

FALSE DRINK THIRST FILLS CAPITAL JAIL

84 Per Cent Increase in Arrests at Washington Due to "Non-Beverages."

Washington, Aug. 31.—The use of hair tonic, flavoring extracts, perfumes, medicines containing alcohol, and even poisonous wood alcohol, for beverage purposes, had a good deal to do with the fact that the number of jail sentences dealt out at the nation's capital for intoxication during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1921, showed an increase of 84 per cent over the previous year, according to the annual report of W. L. Peak, Superintendent of the District Jail. Superintendent Peak described the increase as "an erratic fluctuation in the process of extinction," which local observers declared not such a bad way of putting it, after all. At any rate, there were 1,097 sentenced to jail for drinking more than they could handle, as compared with 841 who didn't get home safely the year before.

"From their low point following the new law the figures are ascending and intoxication for the moment is increasing," reads the Superintendent's report.

"The beverages are new, and most of them are legitimate articles of commerce, but they are being used for purposes never designed by the manufacturer. Hair tonic, flavoring extracts, perfumes, medicines and the poisonous wood alcohol are all being consumed by the old-time victims of a habit which required an act of Congress to cure."

"The increase is due to the fact that younger men have been able to evade the law and have found means of trafficking in salable imitations of old beverages having an alcohol content nearly double that of the other product."

"The enforcement of the law is fully in keeping with the public viewpoint, and the increased violations are probably only an erratic fluctuation in the process of extinction."

"Because the courts took such a determined stand in the matter of frowning upon certain forms of recklessness and defiance of law, good results are already indicated. There were fifty-seven fewer cases of carrying deadly weapons, seventy fewer cases of larceny than last year."

"There were 88 persons sentenced for joy-riding, a decrease of 34. There were 48 committed for murder, a gain of 10 over last year. There are 4 men awaiting execution."

"It has been the accepted belief that the boy safely brought through his teens into the full promise and estate of young manhood has safely passed the fields in which wild oats are grown, and is firmly embarked upon the broad highway of rectitude and right living."

"Because it is so nearly universal, the view is undoubtedly well founded. And yet 1,334 of this year's jail population were between the ages of 20 and 30; more than one-third of all, at the exact time when life should hold for them every inducement to be loyal to the precepts of righteousness."

"It has been so before—other reports disclose it—not the wild care-free age of youth, but the age that leaves a wife and child to hang their heads in shame, in the squalor of privation, because of the misdeeds of a grown man."

"Then on to other years, the arrow points until it passes beyond the sixtieth milestone, and fifty-one men, within the limits of old age, were received. There were 500 of the total under 20, misguided, ignorant, reckless, and their crimes were nearly always more serious than those of men between 40 and 50. In this latter group are found the habitual drunkards, so that they had the total of their generation to 554."

"Twenty to 30 is the age of yielding to temptation," the report concludes, adding, "it is there the ounce of prevention is needed."



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WARNS GIRLS

A Lancet Writer Says Boys' Sport is Too Strenuous for Them.

"Being one of those who maintained that women had a right to the vote and that their advice was most valuable and desirable to public matters, I also held, as most feminists do still, that sex was more or less incidental and that a well-trained woman could do anything a man could, unless, perhaps, when it was a case of exerting sheer physical force," writes Dr. C. Cowdry, principal of the Crouch End High School and College, London, in the Lancet. "I was a keen advocate of all forms of physical culture for girls, the more so as I suffered from neglect in that way myself as a child. Girls were encouraged by me to take up the work of a drill and games mistress. It appearing almost an ideal occupation."

Seemed to Deteriorate.

"The more, however, I came in contact with women who had trained for it the more was I disappointed with the effect of that training upon them. The girls, also, who took up what had been regarded as boys' games, hockey, and even cricket, seemed to deteriorate. They seemed more selfish, more concentrated upon material things and material advantages. The girl of fifteen appeared less a budding woman than an enlarged and accentuated copy of herself at ten years old. She had not risen in the scale of being. There might be an effect of being 'sporting' about her, but actually the girl whose utmost achievement in physical work was to dance or perhaps to fence was quite as honorable and played the game of life at least as well."

As to Grown Women.

"But it was the grown women who made me decide finally against the present system of strenuous sports for girls and realize that the difference between men and women, boys and girls, was not one of education, environment, and opportunity, but was a vital and fundamental one. I knew many women who were physical experts and who prided themselves upon the fact. Few of them had not at some time a more or less serious breakdown. I inquired into the after-careers of many and the results were not encouraging."

"Yet I saw that the young women joining in strenuous games became possessed of hard muscles, a set jaw, flat

chest, and often a hard, aggressive manner and an ungainly carriage. A girl's body is more elastic, more variable, and more easily altered than that of a boy. Nor should it be forgotten that the organs are more easily displaced."

Flat Chest Deformity.

"The attempt to make a boy of the girl has led to the cult of the 'boyish' figure with undeveloped breast. Broad elastic bandages are now worn around the chest to produce an unnatural flatness, while drugs are also taken, I am told, for the same purpose. It is unnecessary to say how dangerous are such

deformity in a well-grown and developed young woman."

"So much for their appearance. But the health of these athletic women is often more apparent than real. They frequently suffer from nerves (manifested in irritable tempers), from heart trouble, from some form of rheumatism, or from displacement of some kind."

"When there is any unaccustomed strain upon them they do not seem able to meet it. Their marriages are often childless. 'I have been sorry to see the physical inferiority of children of sporting mothers, they often being nervous, and

the mother becoming so as well sometimes. They compare badly with the stalwart sons many a slight feminine woman produced in Victorian days."

"The attitude of these women to life is frequently not a normal one. Their mentality is not healthy."

"Unwillingly I have been convinced by the logic of experience. Strenuous games I believe had for the woman and worse for the girl. And the sooner it is realized that the differences between the sexes are profound and vital and that these differences are accentuated and not lessened by evolution, the better

for humanity. Let it be recognized that the present cult is a retrogression, and the young girl have placed before her the ideal of true womanhood, of all the qualities that make for motherhood; so that, whether she has her own family or finds happiness in some sphere, she realize it is her gift of 'mothering' that makes her of value in the world."

"You say your laundry woman reminds you of a good preacher?" "Yes. She's always bringing things home to me that I never saw before"—Edinburgh Scotsman.

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