

## NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

The idea that bread making is a long and difficult operation is a mistake, as bread may now be included in the list of quickly prepared foods, for with

## ROYAL YEAST CAKES

light, sweet bread can be baked and ready for use within four hours from the time the sponge is set. Full detailed instructions are contained in Royal Yeast Bake Book which will be sent free upon request.

E. W. Gillett Company Limited, Toronto, Canada

## The Burning of Magdala.

On Easter Monday, April 13, 1858, Magdala, the chief city of Abyssinia, was stormed with great force, and captured by a British army, which lost only two killed and twenty wounded, while the defenders lost about five thousand. On the 17th of that month Magdala was burned to the ground by the British Abyssinians. It is a very remarkable country, extending southwards from Egypt and the Red Sea, along the east coast of Africa, covering 300,000 square miles, and with a total population of 7,000,000. Its Hebrew name is Cush (meaning "black"), but the Greeks called it "Ethiopia," or "burnt faces," each referring to the complexion of its natives, but where that latter name first occurs in the English Bible (Gen. 10, 14), it could not refer to this African country, but means the country, still called Khushistan, on the east bank of the river mentioned in that chapter, when they have united before entering the Persian Gulf. It was from Abyssinia that the Queen of Sheba travelled to visit Solomon at Jerusalem where she was so astonished at his wisdom that she thought his wives must be the happiest of women, and afterwards returned and became one of the thousand; thus the King of Abyssinia claimed descent from Menelik, his son by her. One statesman of a Queen of Ethiopia, after worshipping in the temple at Jerusalem, was reading the prophecies of Isaiah while riding home in his chariot, and was convinced and baptised by Phillip, the Christian deacon (Acts viii, 27-40). But it was not till the sixth century that Abyssinians in general became converted to Christianity through monks from Egypt. About A.D. 1633 they expelled from their country the Jesuits, who, under Portuguese rule, attempted to introduce the Palal power of the Bishop of Rome. But in 1855 they received Protestant missionaries, until in 1863 their Negus, or Sovereign, Theodore, sent a letter to Queen Victoria desiring alliance against the Turks. As no reply was received, Charles Duncan Cameron, a British military officer and Consul, and all British missionaries and subjects there, were imprisoned and chained; Henry Aaron Stern, a Jewish Church of England clergyman, being beaten and tortured. Then the British invasion began, and on April 11, 1868, all the European prisoners were set at liberty; but the Emperor Theodore, while sending a letter of apology and offering a present of cattle, refused to surrender himself and died, by his own hand it was believed. The British army had been commanded by Field-Marshal Sir Robert Cornelius Napier, who was created Baron Napier of Magdala, and lived till 1890, succeeded by his son.

## An Expressed Doubt.

(From the Harbor Grace Standard.) The latest proposition of the Re-Establishment Committee is that of affording returned Soldiers and Sailors an opportunity of settling on the land and the Government is prepared to consider the question. Certain conditions are laid down; the applicants will be required to work on a farm under an approved farmer for the summer and early fall; take an agricultural course in some approved Agricultural School for 1920 to 1921; work on the farm under an approved farmer for the summer of 1921, and then the men, if they have shown themselves to be capable and of good conduct would be furnished with capital by the Government to secure farms of their own. The action of the Government will

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*James Baird*

## Does Prohibition Prohibit?

The Case for the Moderates.

(By WARWICK SMITH.)

(ARTICLE I.)

## THOSE WHO WILL DECIDE THE ISSUE.

Public sentiment has expressed itself so strongly against a return to the open saloon, with the attendant misery that results from the manner in which that institution was run, that to-day the opposing forces are composed of persons who desire to see a temperate country. The people are divided between the total prohibitionists and those who would modify somewhat the harshness of total restriction.

There are many on each side who believe it to be a question of right or wrong. Some contend that the use of intoxicants as a beverage is wrong. Others believe it is wrong to take that attitude. Between these lie the great number, who do not regard it so much a question of absolute right or wrong, but as a matter of expediency. They say all things are right, but all things are not expedient. They are on both sides.

First, there is the man who votes for Prohibition, not that he believes wrong to use alcoholic beverages, but because he thinks it wiser to see all to abstain in order to force standards to reform. If he finds that prohibition does not do what he expects it to do he will look around for other expedient. Then there is the man who would not vote for Prohibition, simply because he did not believe to be the best expedient. If he could find that, after all, Prohibition put a stop to drunkenness, he would change his mind and vote for

for those who believe in the absolute right or wrong of Prohibition, it is almost a waste of time to try and convert them from their respective beliefs. The appeal of both sides is to the man that weighs the subject as a matter of expediency. They do not regard drinking in itself as wrong nor they regard Prohibition as the solution of the evil one. If Prohibition the work they will support it; if it does not, they will look around

for other means to remove the curse of intemperance. To this class nothing will appeal except FACTS.

The greatest fact that will satisfy this large number of people consists in the correct answer to the following question:

## "DOES PROHIBITION PROHIBIT?"

Now, this question must be faced fairly and squarely. It depends on how this question is answered that will really decide the issue. The wets will be wet and the dries dry. Those who are prejudiced one way or the other will more or less balance each other. The question will be decided by people who are not enthusiastically "wet" or "dry." These people include both total abstainers and moderate drinkers. The former suffer no personal hardship, whatever the decision, and the latter are prepared to curtail their own liberty for the general good.

If Prohibition does really prohibit drunkenness and intemperance, these people will vote for prohibition. Their minds are not swayed by prejudice; they can judge facts.

Now, two other questions will have to be asked in order to arrive at the answer to the first question. "Does Prohibition Prohibit?" These questions are as follows:

- (A) "Can any law be enforced without the strong backing of public opinion?"  
(B) "Has Prohibition the backing of public opinion?"

No sensible person will deny that laws cannot be enforced in democratic countries unless the public approves of them. Even in countries ruled by despots it is exceedingly difficult and costly to enforce laws of which the people do not approve. The conclusion arrived at by Samuel Gompers in reference to Russia is one worthy of consideration. He contends that Prohibition is one of the causes, if not the main cause, that brought about that restlessness which resulted in revolution. Everyone will agree however that even if Gompers is wrong about Russia, you cannot enforce legislation in democratic countries

without a strong public opinion behind it.

Let us consider question B again: Has Prohibition the backing of public opinion? The question is not "Did it have public opinion behind it in 1915?" The question is "Has it public opinion behind it now?"

To answer this question we must get at the facts, and these facts must not be merely the citation of exceptional cases. It is possible for most tyrannical laws to be enforced in one or two isolated cases. But you cannot enforce them generally. As soon as you do, the politicians begin to get nervous and they are the masters of those who administer the laws. If they find that they are likely to lose votes, they take steps so that only a bluff of carrying out the law is the result. The officers of the law will prosecute in a few glaring, bare-faced violations of the law or where, in particular cases, the offender has personally incurred the hostility of a large and influential portion of the general public.

"Let Justice be done, though the heavens fall!" is a motto that appeals to most men. But we must not confuse "justice" with "law," because some laws are unjust.

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