

Temperance Column

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

SENATOR REYNOLDS' ADDRESS

The dry address in the United States Senate, of Senator Reynolds, elected on a repeal platform, was a bitter dose for the liquor industry. Their heads are in a whirl. In one instance they say "legalized liquor is here to stay," and then again we read, "the liquor men should start their campaign to capture public sentiment right away," inferring that this task was still ahead of them. They talk "moderation" and "temperance," but hardly seem to know where they are going, but like the soldier boys during the World War, when asked "where do we go from here?" would reply, "I don't know where I'm going, but I'm on my way." They remind us of an old colored man, the War Cry tells about. He had arrived at the railroad station with a goat he was shipping away for his boss. The station agent asked him, "what's this goat's destination?"

"Suh?"

"I say what's his destination? Where is he going?"

The old darkey looked carefully for the tag which the boss had put on the goat before leaving home, but a bit of frayed cord was all he could find.

"Suh," he wrathfully explained, "dat onery, ignerant goat's done completely et up his own destination!"

"Moderation and decency is the vogue," screams Tap and Tavern, journal of the liquor industry in Pennsylvania. Beautiful words! But the contents of every issue of National Voice, speak so loudly, Tap and Tavern, that we cannot hear what you say, for the happenings recorded each week in this dry paper are down to the minute tragedies, and under repeal, and not something that occurred under "Prohibition-bootleg days," as you would term it.

Have the wets "drunk up" their own destination? Do they know where they are going? We do. They are headed straight for national prohibition!

But we have gone off on a detour. What we started to give you were some of the wailings of the wets after reading Senator Sheppard's and Senator Reynolds' dry addresses. Under the heading "Distortion in Congress," Beverage Retailer Weekly says:

"Liquor was attacked in Congress last week. Two dry Senators—Sheppard of Texas and Reynolds of North Carolina—accused the industry of being 'drunk with power' and warned it of impending doom. Reynolds wants an immediate investigation, Sheppard wants immediate Prohibition.

When the subject is brought before the nation in this sensational manner, many otherwise normal citizens wonder if there is not something concrete in the arguments of the dries.

Is there?

Never have we read a mess of more unintelligible, aimless and fanatic accusations.

Senator Reynolds says there are too many saloons and the industry is drunk with power.

Has the Senator ever been informed that the strongest and most persistent advocates of license limitation are in the liquor industry? Has he ever been told that every retailers' association works for a ban on new permits in its community or state?

Senator Sheppard complains that women are drinking, something they didn't do in 1919.

Has anybody ever told the Senator that women are doing many things they did not do in

1919? Does he realize women smoke cigarets, roller skate, ski, and wear one-piece bathing suits—all horrible breaches of etiquette in 1919?

Stern regulations are needed to control liquor advertising, cries Sheppard, the delight of the dries.

Is there an industry in the nation that operates under sterner regulations than liquor, or is the Senator merely exercising his rhetoric? Has the Senator ever read Helen Woodyard's latest book, in which this famous critic of business frauds calls liquor advertising "the cleanest and most decent job in the United States?"

On Reynolds, who seized the opportunity to get elected on a Repeal Platform in 1932, when his state's sentiment was against Prohibition, we don't care to waste words.

He became almost incoherent in his speech on the Senate floor. The industry "is drunk with power," he repeated over and over.

Such generalities mean nothing. This industry is not drunk with power, it has never tried to force its will on the American public and it operates with an eternal eye on good taste and moderation.

There ought to be an investigation of Senators who spread distorted facts, half-truths and intolerance.

Confusion worse confounded! Have the wets "drunk up" their own destination? Where do we go from here?

Brother, there's no use to squirm, and fret and fume and rant. We are headed straight for national prohibition!!—National Voice.

GOD USES THOSE WHO ARE BROKEN

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit." (Ps. 51:17).

We may have our wills surrendered to God's will and yet miss a large part of the blessing He would give.

Our spirits must be broken also, so that we see in every test and circumstance of each day His loving hand permitting, and gladly accept all from Him because His all-seeing eye understands what will accomplish our "perfecting." The trial can more quickly be removed, because as we accept it, asking for the lesson He would teach and victory over Satan, He can then quiet us and show us the light we need.

God uses most for His glory those people and things which are most perfectly broken. The sacrifices He accepts are broken and contrite hearts. It was the thorough breaking down of Jacob's natural strength at Peniel that got him where God could clothe him with spiritual power. It was by breaking the surface of the rock at Horeb by the stroke of Moses' rod that it let out the cool waters to thirsty people.

It was when the three hundred elect soldiers under Gideon broke their pitchers, a type of breaking themselves, that the hidden lights shone forth, to the consternation of their adversaries. It was when the poor widow broke the seal of the little pot of oil and poured it forth that God multiplied it to pay her debts and supply means of support.

It was when Esther risked her life and broke through the rigid etiquette of a heathen court that she obtained favor to rescue her people from death. It was when Jesus took the five loaves and broke them the bread was multiplied in the very act of breaking, sufficient to feed five thousand. It was when Mary broke her beautiful alabaster box, rendering it henceforth useless, that the fragrant per-

fume filled the whole house. It was when Jesus allowed His precious body to be broken to pieces by thorns and nails and spear, that His inner life was poured out like a crystal ocean for thirsty sinners to drink and live.

It is when a beautiful grain of corn is broken up in the earth by death that its inner heart sprouts forth and bears hundreds of other grains. And thus on and on, through all history, all biography, all vegetation, and all spiritual life, God must have broken things.

Those who are broken in wealth, and broken in self-will, and broken in their ideals, and broken in worldly reputation, and broken in their affections, and broken in health, and those who are despised, and seem utterly helpless and forlorn, the Holy Ghost is seizing upon, and using for God's glory. It is "the lame that take the prey," Isaiah tells us. It is the weak that overcome the devil. God is waiting to take hold of our failures and nothingness and shine through them.

"Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men" (I. Cor. 1:25).

"Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:3).

Christ is building His kingdom with earth's broken things. Men want only the strong, the successful, the victorious, the unbroken in building their kingdoms; but God is the God of the unsuccessful, of those who have failed. Heaven is filled with earth's broken lives, and there is no bruised reed that Christ cannot take and restore to glorious blessedness and beauty. He can take the life crushed by pain or sorrow and make it into a harp whose music shall be all praise. He can lift earth's saddest failure up to heaven's glory.—Sel.

THE KINGDOM AND THE CROSS

An old Roman said of Christianity, "This system cannot stand because it is founded upon a cross, upon the death of its own Leader, upon a catastrophe." But he was wrong. It is the systems which are built upon walled cities and spears and arrows or shot and shell or military prowess or diplomatic skill which perish. The weakness of great power is that greater power can undo it. Napoleon found that out, and all others have or will.

But this cross which is to the wisdom of man foolishness has God's eternal power and plan in it. Here is goodness and compassion in concrete form. But not only so, this was not merely a gesture of good will toward man. Here was an effectual death for us.

The cross was not the end. On the third day our Lord rose again, victor over death and hell. Death, which is thought by many, to be the worst enemy, was at the cross. The defeat of death on the first Easter morning was a triumph such as the Caesars and the Alexanders and the Napoleons never knew.

Earthly kingdoms, with all their powers and all their boastings, run their few days and run out. The kingdom of the cross and the resurrection is more stable than the mountains and more certain than the "fixed stars." "Behold, I am alive forevermore," said our Lord. And so, my dear Roman, this system will stand through time, and if not "through" still during all eternity.—Free Methodist.

It is safer to live near a powder mill than to have a temper beyond control.