- Editorials -

To Live Christ ...

... To Die Gain

(Phil. 1:21)

There's no way to beat a man like that. You cannot hurt him. You cannot add anything to his life. You cannot take anything away from him. All you can do is envy him. Paul expressed for all time the Christian's maxim. And these are not mere nice words, beautiful thoughts without ground; for as seen in Paul, they are existentially real. They are part and parcel of Paul's daily life. He lived their meaning. He demonstrated their essential truth. He knew their grim aspects; he knew also their glory. No one had more right to utter such sublime words. No one was able to demonstrate them more adequately and effectively.

For Paul was the type of man that had to go "all the way." When he persecuted the Church "He made havoc . . . entering into every house." Had he been a gambler, he would have played for high stakes. And so when he followed Christ, it was "all or nothing." An easy-road, half way sort of thing could not possibly have been an attraction to this fiery, high-strung little man. Paul's first sermon was, quite naturally, "Christ . . . the Son of God" (Acts 9:20). And from then on throughout his adventure-filled life it was the same story, "Christ . . . the hope of Glory."

To be in Paul's presence was to feel that Christ was really all that mattered. To hear Paul speak was to know the way of salvation. Circumstances or people made no difference to Paul. In prison, Paul helped to sing praises unto God in a duet with Silas. In Athens, he declared Christ in the Jewish Synagogue, in the market-place, and to the Epicureans and the Stoics. In Corinth, he reasoned in the Synagogue ". . . and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ" (Acts 18:15). Before courts and captors, enemies and friends, it was the same to Paul. Christ was his life, his strength, his hope. Christ was everything, so much so that Paul could say, "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities . . . for Christ's sake" (II Cor. 12:9-10).

What a man! What a spirit!

Do we not have here the revealing clue to Paul's amazing record of service to God? And do we not have here also the clue, by way of contrast, to our own ineptness and weak-willed contribution to the Kingdom of God? One thing of which we are very sure is that we can be successful in spiritual service only in the measure that Christ is real in our hearts. That test is not too severe.

Dare we examine our hearts and say, honestly, "To live is Christ... To die is gain?"

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

The liquor people are proud of their record but, like any other business, are not satisfied with their gains.

An editorial in the January issue of Spirits says that U. S. consumers spent approximately \$12 billion for alcoholic beverages the past year. The future looks good, but with population increase and more leisure time there is a lot to shoot at, is the editorial's mood.

The article deplores the competition. For instance, if a couple is sitting in the movies, they are not in a cocktail lounge; if a lady is sipping tea, she is not spend-

ing money for a cocktail; or if a fellow spent his last \$5 on a prize fight, he has nothing left for a fifth.

The editor does not want anyone to think the liquor business would take the money from the family necessity budget, but they do want their share of entertainment money and are stepping up their advertising to get it.

There is a possibility they are going to overshoot the mark, for already some 'social drinkers' are getting tired of the continuous beer and cigarette advertising. So many avid TV and radio fans have been heard to remark, "I'm really getting adept at tuning out the ads and just listening to the program."

This is quoted from a very recent issue of the Union Signal, U. S. A., but it has a general application to Canada. The liquor industry makes frequent appeals for public sympathy in a reduction of taxes. At the same time the public expenditures continue to rise for the rehabilitation of alcoholics, for mental institutions, hospitals — to minister to those injured in alcohol-caused accidents, for highway safety measures, etc., etc.,

Why should not the liquor traffic pay a greater share? Distillers Corp. - Seagrams Ltd. reported an increase in their net profit from \$16,416,000 for the six months ending Jan. 31/62 to \$17,876,000 for the corresponding period ending Jan. 31/63.

How many broken homes and lives paid for this profit?

From Forward

ON FREEDOM

"The challenge for each of us is clear. We must rebuild America from the heart outward. We must know that the ultimate weapon against tyranny and its forces lies not in our arsenals but in our souls — and that to the extent our spirit is eroded by false values, our survival as free men in a free nation is placed in ever greater jeopardy. Wherever and whenever the bell tolls for freedom — for freedom that has died — let us remember that freedom is only as immortal as men make it — only deathless for those who do not let it die. For history has recorded the many ways in which freedom has died — gloriously, cravenly, but the saddest, most ignominious death of all is when freedom has died in its sleep."

-U. S. Sen. Kenneth B. Keating

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness Maid of

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