

THE CAMP FIRE.

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A NEW PLAN OF WISE WORK FOR RICH RESULTS.

BY W.C.T.U.'S—YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES—TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS—AND CHRISTIAN WORKERS GENERALLY.

[We carried prohibition in Maine by sowing the land knee-deep with literature.—NEAL DOW.]

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We have a great horror of arsenic and fifty other things. The fact is that all these things are a mere bagatelle in relation to the most direct, absolute, immediate, and certain poisoning which is caused by alcohol.—James Edmunds, M.D.

WHAT IS WINE?

Wine is mere dirty water, sixteen cups of water pure and simple to one poor cup of a burning, fiery fluid which is called alcohol, together with some little coloring matter, a little acid, a little sugar, and a little cinder-dust.

So throughout the ages men who have called themselves wine-drinkers have been water-drinkers after all. Men who have called themselves wine merchants have been water merchants; men who buy wines at fabulous prices have bought and still are buying water. A dozen of very choice champagne, bought at the cost of five pounds ten shillings (about \$27), consisted when it was all measured out of fifteen pints of fluid, of which thirteen pints and a half were pure water. The rest ardent spirit with a little carbonic acid, some coloring like burnt-sugar, a light flavoring of ether—in almost infinitesimal proportion—and a trace of cinder-dust. Sensible people think that twenty-seven dollars is a heavy sum to pay for thirteen pints of water and one pint and a half of spirit. They can easily show how the man who spent that money could have bought with it as much good food as would have fed him well for a month. He paid, therefore, for the trouble of getting alcohol a very heavy price, a price he would not have paid had he been a wise and prudent man.—Sir B. W. Richardson, M.P.

PROFITS ON BEER.

It costs, we are told, about eighty cents to make a barrel of beer. If the barrel holds forty gallons the cost is two cents a gallon. As there are about twelve ordinary glasses of beer in a gallon, at five cents a glass the yield is sixty cents on the outlay of two. Is it any wonder that the brewers become millionaires and the saloon keepers fat, pompous and saucy?

But how about the man who furnishes the big profits by paying five cents a glass for beer that costs only two cents a gallon? Where does his profit come in? Is there anything in his share in the business which will lay the foundation for becoming a millionaire?

He may increase in avoirdupois and girth, but his purse will decrease in size and weight and the happiness and comfort of his family vanish at the same ratio, if not faster. But that will not prick the conscience of the brewers nor disturb the slumbers of the saloon keeper.—Norfolk Pilot.

DERELICTS.

All along the dim vista of the annals of history lie the wrecked hulks of the hopeless victims of strong drink. The pathway of life from the days of Bacchanalian revelries down to the present generation, is strewn with mournful examples of the conflict with King Intemperance. Myriads, with ruined hopes and shattered frames have paused upon the verge of destruction, uplifted their skinny hands and shrieked forth the fearful warning. Beware!!!—but what influence has it had upon the world's degradation?

Truly Puck was a personified Solomon when he uttered these words: "What fools these mortals be." Meantime the race runs on, and unwary members pet with audacious bravado the glittering scales of the serpent drink, which, when its playfulness is past, will sink its deadly fangs deep in the helpless victim's flesh.

Does it soothe a widowed mother's heart to see the son, whom she has raised in a mother's fondest hope, staggering home in the "wee sma' hours o' the morn" with the foul breath, and the brutal curse of a drunkard! Does drink appease the children's hunger? Does it comfort

the wife's heart, or raise man in his neighbor's estimation, or in his own conscience? Does it ever bring the loving blush of conscious pride in you to the fair cheek of one who loves you. No! a thousand times no!

Brother and sisters, the drink traffic must be outlawed. Prohibition is the only remedy. Direful diseases demand heroic treatment. But the government will not interfere with the revenue producing curse until the people of Canada rise up and put prohibition in every ballot we cast. "Be sure you are right, then go ahead." Prohibition is right, you do not doubt it.

Royal Templars, Sons of Temperance, Good Templars, fathers, mothers, wives and children, rise to right the wrong. Heat the iron to redness, and strike with a vengeance, then you will mould aright the destinies of the future. Then and not till then will you have done your duty to God and man.—W. E. Anderson.

ALCOHOL AND LONGEVITY.

At a recent meeting of the Actuarial Society of America, Mr. Emory McClintock, actuary of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, of New York, read a very interesting paper on the "use and non-use of alcoholic beverages," and its effects on longevity. He says "Upon those who on entering stated that they abstained from alcoholic beverages the maximum expected loss was \$5,455,000, and the actual loss was \$4,251,050. Upon those who stated otherwise the maximum expected loss was \$0,829,402, and the actual loss was \$0,460,407. The abstainers show, therefore, a dead loss of 78 per cent. of the maximum, and the non-abstainers 96 per cent."—National W. C. T. U. Bulletin.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Temperance workers seeking for any special information in reference to the cause, or desirous of advice in relation to law enforcement or other work, are invited to send their inquiries to the office of THE CAMP FIRE. As far as possible such inquiries will be promptly and freely answered.

PRIVATE INFORMATION.

"Subscriber," writes from Bothwell to ask whether or not it is necessary for the informant in case of a liquor law violation to sign his name to the information.

It is not necessary to have information given to a law enforcing officer put in writing, or signed by the informant. On the other hand, the duty of such officers to keep secret the source of their information. The law relating to the matter is set out clearly in clause 130 of the License Act, which reads as follows:

"Every officer appointed under this Act, every policeman, or constable or inspector, shall be deemed to be within the provisions of this Act, and when any information is given to any such officer, policeman, constable, or inspector, that there is cause to suspect that some person is violating any of the provisions of this Act, it shall be his duty to make diligent enquiry into the truth of such information, and enter complaint of such violation before the proper court, without communicating the name of the person giving such information; and it shall be the duty of the crown attorney, within the county in which the offence is committed, to attend to the prosecution of all cases committed to him by an inspector or officer appointed under this Act by the Lieutenant Governor."

RAILWAY AND DRINK.

The fact that employers of labor, in increasing numbers, are requiring abstinence from intoxicating liquors

on the part of those whom they employ, at least while on duty, is suggestive of the economic value of such abstinence, and by implication of the interference of the liquor traffic with the various industries of the country.

The action of the chief railway corporations of the United States and Canada is significant. A leading New York paper, in 1891, addressed letters of inquiry to a large number of railroad superintendents, asking what were their rules in relation to the drink habits of their employees? The replies showed that all the leading roads require absolute total abstinence of all employees while on duty.

Like rules are enforced by Canadian railways. The following is a rule of the Canadian Pacific Railway:—

"The use of intoxicating liquors will be followed by immediate dismissal from the company, and preference will be given to employees who abstain from the use of such altogether."

The general superintendent says: "I consider that the only guarantee of safety for railway companies is to have this rule strictly enforced."

The Intercolonial Railway (under control of the Government of Canada) has the following rules:—

"Only men of known careful and sober habits will be employed in any position affecting the movement of trains. The use of intoxicating liquors when on duty is strictly prohibited. Persons known to indulge freely in intoxicating liquors, or to frequent bar-rooms or places where liquor is sold, will not be kept in the railway service."

"Any employee of the railway who is known to be intoxicated, either when on duty or when off duty, will at once be dismissed from the service."—Minority Royal Commission Report.

THE SERPENT IN THE CUP.

A certain firm manufactures a brand of whisky called "Horn of Plenty." A poet one day noticing the curious name wrote out its meaning in the following lines:

"Plenty of poverty, plenty of pain,
Plenty of sorrow, plenty of shame,
Plenty of broken hearts, hopes
doomed and sealed,
Plenty of graves in the potter's field."

That these are certain results of liquor drinking is evidenced by the almost unanimous testimony of all the great and good men who have ever lived.—Exchange.

THE KEPT THE BUCKET CLEAN.

A writer in an English paper says the following is a true story that actually happened:

A man from the new house near by came in at the alley gate and to the kitchen where a mother was working for the comfort of her family. He asked for a bucket. The men working on the brick wall were thirsty, and he would take them a drink. The bucket was brought. The lady remarking on the discomfort of working in the hot sun that midsummer day, offered to fill the bucket at her well. The water was so cool, men from offices and stores near by often came or sent for water from the well.

Reaching out for the bucket the man declined the water, saying in a friendly tone that the men would like beer better than water—he only wanted a bucket to carry it in. Steadily the bucket was held back as the lady said: "I am sorry, but I cannot loan a bucket of mine for beer. Why, I dare not! I have three boys, and what would they think if I let beer be carried in anything from my kitchen. I am sorry you wanted it for that. Should my boys drink liquor when they are grown they must not say they ever saw beer in anything belonging to their mother not with her consent. Good day." "Good day."—Herald.