

Temperance Column

"LIQUID BREAD"

By Helen B. Montgomery

I am often reminded, when I hear the pleas so often advanced for the return of light wines and beer, of an article that I read in an English paper under the caption, "Liquid Bread." The phrase was used in the advertisement of a well-known brewing company in England, and a man one day saw a sign over a public house which read: "Good Ale is Liquid Bread." His story follows:

I went into the house and said, "Get me a quart of liquid bread."

The landlord said, "Ah, first-class sign isn't it?"

"Yes," said I, "if it's true."

"Oh, it's true enough, my beer is all right."

"Well, give me a bottle to take home." He gave me a bottle of this liquid bread. I took it to Doctor Samuelson, an analytical chemist, and I said to him, "I want you to tell me how much bread there is in this bottle." He smelled it and said, "It's beer."

"Well," he said, "if you come again in a week I'll tell you all about it." He charged me three guineas. In a week's time I went to know all about the liquid bread. The first thing about it was that there was 93 per cent. of water.

"It's liquid, anyhow," I said. "We'll pass that. Now let's get on to the bread."

"Alcohol, 5 per cent."

"What's alcohol?" I said.

"There's a dictionary, you can hunt it up for yourself."

I hunted it up and found alcohol described as "a powerful poison."

Then he gave me a number of small percentages of curious things, which he had put carefully down on each corner of a piece of white paper, and which amounted to about a quarter of a thimbleful of dirty-looking powder. That was the bread—2 per cent.

"And there would not be so much as that," said Dr. Samuelson, "if it were Bass' or Allsops'. This is bad beer."

This is the simple, scientific truth with regard to beer, and the case is stronger with regard to wine and spirits. There is practically no nourishment in them at all.

I think he has a rather low percentage of alcohol in his ale, but let it go at that—the point is that ale or beer is not a food, but a "powerful narcotic poison." To hear people talk, you would think that wine and beer were harmless beverages, hardly to be called intoxicating liquors. Have people forgotten so soon that 90 per cent. of all the liquid sold over the bar before the coming of the Eighteenth amendment was beer?

As you begin to study into the matter, you find that all the drunkenness of the ancient world was beer and wine drunkenness. It was wine that destroyed Greece and Rome. All the horrid accounts of the drunken banquets of the Roman emperors are written about the use of wine. The same is true of Babylon and Assyria. All these nations were destroyed not by distilled alcoholic liquors like gin and rum and whiskey and brandy, but by wine and beer. For it must never be forgotten that the process of distillation was not known for a thousand years after Christ. All the drunkards of the ancient world from Noah down were wine or beer drunkards. How terrible was the curse of fermented liquor in this ancient world may be seen from the fact that Buddha forbade drink to his followers in the sixth century B. C., and Mahomet to those who

embraced his new religion in the sixth century of our era.

The liquor of Mexico and South America is fermented; so is the liquor of Japan and Siam. In all these countries there is rising a strong movement against their own form of strong drink.

I feel that people should be informed so that they may withstand the real menace of the plea that America allow these "innocent beverages" back again. There never was a truer word in the Bible than which declares, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and whoso is deceived thereby is not wise."—*Rochester, N. Y., Democrat and Chronicle.*

TEMPERANCE WEEK IN BRAZIL.

Secular leaders in Brazil are beginning to realize that something must be done against the great social evils of the land. Intemperance, which never seemed as dangerous as it did in the States, has spread with giant strides, and, as one of the leaders said, "This vice which we imported from other countries will destroy our own land unless we do something at once."

So a temperance week was established, and the teachers in all the public schools were asked to prepare programs in which the evils of drink should be emphasized. They were asked to speak on the subject and to urge the children to make war against the common enemy. The leading journals also published articles setting forth the ravages of intemperance.

The significant thing, however, is that the leaders of the country turn to Protestant church and say: "You must lead in these campaigns, for it is well known that you are the enemy of vice."

—*The Presbyterian Banner.*

QUARTERLY MEETING DISTRICT NO. 1

The Quarterly Meeting of District No. 1 convened with the church at Belvidere, Maine, August 30th to September 2nd, 1928. The opening service was held on Thursday evening. Rev. D. M. McDonald was the speaker, taking as his theme, "The unfolding of the unknown bundle." Brother McDonald presented the experiences of a fully consecrated Christian in their walk with God after being sanctified. Sister McDonald spoke feelingly and helpfully on the work of God in Africa, showing the blessed results of prevailing prayer, and that God-sent conviction works the same results in souls in Africa and in America.

On Friday morning Brother H. S. Mullen gave a talk on prayer from the Scripture found in Rom. 8:26. The afternoon meeting was in charge of Sister H. S. Mullen, who spoke from Eph. 1:4, showing that Christ's standard and purpose for His people was settled before the foundation of the world.

Rev. L. T. Sabine brought the message on Friday evening. The text was found in Mal. 2:4, "All things are ready." He impressed the solemn truth that he as a preacher was the messenger sent to carry the good tidings of the feast prepared by God which was free to all who would partake—hence the responsibility resting upon both preacher and hearer.

Service was held on Saturday morning. Sister Sabine spoke from I John 4, bringing a helpful message on love.

The regular business meeting was held Saturday afternoon, with Rev. H. S. Mullen in the chair. Sister Ella Slipp was elected secretary pro tem. Scripture reading by President H. S. Mullen; prayer by Bro. Hollis Kimball; reading of minutes. The roll call found the following

ministers present: Revs. H. S. Mullen, L. T. Sabine, George A. Rogers, M. Ella Slipp; Lic. Hollis Kimball and Mrs. H. S. Mullen. The delegates present were: Millville—Miss Audrey Brown; Fort Fairfield—Mrs. F. T. Kimball, Miss Alice Slipp; Belvidere—Mrs. Chas. Randall, Miss Loring Thorne, Mrs. Alice Grant, Mr. John Thorne.

Election of officers:

President—Rev. George Rogers.

Vice-President—Rev. H. S. Mullen.

Secretary—Rev. M. Ella Slipp.

Treasurer—Mr. John Thorne.

Highway Agent—Rev. L. T. Sabine.

Devotional Committee—Mrs. Chas. Randall, Mr. John Thorne, Mrs. F. T. Kimball, Rev. Geo. Rogers.

Following are the reports of churches:

Frederickton—"We are glad to report as pressing on the upward way, inspired by God's word and Spirit and by the messages delivered by our pastor, Rev. I. F. Kierstead. Every second Sunday the pastor conducts a service at Doak Settlement which is pretty well attended. Special evangelistic services have been arranged for in the month of October."

Woodstock—"We are encouraged in the Lord. Our pastor, Rev. E. W. Lester, is still preaching a full salvation to us. Our services are not so well attended as at other times of the year on account of camp meetings, vacation time, and on the part of some because of lack of interest; but for all these drawbacks our meetings are times of refreshing. On Nov. 3 we are going to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of our church and at the same time the organization of the Reformed Baptist denomination. A good time is expected."

Marysville—"Our church is enjoying the blessing of the Lord. Preaching services and prayer meetings are good and well attended, between thirty and forty testifying to the saving and sanctifying power of the gospel. Sunday school is good, with the attendance increasing. Our pastor, Bro. Mullen, is faithful in the discharge of his duties, giving us the strong meal of the Word."

Millville—"Services fairly well attended. Bro. Sabine preaches well. People fed. Pastor has six preaching places; seldom misses an appointment. Expect to hold special meetings this fall with Rev. Thomas Laite as evangelist."

Hartland—"Our church holds regular services. Our pastor, Brother Dow, preaches the truth to us every Sunday evening, and leads the weekly prayer meeting. All the services are seasons of inspiration and blessing. The Sunday school is fairly well attended."

Waterville—"We are glad Brother Dow is our pastor again this year. The messages are heart-searching and helpful. The attendance has been rather small during the summer months, but a few of us are holding on to God and expecting victory."

Royalton—"Our pastor, Rev. H. S. Mullen, gives us the straight truth, which we appreciate very much. We also enjoy the messages brought by Mrs. Mullen, who preaches in his absence. Our church is in a good spiritual condition. We are few in number, but our meetings are good."

Fort Fairfield—"The cause in this section of the vineyard has been advancing perceptibly. A number who have been in a backslidden condition for years have come back to Father's house. We are praying that others may return from their wandering. Brother Briggs is faithful in his ministry. Mention should also be made of Sister Briggs, who is a faithful co-worker."

Belvidere—"No pastor until of late. Enjoy

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