

LIBERALITY OF AMERICANS

Mrs. H. C. Morrison

America is not bankrupt, by any means. The only trouble is that her wealth is being directed into wrong and useless channels. There was never a time when our savings deposits were equal to what they are today, nor a time when our people were able to purchase the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

We recently came across the following figures compiled from government statistics, indicating how Americans spend their money. With such great prosperity as we enjoy in America since the abolition of the saloon, there is no calculating what we could do to minister to those nations in distress if we would only direct our money into the proper channels.

It is given out from our government statistics that Americans spend for the one diversion of pleasure, the movie, the sum of \$2,000,000,000 each twelve months. When I first read this I thought it was \$2,000,000, but when I looked the second time I saw it was TWO BILLION! I almost lost my breath in surprise. And for what! MOVIES—every day movies, Sunday movies, midnight movies, blood-curdling movies, where the pistol and red shirt are the chief items of attraction; where one husband steals the wife of another man and flees for parts unknown; where children are taught how to blow up vaults, rob trains, break into houses, hold up banks, and every other devilment on the face of the earth. But what a vast amount of money is worse than wasted—spent in educating your children in the school of crime. Shall we ever wake up to the alarming situation!

Then the item of \$2,000,000,000 is given as expended for automobiles. This is not so amazing as the movie investment, for automobiles cost a lot of money, and are, in the main, used for legitimate and useful purposes. But would you have believed that movies cornered as much of our money as the automobile?

But the next item of expenditure almost staggers one's capacity to believe, and that is, for tobacco in various forms. We Americans spend the astounding sum of \$2,500,000,000! More than for automobiles! And yet we claim to be the leading Christian nation on the globe. Women are swelling this already enormous sum by puffing their cigarettes as if it were a Twentieth Century accomplishment. Shame on our womanhood who are so blind as to not see what this is leading to, and what the end will be no one dares prognosticate. When our women lend themselves to such indulgence what may we expect of the coming generations.

Good food is all right, and we should have such as is palatable and nourishing, but when it comes to spending \$5,000,000,000 for food luxuries, that which is over and above what we really need, it is alarming and selfish in the extreme. While thousands of earth's inhabitants are crying for bread, our people are sitting at the midnight tables of carousal and gorging themselves with that which will eventually wreck their health and empty their pocket-books. Yes, for luxuries!

This is an age of pleasure-mad, joy-riding, race-seeking, and resorts of carnal indulgence. Will you believe it when I tell you that \$3,000,000,000 are paid for such diversions? How far would this go toward sending the gospel to the farthest corners of the earth! Yet Christian (?) America throws it to the

winds in seeking for that which satisfieth not.

Our women not only come in on the tobacco expenditures, but we find that their cosmetics and the various things they use to beautify themselves, cost the tremendous sum of \$750,000,000 each year. This looks as if an enormous price was paid to be beautiful—what they call beautiful—but in reality, they look more like clowns dressed for a circus performance. They do not appreciate Lord Byron's idea of beauty, when he said, "Woman least adorned, is most adorned." But you can't teach them otherwise.

Then we have the enormous amount spent for jewelry, \$500,000,000, and \$400,000,000 for toilet soaps, \$350,000,000 for candy and cake, which are detrimental to health in the most serious sense; soft drinks, \$350,000,000, when good pure water would be far better for their health; \$300,000,000 for furs, but they are so badly needed in July and August I suppose we shall have to allow them this convenient and comfortable piece of apparel.

Then we have the item of ice cream for which \$250,000,000 goes over the counters of our cold drink stands and lunch counters. No harm in ice cream, but could we not do on less and get along better?

Summing up the various items of expenditure in one year, the American people spend the incredible sum of \$22,700,000,000 "for that which is not bread," and which would have been better for their health and pocket-books if they would have done without. Many hospital bills, doctors' bills, medicine bills and what not, would have been saved if the stomach had not been made a garbage can for all the non-essentials which we, as Americans, believe are a part of life. And I dare say, that thousands of the people who indulge in the above luxuries are professed Christians, but have not conscience enough to feel that they are doing anything wrong. The language of another is appropriate here: "What fools we mortals be!"—The Pentecostal Herald.

PETITION AND GUIDANCE

"A good many years ago," a Christian writes, I was sailing in the desolate seas off Cape Horn, hunting whales. One day while we were beating directly south in the face of a hard wind, we were making very little headway. About eleven o'clock, as I stood at the wheel, the idea suddenly came into my mind: "Why batter the ship against these waves? There are probably as many whales to the north as to the south. Suppose we run with the wind instead of against it?" In response to that sudden idea, I changed the course of the ship and began to sail north instead of south. One hour later, at noon, the look-out at the masthead shouted, 'Boats ahead!' Presently we overtook four lifeboats in which were fourteen sailors, the only survivors of the crew of a ship which had burned to the water's edge ten days before. These men had been adrift in their boats ever since, praying frantically for rescue; and we arrived just in time to save them. They would not have survived another day."

Then the old whaler said: "I don't know whether you believe in religion or not, but I happen to be a Christian. I have begun every day of my life with the prayer that God would use me to help someone else, and I am convinced that God that day put the idea into my mind to change the course of my ship. That idea was the means of saving fourteen lives."—*News and Truths*.

THE ADVENT OF THE HOLY GHOST ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Rev. L. I. McDougle

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come."—Acts 2:1.

I.—The Promise of the Father. The advent of the Holy Ghost was prefigured in the cherubim and shekina, Gen. 3-24, Ex. 25-22, and the inauguration of His dispensation by the events at Sinai fifty days after the Passover. "I will pour out My Spirit unto you. I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh. I will pour out My Spirit upon thy seed. I will put My Spirit within you. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire."

II.—The Promise of the Son.—I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of Truth. It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will come not unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you. And when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth. Wait for the promise of the Father, which ye have heard of Me; for behold I send the promise of My Father upon you, and ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

III.—The Promise Fulfilled—"And when the Day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." Peter, in his sermon, interpreted this to be the fulfillment of prophecy and promise.

IV.—The Holy Spirit Promised to the Christian.—"I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh. The promise is unto you and your children. The promise is unto all them that afar off. The promise is unto even as many as the Lord our God shall call." And he put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith." If ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" "Whom the world cannot receive." "He shall abide with you forever."

The converts of the Day of Pentecost and of the second day, 4-4, received by the baptism and gift of the Holy Ghost the third day, 4-31. Results after Pentecost reassure the Christian believer of his privilege under this dispensation. Acts 6-3; 8-5-17; 22-31; 10-44; 11-1-18; 13-52; 15-5-12.—*Selected*.

BITS THAT BLESS

Dr. Charles Fowler, who, for 25 years, was the President of the National Holiness Association of America, was in the habit of saying that he could find at least 50 terms in the Bible denoting this heart experience which we term "entire sanctification," at least 50 terms that speak of an uttermost salvation, of being filled with the Spirit, baptized with the Holy Ghost, perfect in love, complete in Him. So we see that the man who denies or ignores this grace is simply setting aside the Book of God and disregarding the Scriptures. We cannot believe that God put this truth upon almost every page of His Word to have us ignore it.