

Temperance Column

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging. Whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.—Prov. 1:20.

WHO'LL DRINK IT?

William Hamilton Cline

Four men sat in the observation car as the Lark purred its way up the Coast. One was a merchant, one a manufacturer, a third was a lawyer, and the fourth—a mere listener-in.

"Well," said the lawyer, "now that the Democrats are wide open on repeal, we'll soon see this country wet again."

"Perhaps," said the merchant, "provided they win."

"And a good thing, too," put in the manufacturer; "we need the revenue it'll bring in. Taxes are something fierce."

"I'm not so sure it'll bring in much," the lawyer spoke. "What I'm wondering is, after ten years or so of prohibition—even partial, to concede the argument—who's going to drink all the booze we'll have so freely pushed at us?"

"Why—why, everybody," the merchant opined. "Everybody used to do so."

"Yes, everybody did—almost everybody. But in a decade, a lot of folks have gone off liquor—and a lot more have grown up who don't know what it is, despite the gin parties you hear so much about. I'd like to ask you,"—to the merchant—"are you going back to drinking?"

"Me? Well, I hardly think so. This stuff we've been getting lately has been so awful that I have not taken a drink of it in years; don't dare. No-o; I hardly think I'd care to take up drinking again."

"Your customers, then?"

"I hope not! I've sold a lot more clothes and shoes and such since 1920—and, I don't mind saying, to people who used to buy much less; they've had more money for necessities since the pay check has found its way home, and have spent it that way—anyhow, till this depression struck us."

"So-o. Then you're off of it, and you hope your customers are, too, eh? That eliminates a pretty large group, doesn't it? But how about the working man?"

"I wouldn't hire a factory man who drank. My crews are sober," snorted the manufacturer. "I get a good deal more work out of 'em, a lot less spoilage, and many fewer accidents. They don't spend Mondays in sobering up, either. Not me. I don't touch it any more and I won't have my operatives doing it, either."

"And that cuts out another large element of our potential revenue makers, if all of your class feel that way."

"Most of us do; we've learned by experience that sobriety is an asset in our line—a huge one."

"Then—well, perhaps you'll both agree that the trainmen, the bus drivers, the taxi Jehus, the truck mahouts, the air pilots—"

"Nothing doing! I wouldn't be on this train if I thought the engineer was a drinker."

"Me, too," added the merchant; "those fellows can't indulge; it's too dangerous. Why, the police won't let an autoist—"

"Oh! Then how about the younger generation, now growing up? You have any children?"

"Yes, two," the factory man declared.

"I've three," said the merchant.

"Want them to do the revenue-producing imbibing?"

"Not if I can help it—never!"

"Nor me; we don't have a drop in the house because of them. Say, why ask such fool questions, anyhow?"

"I'm just seeking information; that's all. Now, as a lawyer—and I might add, as something of a politician, too—I've had some experience with drunken judges and other public servants in the past, and I'm frank to say I'm not strong for them. But—somebody's got to soak up all that booze, if we get it, or there'll be no revenue from it. And so who's going to do our drinking and make the wet goods pay our taxes? I wonder . . ."

Dead silence.

"Well, I'm going to bed."

"Me, too." (Yawn).

"Same here. Good night."

The listener-in sat in a brown study as the miles clicked by. He wondered, too.—Exchange.

The Question Box

Question 1—Please explain Acts 1-26, "And they gave forth their lots, and the lot fell upon Matthias." 2.—If a group of churches could not agree about the choice of a pastor wouldn't it be a good plan to decide in some such way?

Answer—It is not easy to say exactly how the matter of deciding questions by lot was carried on, but it seemed to be a custom among God's people anciently, and God seemed to honour it. See Josh. 7:14-15, I Sam. 10:20-21, I Chro. 24-5, Luke 1-9. 2.—We would say it might be better for a group of churches to use this method in choosing a pastor if all would agree to it, than for them to use some other method and create a spirit of division among them.

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Question 1—Please explain Luke 23-43, "To-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise." 2—Do people go to heaven when they die or not till the Resurrection?

Answer—We find this word used in two other places in Scripture, see II Cor. 12-4, "Paul was caught up into Paradise", also Rev. 2-7, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. How do we know that paradise is not Heaven itself, or a part of it. Jesus was going there so he told the penitent thief, and Paul was caught up to the third heaven he says when he was in Paradise. Also according to Rev. 2-7, God is there. Is that not what makes heaven? the presence of Jesus and of God the Father. "Where Jesus is 'tis heaven there." The name Paradise means pleasure, delight, the abode of the blessed. Hence not the grave.

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Question—Please explain Mat. 22-14, "For many are called: but few are chosen?"

Answer—God calls all men to repentance, faith and holiness; but few are chosen to partake of the gospel feast, or enjoy heaven eternally because they do not respond to His call, or qualify by meeting the conditions upon which they can be saved which are laid down in the word of God.

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Question—Please explain John 12-31, "Now shall the prince of this world be cast out."

Answer—The foregoing words were spoken by our Lord when He was about to go to the cross to atone for the sins of all mankind. We believe He means to say that through His death and resurrection, Satan's power would be broken and provision made whereby Satan who reigned in the hearts of men, could be cast out.

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Question—Is it right to leave a bill for collection if one knows that the debtor would not pay if he could? Has not the least intention to do so?

Answer—If one is fully able to pay a bill and

will not, of course he is dishonest, and in as much as the apostle Paul says the law is made for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners (see I Tim. 1-9) it might teach him to be honest, and do him good to collect a bill by law after he has been faithfully warned.

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There are many who are in debt to the King's Highway and we have reason to believe that many could pay if they would. Many of them have a steady income, and are spending much money on many things, some no doubt they could do without: but they are years in arrears on their subscription and the Highway needs the money. We have made appeals to the subscribers many times.

Question—What must the business manager of the Highway do to get these honest debts?

—H. S. D.

QUARTERLY MEETING

DIST. NO. 2

The Quarterly Meeting of District No. 2 convened with the Church at Amherst, March 4th to 7th inclusive.

Lic. Miriam Sanders had charge of the first service and spoke from Hosea 13:13.

On Friday evening Lic. Hazel Owens brought the message from Psalm 24:39. God's presence was very real in this service and at the close three souls claimed victory.

On Saturday morning the Young People had charge of the service. Rev. Grace Sanders brought a splendid message from Timothy 1:1.

The business meeting of the Quarterly was held on Saturday afternoon with the Vice-President, Rev. H. S. Dow, in the chair. The Officers for the ensuing quarter were appointed and are as follows: Pres., Rev. H. C. Sanders; Vice Pres., Rev. H. S. Dow; Secretary, Wyonette Sargeson; Highway Agent, Rev. H. S. Dow.

The Saturday evening service was also in charge of the Young People, and Rev. Chas. Sanders brought a helpful message. His subject was, "It pays to follow God." At the close of this service two souls knelt at the altar.

On Sunday morning, Sister M. Steeves had charge of the love feast. At 11 o'clock Lic. Hazel Owens brought the message from I. Cor. 11:26. At the close of this service the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was observed.

At 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon the service was held in the First Baptist Church, at which Charles and Grace Sanders, our outgoing missionaries, were ordained. Rev. F. A. Dunlop had charge of this service. Rev. H. S. Dow brought the message, using as his text, Romans 1:14.

On Sunday evening, Rev. F. A. Dunlop preached an inspiring message from Heb. 1:2. "Himself purged our sins."

The special singing by the Sanders family, Sister Owens and others added much to the meetings. We are led to believe that this was a good quarterly meeting, and we praise God for His presence with us.

WYONETTA SARGESON

Hordes of rats are attracted to the brewery vats by the smell of malt and they frequently drown and become an integral part of the beer. Brewers object to stating this fact publicly.—Herald of Holiness.

There is a difference between trying to please and giving pleasure. Give pleasure. Lose no chance of giving pleasure, for that is the ceaseless and anonymous triumph of a truly loving spirit.—Henry Drummond.