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HOW PROHIBITION WORKS.

FROM THE DAILY PRESS.

A VILLAGE WITHOUT DRINK.

MORE MILK FOR BABY AND LESS TAXATION FOR FATHER.

EVERYBODY PLEASED.

Kirkintilloch is a Scottish town of 12,000 inhabitants, and it has forbidden the sale of drink since the Scottish Local Option Act came into force. The year 1922 was its first complete year of Prohibition, and, allowing for war restrictions, 1914 was its last year without it.

Comparing those two years we find that convictions for drunkenness dropped from 230 to 13, local taxes dropped 18/- on every £11 of rent, and there were 44 fewer applications for poor relief.

The death rate among infants has fallen from 136 per thousand to 71, the co-operative society's sales of milk have gone up from 43,000 gallons to 113,000 gallons. In spite of bad trade, local savings are higher than ever before, and the turnover in the shops has increased.—Arthur Mee's Magazine.

FEWER BOYS AND GIRLS IN PARENTAL SCHOOLS SINCE PROHIBITION CAME.

William F. Geiger, Superintendent Tacoma Schools.

I believe there is a relation between the number of boys and girls we have in our parental schools and home conditions. Since we no longer have the saloon the number is very much smaller than it was before. I think this is due to better home conditions, which have been brought about by the abolishing of the saloon.

PROHIBITION SPELLS PROSPERITY AND PROMPT PAYMENT OF BILLS.

B. W. Coiner, Lawyer, Tacoma.

I have lived in Tacoma for forty years, and believe that few have known the city better than I. Prior to the adoption of the Prohibition law we had close to one hundred licensed saloons. It was a common thing to see men, and sometimes women, reeling along the streets in a drunken condition, especially in and about the saloons. Since the adoption of Prohibition, an intoxicated person of either sex is rarely seen, and while, in my judgment, the law has not been enforced as vigorously or well as it might have been, yet notwithstanding that fact, I verily believe that the consumption of intoxicating liquors has decreased fully 90 per cent., possibly more, and many of the vices that go with the saloon have decreased accordingly.

Many merchants have reported to me that upon the adoption of Prohibition, the increase in consumption of home necessaries was marked, and particularly was it noticeable that among laboring classes, grocery

bills were paid much more promptly and regularly. I believe that, on the whole, the welfare and happiness of the community have been largely increased by the adoption of the Prohibition law.

SCHOOLS OVERCROWDED AND MORE PUPILS IN HIGH SCHOOL.

Mrs. L. A. Moss.

The illustration of smashing the stills ought to symbolise the smashing of lawlessness, but it does not, in many cases. The liquor element backs the ex-bartender for office, to the exclusion of the honest temperance man. If only we could get the honest man to qualify. The ex-bartender, when elected, appoints as subordinates men like himself.

Here in Washington, this year, we elect State officers, and judges for the Superior Court, and county commissioners. Two years hence we will elect our county officers.

Since Prohibition, which we had in this State long before National Prohibition was enacted, we have had time to note the increased prosperity, efficiency in business in every line, and the improved conditions in families whose wage earners formerly wasted their weekly wage in the saloon.

Our schools are over-crowded and many pupils are now able to finish high school.

Men from the logging camps used to take a two hundred dollar cheque and go to town for a few days, coming back to camp with, perhaps only a pair of overalls and a pair of shoes to show or a couple of months' wages—the saloon-keepers and the brothels had all the rest.

This went on year after year, while the saloon held sway over our beautiful State. Many are now buying, or building, their own homes. Before we had Prohibition it was of no use to urge a man who was unable to keep up his rent to buy a home; now, thousands own cars and homes.

A man who did not believe in Prohibition and never voted for it, told me he used to watch the beer drinkers, who worked on buildings and discovered that the "temperance" men could work on the high parts of these structures, but those who drank would refuse to attempt it. Now he is convinced that Prohibition, for many reasons, is the best for workmen.

HOW PROHIBITION BOOSTS MILK SALES.

"Ohio State Journal."

It's an ill wind that doesn't blow dust in someone's eyes, and while Prohibition may have been a blow to purveyors of "hard likker," it has brought an easily noticeable increase in business to the milk distributors.

Workmen who were wont to drop in at "Mike's" for a tall one, or even two, at lunch

time, now sip creamy lacteal ambrosia through a straw, and dozens of desks that once contained a corkscrew and its natural complements, now are supplied every morning with a pint or quart from contented cows.

So heavy has become the down-town business in milk that the Moores and Ross Co. has added a special waggon to make deliveries to the business and factory district, besides adding materially to the business of other routes. It starts later than the ordinary delivery, even Columbus not being specially active down town at a couple o'clock in the morning, and reaches the factory neighborhoods about the time that breakfast is a rapidly fading memory and lunch seems a long way in the distance yet.

Customers have formed the habit, too, and crowd about the distributor in considerable numbers at his regular stops. Efficiency of workmen is increased by the few minutes' pauses and light refreshment in the middle of the morning, milk dealers assert, and many factory superintendents encourage the custom among their employees.

Regular deliveries are made at many offices, and customers there usually are on the same basis as consumers at home, Moores and Ross officials say. In other words, a specified quantity is left at about the same hour every day and payment made by the week or by a ticket system.

Playgrounds were another important milk distributing point during the summer, and children were provided with cool, nourishing drinks daily at many such centres.

"Mike's," with its mahogany bar and polished mirrors, is ancient history now, and even the thirstiest have little hope of ever resting a languid foot on its brass rail again. Perhaps milk bars will come to take its place and hardened milk toppers will carouse therein—who knows? But with business booming like this, why shouldn't the cows be contented?

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PROHIBITION AND HOSPITALS. MORE EFFECTIVE THAN ANY SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY.

BELLEVUE HOSPITAL, NEW YORK, 1910-1923.

The data printed was received by Mr. Robert Coradini from the authorities of the great Bellevue Hospital, New York, and is contained in the annual reports of the hospital:

Five years before the war, 1910-1914, inclusive.		SYPHILIS.	
ALCOHOLISM (Acute and Chronic). Discharged.	Deaths.	Discharged.	Deaths.
40,534	1,106	4,800	199
Four years during the war, 1914-1918, inclusive.			
20,587	1,025	2,477	246
Five years during Prohibition, 1919-1923, inclusive.			
17,156	168	2,827	174
Yearly average pre-war period, 1910-16.			
7,589	251	865	45
Yearly average Prohibition period, 1920-23.			
3,683	30	527	35

The population has increased by over one million during the period under review.

WHERE MEDICINAL ALCOHOL IS UNLAWFUL.

LIFE IS HAPPIER, SICKNESS LESS FREQUENT, RECOVERY SPEEDIER.

(These opinions were sent to Mrs. Martha M. Allen, National Superintendent of Medical Temperance, in response to inquiries.)

"So far as I know, no physician in Arizona ever kicks because of our Prohibition law. There are many in the profession who, for personal reasons, would probably like to have a different law. I feel that we have had no deaths in Arizona that could have been avoided if we had had alcoholic liquors in abundance. Personally, I do not think that alcohol is a stimulant, and it has no other value except such as might easily be furnished by a substance much less harmful."—Dr. C. A. Thomas, President, Arizona State Medical Association.

"Indiana has a State law which prohibits a physician from writing a prescription for alcohol, nor can a pharmacist fill such a prescription. I think, generally, physicians favor the law. I have heard no protest."—Dr. Samuel E. Earp, President, Indiana State Medical Association.

"Probably 95 per cent. of the physicians of Mississippi favor the law as it now stands prohibiting the sale of alcoholics on prescription. I did not use alcoholics in my private practice before the law became effective, so I have in no wise missed it."—Dr. T. M. Dye, Secretary, Mississippi State Medical Association.

"I do not find any loss of success in treating my patients without alcoholic liquors. Our State law prohibiting the sale of liquor as medicine is not unpopular with the better class of the profession. On the contrary, it is decidedly popular and meets their approval."—Dr. Stewart R. Roberts, Atlanta, Ga.

"Our physicians have seemed entirely satisfied with the stand taken by our Medi-

cal Society in 1914 that alcohol has no place as a therapeutic agent. At the last meeting of the Society a motion was offered and seconded that our committee on legislation look into the matter and see if there could not be some way arranged whereby physicians could be allowed to use alcohol on prescription. A motion to table was carried unanimously. In 1900, I decided that alcoholic liquors were of no value as medicinal agents and I have not used them since that time. Alcoholic liquors have never been used in connection with the North Carolina Sanitarium."—Dr. L. B. McBrayer, Secretary, Medical Society of the State of North Carolina.

"At the recent meeting of the West Virginia State Medical Association a motion was made to petition the State Legislature to alter the law so that physicians might prescribe liquors in West Virginia. The motion was tabled and an effort to take it up the next day was defeated. Our delegates to the American Medical Association were instructed to vote 'bone dry' on all Prohibition questions."—Dr. D. A. McGregor, Secretary, West Virginia State Medical Association.

"Physicians may not prescribe alcoholic beverages for patients in this State. It is my opinion that the physicians of Utah are very grateful that such a law was passed, as very few physicians care to be besieged by patients who desire only some form of alcohol and then as a rule not for legitimate purposes. Personally, I am convinced that alcoholic beverages are unnecessary in the treatment of the sick."—Dr. W. L. Rich, Secretary, Utah State Medical Association.

"There was for a long time a divided sentiment as to the value of whisky as a medicinal agent, but it is rarely discussed in

medical meetings now. The majority of the doctors of the State were originally Prohibitionists. I was not, but I am now since I have seen the good effects of the law."—Dr. S. W. Wilcile, State Health Officer, Alabama.

"I practised general medicine for twenty-two years and did not find it necessary to prescribe alcohol in any form more than two or three times a year, and think with a little special effort substitutes might have been found in most of these cases."—Dr. A. A. Whittemore, State Health Officer, North Dakota.

"Personally, I find no indications for use of whisky as a medicine, or otherwise. It would be a nuisance if our State law should permit physicians to prescribe whisky, as the invalids, for whisky, would pester me for a prescription for their 'medicine.' I hope our State law remains as it is."—Dr. Willard E. Smith, Wilmington, Delaware.

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Phones: General Offices, City 157; Organising and Public Meeting Dept. City 8944.

FIELD DAY APPOINTMENTS.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11.

- 11 a.m.: Katoomba, Congregational Church.
7.15 p.m.: Katoomba, Methodist Church.
Rev. Henry Worrall.
11 a.m.: Leura, Baptist Church.
7 p.m.: Katoomba, Baptist Church.
Mr. C. W. Chandler.
11 a.m.: Leura, Methodist Church.
7.15 p.m.: Katoomba, Presbyterian Church.
Mr. H. C. Stitt.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18.

- 3 p.m.: Woodford, Methodist Church.
7.30 p.m.: Hazelbrook, Methodist Church.
Rev. Henry Worrall.
11 a.m.: Wentworth Falls, Anglican Church.
3.30 p.m.: Hazelbrook, Anglican Church.
7.30 p.m.: Lawson, Anglican Church.
Mr. C. E. Still.
11 a.m.: West Maitland, Anglican Church.
Mr. C. W. Chandler.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

REV. HENRY WORRALL.

The itinerary of public meetings to be addressed by the Australian Prohibition Council's lecturer during the month of January will be as follows:

- Monday, January 12.—Katoomba, Town Hall.
Tuesday, January 13.—Blackheath, Arcadia Picture Theatre.
Wednesday, January 14.—Mount Victoria, Public Hall.
Thursday, January 15.—Leura, St. Alban's Anglican Hall.
Monday, January 19.—Crow's Nest, Protestant Hall.
Tuesday, January 20th.—Ashfield Town Hall.
Wednesday, January 21.—Hornsby Literary Institute.
Thursday, January 22.—Campsie Princess Theatre.
Tuesday, January 27.—West Maitland, Town Hall.
Wednesday, January 28.—Hamilton Methodist Hall.
Thursday, January 29.—Newcastle Central Hall (Methodist).

All meetings to commence at 8 p.m.

ALLIANCE NEWS AND NOTES.

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE.

H. C. STITT.

"When the holidays are over." How often do we hear this remark coupled with an inferred intention of making new and revolutionised history! What does it amount to? Where did we first hear it, and from whence came the parrot-like utterance? Who is there among us who do not retain the most vivid recollection from the earliest childhood days? In fact, we were taught in the schools of wonderful happenings which would occur "after the holidays." What a tremendous world-wide speeding-up must eventuate with recurring monotony each successive January 2nd! Every failure, every unfulfilled promise, every outstanding good resolution, every overdue account—all, anything, everything, will be rectified "when the holidays are over." What a soothing, self-satisfying, handy old excuse! So we slow down, tired, weary, devoid of any ambition save that which is defined by the period, "when the holidays are over." My word,

how we make this old world spin with good resolutions and earnest intentions! Allowing for the procrastinating influence on the closing weeks of the year, do we really under a full head of steam in January catch up? Or is it essential that the human machinery has a "cooling off" period—a time when the fires are drawn?

Another New Year has unfolded. The old one has gone. We should cast off the Old Year similar to an old garment. It is of no further use; has served its purpose, worn out, gone. Why look back when the course is set direct into the future? We face the dawn, not the twilight. Have you not noticed that by turning the back on the dawn one walks into their own shadow? Paul never was guilty of the backward look; Mrs. Lot was with awful consequences. The Apostle's advice is just as true and applicable to-day: "Forgetting those things which are passed, we reach forward." His was a double-barrelled motto. Forgetting the past is comparatively easy. But the pressing forward is the determining factor when traversing the line of futurity. Marking time never passed a mile-post. The pessimistic vision never "focusses" anything excepting trouble and despair. The children of Israel only received one marching order—"Go forward."

The N.S.W. Alliance has encountered and overcome many difficulties. The big obstacle yet remains to be subdued and slain. Who knows but that even now we are lodging at the Jordan prior to the crossing over? Maybe "to-morrow the Lord will do wonders among you." Ah, but there was a condition. Reach down the concordance and look up the reference.

Recently the daily press has published some very interesting statistical figures. Those possessing an interest in the progress and welfare of the State must have been thrilled with pride on reading the certified figures. The number of new buildings erected within the metropolitan area for the year are stated at 12,180, at a cost of £14,346,071. During the same period the liquor bill of N.S.W. was £11,349,000. What do these two statements really amount to in national wealth when placed side by side in comparison? In the former case we have the buildings, a most tangible and realisable asset, and in addition the £14,346,071 capital to be re-applied towards still further development of industry and wealth-producing businesses. In the latter case £11,349,000 represents a wastage for which we hold no realisable asset, not even one solitary slaked thirst. Certainly the cash is still in circulation; it was previously in existence. But it will not flow into the channels of industrial or commercial development, for the simple reason that its equivalent will again flow down the same thirsty throats. Thus this amount of money is really out of action so far as wealth production or national development is concerned. This £11,349,000 is a kind of financial perpetual motion which produces nothing, but is as a "leech" attached to the national body. Yet the paper which glibly talks about "Australia for the Australians" regards Sydney as "the city of dreadful night," because booze is not (?) on tap during the evenings. In order to withdraw more capital from expanding trade the pink weekly advocates continental open-air cafes. In these days of educational facilities it is deplorable that 20th century journalism cannot rise higher on the plane of suggestion than the level of advocating grog

drinking as the supreme ideal in the working off of surplus leisure. What better literary attainment can be expected from an effusion with nothing better to do than "count the electric bulbs in the white way"?

Another gratifying trade result recently published is the mineral statistics. It is estimated that the coal yield for 1924 will approximate 11,500,000 tons. This is stated as a record. The whole of this is really wealth produced, and may be credited to the State as such. The money expended on its production is again available for further wealth development. We still hold the cash, plus the coal, plus the energy produced from the consumption of the coal. No so with the booze industry. Its invested capital produces shicker. Reinvested it produces more shicker. Consumed it produces misery and social wreckage. In other words, the only return which the State receives is a negative result, an unsatisfied thirst, plus a positive mess debited to the general taxpayer, who pays up cheerfully. The tragedy of the whole process is that the fool State is under the impression that such an expensive and luxurious liability is really an asset.

It is high time that public attention was drawn to the alleged "Ladies Parlors." The very atmosphere of these allurements is revolting. They are an open insult to our womanhood, and are only frequented by those with depraved appetites created by the liquor bars. A glance will readily convince any casual observer that the "ladies" who frequent these "parlors" have been robbed of their self-respect by association with the environment of this subtle enterprise. To the credit of many hotels they scorn this class of trade and refuse it. These parlors are an offence to decency and should be abolished.

The Alliance should make immediate closing of liquor bars at 12 noon on Saturdays and all public holidays a live question during next State elections.

Chicago "Pouring Party."

United States Marshal Levy as custodian of all illicit whisky and other liquors seized by the Prohibition Department is preparing for one of the biggest "pouring parties" ever staged in Chicago.

Under orders issued by the Attorney-General requiring seized liquors to be destroyed immediately, Levy will feed the Chicago sewers with booze valued at bootleggers' prices at over 3,000,000 dollars.

This represents a year's collection, and includes 500 barrels of so-called whisky, each barrel containing four gallons; 500 barrels of wine, 700 five-gallon cans of pure grain alcohol, and a large quantity of beer.

Recently on Court direction the marshal sold 5000 empty barrels after the beer had been run into the sewers. In addition to the liquor the marshal's collection includes 100 stills with capacity ranging from one to 500 gallons.

DRY LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Federal officials in the last three years have made more than 177,000 arrests for violation of the Volstead Act and fines of nearly 18,000,000 dollars have been imposed in addition to jail sentences aggregating 7000 years, according to Prohibition Commissioner Haynes. Of the 120,000 criminal cases terminated in the Federal Courts, there have been 94,300 convictions.

DOWN, BUT NOT OUT.

HOW DESTITUTE MEN WERE ENTERTAINED AT CHRISTMAS.

By CHEV.

No Christmas is allowed to go by without something being done at St. Barnabas' Church for the unfortunate and destitute men of Sydney. The Rev. R. E. S. Hammond is their parson, and they know it. His family is a large one, and he knows it. They are ever present in his mind; he is always planning what he can do to alleviate in some measure their hard lot. The fact that many of them are getting no more than their deserts is a consideration which scarcely weighs with him; they are in distress, in actual want—that is all that counts, and, in the view of Mr. Hammond, it outweighs all other factors. "To err is human; to forgive divine," so there you are.

These men adore Mr. Hammond. He is their own parson—about the only one they have personal knowledge of. He understands them so well. He speaks to them straight from the shoulder in language they can understand and appreciate. He tells them with a smile they are wasters, and then he adds that they are also the children of God, and he tenders them the hand of good fellowship, comforts them with kind words and material gifts bids them be of good cheer, and speeds them on their way with a new feeling of hope sustained by the assurance that there are still opportunities for everybody and that nobody need say "die." No wonder they flock to the weekly meetings of the Brotherhood which he instituted so many years ago for their own special benefit, and which during all that time has grown steadily in its scope, its purpose and its usefulness.

A SELF-RESPECTING GIFT.

This Christmas proved no exception to the general rule; it was, indeed, "even more so than usual." Both on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day between two and three hundred men assembled in the schoolroom and benefited in a substantial way from Mr. Hammond's forethought and bounty. "The holiday season is a veritable nightmare for destitute men out of employment," he said to the writer, "and one must do something to help them tide over a period which is full of pleasure and good things for those more fortunately situated." Mr. Hammond was as good as his word. On Christmas Eve the usual weekly Wednesday night meeting of the Brotherhood was held, and some two hundred men were present. There was no expectation of any favors; these were expected on Christmas Day. There was wisdom in Mr. Hammond's surprise, and he was enabled in this way to deal with those he knew, not merely those who were just on "the make." To each of them Mr. Hammond gave the sum of six shillings, together with a ticket admitting the bearer to a sit-down tea in the schoolroom on Christmas night, and a second ticket to give away.

On Christmas night, at half-past six, the schoolroom presented a memorable sight. At some sixteen long tables, covered with spotlessly white cloths and laden with eatables, including fruit and many kinds of cake, were seated a large company of men of all ages, but all of the same condition—down and out. At the piano the Brotherhood's chief virtuoso, Signor "Bill" Eyles, known to his pals as "Old Bill," discoursed sweet music of the musical comedy and jazz variety. The buzz of animated conversation, interspersed with laughter, was audible everywhere and full justice was done the fare provided. Soon the air was thick with

smoke, for every man was provided with a packet of cigarettes and a box of matches.

Then the "Chief," or "The Boss," as he is variously known to them, addressed his friends, and told them what he had planned for them the previous evening, and what he intended to do still further that night—which was to give them another three shillings apiece. He declared that he believed in trusting men. That was why he had handed out money instead of bed and food tickets to them. In his opinion it added to a man's sense of self-respect, if he had any, to be trusted, whereas tickets tended to emphasise in any decent mind a feeling of degradation. As it was, those who elected to use the money he had given them so gladly in the right way could be assured, for a night or two at anyrate, of a decent bed in privacy and of some substantial meals. It was, he said, little enough, in all conscience, but it was better than nothing, and one had to cut one's coat according to one's cloth.

RETURNING THANKS.

Little enough! Well, perhaps so from one point of view, but it was a great deal more than was offered anywhere else, and the appreciation of the men was very evident in the repeated bursts of applause, and the cheers given for Mr. Hammond at the close of his remarks. Our old friend "Caruso" led the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow" at the piano, and the proceedings terminated just before Church with the singing of the Doxology. Some two hundred men attended the service on Christmas night, being all seated together in the front rows in the centre of the church.

About a hundred men who had not been present on Christmas Eve, and who had not received tickets, assembled outside the School Hall in Mountain-street on Christmas Eve. They could not be accommodated at the tea tables, which were taxed to their uttermost capacity, but Mr. Hammond went outside and addressed them, finally sending them away with something in their pockets to cheer them and let them know that they were not forgotten. When this act of kindness was announced in the hall to the more fortunate men, it provoked a long burst of applause.

THE REALITY OF THE INVISIBLE.

On Christmas Eve, which, as already stated, was the ordinary week-night meeting of the Brotherhood, Mr. Hammond delivered a vigorous and inspiring address, the burden of which was that there is much to be thankful for even in the case of those who seem to be most unfortunate. It was better,

for instance, he said, to live in a Christian and civilised community than in some of the heathen lands of the earth. It was something after all to enjoy good health, to have one's eyesight rather than to be blind, and in many other ways we could find compensations which could help to reconcile us to some of the less pleasant circumstances of our lot. We were perhaps too prone to dwell upon that which was superficial. Many of us failed to pay due account to the evidence of things unseen which often were the most important for our welfare and our success. Some were disposed to deny the presence of God there among them just because He was not visible. For many ages millions of people had witnessed the fall of an apple without in the least realising what lay behind it. Then, one day, somebody, endowed with superior sight, and superior intelligence, had seen the significance of an ever-recurring but meaningless event, and Isaac Newtown had enunciated for us the law of gravitation which once understood had proved of such immense value to science. Yet the law of gravitation was not visible. Nobody had ever seen it or handled it. Similarly, countless millions of people for untold generations had witnessed the rise and fall of the lid of a kettle as the water boiled. It was a familiar sight, but it excited no inquiry, it stimulated no imagination, it awakened no train of thought until another superior mind looked behind what was visible to discover the hidden cause, and then James Watt deduced the motive power of steam which was the foundation of modern machinery and modern industry, and once understood had transformed the world and the conditions of life for everybody. If these things were so, was it unreasonable to see behind the whole wonder and marvellous complexity of the Universe the Hand of God, controlling the whole for the good of His created beings, and for the fulfilment of His own Divine Purpose in the fulness of time? Unless we saw that the whole created Universe was quite meaningless and our very existence inexplicable.

"GRIT" SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Received to 24/12/24, and where not mentioned the amount received is 10s.: Fred Higgins, 15/11/25; Mrs. Bowditch, 12/9/25; Miss H. Jamieson, £1, 30/9/24; Miss McCulloch, 5s., 30/6/25.

The following are paid to 30/12/24: Alstonville School of Arts, £1; Mrs. Pidgeon, Miss J. Ashton.

The following are paid to 30/12/25 Miss Andrews, Mrs. Baily, Miss Campbell (10s. 6d.), James Carter (13s. 4d.), Miss S. R. Wheatley, Miss E. M. Gurney, Mrs. Saunders, Mrs. Betts, Gunedah School of Arts (13s. 4d.), Mrs. Bell, H. C. Blaxland, Mrs. Wolfcarius, Major Reddish (30s.), Miss Jean McLeod (30s.).

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PROHIBITION AND BRITISH LIBERALISM. THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PONY RACING SCANDAL.

A Crop of Liquor Tragedies.—The Drunken Motorist.—Beer Orgies in Redfern.—Drunk in Aeroplane.

PROHIBITION IN BRITAIN.

At the annual dinner of the Wine and Spirit Association at Paris House a week or two ago Colonel Fallon, who has recently returned from a trip to England, declared that he was convinced that "there was no danger of Prohibition in England." It is curious what notions excite the idea of danger in certain minds. However, Colonel Fallon should not be too cocksure. According to a cable message from Toronto, dated December 17, Mr. A. B. Baxter, editor of the London "Daily Express," who is on a visit to Canada, declares that support for the cause of Prohibition from Mr. Lloyd George and the Liberal Party may be the next move in British politics. Mr. Baxter is convinced that Lloyd George has already taken the matter into consideration, and he predicts that Prohibition will figure largely in the next appeal to the people by British Liberalism. This would not surprise us in the least. Mr. Lloyd George was converted to Prohibition by what he saw during his visit to America last year, and, as our readers will remember, we printed at the time a speech he made on his return to England in which he declared that the American people had gained the greatest victory of any nation out of the war when it carried national Prohibition. It has been said that the mission of British Liberalism is completed, but if it takes up the slogan of Prohibition it may gain a fresh and more glorious lease of life.

PONY RACING SCANDAL.

The Government confirmed the judgment which right-minded people have come to regarding its lack of moral stamina when, in the dying hours of a session singularly barren of results so far as moral reform goes, it stifled discussion of the report of the Select Committee on Pony Racing. This particular variety of "the sport of kings" is far and away the most objectionable phase of our great national pastime on account of the way in which it is conducted. Pony racing is conducted by proprietary clubs—in other words, by companies for profit. The effect of this is that the bulk of the receipts, in-

stead of being used to provide adequate stakes, the surest guarantee of clean racing, are retained to pay dividends and to inflate capital. The result is crooked racing, and it is notorious that it is useless to back horses at the "Ponies" unless you are in the know. When owners have to bet in order to make pony racing pay, there is every incentive to square jockeys and "fix" results beforehand. Whatever may be thought of others forms of racing, there can surely be no shadow of a justification for this which, not to beat about the bush, amounts to nothing more than plain swindling. The failure of the Government to clean up this crying scandal once and for all is the best possible proof of its utter unfitness to govern the country.

"ONLY FOOLS BACK HORSES."

We have so often exposed the folly of "punting" at the races that it is quite refreshing to have the testimony of the bookmakers themselves in support of our contention. A London paper quotes the fortunes amassed by some well-known "pencilers," and says that it is just one of life's little ironies that while one man may write immortal works and die almost a pauper, another "maker of books" will live like a prince and leave a colossal fortune. There is certainly something very impressive in the array of six-figure fortunes amassed by these "pencilers" of the turf: Mr. Joseph Pickersgill's £746,000; Mr. George Herring's £1,376,000; the £533,000 left by Mr. Peech, of Sheffield; and the £288,000 of Mr. George Cooper, of Chester. All these fortunes were the fruits of the laying of odds against horses fancied by their clients. Well might the late Mr. Pickersgill

say: "Only fools back horses. Wise men turn bookmakers; and as there are a thousand fools for every wise man, there's plenty of business for such as me."

LIQUOR TRAGEDIES.

Quite a number of liquor fatalities have been reported in the newspapers recently. They go to swell the terrible volume of premature deaths by violence which, but for strong drink, would never have occurred. The other day a young man, 26 years of age, named Leslie Isenhood, shot himself in the lavatory of the Cricketers' Arms Hotel, King-street, Newtown. No adequate motive for this suicide is discoverable by the police: he was probably just crazed with drink, that's all. In Melbourne recently an old man named Dwyer, 88 years old, was arrested for drunkenness and died in the cells as the result of severe injuries to his head. At Bordertown, in South Australia, Edward Leonard Cleggett, 42 years of age, a wealthy farmer, has been shot dead by his wife whom he cruelly ill-treated during a drunken debauch. Yet another story comes from Queensland, where a man named David Williams, who had been on a spree with another man for whom the police are searching, was found dead at Cedar Creek as the result of haemorrhage due to a gunshot wound in the breast. And yet there are still people who say that Prohibition is a curse!

DRUNKEN MOTORISTS.

According to a telegram from Adelaide Mr. Goodwood, presiding magistrate at the City Police Court there, in permanently cancelling the license of a drunken motorist the other day, said: "Drunken motorists are a menace to all traffic. Drastic steps have to be taken to deal with them." The telegram states that prominent motorists in the Cathedral City declare that this is the first case of a motorist having his license permanently cancelled. Let us hope it won't be the last. Apparently the law in South Australia in this respect is different to the law in New South Wales. Here, as our readers are aware, the Supreme Court has held that a magistrate was acting ultra vires in cancelling a motorist's license at all, let alone doing so permanently. All our magistrates can do is to suspend a license for the remainder of its twelve months' term, after which its renewal rests in the discretion of the Inspector-General of Police, who, if he sees fit, may refuse to do so. The law here, as we have often said, sadly needs tightening up. The new English fashion of sending drunken motorists to jail without the option of a fine is the best of all.

UNDERNEATH THE LIGHTS.

"Underneath the lights I look at in amongst the throngs of men," sings the poet, or words to that effect. And if you do that in Redfern what do you find? Beer orgies! We have that on the authority of local aldermen. It seems,

(Continued on next page.)

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OUR TWO GREAT HOSPITALS.

LIQUOR GIVES PLACE TO MILK.

SPIRITS A MEDICINAL "COMFORT," NOT A REMEDY.

SYDNEY HOSPITAL.

One of the most significant facts relating to alcohol is the marked decrease in its use in hospitals. At one time whisky, brandy and rum were freely and frequently prescribed by hospital doctors in all sorts of complaints. To-day science knows better, and alcoholic "stimulants" are but rarely ordered. The following very significant figures, which speak for themselves were supplied recently by the Secretary of the Sydney Hospital:

Year.	Number of In-patients Treated.	Amount Spent on Spirits.	Amount Spent on Milk.
1900	3701 ..	£200 ..	—
1910	5922 ..	125 ..	—
1920	6364 ..	200 ..	—
1923	6326 ..	88 ..	£2255

Liquor in the last two years mentioned cost nearly double what it cost in 1910. Between 1900 and 1923 the number of patients treated per annum nearly doubled, but, price for price, the consumption of spirituous liquors decreased by about 75 per cent.

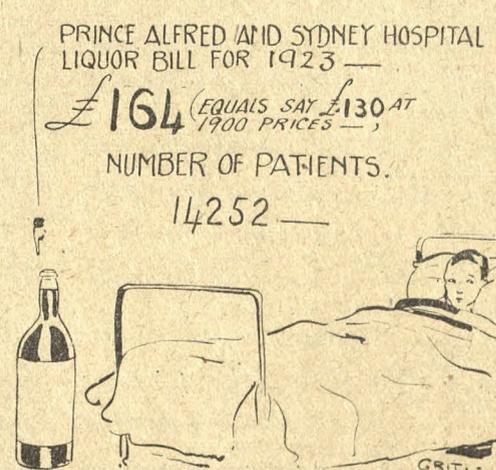
ROYAL PRINCE ALFRED HOSPITAL.

These figures show conclusively that the use of alcohol as a necessary item in the treatment of sickness is falling out of favor with the medical profession, as well it might when consideration is given to the fact that its "stimulating effect" is purely temporary and of very short duration, its ultimate effect being a narcotic one. Here is another set of figures, supplied by the Secretary of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. It is quite as striking as that of the Sydney Hospital, and when allowance is made for difference in prices it appears that in this hospital the average consumption of liquor per patient has decreased enormously:

Year.	In-patients.	Expenditure on Liquor.	Amount spent on Milk.
1900	3287 ..	£226 ..	—
1910	5793 ..	63 ..	—
1920	7077 ..	119 ..	—
1923	7926 ..	75 ..	£3892



PRINCE ALFRED AND SYDNEY HOSPITAL LIQUOR BILL FOR 1900 -
£446
NUMBER OF PATIENTS.
6988



PRINCE ALFRED AND SYDNEY HOSPITAL LIQUOR BILL FOR 1923 -
£164 (EQUALS SAY £130 AT 1900 PRICES -)
NUMBER OF PATIENTS.
14252

Better Conditions Among Young People.

Probate Judge Clark E. Higbee, of Grand Rapids, Mich., comparing records in juvenile court cases for the past five years with the five years preceding, finds a 58 per cent. decrease within the last five-year period. A nationally prominent student of juvenile court work, Judge Higbee has no hesitancy in stating his belief that the cases of neglect and dependency have fallen off in part

because of Prohibition. "We are not getting so many cases involving the large families in which the father is a drunkard," the judge said recently. "The economic factor is not the same as it existed prior to the outlawing of liquor." In the period between August, 1914 and 1919, there were 3935 cases as compared with 2275 in the last five-year period.

PASS "GRIT" ON.

Prohibition and British Liberalism

(Continued from page 6.)

however, that Redfern liketh not lights at night, for at a recent meeting of the Council Alderman Burcher complained that several street lights had been broken by stones thrown by boys. As soon as the lights disappeared, he said, the place was besieged by larrikins, who held beer orgies on the darkened corners. Women and children were continually passing, and he thought Council should do something in the matter. The Mayor (Alderman Mooney) said that many of the electric light globes were smashed by boys with catapults. Alderman Burcher: Notices are erected offering a reward for the apprehension of those who damage the lights, but it doesn't stop the boys. It was decided to take steps to have the missing lights reinstalled. That's all right as far as it goes, but we fancy that it will take something more than electric light to banish beer orgies from Redfern.

A DRUNKEN FROLIC

We are sometimes asked to believe that there is no drunkenness in wine-drinking countries. It is a favorite argument of the wine interests in this country. We are told that the natural light wines of the Continent have no harmful effect upon those who imbibe them: that everybody in France, Italy and elsewhere consumes wine without getting intoxicated. If that were true it would still be no argument in favor of the wines fortified with distilled spirit which are offered for sale in the winebars of Sydney, but let this story, cabled on December 19, speak for itself: The "Daily Chronicle" Paris correspondent reports that Julien Panton, of St. Ouen, in a drunken frolic, painted a woman's face with soot, and paid the penalty in death. Panton was sitting in a cafe with several friends, including Charles Cashing and his wife. Suddenly Panton rose, pretending to be going to order wine. Instead, he brought a pot filled with soot. He seized Madame Cashing by the neck, and smeared her face with the soot. People in the cafe were immensely amused, but Chasing angrily intervened. Though the wife, throwing her arms about Cashing's neck, cried, "Charles, he is only having a bit of fun. Can't you see he is drunk?" her angry husband struck his wife to the floor, drew a revolver, and fired several shots at Panton, who fell dead. Cashing then broke Panton's skull with the butt of his revolver. He surrendered to the police, saying he had avenged his wife's honor.

BISHOP SEES CHANGE.

"The most gracious movement in America, begun fifty years ago by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, has been Prohibition. When I was in Chicago as dean before we had Prohibition, I could not start out on a tour of visitation without stumbling over a score of drunkards. You say Prohibition doesn't work. If that is so it is because you do not see that public officials do their sworn duty. If you say that conditions are worse under Prohibition than before, you are either ignorant or you are saying what you know is not true.

"Some are raising a false issue about beer and light wine. Let me tell you that it was beer that caused all the troubles we used to have when I was in Chicago on the West Side. It was the powerful breweries that protected the saloons."—Walter T. Sumner, Bishop of Oregon of the Episcopal Church.

A Personal Chat with my readers

HELPING HOSPITALS.

This issue is dominated by the evidence that Prohibition is the most wonderful benefit to hospitals. The chairman of your hospital board would surely be interested if you sent this copy on to him with a letter expressing your appreciation of all he is doing by his devoted service to the hospital. He will be quick to see that his best contribution to the hospital will be to back up the demand for Prohibition.

It would be a fine thing if you had a copy of "Grit" sent regularly to some of these good social workers who do not know how wonderful Prohibition is. You could not invest ten shillings in a better way.

I am writing this on **MY THANKS.** Saturday afternoon, December 27. I am over-

tired, and find it hard work to keep my thoughts concentrated on my job.

But I have so much to be thankful for. More folk helped me to help more folk than ever before.

Nothing could be more delightful than conveying goodwill with generous gifts to those who did not know that anyone cared.

I hope the account in this issue of how burdens were lifted and lame dogs helped will make you glad you let me be your almoner.

I do not know how to say thank you. I want to say it big and loud. I would love to say it personally to all the dear, dear folk who made my task of helping so very pleasant and thorough. Among the comforting message was one an old friend, Mrs. Moppett, wrote for me. I share these beautiful lines with you:

Fell tragedy walks close with me,
While care dogs close behind;
But at my feet lie many gems
If I but stoop to find.

And, overhead, the Infinite
Caresses—soft and kind—
Or stirs me with the blustering might
Of rainy storm, or wind.

And guides me thus thro' every day—
In body, soul, and mind—
Though tragedy walk close with me,
And care dogs close behind!

When I first went to U.S.A.
ANOTHER CHEERY WORD. Mr. George Fitzpatrick took charge of "Grit," and infused a good deal of sunshine into its pages. He is now a Fairy Godfather to St. Margaret's Hospital. His Christmas greeting said:

To be patient, when those around us will not understand;
To be gentle, when in their zeal the lips of others forget the claims of brotherhood;

To be kind, when many seek to drag us down by whispering evil tales, untrue, unkind;
To be fair, when intolerance strikes again and again;

To be silent, when the injustice of bitter tongues impels to bitter speech;

To be strong, when comrades fail and falter in the time of need;

To have vision, when others cannot see—
These things make us men, My Brothers!
And draw us near to God
Where He sits with calm eye viewing
the world
Knowing that His plan will prevail.

A CHILD'S PRAYER.

Children are wonderful—they are delightful; and when they are a pain, it is a pain we would not be without.

Charlie Chandler, my colleague, and whom many of the readers of "Grit" have heard in the services he has taken for the Alliance, wrote these beautiful lines:

Oh touch me, Saviour, now whilst lost in nature's broad expanse,
For, Father, never can I be beyond Thy searching glance.
The smallest life ne'er breathes alone, nor lives apart from Thee,
And that is why I am so sure that Thou dost care for me.

When as a child the temple courts Thou walked about alone,
I know Thou hadst the simple craving, Father, like mine own,
To probe the depths of wisdom, aye, to learn the way of love,
To fit Thee for the mansion that Thy father held above.

And did Thy feet with childlike glee e'er skip and run with joy,
As would befit the life of any other little boy?
And did Thy childlike laughter ever echo through the air,
Just like a ray of sunshine when it's cloudy everywhere?

Indeed I love to think that Thou wert childish just like me,
As much as I do wish, O Lord, that I could be like Thee.
But Thou knowest all my longings, for Thou dwellest in my heart,
And hourly strive to make me as much as e'en Thou art.

Attune my ears that I may hear Thy whisper deep within,
And, Father, guide my footsteps that I fall not into sin,
Fill my days with useful service, cleanse me from all sin and shame,
Help me daily bring more honor, Loving Father, to Thy name.

MAKING A JOKE OF HIMSELF.

Every once in a while someone comes back from U.S.A. and says quaint things about Prohibition. Their remarks really throw no light on the great reform, but they give you a glimpse into their own queer

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.

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

SYDNEY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1925.

mind and fantastic outlook. They are printed, not because they are wise or have any authority, but because they are "unusual" and "contrary." We recall what Mark Twain said in reference to a subject on which he was speaking: "The subject is one with which I am not very familiar; therefore I can speak with the greater freedom."

A Mr. Barnett has just arrived back in Queensland and is reported in the Ipswich press as saying:

"He was satisfied that Prohibition would be a good thing if it were enforced, but, so far as he could see, any man who was not an entire stranger could get plenty of liquor. What he did not like was the fact that school children were able to obtain undesirable drinks illicitly with their pennies. The first Sunday I was in 'Trisco I saw more drunks than I would see here on a Saturday." Mr. Barnett added that there appeared to be too much money behind the supply of liquor to make it possible to enforce Prohibition.

Imagine school children spending their pennies on drink at £5 a bottle, hard to get at that, and not to be bought by the glass at any price. Perhaps Mr. Barnett was making a clumsy joke. If Mr. Barnett had seen all the drunks in 'Trisco for a week on that one great Sunday of which he speaks, they would not have equalled our Monday morning supply in Sydney.

The question is: How many did he see? Where did he see them? Was he seeing double, or was he short-sighted like the artist who said: "My good man, what are those beautiful waving objects near those trees, rivalling the latter themselves in grace and beauty of outline, making such a beautiful variety in the landscape, and seeming to hang 'twixt earth and sky"? Laborer (gruffly): "Shirts."

THE GREAT WHITE FAIR.

Money collected for the Eastern Suburbs Queen was credited to the Randwick Queen. The sum of £2/0/2 was collected by Miss James for an Eastern Suburbs Queen, but this effort was not taken up as had been expected, so it was merged into the Randwick effort.

The Editor

LIFTING THE BURDEN. CHRISTMAS AMONG THE POOR.

By ROBERT B. S. HAMMOND.

There are very fine and appealing qualities among the very poor.

Their cheerful endurance, their self-sacrificing generosity, their splendid adaptability, all combine to outweigh some very evident faults. Many of them truly say:

Heart thou must learn to do without.
That is the riches of the poor.

If you notice dirt, it is mostly due to the lack of facilities to be clean.

If children are uncared for it is because the business of providing for them is so urgent that all else is pushed on one side. If they seem improvident, it is because they have so long lived from hand to mouth that a windfall of any kind naturally suggests an indulgence that seems about due after so much privation.

If they appear ungrateful, they are merely displaying a failing quite common among their so-called "betters," and frequently it is due to shyness and inability to give expression to their feelings.

Of course there are really nasty poor folk just as there are nasty church folk or rich folk. Nastiness is not a monopoly of any set of humans. Among the poor are those who can hold their own with the rich, in that, if circumstances are favorable, they would put all they had either on or in their bodies.

When a shower of rain adds a few hundred pounds to the value of a crop or the orchard, it is not generally noticed that there is any haste to worship God and thank Him with our offerings.

If in the mercy of God the well-to-do recover from sickness there is no noticeable recognition of God.

If the average person has a substantial rise in the weekly wage, it cannot be discerned in the weekly offering. Why then do we demand an expression of gratitude from the unfortunate when we do not get it from the fortunate?

HELPING THE FAMILY.

We took substantial help to 131 families which contained 345 children. Garments, food, rent and toys were the principal gifts.

We aimed to rob Christmas of its fears, and so we paid the rent and thus gave relief of mind. We were determined to meet the necessities first, and so groceries figured largely in their "stockings." We believe self-respect is a great asset, and has a power to confer a sense of rightness, therefore we gave over 100 garments away.

One incident was very touching.

Eight little children from 5 to 8 years of age had been taken out shopping, and each provided with a suitable little dress.

On Christmas morning they were at church. The Communion Service followed the morning service, and after I had ar-

ranged the Communion vessels I was surprised to find these children standing hand in hand in front of the Communion rails.

I leaned across and said: "What is it, girls?" And very timidly they said in a hushed chorus, "We wanted to say 'Thank you.'"

It was just lovely. We had some £30 worth of dolls—beautiful, wonderful dolls—to give away, and it has been very delightful to see many of these dolls at church—behaving in a most exemplary way.

SPECIAL CASES.

The little woman I mentioned in my appeal is away on a farm having the time of her life, her two children just rejoicing in the wonder of the kindness that gave them the most wonderful Christmas in their life. Twenty-three old age pensioners were made truly comfortable and really happy, and in every case I think I can say they returned thanks to God with gifts that put us all to shame. One special case warranted an unusual gift of £5. It was not nearly enough, but it was a substantial help. This dear soul found it possible to give a pound as a thank offering for this "great goodness of God." There are 150 children in the Church Homes at Glebe. They are delightful children—back of them all is some sinister thing, before them all some possible calamity if ever they go uncared for into the world.

They had five gallons of ice-cream on Christmas Day. You get 60 three-penny ice-creams to the gallon—so there were two ice-creams each for them.

I was present in the afternoon to enjoy with them this unusual treat, and it was truly delightful.

They each had sixpence given them.

They have practically no chance to spend this, and it means that they hold on to it and dream and dream of all they will buy with it, and obtain an amount of pleasure that no ordinary sixpence ever purchased.

They are to have a launch picnic in a few days that will put the finishing touch to a wonderful Christmas time.

The list of those helped is:

131 families
23 old age pensioners
517 children
347 men.

This totals over 1000 people, whom my friends' generosity made much happier. In many cases the gifts were spread over many days. On Christmas night, long after all that was likely to be done had been done, some 160 men, just out of a responsive gratitude, came to church and sang in a very heart-moving way, and took a very live part in the service.

It was a memorable time, and no man ever spent £350 with greater joy, or saw a like expenditure ease so many burdens. The story of what was done for the men will be found on page five.

To all who made it possible I can only say, as many said, "Thank God and you."

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THE WEAKEST TOO STRONG.

MORE FACTS ABOUT 2.75 PER CENT. ALCOHOL BEVERAGES.

By CORA FRANCES STODDARD.

"There is no longer room for doubt as to the toxic action of alcoholic beverages as weak as 2.75 per cent. by weight." Such is the conclusion of Dr. Walter R. Miles from his experiments on alcohol and efficiency recently reported by the Carnegie Institution of Washington*. He found also that the physical and mental work were impaired to about the same extent by this weak alcoholic drink as when an equal amount of alcohol was taken in a stronger drink.

There is a "practical interest" in this question of whether alcohol taken in weak form as 2.75 per cent. by weight has a measurable effect on working ability, says Dr. Miles, because it is the weaker beverages that are used by a vast majority of drinkers. Here are answers to the claims that "2.75 beer" and "light wines" are uninjurious.

He gave the alcohol in his experiments diluted in various liquids, the total liquid always being about two pints (one litre). There was never any difficulty in drinking this quantity. Sometimes the alcohol was diluted with water, sometimes with grape juice, fresh apple juice, or commercial non-alcoholic beer. Always there were certain days used for comparing work when the beverage given was the same except that it did not contain alcohol.

Unsteadiness in walking or standing is a familiar sign of alcoholic intoxication. Dr. Miles found that all the persons tested showed increased wavering an hour after taking the 2.75 per cent. alcoholic dose. The increase in unsteadiness averaged about 20 per cent.

EYE-HAND WORK IMPAIRED.

An automobile driver or mechanic often has to act in relation to some moving object. The child who dashes out in front of the motor car is an illustration. The person confronted with such moving objects must act with a particular speed and in a way adapted to the situation. Eye and hand must work well together.

To test the effect of "2.75 per cent." alcoholic drinks on this kind of work an ingenious apparatus called the pursuit-pendulum was used. This had been previously employed during the war to test men for aviation service. The person tested was required to catch in a cup water flowing from the pendulum as the latter swung to and fro. Eye and hand had to be constantly adjusted to catch as much water as possible. Seven out of eight men did poorer work after taking the 2.75 per cent. alcoholic drink. The average decrease in efficiency was 3.2 per cent., and the poorest work was done from

one to two hours after drinking. If this were a piece of factory work, comments Dr. Miles, the alcohol effect would be considered large enough to be of practical importance in reference to working efficiency.

WORK REQUIRING CONTINUOUS ATTENTION.

The pursuit-pendulum test represented work done by a number of spurts. But much work, especially in mills and factories, requires continuous attention. What would alcohol do there? Another ingenious device called the pursuit-meter was used. The task was to keep a needle steadily pointing in a certain direction against quick and irregular electric impulses which moved it in other directions. It was somewhat like holding a ship to her course against the motion of wind and wave which tend to push her off her course.

The 2.75 per cent. alcohol impaired ability to do this kind of work in seven out of eight men tested; on the average the work was poorer by about 14 per cent.

MENTAL EFFICIENCY IMPAIRED.

Mental ability was tested by code work which required both speed and accuracy. The work was poorer after the 2.75 per cent. alcoholic drink by about 2.5 per cent., though effects on some of the men were much worse. The effects had not shown much sign of passing off when the experiment ended, two hours after the drink was taken.

All these tests, and others not described here, concern work which is largely within the control of the individual, says Dr. Miles. It was done after each had had repeated careful instructions as to what to do. Yet poorer work was done after drinking the 2.75 per cent. solution of alcohol.

"It will be difficult to challenge the conclusion," says Dr. Miles, "that these changes represent other than a decrease in organic efficiency due to depressive action of ethyl-alcohol, inasmuch as such changes are regularly associated with slower reaction, slower muscular movements, less adequate and accurate muscular control, less agile mental operations. The whole qualitative picture is one of decreased human efficiency as a quickly following result from the ingestion of this pharmaco-dynamic substance (alcohol). . . . There is no longer room for doubt in reference to the toxic action of alcoholic beverages as weak as 2.75 per cent. by weight."

*Walter R. Miles, "Alcohol and Human Efficiency," Carnegie Institution of Washington, March, 1924.

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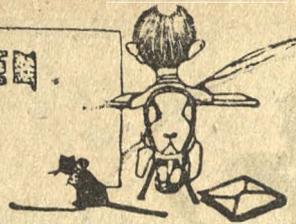
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NOT FOR PUBLICATION.

34 Auburn Road, Auburn.

My Dear Uncle B.,—Yes, D.V., I'll be there on the 6th, but I can't promise that it will be sharp on three. I have not looked up the trains yet, but it will be as near to three o'clock as possible, and I guess I'll find you when once I get down there, unless the crowd is so dense (I don't mean that the folk themselves will be so) that I cannot wend my way to "The Stall," but I guess I'll get there somehow (even if I have to yell to you to bring the "life-saving ice cream"). I am so glad you received the little parcel I sent for "The Stall." I have some more things to bring down; leastways, I think I'll be bringing them on Monday or Tuesday afternoon down to "Grit" office. My, Uncle, I feel sure that Saturday afternoon is going to be a great, big, grand, glad afternoon! I am looking forward to it more than I have ever looked forward to any other fair, bazaar, or fete, although I feel a little shy of all the crowd I expect there will be there, but I am coming, and hope to be accompanied by one of my cousins. I had such a good surprise when I went to my grandma's yesterday. She had a doll dressed in the sweetest suit made (knitted) by herself, Uncle, for "The Stall." She is a lady of over 80 years, and when you see the doll I'm sure you'll think as I do. Then on top of that my auntie sent round a parcel for "The Stall," and my friend at grandma's said she would give me some eggs when I'm going down. Uncle, I am quite sure you will appreciate all this from my dear ones when I tell you that I didn't ask them, but they saw my letter in "Grit" and then got to work. Wasn't that beautiful? I will be bringing them down early in the week (not the eggs; I'll bring them later), and I also have some things that some of my family have given or sent me for "The Stall," and also some other things. Grandma said she wanted to do her "little bit," and we have tried to. That last letter you printed in "Grit," Uncle, I think we shall count it as the promised letter for page 11, shall we? There was a little mistake though, but I don't blame you for, seeing so many mistakes in the dailies, one is more inclined to blame the printer than the Editor. I said in writing about the talents "the servant with the five talents (who gained another five) and the servant with the two talents (who gained another two) both had an equal reward."

LADIES—

The Beautifully Illustrated

"KING" TEA

Catalogue of Free Gifts is Now Obtainable. Ask your Grocer or Storekeeper.

The printed one reads: "The servant with the five talents (who gained another two) both had an equal reward." I would not mention this, Uncle, except that it is about Scripture, and I think on scriptural and spiritual subjects one needs to be as correct as possible these days, don't you think so? What next? I think there had better not be any "next," even although this is not a "Grit" letter. You do not want to spend too many minutes over one letter, do you? No, dear Uncle, I'll not fail you on Saturday, unless anything unforeseen happens to prevent my being with you, then that can't be helped, can it? I think I would rather have a "s'cream," thanks, Uncle; not the cabbage. Cheerio, Uncle, I do wish you the best of all successes with the "Fair." You loving hon. and gladite Ni.

(Dear Hon. Gladite,—Your letter is too good to go in the W.P.B. (waste paper basket), so in it goes to page Double One to interest your "cousins," as it interested your Uncle B.)

* * *

SOME SWIM.

Den Weaver, P.O. Weavers, via Windsor, writes: I wish to join you and your relations in "Grit." I will be fourteen on the twenty-seventh of May, and if my estimations are correct I will be about six times as ugly. Wiseman's Ferry Tennis Club held a tournament to-day, but I am afraid it was not a success, as it rained rather hard during the latter part of this afternoon. Our local club are holding a tennis tournament and dance next Saturday. If the weather is good it ought to be a grand success. Last week I was enjoying myself at Colleroy. It is a very pretty place, and the beach is lovely. One morning my brother and another fellow were swimming in the baths when a lot of college girls came for a dip. The boys decided to get out, but before they could do so it was necessary for them to swim across the baths. Noel's companion's luck was in, for he succeeded in swimming across without one collision. But poor Noel was destined to a harder fate. As he came to the surface after diving he upset one girl who was standing with her back to him. Not waiting to apologise he swam away in another direction only to collide with another girl head first, and as he endeavored to escape before harm befell him he caught another romantic young swimmer by the back of the neck, and she was compelled, much against her will, to take a drink of salt water. After many collisions Noel clamored out of the baths with a mob of howling girls after him. Noel being of a bashful nature I can assure

(Continued on next page.)

TEMPERANCE EXAMINATION.

The "Sydney Morning Herald" says: "If the 2000 boys and girls who attended the health and temperance examination this week put all their ideas into practice there will be radical hygienic changes in the days to come. According to their teachers, these children know the disastrous effects upon the bodily organs of alcohol when taken to excess. They have no sympathy or time for the unfortunate drunkard. 'Even his legs are not safe beneath him,' said one candidate. 'He gets taken to the police station, is asked for five shillings, which he can't pay, and gets a month's hard labor. He is a disgrace to his home, and gets his country a bad name, all through his taste for alcohol.'

"But though the shocking example was a favorite topic, most of the youngsters had quite sane views upon the meaning of temperance. Here is a typical answer: 'Intemperance is a great vice, and it is found in every home. Many drink too much, others work too much, more loaf too much, and some train too much.' One question required candidates to name six good habits. The daily bath (for which, according to one child, Australia is notorious) appears to head the list. Then came: 'Sleeping with the window open,' 'exercise before breakfast,' 'cleaning the teeth twice a day,' 'regular changes of clothing,' and 'eating fruit and nuts.' These appear to be the favorites. Of course there were others, such as: 'Drink four glasses of water a day, brush your hair, and have a wash before meals.'

"How to keep oneself fit," was a question of similar type. 'Avoid tea, coffee and all intoxicants,' was one piece of advice. 'Tea blackens the inside of your stomach the same as it does a teapot, and beer only makes the throat drier.' 'Over-eating is a mistake, and leads to indigestion, which is another bad habit. Smoking is worse. It weakens the heart, muddles the brain, poisons the stomach, and in the end kills the victim.' 'Go in for surf bathing and open-air games. Don't be content with bar-racking, play cricket yourself.' 'All these things must be done, and myriads of others, too,' was one despairing answer, if a boy expects to be as fit as any other chap at school."

I wonder how many of my Ne's and Ni's



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Seven to Seventeen—

you he felt very embarrassed, and our mirth was dearly expensive to him.

(Dear Den,—Noel's experience sounds like a fairy tale to me, but since you say it is so, we will all swallow it and advise him to be much more careful next time. If those girls ever catch him on land he will make a lovely corpse. You had better constitute yourself his keeper.—Uncle B.)

"FORGOT."

Sylvia Waters, Holly Road, Burradoo, writes: I think I am in the scallywag list, and I would be very pleased if you would cross it off. Well, Uncle, I suppose I will have to begin my news. I have been away

for a holiday, and I quite forgot about "Grit." I have had a lovely time at school. I went out there once before. My father went to the hospital yesterday evening, and he is very sick. The doctor said he would have to say there about one or two weeks to have a good rest. The school is breaking up for our Christmas holidays. We are having six weeks. The fifth class children are collecting some money to get a present for our teacher, Miss Smith.

(Dear Sylvia,—So your holidays pushed poor "Grit" out of your mind altogether? That means you must have had a lovely holiday—and I am glad you enjoyed yourself and remembered "Grit" on your return.—Uncle B.)

AN EARLY XMAS.

Una Waters, Burradoo, writes: I think it is time I wrote to you again, for I am on the scallawag list, and I would like you to cross me off. On December 5 we had a Christmas tree and I got a little doll's umbrella and a toy watch and a bag of lollies. Some of the children got toy stoves and some got little sleeping dolls. We broke up for our Christmas holidays on December 8. I hope little Jean Gordon has won.

(Dear Una,—You did have an early Xmas. I am glad you had such a nice time. I am glad it only comes once a year, as it gives me a tremendous time, and I am just trying to sort out all my affairs and feel too tired for words.—Uncle B.)

Hope Benjamin, "Rostrevor," Marsh-street, Armidale, writes: We are having exams now. I have a little pony. We had two kookaburras, but we gave one to a friend. I got a lovely lot for my birthday. We finished our exams on Friday. I love writing letters. There is a merry-go-round here now.

(Dear Hope,—So you love writing letters! Well, I love getting them, so we will make a good pair. Does your kookaburra laugh? I do not think they like being made pets of; anyhow, I never had one, so I don't know. Please tell me about them.—Uncle B.)

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Fairy Bells (Brass), $\frac{1}{2}$ in., at 9d.; $\frac{3}{4}$ in., at 1/3; $\frac{1}{2}$ in., at 1/4; $\frac{3}{4}$ in., at 1/6 doz.
Paper Lanterns, 9in., at 7/6; 12in., at 10/6 doz.
Balloons, 6in., at 9d.; 9in., at 2/6 doz.
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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.



NEW IDEA IN SEATING ARRANGEMENTS.

Every seat in the grandstand and bleachers was filled. No seats were obtainable after 9.30 o'clock in the morning. Hundreds of persons were turned down for seats.

A THREE-BAGGER.

Smith, being introduced to golf for the first time, had hit the ball a terrific whack, and sent it half a mile.

"Now, where do I run to?" he cried excitedly.

NO WONDER.

It is claimed that the Eighteenth Amendment is void because it does not appear that two-thirds of the Souses of Congress "deemed it necessary," as provided in Article V.

LOW VISIBILITY.

Simpkins considered himself a humorist. He sent a selection of his original jokes to the editor of a newspaper and confidently awaited a remittance. His excitement ran high when he received a letter, obviously from the newspaper office.

He opened it with feverish haste. There was no cheque, however, just a small note, as follows:

"Dear Sir,—Your jokes received. Some we have seen before; some we have not seen yet."

THE BOY KNEW.

"What is an oyster?" the teacher asked a small boy. There was a painful pause, and finally came this hopeful answer: "An oyster is a fish built like a nut, miss."

A HINT TO DOCTORS.

"So Clara threw over that young doctor?" "Yes, and what do you think? He not only requested her to return his presents, but sent her a bill for 47 visits."

WHO IS VIOLET RAY?

Mrs. Prof: "Are you quite sure you are true to me?"

Mr. Prof: "Why, of course, dear, what an absurd question."

Mrs. Prof: "Well then, kindly explain who this Violet Ray is you are always talking about."

PITY YE POOR ED.

It is reported that one of the fastidious newly married ladies of this town kneads bread with her gloves on. This incident may be somewhat peculiar, but there are others. The editor of this paper needs bread with his shoes on; he needs bread with his shirt on; he needs bread with his pants on; and unless some of the delinquent subscribers of this "Old Rag of Freedom" pony up before long, he will need bread without a damn thing on, and Wisconsin is no Garden of Eden in the winter time.

NOT ONE OF THE TEN.

"Harper's Magazine" mentions that in an elementary school a teacher had given a lesson in an infant's class on the Ten Commandments. In order to test their memories she asked: "Can anyone give me a Commandment with only four words in it?"

A hand was raised immediately.

"You may answer, Harold."

"Keep off the grass," was the reply.

WHY MARIE CORELLI NEVER MARRIED.

The late Miss Marie Corelli was often asked why she never married, and she always gave the same answer. "There is no need," she would say, "for I have three pets at home which, together, answer as a husband. I have a dog which growls every morning, a parrot which swears all the afternoon, and a cat which comes home late at night."

THE CRITIC IN THE MOB.

In the middle of a performance of a certain play the audience burst into violent hissing, all except one man, who applauded like mad.

"What!" said his neighbor, "Have you the nerve to applaud such rot?"

"Certainly not, sir," he replied. "I'm applauding the hissing."

THE QUIVER IN THE FLIVVER.

The minister had dictated his sermon to a new stenographer. The subject was "The Joy of Youth," and he quoted as his text a well-known sentence from the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Psalm.

Being better acquainted with modern transportation facilities than with ancient archery, the typist rendered the passage, "Happy is the man that hath his flivver full of them."

Which, after all, simply expresses the sentiment in a more literal way.

ANNOUNCEMENT TO PARENTS.

MR. T. FORD, Surgeon Dentist, specialises in the maintenance and care of children's teeth.

Malformations and irregularities painlessly adjusted.

Scientific treatment with latest appliances.

Remember, your children's future health is dependent upon the early care and attention given to their teeth.

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TO PARENTS.

For some time past we have inserted a paragraph in this paper asking if you have realised the importance of sex instruction for your children in a clean wholesome manner. The response has been to a certain extent satisfactory, but we feel we have a sacred duty to try and reach thousands of other parents for the sake of the rising generation. You can by sending 1/- in stamps or P.N. obtain a 24 page instructive Report for 1923/24 and eight more booklets to help parents, boys, girls, youths and maidens.

The Australasian White Cross League,

56 ELIZABETH STREET, SYDNEY.

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A MERCY TO THE HOSPITAL.

POPULATION GROWS, DRINK EVIL DECREASES.

Prohibition results have cut the number of admissions to the hospitals for inebriates, according to data obtained by Robert E. Corradini, Research Secretary of the World League Against Alcoholism. Further, before Prohibition the patients remained longer in the institution, according to the physicians. To-day they may return oftener, because of the poisonous quality of bootleg liquor, but they don't stay so long, perhaps no longer, in some cases, than an hour.

Mr. Corradini's data were obtained direct from the New York Christian Home for Inebriate Men, at Mt. Vernon, N.Y. They show that in the pre-Prohibition period, 1910-1916, the average yearly admissions were 420. In the dry period, 1920-1923, the admissions averaged 254, a decrease of 166 annually, by average.

The table of admissions is as follows:

1910	444	1917	390
1911	490	1918	239
1912	372	1919	222
1913	360	1920	181
1914	437	1921	231
1915	401	1922	315
1916	436	1923	291

It will be remembered that the war period took many persons abroad out of America, who had returned by 1921, also that in 1923 there was a large influx of alien immigrants. It also will be remembered that repeal of New York's state enforcement code made enforcement of Prohibition laws more difficult. These things explain why there was an increase from 1920 to 1922. However, the curve started downward in 1923 again.

Furthermore, although the population of the area in which the Home operates has gained strongly in population, the total number of cases received was much smaller in the dry years than in the years before Prohibition when the population was smaller.

The liquor traffic has been held responsible for the breaking up of homes and the sending of destitute children to institutions, and it was asserted by the friends of Prohibition that it would help to do away with these evils.

Mr. Corradini, delving into the annual reports of New York City's sheltering homes, finds that Prohibition has done what was claimed for it. Figures for one of these homes are interesting. They show a notable decrease in admissions since liquor was banished.

During the pre-Prohibition period, 1910-1916, the average yearly admissions were 178. During the Prohibition period the average was 104, a decrease of 74. The table of admissions is as follows:

1910	170	1917	172
1911	180	1918	136
1912	180	1919	138
1913	190	1920	135
1914	180	1921	134
1915	181	1922	88
1916	171	1923	62

And, as before noted, New York's population was growing all the time, so the percentage of cases grew less.

Children cared for as above outlined were from 6 to 12 years of age. They were children for whom no other institution provided.

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
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Emperor . . .	4d.	3/-	20/-
Empress . . .	4d.	3/-	20/-
Figaro . . .	3d.	2/-	10/-
Golden Spur . .	3d.	2/6	15/-
Hoboken (new)	1/6	15/-	
King Alfred . .	1/6	15/-	90/-
Mme. de Graaff	6d.	5/-	
Princeps . . .	3d.	2/-	10/-
Sir Watkin . . .	4d.	3/-	20/-
Vanilla (new) .	1/6	15/-	

Assorted dozen to include all the
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Tract or Treatise.

(By EUGENE LYMAN FISK, M.D.).

In a review of Professor Starling's "The Action of Alcohol on Man," Dr. Fisk says of the section on Mortality by Professor Pearl:

"There is absolutely no excuse for the grievous distortion of the evidence relating to the effect of alcohol on mortality that appears in this section . . . There is abundant evidence to prove that the so-called moderate use of alcohol by any great mass of individuals will lessen the expectation of life in that group. If we had any doubt in the matter we certainly would not accept Professor Pearl's experience in his pathetic group of 271 total abstainers as against the experience drawn from the analysis of more than two millions of lives, a far more homogeneous group for study than any that Professor Pearl presents in seeking to establish his thesis . . .

"The Starling book is not to be taken seriously as a guide to the facts in relation to the action of alcohol on man."—"The Survey," 15/9/24.

A Colorado Judge on Prohibition.

In a recent interview Judge George A. Luxford, of the Denver County Court, declared it to be his opinion that public sentiment favorable to the enforcement of Prohibition is growing so steadily as to make certain the ultimate success of Prohibition in this country.

"Statements that there is as much drinking now as before Prohibition are really silly," said Judge Luxford. "There is not one-tenth as much drinking in Denver now as before the Volstead Act became effective.

"It is my observation that liquor cases have fallen off substantially in the courts. Sentiment favorable to a strict enforcement of Prohibition is becoming more widespread than ever before.

"There is no longer the sharp distinction in the minds of the people between liquor laws and other statutes. Respect for Prohibition laws is greater than in the past.

"A man who breaks the Prohibition law is no more entitled to the benefits of a light maximum penalty, I believe, than the man who breaks the automobile theft law. If convicted, he should be sent to the penitentiary, rather than merely to the county jail for three or six months."

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**HOW PROHIBITION DECREASES
PAUPERISM.**

Tally another for Prohibition.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau there are now fewer paupers in the poor houses of the country in proportion to the population than ever before, so far as Government records show.

The number per 100,000 of population is now 71.5 as compared with 91.5 in 1910, and 132 in 1880.

There were 84,198 paupers in almshouses in 1910, and although there are millions more people in the country now the number of paupers has decreased to 78,090. The big decrease in paupers per 100,000 of the population from 1880 to 1910 was due largely to the growth of Prohibition territory during that period and that decrease was further

emphasised under National Prohibition, as shown in the more recent figures.

It is a victory worth while for the dry cause.

**AVERAGE SAVINGS 166 DOLLARS PER
CAPITA IN PAST YEAR.**

Prohibition makes for thrift.

Last year an average of 166 dollars was saved by every man, woman and child in the country, and the total savings for the year were 18,373,062,000 dollars. This sum is almost equal to the total deposits in all the banks of the country ten years ago, about the time saloons were being banished by the thousands.

Last year the school children of the United States alone saved nearly 15,000,000 dollars.