

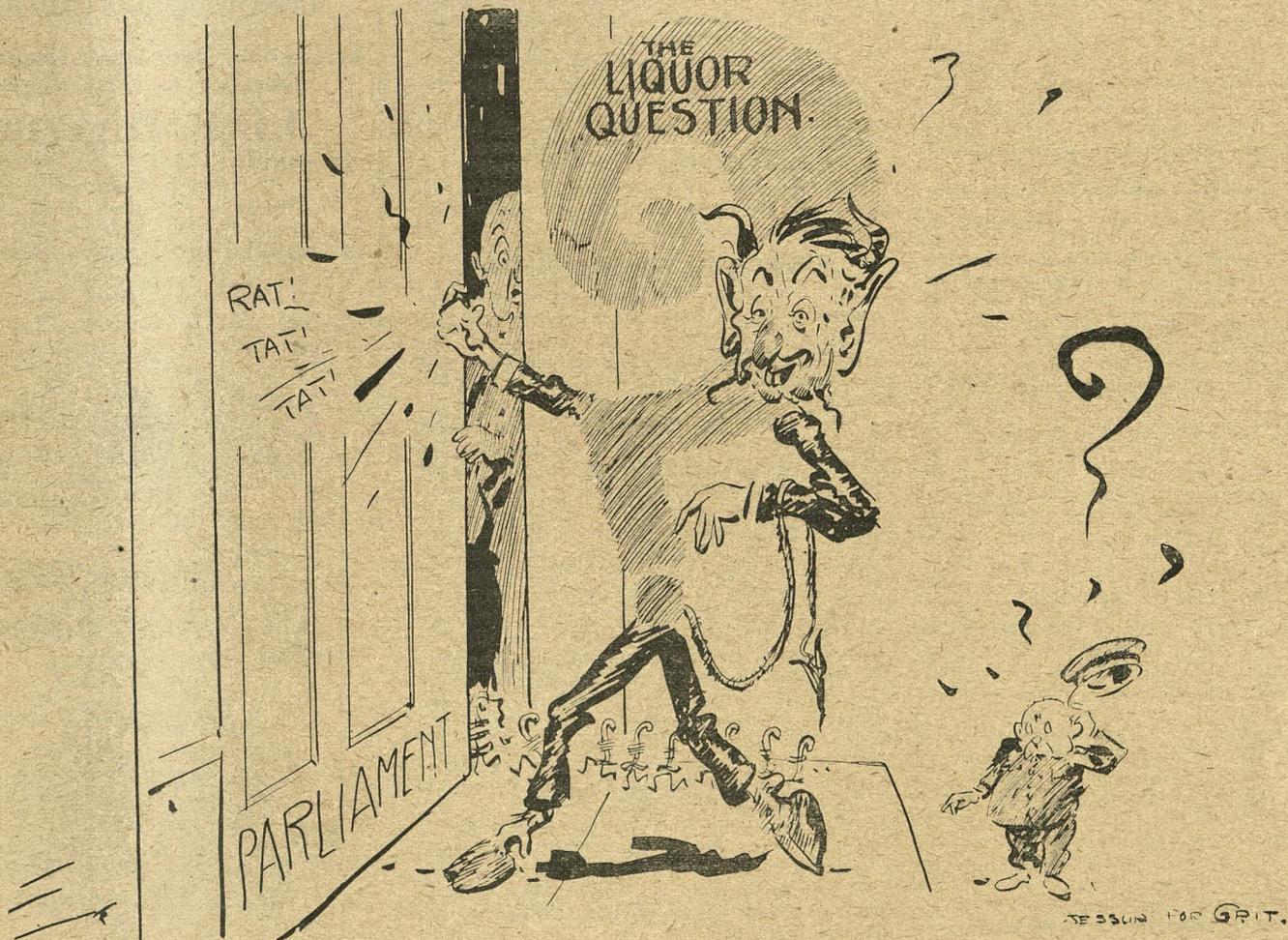
Grit.

A JOURNAL OF NATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PROHIBITION.

VOL. XX. No. 35. Twopence.

SYDNEY, NOVEMBER 11, 1926.

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A QUESTION THAT MUST BE FACED.

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DRUNKEN M.'sP.?**COMMONS DEFENDS ITS DIGNITY.****PITT'S "THREE SPEAKERS."****MEMBER'S STATEMENT DECLARED A GROSS LIBEL.**

The House of Commons yesterday carried a motion declaring that a statement made by a Labor M.P. at a Good Templar Lodge, that he had seen members intoxicated in the House, was a gross libel on the House and a gross breach of privilege.

("Sun" Special.)

LONDON, October 26.

Liveliness was imparted to question time in the House of Commons to-day by Mr. Neil McLean (Labor, Govan) protesting against passages from Dean Inge's book, "England," in which the author declares, "The House of Commons is visibly deteriorating. The new type of Labor member is sometimes a drunken blackguard, who turns the Commons into a beer garden."

The Speaker (Mr. J. H. Whitley) pointed out that he could not rule regarding the alleged breach of privilege, because the point had not been raised at the first opportunity after the publication. Perhaps it would suffice were he to add that from his own long experience the present Parliament compared favorably with any of its predecessors.

CHARGE REPEATED.

Immediately Dr. Salter's drunkenness charge was again mentioned, Dr. Salter (Labor, Bermondsey) rose and said: "Speaking with a full sense of responsibility and regardless of consequences, I am not prepared to withdraw, modify, qualify, or apologise for anything I have said. I said, and I repeat to-day, that I have seen members of all parties, including mine, drunk in this House, on not one occasion, but on many. (Cries of 'Name.') It is within the common knowledge of practically every member, and therefore a piece of affectation and hypocrisy for members to deny it. Between 50 and 60 members have told me that they approve of what I said, though they did not approve of the wisdom or propriety of saying so."

"TRUTHFUL RETORT."

"Further, I have assisted members of the House to remove at least one hopelessly intoxicated member. It is common knowledge and a smoking-room jest. I agree with Mr. Speaker, that the present Parliament compares favorably with its predecessors. I saw more drunkenness in the 1922-23 Parliament."

"My accusation is not against members as a whole, but against a certain section. If it is a breach of privilege to criticise members for disgracing, degrading and lowering the traditions and prestige of the House of Commons, then be it so, but the fact remains, and many times I have seen members after dinner flushed with wine, and all their higher powers of control abrogated. I have repeatedly been present when disorderly interruptions have been met with the truthful retort, 'You're drunk!'"

UNEQUAL FACILITIES.

Continuing, Dr. Salter said he desired earnestly and sincerely to maintain the high prestige of the House of Commons, because he believed Parliament's tradition alone could save the nation from industrial and economic disaster. If he consented to name individual transgressors, he would be guilty of a breach of courtesy, but should the House desire to pursue the matter further and appoint a committee of privilege, he would be prepared to supply the information, painful though the ordeal would be. He would continue, inside and outside the House, to pro-

test against the drinking facilities that members were afforded at all times of the day and night, though not allowed to public bodies and individuals.

HABITS IMPROVED.

When Dr. Salter sat down, the Speaker ordered him to withdraw while the House proceeded to debate the matter.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor (Nat., Liverpool) said the speech had been an instance of ardor and extremeness of opinion which often developed into rancor and partisanship. Drunkenness, he said, was rare in the House of Commons to-day. He recalled the story of Pitt, who, when asked if he could see the Speaker, replied that he could see three Speakers. That the drinking habits of the people generally had enormously improved was not more apparent anywhere than in the House of Commons. Such discussions, unfortunately, were apt to create a false impression.

Mr. J. R. Clynes (Labor, Plating) said it would be best to regard the speech as a well-intentioned, vigorous effort at temperance propaganda, and to withdraw the motion and allow the House to deal with more important business.

TEMPORARY FORGETFULNESS.

Col. Sir Arthur Holbrook (Con., Basingstoke), who had moved yesterday that Dr. Salter's speech was a gross libel on the House, and a gross breach of privilege, said he regretted that Dr. Salter had not apologised.

Mr. Baldwin said that for their own dignity the sooner they disposed of the question the better. In an assembly such as the House of Commons, numbering 600, it was obvious that there must occasionally be cases where men forgot themselves temporarily. All were aware of that, but did not talk about it. (Cheers.) What hurt his feelings was the fact that one of their number, who had worked among them and shared their social life, should have considered it his duty to speak about the matter outside, and then not to express to the House his regret for it. He was certain that the statement was a libel on the House and a breach of its privileges.

Mr. Lloyd George regretted that the matter had been raised, as the statement was not even approximately correct.

An amendment, to refer the matter to the Committee of Privileges, was defeated, and Sir Arthur Holbrook's motion was carried.

As no member moved for Dr. Salter's suspension, it is presumed that nothing further will be done.

**DETERMINED.
SALTER TO CARRY ON.
DRINK IN COMMONS.**

("Sun" Special.)

LONDON, October 27.

Dr. Salter, the Labor M.P. for Bermondsey (London), adheres to his charges of drunkenness among members of the House of Commons.

He says: "I cannot take the Commons debate seriously. I received many communications from Commonsers, one signed by thirty members, thanking me for carrying on the fight."

"I am continuing, assisted by loyal colleagues. We shall do everything possible to reduce the drinking facilities in the House."

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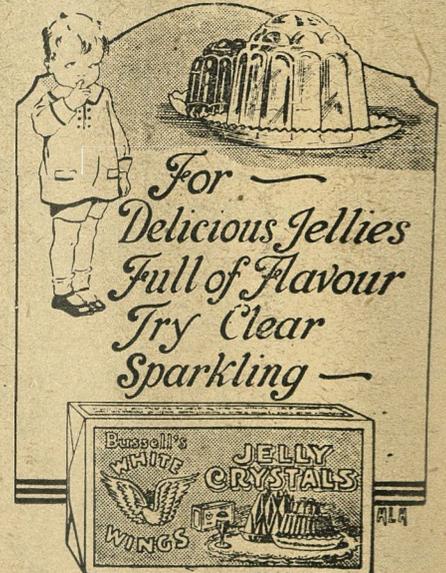
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THE WONDERS OF PRAYER.

NOT AN ACCIDENT, BUT A SCIENCE.

ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

Many prayers are of the hit or miss variety. Such folk shut both eyes and launch a hope into space. Some pray in the spirit of the pauper. "If there is anything in it, I may as well have a cut at it; it won't do any harm anyhow." Others pray in the same way that a drowning man is said to grasp at a straw. Real praying is not the whine of a pauper, the gamble of a desperate soul or the impudent request of the self-seeking and self-pitying; it is the fellowship of a child in the arms of its wonderful Father. It involves relationship, understanding and trustworthiness.

I must be "of the family of God." This is called "being born again," "having passed from death into life," "becoming a new creature in Christ." A child not only has a right of access denied to others; it has also a pledge of provision and care. I must have understanding. The baby that wants its father's gold watch is without understanding. I must be trustworthy. The sentry that sleeps on duty can be given no post of honor.

LORD, TEACH ME!

The disciples sensed that they were ignorant that they were on the threshold of an unexplored country when they prayed, and wisely they asked to be taught.

Now you can teach yourself painting or the piano, but no one will ever be in doubt as to who your teacher was. A pupil of the Master's will never be mistaken for a novice. But the masters have ever been jealous, exacting, punctilious. Praying is not a knack that may be learned by accident; it is a science acquired only by devotion, painstaking practice and care of details. The prayer to become a child may be uttered by the veriest scoundrel, but the prayer to possess a desirable thing can only be offered by one qualified to do so. God said of old, and still says, "Ask what I shall give thee."

The onus to discriminate is thrown upon us. Solomon asked for wisdom, and it was granted. A woman asked the highest place for her sons, and it was refused. Praying is by no means easy. This explains why so many "say their prayers," and so few "really pray," why so many listen to sermons with pleasure and join in prayers reluctantly.

Go to school again. While you will find the Bible is not a book of prayers it is a book of praying people, and can teach as no other book can teach.

THE SCOPE OF THE PETITIONS.

The United Intercessory Service, held every Wednesday in the basement of the Town Hall from 12.30 to 3.30, is a great testimony to the value, interest and resultful-

ness of prayer. Hundreds come and go, and petitions invariably almost overwhelm us. What do they request? Petitions for the sinful, the sick, the enslaved of habit, the back-sliders, those crushed by business burdens, those "at their wit's end," those undecided as to what they should do. Mothers plead for prodigals, wives send petitions with a sob in them for unfaithful husbands. Those out of employment entreat the Lord for an opportunity to earn their daily bread, and those engaged in the Lord's work crave endowment from on high. These petitions reveal faith, courage, patience, and often circumstances that are almost beyond credence.

Week after week we see the stubborn evil brought again before the Lord. Brothers who are wrecking their homes through drink are being given a chance through our prayers. A husband wealthy, and living near his wife treats his mistress with generosity, and doles out a miserable niggardly few shillings to his wife. She ceases not to pray for him. It would be depressing were it not for the wonderfulness of God.

SOME ENCOURAGEMENT.

Every week come such notes as these: "Praise God with me for the change in my husband since you have prayed for him in your meetings."

"Will you please offer thanks to God for His wonderful, unfailing help and guidance, and for the change. Contentment and blessing have come in such a way that makes one realise that God is a God who answers prayer, and gives more than our small minds could ever dream of asking—in so many ways He satisfies. Will you please also pray for dear old father, that he will receive and understand the blessed message that Jesus Christ is his Saviour?"

"Will you join with me in praising the Lord, that my two friends recently converted, for whom we unitedly thanked Him, the Lord has shown them that it is a full surrender that He wants, and they seem so willing to go all the way with Him, the Lord be praised. I do praise Him for further leading them. Will you join me in doing so? I do praise Him that He is going to answer prayer in connection with the conversion of my mother. He does; He will answer. I believe it. Thanking you."

GRATITUDE AND FAITH.

To thank God for something He has done is just common gratitude. To thank Him for something He has promised to do, that is faith. Here is a sample:

"Praise God, because I believe He will give me work to do. I am waiting for His answer. I know He is my Saviour, and

Psalm 37, 3, is quite true. Trust in the Lord and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed."

"It is with great joy I am able to tell you that our prayers have been answered. My beloved husband is 'trusting in Jesus' now. Thank God, He has answered all my prayers now except one. I wrote, three times in all, requesting prayers for my husband's conversion: I felt recently that prayers were being answered. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Now please pray for my only brother's conversion."

"Two young Christians (man and wife) desire to return grateful thanks to our loving Father for prayer answered in connection with a position. Five months out of work, with only five weeks' work in that time. Prayer was offered here again and again, and after attending last Wednesday's meeting here, the husband decided to put in a faith praise note to-day, but God has answered that note before it was put in, and He has sent him a splendid position, the one most suited to him in every way. 'God waits to be gracious.'"

"I have just received a letter from Western Australia, wishing to return thanks for the recovery of their little infant who was prayed for several times at these meetings. She is now gaining a little weight each week, sleeps well and can take her food. She is well enough now to be taken home."

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

Prohibition Brings Sunshine.

CHURCHES AND TEMPERANCE. ORGANISATIONS MAKE BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY AT TOWN HALL.

"This is the Prohibition event of the year" was the remark heard regarding the Sunshine Fair, held in the Sydney Town Hall in the interests of Prohibition education.

It was indeed a fine display, worthy of the great Prohibition Movement, and a remarkable illustration of the unity among those who regard it as the greatest social and national effort of the day.

Stallholders had worked with energy and enthusiasm for weeks past, being greatly encouraged in their work by the widespread response to their appeal to metropolitan and country churches of their denomination to co-operate with them. Parcels of all kinds came along to the office of the Fair Committee, from as far north as Tenterfield, and in the south to Berrigan, out to Parkes and down to Bega, along the north coast to Lismore, and over the mountains to Lithgow—small churches and big congregations showed their interest to be living and practical.

Every stallholder was ready to say a big "Thank you!" and every donor would have been delighted to have seen the display they had helped to make.

Willing workers quickly transformed the Town Hall basement into Fairyland, gay with coloring, suggestive of the sunshine which Prohibition will bring to the country. Even the workers were pleased with the effect, as they took short respite from their labors to wait for the opening ceremony.

OPENING CEREMONY.

Madam Wolfcarius, President of the Fair Committee, was in the chair at the opening ceremony, and on the platform with her were Sir Arthur Cocks, Revs. H. C. Foreman, M.A. (President of the New South Wales Prohibition Alliance), Archdeacon Boyce, G. R. S. Reid, Charles Whyte, McKay Barnett, J. Tarn, F. J. Dunkley, Messdames Jamieson Williams (President, W.C.T.U.), Sidney Moore, Miss Andrews (hon. secretary of Fair), Messrs. H. M. Hawkins, H. G. Harward, G. D. Clark, Colonel Fisher.

Archdeacon Boyce opened the ceremony with prayer.

Rev. H. C. Foreman, in a brief statement concerning the nature and purpose of the Fair, spoke of it as the combined effort of the Churches and kindred organisations for Prohibition. The Anti-Saloon League of America had been described as the Church in action, and this description might be applied to this fair. It was a splendid example of the unity and progress of the combined Churches and organisations against the drink evil. The movement might appear to many to be slow, but a tremendous amount of spade work had to be done in the education of public sentiment. That work was being carried on by the Prohibition Alliance, and for the more effective carrying on of it the Fair had been promoted. They were deeply grateful to the ladies and other friends for their cheerful and generous help, and took courage for the continued effort to wipe out the liquor traffic.

Miss Hilda Boyle, who in her usual gracious way had come to the help of the Fair Committee, sang most pleasingly.

Madam Wolfcarius, in introducing Sir Arthur Cocks, referred to the honored place which he occupied in the public and business life of the city. It would be well for the State, she said, if more men of his calibre were in positions of trust and power.

Sir Arthur said that every good citizen was in sympathy with the objects of the Fair. It gave him great pleasure to see on the platform representatives of practically every religious denomination. The movement for Prohibition was becoming stronger, largely because of the known effects of alcoholic liquor. There were few families indeed which had not suffered from it. Therefore, it was a patriotic duty to support a Fair like the one he had pleasure in opening, more particularly as it was so representative in its character.

Both Mrs. Jamieson Williams and Mr. H. M. Hawkins, who moved and seconded a vote of thanks to Sir Arthur Cocks, eulogised his public spirit, which was responsible for an interest in every worthwhile object.

Lady Cocks was presented with a bouquet. A vote of thanks was given to Madam Wolfcarius on the motion of Miss Andrews.

STALLS AND STALLHOLDERS.

Those in charge of the various stalls, who had many willing helpers, were:

Anglican General Stall: Mrs. J. C. Wright, Patroness; Mrs. F. B. Boyce and Mrs. Segetin, Conveners.

Presbyterian General and Cake Stalls: Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Mackay, Conveners.

Methodist General, Cake, Flower and Doll Stalls—Mrs. F. W. Hynes, President; Mrs. Gale and Mrs. Lane, Conveners.

Baptist General and Sweets Stall: Mrs. Dunkley, Mrs. List and Mrs. Trickett, Conveners.

Congregational General and Cake Stalls—Mrs. Touchell and Mrs. Stupart, Conveners.

Churches of Christ Refreshments: Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Steer, Conveners.

Salvation Army General Stall: Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Winter, Conveners.

Representative Women's Prohibition League General Stall: Mrs. Pattison and Mrs. Vickery, Conveners.

Business Women's Prohibition League Handkerchief and D'Oyley Stall: Mrs. Courtenax Smith and Miss Phillips, Conveners.

N.S.W. Prohibition Alliance Staff Provision Stall: Miss Southwell and Mrs. Masterman, Conveners.

Professional and Business Men's Auxiliary: Men's Stall, Mr. Vaughan, Convener.

Young People Societies Sweets Stall: Miss Dinning, Convener.

I.O.G.T. Ice Cream: Miss Wright, Mrs. Eales, Conveners.

Miss Jean Gordon had a chiropodist surgery.

Messrs. Forrest, White and Still were in charge of the loop-là.

Misses Campbell, Andrews and Hunter supervised the dips.

Theosophical Society's Order of Service Pure Food Stall.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME.

Mr. Haigh and the Burwood Presbyterian Choir provided an excellent musical programme on Thursday evening.

Miss Elliott brought the Glee Club from the Crown-street Domestic Science School on Friday evening.

The programme on Saturday was supplied by St. Clement's Girls' Glee Club (under direction of Miss Knight) and children of Salvation Army Fold.

There was a Business Lunch, with an address by Rev. R. B. S. Hammond, on Friday, and on Saturday a Family Tea, addressed by Miss Preston Stanley, M.L.A.

We shall give further particulars of these and of the Fair generally in next issue.

AMERICAN ELECTIONS AND PROHIBITION.

It is very difficult for anyone who does not follow American politics closely to gauge the results of the recent elections for Congress, especially in their effect upon Prohibition. The State Referenda on this issue taken in six out of 48 States are not, in most cases, regarded by Prohibitionists as having much greater significance than the straw newspaper votes taken some time ago. The "Drys" of New York and Illinois, for instance, decided to accept Senator Borah's advice, and to have nothing to do with Referenda on Prohibition, looking upon them as useless and pernicious attempts to nullify the United States Constitution. Referenda favoring the granting of each of the 48 States the liquor which, under the 18th Amendment must be non-intoxicating, are obviously merely "wet" propaganda. The "Drys" are content to rest upon their representation in the Federal Congress, where apparently they continue to hold a three-fourths majority in both Houses. Before the 18th Amendment can be repealed the "wets" and "damps" will have to secure a two-thirds majority in both branches of the Federal legislature, as well as a majority in both Houses of 36 States. They've certainly got some distance to go. The defeat of Senator Wadsworth (wet Republican) was brought about by the "Drys" running a Prohibitionist Republican for the Senatorship, with the result that the Party vote was split. The real significance of the elections lies in the fact that apparently after six years of operation, Prohibition in U.S.A. remains as firmly embedded in the American Constitution as ever.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION TO "GRIT" IS 11/-.

"Grit" subscriptions received to 5/11/26, and where not mentioned the amount is 11/-: Mrs. W. Charles, 8/-, 30/7/27; Miss L. Arkless, 30/10/27; Master Keith Ower, 30/10/27; Mrs. Peate, 1/11/27; Mrs. Gaston, 3/-, 30/1/27; Mrs. Hextell, 30/10/27; Mrs. Simpson, 30/12/26.

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Our Objective: The Abolition of the Liquor Traffic.

Our Weapons: Education and Legislative Action.

OUR ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

Arising out of the Prohibition Conference the Temperance and Social Questions Committees of the affiliated Churches and other affiliated organisations have been invited to receive delegates from the Alliance at an early date with a view to putting into force the plan of campaign adopted by the Conference. As Mr. Putland well said the nucleus of a magnificent organisation is already in existence in the religious organisations whose ramifications extend to the remotest parts of the State. The Church militant must always be the backbone of the Prohibition Movement. The ministers of religion would, under his proposal, be officially apprised, through the Temperance and Social Questions Committee, that so far as they could give this cause the moral and spiritual momentum which it required to give it real force, they should do so.

PROHIBITIONISTS HOLD THE BALANCE OF POWER.

By CRAWFORD VAUGHAN.

The election campaign which was inaugurated at the recent conference will be fraught with important consequences to the political forces of N.S.W. Each of the two dominant parties as usual affects to believe that victory for it at the polls is already assured. With the whole of the old electorates thrown into the melting pot, however, and the fact that members have no hold on their new constituencies, the uncertainty of the 1928 elections is such that no man could safely prophesy the results.

The best guide to the strength of the parties is to be found in the last Federal Senate election returns. In this case the Nationalists selected the time and the issue. With everything propitious for Nationalism, the results afford little comfort to either party.

The first choices were as follows:

Labor	498,672
Nationalist	436,144
Country	136,439

The majority for Labor over Nationalist was 62,578. The Country Party vote, however, converted this into a minority for Labor of 73,911.

It is not improbable that a working arrangement for the elections will be provided between the Country and Nationalist Parties, but there is not likely to be another shipping strike to damage Labor's chances, and with single electorates there is no likelihood that a majority of votes cast throughout the States for the National-Country Pact will be reflected by a majority in the N.S.W. Assembly.

The point that especially interests Prohibitionists is that in return for its small but compact vote the Country Party has been able to command half the seats in the Federal Government, and the Deputy Prime Ministership. Prohibitionists polled 245,000 at the No-License polls of 1913, and in the last 13 years our strength has almost doubled. In any case if 136,439 Country Party votes in N.S.W. can secure such good terms for its support of a particular party, should not 245,000 votes secure from both parties our political objective, viz., the right of the electors to vote on Prohibition without compensation, and the immediate restoration of the local option provisions.

If Prohibitionists will at this critical and highly favorable juncture place Prohibition before Party; if they will insist as the price of their support for any candidate within their own parties that the democratic rights we demand shall be conceded to the electors; if we have but the faith of our great Cause, I say, as an old politician, that nothing can stem the tide of victory for the greatest social, economic and national reform of our generation.

PROHIBITION CAMPAIGN STAMPS.

The first 10 000 Prohibition Campaign Stamps were made available at the Sunshine Fair. The great success of the Cancer Stamp Fund convinces us that the Prohibition Stamp offers an easy way for good Prohibitionists to help the great campaign for the elections and poll of 1928.

SUNSHINE BOY COMPETITION.

The winners in the competition at the Fair for Finest Type of Boy were as follows:

Class I.—8 to 12 years: 1st, James Wiseman; 2nd, Ross Macourt. Class II.—13 to 15 years: 1st, Roy Wilson; 2nd, Keith Tunbridge.

In 1913 more than 245,000 electors voted for No-License. We have every reason to believe that to-day our supporters number well over 500,000. If but one-fifth of this number purchase a Prohibition Campaign Stamp each the Fighting Fund will benefit to the extent of £5000. Double that number of persons should subscribe if the same enthusiasm is displayed by our friends as has been shown by those who have been active in helping to stamp out cancer with the Cancer Stamp.

One stamp will cost each subscriber less than 1 per cent. of the average sum spent on liquor in N.S.W. by every man, woman and child every year.

One hundred stamps sold will bring into the Fighting Fund an amount not equal to the expenditure every year of every man, woman and child on what a reverend gentleman called "Distilled Damnation."

If 500,000 stamps were sold they would only realise 2½ per cent., or 6d. in the £, of the £12,000,000 wasted on "distilled damnation" in N.S.W. annually.

Send in to this office for 20 stamps on sale or return. Sell them to your friends at 1/- a time for the sake of humanity for the protection of your nation, and for the safety of the children. People need not necessarily be Prohibitionists to buy a stamp; for our immediate objective is to give the people the democratic right to vote on Prohibition

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

without compensation, and to restore the Local Option provisions which, by trickery and treachery, have been suspended for 15 years.

[CUT THIS OUT.]

PROHIBITION CAMPAIGN STAMP.

Proceeds to Fighting Fund.

The Secretary,

N.S.W. Prohibition Alliance,

321 Pitt-street, Sydney.

Please send me * Prohibition Campaign Stamps * on sale or return, or I enclose

Name

Address

*Fill in or strike out as required.

A CORRECTIONAL.

We regret that in the Special Issue of "Grit," for which this section was responsible, two separate articles on Prohibition in New Zealand were by mistake inserted as one, and attributed to Mr. C. E. Edmond, of the New Zealand Alliance. The former part of the article dealing with the constitution of the N.Z. Alliance was written by Mr. Edmond, but the latter part dealing with the No-License districts was by another writer. Both articles set forth the position with accuracy, but we regret that Mr. Edmond was inadvertently credited with experiences which belonged to someone else.

"Before the Amendment was adopted, only 305 out of the 2540 counties of the United States had not declared themselves to some extent dry. A law that has such a basis of local sentiment is built upon a rock and will endure."—Mabel Walker Willebrandt.

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THE HISTORY OF A PROBLEM.

ALCOHOL POLICY DEFINED AS AIMED TO PROTECT PUBLIC.

Denaturants are Sought to Render Mixture Unfit to Drink, but not Poisonous.

Efforts of the Department of the Treasury to obtain proper denaturants for alcohol are directed toward making it less potable for human consumption and more efficient for industry while holding toxic ingredients to a minimum, according to a statement of policy made public on September 3 by G. B. Winston, Acting Secretary of the Treasury. The statement was prepared by Dr. J. N. Doran, head of the Industrial Alcohol and Chemical Division. In issuing it, Mr. Winston said it set forth the history of the Treasury's problem and the efforts being made to solve it.

It is the department's view, according to the statement, that a "weak policy" of denaturation would "break down industry by making easy openings for illegal operations." The department further holds that such a policy would lessen the protection to the public which it feels must be considered in all denaturing formulas created.

Chemists, working under Dr. Doran's guidance and in co-operation with industries employing alcohol, have drawn up some 60 specialised formulas, the statement said. In his statement Dr. Doran said extreme care must be employed in the use of ingredients and compounds for denaturing alcohol so legitimate industry may not suffer. For example, he said, the substances must be non-corrosive, and, in quantity, non-toxic, and as a means of protecting the public the formulas are refused distribution to the general public, being made available only under a permit system.

"It will thus be seen," the statement said, "that in employment of these specialised formulas, it has been the effort of the department, in co-operation with the industries themselves, to devise formulas that will render the alcohol unfit for beverage purposes and yet enable industry to employ the material in the most efficient manner."

The statement explained that regulations required the sale of any of the concoctions under skull and cross bones label as a prevention against accidental use.

Many of the factors concerned require extended scientific investigation, Dr. Doran said. As a result of these studies, the suitability of complex oil compounds, lately announced, was discovered. These oil compounds, it was added, have a highly disagreeable odor and are disagreeable in themselves yet are virtually non-toxic. They have served to meet the intent of the National Prohibition Act, according to Dr. Doran, "inasmuch as it is the expressed intent of the Act that these formulae be available generally for lawful purposes, such as domestic fuel and automobile anti-freeze solutions," and it is necessarily highly toxic, but objectionable and obnoxious when used as beverage."

STATEMENT BY DR. DORAN.

The full text of the statement, issued under a caption, "Report on Use of Denaturants in Industrial Alcohol," follows:

After many years of effort along educational lines, Congress on June 7, 1906, passed the first Denatured Alcohol Act, also known as the Tax-free Industrial Alcohol Act, that was primarily designed to promote the use of alcohol in the arts and industries by relieving the alcohol so used from the high excise tax imposed on all distilled spirits. The burden of this tax is apparent, for at the present time the tax on distilled spirits as applied to high-proof alcohol is approximately ten times the value of the commodity itself. The method adopted by Congress in

1906 and reiterated in the industrial alcohol title of the National Prohibition Act was the required addition to this alcohol, which was intended for use in the arts and industries of methyl or wood alcohol (now known as "methanol") and other suitable denaturing materials that would destroy its character as a beverage by rendering it unfit for such use. The National Prohibition Act employed a slightly different wording than the original Act of 1906, by merely stating that the alcohol withdrawn for industrial use should be denatured by the addition of such materials as would render it unfit for use as an intoxicating beverage.

At the time of the passage of the Act of 1906 the United States was the only one of the large countries who had not recognised and fostered the industrial use of alcohol by relieving it from burdensome taxation. Denatured alcohol is not legally intended for any internal medicinal or food use; all alcohol so used is released pure after tax payment. Industrial alcohol plays the same role in organic chemical operations as is played generally by water in inorganic chemical operations. Industrial alcohol alone or in combination with other combustibles may play an important part in the future motor-fuel problem. England as far back as 1865 employed a crude grade of methanol for the denaturing of alcohol for industrial use. At the present time English methylated spirits contain 10 per cent. of crude methanol.

DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE.

The development of the highly organised German chemical industry was based to a very great extent on the fostering of the industrial use of alcohol, and while Germany undoubtedly had the most extensive development along these lines there was a large development in France and England prior to 1906.

The first formula adopted for denaturing alcohol in the United States followed quite closely the established European practice, and while the denaturing of alcohol in the United States has been extensively developed along rather specialised lines, the European Governments have adhered quite closely to the use of methanol as the main basic denaturant for both general and special purposes. Great Britain and Canada use from 10 per cent. up to as high as 30 per cent. of methanol. The maximum ever used in the United States was the first formula authorised in 1906, employing ten parts of methanol to 100 parts of ethyl alcohol, or slightly less than 10 per cent.

Following the Act of 1906, the industrial use of alcohol broadened in the United States, reaching its maximum volume in the Great War and being employed in many new industries in the active period following the Great War. The passage of the National Prohibition Act was coincident with the development of a large and varied chemical industry in the United States, and the further development of specialised formulas for specialised industries enabled these industries to maintain themselves through the period of adjustment incident to the taking effect of National Prohibition. The special formulas primarily designed for particular industries take due account of the chemical and commercial factors making for efficient production. For example, in the Rayon industry one of the principal grades is the nitro-silk, which is a colloidal solution of nitro-cellulose in an alcohol-ether mixture. In this case the denaturant employed, in

either itself and its use not only renders the alcohol unfit for beverage purposes but gives a mixture satisfying every scientific and manufacturing consideration. Another example of the application of specialised formulas is the employment of a generally used basic perfume material for the alcohol designed and intended for the perfumery and toilet water trade. This substance, known chemically as "diethylphthalate," when added to the alcohol renders it extremely bitter and distasteful, and yet the chemical is itself odorless and is a logical component of complex perfume mixtures.

It will thus be seen that in the employment of these specialised formulas it has been the effort of the department, in co-operation with the industries themselves, to devise formulas that will render the alcohol unfit for beverage purposes and yet enable the industry to employ the material in the most efficient manner. There are over 60 of such specialised formulas and about half of them were authorised prior to 1920. None of these mixtures are available to the public at large, but are only procurable under the permit system in effect since 1906 and very much developed since 1920.

The permit administration of the National Prohibition Act has developed within the past year along more effective lines, and there has been a noticeable increase in unlawful manipulation of completely denatured alcohol. Inasmuch as it is the expressed intent of the Act that these formulas be available generally for lawful purposes, such as domestic fuel and automobile anti-freeze solutions, it is necessary that they be of such a nature as to render the alcohol, not necessarily highly toxic, but objectionable and obnoxious when used as a beverage, making it practically impossible for any person to consume one of these treated concoctions either deliberately or unwittingly, and not at the same time be fully informed that the liquid is unfit for consumption. As a further precaution against accidental use, the regulations require these formulas to be sold under skull and cross-bone label. Current scientific work of the department, therefore, is being directed with a view to strengthening these formulas, not by rendering them more toxic, but by rendering them less potable, and in the working out of these problems partial success has already been obtained.

Many factors bearing on the problem require extended scientific investigation. For example, the denaturing substances employed must be of such a nature as to remain with the alcohol under a most severe manipulative treatment. The substance must be non-corrosive, and in the quantity used non-toxic, and the compounded formula must be suitable for lawful industrial use. There is a misapprehension in the public mind as to the underlying reasons for the use of denaturing grade of methanol. There is no doubt in the mind of any well-informed chemist that the long-standing use of methanol by all countries is based on sound scientific principles.

Being closely related chemically to ethyl alcohol (ethanol), having a boiling point only slightly below that of ethyl alcohol, and having the physical properties closely resembling ethyl alcohol, it is a substance that cannot easily be removed. It is not employed because of the fact that methanol as such is commonly known to be a dangerous liquid to consume, and therefore that physical harm will result to the drinker, but because of the fact that the denaturing grade of methanol carries distinctive odorous substances commonly designated as pyroigneous compounds, that by their characteristic odor and taste at once disclose to the individual the patent fact that the mixture or liquid is unfit for consumption. The fact that methanol forms constant boiling point mixtures with ethyl alcohol, and if redistillation is attempted

(Continued on page 10.)

TRY

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FOR HIGH-GRADE
CHOCOLATES AND CONFECTIONERY.

GRAPES AND PROHIBITION.**PULL UP A WEED AND A FLOWER GROWS.**

By JOE LONGTON, for "Grit."

I write this in the heart of America's grape belt. The clipping is from the "Fresno Bee" of 15/9/26.

I left Santa Cruz three days ago, covering since then 300 miles. In Soquel, Rush-ton's grocery; in Watsonville, the Apple City Dying and Cleaning Co., Sanyo shoe shop, a kimono factory, the Central Grill, the Watsonville Fruit Evaporating Co.; in Aromas, the Pioneer Grocery, Bakery and Butchery; in San Juan, Ray's billiard hall, Bank of Italy, San Juan Drug Co., Tony Traix's meat market, the Gibson baths; in Hallister, Bor-elli's and Tillie's meat market, the Harvey Service and Tyre Co.; in Los Banos, J. B. Lewis' book store, Greenleaf Drug Co., Joe Machado's Life Insurance Co., Bank of Los Banos, the City Bank, Portuguese-American Bank, the Guyre Hotel; in Gustine, Holst's ice cream parlor, Bank of Gustine, the Saddle Rock Restaurant; in Newman, Mark's dry cleaning works, Charley Poy's chop suey foundry, Simon-Newman department store, Saddle Rock Restaurant, Mungo's shoe repair, Hoffman's furniture salon, and the Bank of Newman; in Crow's Landing, the stage office and a meat market; in Patterson, Norelius' grocery, Colonia restaurant, stage office, Smiley's soft drink bottling works, Witten's market; in Turlock, Lundahl's Clothing Co., the California Restaurant; in Merced, Joe Twain's coffee roasting works (the old Senate Bar), Freitas Bros'. Feed and Seed Co., Bayley's Drug Co. (the old Central Bar), Ad. Schlueter's Washing Machine Co., the Bar-beque beefery; in Modesto, the new Beatty building with 16 stores on the ground floor, the Modern Eating House, the Murray and Jones building, containing Brister's depart-ment and women's ready-to-wear store, the Star Employment Agency, the Western Auto, Supply Co., all the 40 dives on 9th street along the Southern Pacific tracks are now converted into legitimate business houses; in Stockton, the Davis meat market, Bradley's meatery, Samuel's cigar store, Giacomoni's jewellery store, Security, Building and Loan Association, Bentoni and Gotelli, realtors, Aia-Dela wholesale grocery store, the Con-solidated Title and Insurance Co., Gallen-kamp's shoe store, Sacco Realty and In-surance Co., Glaser's Stockton Tobacco Co., Clark Pharmacy, Frank's beanery and shoe shine parlor, the Commercial Savings Bank, built since Prohibition on the site of the Pilson Bar, the City Bank, the People's

Finance and Thrift Co. of Stockton, man-aged by Granville T. Story, Sam Newstaldt's furniture store, the Hemstitching Shop, Ed-ward L. Guckow's sanitary plumbing and electrical supplies (the lastnamed four were saloons on four opposite corners at South Anislaus and East Main streets), Drury and Clark's meat and grocery market and the Kimball Radio Co. are only a few of the thousand business houses in and around the San Joaquin Valley that occupy old "rat hole" (bar room) sites.

Also in Modesto the United Bank and Trust Co., the Modesto Bank, and the West-ern Union Telegraph Co. rooted out rat holes and rat grog-vendors; and the Valley Brewery of Eldorado steam beer fame is Mar-tell's Hauling and Transfer, and Martell's Fruit and Produce Co. I previously omitted the fact that the Mission Branch of the San Francisco Bank is also on a rat hole. Rather tough on the booze, hound's battle cry of Fleadom, eh? Ahem!

Notable incidents en route were: 125 acres of apricot trees on the Eden Ranch at Hun-ter's Hill; 12 acres of Bellflower, White Per-main and Newtown Pippin Apple Ranch, and a 400-acre patch of lettuce on the Sea Cliff Ranch in the Pajaro Valley; the Pacheco Pass across the coast range; wildcatters with a fishing job at an oil venture near Newman, where the tools got stuck at 2000 feet; the McHenry and Fry Pig Ranch, where this year they cleaned up £8000 off 40 acres of Adri-atics; the 400 acres of Woods' vineyard at Lodi; Mr. Franzia of "Sims" now a million-aire vineyardist since Prohibition, previous to which he didn't know where dinner money was coming from; the town of "Volstead." Ah! here's its history.

Before the Volstead Act or Eighteenth Amendment often referred to as Prohibition grapes never brought more than £2 per ton. Since they have been from £20 to £30 per ton, never less. The vineyardists love Vol-stead so well, and Prohibition so much better, that they called the heart of the wine grape belt Volstead. Land in Volstead the last year of "wet" days brought £50 an acre; to-day one cannot get it at less than £400 an acre. For proof write Mr. Franzia, Volstead Post Office, Volstead, California.

This land reaps six and seven tons of Carignas to the acre. Alicantes last year were sold at £30 per ton; this year they are £20 per ton.

Since Prohibition the increase in raisin grape acreage has been 100 per cent.; in wine grape acreage, 60 per cent.

There are in the San Joaquin Valley—around me now—318,000 acres of raisin grapes, and 150,000 acres of wine grapes being harvested. And drunkenness has been reduced to less than 5 per cent. what it was before Prohibition. America eats the raisin now, and drinks the non-alcoholic juices, 14,000 carloads of grapes will leave this val-ley every day for three months this autumn. Each carload weighs twelve tons. The Stock-ton vineyard winery set up on a 400-acre vineyard makes sacramental and medicinal wines. Apropos sacramental wine:

A Negro preacher in the South heard how the rabbis and priests got theirs. Entering a pharmacy in broadcloth the following en-sued:

"Mornin', Mistah Drugman."

"Mornin', Deacon. What you all wants?"

"Ez you alluns got any sacreligious wine, baas?"

"No, suh! We alluns has sacramental wine."

"Dat's it! Dat's it! Dat's de stuff, baas."

"What do yuh want it for, Deacon?"

"Sacreligious purpusses, baas."

"What kind of wine do you want? I have several different brands."

"Well, baas, I done took a vote ob de congregashun, and de congregashun dey all voted—when ah says, 'Dear brutthers an' sisters, what kind ob wine duh yuh all want?'—and dey all voted for gin!"

The following "Fresno Bee" remarks will interest Australian vineyardists. To a man they should vote the brewer and whisky man out of business, and with the dairyman be-come rich off some of the money that ends in excreta via the bar room route. Herein lies the secret that will enable the wine-grower to come into his own and possess a larger acreage. The "Fresno Bee" is the official organ of the vineyardists and, like the vineyardist, strong for Prohibition:

"1926 RAISIN CROP MAY HIT TOTAL OF 300,000 TONS.

"The 1926 California raisin crop will be much larger than that of 1925, and is vari-ously estimated at from 250,000 to 300,000 tons by these closely in touch with the situa-tion who base their estimates upon fresh grape shipments made and in prospect, and the tray count of raisins now drying.

"145,000 TONS OF THOMPSONS.

"On the 250,000-ton basis the division of the crop is estimated substantially as fol-lows: Thompsons, 145,000 tons; Muscats, 75,000 tons; Sultanas, 15,000 tons; and Mala-gas and Feherzagoes, 10,000 to 15,000 tons, respectively.

"With the bugaboo of past years wiped out with the disposal of the carry-over ques-tion, and scarcely any raisins in the hands of the manufacturers to be sold prior to the time when the new crop will become avail-able in quantity, one of the greatest obstacles of orderly and profitable marketing of the new crop is a matter of history.

"With the grapes maturing considerably earlier this year and the season approxi-mately two weeks earlier than normal, more than half the crop is said to be off the vines, with indications that a large part of those remaining on the vines will be dried.

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A Personal Chat with my readers

THE BIGNESS OF LITTLE THINGS.

The work of nature is not only as beautiful but as painstaking and wonderful in the infinitely small as in the infinitely great. The dewdrop is quite as beautiful and just as inspiring as Niagara Falls.

Take a wee butterfly that only lives a day, and put it under a microscope, and you will see the magnificent feathers, symmetrically arranged with as much care as though it were to live a hundred years.

To the naked eye there is nothing but an impalpable dust which clings to your fingers, and yet each speck of dust is a perfect feather. In the smallest dewdrop you will find a perfect reflection of a rainbow formed for a life of a few tenths of a second, and disappearing as it was born. A weed is as marvelously shaped and as delicately colored as the most glorious orchid.

This makes one wonder at the bigness of little things, the evident worthwhileness of short-lived things. All the big things in life are little things, and those who are truly rich have discerned this.

Tender words in Sorrow's hour

Whispered low;

Just a single bud or flower

As you go;

Hands whose pressure as you part

Warms and clings

To the pulses of the heart—

Little things.

Just a smile that means a sneer

At some name;

Have the angels not a tear

For such shame?

Yet you say no blame you speak!

Sneers have stings!

Strong to goad, to wrong the weak—

Little things?

Ah, the little acts that make

Up each day—

Do they bless, or will they wreck

Any? Say!

Will the record we shall view

Up above,

Be of blighting frost or dew,

Joy or Love?

* * *

THE CHURCHES AND SOCIAL SERVICE.

The Church comes in for much criticism, much censure, and much nastiness. While some of it is deserved, most of it is due to the fact that we follow the programme of the Wonder Man of all the ages, and naturally very much is expected of us, and we would remind our critics that it is not failure but low aim that is to be condemned. Few people are aware of the amazing amount of social service rendered

the community by the Churches. Not 10 per cent. of the people go to church on any given Sunday, and yet this 10 per cent. are "it" in charity.

Hospitals are the hallmark of our Christianity; they are not found in non-Christian countries, nor are they founded or sustained by infidels. The backbone of Benevolent Societies is the spirit of Christianity. While the Church proclaims the ideal, it also nurtures and inspires the activity that is responsible for all our practical philanthropies. There are 41 children's homes entirely conducted by the Christian Churches of this State. Last year these homes, raised and spent no less than £103,766. This is only one of many of the religious activities that are so often not credited to the Church. In the last five years the United Charities Fund, which I had the honor to inaugurate, has raised £33,294. There are 227 charitable institutions or societies in New South Wales, housing for 8668 people, spending £1,145,632. In the last three years there have been an average of 2270 deserted wives, with whom were associated 12,181 children. We may be only nominally Christian but the practical charity of the community is due to the fact that the Church still keeps the picture of the Good Samaritan ever before our eyes.

* * *

THE BOOK IN WHICH OUR FAITH IS ROOTED.

Every leader of men, in whatever sphere of life, should know his Bible. Daniel Webster said: "If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering; but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions, and its authority, no man can tell how suddenly a calamity may overwhelm us, and bury all our glory in profound obscurity."

Woodrow Wilson was ever a strong champion of the Bible. Addressing a large audience, he pleaded as follows: "I have a very simple thing to ask of you. I ask every man and woman in this great audience that from this night on they will realise that part of the destiny of America lies in their daily perusal of this great Book of Divine revelation—the Bible. If they would see America free and pure, they will make their spirits free and pure by this baptism of the Holy Book." And during the World War he sent this message to the soldiers: "The Bible is the Word of Life! I beg that you all may read it and find this out for yourselves. You will find it full of real men and women, also of things you have wondered about and been troubled about all your life. When you read the Bible you will know that it is the

GRIT

A JOURNAL OF
NATIONAL EFFICIENCY
AND PROHIBITION.

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

Editor—ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.
Address: Box 390F, G.P.O., Sydney.
Office: N.S.W. Prohibition Alliance, Macdonell House, 321 Pitt-street, Sydney.

SYDNEY, THURSDAY, NOV. 11, 1926.

Word of God, because you will have found it the key to your own heart, your own happiness, your own duty."

Its lessons never grow antiquated. Literary critics, historians, statesmen, philosophers agree that the Bible is the best single book. It contains the most perfect ideal of human character, and the best views of human life, and the clearest forecast of human destiny.

To read a verse of this Book is like trying to see the sun set through the keyhole. Read a whole book of it at a time. Read it with a prayerful dependence on the spirit by which Holy men of old were guided to write it, and then it will not fail to speak to you.

* * *

SPOILING OUR CHARITY.

Whenever we impose conditions on those who receive our charity that hurt their feelings or undermine their self-respect then we have done more harm than good both to them and to ourselves.

Secretary Homer Folks, of the Charities' Aid Association, said in a New York address:

"There are many kinds of charity. They tell in Spain a story about a wandering friar who needed a shave one day, and went from barber shop to barber shop asking to be tended to for sweet charity's sake.

"A good many barbers turned the poor friar down, but in the end one man was found, who said gruffly:

"'All right. I'll shave you. Sit down in that chair—that one there—the one with the busted seat.'

"Then the barber dabbed a little cold, watery lather on the friar's face, got out his dullest razor and set to work. He was rough, careless. The pain he inflicted was something terrific. He even drew blood, now and then.

"All of a sudden his dog set up a terrific yelping in the back of the shop, and he turned, and said to his apprentice in a threatening voice:

"'Here, what are you doing to that dog of mine?'

"The friar spoke up from the depths of the broken chair:

"'Perhaps,' he said quickly, 'perhaps he is shaving the poor brute out of charity.'"

The Editor

GOD HAS SPOKEN.

AUBURN UNITED MISSION.

E. P. ADERMAN, B.A.

The united mission under the leadership of the Rev. W. P. Nicholson has been and is being for the glory of God, and the extension of the Church of the Lord Jesus in Auburn and its surrounding suburbs.

It was not a haphazard venture, but an undertaking carefully and prayerfully planned, God-willed, God-purposed, God-directed, and God-governed, hence there were no dubitative feelings in regard to the value and blessing it would be to those who would frequent its meetings.

Now that this evangelistic effort in the marquee is drawing to a close our hearts unitedly thank God for the blessings which have been experienced, and for the inspiration and the spiritual enrichment which it has been both to those who were in active church membership, and those who have during the days of the mission accepted membership. At least two thousand five hundred people have been impressed through the medium of this special missionary effort.

The evangelist, Rev. W. P. Nicholson, has been the influential personality in creating an atmosphere for impression. The spirit of the young men in theological and other seminaries is greatly the spirit of its Principal or Head Master; it is not otherwise with evangelistic efforts, and, thus in our undertaking, there was a keen sensing of the evangelist's spirit. No man could imbue a spirit which would meet with the approval of all of this diversified generation of mortals. Why! Some would even dare to resent the spirit permeated by our missionary, but we who love the spirit of the Christ were not dissatisfied but revived. The spirit of the Galilean found a constant expression through the personality of the evangelist. Association with him revealed a character under the influence and power of the Spirit of God. In his messages to church members the baptism of the Holy Spirit predominated. No mission can suffer loss, but must gain immeasurably by emphasising the indispensability of the Holy Spirit. Our theories of interpretation in regard to the reception, operation, and manifestation of the spirit may not be similar, but we find no variance in the fact of its existence and its potentialities in our lives. The emphasis which the missionary has given to the Holy Spirit and its relationship to regeneration will be instrumental in opening many lives in this community to its blessed influence and glorious power. The members were taught that the Holy Spirit is a prerequisite to full service. Thus the evangelist has endeavored to prepare us for the task of consolidating and expanding the work of the mission and of our churches; for being equipped with the Holy Spirit we shall be armored with a more definite and tangible power.

Five weeks of Mr. Nicholson's influence and preaching have revealed the power of a man of God amidst the complex opinions of the masses, for he has during his sojourn in Auburn interwoven into the warp and woof of this complexity of belief the story of the Cross of Christ. He has clearly and concisely shown that life and the Spirit of Christ can be a composite experience. Some felt at times that certain phrases of his addresses were too colloquial and not elevating, that some of his witticisms were overdrawn, and that he was hypercritical. Yet how effective were these statements at times to make clear and definite the truth which was being enunciated, that it might be apprehended and comprehended as real. He presents his fact in such a manner that the mind becomes engrossed with the persuasion that he believes the view which is expounded and concomitantly creates a con-

science for investigation. The thought is advanced, not in a metaphysical setting, but in a literal form, which is stated clearly and completely. The attention is then enlivened by spontaneous gushes of homely humor, but which stands out as a contrast to the extraordinary effort and consuming intensity which follows, for this is used as a preparatory for driving his argument home by a quick, penetrating, succession of vigorous blows. The impression remains that's final, God has spoken.

Many vital and essential truths in addition to the abovementioned were made to live in the minds of his hearers. I shall couch some of these in my own words and metaphors. Sham and pretentiousness are unutterably contemptible and soul-destroying. One cannot hold another man in a cesspool of vice and iniquity without remaining there himself. That, if a man be degraded by sin even though the Devil is a zealous and sanguinary agent in its propagation, yet he is self-degraded, for there is no influence in heaven, hell or the world to submerge one into sin if the power of the blood of Christ is drawn upon. A soul lost is self-destroyed. Man is continually seeking after the shadow instead of the substance. That to set a man free in a physical sense, such as being liberated from the bondage of drunkenness, is a great thing, but to set a spiritual man free is far greater. That salvation or being born again in the broadest and highest sense has never been a bequest, but is a conquest through Calvary—through the blood of Jesus Christ. That the highest form of courage is not that exhibited in connection with deeds of heroism, as the world defines that term, but that manifested in the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Saviour. That the old-fashioned plain way of stating the fundamentals of salvation should be perused, for speculative theorising is destructive. Everything erroneous or questionable was vehemently refuted, and the truth of the subject was set forth in a luminous and definite statement.

As our minds are diverted from the missioner, and are centralised on the effort, and its details are scrutinised, we are constrained to say that it was in reality a "united" mission. While the various denominations have their historic and other justifications, and their reasons for their distinct existences yet all were extraordinarily patient of religious individualism. The effort did not sacrifice denominational individualism, but just absorbed it in a united work. There was a clear demonstration of a plurality in a unity. This unity was not nominal or conventional but practical, nor was it transcendental or invisible, but a visible oneness. The passing days unfolded more and more those deeper things to which we all acquiesced. Through its medium we entered into a common bond of sympathy, which was led to express its vitality in numerous unsuspected ways; we were drawn together in the discussions, so that ways and means might be devised whereby great spiritual victories might be achieved against the principalities and powers of the kingdom of evil, and drawn still closer through the interchanges of spiritual service. An effort which is launched by unified forces by the help of God must be advantageous, and bring forth the utmost result.

This goal, however, is merely our starting point, for it has opened the door to further united actions, which concern our kindred parochial obligations. We cannot over-estimate Mr. Nicholson's influence in this unification of religious bodies, for he persistently

knitted together those threads of our common beliefs. In his strong emphasis upon the things that matter, the fundamentals of the Christian religion, he succeeded in making the bond a binding one. The unity exemplified during the effort is a veritable apocalypse of the Lord's prayer "that they all may be one."

I cannot conclude my appreciation of the missioner and the evangelistic effort without expressing a deep sense of gratitude to God for the magnificent results. Through the instrumentality of Mr. Nicholson God has been able to push back the boundaries of spiritual freedom everywhere in this great centre. The spirit of liberty in Jesus Christ has been given a wider influence throughout Auburn and its associated suburbs.

Over three hundred men, women and young people have been wrested from slavery to freedom from poverty to wealth, from ignorance to intelligence, from weakness to power; and these are exhaling thanksgiving to God now that the long winter of sin has passed from their souls. No one can be disappointed with this bountiful return. A thousand times ten thousand we say it was worth while, as we contemplate this result alone. Furthermore, it is impossible for human hands to measure the magnitude of Divine workings. Much of the result of this special ministry is unseen. If we could only measure its total influence, and all its blessing, then how quickly would our lips be moved to exclaim: "Glory to God." What the effort will mean to the individual churches the oncoming days will unfold. Many have been revived, refreshed, and renewed, hence the results of the mission have no bounds.

In conclusion, I am impelled to reiterate that the district of Auburn was wonderfully blessed through the coming of Mr. Nicholson into its midst. Men and women and young people have been made increasingly sensitive to the evils which weaken their lives, wound their souls, and destroy their eternal hopes. A greater comprehension of the need of saving the soul was created, and the legacy left for our use is "the blood of Jesus Christ."

As our evangelist goes from us and enters new fields of service, our wishes and prayers accompany him. He leaves with a deep sense of our gratitude, and with our highest appreciations.

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The History of a Problem—

(Continued from page 6.)

carries over with it in the distillate these odorous pyroigneous compounds, discloses the chief reason for its world-wide as a basic denaturing agent.

The current investigational work by the department has developed the suitability of certain complex oil compounds of an odorous and disagreeable nature, but of themselves non-toxic, which, when used with a minimum quantity of methanol, will not only remain with the alcohol under manipulation treatment, but will so mark the concoction in which it may be employed by a criminal that nobody will consume the same unknowingly, but only by deliberate and wilful act. The protection and encouragement of lawful industrial alcohol use, coupled with maximum protection of the public, is the aim and object of the department's scientific work on the subject. The present development of chemical industry in the United States, and the fact that other countries are adopting some of our special methods, is evidence of the constructive course pursued by the department.

The present system of denaturation meets with the approval of those industries whose continued welfare is essential to the public good. A weak policy of denaturation would break down industry by making easy openings for illegal operations, would be contrary to sound policy, and would actually lessen the protection afforded the public. The scientific departments of industrial organisation are in continuous and hearty co-operation with the department's chemists, and constant investigations are being conducted with a view to more effective administration.—"United States Daily," September 4, 1926.

Prohibition Converted Modern Hotel into Money-Maker.

Prohibition has played a large part in the hotel business, according to Mr. J. E. Beli, manager of the San Benito (Texas) Chamber of Commerce, who, in an address to the Texas commercial executives' organisation at Lubbock, recently, declared: "It is common knowledge that the modern hotel is a money-maker." Mr. Beli stated that in too many cases in the old days the word hotel merely applied to a few rooms run in connection with a bar-room. "In small communities in particular the owners of these small hotels cared little or nothing about the comfort of their guests," he said, "or whether they made any money from the rooms or meals, the bar being the big money producer. When the bar was officially taken away, many of the so-called hotels could not exist. This left hundreds of communities with no accommodations or with very inadequate ones. At the same time the new high standards of living prompted those who travelled to demand better service. Hotel men everywhere recognised the possibilities of this situation. The building and operating of the modern hotel became a specialised science, and is being made more efficient every day."

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WHAT FRUIT GROWERS ARE PAID.

In Victoria the following prices were paid, according to the State Statistician, in 1924-25:

	Rate of per ton.
Strawberries	£70 0 0
Red, Black and White Currants	56 0 0
Raspberries	52 0 0
Loganberries	32 0 0
Cherries	31 6 8
Gooseberries	25 4 0
Oranges (1924)	20 8 9
Figs	18 5 9
Grapes—Table and Export	16 16 0
Lemons (1924)	15 4 0
Grapes—For Wine and Spirit, including Doradillas	14 3 9
Apples	13 1 4
Peaches	12 13 9
Apricots	10 11 0
Pears	9 17 9
Grapes—For Drying	8 12 9
Quinces	8 9 9
Plums	8 2 4

Price given to growers of Doradilla grapes by wine-makers:

1/7/24 to 25/5/25.—From 30/- a ton (say, 6 lbs. for 1d.) to £5 (say, 2 lbs. for 1d.).

25/5/25 to 30/6/25.—Prescribed minimum price for grapes, £5 a ton, and the same for grapes used as fortifying spirit.

(Trade and Customs Department information.)

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

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

DO YOU WONDER?

I suppose you sometimes wonder what you will be like when you are grown up. Anyhow, I hope you do wonder about it.

Make a list of all the things in grown-up people that you don't like:

- Meanness—just stingy.
- Selfishness—not interested in others.
- Bad temper—scotty.
- Laziness—won't help.
- Unjust—not fair to others.

You could make a very long list like this, and it is a good thing to take a pencil and paper and do it.

Then try and find out what they were like at school and at home when they were your age.

You can be what you want to be; you will be what you hate in others, unless you do some of the things you find it very easy not to do.

I took a piece of plastic clay,
And idly fashioned it one day,
And as my fingers pressed it still,
It moved and yielded to my will.

I came again when days were past;
The bit of clay was hard at last,
The form I gave it still it bore,
But I could change that form no more.

I took a piece of living clay,
And gently formed it, day by day,
And moulded it with power and art—
A young child's soft and yielding heart.

I came again when years were gone;
He was a man I looked upon;
He still that early impress wore,
And I could change him never more.

UNCLE B.

OUR LETTER BAG.

A NEW NI.

Ethel Norman, Brucevale, via Wagga, writes: I am writing to you because I would like to join your happy family. I was 14 years old last March the 5th. I have one brother and one sister. My brother and I go to school. We walk a little more than a mile to school. Tom (my brother) and I are in seventh class. Our school teacher is Mr. Grant. We live five and a half miles north of Wagga on the Junee road. Wagga is a large town on the Murrumbidgee River. I

am very fond of music and drawing. I have been learning music for three years. I have started stamp collecting and find it very interesting. If you have any spare stamps, would you mind sending me some, please? Well, Uncle B., I hope you will allow me to be one of your Ni's.

(Dear Ethel,—You are welcome to my big family. I am sending you some stamps. I hope you will like them. I know Wagga, and I think it a good place to keep out of in the summer, because I do not like the heat. What do you think is the best thing about Wagga?—Uncle B.)

TWICE A SCALLYWAG.

Myrtle Gray, 18 Wyrallah-road, Lismore, writes: It is about six months since I last wrote to you. Please cross my name off the black list if it is on. I have been to Gerringong for six months. My sister Gladys is in the hospital with scarlet fever. The bush fires were all around Lismore last week, and it has made the place so hot, but it has been raining since and has put them out. You could not see for smoke.

(Dear Myrtle,—Those who do not write for six months are "double scallywags," but you are now off my black list. I wish you had told us more about Gerringong. It is a long time since I have been there.—Uncle B.)

A LOVELY BIRTHDAY.

Leslie Storey, 476 Burwood-road, Belmore, writes: This is the first time I have written to you, and I hope you will be glad to hear from me. On the 12th of this month it was my birthday, and my mother gave me a party. I got lots of nice things; my mother gave me a Bible. We had a game of chasing, and a game of hidings too. I have a swing at home, and we all had a swing. Then we went inside and had tea. We had a cake with icing on it, and ten candles around it. They had a few other games after and then they went home.

(Dear Leslie,—I am glad to hear from you, and we were all interested in hearing about your birthday party. My mother gave me a Bible on my birthday when I was a boy, and I am so glad I have it still. I hope you will read your Bible every day.—Uncle B.)

A NEW NI.

Delia Trueman, 92 Campbell-street, Wollongong, writes: May I be a Ni of yours? I am eight years old; my birthday is on August 28. In the Michaelmas holidays I went with Mrs. Probyn for a swim. Last Saturday when I was at the surf with her there was a ditch, and my sister was with us that day, and I paddled over it, but when I was going out I was very frightened, but my sister and Mrs. Probyn helped me over it. (Dear Delia,—I am glad you have joined

my family. I may see you soon, because I am going to Wollongong. I am very interested in the visit Mr. Nicholson is to pay your town. When you go into the surf you must be very careful not to go too far.—Uncle B.)

I WILL TRY.

David Drew, Merrigang-street, Bowral, writes: I hope you will have me for a Ne. I am nine years old. I have one brother and three sisters. My eldest sister has a horse, and she lets me ride it sometimes. I read "Grit"; Mrs. Bowman lends it to us. Mr. Bowman went to Queensland, so Greta or I used to go over at night to keep her company. I like your message on habit, and will try more than ever to grow good ones.

(Dear David,—I am glad to have you join my family, and I am greatly pleased to find you were interested in my little letter on habit. It is very seldom my Ne's or Ni's say anything about what I say to them. I always wish they would do so.—Uncle B.)

HENRY'S LACTEAL LATEST.

Wanted—Dairy hand who can milk and drive Ford.

PAGE THE INNER MAN.

Absent-minded Professor: "Waiter, half an hour ago I ordered some lamb chops. Have you forgotten them—or have I had them?"

LIKE A CIGAR BAND.

Mary had a bathing suit,
The latest style, no doubt,
And when she got inside it she
Was more than half-way out.

BOOKS TO KEEP.

- "The Great To-day and the Greater Future," by Henry Ford.
- "Dollars Only," by Edward Bok.
- "Vanishing Trails," by H. Dale.
- "Sally in Rhodesia," by S. Macdonald.
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Prohibition Lessened Dangers of Strike.

"We have had the greatest strike known in twenty-one years in the coal mines of Pennsylvania," according to Bishop James Henry Darlington, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. "We also had two or three before the coming of Prohibition. In each case there were outrages, people injured and property destroyed and a great deal of disturbance. In the recent strike, which lasted six months, we did not have one outrage reported to the police. It is the only time such a condition has prevailed."

The Lawbreakers.

The Secretary of Labor blames most of our bootlegging and banditry upon aliens. They are men who could really be deported as undesirable citizens. They have not even applied for the papers that would enable them to qualify for citizenship. It is estimated that 90 per cent. of the prohibition enforcement service is American born, but that 80 per cent. of the bootleggers and beer-runners are aliens. The administration of law is in the keeping of Americans, but the violators are men who might easily be sent out of the country as undesirables.—"Los Angeles Times."

THE Film World Cuts Out Liquor.

Mr. Hayes, the chief pooh-bah of the American movie world, has decided to cut out all so-called liquor humor from the American films. Mr. Hayes believes it to be the duty of the moving picture producers to give a lead to public opinion in the direction of law observance instead of towards liquor lawlessness. Bootleggers, rum runners, and those selective anarchists and society Bolshies who expect every law to be observed excepting the law that stops their cocktail may for the future look for nothing but discouragement from the U.S. film world. As London "Punch" is showing humor can be no less humor because its dry.

FRANCE AGAIN.

The following extract from the "British Medical Journal" of January 23, 1926, is of interest in connection with our recent references to the alarming prevalence of alcoholism in France:

"In France grave concern is expressed both by public bodies and the medical profession at the recrudescence of alcoholism. The subject was raised three times last year in the Academie de Medecine. . . . Dr. Lepine, Professor of Nervous Diseases at Lyons, stated that 'nervous and cerebral affections had for some time past taken on a special character, which he attributed definitely to the abuse of alcohol.' M. Cazeneuve, dealing especially with the abuse of aniseed aperitifs, said 'all essences were objectionable in daily use, and in aperitifs they led insidiously to alcoholism.'"

In its note on these facts the "British Medical Journal" says: "The habitual use of toxic essential oils which excite the cerebral cortex is to be deprecated; and where, as appears to be the case in France, they lead to alcoholic excess, restrictive measures may be necessary."

The "Lancet" of the same date says: "The increase of alcoholic patients in lunatic asylums of the Rhone coincides with an increase in the use of alcohol."

The Chicago "Tribune," which is now one of the great opponents of Prohibition, some years ago announced a policy of rejecting liquor advertising, and explained its action by saying: "If harm is done by intoxicants, the 'Tribune' does not care to be a party to it." The Christian people of America have decided that if harm is done by intoxicants they do not care to be a party to it through permissive action on the part of their Government.

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SEE!

"Now we know why African women can go without clothes. It's the dark continent.

NOT UNTIL HE SENDS THE BILL.

Sign on a tailor shop window:

"Come in and let me cause you to have a good fit."

TAPERING OFF.

In a long glistening Rolls-Royce he glided up to the filling station and called out: "Let's have some gas, please!"

"How much you want?" asked the man in overalls, eyeing the car admiringly. The motorist, struck by a sudden thought, put a hand in his pocket. Thirty cents was all he had in his clothes.

"One gallon," said he.

The man in the overalls glanced over the big car again and then fixed the driver with a stare of utter disgust.

"One gallon!" he sneered; "whatcher tryin' to do, wean it?"

WHEN GREEK MEETS GREEK.

Two very up-to-date young flappers entered the street car and found only standing room.

One of them whispered to her companion: "I'm going to get a seat from one of these men." She looked down the row of men and selected a sedate gentleman who bore the general appearance of a married man.

She sailed up to him and boldly opened fire: "My dear Mr. Green, how delighted I am to meet you. You are almost a stranger. Will I accept your seat? Well, I do feel tired, I must admit. Thank you so much."

The sedate gentleman—a total stranger, of course—looked, listened, then quietly rose and gave her his seat, saying:

"Sit down, my girl. Don't often see you out on washing day. You must feel tired, I am sure. How's your mistress?"

ABSURD.

A New York woman wants to divorce her husband because he is bald. Absurd! What's the matter with his ears? Aren't they big enough to get hold of?

REVERSE EVOLUTION.

Thousands of years it took to make

A monkey into a man.

But give a woman fifteen seconds

And he's back where he began.

TAKING THE COURSES.

"Chefs are well paid, and a good chef can easily earn more than a college professor," writes a correspondent.

That isn't surprising—a lot more people take the chef's course than the professor's.

HE WAS JUST THE SPARE.

Jack: "I called on Mabel last night and I wasn't any more than inside the door before her mother asked me my intentions."

John: "That must have been embarrassing."

Jack: "Yes, but that's not the worst of it. Mabel called from upstairs and said, 'That isn't the one, mother.'"

A BAD BREAK.

The young man undergraduate was in for a hot time. He had committed the heinous offence of turning up two days after the beginning of the term, and in due course he received a summons from the dean of his college requesting his attendance at once.

"I'm awfully sorry, sir," he said when asked for an explanation. "I was detained by most important business and I really couldn't get back before."

The dean looked at him severely through his horn-rimmed glasses.

"So you wanted two more days of grace, did you?"

"No," replied the undergrad, off his guard for a moment, "of Marjorie."

It takes 900 years to grow a redwood in the forest of Sequoia National Park. Then a chump comes along with a cigarette.

After wondering thousands of years how to fix their hair, women finally decided to cut it off.

PAWING THE SHEIK.

"The new patient in Ward B is very good-looking," said the nurse.

"Yes," agreed the matron, "but don't wash his face. He's had that done by four nurses this morning."

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DAILY INSPIRATION.

(By FAIRELIE THORNTON, author of "The Southern Cross," etc.)

SUNDAY.

"He looked for a city which hath foundations whose Builder and Maker is God."—Heb. 11, 10.

Many are looking for a city here which has no foundations to rest upon. They say heaven is here and now, and that is all we want. This world is a very good world, we want no other; laugh and be happy, and don't bother about another life beyond. That sort of stuff is out of date. There was a song we used to sing at school; the first part appealed to me, though only a child—"Life's early sweetest day glides like a dream away, fades with all its blossoms gay." But I thought the latter part of the verse somewhat inapplicable and out of harmony—"Still bid adieu to care, heed not the morrow's share; sighs may for the sad ones be, but not for me. Tra-la-la!" There was no reason given for bidding adieu to serious thought—no philosophy in it, just mere skimming the surface of things. There is a good deal of such shallow wisdom—if it can be called wisdom—to-day. A dislike of facing facts, a desire to avoid serious thought, to live as though we were mere butterflies of an hour. The old heroes of faith lived with a deeper philosophy of life than this. They looked for a city which had foundations whose Builder and Maker was God. Death is the one thing absolutely certain in life. Why not be prepared at any moment for that which may meet us at any moment?

"Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not its goal.
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul."

Why should we forget the immortal soul, and live as though we had none? This world is very beautiful, but what must the next one be? Heaven may be here and now, but we hope for a better one to come. The best is yet to be.

MONDAY.

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

Heaven may be here and now,
But yet I surely know,
Sometime, somewhere, somehow,
In a far higher sphere,
The heaven begun below
Will to its full perfection grow.

TUESDAY.

"After this manner, therefore, pray ye." Familiar words often repeated lose their meaning oftentimes. Who has not found his mind wandering when the Lord's Prayer has been repeated two or three times during the same service? Jesus warned His disciples against vain repetitions in prayer. Prayer is no prayer at all only when it comes from the deepest longing of the heart. After this manner Jesus commanded His disciples to pray. He did not say they were constantly to use those exact words. He gave a sample of what their petitions should consist. They were to pray as to a Father for themselves and others as members of one big family with becoming reverence for the One whose name they called upon, and in submission to His will. Praying in the spirit of love and forgiveness to all who might have offended them, asking for such needs as met them daily, for pardon for sin, for deliverance from temptation and evil, and trusting all to Him whose power was almighty. Such prayers coming from the heart, however they may be worded, reach the Father's ear, and bring a speedy answer.

WEDNESDAY.

"Our Father which art in Heaven."

Our Father, unto Thee ascends our prayer,
Not we alone, but all men share Thy care.
Thy name be hallowed here, O Lord, by all,
Thou hearest all who on Thy name will call.
O let Thy Kingdom come, within each heart,
Set up Thy reign and Thy rich grace impart.
Thy will be done in, through, and by us,

Lord,
Even as in Heaven, according to Thy word.
This day our souls with Bread of Life sustain,
So shall we grow till we Thy mind attain.
If any may have wronged us, O forgive;
Forgiving them, to us Thy pardon give.
Keep us from wandering in temptation's way,
Guard us lest from the paths of truth we stray;
And from all evil do Thou, Lord, defend
Now and henceforth until life here shall end.
And Thine shall be the praise, Lord, world without end. Amen.

THURSDAY.

Do you not know that in the foot-race the runners all run, but that only one gets the prize? You must run like him in order to win with certainty. But every competitor in an athletic contest practises abstemiousness in all directions. They indeed do this for the sake of securing a perishable wreath, but we for securing one that will not perish. That is how I run, not being in any doubt as to my goal. I am a boxer that does not inflict blows on the air, but I hit hard and straight at my own body and lead it off into slavery, lest possibly, after that I have been a herald to others, I should myself be rejected.—1 Cor. 9, 2.

FRIDAY.

"He who fights and runs away may live to fight another day." So the old couplet tells us. The best way to invite an attack is to run away from it. He who turns his back on a foe is inviting him to pursue. There is a warfare to be waged with all forms of evil which can only be done successfully by bravely facing the evil. Compromise is worse than useless. There is a holy spirit of intolerance which Christ Himself possessed, and which His followers would do well to practise. There is a great deal too much tolerance with sin and lawlessness in the world to-day—too much of the soft, easy-goingness of the "live and let live" principle, which is no principle at all, but sheer laziness. We need some of the grit and stamina of our forefathers to face the foes creeping insidiously into this land of ours, trying to undermine it and

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make it a hell on earth. Let us be brave to meet the foe, even when he comes disguised as a friend.

SATURDAY.

"Be sober, be vigilant."—1 Pet., 5, 8.
"Fight the good fight of faith."—1 Tim., 6, 12.

We a fight must daily wage,
Which will all our powers engage,
With the deadly hosts of sin,
If we would the victory win.
Subtle foes are lurking near
Which we have great cause to fear.
He who thinks he ne'er could fall
Is in danger most of all.

"Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."—Rom. 10, 12.

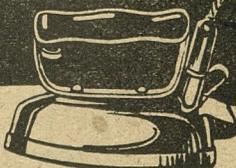
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THE CASE OF STEWARTON.**REPLY TO THE "DAILY MAIL" ARTICLE.**

On September 8 the "Daily Mail" published an article on the alleged effects of Prohibition in the town of Stewarton, Ayrshire. From the article we take the following extracts:

"A prominent feature of the Prohibition campaign now being conducted in certain 'selected' areas in Scotland is the propaganda pointing out the increased prosperity and happiness of the communities that have voted themselves 'dry.'

"Let us look at Stewarton, an industrial burgh of some 3000 inhabitants, situated about 20 miles from Glasgow and five from Kilmarnock. A Prohibition majority in the 1920 elections closed the nine public-houses and two hotel bars of Stewarton. Three years later this verdict was reiterated at the second poll. For nearly six years Stewarton has been entirely 'dry.' Many of its residents with whom I talked to-day, some of them abstainers, believe there is at least a strong possibility of its becoming 'wet' after the third poll next December. They tell me that drinking has not diminished. It is merely done in another place. They tell me that tradesmen's profits have shrunk because the tendency is for a woman to accompany her husband when he goes in search of week-end refreshment in an adjacent 'wet' town. The husband drinks his beer while his wife is shopping. . . .

"The unmarried women are said to be opposed to the town continuing 'dry,' because the unmarried men drift away to Kilmarnock and other places in their spare time.

"Since they can get drink so easily, argue the women, we might as well let them have it here and keep them at home. . . ."

Not far from Stewarton a world-famous man was born who observed that "facts are chieftains that winna ding." We were so concerned about the allegations of the "Daily Mail" that we submitted the matter to responsible people in Stewarton. The Provost of the town and the two United Free Church ministers have sent us the following reply:

(To the Editor of "The British Weekly.")
Dear Sir,—We thank you for sending us the special article which appeared in the "Daily Mail" of September 8, and for your kind offer to give us publicity in your paper.

The special correspondent of the "Daily Mail" called at the offices of the Scottish Temperance Alliance, Glasgow, and asked for the name of their representative in Stewarton. The name of the Rev. J. M. Melrose was given him. Now the special correspondent made no attempt to see Mr. Melrose, for he neither called upon nor took the occasion to speak to him when passing him on the street. He visited an official of the town, who gave him the names of prominent business men in the town, and yet he did not call upon these business men. As he was staying at the hotel owned by the chairman of the trade forces, we can quite well understand why he did not do so. Furthermore, had he been anxious to be perfectly impartial, would he not have called upon the Provost and the Town Clerk in the first place?

Three years ago the same paper sent a special correspondent who called upon Mr. Melrose, who stated many facts about dry Stewarton, but, so far as we are aware, no report of that interview has yet appeared in the "Daily Mail." We are therefore justified in doubting the sincerity of the "Daily Mail" in trying to get at the truth of affairs in this town.

Anyone walking through the business part of this town will be struck with the clean,

well-kept and well-painted shops, and will compare them very favorably indeed with the shops of towns of similar size. In fact, not a few shopkeepers have bought their own premises within the past three years. The Danish Dairy Co., Ltd., who have branches all over the country, have recently opened a shop in the town. We are all perfectly certain that a firm with their business acumen and reputation would not open a shop where the trade was dwindling. Cold water has been thrown upon the Co-operative figures, but we have to remember that the Stewarton Branch of the Kilmarnock Equitable Co-operative Society, which is the only branch in the dry area, shows a balance-sheet with a larger percentage increase than any other branch of that Society. Therefore, in spite of what the correspondent of the "Daily Mail" would infer, we are convinced that the figures prove conclusively that the shopping trade of Stewarton is better than in wet areas similarly situated.

In addition, when the town was wet there were three milk licenses; now, after six years' experience of dry conditions, there are at least twelve. Bakers, fruiterers, confectioners and shops offering light refreshments have all increased in number.

Set alongside this evidence the fact that the requisition which the trade lodged in 1923 was signed by no medical man, no teacher, no banker, no lawyer, and no minister of religion. So far as the manufacturing group is concerned, only one name out of nineteen appeared. The Town Council is now bone dry, and so we feel justified in saying that the whole weight of responsible opinion in the town is in favor of No License.

This article in the "Daily Mail" would have us infer that practically the whole male population is travelling by motor bus to Kilmaurs, Kilmarnock and Dunlop, and that these vehicles are running for the sole purpose of conveying drinkers. As a matter of fact, no motors are running between Stewarton and Dunlop. It is true that motors running from Kilmarnock to Glasgow pass through Kilmaurs, Stewarton and Dunlop, but solely because these places are on the populous route which has naturally been adopted.

To say that there is more drinking in Stewarton under dry conditions than under wet is a gross travesty of facts. When one considers that in the normal period before the war there was an average number of convictions of over a hundred per annum on charges involving drunkenness, and that last year there was not a single conviction on such a charge, every reader will perceive the truth for himself.

They have alighted upon one salient truth in this article of the "Daily Mail," namely, that the women of Stewarton had a great deal to do with voting Stewarton dry.

The Trade Committee in this town has admitted at a meeting held in the Avenue-square that £1500 per year is spent out of the town because the town is dry. The latest figures show that over six pounds per head are spent per annum in Scotland on drink. If we reduce the average for Stewarton to five pounds, a very conservative estimate of the annual expenditure on drink would be fifteen thousand pounds (population about 3000). If £1500 is spent outside because the town is dry, where has the £13,500 gone to? The only reply can be that it has gone into the ordinary business and amusement.

In this age, when the question of unemployment is so rife, it would be good for
(Continued on next page.)

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M. 19/9/25.

The Case of Stewarton—

the country to know that four old public-houses have been turned into hosiery factories. One of these factories employs more than was employed in all the public-houses in the town. We have found therefore that the closing of public-houses means more work and a little less chance for unemployment.

Rates and taxes have gone down, crime has almost disappeared, school attendance has improved very considerably, there has not been a single application to the School Management Committee for food, clothing or boots—since we went dry, charitable institutions were never supported as they are now, the institutes and clubs were never in such a healthy condition, every church has carried through big schemes of reconstruction and repair. There has been no application for any license within the meaning of the Act during the past three years. The unemployed able-bodied relief paid out by the Parish Council is almost a negligible quantity per head in comparison to other industrial areas which are wet. We have no people who spend labor bureau money grants on drink, as is reported in wet areas in the daily press. We would place these facts before the "Daily Mail," and contend that the benefits which have come to this town through being dry are greater than can be described by any words in the English language.

All these arguments which have appeared in the "Daily Mail" were the arguments which were put forward in 1923. Not a single new one has been forthcoming. The people of the town dealt with them by reaffirming their decision for no-license. It is quite evident, therefore, that as nothing new has transpired on the part of the trade, the people will once more demonstrate that they have no further use for public-houses in their town.

JAMES W. MACKIE, Provost of the Town of Stewarton.

DAVID C. REES, Minister of Cairns Church, Stewarton.

J. M. MELROSE, Minister of John Knox Church, Stewarton.

Stewarton, September 14, 1926.

—"The British Weekly," September 16, 1926.

Caught at Last.

William V. Dwyer, head of a New York wet ring, which controlled 18 steamships, and is said to have smuggled some millions of dollars worth of liquor into U.S.A., was sentenced to two years in jail and fined 10,000 dols. on July 27th last. E. C. Cohron, his "pay-off man," got two years with 5000 dols. fine. They will now have time to meditate on bootless bootlegging, and to spend two years in better company than they have been keeping for a long time.

Passing of Hip Flask.

An editorial in the "Daily Northwestern," published by the students of Northwestern University, speaks for itself:

"Hip flasks came into notoriety about the same time as plus-four pants. Your collegian is nothing if not a man who will try anything once. But plus-fours are fast going out of fashion as regular wear for college students, and the habit of toting hip flasks, never strong, has dwindled into a trickle."

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