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St. John, Sept., 30, 1904.

SUNDAY SICKNESS.

The Leader has discovered a new disease, or rather an old disease in a malignant form. It intimates that this disease is committing great ravages in that part of the country among church members and other persons who are expected to attend church services. Our contemporary suggests that the attack comes on suddenly every Sunday, though sometimes the symptoms are felt on Saturday night. Doubtless this disease will account for the small attendance at religious services during the heated term, and it is perhaps wrong to attribute the whole trouble to indifference as regards religious matters. We certainly do not wish to apologize for Christians who deliberately and without sufficient excuse stay away from church on the Lord's day. There can be no question about the fact that absence from church is often the result of a want of interest in religious matters; and yet it would be wrong to say that all who stay away from the Lord's day meeting are influenced by unworthy considerations. Some way, many Christians seem to think that they can with impunity skip the regular services and at the same time continue to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Indifference to church attendance is largely owing to a growing belief which regards this attendance as of little importance to the development of the spiritual life. This is the thing that needs to be corrected. As well might we expect the body to grow or maintain its normal condition without the use of proper food as to expect the spiritual man to grow without attending the regular meetings of the church. What is called the Sunday disease is symptomatic of another disease, viz., a disease which lies behind normal Christianity. — Chris. Evangelist.

The suggestion has been made that men should be disfranchised, for varying periods, for drunkenness. There is good reason for this, as well as disfranchisement for the commission of any crime whatever. Drunkenness puts the individual, for the time being, in a condition in which he is unfitted for self-government, and consequently for the discharge of his duties as a citizen. He who voluntarily does this, and who, moreover, brutalizes himself and neglects and injures those who are dependent upon him, should be made to feel that he has rendered himself unfit to exercise the right of suffrage. There is too much at stake in having suffrage exercised by the criminal, brutal and irresponsible. — Journal and Messenger.

What Others Say.

NOT A REASON.

Because the prodigal received a glad welcome, is no reason why others should live among swine.—United Presbyterian.

HUNT FOR IT.

There is no life so vile, but down somewhere under all the rubbish of sin, there is a human heart throbbing, and some explorer, led by the divine Spirit, may yet bring it to light.—United Presbyterian.

COULD DO MORE.

We know of no church in the world that is not doing a grand work in its way and place, and with which it would not be an honor to be affiliated. If they were all united, they might do more than they are doing.—Herald and Presbyter.

PASTORAL WORK.

There is no one thing that helps the pulpit and the congregation so much as cheerful, energetic, pastoral work. Personal contact with the people, accompanied with holy conversation about the Lord's work, how these do captivate and enthuse!—The Telescope.

GREED.

It is a common mistake to suppose that the only man who is in danger of avariciousness is the rich man. A poor beggar may grasp his dime with as tight a clutch as the millionaire his bunch of stocks. Greed is a thing of the soul, a quality of the inner man. Its measure is not the size of the outward possession, but the spirit of the interior life.—The Lutheran.

NOT THE LAW.

The argument is that we should cease compelling men to be sneaks, by making laws they will not obey, should cease compelling them to be hypocrites by imposing on them impossible ideals. We might almost expect the foundations of Sinai to be shaken, but the law still thunders—"Thou shalt!" "Thou shalt not!" If you add hypocrisy to disobedience, it is your lookout. It is no more the Ten Commandments that make hypocrites than it is the true measure of money that makes counterfeiters.—R. R. Kennan.

GOOD CITIZENS' DUTY.

It is the duty of every Christian citizen to do all in his power to secure the strongest possible temperance sentiment and the highest possible moral tone in every parliament or other public body of a representative character. Therefore, we strongly urge friends of the temperance cause in every constituency in the dominion, to ascertain the attitude towards prohibitory legislation of every candidate for parliament. Let the position of every such candidate be known in his constituency, and let temperance men by their ballots show their faith in and desire for the total prohibition of the traffic in intoxicating beverages as the only right and effective legal remedy for the drink evil.—The Pioneer.

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