

**W. C. T. U. Column.**



Through the courtesy of the Register this space is granted to the W. C. T. U. It is edited by MARY J. FRANKS, Local Press Superintendent, as appointed by the State Organizer, Mrs. L. LaMance.

**W. C. T. U. WATCHWORDS:**  
ORGANIZE! EDUCATE! AGITATE!

**W. C. T. U. PRINCIPLES:**

Total Abstinence; Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic; One Standard of Morals for Men and Women; Home Protection; Equal Suffrage; and the Teaching of Scientific Temperance in Public Schools.

**London's Lord Mayor on Total Abstinence.**

Sir Vezev Strong, the Lord Mayor of London, in an article in *Pearson's Weekly*, an English periodical, tells why he became a total abstainer:

"It is not quite correct to say, as has been said recently, that I have been a total abstainer all my life; but as I became officially connected with the temperance movement at the age of fourteen I suppose I may, for all practical purposes, be counted as a life-long abstainer. Certainly I do not think it will be charged against me that I could have been very seriously addicted to intoxicants at that early age.

I have been asked why I became a total abstainer? Well, a boy's reasoning faculties are not very well developed at the age of fourteen, so it would be better to ask why I have remained an abstainer for so many years since that time.

The reason is simply that I have become convinced that wine or beer or spirits, or any other form of alcohol in common use is unnecessary, useless, and in many cases actually harmful.

I do not think I need emphasize its harmfulness; that is only too pitifully well known in every corner of the earth.

One has often heard it said that alcohol is of great benefit as a stimulant; it is certainly a stimulation, but its lack of benefit is now, I think, beyond doubt. For many years this was the last stronghold of the defenders of alcoholic treatment: that stimulants were necessary to those in ill health, and that alcohol was, therefore, of great medical value.

This view was so widely accepted that I can remember the time when, in the older hospitals, a patient was asked whether he took stout or ale. Alcoholic stimulant was, in fact, regarded as part of the patient's diet.

Now it seemed to one or two audacious laymen, myself included, that this theory of the curative value of alcohol was open to grave doubt, and it was decided to institute a careful and strictly scientific test as to the possibilities of a general hospital, where all sorts of disease might be treated, being run on Temperance lines.

With this object in view, a hospital was started in quite a small way. That was nearly forty years ago and to-day the London Temperance hospital is a well known and recognized institution.

In all those years, so far as my knowledge goes, one not ounce of brandy or beer or wine of any description has entered the hospital, either for the use of the patients or of the staff.—*Union Signal*.

**Opium Traffic to End in 1917.**

The date of the final abandonment of the opium traffic named in the new agreement entered into between Great Britain and China is 1917. This agreement contains a stipulation that China's production of the drug and India's export of it shall be proportionately reduced year by year until the traffic ends.

The *London Times* ventures the prophecy that the traffic in Pekin will cease in two years. It is stated that while during the past three years Great Britain has cut off three-tenths of the shipments from India, China has decreased its production by seven-tenths.

China's determination to free herself from this giant vice is worthy of emulation in the Occident. If the vaunted patriotism of the men and women of the land of the free and the home of the brave could untearably be converted into a wholesome and aggressive hate of the great destroyer of America, the process of making white our map would be accomplished with speed and dexterity. That is being accomplished no thoughtful student of the signs of the times doubts, but every year's delay means destruction to thousands of young men and women, and little children. In legal phrase, time is, indeed, of the essence of this contract.—*Union Signal*.

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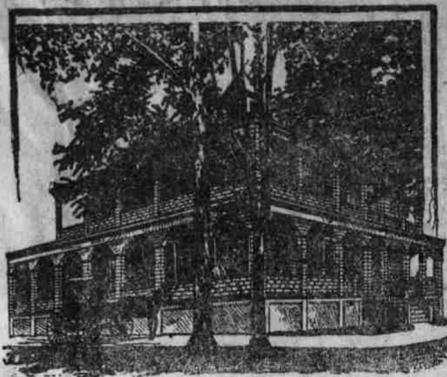
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