



I am Not That Man.

Dr. Taylor, during his visit to Ireland some years ago, was dining with a merchant at Sligo. He had eight beautiful children. He had his wines and brandy on the table, and, of course, asked me to drink, and I had to give my reasons for declining. This gave me an opportunity to put in a little temperance, and while I was making my little speech by way of apology, I made this remark: 'I would like to see the man who could truthfully say, "No relative or friend of mine ever fell through intemperance."' I saw that this had struck him; his knife and fork fell from his grasp, and he remained silent for some seconds.

"Well," said he at length, "I am not that man. My first Sunday school superintendent was a man of genial spirit and noble mien. He entered the wine trade, and died a drunkard before he was forty. My first class leader, I believe, was a good, intelligent, useful man; but he too, yielded to the habit of intemperance, and died a drunkard. My own father suffered through intemperance."

"Yes," I exclaimed, "and you yourself are spreading before your friends and your children the instruments of death which slew your first Sunday school superintendent, your first class leader, and your father. The very rope with which they were hung you are adjusting to catch your children. I cannot afford to put my head into such a halter as that."—Selected.

Temperance Teaching in Day Schools in the United Kingdom.*

(Mr. Charles Wakely, in the 'Temperance Leader and League Journal'.)

(Concluded.)

"To avoid beer and spirits, which are bad for them and stop their growth."

"A gallon of beer contains not much more nourishment than a lump of sugar."

"It is easy to poison one's self with beer, as people do when they get drunk."

"Beer, therefore, is very dangerous. Spirits, such as gin, whisky, and brandy, are far more dangerous than beer."

"Beer and spirits are always bad for children."

"There is another point that everyone ought to remember about beer and drinks of this kind. The more you drink, the more you want to drink."

"Everyone knows that, apart from the risk of disease, people who drink too much beer or spirits are likely to become slovenly, to lose control of their good character, and to neglect their duty. Regular employment and wages are lost, so that many others who depend on those wages for their home and living will suffer, in addition to those who actually drink."

"For all these reasons, beer, spirits, or wine, are by far the most dangerous things that people are ever likely to drink."

I venture to think that these extracts, coming from a Blue-Book issued by the Education Board, are a striking proof of the growth of knowledge on the subject, and of the

Advance of Temperance Sentiment

during the past few years.

Coupled with the syllabus, the Board of Education has suggested that the instruction in this subject should be given by the ordinary class teachers.

To this, however, many teachers have taken exception, urging the already over-burdened time-table and the multiplicity of subjects they have to master and teach. It has been

*An address delivered at a meeting of teachers and friends of education at Kendal.

suggested by them that the work should be continued as heretofore, on the voluntary principle, the visits of itinerant lecturers being heartily welcomed, as not interfering with the general work of the school, and as affording relief and change and suitable treatment of the subject by specialists.

It would be idle, however, for us to assume that the needs of the country are, or can be, entirely met by the teaching given on this comparatively limited and voluntary scale. Unfortunately, notwithstanding all that has been done by the lecturers of the Band of Hope Union and other organizations, a very large number of children must inevitably, under present conditions be without the advantage of teaching as to the nature and effects of alcohol. Hence the importance of the question: To what extent can suitable teaching on the subject in Day Schools be further developed, and what are the lines on which such teaching may be imparted?

To meet the difficulties of hardly-pressed teachers and to ensure that a sufficient amount of Temperance instruction should be given, several county education authorities have solved the matter by appointing lecturers from their own staff, and thus have provided for the work under their own auspices, and at the cost of the local education authority; and this would seem the proper line of development. It is a line which has been indicated by the splendid success which has attended the work of the special lecturers in Day Schools already referred to. These lecturers have been so fortunate as to secure the heartiest sympathy and co-operation alike of teachers, managers, inspectors, and educational authorities; whilst to the children their visits have been occasions of manifest and undoubted

Pleasure, as well as Profit.

There is, therefore, every reason now existing for urging the continuation and the extension on a national scale of this valuable itinerant work. Such extension work would, of course, be best effected by the appointment by the county educational authorities of special lecturers, fully qualified and in thorough sympathy with the teaching to be imparted; but, in cases where committees do not feel at liberty to adopt such a course, I may say that the lecturers of the United Kingdom Band of Hope Union are available for the delivery of suitable object-lessons,—for which it is hoped that many education committees would be willing to provide payment.

Sir John Gorst, whose wide experience as an educationalist is known to all, said at a meeting in London that: The experience of the National Temperance League and of the United Kingdom Band of Hope Union seemed to him to point in the direction of having, for the time being at all events, special teachers who should go about the country giving instruction both to the ordinary school teachers and to scholars in the principles of health, and that, if anything was to be done, the people must press the local educational authorities, because the duty of deciding what is to be taught has been now, by the new Act, practically delegated to such authorities. If, therefore, he says, the local authorities can be induced to appoint teachers, and if Government will provide the material, the apparatus, and the best illustrations that can be made, in order to enable these itinerant teachers to display to the children the real facts of health, the real nature of the abuse of alcohol, and the many other customs and habits of the people which are deleterious to health, there will be a great improvement in the health of the community.

It will, however, be generally felt that the work of itinerant lecturers, however excellent, is not all-sufficient, and that

Regular and Systematic Instruction

by teachers themselves in the schools must be given if real headway is to be made. Sir Victor Horsley, who has worked so splendidly in this behalf, and others, have held that such teaching ought to be given to every child, and should, therefore, form a part of the compulsory education required by the State.

Sir William Broadbent, M.D., F.R.S., in a

letter and circular on behalf of the 15,000 members of the medical profession who signed the memorial before referred to, expressed the hope that the various Education Committees would make provision for the teaching of Hygiene and Temperance 'by the construction of a time-table, whereby less time shall be given to the subjects of geography and history, in order to provide the necessary allotment of time for instruction in the far more essential laws of healthy and temperate living.'

It would appear, therefore, that the most urgent present need is the introduction, in accordance with the suggestions contained in the Memorial of the British Medical Association, of suitable text-books on Hygiene (such as are used in the schools of America), dealing, 'inter alia,' with the subject of the action of alcohol on the human body. A graduated scheme for teaching the subject has already been furnished by the English Education Board, and suitable text-books are, we believe, at present in course of preparation. In this connection the necessity, referred to in the Memorial, of ensuring that the training of teachers should include adequate instruction in the subjects of Hygiene and Temperance needs strongly to be urged.

Religious Notes.

At a recent laymen's meeting of Southern Baptists held in Richmond, Mr. R. E. Breit, president of a Texas oil company, was called upon for an address. He said, 'Brethren, I never made a speech in my life and I can't make one now; but if Brother Willingham (secretary of the missionary society) will send ten men to China, he can send the bill to me.'—'Missionary Review of the World.'

The 'Punjab Mission News' gives statistics of mission hospitals and dispensaries which are startling in their size. In the C. E. Z. Medical Mission at Sukkur, Sindh, in 1906, nearly 9,000 patients were dealt with, and 643 women were visited in their own homes. In Hyderabad, Sindh, last year, nearly 8,000 women and children received medical aid. In the C.M.S. hospital at Srinagar, from November 15 to January 15, there were 5,635 patients' visits; and at Amritsar in the same period 2,346 patients visited the main hospital.

It is noteworthy that the first occasion upon which an Indian Christian woman has been presented in the Oriental costume, and made the Hindu salutation, took place at the recent Court. Miss Das was a pupil in the mission girls' school at Bhowanipore, and she and her parents attended the mission church. Her father entered the London Mission College at Bhowanipore, and was there brought to Christ and baptized. He afterward graduated at Calcutta University, and joined the Congregational body. He has been elected a member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, and is deeply interested in the education and advancement of his fellow countrymen. Miss Das is studying the educational methods of training in this country, in view of the proposed erection of a large college in India for the training of female teachers. Who shall attempt to estimate the results which seem likely to flow from that conversion at Bhowanipore College?—London 'Christian.'

We may for convenience divide this country—in itself a little world—into three main divisions. The Himalayan, the Ganges Basin, and the South Tableland. The population may be roundly stated as 300,000,000, with some 3,000,000 in Christian communities, with 3,000 to 4,000 missionaries, 600,000 native Christians, 93 societies at work, and 300 distinct languages and dialects. It is now just 200 years since evangelical missions began under Ziegenbalg and Plutschau. The population is also mainly divisible into three classes: Hindus, 207,000,000; Moslems, 63,000,000; Buddhists, 9,000,000, and 21,000,000 various other sects. The country is some 1,800 miles broad and long at its greatest measurements. While these numbers are not exact, they are accurate enough for all practical purposes, and may be the more easily borne in mind because they are almost without exception multiples of three.