

COFFEE HOUSES.

Dr Dayler, in his speech before the Temperance Congress at the Worlds Fair, spoke very strongly on the subject of temperance coffee houses. He said: I believe in temperance coffee houses, and I believe to-day that if the rich philanthropists would spend some of their money in providing cheerful, well-lighted, attractive and comfortably arranged places for people to go to at night, where they could get coffee, lemonade, chocolate, and other drinks not alcoholic, it would result in a tremendous benefit to the masses. Human nature is human nature. These people say, "You rich men can have your wine in your clubs in Chicago and in New York; you can have your madeiras and your champagne in your elegant houses on Fifth avenue. And when night comes, the poor, hard-working man wants a little sociability; and for want of some clean, wholesome, safe place, he drifts into the saloon."

Montreal has plenty of saloons, and should have a number of good coffee houses. The coffee house should be as attractive as the saloon. The working man without a home, should be able to open a comfortable home, read his paper, and enjoy games not intrinsically evil. Such places, clean, and lighted, provided with games and a good smoke room, would be of great educational value in spreading temperance principles. Many men, who do not care for saloons, who have a natural innate distaste to the style of saloon talk, drift into them, because they have no where else to go, and being there are not strong enough to swim against the tide. "Perpetual dropping wears away the stone." So it is with many an innocent lad. In this matter we are our brothers' keeper, and are ourselves responsible for not acting up to the light that we have, and doing that which we know to be right.

The Institute at 875 Dorchester Street is always full of patients, and is specially attractive, as Father Murphy himself is there when at home. The number of patients who go through this institute each month is very great. One particular case, of combined liquor, and morphine habit that had been given up, by the doctors as incurable has recently afforded much interest. The patient has gone home to his friends at a distance completely cured.

Father Murphy intends starting presently on a prolonged lecturing trip. He will commence in Cornwall about the end of this month.

Of the total crime of Great Britain, about one-third is committed in the metropolis. 'Abolish the drink,' says the Rev. J. W. Horsley, at one time chaplain of the Clerkenwell Prison, 'and all the police courts but one in the metropolis may be closed.'

Police statistics show that the arrests for drunkenness in London are at the annual rate of one to every 175 inhabitants; in Birmingham, one to every 153; in Manchester, one to 71, and in Liverpool, one to 50. The people of London drink 45,000,000 gallons of malt liquors every year.

In the United States there are 36,000 more saloons than public schools.



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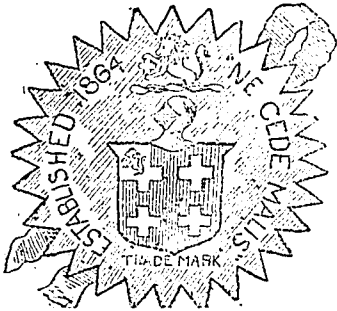
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