

## Temperance Column

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

### ANXIOUS MOTHERS

In the great peacetime draft 17,000,000 young men between twenty-one and thirty-five years of age have registered. Volunteers, and perhaps some of the draftees, will shortly be placed in camps or other concentrations for some kind of military training for service in case of war. The mothers are praying for peace. The scream which came at the calling of one number is but a drop of the sea of emotion, some of it vocal, most of it in suppressed sobs and haunted eyes. War is a horror.

But the war may not come. Still the hundreds of thousands of the boys are to be wrenched from their homes to the new environments for a year. A vital question now being raised is whether the liquor traffic is to have a chance at these boys. A high official of this government has answered in substance, "Yes." And this is what we have a right to expect from an administration which did all possible toward the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment and has been indifferent to the abomination of the "New Deal Saloon" and indifferent to the protection of dry territory. If there has been in the years since repeal one interested thought among the federal ruling politicians for the protection of our youth against liquor, most of us have never heard of it.

If a youth clean from liquor and tobacco comes home from his year in the camps a cigarette addict and on the way to be a drunken sot, this will be worse than the blood of the battlefield.

Mr. Hitler may be worse than some other dictators in some things. He is. But give him credit for knowing that liquor and cigarettes are bad for men. And give him credit for using his great power against their use.—Sel.

### AS YOU HAVE GONE

Someone wrote on the cigarette habit and how to break it. Neglecting to mention the habit-forming power of the narcotic, the author spoke of a circle of motions which produced another smoke—the hand thrust into a certain pocket for the package, the pulling of the cigarette from the pack, the reaching into another pocket for the matches, the striking of the match, etc. All of which the writer believed was a circle of subconscious conduct. He advised the smoker to try to break away by carrying his cigarettes and matches in other pockets, and like circle-breaking expedients.

The treatise, which was supposed to be serious, seemed so superficial as to be somewhat humorous. Nevertheless, how powerful is habit—just habit—even where nicotine, alcohol and opiates are not involved!

A man of plenty, retired, who invents various devices to keep himself entertained, said, "How absurd that my wife and I rise so early in the morning! But what can we do about it? The habits for a lifetime were formed when I had to get to work at a certain early hour each morning." Other people in youth form the habit of late hours, perhaps doing more or less innocent things, but still so late that there is not enough sleep and

therefore loss of energy. Some go to bed so late Saturday night that they find it difficult to get around to Sunday school—perhaps do not get there at all.

But how wonderful to have the habit of family prayers, the prayer meeting habit, the Sunday school habit, the tithing habit, the good-book-reading habit, the Bible-reading habit, the secret prayer habit!

God's blessing can never be on bad habits. While good habits may become quite formal and lifeless, His blessing may be asked and received upon a good thing that is now done almost without conscious choice. Do that right thing again and again!

### HERE I STAND

"God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world" (Gal. 6:14).

I suppose I am something like Mr. Cecil when he was a boy. His father once told him to wait in a gateway till he came back, and the father, being very busy, went about the city, and amid his numerous cases and engagements forgot the boy. Night came on, and at last, when the father reached home, there was a great inquiry as to where Richard was. The father said, "Dear me! I left him in the morning standing under such and such a gateway, and I told him to stay there till I came for him. I should not wonder but that he is there now." So they went, and there they found him. Such an example of simple, childish faithfulness is no disgrace to emulate.

I received, some years ago, orders from my Master to stand at the foot of the Cross till He came. He has not come yet, but I mean to stand there till He does. If I should disobey His orders, and leave those simple truths which have been the means of the conversion of souls, I know not how I could expect a blessing. Here, then, I stand at the foot of the Cross, and tell out the old, old story still, stale though it sounds to itching ears, and worn threadbare as critics may deem it. It is of Christ I love to speak—of Christ who loved, and lived, and died, the substitute for sinners, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.—Charles H. Spurgeon.

### A TESTIMONY OF FULL SALVATION

By the late Commissioner S. L. Brengle

These ten years have been wonderful! God has become my Teacher, my Guide, my Counsellor, my All and in all.

He has allowed me to be perplexed and tempted, but it has been for my good. I have no complaint to make against Him. Sometimes it has seemed that He had left me alone, but it has been as the mother who stands away from her little child to teach it to use its own legs that it may walk. He has not suffered me to fall.

He has been with my mouth, and helped me to speak of Jesus and His great salvation in a way to instruct and comfort, and save other souls. He has been light to my darkness, strength to my weakness, wisdom in my foolishness, knowledge in my ignorance.

When my way has been hedged up, and it seemed that no way could be found out of my temptations and difficulties, He has cut a way through for me, just as He opened the Red Sea for Israel.

When my heart has ached, He has comfort-

ed me; when my feet had well-nigh slipped, He has held me up; when my faith has trembled, He has encouraged me; when I have been in sore need, He has supplied all my need; when I have been hungry, He has fed me; when I have thirsted, He has given me living water.

Oh, glory to God! What has He not done for me? What has He not been to me?

I recommend Him to the world.

He has taught me that sin is the only thing that can harm me, and that the only thing that can profit me in this world is "faith which worketh by love." He has taught me to hang upon Jesus by faith for my salvation from all sin, and fear, and shame, and to show my love by obeying Him in all things, and by seeking in all ways to lead others to obey Him.

I praise Him! I adore Him! I love Him! My whole being is His for time and eternity. I am not my own. He can do with me as He pleases, for I am His. I know what He chooses must work out for my eternal good. He is too wise to make mistakes, and too good to do me evil. I trust Him, I trust Him, I trust Him! "My experience is from him." Not from man, not from myself, but from Him. He has been with me for ten years, and I know He will never fail me.—Selected.

### BEGIN WITH THE MAN

Immanuel Kant once said that in order to create an ideal community each one must act as if he already belongs to it. His idea seems to be that we move from the particular to the general in the improvement of human relations.

At this point the philosopher was in agreement with our Lord. He insisted upon the new birth; He pointed to the idol of the rich young ruler; He said, "The Kingdom is within you."

But our modern wise men are pawing around over society in general. They believe that if we had better economic conditions, a change in our social system, no war, no denominations but all one grand church, with a united front, all would be quite well.

No, the effort to correct the individual by making his outer conditions and organizations good will be ever a disappointment. The first trouble is that you cannot correct the outer conditions while man is a fallen, selfish creature. A thousand or a million or ten million of this kind of persons will not make a perfect society.

But if the man is corrected, then two or a million of this kind will at least form an improved society.

The trouble with our society is that the man has heart trouble. Jesus began with the man.

Let us extend helping hands to all who fight the evils which prey upon society. And let us help everything which we believe would make better living conditions for all men. But let us not fool ourselves as to fundamental human need—let us also begin with the man.—Free Methodist.

Over 2,000,000 Canadian citizens, more than one-fifth of its population, claim allegiance to the United Church of Canada, according to the last census. The statistics of the year 1939 show that 600,000 students enrolled in the Sabbath schools of the church and 200,000 young people in its 10,000 young people's societies.—United Presbyterian.