

Women Who Drink.

Within the last week or two there has been a repetition of the general wave of protest which goes up now and again in different sections of the country and in England against the evil of intemperance among women, which evil, the agitators assert, is growing to appalling proportions. Since the beginning of the year the wave has surged up in all directions, the London World creating a sensation by an outspoken article alleging the rapid increase of the alcoholic habit among women of society, and the use of drugs and narcotics among those of leisure class suffering under the strain of idleness.

In New York, Bishop Leighton Coleman of Delaware, who attended the annual meeting of the Church Temperance Society held in this city, addressed a meeting, making the following statements in his remarks:

'The great work of the society for the coming year, and in fact for the entire century, while not neglecting the men, is to reclaim the women: for I tell you that intoxication is growing among women at a faster rate than among men. During the last fifty years statistics prove that while intoxication among men has steadily decreased, the increase among women has been most alarming. The future of the world depends on the mothers even more than the fathers, and what is to become of us if our women become inebriated.

The members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union have also been agitating the subject once more in regard to the feminine population of New York, notably the women in society, giving startling accounts of the growth of the habit and its evil effects on the health and well-being of the community. Especially do these reformers cry out against the service of wines at our large weddings and fashionable dances, declaring that the example spread is pernicious and that women are growing to regard the use of alcoholic stimulants as a matter of course. The London World's article says:

'There is no device or artifice to which woman will not have recourse, to attain what she requires, if any restraint is put upon her. She will consume ether, cocaine or even methylated spirits. At present the craze is for medicines or wines that contain cocoa.

'Some women imagine they cannot exist without frequent doses of cocoa wine, quinine, tonics and the rest to counteract the terrible strain of doing nothing. Self-indulgent existence of stimulation in one form or another is the vice of the day. Stimulants internally, stimulants externally stimulants eternally!'

While these reform waves rise and fall with the regularity of the tides, they have rarely before engaged the attention of two continents at one and the same period. It would seem as though the opening of the new century had produced some notable harvest of feminine inebriates to produce such united and powerful protest as thus put forth by a conservative paper, a truthful Bishop and a society of good standing. Judging by existing conditions in New York it would seem that there is little to be feared from any epidemic of intemperance among women in society or out. It is admitted by persons whose opportunities for judging the affairs of societies are great, that women are drinking more generally than in the last twenty-five years. But intemperance among men and women is steadily on the decrease. One reason for this is that Americans have learned to substitute wine for ice water at their dinner tables and women following the custom have decreased the outside drinking of men at clubs and cafes. Men seek their enjoyments more generally to-day in the company of their wives and families than they did twenty-five years ago when the popular idea of femininity was a false one from which the sex has risen by education.

A glance through the fashionable dining rooms of the city during the hours when women are to be found lunching gives, as a rule, no evidence of any alarming increase in the drinking habits of the feminine community. At the Waldorf, Delmonico's, Sherry's and the Holland House, which may be taken as representative restaurants, women lunching alone may be seen drinking tea, coffee, milk, cocoa and mineral waters, but not one in ten orders alcohol in any form. The odd woman may indulge in a light claret or white wine, but she is the exception of the rule. In the cheaper lunching places patronized by woman there is no drinking done during the luncheon hours. At the two favorite

Broadway places where women congregate, a bakery and a confectioner's, both fashionable and high priced, the orders show that the women invariably drink coffee and finish their luncheons with ices and creams and cakes; iced tea being a popular drink during the warm months.

Women escorted by men, who may be seen lunching at some of the favorite downtown restaurants, will frequently be observed to drink whatever wine may be served and with the coming of the dinner hour, when comparatively few women visit the restaurants unescorted, the custom of wine on the table seems to be quite general. Women conform to the masculine dictate as to the wine that accompanies a meal and this is the only extent to which the alleged increase in alcoholic intemperance may be observed in this city which certainly may be taken as a criterion for this country's population of women.

Hotel proprietors and head waiters generally agree that there is more drinking with meals than ever before in restaurant history, but they insist that the custom has become general with both sexes, giving no preponderance to either, and it is argued by these observers that intemperance has lessened with this general but moderate drinking, while the American complaint of dyspepsia is dying out. Physicians have usually declared that the substitution of light wines, ales and beers for tea, coffee and iced water would prove beneficial to the health of the generation, and it is certain that within the last twenty-five years the country has grown out of its national complaint, at least among the masses. A quarter of a century ago every farmer's wife and daughter suffered from some form of this dread complaint, brought on by a diet of hot breads, pies and iced water, which had then gained a place at the top of the list of American dainties.

The women of France, Italy, Russia and England have always drunk more than American women and have grown more robust in consequence. Their habits have been specially in evidence at the hotels, where many of the notable women of these races have stayed during visits to this city. Their invariable custom has been the simple French déjeuner, consisting of rolls and coffee served in their rooms on rising, followed by the more substantial breakfast at noon, this repeat always including a light claret or white wine. There has hardly been an exception to this rule, which has always been regarded as a foreign fad by hotel people used to catering to American women. Yet most of these women from abroad have been fine specimens of strength and beauty, and they would consider the omission of wine with a meal as an injurious infraction.

Among society women of this country the greatest amount of drinking is done at formal dinners and suppers and at dances, all of which are long, drawn out affairs, where a specialty is made of the service. It has become the fashion not to refuse to enjoy the entertainment that has been provided, but while the men of the younger set have been accused at various large functions of taking an advantage of the plenitude with which champagne has been provided certainly no such charge has ever been thought of with relation to women. If the charges made by the reverend Bishop and by the W. C. T. U. have a foundation in any fact, it has not come to light at the most representative gatherings of society women.

The discontinuance of the service of wines of different sorts with dinner courses has done away with much drinking upon the part of guests, as with the large assortment which it used to be correct to serve an unconscious over-indulgence was quite possible. Only one wine or at most two is now the fashionable rule for dinners, especially with the younger set. But at all these functions drinking among women is noticeably moderate.

The custom of serving Scotch Whiskey and soda at teas for the men has become quite prevalent. These men who do not enjoy the Hyson or Bohea served with lemon and rum frequently indulge in the now popular Scotch. At many of the smart dinners, especially at the country houses, Scotch whiskey and soda is served through dinner, but this is rather an extreme British custom, although it is gaining ground with the golf playing and cross-country riding people. Women rarely like this mixture, but the country club women refuse to be outdone in any of the customs of the same set in England. The companionship of the links and the hunting fields results in a fraternity of

tastes that is quite remarkable except to those in the charmed circle, where men may come to tea in golf clothes and riding togs.

A few seasons ago a story gained ground that the New York women were inveterate cocktail drinkers, and that the tea room of one of the hotels was noted for groups of maids and matrons and unchaperoned debutantes who imbibed quantities of cocktails served in china cups under the guise of tea. This sort of thing, it is said, was served on one or two occasions, but it never became a custom, and waiters were speedily instructed to refuse any such service. This special room is crowded each day with handsomely gowned women, who invariably order tea with the dainty sandwiches of brown and white bread.

The greatest amount of drinking among women will undoubtedly be observed among the groups of gaily dressed women who patronize the 'all night' restaurants. At all these places a vast amount of liquors and wines is consumed between the hours of sunset and sunrise, which constitute the day of that world. The women at these places drink quite as much as the men. The same people appear night after night in these places. They are always radiantly jewelled and smiling, invariably well groomed and apparently uninjured by the amount of alcohol which they absorb. Frequently, however, the collapse of these women is sudden and complete, and sanitariums swallow them up like graves from which they never emerge.

Another class of eating place where women are observed to drink on equal terms with the men are the Hungarian restaurants that have become famous through their bands and their service of the native wines of their country. A peculiarity of these places is the presence of the diners long after the meal is concluded. The bands play until midnight, during which hours the men smoke and there is much drinking of after dinner liquors, coffee and frapped benedictine and mint. Here the gatherings have a foreign savor and are of a very social nature, domestic groups of six to a dozen being a constant feature at the various tables. Many of the visitors to the Hungarian restaurants go as sight seers, while others enjoy the music of the gypsy bands.

At the German resorts the rathskeller has now encourage the presence of women and the various "gardens" the favorite beverage of the nation is invariably drunk by the wives and even the children of the contented looking German-Americans, who gather with their families and listen to the bands with tall steins at their elbows. Temperance women might find much to cavil at in the presence of so many women and children joining in the general beer-drinking, but more domestic or peaceful gatherings than these could not be found at any freestone.

As to secret intemperance, which was a far greater evil than the general drinking at dinner, which has grown to be the custom, this has been almost entirely done away with. It is now regarded and treated as a disease, while years ago inebriates, both women and men, were hidden in asylums and locked up in their homes in order to keep the secret from the world. Wines are no longer made the bugaboo to the young that they once were, on the theory that there is less danger of over-indulgence on this basis. At the colleges and clubs there is more general drinking than twenty-five years ago; but there is less drunkenness. The latter is uncommon nowadays, for the reason that the offenders are rapidly out from club lists and visiting lists. Inebriation is distinctly unfashionable.

A woman physician gives as her opinion on the allegations of feminine intemperance and the use of drugs the following:

'As to the London World's arraignment of women as drug fiends, this is a charge that American women can be absolved from without further query. The use of narcotics, of valerian and bromos, is not nearly so prevalent to day as it was some years ago. So much has been learned regarding the harmful effects of drugging and the proneness of patients to seek relief from their ills by resorting to the medicine chest that most doctors absolutely refuse to prescribe injurious drugs for their patients. Exercise, fresh air, travel, change, rest—these are the cure alls of the up to date doctor. More than that, the modern woman understands thoroughly that the right mode of living frequent bathing, fresh air and proper dressing are the best means to preserve and to retain health.

'Another potent force which will forever preserve the American woman from the vice of over indulgence in stimulants or drugs in this era is her determination to achieve and retain beauty. She strives by every means in her power to enhance every natural charm and to gain those which nature may have denied her. She knows from education and observation that nothing will so speedily or so surely destroy

It's Not Like

to Disappoint People

His Great Receipt Book Did Not Disappoint, and Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills Have Stomished Physicians and People like by Their Wonderful Cures

It is the mothers who especially appreciate the unusual virtues of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine. They keep it in the house as the most prompt and certain cure obtainable for croup, bronchitis and severe coughs and colds to which children are subject. It has never failed them. Scores of thousands of mothers say: " 'Twas Dr. Chase who saved our baby."

Mrs. F. W. Bond, 20 Macdonald street, Barrie, Ont., says: "Having tried your medicine, my faith is very high in its powers of curing coughs and croup. My little girl has been subject to the croup for a long time, and I found nothing to cure it until I gave Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine. I cannot speak too highly of it."

Mr. W. A. Wylie, 57 Seaton street, Toronto, states: "My little grandchild had suffered with a nasty, hacking cough for about eight weeks, when we procured a bottle of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine. After the first dose she called it 'honey' and was eager for medicine time to come around. I can simply state that part of one bottle cured her,

and she is now well and as bright as a cricket."

Mrs. F. Dwyer of Chesterville, says: "My little girl of three years had an attack of bronchial pneumonia. My husband and I thought she was going to leave the world as her case resisted the doctor's treatment. I bought a bottle of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine from our popular druggist, W. G. Bolster. After the first two or three doses the child began to get better, and we are thankful to say it is all right today after seven weeks' sickness."

Mr. E. Hill, fireman, Berkeley St. Fire Hall, Toronto, says: "I desire to say in favor of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine that one of my children was promptly relieved of whooping cough, and as long as obtainable will not be without it in the house, nor use any other medicine."

Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine is sold everywhere and is used in more houses than any other treatment for diseases of the throat and lungs. 20 cents a bottle. Edmanon, Bates & Co. Toronto.

her freshness of complexion, brightness of eye and grace of form as the various nostrums that are supposed to act as 'bracers' either drugs or wines. Moderation is the great lesson which the children of to day seem to have learned.'

VENOMOUS FISHES.

Several Species Which are Provided With Poison Fangs.

Venom is invariably associated in the human mind with snakes and never with fishes, yet the circle of poisonous animals has lately been extended by the addition, not only of a hitherto unsuspected lizard, but also of several fishes. There is a fish found in Central America the operculum of which is armed with a spine closely resembling the fang of a venomous serpent. The spine is hollow and communicates at its base with a poison bag, the contents of which pass through the spine into the wound which it inflicts. The dorsal fin of the same fish is likewise provided with two spines, each of which is similar in structure and function to that already described, and together they form the most perfectly developed poison apparatus yet found in this class of fishes.

More dangerous, because more common, are two species of fish found in the Indo-Pacific seas. Each of their very numerous dorsal spines is as good (or as bad) as a poison fang, being provided in every case with poison bag and grooves for the conveyance of the venom into the wound. The fishermen of the Mauritius and other coasts on which they occur no more think of handling these creatures than they would the venomous sea snakes of the same region. Sometimes, however, they are trodden on unwittingly by people wading with naked feet, when they inflict a wound which not infrequently proves fatal.

Other fish, as the sting ray of the Indian ocean, and even the sea spiders or weavers of British waters, inflict wounds with stiletto like spines so severe as to raise the suspicion that the dart is in some sense a poisoned one. If a few fishes are thus venomous when living a great many more are poisonous when dead. The typical fish is a more or less edible creature. The eating of the forms here referred to, however, frequently proves fatal. These include many of those curious balloon shaped fish known as globe fish and sea porcupines, also trigger fish and trunk fish. These may be readily recognized by the peculiarity of their forms, but less recognizable, although equally poisonous, are certain tropical species of herring and parrot wrasses. Their deleterious properties are said to be due in most cases to the poisonous nature of their food.

Corns! Corns! Corns!

Discovered at last; a remedy that is sure, safe and painless. Putnam's Painless Corn and Wart Extractor never fails, never causes pain, nor even the slightest discomfort. Buy Putnam's Corn Extractor, and beware of the many cheap, dangerous, and flesh eating substitutes in the market.

A Cynical Explanation.

'Why don't you publish your compositions?' asked the admirer. 'Because,' answered the musician, 'there is no possible chance for them. They are not good enough to be great nor bad enough to be popular.'

Wanted—An Author.

A Georgia exchange has this notice of an author's society 'in our midst.'

'The society, after the first meeting numbered 15 members, but on looking into the matter it was discovered that there was not an author in it! So the president has decided to import one, if one can be

had on reasonable terms. The society would be willing to give \$1 a day to a real live author for a limited number of days.'

TOOK CENTURIES TO BUILD.

Cologne Cathedral Was in Process of Construction 632 Years.

While the first stones of Cologne cathedral was laid on Aug. 15, 1248, and the body of the edifice was not opened until Aug. 15, 1848, 600 years later to the very day, it was not however, until Aug. 15, 1880, that the splendid structure was finally reported completed, having thus occupied in building the record time of exactly 632 years.

The castle of Kingsoberg, which stands at the southern extremity of Jutland, took 204 years from the laying of the foundation stone to the rigging of its master's banner on its highest flagstaff. Its foundation stone was the skull of its builder's bitterest enemy. Three months after its laying Count Joorsing, the builder of the castle, was killed. His son was then in swaddling clothes. He did not continue his father's work until aged 24.

On his twenty-fifth birthday he was thrown into prison by the son of the man whose skull lay in the earth of Kingsoberg which stopped putting another stone toward the completion of the founder's work till civilization intervened.

Restormel castle, in Cornwall, took 90 years to build, of which period exactly one-third was excavating the foundations. The solid rock upon which it stands is almost as hard as iron. Indeed Restormel means in Cornish 'the palace of the iron rock.'

Milan cathedral was begun in 1386 and finished under Napoleon in 1805, 419 years.

The Duomo, at Florence, was commenced by Arnolfo in the year 1294, the last block of marble being placed in position in the facade in presence of the king of May 12, 1887, a period of 593 years.

He Was Excused.

'You must excuse me this evening, Miss Billigad,' said Mr. Addelethwaite, 'if my peech is a little thick, for I have a terrible cold id my head.'

'I see you have,' Miss Milligan replied, 'that reminds me that you ought by all means to call on Sue Dallington while you are in your present condition.'

'Why so Miss Billigad?'

'She told me the other day that she was sure you had nothing in your head. Now you can prove that she made a mistake.'

A Small Boy's Pluck.

In a London tram car the other day a small boy was observed to be suddenly agitated, but regained his self-control after a few moments. Soon after the conductor appeared and asked for fares. When he stood before the small boy there was a slight pause, and the passengers were surprised to hear the following: 'Please charge it to my papa; I've swallowed the money.'

IT'S DISGUSTING!

IT'S REPULSIVE!

If You Have Catarrh Cure it for Your Friend's Sake, Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder Relieves in 10 Minutes.

One short puff of the breath through the blower supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder diffuses this powder over the surface of the nasal passages. Painless and delightful to use. It relieves instantly, and permanently cures catarrh, hay fever, colds, headache, sore throat, tonsillitis and deafness. 50 cents. 15