

phlet I have already quoted tells us that none of our labors are indispensable unless it be the helot labor of digging coal for the industry of Spain, Switzerland and Italy. The crushing of Britain is regarded as a thing desirable in itself, quite apart from the political advantages which might accrue thereby either to the world at large or to Germany. But in their innumerable plans for our partition and abasement, there is always an uncertain sound in the blast of the Berlin trumpet. Little that is tangible can be gathered from the welter of pamphlets and inextinguishable hatred. We gather some faint glimmering of the fate in store for France when the German legions enter Paris, we know that the destiny of Belgium is to be struck from the map, but when it comes to England, the inflamed Superman only shakes his fist at us in incoherent rage, and seems unable to make up his mind about the fate in store for us."

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The war already has had its heartening compensations. Among these it has added largely to the ranks of the prohibitionists. Men have been seen declaiming against the fanaticism of the narrow teetotallers. There is Rudyard Kipling for instance, who a year or two ago looked with contempt, on those who would deny the rich man his wine, and the poor, dear workman his beer. He was not one likely to undergo conversion, but he has come through the process all the same. Here is the way his change of front came about:

"The other sight of the evening was a horror. The little tragedy played itself out at a neighboring table, where two very young women were sitting. It did not strike me till far into the evening that the pimply young reprobates were making the girls drunk. They gave them red wine and then white, and the voices rose slightly with the maiden's cheek flushes. I watched, wishing to stay, and the youths drank till their speech thickened and their eyeballs grew watery. It was sickening to see, because I knew what was going to happen. My friend eyed the group and said:

"Maybe they're children of respectable people. I hardly think, though, they'd be allowed out without any better escort than these boys. And yet the place is a place where everyone comes, as you see. They may be—

"And they were all four children of sixteen and seventeen. Then, recanting previous opinions, I became a prohibitionist. Better it is that a man should himself with swearing at the narrow-mindedness of the majority; better it is to poison the inside with very vile temperance drinks, and to buy lager furiously at back-doors, than to bring temptation to the lips of young fools such as the four I had seen. I understood now why the preachers rage against drink. I have said: 'There is no harm in it, taken moderately'; and yet my own demand for beer helped to send those two girls reeling down the dark street to—God alone knows what end."

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I see the Halifax Herald, hitherto held to have no hard side to the U. M. W., is content to use a phrase I quoted in last issue, and to admit that between the P. W. A. and U. M. W. there was a great gulf fixed. I wonder if the Herald and the public generally have realized the wideness of the gulf, and the causes of its width. The U. M. W., as an organization, has but one object, and that increased wages for its members. The P. W. A. on the other hand has other objects, either of them almost as important as the question of wages, if it may not be said, really as important if not more so. One of the "charges" of the P. W. A. to its members, condensed into a couple of lines, is "He who gets does much; He who keeps does more." That means that thrift is the corollary of industry and indeed ranks before it. And thrift includes sobriety, while these incite the desire for the things that tend to uplift and betterment. One of the present leaders of the U. M. W. was at one time a member of the P. W. A.

At a lodge meeting the subject of overindulgence was being discussed, when this leader shouted that the lodge had no business to discuss such a subject, or indeed, social or moral questions. The P. W. A. was being discussed when it included among its objects the education of its members. Here is an extract which emphasizes the stand taken by the P. W. A.:

"Even purely social questions require the solution of the education question. There have been few things more disappointing than the slowness of the working-class organizations to appreciate its practical importance. It is forgotten that it is educated people who most steadily refuse to live in slums or to take to strong drink. If we wish really to solve the questions of housing, of wages, of temperance, we must begin by educating our democracy. It is sad to read in certain labor newspapers the doctrine that the relations of labor to capital can really be improved before the possession of a trained mind has ceased to remain the monopoly of the rich. And the fewer trained minds there are the higher the price they will command for their monopoly of knowledge. The way of general education is, therefore, the way of democracy. No problem can take priority of this, because equality of education is, and in the long run always will be, a condition of social equality."

"Education to be really valuable must constitute not a mere means to an end, but an end in itself. It must carry in its train the advances we require in capacity for skilled work and in applying knowledge to industrial processes. Ability in invention and in research cannot be produced ad hoc. They are rather the outcome of what is wider still and has wider ends in view. A training more generous —more generous in the gifts it can bestow, both intellectual and spiritual—is what is essential. Without this high aim we shall not succeed in the effort that is required if we are to hold our own morally as well as materially."

WOMEN ARE THE BOYS.

Over 2000 women are engaged as conductors by the London General Omnibus Co., in addition to over 500 employed in the garages at washing and cleaning and other work.