

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEP. 9, 1905.

In the Temperance Field.

By Frederick M. Brooks
(Special Correspondence Boston Transcript.)

OXFORD, Eng., Aug. 18.—Americans will remember the shock of surprise in our country when the Subway Tavern was opened under the auspices and sanction of Bishop Potter. Not only in Norway and Sweden, but even in conservative England, something like the same scheme on a larger and wider scale has been carried on for a number of years, and in the opinion of those most interested, has justified its claims for existence. This English association includes among its officers bishops and members of the nobility and representative business men. But it is democratic and inclusive. It is active in seeking the cooperation of the general public on business but not on charitable lines. Any person who is interested enough to pay £1 for a share of stock can become a member and have the right to vote at the general meetings. The association has been successful financially in that for the last six years it has paid its dividend of five per cent.—and out of surplus profits gives quite a sum besides to public utility.

At the second meeting of the Social Economic section of the University Extension course at Oxford, the nature of this kind of work was very aptly presented by the Earl of Lytton, who is the chairman of the "Public House Trust" in England. In passing it may interest the readers of the Transcript to know that the lecturer, a man of about thirty years of age, is a grandson of the first Lord Lytton, the famous novelist. He is married to a daughter of Sir Trevor Chichester-Clark, a lady highly regarded in London on account of her intelligence, grace and clearness. The Earl of Lytton admitted at the outset that the plan and programme adopted by the Public House Trust did not claim to be a complete solution of all the problems involved, nor are its methods perfected and final. It is in the nature of an experiment which must prove its worth by actual results. But it is more than a charitable experiment in that it makes no appeal for funds, but carries on its work according to business principles. It is not an enterprise of a purely ethical nature which must wait in patience for the accomplishment of a faraway ideal. It faces present conditions and makes use of opportunities now open.

The legal name of this "trust" is the "People's Refreshment House Association, Ltd." Its general purpose is to acquire public houses, taverns, inns and cantinas, and then manage them in the best possible manner. When the opportunity offers, it buys or hires houses with established trade or when need requires it builds up new houses on its own account. Up to the present time most of the places taken over from the owners have been what would be called "second-class" rather than "high-class." While it has to obtain its licenses from the Government in the same way and under the same conditions as all other holders, and while it

FILL UP THE GLASS
Fill up the cup, the bowl, the glass,
With wine and spirits bright.
And drink in revelry's swelling strain,
To Vice and Misery.
Push round the draught again,
And drink the goblet dry.
In one loud round of Glee and Crime,
And Grim's last Punishment.
Fill full again! fill to the brim,
To loss of honor's gain.
Quaff—deeper quaff—while now we drink
Our wives and children's shame!
Push round and round with loudest cheer
Of mirth and revelry;
We drink to women's sighs and tears,
And children's poverty!
Once more, while power shall yet remain,
E'en with its latest breath,
Drink to ourselves—disease and pain,
And infancy and death. (For Drinkers.)
—Anonymous.

MUST WEAR THEIR HATS

Remarkable Statement By An English Vicar on Head-Wear.

Cranston Church in England is closed against Newquay visitors because the ladies of Newquay have been coming into the Cranston church without hats. Hence the vicar's order closing the church except during service time. Hence also his solemn declaration to his Sunday congregation:

"I announce with much regret that this church will remain closed except at service time, except at hours of divine service. I have written what I have to say lest anything should be spoken hastily. Some grave protest appears to have been made. I have written what I have to say lest the reverence due to God in His house and those ordinary signs of it which Christians are supposed to have been instructed from their childhood. Until quite recently to all but the very lowest grades of women, it has seemed unbecoming that they should walk in public uncovered. Consequently all were prepared, as a matter of course, without immodesty or irreverence, to enter the presence of Almighty God. In certain cases this is no longer so, and if there is really any sensible change of opinion among unreasonable and well behaved people as to what is becoming in women out of doors, there is no change in the customs of the Cranston Church or the demands of Christian reverence in the house of God.

"Women must, therefore, remember when out of doors that they are not, as formerly, necessarily in a proper condition to enter the house of God, and they must make a point now of observing that custom which has never hitherto been questioned because no serious occasion arose. During three seasons I have been calling attention to this matter with little or no result. This grossly ignores reverence increases, and the strongest protest is needed to call attention to it. The house of God is, therefore, closed during the week at least, for all purposes except those of His holy service. To remain as it ought, His holy house of prayer and worship, it is closed against the irreverent and profane, who have no right to enter it. It is not beyond words that such a protest be needed. You will understand that this church and its minister may have considerably by this necessity the aims contributed by the more reverent visitors. It would be wicked and shocking to let such considerations hinder the needful assertion of the holiness of this place, and that it exists for the worship and glory of God and for the com-

ENGLAND'S SUBWAY TAVERN

The Success of the Public House Trust Saloon—The Earl of Lytton, Chairman of the Trust, Explains the System to the Oxford University Summer Students—The Opposition to It is Mainly from the Liquor Interests.

has to meet the competition of the general trade of its own ground, its aim is to eliminate the element of private profit and lessen the artificial inducements which tend toward overindulgence. If men must drink, let them have that drink under the most wholesome conditions. The association recognizes the place which the public house holds in England as a popular club and meeting place for the working-man and it aims to make the houses under its control places, which will allow for personal liberty and freedom, but which will be attractive enough in the right way to minimize the bad effects which sometimes attend the ordinary saloon. The general arrangement of each house are along the line of a well-kept restaurant or refreshment rather than a drinking bar. Wholesome food and a good variety of lighter drinks are placed about plain light and are as easily accessible as beer or spirits. Fresh filtered drinking water is placed always on hand in the saloon and garden, and customers are at liberty to make their thirst without being expected to make a purchase. Gambling or games of chance for money are allowed on the premises. I will give here the names of a few of these houses and the places where they do business. The Waterman's Arms, Bankside, near Blackfriars station, London; Haro and Round, at Burnham, Berks; Red Lion, at Lacock, Chippenham; The Rose and Crown, at Farnborough; The Old Duck, at Calverhill, Whitechurch; The Green Man, at Tunstall, Suffolk; and The Hop Pole Inn at Harlow.

The whole question of general reform along these lines has always been a rather delicate matter to handle. But public opinion is causing changes. The common custom of ladies leaving the dining table dates from the earlier days—when it was the habit of men to see how much they could drink. But now such practices are exceptional and bring disgrace on those concerned. There is the danger, however, of interfering with individual rights and there are such large vested interests at stake that it is obviously impossible for the State to do much more than exercise a general supervision. Under these conditions whatever reform is necessary must be left to general public opinion and private initiative.

In 1901 the Bishop of Chester introduced a bill into the House of Lords with the purpose in view of giving different localities the right and power to run public houses along with the right to trial at Gresham and other places in Norway and Sweden. But because of the fear of encroachment on individual rights and because of the natural and reasonable dislike of having the government enter into such matters in this way, this bill was defeated. But in 1902, under the leadership of the Bishop of Chester and Colonel Cranford, an association was formed with the Duke of Westminster as president. While this association made some definite progress and did some work, it did not extend very far and achieved only a fair amount of success. It was due to the Right Honorable Earl Grey (now Governor-General of Canada) the Public House Trust received the great impetus that has made its work so successful in the last five years. This gentleman became interested in this movement in the following way: The people of the mining village of Broomhill, Morpeth, on his estate at Northumberland, arrived at the conclusion that they needed a public house in their town and so they went to Lord

Grey, with the request that he would make application for a license. This he did. But when he learned that this license was worth at least £10,000 and that he could sell it at any time for that sum, he became convinced that a monopoly of such value should not be given without recompense to any individual. So he offered the license to the Public House Trust, to be used by its officials, along the lines of general public interest. Having thus had occasion to become acquainted with the situation, Lord Grey continued to take an active interest in the movement. He started the scheme of local county companies in connection with the central or parent system. And by his influence and work has helped to extend the movement widely throughout the country. The "Grey Arms," the first public house built expressly to be managed by the "Trust" system, was opened in 1901 and has since been a local company in every county in England except eight. While the general principles are to be observed, each company has the right to make its own specific regulations and by-laws. The total number of houses under trust control is now upwards of 170 and others are being acquired at the rate of nearly one a week.

A good deal is expected from the personal influence of the managers or keepers. They are carefully chosen and receive a fixed salary. While it is aimed to encourage the sale of food and light drinks, it is also considered essential to keep each place free from such burdensome regulations and restrictions as might frighten away the very class for whose betterment the scheme was originated. The managers are allowed a commission on the sale of food, tea, coffee and what are called temperance drinks, but are debarred from any percentage of profits on the sale of alcoholic liquors.

All surplus profits after the payment of five per cent. dividends to shareholders and a provision towards a reserve or sinking fund are used for public improvements and general welfare. But in no way can any of the profits be used to offset the local taxes or "poor-rates," as for instance in the case in Sweden. Nor can the surplus profits be used for any other public object generally met by the public taxes. For this might be put forward as an excuse for the liquor habit and might stimulate such a public interest in the trade as to be even worse in its results than private interest. So the surplus profits are expended in counter attractions: bowling-green, educational lectures and social meetings places. When there is a real need, they are also used for village nurses, local charities, hospitals and other like purposes, not usually met by the regular rates and taxes.

The managers are expected to make their places attractive in every legitimate and wholesome way. They must keep them orderly and scrupulously clean and well ventilated. To guarantee efficiency in this and other matters, a series of inspections is carried out, which applies to all the houses managed by the association. An annual survey, every house at uncertain times, tests the quality of the food and drink, goes over the whole house—cellar, out-house and stable to see that they are clean and in good order, and then makes an official report to the council. The keepers are expected to look upon themselves as public servants. They must try to know their customers personally and study their comfort and well-being. They

A CATHOLIC MOVEMENT

Directed by the Pope, to Organize a Political Party.

(Boston Transcript.)

ROME, Sept. 5.—Following the instructions of Pope Pius X., there will be held next week in Florence a meeting to discuss ways and means for conducting a large organized campaign among Italian Catholics, the object of which will be to look after the Catholic vote in future elections and to send Catholic representatives to Parliament. Representatives of all Catholic organizations will be present at this meeting, which will be held under the direction of the archbishop, with Count Medag-Albani, one of the three men appointed by the Pope to take charge of the electoral movement among Catholics in Italy according to the last encyclical, as president. A principal question to be discussed will be the possibility of creating a Catholic party in the Italian Parliament, instead of continuing the arrangement entered into with the monarchial moderates at the last municipal elections, which provides co-operation for the purpose of defeating the Socialists and Extremists.

It is said that the pope does not personally wish for the establishment, at the present time, of a Catholic party in the Legislative Assembly, as he feels that the Catholic vote is not yet strong enough to obtain a majority of the representatives, and that with a minority in Parliament, Catholics could do little. It may be the pontiff's desire that the plan be carried even to the minutest detail, as absolutely perfect as they can be done, and keep pushing on regardless of trials and obstacles toward that goal he has set for himself. The reward cannot elude him.

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THE EVENING TIMES

THE WISE GOOSE

It is said that a goose drinks a hundred times a day. But he isn't such a goose as to do his drinking in the liquor saloon.

The man who has learned the priceless habit of never slighting his work, of always doing to a finish whatever he undertakes, has a perpetual tonic.—O. S. Hard-