers if by chance some did get drunk. In Sydney 85 men and women were killed while drunk in 1923. Sydney publicans please note.
4. How to detect a policeman's footfall; how to convince the police they are wrong, if by chance they are caught in any act of law-breaking.

In regard to their studies of the licensing laws I also wish them luck, but I hope the public side, the proper side, will be dealt with alongside the publicans, so that equity and justice may be brought about, a point missing very much at present. I wonder, as an afterthought, if the new school is the

result of the Labor Government's popular control of the liquor traffic item in the new Labor Party's platform!

#### A PROFESSOR RETIRES.

The other item that interested me was this one taken from the same paper, same date:

#### THEOLOGIAN RETIRES.

Professor E. Tyrrell Green is resigning his Theological Professorship at Lampeter College. He has been associated with the college since 1891, and is the author of many books on theology and architecture.

Here we have a very learned man retiring. He no doubt will be missed, but when one reviews the position of England, the poverty, unemployment, drunkenness, crime, and violent deaths, an admitted increase in drug taking—other than alcohol—increase in lunacy, the country full with sorrowing people, also maimed people through the war, why, it does seem that the professor, also others like him, have not done their job too well.

#### THEOLOGY AND ARCHITECTURE.

The professor has written many books on theology and architecture, so he had plenty of scope, and I for one cannot see the link between the two subjects. But, then, I expect I am ignorant.

While in London recently I saw advertised that a scientific sermon was going to be given in one of the very big London churches to business men; 1 p.m. was the time appointed. Seven guineas was given to the preacher "from a grant." I went, only eight others were there, and for ten minutes I listened to the greatest piffle I ever heard; the subject chosen was "The Relationship of the War to the Architecture of the 14th Century."

That afternoon I saw over 50 children picking up the offal and bits of boxes in the Leadenhall Game Market. Poor little ragged, hungry kiddies, the only theology they were then interested in was how to get a good feed and keep warm. The reason for their plight was the neglect of subjects that count by learned men and women; the only architecture they knew was the slum hovels of that wonderful city, London.

#### GORDON OF KHARTOUM.

Gordon, the hero of Khartoum, could teach them, and did teach them, a lesson. The great soldier, when alive, showed up the corruption of home and foreign countries while doing his great work. He did not stop there; he studied and also helped the poor. He was ignored by the Governments that knew he was too straight for them, until they could not face the mess their corruption had got them into. Then he was recalled, and facing the worst foreign situation any man had to face, he laid down his life, and put England to shame; but even his example and sacrifice did not make any difference.

Reader, get General Butler's "Gordon," for this book has refreshed my memory, and I see the real things of life. School for publicans, also men who mix their theology with stone architecture, will not help us much. The booze traffic and many other evils will have to go before we make much progress in the spiritual, also the social, world.



# A personal chat with my readers

## AMERICAN SCANDALS.

The population of U.S.A. is twenty-one times greater than that of Australia, and they might claim to be permitted to have twenty-one times as much of anything as we have in Australia.

We had last year 3339 convictions against the liquor laws of this State; that is, 1588 per million of the people; whereas U.S.A. only had 263 per million people. We had six times as many convictions as U.S.A., and they had a right to twenty-one times as many as we had.

Now the papers are full of the oil scandals in U.S.A. They seem to gloat over them and print with relish:

"Should oiled acquaintance be forgot  
And never brought to mind?

Should oiled acquaintance be forgot  
In the days of Oiled Lang Syne?"

There must be something in oil that eases the conscience of men, for we had our own oil scandals a few years ago.

Silo scandals, woodblock scandals, trawler scandals, land scandals, housing scandals, ballot box scandals, such as we have had would suggest that we might remember that people who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

U.S.A. has still much leeway to make up if it claims its proportion of 21 to 1 in the scandal or any other business.

It is illegal to gamble by post, yet the biggest gambling machine of its kind in the world is conducted by the kind assistance of the Commonwealth post office.

The post office knows nothing of the cause of the big demand for postal notes of the value of 5/6.

"Our business is to see that the demand is supplied." This was the comment of the P.M.G. (Mr. Gibson) on the suggestion that the new issue of postal notes was to assist the purposes of investors in a well-known Tamaritan consultation.

"I must confess," said Mr. Gibson, "that it never entered my head that the notes would be useful for the purpose you refer to, but even if they are, it is the duty of this department to meet the requirements of the public, and to do so as economically as possible.

"As far as this consultation is concerned, we do not admit any charge of hypocrisy

at all. Whenever we find that certain addresses are being used for the receipt of investments, we at once stop the delivery of letters. This department collects none of the tax from prizes, it merely carries out its instructions."

"Whenever we find," says the P.M.G. and week after week thousands of letters are delivered to those who conduct this gambling concern. Everyone in the whole of Australia knows where to send, and they send by tens of thousands, but the P.M.G. only finds out about every six months, and no inconvenience or loss is suffered by the gamblers by the necessary change of address.

## IS IT A GOOD INVESTMENT.

The following news item is interesting: "The Liquor Trades Employees' Union has decided to take up £50 worth of shares in 'The Labor Daily.'"

I wonder if it has ever struck my readers that liquor-sellers do not often re-invest their profits in the liquor business! They invariably re-invest it in newspapers, picture shows, politicians, and such ventures as may be expected to oppose them unless "sweetened." No other business is so threatened therefore; no other business is under any compulsion to re-invest for protective purposes.

## THE GERMAN MARK.

Margaret Wrong, writing from Germany in the "Australasian Intercollegian," says:

"Foreigners no longer find Germany a happy hunting ground. They no longer furnish employment by living in the hotels or buying in the shops. They have fled, as a German said, 'like rats from a sinking ship.' Hotels are empty; and cabs stand in long rows in the streets.

"Some items from my own account book will show the chaos:

"November 2.—Changed £1 for 660 milliards.

"November 3.—Changed £1 for 1516 milliards.

"November 5.—Changed £1 for 1900 milliards.

"Hotel bills are paid daily:

"November 3.—Paid for two nights and two breakfasts in a small hotel, 543 milliards.

"November 4.—Paid for one night and breakfast in a small hotel, 760 milliards.

"Unless one has experienced it, one can hardly realise the nervous anxiety and awful uncertainty of an unreliable currency.

# GRIT

A JOURNAL OF  
NATIONAL EFFICIENCY  
AND PROHIBITION

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

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SYDNEY, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1924.

A man said to me: 'I used to say to my wife when I gave her money, "Spend this as slowly as possible." Now I say, "For heaven's sake, get rid of this quickly."'

This seems like a financial nightmare.

# The Editor

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# A LIQUOR-PROTECTING GOVERNMENT.

## MINISTERS IMPLICATED IN CARLTON HOTEL CASE.

### LICENSEE HANDLED "GINGERLY."

### DOES AN ASS WEAR THE LION'S SKIN?

(Note.—This article has been revised by a practising lawyer, and such statements of law as it embodies may be accepted with confidence.—Ed., "Grit.")

For the second time within three months the licensee of the Carlton Hotel, Joseph Levy, has been convicted for a breach of the Liquor Act.

On the first occasion, in December last, he was convicted, under section 57 of the Act, for selling liquor after hours, and was fined £30, the maximum penalty being £50.

On the second occasion, March 31 last, he was convicted, under section 63 of the Act, because he failed to prove to the satisfaction of the Court that a certain person, found to be on his premises after hours, was there for a lawful purpose. He was fined £5, which is the maximum penalty (and a mighty small "maximum") provided under that section. A tender-hearted magistrate ordered that the conviction should not be recorded on the defendant's license, and this he did apparently under the proviso to sub-section 4 of section 63, which empowers him to direct that the conviction "shall not be recorded against the licensee or the licensed premises for any of the purposes of this Act," if he is satisfied either that the licensee took reasonable precautions to prevent the said person from being on his premises for an unlawful purpose, or that the licensee had taken all reasonable care to ascertain, and actually believed, that he was in fact there for a lawful purpose. Observe how scrupulously careful is Mr. Ley's Act to provide that the innocent, unsophisticated class of alcohol-dealers should not be treated too cruelly! Beware of cruelty.

### A SUBSTITUTED INFORMATION—AND GEORGE REX.

Thus, then, the licensee of the Carlton Hotel was whitewashed by the Bench, and from his point of view, everything in the garden continues to be lovely. Apologies from the Bench to the poor publican are part of the stock scenery of the police courts. Gingerly are the offenders handled.

From the public point of view, the position is by no means satisfactory, and there are several extraordinary features of this case which demand explanation. "Grit" will make it a first order of the day to secure that explanation when Parliament meets, if not before.

The first point about which we want information is The Reason why the second information against Joseph Levy was laid under section 63 of the Act, and not under section 57, as was the case in the first information.

This was evidently not the original intention of the police. Who interfered? Who, WHO, WHO? The police laid the second information, like the first, under section 57, but when the case came on, this, on the application of George Rex, was amended and the case was heard and decided under section 63. George Rex—the Crown—it means some official Personage, that word. What Personage, and why?

Why did "The Crown" ask for this amendment? That is a question to which the public are plainly entitled to an answer on account of the effect of the amendment. (What woodpile, what nigger?)

That effect was to afford protection to the licensee of the Carlton Hotel for rea-

sons not disclosed, and it is absolutely contrary to the customary administration of British justice to afford protection in that manner to a defendant. It may be defensible. But let us know the defence! Such an act on the part of the Crown amounts, in our opinion, to nothing less than an exercise of that dispensing power, which has, since the days of the Stuarts, been considered dangerous. "The Crown" did this! "The Crown" did that! Don't blame George V. for what some Personage did, donning this august mantle of the Crown. Did not the ass once wear a lion's skin? Who wears George Rex's?

### HOW THE LICENSEE IS PROTECTED.

Joseph Levy, licensee of the Carlton Hotel, is protected by "the Crown" in several ways.

First of all, he escapes a second conviction—originally, as we have seen, contemplated by the police—for illegally selling liquor after hours.

And thus, secondly, he gets off with a £5 fine instead of a £50 fine.

And thus, thirdly, he escapes the endorsement of his license under the proviso we have quoted. There is no such proviso under section 57.

It must be admitted that the amiable magistrate took a most lenient view of Levy's case. His lenience, indeed, seems quite extraordinary when all the facts are considered. Here is a man (licensee of a great and ornate hotel) who three months ago was actually convicted of and fined for selling liquor after hours. Is there not an inference that he is not unlikely to commit other breaches of the Liquor Act when the opportunity occurs? He is at least no stickler for rigid legality. Is it uncharitable so to speak? Could one insist, under the circumstances, that Joseph is to be regarded as having conscientious qualms about letting you have a drink after hours, if you are prepared to pay for it? The dear police perhaps know this, and, considering that they have sufficient evidence to secure a conviction, they lay a second information against him for the Same Offence. Yet the magistrate not only allows the Crown to amend the information in a manner which effectually bars a second conviction for the same offence, but, cooing like a dove, he actually finds no difficulty in concluding that the licensee was more sinned against than sinning, and orders that the license shall not be endorsed because he is satisfied that Joseph did not know that anybody was on his premises for an unlawful purpose, but thought that the purpose was a lawful one. He saw Repentance stand in Joseph's tear-dimmed eye!

### AS THEY SAY, "HOT DOG"!

The whole of this business appears to "Grit" to be absurd—"Barefaced" is not a bad kind of word. The conviction implies that, in the opinion of the magistrate, a person was on the premises of the Carlton Hotel for an unlawful purpose. What is "an unlawful purpose"? Drinking on licensed premises during prohibited hours is unlawful if the person so drinking is not a lodger, servant or inmate. The evidence given by the police shows that they found Four Men, who were not lodgers or servants, drinking wine with their meals in the dining-room of the Carlton Hotel after hours. It was in

respect of one of this quartette that the information was laid, and the magistrate actually concluded that the licensee was not aware that this man was drinking wine with his meals. A rich and luscious charity is that magistrate's endowment! We infer, and the public will infer, that the licensee ought to have known, that it was his duty to know, that he was guilty of negligence in not knowing, and that for this, more especially in view of his previous conviction, his license ought to have been endorsed. But Bung and Brewer hate that word "endorse." And some interfering Personage posing as "The Crown" knew all that, he did.

In this connection let us quote the dictum of Griffiths, C.J., in *Bear v. Lynch*. The learned Judge there said:

"Ordinarily, no doubt a man is not responsible for things about which he knows nothing, or for the existence of a state of facts which he has good reason for believing not to be the facts. It is sufficient, with regard to that doctrine, to say that licensees, in view of special privileges conferred upon them, are made responsible in a special degree for what is done on their premises. In some cases mere ignorance is not a defence."

We suggest to men of the world that it is the bounden duty of a licensee to know who is drinking on his premises after hours, and that the Court ought to presume such knowledge. The complaisance and the kid-gloved methods of the lower Courts in dealing with publican-offences are commencing to have a high old smell.

### A LIQUOR-PROTECTING ACT.

Our readers will please note this further significant fact: the proviso to sub-section 4 of section 63 which gave the magistrate the power to order that the license be not endorsed was NOT contained in the original Act of 1912. It was apparently inserted, by way of amendment, in the Act of 1922—Mr. Ley's own darling Act. Thus, it appears that those responsible for the latter Act were concerned to make it more lenient for the law-breaking publican. They drew its teeth and clipped its claws. The way in which it works to the detriment of the public interest, by mitigating the penalty for lax observance of the law, is singularly well illustrated by the accommodating attitude of the magistrate in the Carlton case. Well may the public say: Stop this "kow-tow." Deference to the trade—even that has its limits.

### GOVERNMENT IMPLICATED, SUBPOENAS TORN UP.

But by far the gravest and most disquieting feature of this most unpleasant business has yet to be revealed. It appears that several Ministers of the Crown, including the Premier (Sir George Fuller) and the Attorney-General (Mr. T. R. Bavin), together with the Inspector-General of Police (Mr. Mitchell), were implicated in this matter. These gentlemen were subpoenaed as witnesses for the defence under the original information, but upon the amended information their evidence was not required. IS THIS THE REASON WHY THE INFORMATION WAS AMENDED? What, put THEM in the box! No, sir, it is not done!

Apparently, therefore, the action of "The Crown" (Asinus Major) in having the information "amended" was designed, not merely to protect the licensee of the Carlton Hotel, but to protect Sir George Fuller and some colleagues, to say nothing about the Z.Z.Z. of Police, as well, from answering subpoenas.

Let us cross-examine these gentlemen ourselves.

(1) How did they come to be "implicated"?

(Continued on page 15.)



## PROHIBITION IN VICTORIA.

### WORK OF THE VICTORIAN LEAGUE—A SATISFACTORY REPORT.

Victoria's annual drink bill, amounting to well over £8,500,000 per annum, or £5/10/- per head, is:

1. Nineteen times the value of gold production in that State in 1922.
2. Twenty-two times greater than the expenditure on general hospitals.
3. More than three times the cost of education.
4. Five times the expenditure on old-age pensions.
5. Nearly twice the value of wool production.
6. Five times the value of all cereals produced, excepting wheat.

During the year the number of cases of drunkenness in Victoria was not far short of 9000. There were also 4114 cases of breach of the liquor laws, and well over two thousand other police cases in which liquor played a part, such as riotous, indecent and offensive conduct, obscene, threatening and abusive language, indecent exposure and assault, and so forth.

Under the circumstances it will readily be acknowledged that there is room and to spare for the campaign in favor of Prohibition conducted by the Victorian Anti-Liquor League.

The annual report of our sister Society shows that it is in a healthy position financially, and that it has conducted a vigorous campaign during the past year with distinctly gratifying results.

Despite various items of extraordinary expenditure, including more than £1000 for the publication of the book, "35,000 Miles of Prohibition," and expenses incidental to the visit of Mr. Gifford Gordon to America, the League closed the year with a credit balance of approximately £1890. Its revenue for the year was £12,225, of which £5722 was spent on salaries, wages and bonuses, £1772 on office necessities, £1247 on literature, £808 on travelling expenses, £352 on the political department, £100 on the Australian Council, and only £2/2/- on legal expenses. There was a loss on the official organ of the League, "The Clarion Call," the expenditure being shown at £328/4/7 and the receipts at £107/1/5.

Owing to depletion of the staff through absences and to bad weather, field work was much impeded during the year. Nevertheless, some 4312 meetings were held, at which 295,071 people were present, making a total of 10,194 meetings held since the inception of the League. The headquarters staff raised £11,176 at field day services, and during the year the names of over five hundred ministers and clergymen throughout the State were added to the list of the honorary staff of the League.

Gratifying publicity was secured in the country press, column reports of Prohibition addresses being quite common, but the metropolitan press was hostile, sixteen editorials published by them during the year all being unfavorable to Prohibition.

During the year the League passed resolutions in favor of the closing of hotels on Anzac Day, and protesting against the theory that there is any essential connection between the provision of accommodation, as such, and the selling of intoxicating liquors. The League protested to the Railway Commissioners against liquor advertisements on railway bridges, and the Commissioners have agreed to remove all advertisements from such bridges, but some of the contracts do not expire until 1928.

The Vigilance Department has been very active, and some 37 applications for licenses were successfully resisted, as against only eight failures. Advice was given in connection with 178 alleged breaches of the licensing law, and 27 cases of sly-grog selling. The total number of cases dealt with by the Courts was over 4000.

The new liquor law in Victoria has abolished local option and has postponed the poll until 1930. On the other hand, the Amending Act of 1922, called the "Brewers' Act," extends to the liquor interests the right under certain conditions to initiate a local option poll in order to secure a license in any prescribed area. The first effort to secure such a poll, at Chelsea, was successfully resisted by the League. An application for a temporary license in one of the closer settlement areas was also defeated under the provisions of the Closer Settlement Act, which provides that no licenses shall be granted within closer settlement areas, a provision which shows by inference what the Government really thinks of Prohibition.

The League has adopted an extensive programme for the current year, including stricter law-enforcement, an early revision of the Act, preparation for the next State election, a campaign for the restoration of the local option poll or State option on the bare majority, extension of the work of the Vigilance Department and several of the activities of the New South Wales Alliance, including a pledge-signing campaign, a Juvenile Department, and so forth.

All the statistical evidence available as to population, building, municipal revenue, and so forth goes to show that the no-license areas in Victoria have gone ahead, and that the gloomy prognostications of the liquor interests have all been falsified in the event.

Mistress—

Mary, your kitchen  
is a picture!

However do you  
get everything so  
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& bright?



Yes, ma'am, it do  
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### TO PARENTS.

Have you realised the importance of instructing your children in matters of sex which every child has a right to know in a clean, wholesome manner? If you want help write to us for some of our penny booklets, and send one shilling in postal note or stamps, with your full address. We can supply booklets for Parents, Boys, Girls, Youths and Maidens. You will never miss a shilling so spent, and your children in years to come will thank you heartily. Rev. R. B. S. Hammond has been using them for past 24 years.

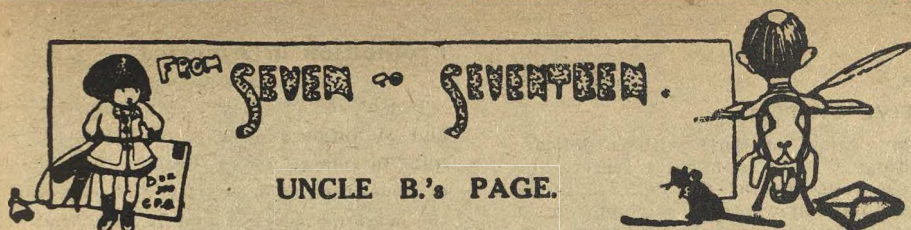
**The Australasian White Cross  
League,**

56 ELIZABETH-STREET, SYDNEY.

W. E. WILSON, Hon. Secretary.

PASS "GRIT" ON.





## UNCLE B.'s PAGE.

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 390 G.P.O., Sydney.

### WHY IS GAMBLING WRONG?

My young friends will soon find themselves face to face with the question of gambling. You will know of "nice people" who are also called "good people," who do not think there is any harm in a little betting.

You will be surprised to find "ladies" who, at cards or the races, quite cheerfully gamble. Even more perplexing to you will be the fact that some churches have no horror of our national vice.

The Rev. Father J. J. Coady said at Wingham the other day: "What was wrong with gambling, anyhow, if carried out on lines that are fair and square? When the first Apostles and Disciples assembled to elect a successor to Judas Iscariot, it was not to vote by ballot they had recourse, but they took a gamble on the issue. They drew lots, and the lot fell upon Mathias, and he was numbered amongst the Apostles. What was good enough for the first Apostles and Disciples should be good enough for us."

This is not only nonsense, it is blasphemy. Gambling is not made right by being carried out on lines that are fair and square.

Nothing that is wrong in itself can be made right by the way it is carried out.

A silver flagon or a golden goblet makes no difference to the liquid they contain.

Robin Hood's highway robbery was not right because he only stole from the rich. Nor would it have been right if he had only stolen half of all they had.

Now, drawing lots was not gambling, and Father Coady ought to be ashamed of himself for not knowing that.

Gambling is an exchange of property by the means of chance. Now there are only two right ways of exchanging property. Either you give something in exchange for it or it is a goodwill gift. The money I obtain by gambling I have given nothing in exchange for, nor is it a goodwill gift.

In other words, gambling is daylight robbery. It does not matter how much or how little you win or lose, you can't afford to be a thief. Gambling is always and under every circumstance wrong.

UNCLE B.

### OUR LETTER BAG.

#### SCHOOL IS BEST.

Mildred Newman, Rous, writes: I suppose you think it is time I wrote to you. Well, I'm of the same opinion. Please cross me

off the scallywag list, for I know I'm on it. We could do with a drop of rain now, although we are not as badly off as they are at Eltham and Lismore way. School is still going good. I like it very much. I read in one letter in "Grit" where someone liked holidays, and wished they were longer. Well, I don't. I'd rather school than holidays. I was glad to get back to school. We had our Harvest Festival last Sunday, and the sale of gifts was on Monday night. There was a nice collection of fruit. Iris and father have not been well to-day. Iris is asleep on the couch. The pears are nearly done now. We have five big trees. They are only cooking pears. I wish they were eating pears. We are going to have a Sunday school concert on the 25th of this month, when we will get our prizes. My last prize was "Mermaidens," by Sarah Tytler. It is a nice book. Do you like reading, Uncle? I do. I get a book from the school library every Friday. I passed my Q.C. this time, so I am in the seventh class now. I think I love algebra, composition, dictation, reading, and arithmetic best. I got two first prizes at the Alstonville Show. They were for cocoa-nut ice and French jellies. It was the first time I put anything in. Mother and Edgar got a lot of prizes, too. I must close now, with kind regards to all "Grit" cousins and yourself.

(Dear Mildred,—I am never surprised when those who love school win prizes. Those who love holidays only have a good time, and find it harder and harder to get as they grow older—but the more prizes you get the easier it is to get them.—Uncle B.)

\* \* \*

#### A NEW HOME.

Leonard Cocks, "Riversdale," Pitt Town, writes: We moved from Kubba Kundi in January. This place is about two and a half miles away. We have more ground than at Kubba Kundi. We have a few different sorts of fruit trees. We are on the Hawkesbury River. The house is very comfortable. We have three cows and two horses; I milk one cow every night. The weather is very dry up here; we have not had any rain for a long time. I am trying to grow vegetables; some of my seeds are up. I have two miles to walk to school, but sometimes I get a ride. Love to all "Grit" cousins and yourself.

(Dear Leonard,—We are all interested in your moving into a new home. It used to be a very splendid custom, when folk moved into a new home, to have the clergyman go in first, and they all went with him from room to room as he blessed it.—Uncle B.)

#### SLIPPERY TIME.

Ruth Crawford, "Moomoombin," Alstonville, writes: I suppose you have been wondering why I have not written to you. Well, I really haven't had time. Since I last wrote to you I have had a letter from Mr. Macauley, who lives in Port Macquarie, asking me if I could get a Junior Rechabite Tent at Alstonville. We had our Sunday school concert last Thursday night, and I took part in three songs, and I recited. I have to work hard this year because I wish to sit for the High School examination, and if I pass I am going to the Lismore High School next year. That will be fine, will it not? I also have to sit for the Sunday school examination. By the way, you asked me to tell you all about my birthday. Well, mother made me a cake, and my sister Joyce iced it. I was not able to have a birthday party because my birthday was soon after school opened. Mother said that when I go to high school I will have my birthday at home, because the high school children get six weeks' holidays.

(Dear Ruth,—So you find Mr. Time a slippery fellow, who gets away so quietly and quickly that lots of things are left over and undone. But remember time is like money—it is difficult to spend wisely. And there is this difference: We all have the same amount of time, and we have all the time there is.—Uncle B.)

#### COMING TO SYDNEY.

Eric Johnston, Rose Valley, Gerringong, writes: I wonder if it is three months since I last wrote to you? I hope my name is not on the black list yet. We are having nice rain to-day. It will do an immense lot of good. The district round here looks beautiful. The paspalum is hanging over the fence. At Christmas I got a pencil-box, a pen, and two pencils, a writing pad, a bag of lollies, and a shilling. We will soon have the telephone on. The poles are up. I hope to be in Sydney at Easter time. I may see you at the Show.

(Dear Eric,—I hope I see you at Easter time—but it won't be at the Show. I never go to it. Too much of a crowd, and it is my only way of protesting against their desecrating Good Friday. That is the day I hold most sacred.—Uncle B.)

\* \* \*

#### A RIDE.

Wallie Johnston, Rose Valley, writes: I had a very nice Christmas. I got a croquet set, a mouth organ, a pocket knife, and a tie. We went to Seven-mile Beach on Boxing Day and had a swim and got wet. On New Year's Day the Church of England held their picnic. I came second in a race and got a fountain pen. We will be soon getting the telephone; the poles are laid along the line. I went to Kiama Show the two days and had several rides on the merry-go-round.

(Dear Wallie,—So you had a ride on the get-off-where-you-go-on machine. I never did like a merry-go-round, but I love a ride on a live horse. I expect you do also.—Uncle B.)



## Alcohol and the Human Body—

(Continued from page 3.)

### ALCOHOL AND THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.

The stomach, and, in fact, the whole alimentary canal, is lined with a delicate mucous membrane composed of cells whose chief duty it is to make and secrete the digestive juices. Under the influence of alcohol these cells shrink; the delicate lining becomes exposed and irritated. An unhealthy secretion follows, and a condition of catarrh is set up. The nerves controlling the blood vessels are paralysed by alcohol. These vessels become dilated and the stomach becomes inflamed with slowly-moving blood.

Alcohol will also cause waste of the precious gastric juice by its false stimulation of the cells which form the gastric glands. The mouths of these glands in turn become blocked with the waste of cell tissue. The whole work of the digestive cells is therefore seriously impaired.

It is important to note, however, that these unhealthy conditions can prevail without the patient's being conscious of any discomfort. Thus is the "moderate drinker" mocked.

### ALCOHOL AND THE LIVER.

The liver is an important organ whose chief duties are to store up sugar and to secrete bile. This work is carried on by thousands of tiny liver cells plentifully supplied with materials from numerous blood vessels. The effect of alcohol on the liver is as follows:

1. The blood vessels are quickly dilated, causing an abnormal amount of blood to flow through the organ.
2. The liver cells become swollen. Their protoplasm changes into fat; they are unable to take the starchy foods from the blood and store them up.
3. The fibrous tissue cells which are less sensitive than the liver cells proper become enlarged, and instead of merely binding and supporting the liver cells begin to form hard "scar" tissue and press on the liver cells, and even replace them. Later this scar tissue will press on the blood vessels. The watery part of the blood which can travel more quickly will ooze out before it reaches the liver proper and so cause dropsy.

### ALCOHOL AND THE KIDNEY.

The kidney is a filtering system of thousands of tubules composed of cells. These cells have the power of taking waste matters from the blood and excreting them. The action of alcohol on these cells causes—

1. Cloudy swelling.
2. Fatty degeneration.
3. Increase of fibrous tissue as in the case of the liver.

A final shrinking of the kidney and increase of fibrous tissue with corresponding failure on the part of the kidney cells will cause Bright's disease.

Alcohol's greatest danger to the blood is its power to paralyse the white corpuscles, the cells on which we depend for the attacking of microbes and foreign bodies in the blood. Alcohol's presence in the blood seriously interferes with the carrying of oxygen to the tissues and the removal of waste matters resulting from cell activity, since it can eat up oxygen and absorb water.

### ALCOHOL AND THE HEART.

The theory that alcohol increased the pumping power of the heart has been proved to be wrong. Experiments show that blood, with only one-quarter per cent, in it, shows within one minute diminished heart activity. Alcohol depresses heart muscle and paralyses the delicate nerves in the heart wall. As with the smaller vessels there is a corresponding dilation of the blood vessel walls, and the vessel becomes overcharged with blood. The heart of an alcoholic will be found to be seriously hampered by abnormal quantities of fat, and the continuous dilation of the organ often brings a fatal failure of its action.

### ALCOHOL AND THE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM.

Here we find alcohol reaping its most terrifying harvest. It has now been proved—

1. That alcohol can find its way into the very germ cells themselves.
2. That a parent whose organism is devitalised by alcohol at the same time lowers the vitality of the unborn child.
3. That alcohol can be present in the milk when the mother has taken beverages containing this drug.

A case is known of an infant who lay senseless for 24 hours as a result of alcoholised milk.

Among Bavarians, the greatest beer-drinking people of the world, 300 out of 1000 babies were found to be born dead.

4. It has also been found that (a) sterility and (b) deficient lactation are direct results of alcoholism.

The children of alcoholic parents have been proved to form a high percentage of our mentally defective, criminal and immoral population, and that a child born of alcoholic parents has lowered powers of resistance to all diseases, and at the same time probably inherits an exaggerated susceptibility to drug action on its cells.

Alcohol is a protoplasmic poison which can destroy any and every tissue in our bodies, and can blight the lives of our children at their very source. To take alcohol in any form at all as a beverage is obviously a serious physiological error. It is a drug, and therefore creates a desire for itself in the very cells it is destroying.

The only way in which we can prevent this poison from destroying our national health and efficiency is by preventing by legislation the wholesale manufacture and distribution of beverages containing alcohol.

## Prohibition in America—

(Continued from page 5.)

President of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co., of Pittsburg, sums up: "In general I feel that this law has been of benefit to this country and especially to the working classes, and believe that much greater benefits will be obtained as the law becomes better enforced as times goes on. You, of course, can realise that it is a very difficult matter to enforce so rigid a Prohibition law as the one passed by our Congress, and now made a part of the Constitution of this country. Progress is being made, however, and I feel that within the next generation we will see very decidedly beneficial results from the operation of this law."

Treasurer of the Bankers' Land and Investment Corporation of Detroit, says: "I have personal knowledge of a number of families who are really living now and who merely existed before. You must remember that Prohibition is largely a matter of education, and all people do not take kindly to it, and it will probably take another generation to get the real effects."

The Assistant Manager of the Chamber of Commerce, Topeka, Ka., states that building loan companies in Topeka increased their capital stock from 8,000,000 dollars to 19,000,000 dollars. He adds that the health authorities say they have had fewer patients and less social diseases since Prohibition went into effect.

The President of the Spokane Dry Goods Co., Spokane, Washington: "There is no question as to the great economic gain, entirely aside from the moral gain. It has increased thrift and improved general business conditions."

The President of the Commonwealth Steel Co., St. Louis, says: "Our company has since Prohibition loaned 150,000 dollars to employees for house building; also Prohibition has brought about a decrease in industrial accidents."

The President of the C. H. Morgan Grocery Co. says he thinks Prohibition has done more to make happy homes than any other movement in history.

The Chamber of Commerce, Canton, Ohio: "The thinking people realise that it will take a generation to stamp out customs which were common for centuries, but more and more people are realising that the use of liquor is in every way detrimental, and in no way an advantage. There has been, and will be for years to come, agitation in certain quarters for a return of the saloon, this coming largely from those who would profit thereby. The claim that there is more drunkenness now than with saloons is so absurd as not to be worthy of attention. In former days it was common to meet a dozen drunken men within a few blocks. To-day a drunken man is a public curiosity. Saloons will return to this country 'when the sun begins to rise in the west,' and no sooner."

## YOU HAVE TO DO WITHOUT

Something else if you pay big fees for your dental work.

MY FEES ARE VERY FAIR.

**DENTIST REANEY**

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**BORN TO TROUBLE.**

A man is but a worm of the dust—he comes along, wriggles about a while, and finally some chicken gets him.

**ALMOST A RECORD.**

"Say, that's a fast-looking car you've got there. What's the most you ever got out of it?"

"Five times in a mile."

**WANT ON, WANT EVER.**

"No, Herbert, I am sorry; but I am sure we could not be happy together. You know I always want my own way in everything."

"But, my dear girl, you could go on wanting it after we were married."

**HIS REAL STATUS.**

Judge: "You are charged with being a deserter, having left your wife. Are all of the facts in the case true?"

Prisoner: "No, your Honor, I am not a deserter. Just a refugee."

**NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH.**

Employer: "I hear you were away ill yesterday, Snooks."

Snooks: "Yes, sir."

Employer: "You didn't look very ill when I saw you at the races in the afternoon."

Snooks: "Didn't I, sir? You should have seen me after the finish of the third race."

**FAR TOO FAR.**

"Dollar eggs are not far off," begins a market story, which does not mention the degree of offness of the fifty-cent brand.

**INCREASING THE DROUGHT.**

America must be wondering why we are sending so many lecturers to the United States. The country is dry enough already.

**ONE AT A TIME.**

Many ministers could, from personal experience, tell of strange names bestowed upon infants at their baptism, but few could equal the following story recently told by the Bishop of Sodor and Man. A mother who was on the lookout for a good name for her child, saw on the door of a building the word "Nosmo." It attracted her, and she decided that she would adopt it. Some time later, passing the same building, she saw the name "King" on another door. She thought the two would sound well together, and so the boy was baptised "Nosmo King Smith." On her way home from the church where the baptism had taken place, she passed the building again. The two doors on which she had seen the names were now closed together, and what she read was not "Nosmo King," but "No smoking."

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**DECEIVING SYMPTOM.**

"Are you a messenger boy?" asked the near-sighted man of a boy in the street.

"No, sir," was the indignant reply, "it's my sore toe that makes me walk so slowly."

**MIXED DIRECTIONS.**

First Freshman (putting up pictures): "I can't find a single pin. Where do they all go to, anyway?"

Second Freshman: "It's hard to tell, because they're pointed in one direction and headed in another."

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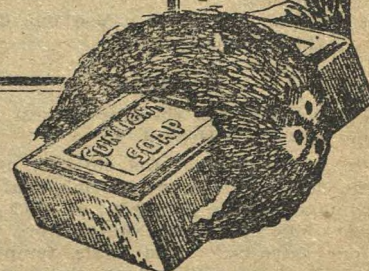
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Coconut Oil  
blend is the  
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Sunlight cleansing





## DAILY INSPIRATION.

By FAIRELIE THORNTON, author of "Soul Rest," "Love Divine," etc.

### SUNDAY.

"Now men see not the bright light that is in the clouds."—Job, 37, 21.

Yes, there is a bright light shining through, and if you but wait in patience you will see a rift in those dark looming clouds hanging over your sky, and a golden gleam of sunshine widening more and more until it fills the whole landscape. The storms will pass, the sky be fair, the sun is shining still somewhere. "Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds" said the Psalmist, and many a cloudy pillar crossed his path. Yet God's faithfulness reached even to these. "Clouds are His chariot," and many a blessing does He bring to us in them. "His strength is in the clouds," and how frequently has that strength been imparted to us in the dark and cloudy day! "Thy truth reacheth unto the clouds," and yet how often do men lose their faith in His truth and in His faithfulness on account of the clouds which hide Him and His purposes from their weak mortal sight! They fail to believe what they cannot understand, forgetting that we are to "walk by faith and not by sight." "Clouds and darkness are round Him who is the Sun of righteousness." He ascended into heaven in the clouds, and when He comes again we are told He will come in the clouds. But He is often coming to men in the clouds. Sometimes He speaks to them in the crashing of the thunder. Again the storms which sometimes burst on the world may be His chariots. But there is always a bright light in the darkest sky. The stars are still shining behind the blackest night.

"Courage, brother, do not stumble  
Though thy path be black as night.  
There's a star to guide the humble.  
Trust in God and do the right."

How differently people view the clouds. Some see in the white fleeces an angel's robes, while others see masses of washing hanging out; just according to their tastes. Some see in the dark crests rolling up a token of some future harvest time in the plenteous showers, while others who think they could have made the world better than their Creator, see an ominous storm which will ruin their crops. Let us look for the bright light in the clouds, and we shall surely find it.

### MONDAY.

"The clouds are the dust of His feet."—Nah., 1, 3.

He worketh out His purposes through chaos and through strife,  
From darkness He can bring forth light,  
from death can bring forth life,  
And pain with her dark wings may be a messenger of light  
To lead us to the land of bliss where there is no more night.

Though clouds and darkness hide Him now from feeble mortal's sight,  
Faith trusts e'en where it cannot trace, and knows God doeth right.  
There is no night without a day, no shadow without sun,  
And one day we shall praise our God for all that He hath done.

### TUESDAY.

"There remaineth therefore a rest for the people of God."—Heb., 4, 9.

The journeyings of the children of Israel in the desert of Sin were symbolical of the pilgrimage of the children of God to the better land. "All these things were written for our learning." The trials, temptations, and difficulties which beset them are ours to-day. Like them, our souls are often "much discouraged because of the way." Like them, we are tempted to murmur and to think the

bondage of sin was perhaps easier than the way we are now treading. "We are not as yet come to the rest and the inheritance which the Lord our God promised." The land flowing with milk and honey is not yet visible. Many giants have to be contended with before we reach that land, many a weary path has to be trodden. Yet let us remember there remaineth a rest for the people of God.

"Onward and upward be thine endeavor,  
The rest that remaineth shall be for ever."

There will be plenty of time in eternity for resting. Here we must often feel the weariness of the flesh, but there no weariness shall trouble us more when once the bonds of flesh are cast off. Work will there be rest. "The toils of the day will be nothing, when we get to the end of the way." Oh, wearied Christian, when you feel faint and tired of your work, remember "there is resting by and by," a rest which is eternal. Then press on awhile. Time hastens fast away. Each moment brings us nearer to that eternal day. Others have entered into rest, and we, too, shall follow. Our turn is coming. "Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon we'll lay our burdens down." Perhaps sooner than we think. "For we are nearer home to-day than we've ever been before. Rest for our souls we may have here, but rest for our bodies we must wait for in the by and by.

### WEDNESDAY.

"What is your life? It is even a vapor which appeareth for a little while and then vanisheth away."—Jas., 4, 14.

Onward and onward with no pause nor break,  
We hurry still towards our long, long home.  
Nearer and nearer at each step we take,  
Nearer and nearer as days pass and come.

The shadows lengthen o'er our homeward way,  
Death's night draws on and shrouds earth's passing day.

Whither, ah, whither, do our footsteps tend?—

We see an endless day beyond death's night.

Say, is it thitherward our way we wend,  
Or will death's night ne'er end in other light?

Will it grow denser on the other side,  
Or will the shadows flee across the tide?

There is a ray which darts from yonder Sun  
To show the path which leads to realms of Day.

We will not turn aside, nor that light shun.  
Lest haply we at last should miss our way.  
This light doth show the footmarks of our King

Who trod this path His rebels home to bring.

### THURSDAY.

"THE FRIEND OF SINNERS."

Who else would dare to call himself the FRIEND of sinners? Man is known by the company he keeps, and "birds of a feather flock together," is one of the truest old proverbs ever made. But who but the Sinless One could consort with such, and be called the friend of such, without being contaminated, or at any rate having his name besmirched? Real gold can pass through the fire untarnished. No human being can touch pitch without being defiled; but the Divine One could come into touch with the vilest and yet not lose one particle of His inherent purity. "The Friend of sinners." Yes, only One could be that. Are you a sinner? Then you are His friend. If you are not, then you are the only one for whom He did not die. "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Some object to calling themselves "miserable sinners." If they are happy sinners they ought to be



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YOUR EYES IS

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ashamed of themselves, and ask God to make them miserable on account of their sins, for they are sinners whether they choose to acknowledge the fact or not. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." If we had not sinned Jesus need not have died. The sinless One offers His friendship to us. Friend of sinners—not of sin. Let us never make that mistake. "He was manifested to destroy the works of the devil." Not that we may continue in sin. Let us come to the fountain opened for sin and uncleanness, for "if we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Then will He say to us, "Thy sins are forgiven thee—go, and sin no more."

### FRIDAY.

WHAT IS SIN?

"Every thought of foolishness is sin."—Prov., 24, 9.

"Whatsoever is not of faith is sin."—Rom., 14, 23.

"To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."—Jas., 1, 17.

"In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin."—Prov., 10, 19.

"A high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked is sin."—Prov., 21, 4.

"The sting of death is sin."—1 Cor., 15, 16.

"If ye have respect of person ye commit sin."—Jas., 2, 2.

"All unrighteousness is sin."—1 John, 5, 1.

### SATURDAY.

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."—Isa., 41, 30.

No time is wasted which is spent in prayer.

Prayer is the hardest work the soul can know.

The power His ministry of love to share

On those who wait on God He will bestow.

Work is the outcome of true prayer; in vain  
The labor not by prayer inspired.

By prayer we can the noblest heights attain;

Who prayeth most will be with ardour fired.

Talk more with God than man, then shalt thou go

Forth from thy knees the world God's power to show.

The world needs men of prayer to bring it back

To higher things. For work is seed  
Which rain and nourishment and life doth lack.

Dead, barren chaff the world can never feed.

As fuel without fire, work without prayer  
Will never kindle warmth for those around.

By communing with God for work prepare,  
So shalt thou utter no uncertain sound.

Tarry ye till ye be with power endued,  
Then work shall follow prayer, and be of lasting good.



## A Liquor-Protecting Government—

(Continued from page 9.)

(2) How is it that they were cited for the defence on the original information—that of selling liquor after hours?

It is a rule of law that a witness, who is not called in an expert capacity, cannot express opinions and can only testify as to facts within his own knowledge. Such being the case, does it not follow that Sir George Fuller and the others must have been on the premises of the Carlton Hotel on the day in respect of which the information was laid, and that they must have had personal knowledge of what occurred? We do not suggest that Sir George Fuller and his colleagues were at the Carlton Hotel for "an unlawful purpose." Far be it from us even to hint at the possibility of such exalted personages so much as contemplating evasion of the liquor laws. All we do say (with bated breath) is that their appearance in Court on the original information would have left a much sweeter atmosphere behind this case. It needs a siren to call the alarm as one steers through this murky air.

The affair is wrapt in suspicion and littered with torn-up subpoenas, and the circumstances are calculated to shatter public confidence in the administration of justice in this State. It is evident that here we have what looks like an amiable "gentleman's agreement" to put winkers on the already blindfolded goddess of Justice. And what matter public safety if the equipoise of high and exalted personages be disturbed? We shall make it our business to see that the papers are called for and that questions are asked when the House re-assembles. Those papers are public property. The reputation and good faith of the Government are involved in this matter, and the Government must explain its position, and what happened in the name of George Rex.

## THE GOVERNMENT TROUNCED.

### WHAT THE "LABOR DAILY" SAYS.

The only daily newspaper in Sydney which has been honest and courageous enough to take the Government to task over this Carlton case is the "Labor Daily," and what it says is so very much to the point and so forcibly put that we reproduce its leading article of the 2nd inst. in extenso. The paper says:

### "WHERE MR. LEY'S SPOOKS ARE NEEDED.

"The attitude of the authorities towards the Carlton Hotel prosecutions will certainly tend to give color to the belief, very strongly and quite honestly held in certain quarters, that there is one administration of the licensing law for the big hotels frequented by the well-to-do, and another for the smaller houses used by the commonalty. It is, of course, impossible to say whether the more serious charge of selling liquor after hours could have been sustained upon evidence. But the charge having been made, it should have been proceeded with.

"There has been an extraordinary tenderness on the part of the authorities towards this evidently influential defendant. Not only was a less serious charge substituted for a more serious, but the Crown readily acquiesced in the application that the conviction should not be recorded against the licensee. And all this notwithstanding a very recent previous conviction.

"Why all this studied consideration in respect of this particular house, which it is impossible not to interpret as part of a special consideration for this class of house? In fact, the representative of the Crown practically admitted that the tenderness of the authorities was to be thus interpreted. Prosecuting counsel volunteered that 'residential hotels like the Carlton had been allowed more or less liberty.' Why? Why should there be one reading of the law for

the Carlton and other like hotels, and another for the Miners' Arms or the Bricklayers' Arms, or the hundreds of other licensed houses throughout the city and suburbs? All hotels are more or less residential, or should be if the letter of the law is being obeyed and its spirit observed. And the people who board or lodge or eat in the less pretentious hostels are just as fond of a glass with their meals as the well-to-do habitués of the Carlton. If 'more or less liberty' has been allowed to the one lot of houses, it should have been allowed to the other. But neither more nor less liberty should have been allowed, or should be allowed, to either class.

"There is one thing this Carlton business makes apparent, that it is not the police that are to blame for any discrimination there is in the administration of the licen-

sing law. The police did their duty in this case. They alleged that they caught the hotel trading after hours. They took the responsibility of laying an information which they believe they could have sustained. It was the authorities that yielded to influence, and stood between the licensee and what would have been the penalty of a conviction. There is something very sinisterly suggestive in the character of the evidence that was to be relied upon for the defence, whose witnesses included the Premier of the State and his Attorney-General. It is impossible not to believe that these names indicate the influence that was effectual to interfere with the straight course of this prosecution.

"It is not the police upon whom Mr. Ley must set his spooks if he wants more efficient licensing-law administration. Evidently he must aim at much bigger game."

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## "Spooks" Appointed—

(Continued from page 6.)

It may interest some of our readers to know that methylated spirits, a default de mieux, is quite a popular drink. Lots of toppers imbibe it when they are unable to get anything else. A telegram from Melbourne a few days ago stated that the methylated fiends there obtain it from printers and chemists. They buy it by the bottle and retail it at twopence or threepence a glass. There are quite a lot of addicts in Sydney. It makes you merry very quickly, but the recovery is somewhat painful.

During the week one shaky old party of the "softer" sex was picked up in the gutter dead drunk and nursing a bottle of methylated spirits in her arms. She told the magistrate she would pray for him if he would send her to a home, but it looks as though she wanted some praying done for her.

### A QUICK CURE.

Mention of methylated spirits recalls an amusing incident which happened a year or two ago at an institution for the treatment of alcoholism in Victoria—one of those places where you pay ten guineas a week and "go on the bust" as soon as you leave them. A bad case arrived one night. The next morning he crawled down to breakfast, sick, pallid, and very shaky and nervous. After swallowing a cup of tea, he asked the superintendent to give him some work to do. The superintendent told him not to worry about work, but to have a rest. The man persisted, saying he would go mad if he did not have something to occupy his mind. At last, to pacify him, the superintendent suggested that he might polish the brass in the bathroom. At dinner time our patient comes down the stairs two at a time, whistling, joking, and apparently in the best of spirits. Actually, he was in the worst of spirits—he had imbibed a bottle of methylated spirits kept in the bathroom to heat the califont.

### A MOTOR FATALITY.

A shocking story was unfolded in the Parramatta Coroner's Court last week touching the death of a young girl, sixteen years of age, in a motor smash on the Sydney-road, Homebush. The car which collided with that in which the girl was contained four men, including a master mariner, who for two days had apparently been careering about boozing in a number of "pubs." The night before the fatality they slept in the car after having had several drinks, and the next morning they continued to "liquor up." At one hotel they had been "acting the goat," but denied having left because the publican refused to serve them. And so a young girl lost her life. And there are still people who are prepared to defend the liquor traffic and to protest that any attempt to abolish it amounts to a grave and tyrannical infringement of their sacred liberties. Heigh-ho!

### MANSLAUGHTER.

During the week a young man named Richard Walsh was sentenced at Darlinghurst to two years' imprisonment on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of William Hegarty, station-master at Gladesville, last December. Both men were returned soldiers, and had been on friendly terms. On the day of the fatality both had been drinking, and late in the evening Hegarty tried to snatch a bottle of beer from Walsh, who struck him. Hegarty stumbled and struck his head against a wall, sustaining a fractured skull, which caused death. It was stated that Walsh had some fifteen previous convic-

tions against him for offensive behaviour, indecent language, having goods in his possession suspected of having been stolen, and so forth, but that he had never yet served a term in jail. How that came about was not stated. Some poor fellows strike jail the very first time they do anything wrong. Walsh appears to be a thoroughly bad character, and nobody will consider a sentence of two years excessive. But the moral of the story, from our point of view, lies on the surface. It is pitiable that drink should lead two war comrades to such an end. The more one studies the police news, the more does it seem amazing that the public does not rise up as one man to banish the curse of drink from our midst. That it is tolerated, and even made the subject of jest, goes to show how very little we are still removed from barbarism. Civilization is not much more than a veneer.

### DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE.

A serious disaster will occur very shortly if somebody doesn't hurry up. The Collector of Customs at Brisbane has 1000 gallons of vodka, the Russian national tippie, in store, which nobody wants to buy owing to the heavy duty, so he threatens to destroy it if a purchaser does not turn up soon. Now, as we all know, vodka is toothsome stuff, and this particular parcel ought to be well-aged, so if anybody wants to replenish his cellar here is an opportunity which may not recur. Surely nobody is going to allow 1000 gallons of vodka to be wasted!

"The House of Economy"

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### A GOOD TIP.

One of the newspapers reports that the well-known English brewers, Messrs. Barclay, Perkins, and Co., Ltd., have established a school in Southwark to train "pub" managers in cookery and to give them "a thorough knowledge of the regulations under the licensing laws." The sooner something of the sort is started in Sydney the better. The cooking in our leading hotels will pass muster, but there appears to be a deplorable ignorance of the licensing laws. A course of lectures on the implications of six o'clock closing, for instance, might do wonders.

### A GORGEOUS DRUNK.

It is often asserted that no drunkenness is ever seen in France, which is pre-eminently a wine-drinking country. The present writer could tell a very different story, but what about this, cabled a few days ago from London:

"The 'Daily Chronicle's' Paris correspondent tells an amusing story of two Breton sailors who visited the Meat Market when drunk.

"An official threw them into a vat of sheep's blood, but they scrambled out, and then fell asleep.

"The police arrived, and thought the men had been murdered, but, hearing them snore, concluded they were murderers, and both were arrested.

"The comedy was revealed when they sobered up."