

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES

A SALOONLESS WORLD.

M., Oct. 23. Prohibition long ago. Deut. 29:6.
 T., Oct. 24. Abstain! Lev. 10:8-10.
 W., Oct. 25. Fight evil-doers. Amos 9:1-6.
 T., Oct. 26. Overturn evil rulers. Isa. 10:1-3.
 F., Oct. 27. Elect just rulers. Ezra 7:15, 26.
 S., Oct. 28. Enthroned Christ. Acts 4:11, 12.
 S., Oct. 28. Topic—A Saloonless World, and How to Get It. Eph. 6:10-19.

What are the prospects for a saloonless world?
 How would the world benefit by being saloonless?
 How can we spread abroad temperance principles?

Prohibition Long Ago, Deut. 29:6:

Under God's leadership Israel went through that long Wilderness journey without the use of strong drink. There are many to-day who, placed under the same circumstances, would say that it was necessary to give strength for the journey, to protect them against the heat of the sun by day and from the cold of the nights, to cure the bites of the fiery serpents; and no doubt other reasons could be given. Israel did not need strong drink, nor does any one to-day. It does not protect against nor overcome the effects of cold or heat, nor does it cure snake bites. It is, according to the best medical authorities, questionable whether it is a benefit to any one under any circumstances.

Abstain! Lev. 10:8-10: God positively forbade the priests from drinking strong drink. No priest who drank could hold office. There is just the same reason to-day why preachers and officers of the church should be total abstainers. But when it comes to moral questions, the law of God makes no distinction of persons. The general law is very general in its requirements. Paul gives it in Col. 2: 21, "Touch not; taste not; handle not."

Fight Evil-Doers, Amos. 9:1-6: Evil-doers should be opposed in their evil-doings at all times. Violators of the prohibition law are among the most common class of criminals at this time in this country. One of the great troubles to-day is that so many men, who are in other respects law-abiding citizens, are encouraging the violators of this law by buying from them the liquor which the law says they shall not sell. Morally, the man who buys is just as guilty as he who sells. It is the duty of every citizen to see that this and all other laws are enforced.

Overturn Evil Rulers, Isa. 10:1-3: As a general thing in this country, the officers of the law are honest men, who want to do their duty in enforcing the law. There are some

who are inefficient and there are some who will not honestly enforce the laws of the land. If there are such officers in any community, they ought to be turned out by the law-abiding people and good men put into their places. Good and faithful officers ought to have the hearty and loyal support of all good citizens. Then will they be able to enforce the laws.

Elect Just Rulers, Ezra 7:25, 26: When Artaxerxes commissioned Ezra to go to Jerusalem to establish a government there, he told him to appoint officers, "such as know the laws of thy God." All just law, and most laws are just, are based in principle upon God's laws, so he who would administer the laws of the land should know and reverence God's laws. A man who is elected to office should be one whose life and character are controlled by the principles of the law of God.

Enthroned Christ, Acts 4:11, 12: It was said of Stonewall Jackson by one who knew him intimately: "He came nearer putting God in the right place in his life than any one else I ever knew, and the consequence was that everything else fell into its proper place." If all other men did this, and allowed Christ to reign supreme in heart and life, there would be no trouble about enforcing laws. Indeed, there would be no need of laws. The best way, and the only effective way, to secure the observance of law is to have Christ enthroned in the hearts of all the people. It should be the aim of every one of God's people to see that every possible effort is made to win others for Christ.

A Saloonless World and How to Get It, Eph. 6:10-18: Every soldier of Christ should fight all kinds of evil. The people of this country by a very large majority said that there should be no more saloons and that no more liquor should be made or sold. There is a tremendous effort being made by the liquor interests to have the law modified so as to allow the manufacture and sale of beer and wine. Those who advocate this change in the present try to appear very righteous by saying that they are opposed to the saloon. But if liquor of any kind is sold, there must be some place in which to sell it. Whatever may be its name, it will, to all intents and purposes, be a saloon. The people of this country have set the world an example by driving out the saloon and the liquor traffic. The eyes of the world are upon us. The influence that we exert upon the rest of the world will depend largely upon the way we enforce the law. There are many who argue against prohibition because the law is violated so often. But the same argument could be used against almost any law. It becomes all the more important that we see that this law is enforced when we realize that we are influencing the world by our course of procedure. When the law is fully enforced in the United States other nations will see the advantage of it and will see that it can be enforced.

SUGGESTED PROGRAM.

The Lord's Prayer.

Hymn: "Soldiers of Christ, Arise." Prayer.

Hymn: "Touch Not the Cup."

Daily topics assigned to seven members.

Hymn: "Yield Not to Temptation."

Questions to be assigned to five members:

Is the prohibition law enforced in our community?

Why is it not better enforced?

What can we do to secure better enforcement?

What is the condition of the world in regard to the saloon?

What can we do to improve conditions in the world?

Hymn: "Dare to Be a Daniel."

Sentence prayers.

Hymn: "Rescue the Perishing."

Prayer.

SENTENCE PRAYERS.

O God, we thank Thee that Thou hast called us to be soldiers of Thine, and we pray that Thou wilt help us to be loyal and true.

Father, we thank Thee for what Thou hast done in enabling the people of this country to drive out the saloon.

O Holy Spirit, we pray that Thou wilt help the people of this country to elect good men for all public offices.

O God, we pray that Thou wilt help all officers of the law to do their duty faithfully and well.

O Saviour, make each one of us to feel that it is our duty to obey every law and keep us, we pray Thee, from violating any law and from encouraging others to do so.

O God, Thou who art the Ruler of the world, we pray that Thou wilt hasten the time when every country in the world shall be free from the curse of strong drink, and show us how we can help to bring this about.

HAMMER AND ANVIL.

Last eve I paused beside a blacksmith's door,

And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;

Then, looking in, I saw upon the floor
 Old hammers worn with beating
 years of time.

"How many anvils have you had," said I,

"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"

"Just one," said he; then with twinkling eye,

"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."

And so, I thought, the anvil of God's Word

For ages sceptic blows have beat upon;

Yet though the noise of falling blows was heard,

The anvil is unharmed—the hammers gone.

—Unknown.

Use what talents you have. The work of the world is done mostly by ordinary folk while geniuses are waiting for splendid opportunities.

The sooner you get a child to be a law unto himself, the sooner you will make a man of him.

The essence of truth is plainness and brightness; the darkness and crookedness are our own.—Milton.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

WORLD-WIDE PROHIBITION.

World's Temperance Sunday.

Oct. 29, 1922. Isa. 61:1-9.

(This same subject is treated quite fully in the Young People's Department, and it will be well to read what is said there.)

The prophet in these verses was speaking to Israel in a time of great depression and distress. But he tells them that he has come to bring them good news and to bring them comfort and give them joy for sadness.

Our Saviour, in His first public address, so far as recorded, read this passage and said that it was fulfilled in Him. He came to remove every curse and to bring perfect joy and happiness and blessing into the world. This was to be done by the removal of sin from the hearts and lives of men.

The sin which probably has brought more distress and affliction into the lives of the people of the so-called Christian lands than any other is that of drinking intoxicating liquor. One of the strange things about it is that alcoholic drinks belong almost entirely to countries that are supposed to be Christian or to those which have been brought under the influence of these countries. The Mohammedan world is all under the strictest kind of prohibition. China and Japan and India are practically free from the use of alcoholic drinks, except where they have come under the influence of foreigners. It is true that these countries have the curse of opium, but that is due almost entirely to the disgraceful work of Christian countries in forcing the opium traffic upon them. But that curse is not nearly so widespread among those people as the drinking of alcoholic liquor was in this country a few years ago.

It would be an interesting study to find out just why alcohol is used more in Christian countries than anywhere else. We are inclined to believe that it is due directly to the working of the devil. It is a well-established fact that wherever the Spirit of God is working in the hearts and lives of men with some degree of success, the devil gets very active and tries in his most ingenious ways to counteract His work. The grosser forms of sin do not appeal to people who are enlightened under the power of the gospel. Satan persuades people of this kind that there is no harm in drinking a limited amount of liquor; that it is pleasant to the taste and in its effects. He never tempts a man to become a drunkard. But alcoholic liquor forms in the man a desire which can only be satisfied by more liquor, and so the habit is formed and grows stronger and stronger, until it has its victim absolutely under its control. And this sin leads to almost every other kind of sin.

The Christian people alone can successfully fight this demon, which has destroyed millions of lives and souls, for they alone have the help that is needed to overcome it. Christian people the world over have awakened in the last few years, as they have never before, to see the greatness of this sin and its consequences.

This country is probably more active in Christian work than any other country in the world. It was the first country to take hold seriously of the question of suppressing the liquor traffic. It has accomplished wonderful results. Leading business men,

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