



Alcohol Catechism.

(Dr. R. H. Macdonald, of San Francisco.)

1. Q.—What is a temperance catechism?
A.—A catechism that teaches us why it is our duty so long as we live to wholly abstain from intoxicating drinks, tobacco and opium, and do all we can to prevent their use.
2. Q.—Define intoxicating drinks.
A.—Drinks that contain alcohol and make those who use them drunk.
3. Q.—How can children prevent the use of intoxicating drinks, tobacco and opium?
A.—They can set a good example by wholly abstaining themselves from intoxicating drinks, tobacco and opium.
4. Q.—Can they do anything else?
A.—Yes, they can try to persuade their parents, brothers, sisters and playmates to abstain from the use of these poisons.
5. Q.—Can they do the same after they are grown up?
A.—Yes, they can do the same and a great deal more.
6. Q.—What can they do?
A.—Those who can vote can vote and work for prohibition, and against the use of intoxicating drinks, tobacco and opium in all their forms.
7. Q.—What is prohibition?
A.—Prohibition, when applied to temperance, means the stopping of the sale and manufacture of intoxicating drinks, and the shutting up of all saloons and grog shops. Read Psalm, xxxiv., 14.

Prohibition Points.

(From the address of the late Dr. F. R. Lees, at the great Prohibition Convention in London.)

Thought and action are not welded together like metals under equal temperatures. Action follows thought, and only so far as thoughts are like, will the lives and work agree. One man's thought stops at F, another at Z, but there is no necessary disunion; so far as action is concerned, they can walk together. A goes for Sunday closing with X, who goes for prohibition, but both are united in voice and vote on the general question; while X goes on teaching the application of the truth to all time and place, as the only adequate and complete cure of the afflicted people. The thing to be very carefully avoided, as I judge, is compromise of principle. Truth and justice can not be halved or quartered—they are absolute relations; and hence the attempt always ends in failure, often in increased disaster.

In the matter of infection and disease society is wiser. You don't tamper with disease as with drink. You are wiser for your cattle than for your kind. You at least endeavor to stamp out the causes of rabies, anthrax and cholera. Here selfishness works for truth. The notorious compromise on slavery in the United States led to the punishment of a civil war, the loss of a million lives, and to the maiming of hundreds of thousands of soldier citizens. It happened to be in the United States when the signs of the coming conflict first appeared, and was hooted in a vast meeting for warning the people of the danger, and pleading for the oppressed. That very year the United Kingdom Alliance was founded in Manchester. Some think that this led to premature political agitation and so to diversion from what is called suasion or persuasion. I do not think so; and at any rate it was an inevitable development. In reality, we had reached the available conscience of the community, and pessimism was developing. It became necessary to teach why we failed to get further. It was because the factors of causation were double; namely, ignorance and appetite on one side, and temptation and interest on the other.

Doubtless advances have been made in our agitation, vast improvements in our methods, our organizations, and our advocacy in general. Nevertheless, the time has come for enlarging our programme. The campaign needs to be carried on in a new

direction. We are strong now. We must cease to be apologists and become protagonists. We must summon society itself to appear in the high courts of the world's justice. It says, 'We believe in drink.' Well, but we demand the grounds of a belief that fills our homes with misery and our cities with foulness, disease and death. The only justification of government is that it protects man in the development of his mental and material faculties; but centuries of experience have demonstrated that the drink traffic creates most of the crime and gives less protection. Our opponents now use not only sophistry and evasion, but invective and misrepresentation in answer to our protests and appeals, and never honestly, fairly or fully meet our impeachment of custom and the traffic. It is time that all this terminated, that evasions and hypocrisies and one-sided controversies ceased, and that our advocates rose to the greatness of the crisis and the occasion. We demand justice, the greatest of all social conditions. There is treason in the city—in parliament and in press—and the gates of the Delhi of Drink are closed. Let us advance and storm them; clear out the traitors and establish justice for generations, as a memorial of our piety, our patriotism and our courage. 'O, that the people would consider,' is the language of the ancient prophet, speaking for God, and it is forever true, for thought is justice.

Legal Suasion.

In answer to a recent writer, who contended that the golden age of temperance reform was in the old Washingtonian days. 'The Voice' takes occasion to summarize the result of 'legal suasion,' as follows: 'Rip Van Winkle slumbered for twenty years, but you have slept longer than that. While you have been snoring, prohibition has practically wiped the saloon from Maine, Kansas and Vermont; it has driven it from all but a dozen counties in Mississippi; it has driven it from all but a few counties in Iowa, New Hampshire, North and South Dakota. It has made it an outlaw in Alaska and the Territories; it has driven it from one-third of the territory of Texas and Kentucky. Prohibition has driven the saloon from two hundred townships in New York; from a large part of Massachusetts; from twenty-two counties in Georgia; from forty-four out of the seventy-five counties in Arkansas; it has driven the saloon from whole counties in California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia and Wisconsin. It has closed nearly every saloon in South Carolina. It has banished the saloon from nearly the whole of Norway and Sweden. It has chased the saloon from two thousand parcels of land in the United Kingdom. Prohibition has closed the saloon in large districts of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa and Canada. Prohibition has closed on Sunday most of the saloons of Ireland, Scotland and Wales. It has closed on that day most of the saloons in this land of ours. The old Washingtonian movement spent its force because people could not be made to believe it wrong to drink when preachers voted that the sale of the stuff continue, and while good folks wrote articles for religious newspapers, snarling at 'fanatics' who demanded that the business be stopped. Wake up, Mr. Fox! Read the history of the last forty years, and get aboard the Prohibition band wagon, where you belong.—'Christian Work.'

Correspondence

Sand Hill.

Dear Editor,—My papa is a school teacher. He has taught thirteen years, and is-teaching still in the same school. We walk to Sunday-school in the summer, but drive in the winter. We had an entertainment last Christmas, and I sang a piece at it. All the children of the Sunday-school got prizes. I got a book, the title of which is, 'As in a Mirror.'

ELSIE, aged 10.

Papineauville.

Dear Editor,—I have three sisters and a dear little brother, nine months old; he came to us on the Queen's Birthday. We

get the 'Messenger' every week at Sunday-school, and I like the Correspondence best; Mamma used to get the 'Messenger' when she was a little girl. We have a sugar-bush, and I will be glad when the maples begin to run, it is such fun to make taffy.
MAGGIE, aged 7.

Toronto.

Dear Editor,—My eldest sister attends the Toronto Bible Training School day class. She will graduate this spring. I have also another sister attending the evening classes. Bruce is a large St. Bernard dog, I was trying to teach him tricks one day, when he bit me on the hand. It soon healed up though.
MABEL.

Walkerton, Ont.

Dear Editor,—Last fall papa and Jean, my little sister, went out to the woods to gather butter-nuts. They noticed a black squirrel up a tree, and papa thought it would please Jean to get it for her. He climbed the tree, and told Jean to watch and frighten it up if it tried to run down. He soon caught it and brought it home and made a cage for it. It was half-grown then. We fed it well, and now it is a fine, fat, full-grown black squirrel. It is a very tricky little animal. We let him out of his cage at meal times. If he is hungry he will run up on papa's knee and beg for food.

He is very fond of sweet things, so papa gives him a piece of cake or bread with fruit on it. As soon as he gets it he jumps down and runs away to some high perch to eat it. The window-sill, the back of a chair and the clothes-hooks on the wall are some of his favorite perches while eating. We call him Blackie. When any of our neighbors' children come in we let him out, and I hope if any little boys who read this see our black squirrel, they will never throw a stone at one.

MARION H., aged 9.

Livingstone Creek.

Dear Editor,—Papa took the 'Messenger' twenty years ago, and we get it now at Sunday-school, and think it is the best paper printed. My eldest brother is working in the camp, and my eldest sister is working in the town eight miles from home. Grandma lived with us; but she died in February. It is very lonesome without her.
BEATRICE MAY, aged 11.

Bottineau, N.D.

Dear Editor,—I have no mother. She died over two years ago. I once had a big brother, but he died three years ago. My father took consumption about three years ago. So I am a poor girl, with only a few friends.
MARGARET, aged 13.

Chatham, Ont.

Dear Editor,—Chatham is a city of 10,000 inhabitants. It is a common thing to go to Detroit in the summer time. It is a very pleasant trip; you pass the plains on the north side of the Thames River, where you could see large droves of cattle, with as many as five hundred in a drove. You pass the lighthouse at the mouth of the river. The mouth of the river is very marshy. I enjoy reading the 'Messenger' very much. The temperance part I enjoy especially. My mother has read the 'Witness' for twenty years. She had it sent her when she lived in Glasgow. I was much interested in the Spanish-American war and the Anglo-Egyptian war.

ERNEST C., aged 12.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

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