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BOOZE, THE ALLY OF THE ENEMY

The International Sunday School Lesson For November 4th is "Booze, the Ally of the Enemy."—1 Kings 20:21.

By William T. Ellis.

Once a year the attention of all Protestant churches everywhere on the globe, is directed to the subject of temperance in its broader relations. One Sunday in November is designated as "World's Temperance Sunday," and the regular course of International Sunday School Lessons is interrupted to make way for it. The study is less a study of a Scripture passage than of a topic.

Thrust into the foreground of all the world's thinking by the exigencies of war, the temperance question has made greater strides in the past three years than in the preceding three hundred years. There has been a real revolution in men's attitude toward it. Stern reality has lifted the subject entirely out of the realm of theory. It is now seen to touch the very vitals of national existence.

High Motives For Ordinary Life.

The fact is undeniable that Christianity brings to bear upon the race new impulses, and erects within the spirits of mankind, new ideals. There is nothing irrational in a World's Temperance Sunday for the church and Sunday school. In this they are strictly attending to their own business. For the gospel has to do with the ordinary relationships of human beings. It is in the business of creating new men and women. Cleanliness, sobriety, chastity, self-denial, have been cardinal to its teachings. As the letters of Paul make clear, Christianity stands for a type of character in contrast of that of the old, dissolute nations.

This is vividly brought home to the traveler in Bible lands. Why is it that these once flourishing cities—proud Ephesus where Diana was splendidly worshipped; Sardis, where Croesus reigned; Iconium, which boasted after the deluge—are now of interest chiefly for their ruins.

What laid low the power of this proud Rome, I asked myself as my horse jogged down the echoing marble highway, littered with broken columns at Ephesus, while the only habitation in sight was a shepherd's hut? It was self-indulgence. Rome "did as it pleased"—and is now but a memory. Christianity taught purity, self-denial, love, and lo, it reigns in increasing power over the greater part of the earth. The callow youth who sneers at the old-fashioned virtues of his mother's religion, should go to the library and get a volume of general history. No drunken, self-pleasing nation ever had a long life. The reason the outlook for the Turkish Empire seems dark to many close observers is that the people themselves are not noble, broad-minded, pure-minded and paternal.

Very divergent forces have been at work, in many different ways to overthrow the drinking customs of ages. There is first the open assault and direct charge of the regular temperance army, with all its divisions and weapons, its big guns and its small arms. There is also the position after position and have been in the stress of hand to hand conflict. They are the main reliance of the besiegers.

The sappers and miners have been at work also, by a patient process of education tunneling under the very foundations of the mighty institution. More than one mine has been exploded with disastrous results by these skillful warriors. The fleet of literature has bombarded the forts from where it rides in the offing. Great authors and modern newspapers alike have poured hot shot into the liquor camp.

Deprivation has been at work as a temperance ally. Society has deprived the liquor dealer and the drinker of its approval. Great commercial institutions, railways and such like have closed their doors to strong drink. The most eminent periodical publications in the land refuse to admit to their columns the advertisements of spirituous liquors. So the siege goes on with the besieged increasingly concerned.

Intemperance is linked to evil, always and everywhere. Strong drink and hard times go together. So do drink and physical suffering. The saloon and the prison are cause and effect; likewise the saloon and the asylum. Disgrace, shame, poverty and sorrow all follow in the wake of the bottle. Surely this should teach men to shun drink. But it does not. The beneficent Teacher puts the thorn of suffering on the rose of sin, but men heed not the pain or the blood. Neither Israel nor America could be moved by the clear monitions of God regarding drunkenness. It has taken this holocaust of horror, this baptism of blood, this rending of the foundations of society to teach men the temperance lesson.

Then the Preachers Go Wrong.

A drunken preacher is almost unheard of in this land and day, though Israel's fierce commendation of such is quite comprehensible. The people expect better of their religious leader than they do of themselves. There were no denominational lines, and no secular nor religious in the recent outery from all parts of the world over the action of a certain British church gathering in refusing to accept personal total abstinence during the war. Daily newspapers vied with temperance organs in holding the action up to scorn. For the most part the pulpit has assumed advanced ground on the temperance question. Not only does it practice and preach temperance but it is quite generally committed to the crusade for the total extinction of the liquor traffic. Still it may be said that the greatest need of the present day temperance

cause is a clear, consistent, persistent and unequivocal message from the Christian pulpit. Unless the prophets of God warn the people they themselves share the sin. Put an fract in every church in America, and the conditions with respect to strong drink would be changed at once.

The Little Lion and Big Dog.

Some time ago in the Berlin Zoological Gardens, saw a lion's cub and a grown dog in the same cage together. The dog was bullying the little lion most thoroughly. It knocked the little beast over, and snapped at various parts of the body and in general played the part of a bully to perfection. A little boy was greatly moved by the ill-treatment of the young "king of beasts."

"Never mind," said his father, "this will not do for long. Someday the cub will wake to the knowledge that it is a lion and that its tormentor is only a dog, and that will be the end of Mr. Dog."

The incident illustrates perfectly the temperance situation in North America. The General Public is a lion, albeit young and unconscious of its strength. Yet it has suffered inconceivable imposition and bullying and terrorizing from the saloon power, which, after all, is only an ill-bred dog. The latter has played master in politics, industrialism and society. There are now many signs that the lion is awakening and that the indignities that it has too long endured are coming to an end. The widespread assertion of popular rights is having an immediate effect in the direction of the suppression of the baneful power of the saloon. The people have taken hold of the political and social and economic end of the liquor question with vigor.

Enemies of an Enemy.

How widely strong drink is looked upon as an enemy of the welfare of the individual and of the community may be seen by writing out the names of the great industrial corporations who have registered themselves as opposed to it. Perhaps, corporation, those modern, un sentimental, and wholly selfish creatures of the new times, should be put first, for their judgment is certain to be based solely on considerations of self-interest and commercial effectiveness. Today these corporations are shutting their doors to drinking men for the responsible positions. Educators say that the effects of alcohol are evil; and the report of the Committee of Fifty leading educators, by no means "temperance cranks," is one of the strongest documents this generation has produced.

Doctors and preachers have both condemned and pointed out its baneful effects, each from his own standpoint. Athletes put a ban upon it, while unexpected recruits have been found in bartenders themselves who have formed a society of total abstinence. No one has been made of that company, greater than any of the others, who are sworn enemies of strong drink because of the harm it has wrought to dear ones.

Fettered or Free.

Life is becoming more intense every year. The struggle for existence grows ever sharper. The need for the free use of all of a man's energies to enable him to survive and prosper is a potent temperance argument. A man cannot pay tribute to the flowing bowl and still have sufficient store with which to do business in the world. Alcohol may have a food value in the sense that Professor Livwater claims, but it is everywhere recognized that in the case of a worker it does not put more power into him, but rather takes power from him. It is only a whip for a jaded horse.

As he looms into his future, every young man should decide, once for all that he will use the course that contains no risks, but insures liberty for the expression of his fullest powers. He cannot afford to fetter himself by a dangerous appetite. If he wishes to make sure of being a free man, with a clear head, steady nerves, strong muscles, and a body fit for all normal functions, responding to the impulses of his will rather than to the goad of an artificial stimulant, then he must, in the expressive slang of the day, "cut out" strong drink.

The College of Drankards.

I have seen the wreck of a great vessel fast in the sands of the sea-shore and on its mast by a bit of stupidity on the part of somebody, the advertisement of a well-known brand of whiskey. The sight must have suggested to all of the thousands who behold it, those other wrecks to be seen in every community, who might also be labeled "whiskey, that's all." No man who still retains strongly within his breast the sense of manhood can look unmoved upon the spectacle of a man become a drunkard.

Hence comes these drunkards, each

of whom has broken some woman's heart. Perhaps some few are deliberately made such by the designs of depraved men become demons. But most of them are graduates of the school of moderate drinking. It is the man who boasts that he "knows when to stop," who one day awakens to the score that he cannot stop. Social drinking does not always lead to the gutter, of course, but all who reach the gutter travel that way.

THE WORLD'S NEWS IN BRIEF FORM

Tidings From All Over Told in a Pithy and Pointed Way.

Eggs are 80c a dozen in Victoria, B.C., and may reach \$1.

Sir Sam Hughes is likely to be elected by acclamation for Victoria.

Sir Edward Kemp will leave for England shortly.

The Irish Cobbler is decided upon as the potato most suitable for general use in Ontario.

All out-door lighting will be discontinued in the United States during the war to save fuel.

Fred J. Tremaine, K.C., a well-known Halifax lawyer died on Tuesday after a brief illness, aged seventy-four years.

Hon. S. C. Mewburn, the new Minister of Militia, will make his first public address as such at the conscription Liberal convention in Hamilton, Friday.

H. A. Bricknell was found guilty of embezzling during several years \$4,072 of the funds belonging to the Kitchener Water Commission, for which he was bookkeeper.

Pte. Frank Slavin, former professional heavyweight boxer, has returned to Canada after almost three years in the trenches. He declined a commission because he promised the eight hundred men he recruited that he would stay in the ranks with them.

Commissioner Pringle has finished the newspaper inquiry, and expects to report by to-night. The manufacturers agreed to continue the \$50 a ton price till Saturday, and a new order in council fixing the price for the duration of the war is expected before then.

BRITISH ARTILLERYMEN SAVED THEIR GUNS

Withdrew Them in Safety Before the Big Teuton Drive On Italy.

Washington, Oct. 31.—Word that the British artillerymen with the Italian army had brought their guns through the retirement without the loss of a battery was welcomed as indicating that General Cadorna's men were holding their organization in the face of the smashing Austro-German assaults. The British guns are all "obeying," big pieces that it takes time to withdraw. If all of them have been saved, American officers think there is every reason to believe that much of the Italian artillery vital to defense in a final stand also has been brought back.

To-day's reports are taken to indicate that the artillery losses of the Italians, claimed by the Germans to be enormous, comprise smaller pieces and mountain guns. On the new line, laid out years ago as the Italian defensive front, there are emplacements, charted ranges, and other factors, which will aid in stemming the tide of the enemy advance. The British big guns will become doubly useful there.

NEW U. S. FOOD RULES EFFECTIVE NOV. 1ST

Poultry and Dairy Stored Thirty Days Cannot Be Sold as Fresh.

(Canadian Press Despatch)

Washington, Oct. 31.—Special regulations for cold storage houses will be put into force by the food administration on November 1st when distribution of the most important food-stuffs goes under license.

Poultry, eggs, butter and fresh or frozen fish stored thirty days or more cannot be sold as fresh and will not be permitted to go on sale unless marked with a placard "cold storage goods."

All fresh meat, fresh meat products, fresh fish, game, poultry, eggs and butter must be marked with the date on which they are placed in storage and their date of release.

To check speculation the food administration will limit loans and advances by storage warehouse men to their patrons.

DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED.

Daniel Moke, Under Influence of Fear, Killed His Partner.

Ottawa, Oct. 31.—The sentence of death passed on Daniel Moke of Fort Saskatchewan has been commuted. At the time of the murder Moke was only seventeen years of age. In company with his partner, Lemay, Moke had gone about 100 miles down the Athabasca River. Under the influence of fear that Lemay intended to kill him, Moke one night shot his partner and buried him in the snow. The murder took place on or about December 29th last.

Moke was found guilty and sentenced to death. Both judge and jury strongly recommended him to mercy.

Rich Are Never Hanged.

Montreal, Oct. 31.—"On this side of the Atlantic we never hang a rich man," said Robert Dickson, M.P., in an address before the Epworth League of Sherbrooke Street Methodist Church. "Only the poor are hanged, because the poor man has no friends, no money and no pull."

IMPERIAL LIFE

The interest earnings of the Imperial life commencement have been sufficient to cover all death claims and other payments to policyholders, and leave over \$750,000.00. This is the result of a remunerative interest rate and a low death rate, two important factors in the accumulation of profits for policyholders.

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Wholesale Agents, Lyman Bros. Co., Limited, Toronto

The Duke of Devonshire will be at Vancouver on Nov. 26th to 28th. He will be in Victoria from November 29th to 31st.

At Winnipeg it is learned on very good authority that Premier Brewster, of British Columbia, is to enter the Union Cabinet.

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Elman plays Drda's "Souvenir"
a wonderful reproduction.
Victor Red Seal Record No. 64664. 10-inch, \$1.25

Alma Glyck's "The Prayer Perfect"
by James Whitcomb Riley is admirable and beautiful.
Victor Red Seal Record No. 64713. 10-inch, \$1.25

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I'm a Twelve o'clock Fellow	B. C. Harlan	18364
There's Nothing Too Good for the Irish	M. J. O'Connell	18364
La Cinquantaine	McKee's Orchestra	18223
Pirouette	McKee's Orchestra	18223
The Darkest Strutter's Ball—Fox Trot	Six Brown Brothers	18376
Razberries—One-Step	Van Eps Trio	18376
American National Airs (Accordion)	Pietro	18361
Patriotic Airs of the Allies	Pietro	18361

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