

Temperance Talk

Thou Shalt not Steal

Thou shalt not steal thy brother's bread.
Thou greedy one, whose love doth hold
Thee not in check from wronging him
Who stands beside thee through the day
Of toil and of accomplishment
The law of God speaks thus to all
Whose hands are not restrained by love.
Thou shalt not steal thy brother's bread,
The law of man speaks thus to all
Who unrestrained would seize the food
From the unwary or the weak—
The law of man so speaks, but adds
The shameful, damning clause,
"Except ye with me shalt divide,
The pilfered food. If thou shalt steal
Not bread alone, but raiment, joy,
And even sacred life, from all.
The weak and young shall be thy prey,
If with thy country thou 'he spoil
Will share." O, bitter poverty,
That makes this clause hold in our law!
The cattle on a thousand hills
Are God's. His law is true and clean.
My country, in its poverty, must needs
Drain blood from out the weak and
young
To make it strong and rich and great.

for the last twenty years at least, temperance and total abstinence have been systematically taught. The earnest workers of the East have realized that before they could get prohibition the people must be educated to it, and accordingly began to lay a sure foundation.

Now, how is the educational process along that line going on in the West? Through the medium of the press there is much being done, but in the schools of Alberta and Saskatchewan there is nothing being done. When we consider that our Western population is made up of people from various other countries, each with their own prejudices, how difficult then must the problem of prohibition appear? It is surprising when one converses with different people to find how many believe that alcoholic beverages are beneficial, in the sense of a food. A large percentage of these people have come from countries where they have been accustomed to drink from childhood as part of their daily food. What amount, then, of convincing proof would be needful to make that class give up their ideas that have been growing



Emperor Falls, Mount Robson Park, on G.T.P. Railway.

O, God of Nations! Give us wealth
Of soul to make our law like thine.
Give us such makers of the law
As will not shame our land before
Thee, nor before the world of nations,
Nor yet before a little child
Who may look to it for succor.

An Anti-Treating Law Would be an Aid to Prohibition

Written for The Western Home Monthly

What are the chances for Western Canada becoming a prohibition state? That the dream of the great army of temperance workers will be realized is very probable, but the question is—When, and how? Will it be in this generation, or will it be the next? Many temperance workers are very optimistic, and believe they will soon have the victory. Perhaps if someone would venture the opinion that few of the present workers would see the day, they would say he was pessimistic and no friend of prohibition. But is he, when we consider all the strength, force and arts of the enemy? Are the Western provinces as near prohibition as the eastern, and, if not, why and what are the additional difficulties in the West?

To answer the latter part of the question we must compare the people and their attitude towards prohibition. For instance, in Ontario the prohibitionists are dealing with people who have, generally speaking, been brought up in that province and been through schools where,

in them from childhood? While this class will not agree that prohibition is desirable, it is not hard to get any of them to acknowledge that the treating system is an abomination. The writer has heard on more than one occasion very strong anti-prohibitionists say they would support an anti-treating system if it were introduced.

Such a measure would, in the writer's opinion, very much advance the cause of prohibition, because, if the treating to alcoholic beverages were stopped it would rob the traffic of a great deal of its money interest. And I think we are all agreed that the greed of gold is a very strong factor in keeping it in the field. If a blow can be struck through reducing profits, then the victory is nearly won.

In a great many cases men drink because someone invites them. What really makes drinking men poor? Is it the money he spends for the whisky he consumes himself, or is it what he uses treating companions? Undoubtedly it is the latter. Then why should not steps be taken to prevent this? In other provinces and states this is being advocated, and why not in the West?

Onlooker.

Thankful For One Thing.

"Whew!" sniffed the dray horse, as a smoking motor car rushed by. "I have some faults, I know; but, thank goodness, I never learned to smoke!"

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