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HANGING 'EM OUT TO "DRY."

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DRUNKENNESS HAS DECREASED IN NEW YORK.

COLER'S FIGURES ARE DECEITFUL.

The Truth About Alcoholic Admissions to New York Hospitals.

The wet newspapers of New York City are making a desperate effort to prove that drunkenness has increased under Prohibition. They are featuring statistics given out by Bird S. Coler, head of the Public Welfare Department of New York City in support of their contention. It is unreasonable to believe that because Prohibition has made it difficult to obtain alcoholic beverages drunkenness has increased. Even if this were the case, the indictment is against the city government of New York for nonfeasance, not against the Prohibition law. The New York American Issue, however, presents some interesting facts in connection with the situation that puts the matter in a different light, in the following article:

It is no difficult matter to convict both the newspapers and the Public Welfare Department of New York City of repeated, purposeful misrepresentation of facts respecting even the attemptedly-nullified Prohibition now existing in New York City. Mr. Coler, as head of the Department of Public Welfare, has never once informed the public that alcoholic admissions to Bellevue and other public hospitals to-day are on an entirely different basis from that which existed in the years preceding Prohibition. He has not stated that hundreds upon hundreds of cases are now taken to hospitals which would never have been taken to the hospitals before the days of Prohibition because they are mere "drunks," and would have been locked up in police stations in legally wet days. The Department of Public Welfare is following the proper precautionary method in this because of the fact that a variable percentage of those now found intoxicated have imbibed something that may produce death if prompt treatment is not administered, but the most of them get little more than a bath and a night's sleep, and are discharged in the morning! They would never have seen the inside of a hospital in the old days.

The thing, however, which the Department of Public Welfare studiously hides from the public and which the newspapers in their harpings upon present-day deaths from so-called poisoned liquor never mention is the number of deaths from alcoholism and alcoholic poisoning in the years before Prohibition as compared with such deaths in the years of the present Prohibition period. The hospitals may change the character of their admissions and so boost impressively the figures for alcoholism of an allegedly hospital nature, but they cannot change the figures covering deaths and seem still to be sticking to the truth about alcoholic deaths.

And the zealous care Mr. Coler's Department of Public Welfare in New York City

takes to keep utterly mum on these figures, and the refusal of the newspapers to publish comparisons of these figures for Prohibition and pre-Prohibition years, fixes upon both the Department of Public Welfare and the New York City newspapers the stamp of suppression of the truth about New York City under Prohibition of the present semi-sort. And, if one takes into view the way in which the publicity of the Welfare Department and of the newspapers trifle with the facts of human life in an effort to discredit Prohibition, one could use the strongest words in the dictionary to characterise such city department and newspaper baseness.

The year 1916 was the last completely wet year. In 1910 there were 35 alcoholic deaths recorded in New York City, six of them from wood alcohol and eight from other forms of alcoholic poison. In 1911 the recorded alcoholic mortality of the city was 644, in 1912 it was 577. For 1913 the figures were 661, for 1914 they were 665, for 1915 they were 565, and for 1916 they were 690. This is an average of 634 plainly recorded deaths due directly to alcohol for each of those wet years.

Note the difference under Prohibition. The recorded alcoholic deaths in 1920 were 127, in 1921 they were 141, in 1922 they were 295, and the newspaper statement for 1923 is that the total is 270. This is 25 less than the year before and the average of 208 per year under Prohibition—a direct saving on the average of 426 lives per year under Prohibition.

Yet Mr. Coler calls Mr. Anderson "a liar" for daring to charge that his department is misrepresenting the situation to the public through the giving out of figures on things which his department can manipulate, while

LADIES—

The Beautifully Illustrated

"KING" TEA

Catalogue of Free Gifts is Now Obtainable.

Ask your Grocer or Storekeeper.

A WEEK-END COTTAGE CHEAP.

Beautifully situated among the trees on a block of land 60ft. x 300ft. a fibro-cement cottage completely and comfortably furnished, including linen, cutlery, every cooking convenience, six beds, big sleeping-out verandah with blinds, 100 yards from the water, 200 yards from the store and post office.

This cottage is situated at Bayview, 12 miles from Manly. A regular motor service from Narrabeen drops you at the door. For sale, £700.

Can be readily let for £3/3/- a week.

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he hides from the public the figures which tell the story and with which he cannot quite so easily juggle.

At this writing the newspapers of New York City are not yet done reverberating with mock horror over a total of eleven deaths from poisonous alcohol drunk at Christmas time; and the fact that their horror is mere pretence is proven by their complete silence year after year when vastly more people died from alcohol at Christmas time, and their refusal to let the public know how many did die in those years.

The true dastardliness of the kind of mentality which orders such things in the newspapers is evident when one stops to think that the newspaper purpose in all this matter is to bring about an end to Prohibition—the Prohibition which, even under the present attitude of attempted State nullification of it and the refusal of New York City to attempt to enforce it, saves hundreds of lives a year in the recorded alcoholic mortality item alone.

YOU HAVE TO DO WITHOUT

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

MY FEES ARE VERY FAIR.

DENTIST REANEY

OPP. GRACE BROS.

OPEN FRIDAY NIGHTS.

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✱ *Laundrena* ✱
the Quality
Starch
For dainty women

MURDER, VIOLENCE, ROBBERY, INFIDELITY.

MR. BOOZE'S RECORD FOR ONE WEEK.

PREMIERS AND INSPECTORS-GENERAL MAY DRINK AFTER HOURS.

THE VIEWS OF MR. MITCHELL.

The liquor story of the past week, as told—in part—in the daily press, is more interesting and more instructive than usual.

A murder, a "friendly argument," in the course of which one of the disputants was savagely kicked, a husband robbed by his own wife—these are some of the sportive incidents which have helped to relieve the monotony of life, and for which the community has to thank Mr. Booze. There was, of course, the usual number of drunks at the Central; in fact, the number was somewhat larger than usual.

THE MURDER.

The murder was reported from Leura, where the dead body of a man was found in a paddock with the skull battered in and an empty beer bottle near by. Boys who passed before the murder took place report having heard a drunken altercation between two men, so that there is little doubt that this crime must be attributable to the effects of alcohol.

THE "FRIENDLY ARGUMENT."

That is how it was described by the accused, a man named Wright, who was charged with having assaulted Francis Schumach.

The police constable gave a somewhat different version of the affair. He said that Schumach was lying in a pool of blood. His hair and clothes were soaked with blood. Wright jumped on him, and kicked him three times.

Schumach admitted that he was very drunk on the day in question, and might have been argumentative, but that did not save Wright from a sentence of three months' hard labor.

THE ROBBERY.

The story of the robbery is a particularly sad and disgraceful one. The wife of a city pawnbroker alleged as an excuse for robbing her husband of jewellery valued at £1800 odd, that she had "come under the influence" of another man, who had been employed in the establishment as an assistant. "Coming under his influence" seems to have consisted in spending a week with him at a hotel on the North Shore, during which she drank and took morphia practically all the time. Finally, she planned with the man to clear out to Java, and at his instigation rifled her husband's safe to the extent indicated above.

SLY GROG.

There are three stories illustrating the consequences of booze, all occurring within a day or two of each other. One searches the columns of the press in vain for instances of noble and elevating actions performed under the influence of alcohol.

But, apart from all this, there have been other events this week which deserve the most especial attention of Prohibitionists. Sly grog has been discovered in high places.

Meanwhile, a well-known city club came under the lash, the secretary of the Civic Club and a waiter employed there being charged with the sale of liquor after hours. Quite nominal fines were imposed—£5 in the case of the secretary, and £1 in that of the waiter, with only 8/- costs in each case. Moreover, the other charges were withdrawn at the suggestion of the magistrate, so that the secretary, who is the licensee, should not lose his job, and the Club was "whitewashed" by the police, who said it was well conducted, and that there was nothing against it.

Under the circumstances, Mr. Oakes, Chief Secretary and future Premier (as some people aver) of New South Wales, who is a member of the Civic Club, will perhaps not feel called upon to resign.

OH, MR. MITCHELL!

Mr. Mitchell, Inspector-General of Police, says that there is one law for the rich and another for the poor—or words to that effect. He objects to the appointment of civilian inspectors to deal with liquor license cases on the ground that their assistance is not desirable or necessary. Well, Mr. Mitchell is a policeman, and the touchiness of policemen on the question of "ghosts" and civilian assistance generally (except in cases of riot or strike) is well known, so perhaps one ought not to take Mr. Mitchell to task for possessing the characteristics of his calling. But what about the sentiments attributed to him by the "Sun" of February 26th? According to that paper, Mr. Mitchell thinks that the most serious results might ensue from appointing civilian inspectors. **They might summon the Premier for drinking after hours!** The "Sun" says:

"It has been pointed out that the police have never received specific instructions to tighten up activities where the liquor trade is concerned.

"The police view is believed to be that if they carried out the liquor laws to the letter they would be compelled to act ridiculously.

"A big public dinner was recently held at a city hotel at which distinguished visitors from overseas were entertained. The Premier and other Ministers were present. So was Mr. Mitchell himself.

"If the police had carried out the letter of the law they would have prosecuted the Premier and all the other guests for consuming liquor on licensed premises after

hours. They would have to do the same at the forthcoming festivities when the British fleet arrives.

"Mr. Oakes realises the position set out by Mr. Mitchell, and intends to hold his hand until Mr. Ley returns from New Zealand in ten days' time.

"Many members of the Ministry acknowledge that there is a great deal in Mr. Ley's submission that civilians could supervise the liquor trade better than the police.

"Mr. Oakes is not prepared to say."

So you see it would be "ridiculous" to prosecute the Premier or Mr. Mitchell for drinking after hours on licensed premises. And Mr. Oakes—intelligent man—realises the position; he does, indeed, and he intends to "hold his hand." But why, oh why is it ridiculous to prosecute people in high places for contemptuous disregard of the law? Recently this paper directed attention to the decline of respect for the law. But surely in the presence of such reservations as these the law itself becomes contemptible.

Decidedly, Mr. Oakes ought not to resign from the Civic Club.

GIVE ME TO FEEL.

Give me to feel the wind in my face;

The rain on my cheek;

The snow at my feet;

Every pleasure in life, as I backwardly trace,
Has been won with the wind and rain in my face.

Give me to feel the twinges of pain;

The throb in my heart;

The tear in my soul;

For most of the things that I've counted as gain

Have been won in the sleet, and the wind,
and the rain.

Sydney, 1924.

C. W. CHANDLER.

TO PARENTS.

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

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56 ELIZABETH-STREET, SYDNEY.

W. E. WILSON, Hon. Secretary.

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FIELD DAY APPOINTMENTS.

SUNDAY, March 9th.

- 11 a.m., Rozelle Anglican Church; 7 p.m., Coogee Anglican Church.—Mr. Chas. W. Chandler.
- 11 a.m., Fairfield Anglican Church; 7 p.m., Smithfield Anglican Church.—Mr. Chas. E. Still.
- 11 a.m., Kingsgrove Baptist Church; 7 p.m., Salvation Army, Marrickville.—Ex-Senator David Watson.

R. B. S. HAMMOND

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

- Thursday, March 6th.—St. Enoch's Coronation Hall, Wellington-street, Newtown, 8 p.m.
- Monday, March 10th.—Hunter's Hill, Town Hall, 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 11th.—Rydalmere Town Hall, 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 18th.—Blacktown School of Arts, 8 p.m.
- Monday, March 24th.—Brockley College Hall, Northbridge, 8 p.m.

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

The Leader of the Australian Prohibition Party, Rev. R. B. S. Hammond, outlined at the "Great Picnic" a comprehensive outline of a forward movement never equalled in the Prohibition history of New South Wales.

The outline of intended action by the Prohibition Party will be followed up with interesting and valuable details to workers and sympathisers at all of the public meetings conducted by our popular leader, R. B. S. Hammond.

You must attend the meeting arranged in your own district, and lend your support in an active capacity towards the fulfilment of the most comprehensive and useful policy ever attempted by the Prohibition Party.

The dates are advertised in another column on this page, and you must be present to obtain firsthand information for yourself.

AUSTRALIA'S DRY COMEDIAN, MR. HERBERT (PAT) CARROLL, HAS LEFT US.

But only for a time. The Prohibition "Fun Factor" is enlivening Victorian audiences with his witty similes and healthy jokes. We await his news bulletins with much interest.

LETTER TO ALL PROHIBITION BRANCHES AND COMMITTEES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

We are anxious to form an accurate estimate of the number of active Prohibition Branches and Committees in the State of N.S.W., and will be extremely grateful to receive an immediate acknowledgment from

"MAKE PARLIAMENT DRY."

The Leader of Australian Prohibition Party, will address

Monster Meetings

in the Public Interest, which will be held in

ST. ENOCH'S CORONATION HALL,

WELLINGTON ST., NEWTOWN,

on

THURSDAY, MARCH 6th,

at 8 p.m.

TOWN HALL,

HUNTER'S HILL,

MONDAY, MARCH 10th,

at 8 p.m.

On **TUESDAY, MARCH 11th,**

RYDALMERE

TOWN HALL,

at 8 p.m.

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

You must hear

R. B. S. HAMMOND

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

Admission is Free. Collection.

you with any information you can supply in connection with your own district.

Years have elapsed since the previous Prohibition record was compiled, and the records to-day are far from complete.

If you will fill in the accompanying form and return it as soon as possible, you will materially assist towards the successful co-ordination of our State Prohibition forces.

The present time is one of the most critical in the history of New South Wales from a commonsense standpoint, and I feel sure that you will readily realise the extreme necessity for an immediate reply.

If you can manage to form up a local Juvenile Branch of the Modern Band of Hope, or send me particulars of anyone who may be interested in the welfare of the rising generation, a copy of the details in connection with our young people's work will immediately be forwarded along to you.

With kind regards and best of wishes.

Yours sincerely,

D.H.H.,

Field Secretary.

LETTER TO THE WILLING WORKERS.

If no Branch is meeting in your district we will be pleased to have your valuable assistance towards the formation of a branch. The present time is one of the most critical in the history of Prohibition work in New South Wales, and it is absolutely essential that intensive educational work must be carried out immediately to secure for the people their indisputable right—a referendum.

If you cannot arrange for the formation of a local committee, forward the names and addresses of all interested people whom you know of, and to whom we can from time to time, send particulars of our organising work.

Trusting to receive your valuable assistance and an immediate reply, for which I thank you in anticipation.

Sincerely yours,

FIELD SECRETARY.

It is well known that Prohibition in the United States was adopted before the women had the ballot except in a few States of very small population. It is also known that whenever the women had an opportunity to vote at all on the Prohibition question they voted more strongly dry than the men. If, therefore, the men of the United States by their votes put the country dry and put the 33 States which had Prohibition before national Prohibition came in the dry column, together with much of the local territory in wet States, then the addition of women voters will make the electorate much drier than ever. With more than 26,000,000 women voters casting their ballots, there is little chance that at the next congressional election the wets will make any gains.

PASS "GRIT" ON.

MR. CLEARY IS CORRECTED.

R. B. S. HAMMOND TELLS THE MANAGER OF TOOTH'S BREWERY A FEW HOME TRUTHS.

On February 25 the "Telegraph" printed this editorial comment:

BEER AND WORK.

There is an old story relating to the boy at a Sunday School picnic who, when pressed to give the reason for his refusal to partake of the buns to which the others were so partial, said with a shrug and a snigger: "I works in the shop where they make 'em." This story could not be applied to the liquor trade employees, none of whom at Saturday's picnic refused to partake of beer on the ground that he worked in the brewery. Further than this, Mr. Cleary, manager of Tooth's Brewery, took occasion at the luncheon, at which he was a guest, to refute what he referred to as a "generalised libel," contained in a statement made by a prohibitionist Laborite a few days ago, that the Australian workman was "dopey" from drink. Out of a thousand workmen in their own establishment, Mr. Cleary said, there were 120 men who had been working under the so-called debasing conditions of an allowance of three pints of beer each daily for over 20 years, and not one of them showed any signs of becoming "dopey." They must take into account, too, the fact that the total number of employees at the brewery 20 years ago was only about half the present number. There were fifty men who had worked there continuously for over 30 years, which was a long test to apply, while over 200 of the employees were over 50 years of age, and 70 of them were over 60 years, and all were fit and well. They could retire if they liked, but preferred to remain in employment, and did their work capably. This, he thought, was a complete answer to the "dopey" charges made by people who did not know what they were talking about.

To which Mr. Hammond replied in a letter to the editor in these terms:

February 26, 1924.

BEER AND WORK.

The Editor, "Daily Telegraph."

Sir,—In your interesting sub-leader of 25th instant, on "Beer and Work," you touched lightly on matters of great public interest.

May I supplement the information given?

If Mr. Cleary is right, and Tooth's Brewery employs "1000 workmen," then the return in the Commonwealth Year Book is not accurate.

In 1900 there were 52 breweries in N.S.W., employing 920 people. In 1921-22 there were only 17 breweries, employing 1225.

Such a small number of employees for the capital invested is very striking.

It is also of note that in 1900 the 920 brewed 13,410,800 gallons of beer. In 1921-22 this output was nearly doubled (24,756,286 gallons), but the huge increase only found employment for an additional 305 employees.

It may be true that some live to old age in a brewery, as it was true that some survived the charge of the Light Brigade, but Thomas Oliver, who is the world's authority on dangerous trades, has shown that in England the death rate of brewery workers between the ages of 35 and 65 is 50 per cent. higher than it is among all occupied males.

The Medico-actuarial Mortality Investigation, involving 43 life-insurance companies, in a survey covering 25 years and over 2,000,000 lives, found that the death rate of brewery workers in U.S.A. was 52 per cent. higher than the "expected deaths" or the normal death rate.

Mr. Cleary is wrong in his estimate that the brewery employees have doubled in number in the last 20 years.

UNDER PROHIBITION.

Distribution of Christmas savings in the United States this year will total 211,606,800 dollars, an increase of 63,000,000 dollars over 1922, Herbert F. Rawl, New York, President of the Christmas Club corporation, announces. Within the next two weeks banks will mail more than five million holly-embroidered cheques to depositors, who throughout the year have anticipated their Christmas needs and banked from 25 cents to 20 dollars a week.

New York State led in the saving with 36,824,430 dollars, or about one-sixth of the entire amount for the nation. Half of this amount was deposited in New York City. Pennsylvania took second prize, with savings of 23,970,400 dollars. New Mexico with 138,420 dollars saved the smallest amount.

STRENGTH AND SAFETY.

There are two things "nervy" people want. You will find them combined in HEAN'S TONIC NERVE NUTS—the remedy which gives you strong nerves by safe means. No injurious narcotics, no insidious stimulants, but a combination of nerve food and medicines approved by medical scientists. Boxes containing twelve days' treatment cost 3/- each, or six boxes for 17/3. The same medicaments in mixture form would cost about three times as much. If not obtainable from your chemist or store send direct to HEAN'S ESSENCE PROPRIETARY, 265 Elizabeth-street, Sydney.

MUNICH REVELLERS ARE HARD HIT.

Wine, women and song have been banned by Commissioner von Kahr, says a Munich despatch of January 6. Kahr has started a campaign to rid the Bavarian capital of high-rollers who enrage the public by giving champagne parties while so many persons are without bread. Private wine-rooms in leading restaurants are being raided nightly, says the despatch. In a recent round-up of luxurious restaurants which catered to roisterers who violated closing hours, the police arrested a number of over-dressed and bediamonded merry-makers, who were transferred to hard labor.

CAN'T FINANCE THIRST IN BERLIN.

Saloons and roadhouses are lonesome places in Germany since the decline of the mark has forced the price of beer up to a point which is beyond the conception and reach of the average German, says a recent Berlin dispatch.

When the price of a stein arose to one billion marks or more, and continued to rise, the average German lost his thirst. He could not finance it beyond that point. Beer, continues the dispatch, has disappeared now from the life of the average German, and he is thinking now only of bread.



GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK

of N.S.W.

PERSONAL, JOINT, TRUST AND CHILDREN'S ACCOUNTS OPENED.

4% Interest paid on every £ up to £500
and 3½% on excess to £1000.

156 BRANCHES AND 512 AGENCIES IN N.S.W.

ALL DEPOSITS GUARANTEED BY THE GOVERNMENT.



SOME LEADING PROHIBITIONISTS AT THE ALLIANCE PICNIC.

NEW YORK RECORDS SHOW PROHIBITION'S BENEFITS.

Annual Report of Dept. of Corrections Shows Commitments, 1914, 14,057, in '23, 2927.

EIGHTY PER CENT. DECREASE!

Jail Commitments Decreased in Same Years Fifty-two Per Cent.

If one were to believe newspaper reports from New York City, the only effect of Prohibition is to increase drunkenness and crime and make conditions worse than when saloons were open, but when you get figures from the records, there is a different story.

The annual reports of the Department of Correction of New York City to the State Commission of Prisons may safely be taken as accurate and authentic. These reports show that in 1914 when the city was full of saloons, 9264 males and 4793 females were committed to the various city institutions for drunkenness, a total of 14,057.

But in 1923, with the city still advertised as the wettest spot in the country, and with a largely increased population, commitments on the same charge numbered 2370 males and 557 females, a total of 2927, or a decrease of 11,130.

Commitments to the county jails of New

York State for intoxication, according to the same authority, decreased 7082 from wet 1914 to dry 1923, or about 52 per cent. The decrease for the same period in New York City was about 70 per cent., and the decrease in penitentiary commitments on this charge was about 75 per cent.

Is the reader surprised at this showing for Prohibition in a city and State from which is heard so many tales of the failure of Prohibition and the necessity of making some modification in the dry law, as under it conditions are growing worse even to the point of being intolerable?

And it must be remembered that during much of the time in 1923 the State was without a dry enforcement law, the Legislature having repealed that measure last spring, leaving enforcement largely to the few Federal agents.

When wets meet in Washington on the 21st of this month in their "Face-the-Facts" conference, the "American Issue" would like to see them try to prove the inaccuracy of the figures herewith given.

Wets generalize their statements concerning the alleged failure of Prohibition. Their reports are rumors and hearsay and are not backed by official records. When authority speaks, as in the case herein mentioned, it is wholly different.

MOONSHINE BOOZE MADE FROM GARBAGE.

Deputy-Coroner Paul, of Philadelphia, in a statement warning against the use of boot-leg liquor, said: "If people could only see how the stuff is made I think it would be the greatest educational factor in keeping them away from it. The majority of illicit distillers are foreigners of the lowest kind. They have been repeatedly caught going from garbage can to garbage can along the residential streets, gathering pieces of meat, potato peelings and other refuse which they use in making their vile concoctions. In one still confiscated by the police recently a dead cat was found. And this is the stuff people are drinking as whisky."

For Supper
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Is Delicious

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"THE DAWNING OF THAT DAY."

Everybody should read "The Dawning of That Day"—an inspiring and arresting book, dealing with the world's fast approaching and most stupendous crisis. Send 1/7 to your bookseller for a copy, or to the author. Rev. H. G. J. Howe, Rectory, Gladesville, N.S.W.

PASS "GRIT" ON.

FOR
DELICIOUS PASTRY AND CAKES
USE
GRIFFITHS BROS.'
FAMOUS
BAKING POWDER



HOLIDAY NOTES.—GUM TREES.—WHAT WE MISS.

THIS IS THE LIFE. I once met a man who did not appreciate the Bush. He was in a forest of ugly bricks and mortar and he was contented. Poor chap, he was blind and deaf to one of the most charming aspects of life. I thought of this man this morning when I looked out of my bedroom window. Not a house in sight. For miles and miles my vision was all gum trees and green-tinted paddocks. I just leant on the window ledge and drank in the pure sweet morning air. Two old jackasses perched themselves on a nearby dead tree and made the valley ring with their gay laughter. The mists rolled and eddied; a phantom sea which fled before the first rays of sunlight.

"The valleys and the hills shall break forth into singing. And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

This morning my valley was singing—a beautiful song of rest and healing—and the trees were clapping their hands—clapping like children do when a scene of pleasure greets them. Yes, this is the life!

WHAT WE MISS. There are no motor 'buses here. It seems too good to be true. After months of being jolted and barged and bashed about when riding in the wretched things and then to hear them after I have gone to bed, chugging past my bedroom window; after

developing a mental state which hated every motor 'bus in creation it is a form of paradise to come to a spot where the motor 'bus is not.

I suppose it is too much to hope that on my return I shall find there has been a revolt against motor 'buses and in one splendid revolution the people have had them all driven over The Gap!

WE ALSO HAVE NOT. We are actually out of hearing of cheap gramophones. Last night I sat on our front verandah and the only sound was the buzzing of mosquitoes. Of course, Edison did a wonderful thing when he invented gramophones. He blessed and he also cursed us. I can appreciate a good record, but when one lives in a street wherein every householder has invested a few shillings in a gramophone and they all play their machines at the one time one grows a little weary of hearing "The End of a Perfect Day" song in competition to "Yes, We Have no Bananas," with band pieces and sacred songs all mixing themselves and forming one dreadful whole. The more I think about this place the more I realise it is good. Not only because of what is here, but because of what is not here. Having said as much I must add that I do not overlook the fact that a contact with unpleasant things at least adds to the appreciation of good things.

NOT A NATURE MAN. I hope you will not conclude that I am a nature man. Indeed, the idea of dressing in a Chidley garb is foreign to my ideas. I am sure I could not enjoy the Bush on the back-to-Nature plan. I want a pair of stout boots on when roaming over Bush paths; to go barefooted would rob the walk of its pleasure. The only occasions when I get the back-to-Nature idea are either at the seaside or under the shower.

A PICNIC AFTER-THOUGHT.

Since I've had time to do a little thinking (there is time to think for me now) I have recalled many pleasant things about the picnic. Did you notice the man on the wharf who was having a little innocent fun at the expense of the Liquor Party's picnic? On one side of the wharf the "dry" boat was moored and on the other the "wet" boat. Our friend added to the gaiety by calling out, "Blue bows to the right; red noses to the left." Everybody seemed to understand the directions.

On board our boat I found an old man of 96. He was the oldest picnicker on the harbor that day. He was having a great time with a youngster of 73, while a mere lad of 65 sat by and listened, even according to the old saying that in the presence of age boys should be seen and not heard.

I also met the champion ice-cream eater. He was about 12, and when I was introduced to him he was just saying good-bye to the last spoonful of the eighth. He put the spoon down and sighed: "They goes very quick, don't they?"

A BIG FIGHT AHEAD. These rambling notes must end on a serious key. Holidays or no holidays, the great fight goes on. Look out for the particulars of the biggest and most effective campaign we have ever conducted. Have we got any political punch? You just wait for a few days and see what we can do when we really try.

"GRIT" SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Received to 28/2/24, and where not mentioned the amount received is 10/-: G. Walker, 1/2/25; H. R. Purse, 15/10/25; L. D. Gilpin, 23/11/24, £1 15s. 6d.; A. T. Hancock, £1 (agent); A. A. Rose, £1, 30/12/25; F. Blows, 10/12/23; W. R. Crittenden, 30/12/25.

The following are paid to 30/12/24: Mrs. Marsden, Miss M. Winton, Clifford R. Park, A. S. Wheatley, J. Brigden, A. Hughan, N.Z. (£1 3s.), Jas. Moore (£1 1s.), W. T. Philpot, W. Watt, Rev. G. M. Scott, J. Reid, Rev. E. W. Hyde, J. A. Graham (£1), Miss M. Harlow, N.Z. (£1 3s.), W. Worling.

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A Personal Chat with my readers

SOMETHING I NEED. At the picnic a lady gave me a few verses; she did not know that I needed them badly. I want to quit.

I am tired of an uphill fight in which my associates more often discourage me than do my enemies.

That lady may never know what "a message" the lines she gave were to me.

I have too much to do—much of it I do not do well. I want to quit. But Edgar A. Guest says:

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
And the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh;
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest, if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer, with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow,
You might succeed with another blow.

Success is failure turned inside out,
The silver tints of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar.
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit,
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

POLITICS. The politicians represent the people; they do not make the people—the people make them.

For all we complain of in politics we ourselves are largely to blame. The party conflict has now degenerated from a struggle about principles to a struggle for place.

Loyalty to a leader and the party is a poor substitute for loyalty to a faith.

I was struck by an article in the "Contemporary Review," of last December, in which Algernon Cecil says: "The surest conclusion of history is that changes are commonly made too late."

I am disposed to agree with this.

Prohibition 20 years ago would have wrought a miracle in Australia; now we are face to face with indulgence, defiance of decent standard in politics and in life, and lawlessness in high places, and these will all combine to defy Prohibition and rob it of much of its best fruit.

The Civic Club, of which some of the Cabinet are members, has been convicted of sly-grog selling. The exclusive, so-called high-class Ambassadors restaurant is charged with sly-grog selling. A public dinner, at which the Premier and the Inspector-General of Police were guests, flagrantly broke the liquor laws.

The need for Prohibition grows, and I fear it will come too late. Much that is not wholesome remains unrebuked in public life.

REAL RELIGION. The poor desire to have the Gospel, not preached to them, but practised before them; the rich have not the conviction altogether to embrace Christianity, nor the courage to let it go.

The Church clings to religious sentiment, but dares not abandon itself to the example of Christ.

Mr. Cecil says: "The outstanding movements of our time are just no better than a page of philanthropy; if they are to be of any real service to society they must be brought into relation with the larger science of religion."

The betterment schemes of Labor politics, the muddled hopes of ordinary politicians, the pious wishes of churchmen, can never be realised until the vital forces of Christianity are once more sought and given first place in our lives.

It makes all the difference in the world whether the form and substance of social life are conceived as products of human organisation or as mysteries of divine appointment.

Is there a divinity that shapes our ends?
Are we something more than coral insects,
building an island in the ocean of time?

When God is restored to a place in the life of the people, in Parliament, and in all else that concerns public life, then the Empire will be saved; if we continue to ignore God as at present, the doom of ancient Rome will be ours.

Mr. Cecil closes his very fine article by saying: "The wise patriot may still detect a use for the Ten Commandments, and the citizens of the world will still find subjects for meditation in the sermon on the Mount."

The Editor

GRIT

A JOURNAL OF
NATIONAL EFFICIENCY
AND PROHIBITION

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

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THE LESSON OF THE GREAT PICNIC.

A SIGN OF RENEWED LIFE AND ENERGY.

WE TREAD THE PATH OF VICTORY.

When Parliament, in its liquor-blinded stupidity, decided to prevent the people of N.S.W. from coming to grips with the liquor traffic at the ballot box until 1928, there were a few politicians who sat back and said: "Well, thank the stars that Prohibition business is settled for another two Parliaments." There were also a few Prohibitionists who sat down and wept, and sighed, "All is lost."

These folk are in evidence—in very small numbers—everywhere. They possess a certain genius for making themselves appear bigger than they actually are, and many instances might be recorded of where a few weaklings have demoralised a great movement.

YESTERDAY AND TO-DAY.

Let us examine the political situation with a view to finding out whether we have reason to believe that our people are in the mood to turn a temporary defeat into a lasting victory. A few years ago, in those good old days, we decided to call our people together for a social gathering, and we

organised a picnic. In reply to our call, under 700 people came to the picnic. We thought it was great. We said it was a remarkable gathering. A few of our people look back to the event and say: "Ah, those were the days." And what we did then was good, and worthy of our Movement of those days.

TO-DAY.

A few weeks ago Parliament passed the most reactionary Liquor Act ever known in this State. By comparison, it is far the worst bit of legislation we have had forced upon us. The period during which the Liquor Act was before the House was used by our opponents in all sorts of ways to attempt to confuse and split our party. Dame Rumor was very busy, and every champion of Prohibition came under her personal notice. The press also joined with those who sought to break the unity of our people. Unsigned letters appeared in the papers, and the leader of our Movement was subjected to attacks by unnamed foes. On the crest of this wave of manufactured public senti-

ment a few politicians betrayed our party, and Parliament sanctioned 1928 instead of 1924 as the date of the referendum.

THEY CRY IN VAIN.

For a few days after the passing of the notorious Liquor Act, the press cried: "The Prohibition Party is badly split," and a few weaklings dropped their bundles—pitiable little bundles they were, too—and wept by the wayside.

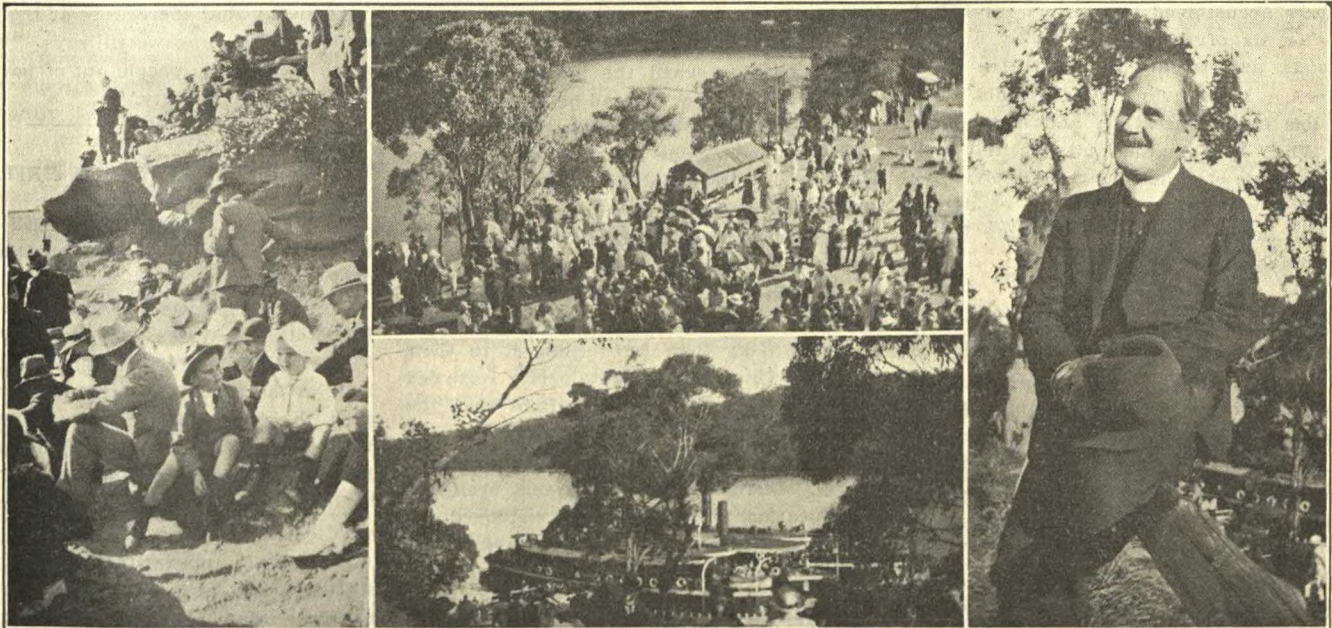
Here's the rub. The hired liquor press cried about the splits in our party, and they cried in vain. The weaklings wept, and their weeping was over a press-created phantom ghost.

The Prohibition Party was not split or its unity broken. As a matter of cold fact our party was never better organised than to-day. The great picnic was proof of that statement. Without any additional office help we called our people together and put the machinery of our organisation into operation to get a couple of thousand to a picnic. Instead of two thousand, three thousand came.

The gathering on Saturday, February 23, was a complete reply to politicians and to the weaklings who weep. The picnic proved that instead of being dismayed or disheartened our people are more than ever determined to march together under the banner on which is written:

A Referendum in 1925.

And they are treading the path to victory.



SOME GLIMPSES OF THE PICNIC.

1. The Campaign Director speaking to 3000 people at the Alliance Picnic.

2. Picnicers landing from the first boat.

3. The three boats tied up after unloading.

4. The Campaign Director smiles.

Photos taken by an Hon. Neice.

A FAIR SUBSTITUTE.

In the year 1923, in spite of the high cost of building, this country saw 2000 more new homes built per month than were erected in 1919. The newly-built home is a fair substitute for the saloon that used to get the money of the head of the house.—"Journal and Courier," Lafayette, Ind.

"The fumes of the wine left him nothing of his more refined nature."—Wilkie Collins.

It is reported that Prohibition is being strictly enforced in Constantinople and throughout Turkey. Many thousands of pounds worth of liquor have been confiscated and destroyed in spite of the protests of the French and Italian agents.

If Prohibition were a failure there would not be two score wet organisations working to overthrow it.

Mr. Lloyd George said at a dinner given by the Lotus Club, New York, on November 2, 1923: "You have solved the Prohibition question and made a permanent job of it."

What the Current Magazines are Saying About Prohibition and Law Enforcement.

(Reviewed by EMMA L. TRANSEAU.) (The "Woman Citizen," November, 1923.)

DRINKING IS GOING OUT.

By ELIZABETH K. PHELPS STOKES.

In the weekly report of "Your Business in Washington," the correspondent after announcing the absence of liquor at the banquet given by the Overseas Writers to Mr. Lloyd George, adds the following:

It seems anomalous even to consider such a statement as news. Unfortunately it is news that so large and important a gathering should be entirely on the Prohibition basis. Not long ago members of the Supreme Court of the United States had to refuse to attend a function because it became known that it would be an old-time affair. Your correspondent has been writing for some time that it is coming to be realised here that petty poaching upon Prohibition is no longer considered good form. There has been so much illicit liquor around that dinner guests have been asked not only to partake of one or two cocktails, with which they were accustomed to begin a meal, but of five or six of them, followed by a miscellaneous assortment of everything that contained a large quantity of alcohol. The effect has been nauseating, and many have quit. When Washington quits entirely and public officials stop declaring themselves for Prohibition while they still smell of liquor, there will be some chance of making headway throughout the country.

(The "Outlook," November 14, 1923.)

LET STATE AND NATION WORK TOGETHER.

The occasion for the text of this title is furnished by the correspondence between Governor Pinchot and Secretary Mellon, the one charging that the nation is not doing its full duty, and the other insisting that the nation is exercising its full power, but that the States have larger powers than they seem to realise.

The editorial concludes:

All this plainly shows the need of forming in the gigantic task of enforcement, a union between State authorities and Federal executive authority and Congress. The co-operation needed from Congress is perhaps not so much through legislation as in furnishing adequate funds.

The Federal power must deal with smuggling from outside the United States. It has just gained a concession that should reduce ocean smuggling. But it has still to deal effectively with the increase in land smuggling. A press dispatch states that vast quantities of alcoholic drinks are pouring over the Canadian border; that the recent increase has been astonishing; that about 2,000,000 dollars' worth of liquor comes

in this way annually, of which only ten per cent. is intercepted; while over the two-hundred-mile stretch of border between the two countries only thirty Federal officers are employed.

(The "Outlook," November 7, 1923.)

A MOONSHINER ON PROHIBITION.

By FRANCIS PRIDEMORE.

A mountaineer, moonshiner before the war, gives his opinion of the way to stop present moonshining among the mountain men—by reason, instead of force. Call off the secret service men and the enforcement officials, he says, and send in men who know the mountaineers, who are not hated as the old revenue officers are, and the officers who come as enemies, but men who will come as friends and talk the matter over with the leaders.

This is the way he presents the mountaineer's position:

Most people regard the moonshiner as a man defying all law. Instead he is a conscientious objector to one certain law. In the beginning, moonshine was made as a protest against the Revenue Act. The mountain men of my part of the country felt, and to a certain extent I still agree with them, that they had a right to dispose of their corn as they saw fit, and that the Government had no more right to tax them for making it into whisky than for feeding it to their hogs. Thus the mountaineers regarded making whisky in the same light that the Boston patriots regarded throwing the tea overboard—a defence of their personal liberty. Instead of removing this prejudice by education, the Government employed the method of George III. and endeavored to enforce the law by means of revenue officers, whom the mountaineers hated as heartily as did their forefathers the Hessians. I wonder how many people realise that there was a reason for the universal hatred the mountaineers felt for the revenue men? The charges that are brought against Prohibition agents and officers applied to the revenueurs as a class, with only a few notable exceptions; they were extortionate, crooked and treacherous. Too often after landing the moonshiner in jail they either drank or marketed the liquor they were supposed to have destroyed. They used their official positions to vent their own personal spite, and, worst of all from our standpoint, they violated hospitality—of all crimes the hardest for the mountaineer to forgive. What the revenue man of pre-war days used to do, the Prohibition agent does to-day.

PROHIBITION CREDITED WITH DECLINE IN POVERTY IN DES MOINES.

"Prohibition and improved employment conditions are given as the reasons for the decline in poverty in Des Moines during recent months on a survey which has been placed in the hands of the public welfare bureau by the Associated Charities," says the "Des Moines Register" of January 1.

"Out of 8500 people who are listed as former charity cases at the Associated offices only seven returned during the last twelve months, seeking aid, all other cases handled during the year being new ones. This amounts to 1.100 of 1 per cent. of the total taken care of.

"Commenting on the aid which Prohibition has given in coping with the poverty situation, Secretary Hollingsworth of the Associated Charities says that 26 per cent. of all cases coming before the charities in 1913 were attributed to liquor drinking. The year following the close of the saloons there has been a steady decrease in this class. The money which was formerly spent for liquor is now being put into savings accounts or invested in homes, he says.

"The Associated Charities is proud of the fact that there are fewer families on the rolls to-day that there were at this time last year," Mr. Hollingsworth says. "We would much rather help people out of poverty than help them in poverty."

WOOD ALCOHOL IN BRITAIN.

Now along comes the British licensing statistics for the year 1922, making record of two facts, to wit:

First. There were, during the year in England and Wales, 76,347 CONVICTIONS FOR DRUNKENNESS. That looks pretty bad. A law that is violated nearly one hundred thousand times a year, in a country with less than half the population of the United States, surely should be repealed! "What's the use of having a law that is violated all the time?"

Second. It appears from the same official statistics that of these hordes of convictions not less than 516 of those convicted got drunk on wood alcohol!

Now is the time for some of our British friends to arise on their hind feet and make a few remarks about the British system of regulation of the liquor traffic which works so perfectly.

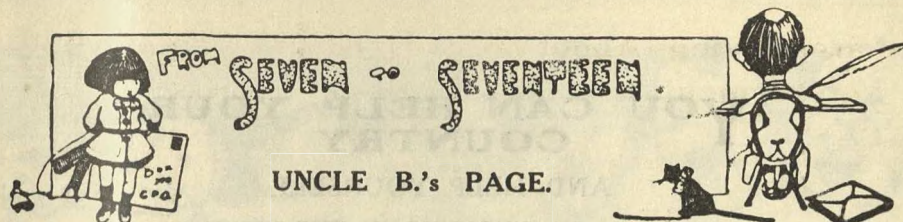
Who will be the first?

FLAVORING THE CAKE.

"Susie," said the girl's mistress, "go and see if the cake's done. Stick a knife in it. It's done if the knife comes out clean."

Susie departed. Some minutes later she returned beaming.

"The knife come out as clean as a whistle," she said, "so I stuck the rest of the knives in it, and the forks and spoons, too."



UNCLE B.'s PAGE.

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

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

LENT.

In the Church of England the season of Lent is generally observed, and while other Protestant Churches do not give any attention to Lent, they would find it profitable to do so. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on March 5, and the following 40 days up to Good Friday are called Lent. Just as athletes sometimes go into special training and housekeepers have a spring cleaning, so the religious people of the Church of England have during Lent a special spiritual training, a kind of spiritual spring cleaning as it were—self-denial, special religious services, and efforts to get spiritually fit and be able to appreciate the great Easter time. When man wants to get physically fit he cuts out luxuries, takes more exercise, and even crowds out apparently harmless things. To get spiritually fit we need to do somewhat the same thing. The annual revival services the Methodists used always to have and the season of Lent are efforts to improve your spiritual health.

Let us go into spiritual training for six weeks and have the very best Easter we have ever had.

UNCLE B.

OUR LETTER BAG.

A NEW NI.

Edna Anderson, 16 Deakin-street, Mortlake, writes: I would like to be your Ni. Mr. Hughes says that I would make a good one. I am ten years old. My birthday is on the 19th of December. I belong to St. Mary's Church, Mortlake. I have four sisters and I am the eldest. We also attend an elocution class which is held in our S.S. hall. Somebody told me, Uncle, that you have never been out to Mortlake. If you only came you would have a royal reception. Please let us know and we will soon arrange a good welcome. I attend Mortlake Public School and am in 4th A. Oh, Uncle, I nearly forgot to tell you that we have a lovely Scripture Union meeting in our Sunday school hall every Tuesday and the attendance every time is between sixty and seventy. I wish you could come out one evening and give a good rattling talk on Prohibition.

(Dear Edna,—You are welcome to my large family, which has more than its share of

scallywags, so please don't drift into that group. Thank you for your invitation to Mortlake. I have never been invited before, and will at once see how I can arrange to go there.—Uncle B.)

* * *

A LOVELY HOLIDAY.

Lillian Evans, Devon Dairy, Liverpool-road, Enfield, writes: Well, Uncle, I must now tell you about my Christmas holidays. I went by boat to Byron Bay and then by car to Bangalow to my Grandmother's home. I stayed for five weeks and spent a most enjoyable time. While there I visited Byron Bay and the Brunswick, which are two of the main pleasure resorts up there. My sister had been up there for three months, so we both came back together. We had a very rough trip down on the boat. Some of us are going on the Prohibition Harbor trip on Saturday. We hope to spend a most enjoyable afternoon. I hope the picnic will be a great success. Love to all cousins.

(Dear Lillian,—Glad to hear you had such a nice holiday. I am glad I was not with you on the rough trip back. I do dislike the sea.—Uncle B.)

* * *

OPEN-AIR CAMPAIGNERS.

Sylvia Waters, Holly-road, Burradoo, writes: I have not written to you for quite a long time. I did not have enough time to write as I have been helping mother with her work. I have made three magazine covers for Owen and Alan and myself. I just finished mine to-day. Well, Uncle, I have about one hundred wild flowers in my wild flower book. I am not in Miss Norman's class now. I was promoted into fifth class; my teacher's name is Miss Smith and she is very nice. I like her very much. Well, Uncle, I went to some of the open-air campaigns. They were very nice. I went to one in the night and Mr. Guilford picked out ten special girls to sing that night. Mr. Guilford told us to tell our mothers and fathers to come that night. He taught us a great many little hymns, "Step by Step," "The Best Book to Read is the Bible," "Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus," "A Little Talk with Jesus Makes it Right, Alright," "I am so Glad That Jesus Loves You." I learnt them very quickly. Mr. Bradley was very nice; he spoke to the women and men after the singing was over. Mr. Guilford took us down to the Corbett Gardens and took our photos; he said they came out very good.

(Dear Sylvia,—Your letter is most interesting. I am so glad you were able to go to the open-air campaigners' meetings. They are doing a wonderful amount of good, and I hope you will pray for them each day.—Uncle B.)

MAKING CURRANTS.

Connie Thorn, Thorndale, North Dandalup, writes: I hope I am not on the black list by this time. I have meant to write before, but have been so busy. We are sweeping the clover fields now, and it takes up a long while doing it. I was very glad to see my last letter in print. We will be picking currants next week. They have to be picked with a knife and put on trays of wire-netting to dry. When they are dry, they are rubbed through the wire netting and put in boxes. They are then rubbed through a very fine wire-netting sieve, then on another tray of sacks, tightly stretched. They are then put through a cleaning machine, which blows all the stems out. When cleaned like this, they are ready to put in boxes and be sold. We will have a fairly good crop this year, I think. We did not have any concert this year, but on January 3 all the school-children went to the Perth Zoo. We had to get up at a quarter to four in order to catch the half-past four train. It was the first time I had been there. I have been to the Adelaide Zoo, though. The Perth Zoo is a nice one, and has a lot of animals in it. Have you ever been there, Uncle?

(My Dear Connie,—I am sure very many of your cousins will read with great interest the way you make currants. Yes, I have been to the Perth Zoo. I went to school with Mr. Le Souef, who is in charge of it.—Uncle B.)

* * *

THE DANGEROUS SURF.

Cecily Howe, Christ Church, Gladesville, writes: We have been having lovely holidays. We went to Wollongong for a fortnight and had a lovely time. We had a cow, horse and fowls where we were staying, so we had drives, fresh milk and eggs. Both beaches are nice, but the North Beach is the best. It was awfully sad about the poor life-savers, wasn't it? We were very glad after that we did not go to the South Beach that afternoon. We went to the North Beach that afternoon and after being dumped in the surf four times I came out. We then walked round to the lighthouse and on to the South Beach, but by that time the carnival had stopped, so we went home.

(Dear Cecily,—The surf has its dangers, and while everyone knows of them so many are just too stupid or careless to be careful. It is most of all sad that people are so foolish.—Uncle B.)

* * *

ON THE FARM.

Donald Thorn writes: The currants are nearly ripe now. We went into town this morning to get 30 dozen bags for the clover. The 30 dozen weigh 3 cwt. 3 qrs. We are selling a lot of tomatoes.

(Dear Donald,—I envy you among the clover and the tomatoes. I do not know why anyone ever wants to live in a city. I like the country.—Uncle B.)

PASS "GRIT" ON.

PROHIBITION'S CHRISTMAS GIFT.

(By W. B. WHEELER, General Counsel, Anti-Saloon League of America).

The best Christmas gift to the American people is the one brought by Prohibition. A few of the cumulative results of four years of sober industry are:

A cut in the death rate that saved 873,000 lives, profiting the insurance companies and policy holders, £175,754,000.

A decrease in the rate of preventable illness equivalent to 1,747,950 people continuously ill for one year.

A reduction in the ratio of drunkenness arrests per 100,000 population equivalent to 500,000 fewer arrests for drunkenness in 1923 alone, or over 2,000,000 fewer in the four dry years.

A decrease in the penal ratio resulting in 20,000 fewer persons being committed to penal institutions in these four years.

Elimination of intemperance as a cause of poverty, releasing £15,000,000 of charity funds for constructive work.

Wiping out 177,790 licensed saloons, around which huddled the homes of families whose revenues were drained by the liquor leech.

Over £200,000,000 added to the savings accounts and over £2,200,000,000 to our new life insurance policies in 1923.

Increased the taxable wealth of former license cities by increasing valuation of former saloon sites.

Lowered industrial accidents by a quarter of a million annually.

Made possible vast expenditures on moving pictures, athletic equipment, and other wholesome entertainment which replaced the saloon.

Made roads safer for the 4,000,000 automobiles manufactured last year, many of which were bought by former impoverished drinkers.

Increased home building by 2000 more new homes built per month in 1923 than in 1919, in spite of higher costs.

Added a daily Pentecost of 3000 new members to the churches.

Sent throngs of youths and girls to high school and college by eliminating the liquor drain on the family purse.

Prohibition was not unaided in creating these benefits, but only a sober, thrifty and industrious country could have wrought these things.

THIS HEN WOULDN'T PROTECT OHIO BOOZE.

When police raided the pool room of John H. Smiley, in Columbus, Ohio, they found a hen on a nest in a rear room. She shifted uneasily from time to time, and then the neck of a bottle was disclosed. A half-pint of liquor was discovered in the nest. Further search brought to light four other half-pints. Smiley was sent to jail.

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AND HELP YOURSELF

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of investing for 3 years, or 5 years, or 10 years; of paying at once the full amount of the subscription, or 5 per cent., or a greater percentage, as a deposit—but whichever course you take, interest on the amount paid will accumulate immediately at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

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EARLE PAGE, Treasurer.

Commonwealth Treasury, February, 1924.

CHICAGO DEATH RATE 14 PER CENT. BELOW AVERAGE.

A report issued January 1 by Health Commissioner Bundesen of Chicago says: "The Chicago death rate during the year was only 11.75 per cent. per 1000 population, which is 14 per cent. lower than the average annual death rate during the last decade."

What becomes of the argument so frequently heard by the wets that booze is necessary to conserve the health of the people?

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA BANS DRINKING SONG.

The compilers of the official song book of the University of Pennsylvania have banned a drinking song which has been in vogue for many years. The song is titled "Drink a Highball at Nightfall." Several years ago the song was banned from the campus and song book. It was later put back in the book. It was considered entirely out of place in these Prohibition days.

PROHIBITION CAUSES DROP IN MORTALITY RECORD.

A recent issue of the New York "World" points out that while the mortality figure in the registration area in the United States was slightly more (11.8 per thousand) in 1922 than in 1921 (11.6 per thousand) nevertheless it was less than for any year preceding, except the year 1921. Moreover, it has dropped almost as much since 1900, when it was 20.6, as it did in the preceding forty years. It is noteworthy, however, that the most conspicuously sudden drop took place with the advent of Prohibition.

A BLESSING TO SPORT.

According to Thomas J. Hickey, president of the American Baseball Association, Prohibition has been a great blessing to baseball. Mr. Hickey said recently: "The season was a record breaker. Prohibition has been the greatest blessing baseball ever enjoyed. The passing of the saloon increased our patronage wonderfully. Regardless of the merits of the Eighteenth Amendment, it is a great business booster for us."

**NAMED.**

She: "What would you call a man who hid behind a woman's skirt?"

He: "A magician."

A COMMON CUSTOM.

Golf is not mentioned in the Bible, tho' we learn of Jehu that he drove furiously.

SOMEWHAT THE SAME.

"Been able to get any coal?"

"No; but I've subscribed to another Sunday newspaper."

QUEERED.

Lawyer: "Well, what shall we ask for—trial by judge or jury?"

Client: "Take the judge, Doc. I've done plumbing for nearly everybody in this town."

AN EXCEPTION.

"Nothing in this world is done as well as it can be done," says Mr. Gordon Selfridge. What about the British taxpayer?

WHERE SILENCE WAS BEST.

Well-meaning Stranger: "Perhaps I can help you—there are one or two things I can tell you about your make of car."

Motorist: "Well, keep them to yourself, there are ladies present."

EXPERIENCED.

A victim of chronic bronchitis called on a doctor to be examined. The doctor, after careful questioning, assured the patient that the ailment would respond readily to treatment. "I suppose you must have had a great deal of experience with this disease?" said the sufferer.

The doctor smiled wisely, and replied: "Why, my dear sir, I've had bronchitis myself for over 15 years."

CONSERVATION.

A young woman who was reared in an Eastern Kansas town read in a poultry journal that poultry-raising was remunerative, so she decided to try it. She purchased a hen and set her on 13 eggs. She wrote to a poultry journal that poultry-raising was much to her liking and wondered how long the hen should remain on the eggs. The paper wrote back, "Three weeks for chickens and four weeks for ducks." Later she wrote to the poultry journal as follows: "Many thanks for your advice about the setting hen. She remained on the nest three weeks, and at the end of that time there were no chickens hatched. As I did not care for ducks, I took her off the nest and sold the eggs."

Sister Anne: "Did yer get any marks at school ter-day, Bill?"

Bill: "Yus, but they're where they don't show."

AND MORE YAP THAN PAY.

The same letters that spell pay in France become yap in Germany.

THE FRIGHTFUL SUBSTITUTE.

"Are you sure we have taken the best road?"

"Somebody has. Dreadful thing they left in its place, isn't it?"

A TIME FOR GUIDANCE.

Careful reading of the news events of the day would seem to indicate that there are two kinds of likker, pre-war and post-mortem.

SELF-ADVERTISED.

Persons who have taken the Ford boom seriously should remember that the little things always sound as if they were going sixty miles an hour.

DESPERATE MEASURES.

In his announcement on a Sunday morning the vicar regretted that money was not coming in fast enough—but he was no pessimist.

"We have tried," he said, "to raise the necessary money in the usual manner. We have tried honestly. Now we are going to see what a bazaar can do."

IMPERATIVE.

"What's the matter, old boy?" asked Jimmie's friend. "I've never seen you looking so seedy."

"I've got to go abroad at once," remarked Jimmie, gloomily.

"Nonsense! These doctors mustn't frighten you out of your life like that."

"It wasn't a doctor. It was a lawyer."

SCRIPTURAL VEGETABLE.

Nancy, aged seven, is lunching with her mother in a restaurant.

Mother (helping herself to sauce): "You won't like this, dear, it's parsley sauce."

Nancy: "Oh! let me have some, mummy. I know I should like it."

Mother: "Why, you haven't tasted it."

Nancy: "No, but I've read about it in the Bible."

Mother (surprised): "Where?"

Nancy: "I've been reading about the man who was sick of the parsley, and I want to try."

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HERO WORSHIP.

A certain great lady called on Mrs. Gladstone during Gladstone's premiership. Conversation turned on the Irish question.

Lady: "Things are terrible in Ireland. But we must have faith, there's One above who cares, and He will provide a way out."

Mrs. Gladstone: "Yes, he's upstairs, changing his clothes, and will be down in a minute!"

AVOID THIS.

There was in dress-goods a salesman who used as a clincher the argument: "It just suits your style."

He was so successful with this somewhat ambiguous phrase that he grew careless and finally met his Waterloo. That was the day he tried to sell a polka-dot to a freckle-faced girl.

DAILY INSPIRATION.

SUNDAY.

"Keep that which is committed to the trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and opposition of science, falsely so called."
—1 Tim., 6, 20.

In many cases of controversy the apparent victory of error has been due to the unfitness of the warrior who championed the truth. It may for some men be the truest service to the good cause to leave it in stronger hands. We do not send women and children to the battlefield, nor do we march our recruits to war before they have been trained, neither should we expect raw youths and timid maidens to put on armor at once and face the adversaries of the Gospel. It has happened times without number that a blustering infidel has posed a new convert with his sophistical arguments, and then he has shouted as if he has gained a victory over the truth; whereas his boasting only proved the weakness of his cause, or the childishness of his own mind. He who could crow so loudly over so slender a success must be conscious of inherent feebleness, and therefore he is astonished and elated at the semblance of victory.

Let us pray to be strengthened, that our inner life, growing day by day, may reach a fullness of stature and a firmness of strength worthy of the heavenly weapon which the Lord has put into our hand. O, sacred Spirit, make us strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.—Spurgeon.

MONDAY.

Glorious: it is to wear the crown
Of a deserved and pure success,
He who knows how to fail has won
A crown whose lustre is not less.
It may be hard to gain, and still
To keep a lowly heart,
Yet he who loses has to fill
A harder and a truer part.
Blessed are they who die for God,
And win a martyr's crown of light,
Yet he who lives for God may be
A greater conqueror in His sight.

—A. A. Proctor.

TUESDAY.

"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."—Rom., 12, 18.

It is no great matter to associate with the good and gentle; for this is naturally pleasing to all, and every one willingly enjoyeth peace, and loveth those best that agree with him. But to be able to live peaceably with hard and perverse persons, or with the disorderly, or with such as go contrary to us, is a great grace, and a most commendable and manly thing.

He that knoweth best how to suffer will best keep himself in peace. That man is conqueror of himself, and lord of the world, and the friend of Christ.—Thomas A. Kempis.

WEDNESDAY.

What will it matter in a little while
That for a day
We met and gave a word, a touch, a smile,
Upon the way?
What will it matter whether hearts were
brave
And lives were true;
That you gave me the sympathy I crave,
As I gave you?
These trifles? Can it be they make or mar
A human life?
Are souls as lightly swayed as rushes are
By love or strife?

Yes, yes, a look the fainting heart may break,
Or make it whole,
And just one word, if said for love's sweet
sake,
May save a soul.

—May Riley Smith.

THURSDAY.

"Let them learn first to show piety at home, and to requite their parents, for that is good and acceptable before God."—1 Tim., 5, 4.

There are people who would do great acts; but because they wait for great opportunities life passes, and the little acts of love are not done at all. The considerateness of Christ, was shown in little things. And such are the parts of human life. Opportunities for doing greatly seldom occur—life is made up of infinitesimals. If you compute the sum of happiness in any given day you will find that it was composed of small attentions, kind looks, which made the heart swell. . . . And remark, too, these trifles prepared for larger deeds. The one who will be found in trial capable of great acts of love is ever the one who is always doing considerate small ones. The soul which pours itself out to death on the cross for the human race was the Spirit of Him who thought for the wants of the people, contrived for the rest of the disciples, and was thoughtful for a mother.—Rev. F. W. Robertson.

FRIDAY.

"Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Let me not say an unkind word to-day,
And weep for it to-morrow,
Let us not sow such seed along the way
As soon would yield us sorrow.
But as we pass with busy haste along,
Let us a moment tarry;
There must be someone in the restless throng
Whose burden we might carry.
There must be some tired life in touch with
ours—
Some pathway veiled with sadness—
Some hand that gathers thorns instead of
flowers:
Let us then share our gladness.

And let the world rejoice because we live,
Because our hearts are willing
From their own fullness unto all to give,
The law of Christ fulfilling.

—Edith Hickman Divall.

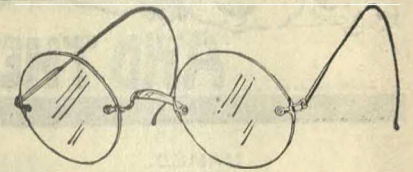
SATURDAY.

"Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, and considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?"—Matt., 7, 3.

We would say that a beam in a man's eye would so blind him that he could not see the mote in another's eye. As our Lord represents it, however, the man with the beam is the very one who sees the mote and thinks himself competent to pull it out. So it is in morals. A vain man is the first to detect vanity in another. A bad-tempered person is most apt to be censorious toward a neighbor who displays bad temper. One with a sharp, uncontrolled tongue has the least patience with another whose speech is full of poisoned arrows. A selfish man discovers even notes of selfishness in others. Rude people are the very first to be hurt and offended by rudeness in a neighbor.

So it is always. If we are quick to perceive blemishes and faults in others, the probability is that we have the greater faults and blemishes in ourselves. This truth ought to make us exceedingly careful in our judgments and exceedingly modest in our

expressions of censure, for we really are telling the world our faults. It is wiser, as well as more in accordance with the spirit of Christ, for us to find lovely things in others, and to be silent regarding their faults.—Dr. Miller.



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DRUNKENNESS APPALLING IN WINE-CURSED ITALY.

YOUNG DEPUTY IN ITALIAN PARLIAMENT PUBLISHES BOOK EXPOSING FALLACY WINE'S HARMLESSNESS.

WINE DRUNKS COMMON.

WINE PARTIES MEAN BRAWLS, JEALOUSIES, VULGARITY AND BRUTISHNESS; NEED FOR REFORM IMPERATIVE.

(Written for "American Issue" by Dr. Robert Hercof, Lausanne, Switzerland.)

The Honorable Alberto Malatesta, a young deputy in the Italian Parliament, has just published a little book, "My Drunken Brother" (Mio fratello ubbraico), in which he gives singularly interesting accounts of the prevalence of alcoholism in his country which has always passed for a temperate one because wine is the principal beverage; and it must be noted that throughout the whole book Mr. Malatesta attributes the responsibility of alcoholism to wine and not to spirits. Some of the scenes he describes are such as to show the imperious necessity for radical reform in wine Italy. Let us hear what he says:

SUNDAY CAROUSALS.

"There is at Gattinara a very characteristic institution called the 'tabine,' associations of wine growers, each of which has a good number of members, from 30 to 40, and possesses two rooms and a kitchen on the ground floor. On Sundays the members of the 'tabine' leave their families and go to stay at their club where one of them has to prepare the meals and another to provide the wine for all, generally 2 or 3 liters per head, that is, half to three-quarters of a gallon. And the day is passed in this way, eating and drinking. In the good season the 'tabine' are in the open air, in the street, and the spectacle is offered to the public. Mothers, wives and daughters can see their men noisily singing and behaving in the way that drunkards usually do. Very often there are brawls; jealousies and rivalries between the various 'tabines' are permanent; vulgarity and brutishness, inseparable from the misuse of wine, such is the picture we have of the 'tabine' at Gattinara."

Another story:

REPUGNANT SPECTACLE.

"I have never seen so many drunken people on Sundays and Mondays as at Carrara. Among them, most repugnant spectacle, a great number of women. The immediate results of this state of affairs show themselves in the form of altercations, of assaults and batteries."

"There was then at Carrara—and I believe it still exists—a very curious speciality invented by a druggist called Tamburini. This was a drink for drunkards which, I was told, Tamburini began to prepare many years ago and which had brought him in a lot of money. It was an effervescent potion composed of various drugs and herbs and he proclaimed it to be a sovereign remedy for dissipating the fumes of drunkenness and enabling drunkards to resume their work

without difficulty. Whether this were true or not the people had faith in it, and at 2 o'clock on Monday morning the drug store was open and the working men who had to return to the quarries thronged before the bar. For some hours two or three people were kept busy preparing the drink and washing the glasses. It was easy to calculate from the number of clients at the drug store how many people had drunk too much on Sunday!"

PARLIAMENT MEMBERS INDULGE.

It seems that even the honorable members of Parliament are not always averse to one or two glasses of wine. Thus the author

writes that once after a vote upon the wine question had been taken in Parliament, many honorables of all parties assembled at the bar of the Parliament House, where hundreds of flasks of every kind and every color and from all regions of Italy had been collected. That the carousal was on a colossal scale can be borne witness to by the newspaper men who could see the honorable members leaving by the great door of the House of Parliament, very late in the night. It is true that during these goings on the drinkers took the precaution of keeping the blinds down and the windows shut, although it was the middle of July."

Much pleasanter than this dark picture is an anecdote related by Malatesta of an African soldier who, after the Libia campaign, had been permitted to visit Italy. His colonel asked him: "What was the thing that pleased thee best in Rome?" And the man, who very likely all his life had longed for the fresh fountains that are not to be found in the desert, answered: "The water!" This barbarian was a wise man!

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NEW YORK PRISON REPORT SHOWS DECREASE OF COMMITMENTS IN PROHIBITION YEARS.

The annual report of institution officials to the New York Prison Commission has just been made public. According to the figures submitted, while an increase in the number of persons committed last year to county jails and New York City Department of Correction institutions, charged with intoxication, was noted, there was a decrease in the number committed to penitentiaries and a great decrease in the total number committed to all institutions as compared with all pre-war years. The commitments to county jails for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, compared with the fiscal year ending September 30, 1914, had decreased about 52 per cent. In 1922, 2128 men and 92 women, about 35 per cent. of the total, were sent to penitentiaries through intoxication, while in 1923 1752 men and 102 women, 24.7 of the total, were admitted to these places for such cause.

THINK SOBERLY ON THESE THINGS.

The "Journal and Courier" (Lafayette, Indiana), in an editorial which appears under a caption entitled "Signs of a New Day," deals with the greatly increased number of high school and college students. The editorial concludes:

"Prohibition has meant the economic rehabilitation of many homes and families. Aspiration, practical and worthy ambition, and wholesome pride in countless households have taken the place of the old uneasiness, the old demoralisation, the old apprehensive unhappiness, worry and deprivation.

"It is well worth while to think soberly on these things while planning not for the overthrow of Prohibition, but for its honest enforcement and for a general observance of the law."

DECIDEDLY FUNNY.

In a recent issue of "Life" it is suggested that the Prohibitionists are overlooking the fact that liquor propagandists are extremely funny. The writer says:

"The men who say parties are dull now without any liquor are funny, too. If they had their liquor, the truth is their parties would be just as dull and their conversation as stupid as before, only they wouldn't be in a position to realise it. Liquor didn't make them funny, it made them think they were funny. And that fact is funny."

FURS IN DANGER

Store Detective: "I'm suspicious of that woman; she seems furtive."

Floorwalker: "Well, keep your eye on the furs."

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THREE THINGS WE MUST DO.

"There are three things that need to be said and re-said, repeated, echoed and re-echoed:

"We must keep after the young, we must keep after the youth;

"In the next place, we need and we must help to mobilise the women's voting power;

"Again we must keep the churches back of our movement."—Bishop Nicholson.

I would rather have ten men who mean business and are willing to work than ten thousand well-wishers who sit around at banquets and applaud patriotic speeches, but don't go to the primaries.—General Charles G. Dawes.

* * *

"When is your daughter thinking of getting married?"

"Constantly."