

Grit.

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VOL. XV. No. 1.

Twopence.

SYDNEY, MARCH 24, 1921

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Missionaries and the Drink Evil.

STRIKING EXTRACTS FROM "THE FOREIGN FIELD."

"Every Home Mission worker knows that in the British Isles the traffic in intoxicating liquors is a giant evil to be fought in all efforts to extend the Kingdom of God. But how many Methodists realise that this evil has also to be faced on practically all our Foreign Mission fields," writes the editor of "The Foreign Field." A few of our missionaries have, therefore, been invited to tell the readers of "The Foreign Field" something about the drink traffic as they meet it. The following extracts from the missionaries' stories reveal how closely the problem of intemperance is interwoven with the problem of world-evangelisation.

"I was chatting one day with a Brahman who holds a distinguished place in the Legislative Council and University of Bombay," writes the Rev. Frank Hart (of Bombay). "You have not the slightest chance of touching the Brahman mind until you can keep your own countrymen pure," he said. "I frequently see Englishmen the worse for drink. We thank missionaries for what they have done for the poor of India, for the leper, the orphan, and the sick; but whilst you fail so hopelessly with your own people you will never move us." Drinking amongst Indians is increasing, especially in Bombay, where drink-shops abound. It is not only amongst the coolies that the evil is spreading, but with men of higher castes. In the Punjab the Sikhs are the chief transgressors. A Christian Sikh, who is the secretary of a temperance movement doing effective work in the Punjab, referring to the Sikhs, of whose race he is a worthy representative, said: "Drink is beginning to sap the roots of the tree; if the trunk withers, the branches will fall of themselves."

"Anticipating the Conference resolution that every Christian should be an abstainer, we have been having a campaign against wine-drinking," writes Rev. William Rowley (China). "Beer is unknown, except at treaty ports. So, too, practically is wine as we understand it. But a raw spirit of the crudest kind is served up undiluted at every meal when guests are invited, and the host who does not press and force every guest to drink far beyond the bounds of decency is lacking in manners indeed. And because custom's fetters please, and its devotees are, even if Christians, often blind, drunkenness is not unknown in the Christian Church; for it is

almost as rude for the guest to refuse the liquid as it is for the host not to press it."

One unexpected result of the new Prohibition laws in the United States of America is that the brewery firms are seeking in China a new outlet for their soul-destroying trade. Friends of China will watch, with considerable anxiety, all developments in this direction, and they will earnestly pray that internal strife may cease and set the ancient nation free to present a solid front to this new aggression of evil influence from abroad.

In his capital little book, "The Winning of West Africa," Rev. C. W. Armstrong writes: "There is nothing that gives more anxious thought to all who are interested in the welfare of the African people than the spread of drunkenness. It is true that civilisation has not actually introduced the vice of drinking, but the evil has grown considerably with the advance of commerce, and the ardent spirit introduced is far more injurious than the native wine."

Also speaking of Africa, Sir Harry Johnston says: "Drunkenness from palm wine (the chief native alcoholic beverage) is regrettable, but it is not nearly so serious in its effects as drunkenness from distilled alcohol. The effect of distilled alcohol is so detrimental to the well-being, physical and moral, of the West African negroes that all sincere well-wishers of the "Coast" have long since united in hoping for Prohibition. . . . Yet no arguments, apparently, nor even private protests of Governors, can move the Colonial Office. . . . Their inaction is giving much discouragement to the efforts of Christian missionaries to create an educated, industrious, peaceful Christian people of the Coast tribes."

According to a writer in "The Malaysia Message," Australian brewers are beginning to realise the immense possibilities which Asia offers for the propagation of their evil industry. Writing upon this subject in a leading article, the editor of the "Australian Brewers' Journal" says: "What a great chance Asia offers for Australian trade and industry. Such a chance is not likely to occur again if we fail to accept it now. Already Australian brewers have made huge shipments to India, and with every success, yet those shipments, large as they unquestionably are, will eventually, if we secure the market totally, comprise but a small de-

tail compared with what will take place then." The brewers congratulate themselves on the large numbers of Europeans and Eurasians who already habitually take beer. And they further rejoice over the "constantly and rapidly-growing number of educated natives who take kindly to beer."

It is almost heart-breaking to realise the amazing task our missionaries must have if the drinking habit is allowed to develop with interference. These extracts go to prove that total abstinence in Britain is essential, if Christianity is to have a fair chance elsewhere. There are foreign missionary enthusiasts in our Church who fail to recognise the necessity of supporting the Total Abstinence Movement at home. The editor of "The Foreign Field" has rendered excellent service to the cause of sobriety in very land by publishing this testimony.

Wine Bottom of the List.

314th Part of South Australia's Exports.

The Government Statist (Mr. W. L. Johnston) has issued a preliminary summary of the overseas trade of South Australia for the year ending June 30, 1920. In the return comparative figures with the preceding year are also given.

The striking revelation made by Mr. Johnston's figures is the fact that wine exports are bottom of the list.

The exports from this State are as follows:

	1920.	1919.
Wheat	£11,300,624	£7,304,850
Wool	4,471,965	403,792
Flour	1,542,975	657,701
Copper	488,106	369,952
Meat	470,255	216,246
Fruit, Jam, etc. . .	202,008	117,134
Barley	196,112	194,792
Butter	182,299	102,780
Concentrates	144,097	213,201
Wine	65,328	26,487

The total value of direct oversea exports was £20,530,337 (£11,570,470). The export of wine was only one 314th part of that total.

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THE MARION MEMORIAL.

A GENEROUS RESPONSE.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Bruntnell, Hoskins, and Doe, Ms.L.A., Alderman Walker, Messrs. A. B. Pursell, W. C. Turland, Mrs. Courtney Smith, and the President of the Alliance, are at work, and now appeal to all who are able to promptly send their intended donations to Mr. A. B. Pursell, Hon. Treasurer Marion Memorial, Box 390, G.P.O., Sydney.

It is hoped to raise sufficient to pay the mortgage on the Marion house, and thus provide a home for the family. This will require £700; and a further £200 would cover the boys' education until they reach the age at which they can earn.

A REFORMER'S DISABILITIES.

It is a deep-rooted English tradition that reformers and religious advocates should not make money at their chosen work. "What are you getting out of it?" is the constant parrot-cry at our street-corner meetings. Of course, this is wrong. A clergyman or Prohibition worker has as much right to adequate remuneration as the doctor, schoolmaster, policeman, or fireman, yet it is not accorded to him.

Give a buffoon like Charlie Chaplin a fortune and Harry Lauder the income of a prince, but give the Parson and the Prohibitionist, who make many rich, the meanest wage possible.

There is no Prohibitionists' Union, so we still work from 10 to 16 hours a day. With us there is no basic wage, so we still rub along on "the smell of an oil rag."

We read in the Book of Proverbs, "A good man is satisfied with himself," which is only another way of saying "Virtue is its own reward." And still one needs to live as well as have reward.

Denied the opportunity of making money and given unusual opportunities for giving it away leaves one often in need.

Mr. Marion rendered the public a great service, and now we approach the public with confidence, and ask that they will respond generously.

The following donations and promises have been made:—

Mr. A. B. Pursell, £25; Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Winn, £20; Mrs. Strang, £10/10/-; W. C. Turland, £10; Messrs. A. A. Cocks, H. Colborne, Lindsay Ryan, "Elah," G. Fitzpatrick, Albert Bruntnell, T. Hoskins, and R. B. S. Hammond, £5 each; Mr. C. Bowes, Thistlethwaite, £3/3/-; Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Mulholland and Mrs. Kenneth Street, £2/2/- each; Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Bailey and Misses A. and E. Banks, £2 each; Miss Old, £1/10/-; Alderman Walker, £1/1/-; Mr. Kerr, £1/1/-; Mrs. Bowles and Mrs. Saunders, 10/- each; Mrs. Thorpe and Mr. A. E. Parker, 5/- each.

Small amounts may be sent in postage stamps.

The Unfinished Battle.

By GEO. MCGINNIS.

Every reform passes through three stages—agitation, legislation, law enforcement. The temperance reform is now in the last phase of this fight, and the death struggle with the liquor traffic will be the hardest of all. The liquor traffic has always refused to die at command of law. Fathers and mothers voted the dry law in over a thousand cities and villages of Illinois, and immediately saloon-keepers became blind piggers. There is no law of God or man that the liquor traffic will respect. The illicit manufacturers and dealers in booze must be fined and imprisoned until they wake up to the fact that the American people believe in the enforcement of law and will support the Constitution.

The churches which co-operate in Anti-Saloon League work will have a field day, with a League speaker in every co-operating church, on Sunday, November 28. The dregs do not intend to desert the firing line of the greatest moral reform of the ages until America has Prohibition, not simply in name, but in fact.

Hossier Judge Favors Dryness.

Judge Frank J. Lahr, of the Marion County, Ind., Juvenile Court, recently made the following statement to a friend who was dining with him in the Claypoole Hotel, Indianapolis:

"I am for Prohibition straight, and I want it to include all whisky, brandy, wine, beer, and everything else that intoxicates. During the last wet year in Indiana there were 619 drunks in my Court, while during the first dry year there were only seven, and now there are only three or four drunks a year that come before the Juvenile Court. I say to you that Prohibition pays, it pays big, and I am for it."

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SALOON CASH DIVERTED.

The news service of the Fifteenth International Congress Against Alcoholism under a Washington date line of August 24, makes public the following interesting statement from Walter C. Hughes, secretary of the National Confectioners' Association:

"While I believe that Prohibition has been a benefit to the confectionery industry, I do not believe that the industry has been benefited proportionately any more than a number of industries have been benefited.

"In point of benefits the industry has received, we believe confectionery ranks about fifth. The industries who have received greater benefits than our industry on account of Prohibition are the following:

1. Savings Banks.
2. Soft Drink Industry.
3. Ice Cream Industry.
4. Moving Picture Theatres.
5. Confectionery Industry.

"I think it is an unanswerable argument that some industries have been benefited, but the theory advanced that men addicted to the use of alcohol have become candy eaters since the advent of Prohibition is based entirely upon the wrong premises and is not logical. More candy is being consumed because the people have more money to spend, not alone for candy but for everything else that they want that adds to their comfort or pleasure."

Professor Reen and American Prohibition.

Professor W. W. Reen is one of the great surgeons of the world, and the author of the notable treatises on surgery. At the International Society of Surgery, which held its first meeting in Paris on July 19, Professor Reen was President, and during his Presidential address he made the following statement, which we take from the "British Medical Journal" of July 24, p. 132:

"In the unselfish devotion to the welfare of the community, in the fight for pure water and pure milk, and wholesome housing, the medical profession was always the leader. After referring to what had been done in the prevention of typhoid and yellow fever in particular, Dr. Reen appealed to the medical profession to lend its support to the crusade for the prohibition of alcoholic beverages. The results so far in the United States, although Prohibition had not been rigidly enforced, was a largely decreased number of admissions to hospitals, houses of correction, and common lodging houses. Whatever the claims of scientific experiment on the effect of alcohol might be, the huge experiment in the millions of human beings in the United States was, in his opinion, conclusive; total abstinence from alcohol resulted in less poverty, less crime, less disease, fewer accidents, and smaller expense to the city and the State."

New South Wales Alliance

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FIELD PLAN.

MARCH 27—APRIL 3.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27.

Congregational Church, Lidcombe: Mr. H. Allen Job.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31.

8 p.m., Parish Hall, Mortdale: Mr. H. Allen Job.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1.

8 p.m., Empire Theatre, Moree: Messrs. Wilson and Little.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3.

11 a.m., Presbyterian Church, Inverell.

3 p.m., Anglican Church, Gilgai.

7.30 p.m., Methodist Church, Inverell.

8.30 p.m., Town Hall, Inverell: Messrs. Wilson and Little.

11 a.m., Presbyterian Church, Walcha.

3 p.m., Union Church, Woolbrook.

7.30 p.m., Anglican Church, Walcha: Mr. W. D. B. Creagh.

11 a.m., Methodist Church, Singleton.

3 p.m.

7.30 p.m., Presbyterian Church, Singleton.

8.30 p.m., Parish Hall, Singleton: Mr. H. Allen Job.

3 p.m., Y.W.C.A., Liverpool-street: Miss Grant.

MONDAY, APRIL 4, 8 p.m.

Town Hall, Inverell: Messrs. Wilson and Little.

Workers' Meeting, Singleton: Mr. Job.

Workers' Meeting, Walcha: Mr. Creagh.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 8 p.m.

Methodist Hall, Croydon Park: Rev. R. B. S. Hammond.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 8 p.m.

School of Arts, Warialda: Messrs. Wilson and Little.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS.

The effort to link up business men with the fight for Prohibition is bearing fruit. The lunch given to a number of those known to be sympathetic showed that this venture is capable of great results.

Mr. Middleton's talk was businesslike, informative, and with just that commonsense in it that appeals to the man who is on the lookout for the basis of sound prosperity.

At the request of the President, those present agreed to form themselves into a committee for the purpose of studying the business side of Prohibition and representing it to their business associates. Similar luncheons are to be held monthly, when fresh phases of the question will be discussed.

ON THE PLATFORM.

Reports for the week-end are encouraging. The meetings held were at Narrabri, Gunnedah, Werris Creek, Curlewis, Quirindi, Murrurundi, Bathurst, Orange, Blacktown, and Hurstville. Some audiences were very large, particularly at Bathurst and Orange, where Mr. Hammond addressed two of the finest meetings yet held in those towns. At Bathurst he addressed an open-air gathering, spoke to 100 men at the jail, preached at Kelso and the Cathedral, and finished with

a crowded meeting in the Masonic Hall on Sunday night.

Orange Methodist men entertained him at tea on Monday night, and then followed a remarkable Prohibition demonstration in the Australia Hall.

These meetings emphasised again how healthy is the Prohibition sentiment in the large provincial towns. Goulburn, Bathurst, Orange, all have developed an enthusiasm that was a decided inspiration and an encouragement to the leader of the campaign.

The fact that the Prohibition lecturer can get a bigger audience than any other speaker, and the splendid backing that is being given to the cause by the churches, most of whom have adopted the Field Day scheme, is the encouragement we have to go forward.

NEW LICENSE CANCELLED.

A few weeks ago the Licensing Bench granted an application for the removal of a wine license from Caringbah to Cronulla, in spite of strong opposition by the local representatives, who saw a danger in the presence of a wine shop in their popular resort.

The latter appealed, and Judge Scholes upheld them, declaring that there was no need for a wine license in Cronulla.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT.

An Important Conference.—In order that a united front be represented, a Conference of Young People's Departments of the various denominations and Lodges, etc., was held last week. Certain practical recommendations were made, including a simultaneous pledge-signing crusade and the fostering of Band of Hope work. Another conference will be held on May 9, when further steps will be taken for united efforts among the young people.

Registration—

No. 9: Loftus Park United Band of Hope. Leader, Mr. W. G. Chandler.

No. 10: Alstonville Methodist Band of Hope. Leader, Rev. H. Skuse.

Reports.—Blacktown reports an addition of twenty members at its recent meeting. Loftus Park also has just organised a Band of Hope as the result of a recent lantern lecture. There was a crowded meeting of children in the Woolloomooloo City Mission at a lantern lecture arranged by local workers. Hornsby has an active Band of Hope, and a visit to it was a treat. Mr. Middleton also told his Canadian experiences to a fine gathering of the Boys' Department of the Y.M.C.A.

Future Plans.—During April, Mr. Fisher, who has charge of the Young People's Department, will be visiting in the district between Wingham and Dorrigo. He will be

pleased to meet any workers especially interested in young people's organisations. Write to the office for further information.

We have recently received a supply of pledge-books for keeping a permanent record of all pledges signed. They are leather bound, and of most useful form, costing only 3/- each, post free. Send in for one for your Society, and write for list of other supplies.

WAGGA DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

Arrangements for the conference of representatives throughout the Riverina, to be held at Wagga on April 15, are well in hand. The Wagga Committee has taken the matter up in its usual businesslike and enthusiastic fashion. Invitations have been sent to all committees within reach of Wagga, and copies of programme enclosed. Replies have been received from several, which indicate interest. It is anticipated that this will be stirred further, and general representation secured. The Wagga Committee is arranging hospitality.

"GRIT" SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Received to 17/3/21, and where not mentioned the amount received is 10/-: Mr. G. Paff, 19s. 6d., 15/5/22; W. Richards, £1, 30/5/22; Mrs. W. Bowden, 5s., 10/9/21; Mr. D. F. Bailey, £1, 30/5/22; George Bowe, 7/2/22; D. R. Cameron, 15s., 30/6/22; Miss I. Button, 24/2/22; Mrs. W. J. Bell, 30/1/22; Mr. A. E. Pearce, 3s., 30/3/21; Mr. J. Wardell, N.Z., £1, 17/3/21; Mr. Geo. Kemp, 28s. 6d., 30/12/22; Mrs. Swain, N.Z., £1, 30/9/22; George Bailsille, N.Z., 12s. 6d., 10/3/21; Mr. Parker, 10/3/22; Mr. J. T. Cradick, 30/6/21; Mr. H. G. Harwood, 17/3/22; Miss M. L. Bailey, 2s. 6d., 10/6/21; Mrs. W. R. Barrett, 28/2/22; Miss J. Turner, 2s., 10/3/21; Mr. L. H. J. White, 14/2/22; Mr. Banfield, 17/3/22.

The following are paid to 13/12/21: Mrs. White, Mr. J. C. Cree, N.Z. (11s. 6d.), Mary Butler, Mr. T. Binks, Hugh McDonald, C. C. Marshall, J. G. Kemp, Mr. S. R. Scott, Mr. A. Watson (10s. 8d.), Mrs. Gentle, E. Arnold, Miss A. M. Anderson, A. Abercrombie, Dr. Nelson Short, T. F. Stanford (19s. 6d.), Mrs. G. Pearce, Mrs. W. E. Rankin, F. J. Stevens, Mr. P. W. Goldsmith, N.Z. (11s. 6d.), Mr. G. Hughes, N.Z. (11s. 6d.), Mr. R. L. Morris, Mr. W. R. Nairn, Mr. P. Somerville, T. H. Dent, Mr. J. A. Perry, Rev. Canon Haselden, N.Z. (11s. 6d.), Mrs. G. Chard (10s. 6d.), Rev. W. Touchell, Mr. J. H. Stocks, Mr. S. W. Horner, G. P. Birk, A. McMullen, Rev. D. Weatherall (12s. 2d.), P. M. Bayley, Rev. J. Dykes, Rev. W. H. Howard, Mr. W. Crapp (18s. 6d.), Mrs. F. P. Carr, Master Eric Lane (18s. 6d.), Mr. D. McKenzie, Dr. Arthur Richardson, Lady McMillan (21s.), Mr. T. Caley, N.Z. (11s. 6d.), Mr. W. C. Dixon, N.Z. (11s. 6d.), Mrs. Williams, N.Z. (11s. 6d.), Martha Pearce, Mr. E. L. Panelli, Mr. John Priestley, E. Davies, Mr. A. N. Broadfoot.



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INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES.

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The thirty-seventh annual meeting was held in the Rechabite Hall, Campbell-street, Sydney, on Saturday, 12th March.

Bro. J. K. O'Donell, District Chief Ruler, presided. District Officers and Tent Representatives to the number of eighty-four were present during the session.

The annual report of the District Officers shows the numerical and financial strength of the Order at 31st December, 1920, in the following statements:

The total number of members, wives and daughters, juveniles and children entitled to, and registered for, the benefits of the Order is 19,450, classified as follows: Adult members 8177, an increase of 438; wives and daughters 2063, an increase of 204; juvenile members 7658, an increase of 1218; children 552, an increase of 89.

The total funds of the Order in this State stood at the sum of £117,862/19/8. These figures show an increase of £9173/18/3.

The part taken in the great war by the Order in New South Wales was referred to as follows:

The following particulars made up to the end of 1920 are of much interest, and strikingly illustrate the magnitude of the contribution of the Order in this State to the great struggle for liberty and right. Enlistments: 1420 adults and 39 juvenils. Lives given: 216 adults, 11 juveniles. Contributions paid from surplus funds amount to £7454/13/3, death claims £5370, and £3376/19/- has been paid for sickness.

The sum of £8575/10/3 was paid away to meet sickness claims during the year.

WONDERFUL PROSPERITY.

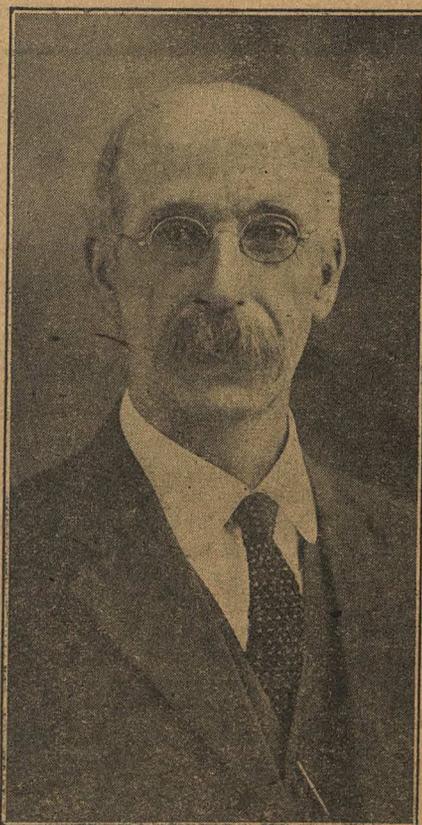
The report of the Registrar of Friendly Societies on the quinquennial valuation of the Society was received, and disclosed a surplus of £28,618, the Order being worth 22/1 to each £1 of liability. Permission was granted by the Registrar to use £6000 of the surplus as an endowment for the Society's Hospital and Convalescent Home at Lawson,

and raise the sickness benefit from 21/- per week to 22/6 per week.

A PROTEST.

The following resolution was unanimously carried:

"That this conference strongly protests against the New South Wales Government preventing the taking of the referendum on Prohibition from the electors, and should the Act now on the Statute Book become annulled by effluxion of time it urges Parliament to pass a new Act giving the electors of New



MR. I. GREENSTREET.

South Wales an opportunity of voting on the question of Prohibition without compensation."

The election of officers for ensuing year resulted as follows:

D.C.R., Bro. P. J. Sheppard; D.D.R., Bro. F. H. Barber; D.S.J.T., Bro. W. H. O'Donell (re-elected unopposed); D.T., Bro. C. J. Peters; D.L., Bro. C. Brockhill (elected unopposed); District Councillors, Bros. W. G. W. Crisp, A. Campbell, and W. J. Hughes; P.D.C.R., Bro. J. K. O'Donell.

It was decided to grant £25 to the funds of the N.S.W. Alliance, £5/5/- to the Marion Fund, and £2/2/- each to the Sydney Hospital, Prince Alfred Hospital, Children's Hospital, and Civil Ambulance, and £1/1/- to the Blind Institution.

Bro. J. K. O'Donell, D.C.R., referred to the

faithful services rendered by Bro. J. Greenstreet, District Secretary, during thirty-one years, and on his recommendation it was unanimously agreed that Bro. Greenstreet be granted six months' leave of absence on full salary. Bro. Greenstreet intends to visit the Old Country during that time.

THIRTY-ONE YEARS' SERVICE.

Mr. Greenstreet, who started out in life as a journeyman carpenter and joiner, did his last job in this line in the Hotel Metropole, where he put in the big fanlights. In 1884 Mr. F. A. Morgan became secretary of the I.O.R. for five years, then Mr. W. L. Dash held the position for a year. Mr. Greenstreet then took charge in 1890, and has held the position with great honor ever since. He was made a life member of the N.S.W. Alliance some dozen years ago, and now for some years has served us as hon. treasurer. We are pleased beyond measure that after such a splendid record of service the Order is giving Mr. Greenstreet a six months' holiday, and making it possible for him to go to England. We hope he will go via Canada and U.S.A., and come back with a convincing story to tell. Bon voyage, good comrade. A warm welcome will await you on your return, for you will be missed, as are all loyal, quiet, nice-natured, cheerful serving men.

Uncle B's. Poor.

Sincere thanks for donations from Mr. F. Beard, 10/-; B. Young, 20/-; Mrs. King, 10/-; S. W. Bolus, £2; Mrs. Nascord, 10/-; Miss R.R., 22/-; Mr. Blaxland, 10/-; Mrs. Allez, 10/-; Mr. L. Pinn, £1/10/11; Mrs. Dalton, £1/13/6; for Aged Sick, Miss McK., £3.

No Drink Bars in the Holy City.

With the support of the High Commissioner, Mr. Ronald Storrs, the Governor of Jerusalem has forbidden drink bars throughout Judea.—"Scottish Temperance Leader," 1/1/21.

SOUNDS HUNNISH.

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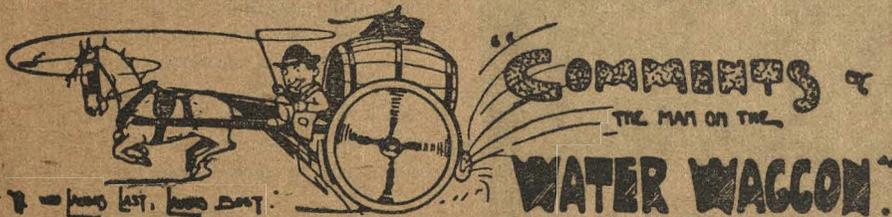
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 The "Grouch" wants to paint it blue.
 The Prohibitionist wants to disallow paint,
 and use just God's own sunshine.

Increased railway fares and the higher cost
 of everything is a cloud all right—the silver
 lining is that some folks are getting acquaint-
 ed with their own homes now.

We want Prohibition; we want even more
 of it than they have in U.S.A. We want it
 so as it will stop trouble brewing and money
 getting tight. Prohibition may not prohibit
 all that some claim it does, but it compares
 favorably with six o'clock closing.

Some folk claim that we ought to give John
 Storey credit for his good intentions. It may
 be all right to admit his good intentions, but
 "Grit" doubts the wisdom of giving him
 credit.

It is curious how many folk who can't
 settle their weekly accounts yet claim to be
 able to settle the Irish question, the unem-
 ployed question, or any other question.

Talking about Ireland, it is more widely
 separated from England by blood than by
 water.

I listened to the unemployed to-day and, was
 struck with the fact that the men who can't
 run a wheelbarrow are quite confident they
 can run the universe.

We have ended the war and are hard at
 work beating our swords into ploughshares—
 which will avail us nothing unless we beat
 our unemployed into plough-hands.

Living is getting cheaper. So is life.

A forty-four hour week is now accepted,
 and the worker is gathering the force to de-
 mand a 36-hour week.

In the meanwhile several thousand workers
 have reached the millennium, and don't work
 at all. This does not seem to please them.

Surely it is time to let the old and well-
 known firm of Supply and Demand have the
 right of way and get busy.

When discontented with Australia, just
 ponder on these facts:—

In Austria-Hungary and Czecho-
 Slovakia there are 1,000,000 war or-
 phans.

In the Baltic Republics there are
 150,000 orphans.

Poland has 500,000 orphans, the ma-
 jority living in refugee camps instead
 of homes.

In Roumania there are 200,000 or-
 phans.

In Jugo-Slavia there are 600,000 or-
 phans, some living in devastated vil-
 lages from which adults have fled.

In Soviet Russia there are nearly
 3,000,000 orphans.

These figures are vouched for by a
 bulletin of the American Relief Ad-
 ministration. They reveal a tragedy of
 childhood unequalled in the history of
 the world.

Maybe politicians are hard to understand,
 and clergymen send you to sleep before you
 catch their meaning; but the worst is yet to
 come. How does this strike you?

In Thorstein Vebleer's latest book, "The
 Place of Science in Modern Civilisation," he
 says: "If we are getting restless under the
 taxonomy of a monocotyledonous wage doc-

trine and a cryptogamic theory of interest,
 with involute, loculicidal, tomentous, and
 moniliform variants, what is the cytoplasm,
 centrosome, or karyokinetic process to which
 we may turn, and in which we may find sur-
 cease from the metaphysics of normality and
 controlling principles?"

* * *
THE GENERAL LOVER.

A friend sent me some lines, entitled "The
 General Lover," by Grant Hervey. I pass them
 on, partly because they appeal to me and
 partly because I want you to know what
 Grant Hervey is capable of.

I am the general lover—I love the splendid
 earth;
 In all things I discover some Pantheistic
 worth;
 I love the holy flowers; I love the mighty
 sea;
 The winds that bring the showers bring hap-
 piness to me.
 I love the changing seasons—the winter and
 the spring—
 When tree-heads make obeisance, I feel like
 some proud King,
 Who sees his broad dominions with peace
 and plenty teem—
 My soul on sweeping pinions drives where
 the planets gleam!
 Beyond the stellar vastness I wander glory-
 shod,
 Unto the sacred fastness of the Eternal God.

I am the general lover—I love the giant hills,
 When storms come driving over, my inmost
 spirit thrills!
 The rolling, doom-like thunder—I love to
 hear it crash—
 I watch in lowly wonder the lightning's volant
 flash!
 On God's majestic planet I stand in silent
 awe,
 And feel the mountain granite a-thrill beneath
 His law!
 The chanting of the ocean, when on the
 cliffs I stride,
 Brings forth my soul's devotion in one tre-
 mendous tide!
 No words can tell the feeling that animates
 my frame
 When mountain-crests are reeling beneath
 the lightning's flame!

In the late report of Charles L. Chute, Sec-
 retary of the New York Probation Commis-
 sion, a decrease of 34 per cent. was shown
 in the number of offenders brought before
 the courts of seventeen of the larger cities
 of the State. The time over which these
 figures were gathered was the first three
 months of 1920. In comment, Mr. Chute said
 that this "remarkable decrease in court work
 is directly attributable to the effects of Pro-
 hibition."

When a man is rescued from evil
 you save a unit; but when a child
 is prevented from evil you save
 a multiplication table.

If this strikes you, then send along to
THE AUSTRALASIAN WHITE CROSS LEAGUE,
 56 ELIZABETH STREET,
 SYDNEY,

And ask for a Report of work done and
 literature for yourself and your children.

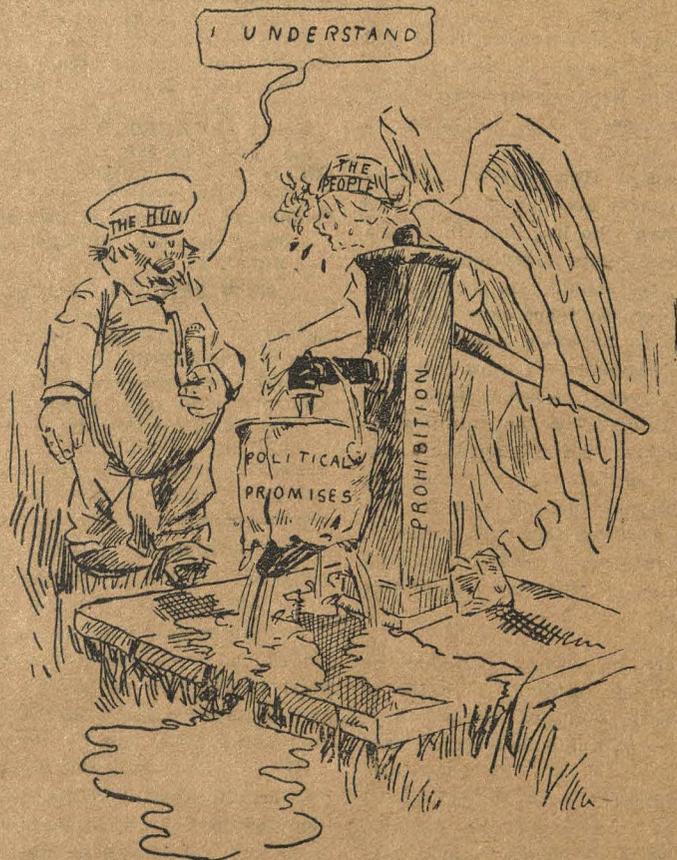
The Unemployment Question.

IMPRESSION OF BALMAIN INDIGNATION MEETING.

WASTE AND PROHIBITION.

Last week 500 people gathered in the Balmain Town Hall to listen to several Parliamentarians discuss the question of unemployment. Mr. T. J. Ryan trained the big guns of his legal mind against the Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes. Mr. Ryan blamed Mr. Hughes for everything that is wrong with Australia.

M.L.A., addressed the meeting, and said some very sensible things. Mr. Robertson is an avowed Prohibitionist, but he did not touch the question of Prohibition. Other politicians also spoke, but there was a conspiracy of silence on the question which involves a waste of over £5 per head every year in Australia. Unemployment is always with us. Accord-



The leader of the Labor Movement, when dealing with the question of unemployment, touched a vital point when he dealt with the necessity for stopping waste as a means of solving the problem of unemployment. But Mr. Ryan did not mention the appalling waste which goes on in the liquor bars throughout the Commonwealth. Mr. Stuart-Robertson,

ing to our leading students of political economy, unemployment is the direct result of modern civilisation, and is caused by over-production, bad markets, and other minor causes. Over-production generally results from a very simple cause. A manufacturer makes so many articles, and then finds he cannot sell the articles he has made. He therefore stops making the articles and men are thrown out of work. As a general rule when this happens it is not because the people do not want the articles which have been made, but because they have not got the money to buy the articles. Bearing this in mind, we should also remember that at any given time there is a limited amount of money available for use as spending money; that is, there is a limited amount of money available among the workers which may be used for buying food, clothing, and paying rent and other calls. Now if a percentage of this money is wasted it cannot be used to purchase the necessaries of life. If 10 or 20 per cent. of the limited amount of money is spent in liquor then all other businesses

suffer, and over-production is sure to occur in some trades.

Every politician at the Balmain meeting knew these facts. If they did not, they had no right to be posing as leaders of the people. But although they knew, they were afraid to speak the truth about it. The powerful brewers' interests in this State and throughout the Commonwealth have worked with such effect that even men who hold Prohibition views are silenced. The time is here when people must be made aware of the cowardice of politicians, and must demand a higher standard in public affairs.

Prohibition will not cure unemployment, but it would root out one of the greatest causes and leave men's minds clear and unclouded to deal effectively with the other causes.

Crime Waves and Prohibition.

An effort has been made to make it appear that there has been an increase in crime in New York, and that this is due to Prohibition.

Although there has been a flurry of crime in New York just before Christmas, the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Enright, declares that serious crime in the city during the past year has been very much less prevalent than ever before.

In 1915, in New York, there were 11,611 burglaries. In 1920 there were 6830, which was 568 less than 1919, although six months of 1919 were dry and many thousands of men were out of the city, not yet having returned from Europe. The last full wet year, in which the population was not depleted by war enlistments (1917), had 9450 burglaries.

Mr. Enright reports that for the 11 months ending November 30, 1920, there were 190 burglaries, while in the corresponding 11 months in the previous year there were 224. Cases of assault and robbery for the 11-month period of 1920 were 1007, as compared with 1133 in the corresponding 11 months of the previous year.

The public should be warned of the effort to bring about false impressions by exploiting superficial appearances. The simple fact is that crime, both serious and trivial, has been greatly decreased in nearly every city of the United States by the effects of Prohibition, as the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals is prepared to prove by signed statements from the heads of police departments of nearly every important city.

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A Personal Chat with my readers

Quite a number of folk **have THE BEST OF ALL.** been at some pains to add to my many burdens lately by writing uncalled-for and unjustifiable letters. It is a matter of more than usual pleasure to me to note that I have also had some unexpected letters of kindness. I received one from Mosman, in terms that made up for a pocketful of the unreasonable and unjust ones. One good one outweighs a dozen bad ones, so I am cheered up and still "going on going on." One chap refused to go on paying the money he had promised because he discovered that "Grit" had "too much of the editor in it." Now, I agree with him, and wrote and told him so. The explanation, of course, being that I have never found anyone who was willing and able to run "Grit" and relieve the editor, on the editor's salary, which has always been the same, viz., "pay his own expenses and go without any remuneration."

I wonder do you know the lines of Geo. H. Scott. He says:—

The sunshine and blue skies are fine,
I'm thankful for the flowers;
For truly they are gifts divine
To cheer this world of ours,
But flowers fade and skies turn gray,
And oft the sunshine ends,
God's greatest blessings, so I say,
Are Friends.

I glory in the spring-time day
And in the setting sun,
When all my cares are laid away
And all my tasks seem done,
When low the shades of evening fall
And night-time fast descends,
Most thankful then am I for all
My Friends.

When sickness comes or grief is mine
And hope seems lost in gloom,
'Tis then that friendship comes to shine
Within my darkened room;
'Tis then that consolation sweet
My bitter trial attends,
For God has made this world complete,
With Friends.

Good Friends, God's greatest gift to men—
That's how they seem to me,
The keystone of His wondrous love
To cheer humanity,
Out of His mercy infinite
I hold the best He sends
To fill this world with love and light,
Are Friends.

A CIVIC RECEPTION. Very few of us can hope for the distinction of a civic reception; indeed, only a few of us attain to the privilege of being present at such a function. It is an honor for the chief citizen of a great city to give anyone an exclusive welcome. I was

present at such a function this week, and my impressions may interest you.

First impression: How uninteresting an interesting man can be.

Second impression: How much alcohol and smoke is necessary to such an occasion.

Third impression: How incomprehensible is the guest who refuses to rise and stand to the toast of the King.

Fourth impression: How utterly unrecognisable the newspaper account is of the real thing. That a man who has been in Russia and seen and done things under most exceptional circumstances should talk for 20 minutes and never use a sentence or say a word that contributed to anyone's knowledge or whetted anyone's appetite for information, is incomprehensible, yet Professor Goode did just this very thing. For ten minutes he spoke of what he had seen in Australia about which we were entirely unconcerned, and never even mentioned one place in Russia about which we were burning with curiosity. I came away depressed. I had the misfortune to see nothing but the clay feet of this intellectual idol.

WHEN TO SCRAP. There is nothing I dislike so much as fighting. I prefer to give in, and my disposition is peace at almost any price; and yet I am constantly in a fight, constantly acting as a disturber. Next to fighting, I object most of all to asking people for help or money—it is so much easier to do it oneself, and yet one can't do all or give all that is necessary.

I have been greatly impressed by the following incident:—Stanton was the fiery, able, arrogant, strong-willed Secretary of War, who began by thinking Lincoln was a nincompoop and ended by saying of the great President, "There lies the most perfect ruler of man the world has ever seen."

The President gave an order, and Congressman Lovejoy conveyed it to Mr. Stanton, who refused to carry it out.

"But we have the President's order, sir," said Mr. Lovejoy.

"Did Lincoln give you an order of that kind?" asked Stanton.

"He did, sir."

"Then he is a damned fool!" was the response.

"Do you mean to say the President is a damned fool?" asked the Congressman in amazement.

"Yes, sir, if he gave such an order as that."

Returning to the White House, Mr. Lovejoy reported the result of the conference.

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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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SYDNEY, THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1921.

"Did Stanton say I was a damned fool?" asked Mr. Lincoln as the close of the recital. "He did, sir, and repeated it."

"If Stanton said I was a damned fool," concluded the President, thoughtfully, "then I must be one; for he is nearly always right, and generally says what he means. I will step over and see him."

Here was a wonderful chance for a row, but Lincoln passed it by for the sake of larger business in hand. No man could be more firm, and yet he knew when not to fight. Surely this is the proof of his greatness, and our rows are mostly the proof of our littleness.

TIRED OR LAZY. A mere man cannot tell the difference between silk and near silk, between the thing he wants and the "just as good" thing he is offered.

It takes a mighty conscientious and brave man to tell the difference between when he is tired and when he is just lazy. Most of us are like the seller of precious stones, who was asked by a customer, "How do you tell the difference between real and imitation pearls?" and he replied, "I don't."

Can you tell the difference between meanness and thrift? Can you tell the difference between an action when you do it and when someone else does it?

I suggest these things because they are good topics of conversation.

I have just had a line from a friend in Armidale, who says:—"Exceedingly wet Saturday night. Apparently the rain will continue. Your friend Creagh will remain 'dry' in spite of the wet."

THE EDITOR.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF HELL.

(By ONE WHO HAS RETURNED.)

VIII.

EAGLES HAVE WINGS.

(This story is written for the readers of "Grit" by a man just out of jail.—Ed. "Grit.")

Constant, through all the centuries, is the desire of the human creature to seek out that which is outside him, and stronger than himself. And so I sought out Johnnie Whisky—the devil whisky striding over the roofs of Sydney—I sought him out instinctively, in order that I might fight him and bring him low.

There, in a grey dawn vigil, the idea came to me—the idea of bruising, fighting, and assaulting that devil whisky who is the Samson of the modern Philistines, and the most evil enemy of the human race. I saw hell incarnate when I looked on him. And I remembered, then, the old, far-off days of my childhood—days spent in Manse and Presbyterian College. And I saw a woman's kindly face. Face of a woman, of a silver-haired woman, who once dreamed dreams of me, and who helped me tenderly in my Latin conjugations full many years ago.

Faces!

How they come up and confront a man! How they besiege him and surround him when he looks out upon a world that is crucified upon the Liquor Cross of a devil whisky, and keeps a prison-vigil in the hours before the dawn!

Faces!

All good faces came up and stood steadily before me, urging me to become a David and to sling a stone that would bring this devil-walking Samson low. Faces! First the faces of my father and my mother—serene, calm, clear, and friendly faces, looking upon me with clear faith and with tranquil eyes.

"He will!" they said, as if to one another, and not to me. "He will! He was always truthful," my father added, "and I regret that I was unjust once, and knocked him down."

It was queer how they appeared to commune together, those faces, looking in all truth and in all tranquillity upon their child.

"I will, mother! I will, father!" I answered in the solemn quiet. And behold, in that obedient instant I obtained a first impression of heaven, among all these sad impressions of hell.

Faces!

Up they came before me whilst yet I looked upon the Devil Whisky. First the stern, yet kindly, faces of certain of my school masters—John Duff and the Reverend George I. Sim.

"He will!" they said, serenely, together. "He was aye a queer lad, but there is still

a certain stuff in him. He is a man made to fight."

"Indeed, I think that," said kindly old John Duff. "And I remember that I flogged him in error once. I was a coward, indeed, as school masters often are—I was afraid to make amends to that stern lad before the class."

"Kindly old John!" I said, quietly in the prison's stillness. "Kindly old John! Hand me your stick, for I will lay it upon the shoulders of Johnnie Whisky. I will flog that Devil Whisky even as you flogged me—before the class!"

"He will!" they whispered exultingly together, handing me a stick apiece. "He will! O-ho, John Duff! With tongue and pen this pupil of ours will flog the Devil Whisky, and bring him to a pretty pass!"

"I will, old man," I said. And behold, there came a second impression of heaven, as I saw the faces of my old school masters wreathed in smiles.

Faces!

Up came the earnest, friendly faces of my mother's brothers—the one, dark-moustached, argumentative and tawny; the other, faced like a smiling, bearded giant, with laughter in his Scots-Irish eyes.

"He will!" said Giant Jack. And, "He won't!" insisted Giant George.

There they were, the faces of the kindly uncle who believed in me and of the long-moustachio'd argumentative uncle who did not. Giant Jack! I wonder if the youth of every child in the world is blessed with the face of a Giant Jack, and beset with the long and gloomy face of a Giant George.

For they were both giants to me, those men. Giants, in all verity, away back in the childish days when a grown man appeared to be a creature fearful and wonderful, walking over the earth like any seven-leagued giant. The more so, since Giant Jack was a bridge-builder, and a man to whom it was the merest trifle to cut down a mighty tree or to build a house.

Giants! Aye, they were the twin giants of my childhood, those two great men, Giant Jack and Giant George.

"He will!" "He won't!" they argued, those faces of my giants. And whilst they were still arguing I saw myself upon a mountain range, teaching the rudiments of Latin, nearly thirty years ago, to my Giant George.

"Aquilas alas habet!" I said to him, seated upon a log in the wilderness. And "Eagles have wings," he translated haltingly, feeling the great teeth of his cross-cut saw.

"There you are!" shouted Giant Jack. "Didn't I tell you? Eagles have wings, and so has this fellow. He will fly away up, a thousand miles higher than you or I. Aye,

and he will come down like an eagle. He will descend upon this Johnnie Whisky, I tell you, with beak and claw!"

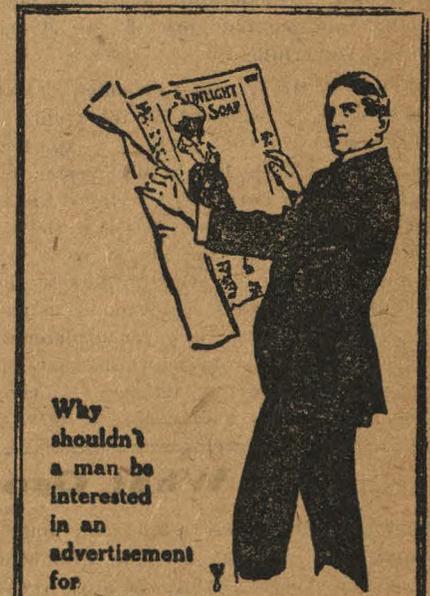
"Well, I don't believe it," somewhat sulkily answered Giant George. "He can teach me how to talk Latin. Yes! But I can teach him how to swing an axe."

Laughter! Great guffaws of laughter. And, mortified, the face of Giant George seemed to me to withdraw a little. Ah, they do not know how much they injure the hearts and spiritual powers of sensitive children, those sceptical, pessimistic persons like Giant George.

"He will! He will!" Giant Jack kept on shouting and laughing. "I believe in him! He'll be an eagle, I tell you! He'll fly like an eagle yet." And oh, how my heart warmed to him! Warmed in instantaneous response to the faith of Giant Jack, whose face came up before me in prison, along with the dismal face of Giant George.

Parents, do you realise that? Do you understand how tremendously the whole life of a child may be swayed, even unto manhood, by the smiling, hopeful face of a Giant Jack, or by that of a gloomy and unhelpful Giant George?

(Continued on Page 16.)



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SECOND ANNIVERSARY SHOW BIG RESULTS.

MORAL IDEALS HIGHER.

The second anniversary of Prohibition in New Hampshire occurred May 1, 1920. Some of the results of a two years' application of the dry policy are recorded in the "Manchester Union" of that State. The following are excerpts from the Union's story:

"Two years of freedom from the presence of the licensed saloon has worked wonders for the improvement of the moral standards of the Commonwealth. Chiefs of police, social service leaders and the chief executive officials of the cities of the State united in testifying to the beneficial results achieved in the two years of prohibitory law.

"Arrests for drunkenness are the best indications of the effectiveness of the Prohibition law. In Manchester, the largest city of the State, the arrests of drunks has decreased from 3353, in 1917, the last year of license, to 334, during the past twelve months the second year of Prohibition. In Dover but one arrest for drunkenness has been made since the prohibitory law went into effect, and that single unfortunate was taken from a train passing through the city en route to Haverhill.

"Michael J. Heeley, chief of police of Manchester, when interviewed on the results of Prohibition in the City said: 'My experience with the Prohibition law in Manchester during the past two years has convinced me beyond a shadow of a doubt that it is the best thing absolutely for the public welfare of the municipality. It certainly has worked wonders for us. Our morning police court is the evidence. Our arrests for drunkenness have decreased from 3353 for the year ending May 1, 1918, in the last year of license, to 700 for the year ending May 1, 1919, the

first anniversary of the prohibitory law, and during the past year the latter figure has been more than cut in two.

"Yes, the operation of Prohibition in this city has convinced me beyond any question whatever. I had always thought that Prohibition was a failure, that it couldn't be enforced. For that reason I favored a system of license. In fact, I opposed the present prohibitory law before the Senate when it was up for consideration and passage because I honestly believed it could not be enforced. But there is no longer any question about the beneficial results to be achieved by Prohibition."

The Union quotes Mayor H. E. Chamberlain of Concord, who puts his stamp of approval upon the law, and Chief of Police Goodwin, of Nashua, who commends the dry policy. Chief of Policy Hurley, of Portsmouth, is quoted as saying: "After two years of Prohibition here we have decided that we have decidedly fewer arrests for drunkenness. Appeals of non-support are negligible compared with the number that came to our attention before the law was passed and put into operation."

In an editorial, the "Union" says:

"With two years' experience to guide them, the people of the Granite State are more convinced than ever of the moral and economic advantages which accrue to a saloonless policy. If the question of the re-submission of the Prohibition Amendment were to be put up to the voters of this State in the approaching election the dries would win by a majority of staggering proportions. Even the city of Manchester, the stronghold of the wets in the old days, would vote to stay dry by a handsome margin."

What George Ade Says.

How often have we heard some puffing grampus in a city club say that Prohibition was sneaked through while the boys were in France, and that a fanatical minority outwitted a somnolent majority, that the Anti-Saloon League hypnotised and bulldozed a lot of feeble-minded lawmakers who were not alive to their responsibilities.

Oh, mush! When an ex-preacher with a white necktie compels a hard-boiled politician to sit up and bark and roll over and play dead, it is not because he is Svengali, but because he carries a gun. The coercive methods of the Anti-Saloon League were effective because Congressmen and State legislators were deadly afraid of the weapons carried by the League. And they wouldn't have been afraid of the weapons if they hadn't already checked up the sentiment regarding "booze" in every precinct which they represented. They signed any kind of a pledge put in front of them because they had the trembles every time they thought of the farmer

vote and the church vote and the imminent votes for women. A lot of them would just as willingly have voted for wood alcohol in order to save their various little one-cylinder, sheet-iron political machines.

The man responsible for the dry tidal wave is the bright lad who first suggested that the opinions of the majority shall govern the behaviour of the minority.

The crushing leverage of the Anti-Saloon League began to be felt as soon as it had definitely lined up a good healthy reserve in addition to the 50 per cent. Those who took the trouble to find out what people in the country and in the small towns were thinking knew that the reserve was there, waiting to take orders, and that J. Barleycorn was already in the death chamber. So we stated the facts with a good deal of certainty, and for a year now we have been pulling on our city friends the most disagreeable combination of words in the English language, viz.: "I told you so."

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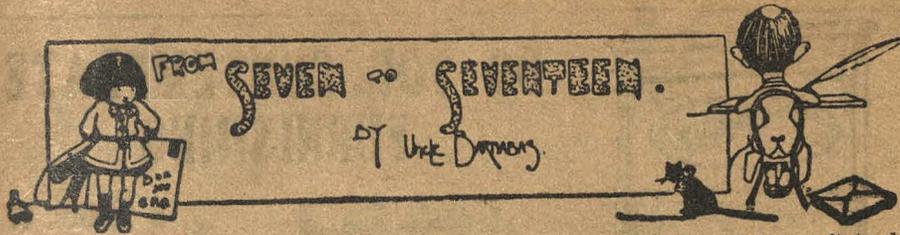
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All boys and girls between the age of seven and seventeen are invited to join the family of Uncle B. Write only on one side of the paper. Send your photo as soon as convenient. Send the date of your birthday. There is no fee to pay. Uncle B.'s birthday is celebrated in April each year by a picnic, to which he invites all his Ne's and Ni's. If you do not write for three months you are a "scallywag." Address all letters to Uncle B., Box 390, G.P.O., Sydney.

TWO WAYS OF LOOKING AT THINGS.

"Oh, bother the rain!" says the impatient, disappointed boy or girl. "What a nuisance the pips are!" they say when eating grapes. And I could mention dozens of things we say when we forget there are two ways of looking at things. Here are some good lines to learn on a rainy day:—

Do you hear what the rain is saying
As it falls from the clouded sky?
It sings a song and it tells a tale—
You can hear it if you try.

"I am bringing drops for the thirsty flowers,
For the earth that is parched and dry,
I feed the rivers and brooks and sea,
As I fall from the cloudy sky.

"I wash the roads and the streets quite clean,
Fill the tanks, and the cisterns too,
For your morning bath—so you see quite well
That I have plenty to do."

So when it rains and you can't go out
And you start to grumble—think
That the rain does good and it only falls
That you and the flowers may drink.

UNCLE B.

A GOOD EFFORT.

Gwen Westall, Summer Hill, writes:

Dear Uncle B.,—I have only written once to you, and that was in 1919, so I suppose I head the scallywag list. I must tell you my age again, as you must have forgotten all about me. I was 11 on the 11th April, 1920. I was born on an Easter Sunday. I am in the 2nd class. Our teacher gives us two prizes every three months; one for diligence and one for conduct. Last year I won a sewing prize. My little sister is going to write to you, and as stamps are dear we will use the same envelope. I will get my sister to take our photos, and we will send them. I wanted to have my photo read, but I was too late. My reason for not writing was that I did not know your address. Now my auntie sends me "Grit" each month. My last letter was from Kurrajong. I was up there in case I got the 'flu. I have two sisters and no brothers. We play "basket ball" at

school. One class played Beecroft to-day in "vigour" and lost. I am not too fond of writing letters, but I saw a long one written by Essie McDonald, and I must try and beat her. My sisters and I learn music, and I have two medals. My mother has a lovely lot of pot plants. It was my sister's birthday yesterday. The Western Suburbs Hospital is having a bazaar on Saturday. Joyce and I got a ring out of our Christmas pudding. We have a kitten without a white hair on him. He is jet black, and will jump over your hands. I went into town and saw "Bluebeard" and "Jack in Fairyland." We also saw "Babes in the Wood." For last night's homework we had to write a joke with inverted commas, and some of them were very funny. A man came to our school to-day and showed pictures. Well, Uncle, it is getting late, and I must be going to the Land of Nod. I don't think my letter is as long as Essie's, but it cannot be helped, so I will try next time.

(Dear Gwen,—Though it seems ages since you last wrote, I am thankful to hear from you again. You certainly have been doing the round of the shows. Now try doing some good work for the Master's sake.—Uncle T.)

AN AEROPLANE FLIGHT.

Dorothy Peters, Ashfield, writes:—

Dear Uncle B.,—I don't know whether my name is on the scallywag list yet, but if it is will you please cross it off? I can't make the excuse that I haven't had time to write; yet, somehow, I keep putting it off and putting it off, until I'm sure it must be quite three months since I wrote last. Uncle, I've had such an adventure! I've actually been up in an aeroplane. Ever since I first heard of aeroplanes I've been wishing and wishing—well, I suppose you can guess the rest. Here I am talking away, and yet I haven't told you yet how I managed to get a flight. Well, for some time there has been a competition in the paper called the "School Sportsman," the prize of which is an aeroplane flight. I have been fortunate enough to win one of these flights. It took place at Mascot aerodrome, or, rather, started from there. We went all over Botany Bay, and out over the ocean. I saw Randwick Racecourse, and, of course, other places which I did not recognise. At a height of 2000 feet we looped-the-loop twice! That and the coming down were the best of all. When we began to descend the pilot shut off the engines, and we volplaned down in a great circle. After the roar of the engines, everything seemed unusually quiet, and when he started the engines again to take the plane across the aerodrome it seemed as though someone had begun to fire a revolver. I was in the air nearly a quarter of an hour by the watch; but I can't help thinking that

watch must have gained an awful lot. Well, enough of aeroplanes. We have had a carnival in Ashfield the last week in aid of the Ashfield War Memorial. It opened with a procession in which the "Rosebud of Ashfield" Juvenile Rechabites (my tent, of course) entered a tableau. We were fortunate enough to win first prize. On Monday night some little girls and myself gave an acrobatic display at the carnival, and it was appreciated very much. On the Tuesday night we (the same girls) gave an exhibition of stage dancing. Altogether, I think I have been having a good time lately, don't you, Uncle? I am learning typewriting and shorthand now, and I really believe I'll need it soon, for I've got four pen-friends who need a letter now and then. I received your nice letter about Xmas time, acknowledging those scrap books. I hope they came in useful. Well, Uncle, if I don't close now you'll have to have the whole of "Grit" to print my letter in, or else put it in in sections each week. It would make a good serial story, wouldn't it? Well, good-bye till next time. Wishing you a rather late "Happy New Year."

(Dear Dorothy,—Your letter is another example of how faith and patience overcome all seeming difficulties. Your adventure must have been delightful. I know that the carnival was interesting, because you were a prize exhibit.—Uncle T.)

A NI FOREVER.

Dulcie Jean Laughton, "Pleasant View," Laughtondale, writes:—

Dear Uncle B.,—Will you please accept me as one of your many Ni's? I am 15 years old, and my birthday is on 20th September. I have four sisters and five brothers. We have been living here twelve months; we came from Trangie on the Western Plains. I attend the Methodist Church. We held a Harvest Festival last Sunday, and the Rev. Sharkey conducted the service. There was some lovely fruit and vegetables displayed all over the church. This being a very plentiful year, the fruit is wasting in tons; it seems a shame that many children of Sydney could not have more of it. There are six of us going to school, and three of us passed the Q.C. this year; one of my brothers passed it two years ago. Don't you think that a good pass out of one family, Uncle? Miss Grant gave us a lecture some time back on Prohibition, which we all enjoyed very much. I will send you my photo as soon as I get one.

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For satisfactory progress on the part of the student, individual teaching is absolutely essential. Not only do our students progress quickly, but they are constantly carrying off first places in public competitive shorthand examinations. Any arrangement may be made to suit the convenience of students—whole day, half day, or one or two hours weekly in either day or evening classes. Students may take either Isaac Pitman or Summerhayes Shorthand (the new Australian system).

Prospectus on application.

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338 PITT STREET.

I will try and not get on the horrible scallywag list. I will close now, hoping you will receive me as one of your many Ni's. Wishing "Grit" every success.

(Dear Dulcie,—I do think it was really excellent that you all should have made so good a showing, and it makes me proud to have you as a Ni. You know the duties of a Ni, so I will only add, "knowing, now do it."—Uncle T.)

"BOOKS."

Beryl Brown, "Hillsbro," Hurlstone Park, writes:—

Dear Uncle B.,—How are you getting on? I hope you have not got me on the scallywag list yet, as I have not written for a while. We have moved from Kogarah to Hurlstone Park, as you will notice by the above address. Do you like reading books? I do very much. I have read "The Seven Little Australians," "Little Women," "The Coral Island," "Blackie's Book of New Fairy Tales," "Grimms' Fairy Tales," and many others. Have you read them, Uncle? I don't think I will be going to the picnic, as it is dad's holidays. Well, Uncle, I must close now, with love to all my "Grit" cousins and yourself.

(Dear Beryl,—I am pleased to learn that you are fond of reading, and the books you mention are good and instructive. Remember: "Be a doer of the Word as well as a reader."—Uncle T.)

NO EXCUSE.

Allen Arnett, "Glenview," Eungai, writes:—

Dear Uncle B.,—I am sorry I have not written to you before. I have no excuse this time, but I will try and write more regular after this. Our teacher has not come yet; we are going to Eungai school again. We were put up into fifth class. We have had a new teacher; his name is Mr. Hadly; he will be going away in a few days, as our old teacher, Mr. Green, will be coming back again. He had an extra month's holiday. I have a brother in the hospital with a bad leg; he is getting better now. The doctor thought he might have to get his leg off, but he don't think so now. It has been raining all the morning, and has just fined up. It put the creek up a lot. I think I will close now with love to "Grit" cousins and yourself.

(Dear Allen,—Your truthfulness wins my forgiveness. I am pleased to hear that your brother will soon be well and whole again. Now, write soon, and act truthful.—Uncle T.)

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a Home, or Replacing some of your old Furniture, or even adding to the Home?

If so, we have pleasure in placing the following schemes before you, which for quality and design will be found far ahead of the average furniture store, and the prices rock bottom:—

No. 1—For £47.

THREE ROOMS FURNISHED IN STAINED WALNUT.

BEDROOM—		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
3-Piece Suite in Stained Walnut, Wardrobe, Comb. Chest, and Marbletop Washstand		16	12	6			
4ft. 6in. Wood Bedstead to match		3	17	6			
4ft. 6in. Set Kapok Bedding, Mattress, Bolster, and two Pillows		5	18	6			
DINING-ROOM—					26	8	6
3ft. 6in. Stained Walnut Cottage Sideboard		7	10	0			
6 Dining-Room Chairs, with Pin-Cushioned Embossed Seats		4	19	0			
Dining-Room Table		1	16	0			
KITCHEN—					14	5	0
Glass-Door Dresser		4	7	6			
4 x 2 Kitchen Table		1	2	6			
2 Kitchen Chairs, 8/11		0	17	10			
					6	7	10
					£47	1	4

No. 2—Three Rooms Furnished for £80.

BEDROOM AND DINING-ROOM IN OAK.

BEDROOM—		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
4ft. 6in. Oak Bedstead		3	10	0			
4ft. 6in. Raised Side Wire Mattress		3	10	0			
4ft. 6in. Set Kapok Bedding, Mattress, Bolster and two Pillows		5	18	6			
3-Piece Oak Bedroom Suite, 3ft. 6in. Wardrobe (oval mirror), and 3ft. Toilet Pair to match		29	10	0	42	8	6
DINING-ROOM—							
4ft. 6in. Oak Sideboard		13	15	0			
8-Piece Oak Dining-Room Suite		10	12	6			
4ft. Oak Circular Table		5	10	0			
KITCHEN—					29	17	6
Glass-Door Dresser		5	15	0			
4 x 2 Kitchen Table		1	2	6			
2 Kitchen Chairs, 8/11		0	17	10			
					7	15	4
					£80	1	4

No. 3—Three Rooms Furnished for £98.

BEDROOM AND DINING-ROOM IN MAPLE.

BEDROOM—		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
4ft. 6in. Maple Bedstead		8	15	0			
4ft. 6in. Raised Side Wire Mattress		3	10	0			
4ft. 6in. Set Kapok Bedding		5	18	6			
3-Piece Maple Bedroom Suite, 4ft. Wardrobe (oval mirror), Toilet Pair to match		39	12	6	57	16	0
DINING-ROOM—							
4ft. Maple Sideboard		13	15	0			
8-Piece Maple Dining-Room Suite		11	17	6			
4ft. Maple Circular Table		6	17	6			
KITCHEN—					32	10	0
Glass-Door Dresser		5	15	0			
4 x 2 Kitchen Table		1	2	6			
2 Kitchen Chairs, 8/11		0	17	10			
					7	15	4
					£98	1	4

Other Schemes: £150, £120, £300 to £1000, in Oak or Maple.

Catalogue of Furniture sent on application.

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CORNER GEORGE STREET WEST AND HARRIS STREET, SYDNEY.



EFFECT OF OCCUPATION.

"Mrs. Gibbs's temper can't be of the best. She complains that her husband is continually putting her out."

"What else can she expect in marrying a fireman?"

WAGGISH VERSE.

Your friend may vow that he's true-blue,
And, when you need him, fail;
But when Towser asserts his love for you,
His is no idle tail.

REPARTEE.

"Well, well!" exclaimed Mrs. Talker, looking up from the morning paper. "Boots and shoes should be getting much cheaper now. Here's a paragraph that states that they are being made from all sorts of skins, even rat skins." And then, trying to be funny, she added: "I wonder what they do with banana and orange skins?"

"Oh, my dear," replied her husband. "they make slippers."

An old negro who was very ill called in a doctor of his own color. As his advice did not help him he finally sent for a white doctor. The latter felt his pulse and looked at his tongue.

"Did my black colleague take your temperature?" he asked.

"I don' know f' sure, massa," said the negro doubtfully, "I don' think he lef' me nuffin 'cept mah photograph!"

An Irishman who was about to post a letter was told at the counter that it was overweight.

"Over what weight?" he asked.

"Over three ounces," said the clerk. "You'll have to put another stamp on it."

"Get away!" said the Irishman, with a grin. "Sure, if I put another stamp on it, won't it be heavier still?"

LEADING HIM TO IT?

He: "My dear, I can't afford to buy you that hat."

She: "Still, you'd save money if you did."

He: "How do you make that out?"

She: "Because I shall fret myself ill if I don't get it, and you know what doctors' bills are!"

SUBMITTED.

After a young lawyer had talked nearly five hours to a jury, who felt like lynching him, his opponent, a grizzled old veterana, arose, looked sweetly at the Judge, and said:

"Your honor, I will follow the example of my young friend who has just finished, and submit the case without argument."

LABOR TROUBLE.

His Better-Half (regarding him from the bedroom window): "Where you bin this hour of the night?"

"I've bin at me union, considerin' this 'ere strike."

"Well, you can stay down there an' consider this 'ere lockout."

A Sunday school teacher was giving her class a lesson on Solomon. "How did the Queen of Sheba travel when she went to see Solomon?" she asked. No one ventured to answer. "Could she have gone by the railway?" she asked.

"Yes'm," said one small girl.

"Indeed," inquired the teacher, "I should like to know how that could be."

"Well, teacher," responded the child, "it says she came with a great train."

Mrs. Bing: "I wish these recipes would be more definite."

Mr. Bing: "What's the difficulty, my dear?"

Mrs. Bing: "This one tells how to use up old potatoes, but it doesn't say how old the potatoes must be."

Mistress—

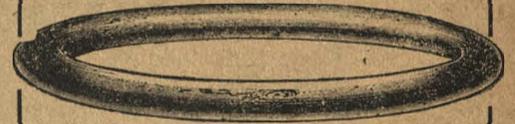
Mary, your kitchen is a picture!

However do you get everything so spotlessly clean & bright?



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

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Solid 9ct. Gold Nellie Stewart Bangle, 37/6.
Others, 25/-, 30/-, 42/-, to £5/5/-

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DRINK

KING TEA
THE NEW CEYLON

ONE QUALITY—THE BEST

DAILY INSPIRATION

"In my Father's house are many mansions. . . . I go to prepare a place for you."—John 14, 2.

SUNDAY.

"In everything by prayer."—Phil, 4, 6.

THE CALL FOR PRAYER.

What we need is a demonstration of prayer not an explanation. We have that demonstration in Christ. How did he pray? "For Jesus during His earthly life offered up prayers and entreaties, crying aloud and weeping" (Hebrews v. 7). "An agony of distress having come upon Him, He prayed all the more with intense earnestness, and His sweat became like clots of blood dropping on the ground (Luke xxii. 44. Weymouth). True prayer must bleed before it can bless. To pray for others in cold blood belies our belief in Christ's cross. Prayer that counts is costly. It cost Christ the bloody agony. Dare we kneel with Him in the Garden and share His agony? If not, there will be no Revival. Redemption of others cost God too much to give it to us at cheap bargain.—"Association Men."

MONDAY.

"I am He that liveth."—Rev., 1, 18.

LIVING WELL.

He liveth long who liveth well,
All other life is short and vain.
He liveth longest who can tell
Of living most for heavenly gain.

Waste not thy being, back to Him
Who freely gave it freely give;
Else is thy being but a dream,
'Tis but to be and not to live.

Give up thy doubt and mental strife,
Which only brings you grief and pain;
Receive the Son's eternal life,
Then peace and joy and pardon gain.

—Anon.

TUESDAY.

"Be strong all ye people, and work, for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts."—Hag., 2, 4.

WORKING BY FAITH.

Faith links a man to Christ, so that he is no more a mere common man, with only his own poor feeble strength, but is more a man—a man whom Christ is using, behind whom Christ's omnipotent energy is working. We must yield ourselves altogether to God and let Him use us. Then His power, His wisdom, His skill, His thoughts, His love shall flow through our souls, our brains, our hearts, and our fingers. That is working by faith. It is simply putting our life into God's hand to be used, as one uses a pen to write, or a brush to paint, or a chisel to carve the statue, —J. R. Miller, D.D.

WEDNESDAY.

"I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever."—Psl. 52, 8.

REAL GRIT.

Laugh a bit when things look grey,
Laughter chases clouds away;
Smile a bit when things go wrong,
Smiles make sighs turn into song;
Hope a bit when things are black,
Hope brings pluck and valor back.
Trust a bit! The things we see
Often seem to you and me
Hard and difficult; but grit
Conquers—if we trust a bit.

—H.M., "Woman's Budget."

THURSDAY.

"Happy is he whose hope is in the Lord his God."—Psl., 146, 5.

THE CHOICE OF HAPPINESS.

We can't choose happiness either for ourselves or for another; we can't tell where that will lie. We can only choose whether we will indulge ourselves in the present moment, or whether we will renounce that for the sake of obeying the divine voice within us—for the sake of being true to all the motives that sanctify our lives. I know this belief is hard; it has slipped away from me again and again; but I have felt that if

I let it go for ever. I should have no light through the darkness of this life.—George Eliot.

FRIDAY.

"The unsearchable riches of Christ."—Eph. 3, 8.

RICHES.

To be rich, be diligent; move on
Like Heaven's great movers that enrich
the earth,
Whose moments sloth would show the world
undone,
And make the spring straight bury all her
birth.

Rich are the diligent who can command
Time—nature's stock.

—Davenant.

SATURDAY.

"I will show thee my faith by my works."—James 2, 8.

"SHE HATH DONE WHAT SHE COULD."

A touching incident was witnessed at the close of the New Year's Sabbath evening service at the Home for the Blind, Brighton Beach. The preacher was saying "good-bye" to an aged gentlewoman when she tenderly pressed into his hand a pair of beautifully designed crocheted mats. The gift so artistically worked by her own hands, during many lonely hours, spent amidst total blindness and deafness will remain as a memorial to the Lord and Saviour of Bethany, as well as an inspiration to the preacher to "carry on" in His service.

PASS "GRIT" ON

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Non-Intoxicating.
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A BELL HARMONIUM.

A BELL ORGAN, 11 stops, in good order
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WINE WINE WINE

The Pure Juice of the Grape UNFERMENTED. For Sacramental Purposes, Growing Children, and Invalids. SPECIAL CONCESSIONS TO RELIGIOUS BODIES.

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Every Inch A Hero.

HIS OWN COUNTRY MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE ENEMIES.

John Douglas Stark is a name known throughout the New Zealand Division, and particularly well known and admired by the men of the Otago Battalions. His military record is amazing as a story of bravery, nerve, and resource. In 1915 he was 20 years of age, and sailed with the Fifth Reinforcements for Gallipoli; being wounded at Suvla Bay. In his four years' service Stark fought in Gallipoli, the Balkans, Egypt, and France. In France, on the night of July 13-14, the Otago Regiment made a big raid at Armentières, and was severely handled. A terrific sweep of shell fire was directed on "No Man's Land," yet Stark went out fourteen times, and each time brought back a wounded man. A bullet struck him in the head and stopped the magnificent exhibition of self-sacrificing devotion to his comrades, and the hero was sent to hospital. Later, on the Somme, Stark and a comrade held a position for eight hours against a body of Germans, and enabled the Otago Battalions to reorganise after having been badly broken up. On another occasion Stark crawled out at imminent personal risk and brought in two Dunedin men. At Issigny Farm, although wounded by a bullet in the chest, he crawled back to the New Zealand lines and gave information about an enemy pill-box that enabled his battalion to capture the pill-box and thirty prisoners. He got his last and fourth wound just a few days before the armistice.

HOW HE LOST THE V.C.

No wonder that throughout the New Zealand Division he was known as "a wonderful soldier," and that he was recommended for decorations—it is said for the V.C.—and was to have been rewarded. Unfortunately for Stark, there was in the world an enemy more deadly for him than all the German forces. The Drink had laid its hold on him, and between the recommendation for the V.C. and its approval he fell a victim to temptation, and the recommendation had perforce to be regretfully withdrawn. Drink defrauded Stark of the soldier's recompense for bravery. And it has done more than that. It has defrauded him of the opportunities open to such a man who can live a decent civilian life. Under the influence of drink,

he had previously been guilty of committing offences on Anzac Day and Christmas Day of 1919, and recently, whilst drunk, he was guilty of smashing a shop window, stealing, and attempting to set fire to the premises he had entered. It seems he had no recollection of these acts, and the combined offence was committed practically opposite the Police Station, a fact showing that the action was no premeditated crime.

DRINK SUCCEEDED WHERE GERMANY FAILED.

When the case was tried Stark's record was mentioned in Court, and evidence was tendered as to his remarkable character. Counsel read a letter of good wishes from General Richardson, written to Stark on his return to New Zealand, in which the General expressed the hope that prisoner would prove as good a citizen as he had been a soldier. The Court sentenced the prisoner to reformatory treatment for not more than three years.

Here is a striking case of a fine fellow ruined by drink. And thousands more of our promising young lives are being attacked and shadowed by this same evil. It is clear that with drink absent Stark was a splendid and reliable man. The same can be said of large numbers of other men in New Zealand, young and old. Is there not a very grave responsibility on those who, through indifference or neglect, permit the continuance of a traffic which spreads daily a snare for the feet of those who, with drink banished, would walk honorably in the world, a credit to themselves and the Dominion?

Prices of South Australian and Californian Wine Grapes.

According to the "Angaston Leader," grape prices will show a slight increase this year, and will range from £9 to £12 per ton for wine and spirit making purposes. The increases will be about £1 to 30/- per ton.

It is not long since the same grapes only brought £3/10/- to £5 per ton. In California, however, prices under Prohibition have soared from £5 to £30! Some special car loads sent to New York for eating purposes last season (September) brought over £80 per ton!

Effect of Prohibition on Venereal Disease.

The Board of Temperance recently published a study of the operation of Prohibition in Boston, Mass. During its investigation it made an inquiry of the Department of Public Health of Massachusetts regarding the number of venereal infections for the last wet year and first dry year. The reply was not received in time for use in that study, but reveals such a remarkable result that it is published herewith:

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Department of Public Health.

Eugene R. Kelley, M.D.

Commissioner.

Division of Communicable Diseases.

Boston, December 28, 1920.

Mr. Deets Pickett, Research Secretary,
Board of Temperance, M.E. Church,
110 Maryland-av., N.E., Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of December 22, 1920, relative to statistics for gonorrhoea and syphilis has been received. Our reported incidence for the periods requested has been as follows:

	Gonorrhoea.	Syphilis.
Dec. 1, 1918, to Dec. 1, 1919	9374	3966
Dec. 1, 1919, to Dec. 1, 1920	7330	3181

I trust that this is the information you desire.

By direction of the Commissioner of Public Health.

Very truly yours,

B. W. CAREY,

Director, Division of Communicable Diseases.



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The Danks' Tool Department offers a triple advantage: A selection from the best makers of Britain, America, and Australia; prices as low as exchange rates and financial conditions overseas permit; and a guarantee of quality.

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Tools for Carpenters, Plumbers, Tin-smiths, Engineers, Gardeners, etc.

Open till nine Fridays. Call in and inspect.

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DIRECT FURNISHER 549 George Street, SYDNEY

Direct "Factory to Family" Prices.

Guaranteed Qualities.

All Orders delivered free to Rail or Wharf, Sydney.

First Impressions of Hell—

(Continued from Page 3.)

Faces! Giant Jacks of this universe, ye arose in thousands around me, even whilst yet I kept my dawn-vigil behind a prison wall. Bearded faces, laughing faces, faces of strong men, blue-eyed faces. Come! There were ten thousand thousand of you—faces of a whole Thundering Legion of Giant Jacks, looking at me so kindly and so encouragingly. Faces of a universal Giant Jackery, with what a smiling power to help us when we fall!

"I will! I will!" I cried out. "Aquilas alas habet! Eagles have wings! I will descend upon that Devil Whisky out of the blue sky! I will rend that Johnnie Whisky with beak and claw!"

Then the sombre face of Giant George came back again, its gloom dissolving away beneath the rising tides of a long, slow smile. And I saw his hand go up, his hard and gnarly workman's hand, thoughtfully pulling the ends of his long and low moustache.

"Eh!" he ejaculated, ever-fascinated by the sound of Latin. "Are you sure that you have wings? Can you knock him out with beak and claw?"

Giant Jack began to laugh. And as he laughed a great impression of heaven came over me, so speedily is the hell of our discouragement swept away by heavenly smiles.

"Claws?" said Giant Jack. "Claws and wings? See here, you don't begin to know this fellow. Don't you know that he was born in October, and that fellows born in that month are talented, ambitious, and gifted with steadfastness and energy in an amazing degree?"

"Humph! But he will be careless about money matters. He ought to have special training as to the value of money," said Giant George.

"Well, he is honest at heart. And here he is in jail, where he is likely to get it," said Giant Jack. "I believe in this fellow. I'll back him to knock out the Devil Whisky just as soon as he learns that it pays a man to pay his bills."

"Bah! I know all about him!" said my other giant. "He's one of the sort of men that are fascinating to most people, but he flits from flower to flower. He won't get anywhere, flying like an eagle, until he picks

Established 20 years.

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THE HOUSE OF ECONOMY

ANTHONY HORDERNS' FASHION PORTFOLIO

Anthony Horderns' Illustrated Fashion Guide, containing faithful representations of authoritative modes for Autumn and Winter, is now ready.

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out a tall cliff somewhere, and finds a dark she-eagle to be his wife."

"Ha, ha!" laughed Giant Jack. "You want him to bring up a whole brood of eagles? I tell you, this fellow can accomplish almost anything he desires. Success is bound to come to him! If he can only conquer his quick temper, he is bound to command success."

"Humph! Eagles have wings, eh? I know that he is bound to succeed if he quits fooling, and goes to work with a will," said Giant George.

"Ah, but he ought to follow his own intuition," laughed burly Giant Jack. "He should not think too much of the appreciation and praise of others. If he values his own opinion of himself, he will never be deceived."

"Yes! But he should learn to have poise, and to aim high," urged my other giant. "He should consider himself capable of great things."

"Then what have you done to encourage him?" shouted Giant Jack, as the Devil Whisky came striding towards me. "I tell you, you long-faced fellows are the greatest enemies of genius in this world—you fel-

lows who teach young men to think that they are a lot of plucked chickens; when all the time they are eagles—eagles with wings. Eagles whose most successful enemy has ever been Devil Whisky."

Four thousand hens at the Oregon State Hospital made a profit last year of 10,000 dollars. Just think what they might have done if they had been well!

* * *

Flapper (romantically): "Oh, mother, I want to rise to higher things. I want to act for the films, and reach the topmost rung of the ladder."

Mother: "That's the right spirit, Elsie. Now climb right up on this step-ladder and put up the clean curtains."

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