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TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

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Rise up ye Women that are at Ease

NO WINE AT CALIFORNIA'S INAUGURAL.

In the California senate a bill recently passed by the assembly to give the inaugural ball committee the use of the capitol buildings for that function, came up for consideration, and Senator Cutter, of Yuba, proposed an amendment providing that no liquor should be used in connection with the ball. Senator Cutter's speech is reported by the papers as follows:

"Four years ago I stood upon one of the stairways of the capitol and witnessed scenes that would cause any one to blush. Some of the waiters were tipsy, part of the men and women were also tipsy, and the actions of some of them were shameless. Similar scenes occurred in the senate and assembly chambers, which were used by some of those present as drinking booths. These scenes were a disgrace to the state. I understand that $600 is to be expended in the purchase of champagne—"

"No," broke in Senator Bettman, of San Francisco, "not champagne, but still wine."

"Well," continued Senater Cutter, "$600 worth of 'still wine' would be sufficient to intoxicate every one at the ball. Such scenes of intoxications as those I have mentioned have always occurred at the inaugural balls, and this report should be stopped."

The amendment was carried without a vote in the opposition, and when the ball was given on Jan. 9, nothing stronger than lemonade was served.

WOOLLEY IN THE WEST.

John G. Woolley has just completed a series of thirty-four addresses in Nebraska. With the exception of one, every minister of the Gospel of all denominations has cooperated and made the meetings "union." Churches have been opened and opera houses have only been secured on account of the seating capacity being greater. Large audiences greeted Mr. Woolley everywhere. At Crab Orchard, a place of two hundred population, people came for miles until the little M. E. church was filled with five hundred people.

The plan now is to give each state a specified month in which to arrange for Mr. Woolley. "The first to apply will be the first to be served." Iowa is to have February. Mr. Woolley will return to Nebraska in March, and probably give the month of April to Kansas. White-ribboners of the above named states will please note these appointments and take time by the forelock.

THE LIQUOR PARTY AND LOCAL OPTION IN NORWAY.

By Agnes E. Slack.

Almost every day furnishes fresh evidences of the energy and cleverness with which the pro-liquor propaganda is carried on. So great is this energy that within the last few years the propaganda has developed into an international affair, and is worked for the promotion of the interests of the trade throughout the world. Carefully concocted misstatements regarding, say, America or Canada, are largely used, not only in this country, but throughout the whole of our colonized empire, as well as in all the leading countries of the continent of Europe.

What the pro-liquor papers have been calling "the overwhelming victory" of the propaganda everywhere save in Canada. The conditions as to sobriety of the people of France, who "are not driven to drunkeness by your humbugging temperance legislation," is lied about in England, the United States, Canada, Australia and Northren Europe, with conspicuous skill and pertinacity, and also with great and triumphant success. The latest bit of falsehood "sent around" by the propaganda is from Norway. Now I have been in Norway, and have a good many friends there, and they are kind enough to keep me posted up with respect to facts connected with the temperance reform in that country.

Temperance people know that two or three years ago a law was passed in Norway which gives to the people of the towns the power to suppress the sale of spirits in their respective municipalities. The communes of Norway have possessed a similar power for half a century, and have prohibited the sale of spirits almost everywhere throughout the rural districts. There are thirty-three municipalities in Norway, and in eighteen of them the people have already exercised to the fullest extent the option of prohibition which the law allows them. The Gothenburg system was not good enough for them, so they suppressed the sanlangs. This was an awkward fact for the liquor people, one of whose ill-grounded arguments is that a veto law would be valueless, because it would not be brought into operation; so the edge of the fact, with respect to the action of the municipalities of Norway, had to be turned. The liquor people could hardly deny that the prohibitory law had been extensively adopted, but they saw a way in which it could be made to appear that it had been a failure as regards the mitigation of intemperance. Indeed, they asserted that "its effect was to cause the the immediate increase of drunkenness."

Now there may either have been an increase of drunkenness, or there may only have been an increase in the number of arrests for that offence, since the sale of spirits was prohibited. It is, I believe, a fact that in some of the municipalities in which the samlags have been abolished, this latter has been the case. But it is also a fact that in Christiania, Bergen, and other towns in which the samlags have not been suppressed, a much greater increase in the number of arrests for drunkeness has taken place than in those in which the bolage—or spirit-selling companies—have not been permitted to exist. The truth is that throughout the country generally the police were ordered to be much stricter with inebriates than they used to be, and in most places they have been much stricter. Wine and beer continue to be sold freely in those towns of Norway where the spirit companies are prohibited. The suppression of the sale of spirits is a long way short of total prohibition of the liquor trade—which is what the friends of temperance in Norway are working for.

Another part of the assertion of the enemies of suppression is that what has been done has led to the establishment of "illicit stills," but no proof is ever offered that it has done anything of the kind. What is usually said is that a heavily alcoholized wine, called "laddevin," has been substituted for the prohibited spirits. How, then, should there be such an increased demand for spirits as to lead to the setting up of illicit stills? The outlet for spirits has been diminished, other drinks have been substituted, and the old manufactories cannot supply an adequate quantity! Such is the theory, and it is so grossly improbable that some evidence of the detection of such stills is surely necessary. It looks effective in a newspaper paragraph to say that illicit stills have been set up in consequence of the prohibition of the sale of spirits, But it is not true. My Norwegian correspondents—who are most careful and accurate people—assure me that diligent inquiries about such illicit stills have been made, and that no trace whatever of them has been found. The statements about them are figments of the pro-liquor propaganda.

Humorous.

An Appropriate Text.

A little girl who lives up town went to church last Sunday. She is a bright little maiden, and considering her tender age, only 6, she is decidedly intelligent. Her mother has been suffering from the grip and didn't accompany her, and as her father was away from home she went alone.

Whether it was the loneliness of the big pew, or whether the church was poorly heated, mamma wasn't quite sure, but anyway, the little maid came home and declared she was very chilly.

"Toes got so cold while I was sitting there, mamma," she declared. "And so did my fingers and my nose. I don't believe there was hardly a speck of fire in the furnace."

"That was too bad," said mamma; "did the other people seem to suffer, too?"

"Oh, yes, they did," cried the little maid. "They just shivered!"

Then mamma thought she would divert the little maid's attention.

"What was the text, dear?" she asked. "Can you remember it?"

"I should think I could," was the quick answer; "I can 'member every word of it."

"Well, what was it?"

The little maid put her head on one side, and screwing up her face, shrilly intoned:—

"Many are cold, but few are frozen!"

And mamma had to admit that it seemed remarkably appropriate.—Cleaveland Plain-Dealer.

Ability Recognized.

He was courting the farmer's daughter, but one night he was very forcibly ejected from the house. Later on he made another call.

"Well, sir," said the old farmer indignantly, "what are you doing here again? I thought that the delicate hint I gave you as you left my front door last night would cure you."

And the speaker looked at his caller in a reminiscent way.

"It did," said the young man, as a look of mingled pain and admiration came over his face; "but I thought I would come and ask you if you would like to join our football club."

Useless Extravagance.

They were on their way home from a visit to relatives, when the husband was taken ill, and they had to leave the train and go to a hotel.

"I think I shall die," gasped the husband, as he lay groaning in bed, but his wife was not exactly sympathetic.

"Of all the extravagant, shiftless men!" she said, angrily. "Why can't you wait till you get home to die? Don't you know it will cost a good ten pounds extra if you die here? Don't you let me catch you a-doing it. That's all!" And he didn't.

"What shall I get you for a birthday present?" asked a fond father of his little daughter, who was suffering from toothache.

"I want some teeth like mamma's, that you can take out when they ache," replied the small afflicted one.

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ANDREW DONALD, Executor.
Dated at Hampstead, this 9th Jan. 1899.

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