

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

—THE ORGAN OF THE—

REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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SPECIAL NOTICE

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EDITORIAL

A CHAIN IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK

"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."
—Continued.

In the last issue of the Highway, while considering the chain with the weak link, or the one break in the Royal Law which makes men guilty of all, we dealt with only one phase of weakness, or violation of God's law, and that was the money question, and we also limited our considerations to the attitude of possessing Christians, and tried to show how that the love of money which the apostle calls "the root of all evil" might become the most potent factor in their downfall.

But now, in considering this question, further we want to travel a little farther afield, and try to show that the love for money may be the evil, underlying principle which threatens the destruction of our nation. It may be the dreadful cancer, the fatal gangrene which has for some time been slowly but surely eating away the vitals of our national life.

There are certain vital principles upon which every institution must be built if it is to be permanent. It matters not whether it is social, financial or religious, or whether that institution is great, or small: It must have for its foundation stones—Righteousness, Honesty, Sobriety, Morality. Perhaps we have all seen some man try to build a thriving business, and to "get rich quick" without much regard for the principle of honesty, and we have noted how short lived his business was, which reminds us of the words of the Psalmist, who said, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

It seems as if conditions are such in this present war, at this stage of it, that one might truly say: except the Lord give the victory, our armies fight but in vain. Then the question arises, will God fight for us? Will He give the allies the victory? He says, "righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

Can we claim to be a righteous nation, and thus rightly expect God's help? Is it not possible to take too much for granted, to be superficially optimistic, and to expect too much of the Almighty? To come back again

to our text, let us ask, have we not offended in more than one point, and become guilty of all, and thus stand condemned before God as a nation? And has it not been the love of money that has brought things into the life of our nation which constitute its weak links and will eventually, unless repented of and forsaken, be the cause of our overthrow?

Some of the things we refer to are, first, the liquor business, which is making drunkards of our young men, soldiers, and many women too; can a nation be strong and thrive and make drunkards of its people, and expect God's blessing and help, when God has pronounced a curse on that traffic? And is not our government giving as an excuse for selling liquor, we need the revenue we get from it?

Is not the love of money at the bottom of this cursed business? Second, I would mention the moving picture business, which is being carried on, wholly on a mercenary basis, and is being patronized, and taking in more money at the present time than ever in its existence. And what is worse the moving picture institution is doubtless responsible for the crime wave that is sweeping over our nation, and which is on the increase every year, and that among the young people! They see so much murder, theft, burglary, immorality and suggestion of every evil on the screen, that they find it easy to imitate what they see so often.

Our governments tolerate these things because of the large money they receive from the film makers: thus the love of money is responsible.

Again, if you turn to the news stands, the stores where magazines and cheap fiction are sold, it makes one sick at heart to see what our people are reading, see the pictures of nude cigarette smoking women on the outside covers of magazine which would not have been tolerated a generation ago, which all tends to lower the standard of ideals of the readers, and robs girls of that fine sense of modesty, which is their great protection. And the whole setup of a cheap press, cheap films, and sex fiction and booze-drinking with its attendant evil, is demoralizing, and is gradually but surely digging away the foundation upon which strong nations must be built. Great masses of our people are turning away from bible reading and church attendance and rapidly becoming indifferent to the appeals of the gospel and claims of God. And unless we have a nation-wide revival soon, we will reach the place like other great nations have which God considered were only fit for destruction: And men who profess to know, tell us that France is a very modern example of a nation destroyed by its internal sins. Perhaps we think that because Nazidom is bad it cannot win. God knows we all hope and pray that it will not, but we should not fool ourselves. The British Empire and the United States profess to be Christian nations; and we do possess many Christian virtues, but because of our weak links, or because we have offended in so many points, and there is so much evil in us, God may see fit to chasten us ("whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth.") And he may use the Nazi whip to do it with, unless we repent and put away the evil among us. Let us pray. We may look for more weak links in a later issue.

Try doubting your doubts and trusting your beliefs.

Temperance Column

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

THE GOVERNMENT SAYS "NO"

Hon. J. T. Thorson, Department of National War Services, speaking on behalf of the Dominion Government, has answered the request of the Temperance Federation for war-time restriction of the sale of alcoholic beverages. The answer is "No."

The Government will take no action; it will put forth no hand to stop the greatest waste of men and food which marks our war effort. Gasoline is to be rationed; sugar is rationed; there is a ban on the sale of tires; the manufacture of pleasure cars is restricted, but the flood of intoxicating beverages is to be permitted to flow without let or hindrance. By bill board, poster and letter the nation is urged to save rags, bones and fats; but when it comes to alcoholic beverages which constitute by far the most extravagant, most damaging, the most serious waste of life and food in the nation, the Government refused the request of the Churches. Twice have the great religious bodies made formal representation to Ottawa; each time their delegates were received courteously and complimented on the moderation of their requests. But the first request was ignored and the second one denied. Not only so, but the Government has paid no attention to the petition signed by hundreds of thousands of voters, one hundred thousand from Quebec alone, begging curtailment of the sale of intoxicating beverages.

The Sub-Executive of the Canadian Temperance Federation does not put the matter too strongly when it says in reply to the Government's "No". "They have organized war service committees, observed special days, publicized war loans, and co-operated in maintaining morale, but when they request a federal measure to restrict the growing evils of drink in war time, they are given words, words. Liquor has more influence in Ottawa than the churches."—Forward.

THE FRUIT OF ONE BIBLE

Forty-five years ago a Jew stepped into the Bible House in Constantinople to buy a Bible, because he could get the Old Testament in this way a dollar cheaper than through the Jewish Publication Society. He read the New Testament bound up with the Jewish Scriptures, and was converted to Christ. His wife followed his example, and for many years the two conducted, in their store, a volunteer Bible agency, selling the Scriptures in thirty-three different languages. Twenty-five years ago he moved from the Near East to the Far West, engaging in business in San Francisco. His only passion was to preach Christ and to distribute the Scriptures, especially among the Jews. Two years ago he went to the San Francisco agency of the Bible Society and gave to the Society a deed to all his property in the city, to be spent for the distribution of Bibles among the Jews throughout the world. Eternity alone will reveal the souls saved as a result of the reading of the New Testament by this Jew. Is the distribution of God's Word worth while?—The Holiness Era.

The people of America have given over \$23,000,000 in the past two years for relief of the oppressed peoples of Europe; to China they have given \$2,500,000 in the last four years.—Religious Digest.