

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT IN ENGLAND

Reverend James M. Reardon, in an article in the June number of the Catholic World Magazine, discusses the temperance movement in England at length. We reproduce the following introductory paragraphs:

"At the beginning of the present century Justin McCarthy wrote as follows in the Independent: 'I am glad to learn that the reign of the new King is to see a fresh and most important effort made for the promotion of some legislative action in the cause of temperance.' This statement was, no doubt, evoked by the following paragraph in the King's speech to the first Parliament that assembled after his accession to the throne: 'Legislation has been prepared, and if the time at your disposal should prove to be adequate, will be laid before you, for the prevention of drunkenness in licensed houses or public places.' This explicit promise of temperance reform has to some extent been fulfilled, and as it is but one phase of a national awakening that augurs well for the cause of sobriety, it may be of interest to consider the present status of the liquor question in England, and review some of the more important steps that have been taken to remedy the deplorable condition of English society due to drink.

About twenty-five years ago Canon Farrar declared that "the national sin of England is drunkenness; the national curse of England is drink." And those who are in a position to know the true state of affairs in England to-day reiterate this statement. Notwithstanding the efforts put forth during these years to better the conditions of the people, they have not as yet been thoroughly aroused to an appreciation of the dangers that beset them because of this evil. The chains of bondage forged by the task-master, Alcohol, on the slaves of intemperance, have become more galling year by year and threaten to destroy the life of the nation itself. The victims of this degrading habit are almost hopelessly ensnared in the meshes of a web woven with consummate skill—a criminal craving that can with difficulty be banished from the land. High and low, rich and poor, prince and peasant, have fallen victims to its imperious sway; and it will require years of persevering, uplifting effort to banish from the homes of the people this spectre of ruin and death that has gorged itself with the life-blood of so many of the sons and daughters of once merry England.

The struggle against this crying evil is destined to be a long and fiercely waged one, for the enemy has at its command almost unlimited resources. King Alcohol will not be worsted without a contest such as perhaps, England has never witnessed even in the days when mighty armies threatened her very existence.

It is a well known fact that, "next to the agricultural interests, the liquor trade represents the largest and wealthiest interests in England." The tens of thousands of people who are interested either directly or indirectly in this trade have at their command enormous capital; and those who are actively engaged in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating beverages are banded together in determined opposition to every effort that may be made to place restrictions on their business. They have representatives in all parts of the country to watch the trend of public opinion and to devise means for the safeguarding of their interests. Many of the prominent people of England, who would not think of engaging openly in the liquor business, do not hesitate to invest their money in breweries and distilleries. The influence of their position and wealth is, therefore, given to those who are benefited by the spread of intemperance, and must be reckoned with in every attempt to create a public sentiment in favor of sobriety.

The dawn of the new century witnessed a renewal of the agitation in favor of legislative action to restrict the drink evil; and pressure has been brought to bear upon the members of both houses of parliament, urging them to take measures towards this end. In our own days, as in the days of Cobden, thinking men are convinced that "the temperance reform lies at the very basis of all social and political reform." The people of England are very anxious to see the government do whatever is possible to remove temptation from the pathway of the weak, and thus diminish the horrors of the drink

traffic. Some months ago the London Tablet said: "There is a growing impatience all over the country with the present condition of the drink traffic, and an almost unanimous conviction that the people should at least be protected from what may be described as artificial incitements to drink, and this can be done only by absolutely eliminating from the traffic the element of private gain."

The country will no longer be satisfied with promises. The members of parliament must show by their deeds that they are in earnest in their desire to do the will of their constituents. There are few people who believe, as Lord Salisbury did, that "the drink problem lies beyond the power of Parliament," and that it is a matter that should be regulated by the public opinion of the community.

'Tis scarcely possible to make men sober by act of Parliament; but much may be done by legislative enactment to lessen the opportunities for over-indulgence. "It is a mere mockery to ask us to put down drunkenness by moral and religious measures when the legislature facilitates the multiplication of the incitements to intemperance on every side. Let the legislature do its part and we will answer for the rest." So spoke Cardinal Manning a third of a century ago, and his words may, with profit, be brought to the attention of legislators in our own times. Human nature has not changed; and human desires cannot be repressed by repeated gratifications. If England does not soon control the liquor traffic, she will be dominated by it.

A work published at the close of the nineteenth century, and entitled The Temperance Problem and Social Reform, by Rowntree and Sherwell, gives some idea of the strength, numerical and financial, of the liquor element in England. According to this work, which takes its statistics as far as possible from reports furnished by the trade, the total amount expended for drink in the United Kingdom during the year 1899 was \$810,817,370, that is to say, nearly one and a half times the national revenue, or a sum equal to all the rents of all the houses and farms in the Kingdom. This amount was poured into the coffers of the manufacturers and dispensers, and represents the annual receipts of a business in which \$1,150,000,000 were invested and in which 7727 brewers and distillers were licensed to furnish the beer, whiskey, etc., consumed. Out of this trade Great Britain derives an annual revenue from excise and customs of about \$165,000,000.

The capital invested in the liquor industry is not in the hands of a few but widely distributed among the people, the object being to get as many as possible interested in the production and distribution of alcoholic beverages. Thus, for instance, in five large brewing companies there are 16,604 shareholders. Not only are women not averse to owning stock in these concerns, but they are, in one company at least—that controlled by Guinness—more numerous than the men. Next to them in number come peers and titled persons, then doctors and clergymen. None of these, it may be assumed, are in the business for the good it can do to anyone, but themselves. By reason of these associations, and business connections they are personally interested in resisting any interference detrimental to the trade, because it would tend to lower their annual dividends. Brewers and distillers, as well as liquor dealers, are organized for mutual benefit, for the furtherance of their own interests by every possible means, and especially by electing to Parliament men who are at least not opposed to the liquor traffic. This insures immunity from odious legislative restrictions. Justin McCarthy says that many of those who sit in the House of Lords are men who laid the foundations of their fortunes as brewers or distillers and were afterwards raised to the peerage. These men not infrequently wield an influence sufficient to dominate the legislative halls.

In 1896 there were 125,944 public houses in England and Wales, or, on an average, six for every primary school. The holders of these licenses depend, for the most part, on the brewers and distillers, from whom they get their supplies and for whose interests they must vote. This fact was made plain at a trial recently

held at the Gloucester assizes, when it was brought out in evidence that of 219 licensed houses in that city only nine were independent. Moreover it is estimated that twenty per cent of the public-houses in England are not self-sustaining, but are maintained by the brewers. As a consequence of these facilities for obtaining drink and despite the efforts made by temperance advocates, "the per capita consumption of alcohol in the United Kingdom is greater than it was in 1840, when the temperance reformation was in its infancy."

Temperance statistics show that, during the twenty years between 1882 and 1901, deaths from intemperance increased sixty-six per cent. among men and one hundred and twenty-five per cent. among women. The report of the Lunacy Commission for 1902 states that twenty-five per cent. of the men and ten per cent. of the women who became insane were reduced to that pitiable condition as a consequence of drink. The census of church-goers and saloon frequenters, taken by the agents of the London Daily News on Sunday, December 27, 1903, in the borough of Paddington, shows that, out of a population of 142,690, 31,331 went to church, and 122,175 went to public houses! How can these facts be reconciled with the declaration made by Mr. Chamberlain before the temperance party at Birmingham that "the change which has taken place in the national attitude towards temperance amounts to little less than a moral revolution"?

Since the beginning of the present century the British conscience has been aroused more than ever before, to the necessity of some action towards the diminution of this evil, and for the purpose of rescuing those not yet engulfed in the gloomy depths of the whirlpool of intemperance. The laborer in his field the artisan at his bench, the student at his books, the merchant in his counting-house, the peer in his mansion, the King on his throne—all have begun to realize that England's future depends in no small degree upon the destruction of this octopus that is crushing the people in its sly folds.

Less than a year ago King Edward VII. declared that he considered a toast to his health as much honored by those drinking it in water as by those using wine. The King's attitude in this matter will do much to strengthen the hands of temperance advocates in his domain. It will encourage individual abstainers and societies whose members are pledged to abstain, either entirely or in part, to labor more zealously for the enactment and enforcement of laws regulating the traffic. Much has already been accomplished in this direction, and, apart from legal restrictions, various means have been adopted with a view to the diminution or removal of the evil consequent upon indulgence in excessive drinking.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Below will be found a list of Patents recently granted by the Canadian Government through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, Patent Attorneys, Montreal, Canada, and Washington, D.S.

Information regarding any of the patents cited will be supplied free of charge by applying to the above-named firm.

- No. 87,345—Jno. H. Poole, Westfield, N. B., non-refillable bottle.
- 87,346—Jas. Irvine, Hawke's Bay, N.Z., fastenings of packing cases and the like.
- 87,383—Jno. Berst, Plattsville, Ont., stable fork.
- 87,423—Edmond Lamoureux, Montreal, Que., shuttle.
- 87,452—Robt. J. Hunter, Ayr, Scotland, cabinet washstand.
- 87,482—Pierre Steenlet, Brussels, Belgium, treatment of ores, metal, etc.
- 87,497—Walter Atkins, Henslip, Man., improvements in stoves.
- 87,515—Wm. W. Borden, Campbellton, N.B., clothes drier.
- 87,516—Elkanah Bowman, Elmwood, Ont., snow plow.
- 87,600—Narcisse J. Gregoire, St. John, Que., electric time switch.

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Makes delicious coffee in a moment. No trouble to wash in small and large bottles from all grocers.

GUARANTEED PURE.

KINDLINESS OF THE POPE.

A correspondent of the Springfield Republican, writing from Rome, describes an audience with Pope Pius X in part as follows:

Hundreds of people from every corner of the earth visit the great palace of the Vatican every day to see its art treasures and its wonderful rooms. Out of this great body of people only a very small number are permitted to enter the beautiful private apartments set aside for the use of the Pope, and only a small number of those who enter the inner rooms are fortunate enough to come face to face with Pius X. The way is narrow, and to weather it, one needs a long, strong pull. But it is worth much trouble to see Pope Pius and the long hours of waiting are certainly not spent in vain.

Pope Pius is much freer in granting audiences than Leo XIII. was; it is said because he is a younger man, and in better health, so that he can stand the strain. Each afternoon in the week, when he walks for a short time in the magnificent Vatican gardens, he sees a few people who are sent to him by the powers that be in Rome.

To get into the Vatican after 3 o'clock one has to give a little yellow ticket, signed by the major domo of the Pope's household, and these tickets are much coveted, as they are the open sesame to the great bronze doors which are then closed to the public. One's troubles are over when that ticket is safely tucked away in his pocket. After we had been given the necessary ticket we were asked if we were willing to conform with the required ceremonial if we saw the Pope. This meant that we must kneel down and kiss the great ring of St. Peter which the Pope wears on the fourth finger of his right hand. It also meant that men must wear frock coats or dress suits, and that the women must be gowned in black and their hair covered by a long black veil instead of a hat. These things, of course, are readily agreed to by Roman Catholics and Protestants alike, for no one could object to kissing the hand of such a man as the present Pope.

At 3.15 we were at the bronze doors and showing our "permesso" to the Swiss guard who stood there with an old-time musket in his hand, and his gorgeous clothes sloping gently away from the angles of his big Swiss frame. Just ahead of us there was a Bishop. This Bishop seemed to know everyone in the Vatican, and to be familiar with the stairways, and so we attached ourselves to his train and turned to the right, and up the first broad staircase we came to. It was a long climb, and when we came to the top of the fourth flight we were surprised to find ourselves in a great courtyard, with horses and carriages standing about, and Swiss guards pacing back and forth in front of several doorways. Now the horses ever got up there is not for the casual observer to know. There may be an elevator for them, or they may climb stairs. It was only one of the many surprises which we were treated to in that great treasure-house.

The Bishop crossed the court to the right and entered a much-carved doorway, where a man in a new and more startling uniform saluted us. Later we found that he was one of the Papal guards. There were more stairs ahead of us, four long series of them, all of marble and very beautiful and tiring. At last we got to the top, and a man in another kind of costume greeted us and examined our credentials. With a wave of the hand which was one of the most imposing gestures imaginable, he gave us to understand that the great hall in front of us was ours. It was a magnificent apartment, with wonderful frescoes, such as people get cricks in their neck to see in other parts of the Vatican. The floor was of marbles of many colors, but blended into a wonderful mosaic by a master hand. The walls were of marble, and between the marble columns were more masterpieces of painting. At the head of the hall a great carved oak mantlepiece served as a rest for the halberds of the twenty odd Swiss guards who lounged on the low wooden benches on either side. And in the room the most interesting group of people imaginable—Italian women fairly bubbling over with excitement at the prospects of the coming view of the Pope. Frenchmen, talking with their hands and their shoulders as well as their

tongues; a stolid Russian, with the great order of the Red Eagle in the place where his dress tie should have been; a small group of swarthy South American students in their collegiate robes, and a generous sprinkling of priests from all the nations, in black gowns.

Soon a door opened at one side of the hall, and an Archbishop came in. The Italians made a rush for him with outstretched hands, and he appeared to give them something. This started every one in the hall for him, and he was soon laughing helplessly in the centre of a whirlpool of eager hands. Before we went to the Vatican we were told to use a little "American push" when we got there if we wanted to see things. It was just at this point that we used the push on about six Germans who were ahead of us. The result was a nice little silver medal with the head of Pope Pius raised on one side of it, and an inscription on the other. These little medals are much prized as souvenirs, for they were blessed by the Pope and are pretty little things as well. The Archbishop finally fled the room empty handed, but with a crowd of happy people bowing him out. Then came a long wait and much speculation as to its cause. At last a gorgeous officer of the guard, with his blue cloak over his uniform, came in, the Swiss sprang to attention, marched to the various doorways, and stood there, one on either side, with their queer old spears at present. The people knew what it meant without being told. The Pope was coming. A circle was formed and every one began to arrange his rosaries and other things, and the women took a final pull at their veils.

Before anyone realized it an old man clad in spotless white, had entered the room through a side door. The people dropped on their knees. Pius X. was in the room. For an instant he stood in the doorway looking down at the people kneeling about him, then he turned and began to talk with the group on his left. As he stood there hesitating we were given the opportunity of taking a good look at the new head of the Roman Catholic Church. His pictures, which have been sent all over the world, do not do him justice. Small of stature, he gives one the impression of being younger than he is. His snow-white hair was partly hidden by the white cap, and his well-built figure concealed by the long robes. But his face is wonderful. The features are regular and the mouth firm, but it is the eyes that make the face one long to be remembered. They are soft with a wealth of benevolence and humor, and most expressive of the man's thoughts.

The man in white talked with the first group for a few minutes, and while he was with them the rest of us got up from our knees and watched him. A woman evidently asked for something, for we saw him smile and nod his head, while the two secretaries who accompanied him laughed and spoke with her also. Then he passed on to the next people, and the woman rose and her face was a study, it was so full of joy and excitement. The Pope passed slowly around the room, giving his hand to people so that they might kiss the great green stone in St. Peter's ring, and talking in Italian to those who could speak the tongue. Every one seemed to have favors to ask, and he appeared to grant them all, at least he granted everything which the people near us asked. Those who could not talk Italian or French, spoke to one of the secretaries, and they translated to the Pope, and then again from the Pope to the people. One woman near us gave him a little white satin bag full of money for Peter's Pence, and another gave him a white cap like the one he wore. But he did not accept the latter, and handed it back after he had examined and praised it. In our group was a little child of 4, who had no more idea of who or what the Pope was than a doll. But the child thought him a lovable old man and toddled towards him. Then Pius showed that he loved children, for he pinched its cheeks while its proud mother nearly died with joy.

The Pope had a smile and a word for all, and when he had passed around the room he stopped again

at the entrance, looked about and raised his hands. Everyone went down on his knees again and with bowed heads listened to the clearly enunciated words of the Papal benediction. Then, as silently and as unostentatiously as he had come, the Pope went out of the room. The audience was at an end, and there was nothing to do but to retrace one's steps to the great piazza of St. Peter's. But each person took away from the Vatican the remembrance of that kindly face and the feeling that he had made a friend instead of having seen one of the most prominent men in the world.

IRELAND.

God bless the men of Ireland,
God bless the women, too;
God keep them as He made them,
Warm-hearted, brave and true
May trouble, pain and sorrow
No more to them be known.

And may His right hand help them,
To win and hold their own;
God send the light of freedom
On mansion, hut and hall,
For there's no land like Ireland,
Anywhere at all!

—T. D. Sullivan.

President Loubet's Visit to Rome.

The following is a translation of the note addressed by the Vatican to the Catholic powers in protest against President Loubet's visit to Rome.

28th April, 1904.

The coming to Rome of M. Loubet, President of the French Republic, to pay an official visit to Victor Emmanuel III, was an event of such exceptional gravity that the Holy See cannot allow it to pass without calling to it the most serious attention of the Government your Excellency represents. It is scarcely necessary to point out that it is incumbent on the chiefs of Catholic States, bound as such by special bonds to the Supreme Pastor of the Church, to show him greater regard than the sovereigns of non-Catholic States, in so far as his dignity, independence and inalienable rights are concerned. That duty, hitherto recognized and observed by all, in spite of the gravest political reasons, alliances, or relationships, was all the more incumbent on the Chief Magistrate of the French Republic, who, without having any of those special motives, presides over a nation united by the closest traditional relations with the Roman Pontificate, and enjoys, in virtue of a bi-lateral compact with the Holy See, signal privileges, a large representation in the Sacred College of Cardinals, and, consequently, in the government of the Universal Church, and also exercises by signal favor protection over Roman Catholic interests in the East. Therefore, if, by coming to do honor in Rome—that is to say, the very seat of the Pontificate, and in the Apostolic Palace itself—to him who, in defiance of all right, usurps the civil sovereignty and restricts the necessary liberty and independence of the Holy See, the chief of any Catholic nation commits a grave offense against the Sovereign Pontiff, the offense committed by M. Loubet was graver still. The fact that, nevertheless, the Papal Nuncio has remained in Paris is due solely to very urgent motives of a special order and nature.

The declaration made by M. Delcasse to the French Parliament to the effect that this visit implied no hostile intention towards the Holy See cannot alter either its character or its meaning, for the offence is in the act itself, and the more so because the Holy See had not neglected to warn the French Government against it. Public opinion, both in France and in Italy, did not fail to perceive the offensive character of that visit, intentionally sought by the Italian Government with the object of weakening the rights of the Holy See, the dignity of which was insulted. The Holy See regards it as its chief duty to protect and defend its rights and dignity in the interest of the Catholics of the whole world. In order that a painful fact should not constitute a precedent, the Holy See has found itself obliged to protest against it in the strongest and most explicit manner, and the undersigned Cardinal Secretary of State, by order of His Holiness, informs your Excellency of it, requesting you to bring the contents of the present note to the knowledge of the Government of

CARDINAL MERRY DEL VAL.