



Catechism for Little Water-Drinkers.

(Julia Colman, in National Temperance Society, New York.)

LESSON VI.—FERMENTED LIQUORS.

1. What are Fermented Liquors?

Those that are made by the decay of the sugar in sweet liquids.

2. What are the names of those we have talked about?

Ciders and wines of all sorts.

3. Name some other common fermented drinks.

All kinds of beer are fermented liquors.

4. From what is beer made?

Mostly from the juices of barley and other grain.

5. How do they get the juices of grain?

By soaking it in water.

6. How does this make a sweet liquid?

It makes the grain sprout and turn sweet.

7. What is it called when so sprouted?

It is called malt.

8. What else is put in to make beer?

Hops are put in to make it bitter and yeast to make it ferment.

9. What does this fermentation always make?

It makes alcohol in all kinds of beer.

Scientific Temperance Catechism.

(By Mrs. Howard Ingham, Secretary Non-Partizan W. C. T. U., Cleveland, Ohio.)

LESSON VI.—ALCOHOL.

1. Of what natural drinks did you learn in the last lesson?

Of water and milk, which are natural drinks because they perfectly satisfy natural thirst without doing the body any harm.

2. What else do people sometimes drink?

Many people drink beer and wine and whiskey.

3. Are these natural and useful drinks?

No, they are unnatural and harmful.

4. What is there in all these drinks that does harm?

Alcohol.

5. What do we know about alcohol? Did God make it?

No. It is not found in anything that God has made, but is made in the death and decay of his good things.

6. Of what is wine made?

Of the juice of grapes or of berries.

7. But is not this juice good for us?

Yes, if taken just as soon as pressed out, or while still in the fruit.

8. How does the fresh juice taste?

It has a delicious, sweet taste.

9. What gives it its sweetness.

Sugar, which is in every ripe fruit.

10. If the juice is allowed to stand, what happens?

Soon little bubbles appear on the top of the juice, and the taste is changed.

11. What makes the change?

The sugar of the juice goes to pieces and its parts make other substances.

12. Can you explain this more fully?

Yes; the sugar is made up of three different things which grown-up people call carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. Put together in a certain way these three things make the sugar, and the sugar remains just as it is while the juice is shut up in the fruit.

13. What happens when the juice is pressed out?

Then the three elements that make the sugar are free to go where they please, and they like better to arrange themselves in a different way. So they run away from each other; and part of them make water, and part alcohol, and part make a gas that bubbles up on top of the juice.

14. Then if you see the bubbles on top what do you know has happened?

That the sugar has broken up, and there is alcohol down in the juice.

15. Is alcohol formed when the fruit decays on the ground?

No. Alcohol is not made when the fruit decays naturally. Then the whole fruit breaks up and gradually passes away. But when the juice is set free from the solid part of the fruit—as it never is unless somebody presses it out—then the free sugar in its decay makes alcohol.

16. Is alcohol, then, made in the life of the fruit?

No. Alcohol is made only in its death and decay.

17. Is alcohol found in other drinks besides wine?

Yes, in all the drinks we have mentioned; in cider, beer, whiskey, brandy and gin.

18. How does alcohol come in cider?

Just the same as in wine. The apple juice has no alcohol in it when first pressed from the fruit, but almost immediately the sugar in it begins to break up, and alcohol is formed, as we can see from the bubbles rising on the top of the juice.

19. How does it come in the beer?

Beer is made from grain, which is very largely made of starch. Starch contains the very same three elements that sugar has, only differently put together. When the grain is moistened it sprouts, and when it sprouts the starch is changed to sugar.

20. And then what is done?

Then the grain is heated so the sprouts, or tiny plants, will not grow any more, and then it is soaked in water to wash out the sugar. Then when the sweet water is left standing the sugar breaks up just as in the wine, and alcohol is made.

21. What have you now learned about alcohol?

That God never made it in any of his beautiful works; that it is only made by death and decay; and that when bubbles come on top of fruit juice there is alcohol in the juice.

Hints to Teachers.

Only very simply is it needful to teach the children the change in fruit juices and in grain by which alcohol is produced. Do NOT teach them so minutely as to rouse a desire for experimenting as has sometimes been unfortunately done. Just a few facts we have tried to make so clear that the children can never forget them; that there is no alcohol in living nature; that it is produced by decay, and only then when man interferences with natural decay; and that the moment the bubbles of gas appear on the top we may know there is alcohol in the juice. This last fact should be carefully impressed, the temptation to take the delicious cider is so strong. Bring the children to know absolutely that no fruit juice on which the bubbles are seen is 'sweet,' as they sometimes so longingly maintain.

Cigarettes in the West.

The war on the cigarette is beginning again with renewed vigor. Many of our states have laws prohibiting the sale of cigarettes to minors, or to youths under sixteen, but the laws are seldom enforced. Recently a bill has been introduced in the Illi-

nois legislature prohibiting the manufacture and sale of cigarettes. Such laws may not be passed as yet, but they are sure to come before long. A writer in the Winona Republican calls attention to the necessity for stricter legislation.

Recently a leading business man of this city stated in a public assembly that within a short time two young men of his own acquaintance had died of disease superinduced by the cigarette habit. This scribe followed to the grave not long since a young man of rare gifts and noblest ambition, whose untimely death was a grief to many. There is scarcely a community without such sad instances. The chemicals used in preparing the paper to burn slowly, combining with the opiates and nicotine of the materials within, make a most insidious and penetrating poison. Wherever the weakest part of the system, from heredity or from exacting strain, may be found, there stealthily and forcefully this dangerous combination of poisonous ingredients bombards the citadel. This habit is becoming the mightiest foe of physical and mental strength.

The Improvement Needed.

An increase of leisure and treasure for the masses will not bring in the Golden Age unless the use of the liquor which defiles and degrades be abandoned. Let us strive to secure a sober democracy, and whatever there may be of good in any scheme of any party will be the more readily perceived and more intelligently endorsed than it ever can be by a nation which puts 'an enemy into its mouth to steal away its brains.' Patriots are not bred in tap-rooms, reformers are not reared on beer and whisky. Intoxicating liquor is dangerous because of its alcoholic nature; its effects are not modified by the conditions of its sale, the motives of the seller, or the character of the drinker. When used at all, its tendency is to create an appetite for more; and whether sold by a municipal servant or a privileged monopolist and swallowed by a Socialist or an Individualist its use never tends to the health or sanity or abiding happiness of the nation. In palace and cottage, in colleges and workshops, alike in ancient and modern days, alcohol has ever been the foe of prosperity and progress, and the most useful combination which the closing years of the nineteenth century could witness would be a union of all that is best in all parties for the purpose of crushing this 'enemy of the race.'—Wm. Pearson.

The Archbishop of Canterbury On Temperance.

In reply to an address presented to him by a deputation representing various temperance organizations at a recent mass-meeting held in the interests of education, the Archbishop of Canterbury referred to the remarkable advances made in this reform during the past generation. The cause of temperance, he declared, had never gone back in Great Britain, but, on the contrary, had succeeded in winning one class of society after another, the conversion of the medical profession being one of the greatest victories won by the pertinacity of the temperance reformers. A marked indication of success was to be found in the fact that while ridicule was perhaps stronger in its effect in England than anything else, temperance people had lived it down, and he looked forward to the time when the tables would be entirely turned and ridicule employed in favor of temperance instead of against it. What the cause now requires is perseverance. 'That we have made and are making solid progress,' he concluded, 'is proof that we have had God's blessing in the work, and may that still lead us to further efforts for the future.'—Union Signal.