

D. L. MOODY ON "PREACHING"

1. **Talk.** When a man gets up to speak—and let me say right here that I like to say "to speak" better than "to preach," because if I can only get people to think I am talking with them, and not preaching, it is so much easier to hold their attention—I say, if I can get people to say that I don't preach, but only talk, I'd rather have that compliment than any other. * * * *

2. **Be Yourself.** I do detest the kind of people that have a religious tone—who always change their voice when they begin to talk to you on the subject of religion, and a peculiar whine that makes you think of cant. Be natural. Talk on this subject as you would on any other subject.

3. **Get hold of the people's curiosity.** If you take up Dr. Guthrie's sermons and look at them, you will find that he begins, you would think, a thousand miles away from his text, and you wonder how he is ever going to get back to his theme. When he has the curiosity of the whole congregation excited, he comes back to his text. You will find he almost invariably begins in that way.

4. **Don't get into the ruts.** Strike out a path of your own. Don't say: "First," and "secondly," and lastly, and all that. Take the whole truth, or the whole text, and throw it right at them; then go about it and try to drive it home.

5. **Be brief.** It is very much better to get the reputation of being brief than to have people saying that you preach long sermons. Say what you have to say in just as few words as you can. And then stop when you get through. Some men go on and feel around for a good stopping-place. I'd rather stop abruptly than do that. Don't waste any time. Remember, we are living in an intense age. Men think quicker than they used to. * * * * What we want in our preaching is brevity. Get the reputation of being short and people will want to hear you. If you get a reputation for being long you will have very few listeners. * * *

6. **Get the attention of your audience.** If you are going to be public speakers, train yourselves for that. It can be done. And then, aim at the heart! Just keep thundering away at a man's heart and you will get it, and if you get his heart, you get his head and his feet and everything—you get the whole man; and there is nothing that will warm up the heart like the gospel of Jesus.—Moody Monthly.

IN A CHRISTIAN LAND

In a recent article Rev. C. F. Wimberly pointed out some appalling facts as to the religious conditions in America. Only eight per cent of the people of our nation attend services on Sunday morning, and but two per cent on Sunday evening. About forty per cent of the American people are on church registers, but only twenty-nine per cent ever attend church. Among the 13,000,000 Negroes in America, 7,000,000 are unchurched. There are 250,000 unchurched men, women and children of all races in Pittsburgh; 400,000 in Cleveland; 300,000 in St. Louis; 250,000 in Seattle; 425,000 in San Francisco; 1,000,000 in Los Angeles; and 4,000,000 in New York. The unchurched of New York City equal the combined population of Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico.—Wesleyan Methodist.

Temperance Column

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

DRINK SHORTENS LIFE

Dr. Arthur Hunter, actuary of the New York Life Insurance Company, after studying records of sixty large companies involving over 2,000,000 persons finds that even moderate drinkers of alcoholic liquors reduce life's expectancy from four to six years. Dr. Hunter figures that every drink costs the moderate drinker, not only the price on the counter but twenty-five minutes of life.—Prophecy Monthly.

WATSON NAMED AS KEYNOTER

The National Committee of the Prohibition party unanimously selected for temporary chairman and keynote speaker of the coming national convention of the party "Claude A. Watson, of Los Angeles, California, who was the Prohibition candidate for vice-president of the United States in 1936. Mr. Watson is the forceful, logical and 'live wire' speaker, and will not fail to inspire his audience with an address which will command the attention of the public when it reaches them by radio or in print.

"As a candidate for attorney-general of California in 1938 Mr. Watson polled more than 100,000 votes, securing 40,000 in his own county of Los Angeles."—The National Prohibitionist.

STAGGERING FIGURES ABOUT DRINK

Over 400,000 outlets for the sale of alcoholic beverages under government protection,
6,165 wholesalers of fermented malt liquors.
222,458 retailers of distilled spirits (including all liquors).

181,770 retailers of fermented malt liquors only.

30,000,000 families averaged \$91.69 per family for liquor.

Government got an average of \$14.97 per family in revenue.

Rather staggering, what?—Penn Bulletin.

CHIEF TELLS POLICE COMMISSION DRY LAW RETURN "THREATENED"

Population of Los Angeles is not sufficiently temperate to handle liquor in moderation and celebration periods become almost a public debacle, according to an opinion expressed by Chief of Police Arthur C. Hohmann at the meeting of the Police Commission recently. A return to prohibition is "threatened," he asserted.

His statement was made following his report that whereas ten per cent of the police department was required to handle drunkenness in 1926, the record in 1939 shows that sixty per cent of the department was engaged in disposition of drunks.

Hohmann attributed the situation to a lack in the public temperament and the presence of so many places where liquor may be easily obtained, particularly in the East Fifth Street district, otherwise known as "skid row."

It is the duty of the Police Commission to pass on applications of show and dance permits where liquor is sold. The chief thought that the less "dressing up" the saloons received the less attraction there would be for

those without sufficient will power to resist temptation.

"I am no prude," he said, "but the fact is that there were 400 traffic accidents on the Saturday evening preceding Christmas. The officers found that nearly all of these accidents were caused by drivers who had been drinking. All the receiving hospitals were jammed."

Hohmann told of the tender age of most of the celebrants who caused damage and injury and declared that while the liquor permits are in the hands of the state, Los Angeles could help to curb the situation by fewer show and dance permits in saloons.—Los Angeles Times.

A Vancouver man, Eli Cummer, C. P. R. pensioner, 1424 Gravelly street, despite having passed 98 years of age, is still mentally alert and in good health and looking forward to the time when he will celebrate his one-hundredth birthday anniversary. He has not been able to hear quite so keenly of late years, but he is still able to relish three meals a day and keep abreast of current events. Although he had been a smoker from 10 to 90 years of age he suddenly made up his mind that it was an un-Christian and unclean habit and quit without experiencing the slightest craving for tobacco since.—Sel.

"PIRATES" AND "SWINDLERS"

Another class of gambling very popular today is "wildcat," dishonest promotion schemes. These propositions may have some uncertain substance behind them, or none—a pure swindle. W. D. Hord, an ex-banker and widely experienced business man, has written a book, *Lost Dollars*, or the *Pirates of Promotion*, in which he states that the March 27, 1922, edition of the *Financial World* (New York) gives the names of over one hundred and twenty defunct oil companies with an aggregate capital of over one-half billion dollars; over two hundred industrial corporations with an aggregate authorized capital of over one hundred and sixty million dollars; five hundred and fifty companies with an authorized capital of over eight hundred million dollars; and nearly one hundred and fifty miscellaneous companies with an aggregate authorized capital of something like eight hundred million dollars, making a grand total of defunct companies, in that year, of over one thousand, with an authorized capitalization of over three billions of dollars. He quotes Representative E. E. Denison as saying: "The whole American people work nearly a week every year for the pirates of promotion—that surprisingly large band of dealers in fraudulent and worthless securities." He further quotes Horace J. Donnelly, Sr., Assistant Solicitor of the Post Office Department: "It is not extravagant to say that a million gullible Americans yearly lose their money and property in mail fraud schemes, and that a billion dollars annually are lost." Official estimates are made that the people of this country have lost as much as \$500,000,000 annually through such sales of spurious securities.

Gambling is a very old evil of society, but it has been intensified and extended to an alarming extent during the recent years. In earlier days gambling was confined to back alleys and deep dives in our cities, but now it has climbed out on the public square, and into social circles, where it claims to be indispensable for adding interest to evenings of pastimes.—Watchman Examiner.