

Temperance Column

ATTACKING TOBACCO

Sir,—Miss Royden is the daughter of an Anglican priest. She showed great academic ability in youth and wished to follow in her father's steps, but the doors of that calling were not open to women seeking ordination. So she applied to the Unitarian Church and was received and ordained. She is one of the foremost preachers of England, reckoned easily among the first ten most prominent. She has published very readable books of her discourses.

It is natural for distinguished English pulpites to travel on this continent and to be invited to address audiences of various kinds. So Miss Royden went to the United States and was very much anticipated by some, and fifteen hundred tickets were sold for her hearing in one instance alone. But no sooner did the ladies making arrangements for this function hear that Miss Royden smokes cigarettes than they cancelled the engagement. Perhaps in no instance could the American ladies have shown more sense and more helpfulness for the future generations than in this decision.

There is probably some good to come from every gift of God, and no doubt there is some place for tobacco, but it surely is not in the mouth of man or woman to chew, or in the lungs to breathe. It is likely its benefits are in its poisonous qualities to kill aphides on plants or lice on animals. Here it is effective and useful. Principal Grant of Queen's used to say that McGill through Redpath and MacDonald, the tobacco king, "owed much to sweetness and smoke."

The habit of smoking and chewing tobacco is so useless and so unnatural, and in some instances so distasteful that more than the Royden incident should come to public light. Just witness the public and often the private use of this article. In the trains there is a kind of provision for the victims of the habit. There is a smoking room that stands at the entrance of railway cars around which baggage carriers must struggle before their seats are reached. Always passed this door is a cloud of smoke to be penetrated in visions of spittoons. The waste of this life-giving saliva is always a concomitant of the habit, and once a lady said, "I can stand everything else in tobacco but spitting on the floor." Whenever the wind is favorable the smoking might almost as well be in the main car itself for the evil air will penetrate throughout and when the wind is not favorable some walking through with hand a-light bring the fumes with them. Now, too, in closed autos some ladies are made weak, unless objection is voiced, by the strong atmosphere. . .

In old days when dentists were scarce, toothache was soothed by tobacco. A little leaf in the cavity or the narcotic effects of the smoke would tide over the trouble. There is not this need now.

And worst of all is the evil effects on the constitution of both parents and children and children to be. The cigarette youth gets nowhere in his studies, and never does so well in anything as he might do. Some schools will expel users rather than waste their time. A large employer of young men said, "At these working tables mistakes always follow the

cigarettes." Some students of health effects have appropriately called them "coffin nails." I was in a community where a cigarette fiend smoked sixty in one day and in the evening hanged himself. The lesson was stunning but not lasting—"I will seek it again."

Continued purchasing of anything in small sums mounts to fortunes spent. I asked a man thirty years ago how much he threw away on cigars. He was not generous in any way that I knew. He said they cost him about seventy-five dollars a year. What a generous subscription to any good cause! This amount is very little for some and a great deal for others. The least gets off with not far from twenty-five dollars a year. The rich can do as they like and not feel it financially. They are sinners nevertheless. But the poor! I see a man whose little children are really needing boots and shoes and mittens. This twenty-five dollars would meet these "ends" generously, and do something on other necessities. Here is a man who uses a horse. Its ribs you can count and it wobbles under its heavy load. A whip must be its inspiration to greater strain and speed. Twenty-five dollars would get at least as many bushels of oats and these would add a shiny coat of hair and a champing bit. And so the stream of untold millions of money is sacrificed to this idol of useless, harmful selfishness, which if conserved in ways of good would add a large per cent of happiness and efficiency. Institutions could save the useless protests, "No smoking here."

Now some of the most genial persons are smokers. Their very friendliness has led them astray. In remonstrance they say they know it is wrong. God Himself cannot speak any more plainly than in this consciousness. They say, "I hope my sons will not do as I do." They even try to bribe their sons by gifts for abstaining till twenty-one, but the example is invariably the stronger lesson. And, too, daughters are in the calculation nowadays!

And in the meantime of nervousness in the human race increasing, muscles constricted if the mothers and prospective mothers use tobacco as one has said, "May God help the human race."

Just how far this femininity is prevalent in Canada is difficult to tell but all know that a decade ago it was imported to Ottawa by some of the smartset-aristocracy from England and so spread abroad by kindred spirits who thence take their standards of life and style.—L. M. England in Witness and Canadian Homestead.

OBITUARY

Miss Nettie Hagerman

At the Victoria Hospital, Fredericton, on the 8th inst., after a serious illness from burns, Miss Nettie Hagerman, in her 40th year, passed to be with Jesus.

The deceased leaves to remember a kind sister, four brothers: Zemro, of Detroit; Byron, of Boston; Myles and Herbert, of New Hampshire, and Rev. C. Ray, of Calais, Me., and three sisters: Mrs. Ed. Appleby, Millville, N. B., Mrs. L. Graves, Presque Isle, Me., and Mrs. Minnie Lathrope, of Presque Isle. The funeral services were held on Saturday, March 10th, conducted by Rev. L. T. Sabine at Millville. Burial took place in the family lot. "Not lost but gone before."

SPECIAL SERVICES AT OXFORD, N. S.

As our Assembly year draws to a close we are enjoying good times in our Church of the Nazarene in this town.

Rev. L. J. Sears, of Havelock, N. S., came to us in answer to prayer Feb. 27th and was with us over two Sundays. We tried by correspondence to secure an evangelist and failed. Conditions were such that we could not call the evangelist we had last spring from Ontario, and so we resorted to prayer. God put it on this Reformed Baptist pastor's heart to volunteer without money and without price. God makes no mistakes. Brother Sears came and did not go away without something in the way of remuneration. If he could have stayed longer we have no doubt but he would have been better paid than those who set a price.

He proved to be an old fashioned young man, who knows how to preach the old fashioned gospel on old fashioned second blessing lines, with all boldness and courage. We have had very few preachers come into our prayer circles and pull and lift like he did. Brother Sears said that he seldom if ever saw a church in such good condition for a revival. He said that if we could only have the material we could surely build on such a foundation. This condition of the Church is wholly due to our prayer circles, and as long as we are pastor anywhere, we shall have the volunteer prayer circle.

But the people migrating in such numbers, more than ever, precluded such a possibility. Our church is losing six or seven of its best members right away within a few days and there is every reason to believe that more will follow. The woolen industry of the town is closed down completely and the people must seek a livelihood somewhere.

Nevertheless we had splendid meetings and some seekers. The boldness and courage of the evangelist was a very great asset and the people kept coming in ever-increasing numbers until the preacher was called home by telegram on account of his wife's sickness. If he could only have stayed two or three weeks more as we had planned, we believe we would have enjoyed the best revival there has been in Oxford for many years. We have not often met a young man as spiritual and solid in doctrine as this young man proved to be, or one so bold and courageous in declaring the truth. We heartily recommend him to any holiness church desiring second blessing holiness preaching in the old fashioned fashion. There is nothing superficial about this young man, and if all young men were as true to truth, our holiness churches would be safe with such as pastors and evangelists. By the way he is one of our Eastern Nazarene College students. We trust the pace he sets will be an incentive to other students from that institution. We do not expect to ever report again from Oxford, as we have received and accepted a call to the City of Toronto, and will (D. V.) take up the work there next month. Pray for us. We believe the prayer job has never yet been overdone.

PASTOR JOSEPH RICHARDSON

Presque Isle, Me.

Rev. P. J. Trafton:

Kind Sir: I am sending my renewal for the Highway. I enjoy reading it very much. I have been reading it for many years.

MRS. MARY E. KINNEY