

New Ulm Review

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"Ignorance of the law excuses no one," runs the old adage; but how shall the plain ordinary citizen know the law when four judges of the Illinois Supreme Court interpret it one way and three declare for the opposite way? This happened when the law giving women in that state the right to vote was declared constitutional. There must have been some dense ignorance as to the law somewhere. And besides that, why should the right of more than one million citizens to vote depend upon the gracious consent of four individuals? This is certainly some despotic power that menaces the rights and liberties of the people.

Protectionists who still insist that the tariff has nothing to do with the cost of living will do well to study a recent circular sent out by the Federal Sugar Refining Company of Philadelphia. According to this circular 25 per cent reduction in tariff already in effect has saved consumers \$48,700,000, and this saving, when sugar becomes absolutely free of duty will be increased to \$100,000,000. And yet Louisiana sugar interests are insisting that a great wrong was done when this tariff was abolished!

The Taft administration sought to evade Columbia's claims by delay, instead of meeting her in the Peace Court at The Hague, or submitting the matter to disinterested arbitrators. The Wilson administration undertook to re-establish amicable relations between the two countries, but it, too, failed to take advantage of the Peace Court, or of disinterested arbitrators. In attempting a settlement by treaty agreement the Administration has been embarrassed by a desire to be generous to an injured neighbor, and the necessity of placating native prejudice; the result is a treaty that stands little chance of endorsement by the United States Senate. Should the Senate refuse to confirm the treaty, the whole matter should be taken to The Hague. If the world is ever to disarm, it will be only when the nations are ready to submit questions to an international court; and this is a good opportunity to establish a precedent for others to follow.

Some measures ought to be taken to rid the shade trees along our thoroughfares of their low-hanging branches. It is true that we have an ordinance which prescribes that all shade trees be so trimmed that all of the branches are at least 7 feet above the sidewalks, but it has so far proved ineffective altho it has been in force for quite a number of years. There is positive danger from these low branches, the gravest of which no doubt is that of having an overhanging branch strike and hurt the eyes of some pedestrian. We are satisfied that property owners are favor of complying with the ordinance in question, but most of them lack the necessary tools and the ability to properly trim the trees. Possibly if the council would employ a competent man to do this work, the citizens would gladly co-operate with the city by paying their share of the expense. At any rate something should be done at once.

The great amount of rain which has fallen has had the effect of making New Ulm streets look less neat than usual. Ordinarily the town looks as tho it had been swept and set in order each day but this spring the weeds have gotten ahead

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of the street work and people have become careless about sweeping and cleaning in front of their places of business. Thus scraps of paper are more in evidence than usual and it is time that we woke up to the fact that even New Ulm can look untidy. We must remember that the work in preparation for paving makes the streets look bad enuf and we should not fall into the habit of letting every part of the municipal house look as tho a general tearing up were going on. A good housekeeper does not tear up all the rooms at once in housecleaning time but does one room at a time so that the family may be comfortable in the other parts of the house and this is what should be done in the city renovating and housecleaning. Building and remodeling always makes a mess but that is no reason for having dirty floors all over the house. Let's all take a look out of our doors and see whether any of the streets in our neighborhood could be improved by our aid. We must not forget that shortly we will have the greatest gossips in the country here for a visit. We refer to the newspaper men of this district who will meet in convention here in August. They will see and talk about our virtues and our vices, be assured. Our reputation as a city of clean streets may suffer unless we hustle a little before then.

THE THINGS THAT ARE NOT CAESAR'S

By Herman Kuehn, Minneapolis, Minn.

"What about the liquor question? Can it be settled? What is the way to settle it—the right way?"

These interrogatories by Everybody's will doubtless evoke a flood of suggestions as to how the state ought to go about solving the problem. Yet that is precisely what governmental processes have never succeeded in accomplishing. All that we have of progress has been wrested from Caesar—never contributed by him. Neither monarchy nor democracy, nor any scheme or device of coercion or restraint can successfully cope with a psychological problem.

And that is what the liquor question really is. Neither prelate, potentate, nor politician can effectually deal with a problem that has its root in Desire. Desire permits but one solution—gratification.

Political process, seeking to hinder gratification, serves but to stimulate desire. The intensity of desire is enhanced by the very difficulties interposed between it and its gratification.

In this respect the drink habit is normal—that is, it is natural for the habit to persist so long as it is opposed. Nevertheless the drink addiction is an abnormality because it is the result of perversion. Every perverted desire is the "natural" result of the undertaking to stifle a normal desire.

Let the most ardent prohibitionist cite what facts he may, he can not overstate his case. And though he wing his flight to the uttermost realms of fancy and depict the horrors wrought by drunkenness on the scale in which it obtains in our country at this day, his indictment will probably not be grossly overdrawn. But when he has marshaled his array of "horrible examples" and gruesome instances he straightway leaps to the conclusion that an appeal to Caesar is the "next step." In fact it is the only step he knows anything about. He takes no counsel of the experiences of all the past. Nor does he realize that he, and such as he, do more to excite a demand for strong drink than do the manufacturers of such beverages.

The "drink evil" is not the real issue. It is not a problem *per se*. It is but a minor ramification of the most important problem confronting the student of biology—man's relation to his environment.

Don't shudder! I shall not indulge an expedition from the inane to the germane. I mean to stick to the text. And my answer to the question: "Can it be settled?" is, No! It will settle itself when we quit trying to settle it by legislation. We must quit rendering unto Caesar the things that Caesar always botches.

There is neither wholesomeness nor intelligence in attacking symptoms. So much by way of preface. Now for some facts:

The cost of pure whisky, with corn around fifty cents the bushel, is about seven cents the gallon. Including a perfectly good little brown jug, the retail price of a gallon would not exceed thirty cents.

At such a price there would be no incentive to adulterate the commodity.

Were there no restrictions upon the sale of the product "the saloon" would be unprofitable and therefore impossible.

"Treating" would find more intelligent expression.

The High Cost of Getting Drink

In view of these facts, let us see what becomes of the averment that the people of our country expend some two billions of dollars annually for strong drink. I have no exact data whereupon to base the computation, but taking the price at which pure whisky could be bought in a free-trade market and the price that adulterated substitutes command, we shall find that nine-tenths of the outlay is for licenses, excises, imposts, taxes, and the enormous cost of espionage and collection, together with the various species of graft, tribute and excessive profits involved in the traffic.

Whatever the cost, it may be too much. Let the moralists attend to that phase of the question. Fidelity to fact, however, demands that we charge up nine-tenths of that two billions annually to the account that absorbs the dollars and not to the drink addiction. Drinkers pay it, doubtless, but not for drink. They pay it in order to overcome the obstacles that stand between them and gratification of desire.

Strictly speaking, if strictly speaking be not barred, most of those two billions are blackmail, levied under the guise of benevolence. Hell is paved with the material of just benevolence. The intention may be good, but this may also be said of that animating the kindly chap who threw his drowning friend a crowbar.

Where strong drinks are free from adulteration and from the enhancement in price due to meddlesome restrictions, the effects would not justify the lurid diatribes of the prohibitionist. One rarely sees a resident of the wine-growing regions of France who drinks to excess.

"Treating"—A Good Thing Perverted

As for the treating habit: it has met with an altogether undeserved measure of detraction. "Treating" is a fine manifestation of neighborliness, hospitality, generosity, a good-fellowship. That "evils" have grown out of such expressions of good-will is not at all due to the animating motive. Such "evils" are obtruded upon good-fellowship because governmentally perverted processes have forced a generous impulse into dangerous channels. Were there no far more serious indictment against reliance upon Caesar, this alone were sufficient to condemn our blind idolatry. To turn friendliness from its natural current into a slough of debauchery and debasement is a natural effect of the superstition that obsesses the mass of contemporaneous mankind.

Were whisky as cheap as buttermilk and were drinking places not fostered by the very processes designed to curb them, treating would still persist, but would find more wholesome expression.

Prohibitionists profess to find that the drink habit is a cause of poverty. Others that poverty causes the habit. Only empiricists divide on this phase of the issue. It is a mark of superficiality to look for various causes for involuntary poverty. There is but one. It can be found in the primitive deference we pay to land titles. That, of course, is not within the scope of the present discussion.

Nor shall I consider here the arguments for or against the propriety of including wines and beers within the general objugation heaped upon stronger spirituous drinks. For the sake of brevity, I confine myself to saying that if there are no restrictions and no inducements to adulterate them, they are better if otherwise good, and not so bad if otherwise blameworthy.

What I have here set forth is sufficient to condemn me, off-hand, in the eyes of any Prohibitionist as a debauchee, a drunkard, and an "enemy of society." Yet I am free of the drink habit and have a decided preference for associating with temperate and intelligent people; especially with such as are free from the intemperance of meddlesomeness.

Governmental activities have done more than all else to produce the deplorable conditions under consideration.

The Cure—More Liberty

What then, is to be done? Nothing. We must quit doing as we have been doing. And thus give normality its opportunity. Macaulay tells us that the so-called "evils of liberty" are merely evidences that there has not been liberty enough. Liberty is the freedom of each person to do whatever he will at his own cost. Nor is, "at his own cost" a limitation upon liberty. It is of the essence of liberty. For who does anything at another's cost is not exercising liberty but violating it.

The abstraction we call the State, exercising sovereignty over a subject class and this is as true of a democracy as in a monarchy or autocracy, has in all ages sought to mold, curb, or stifle desire. Every page of history teems with instances. Failures all! Surely in an array so multitudinous we should find a single record of success. We look for it in vain. Yet always this infatuation persists—that what has always baffled the interplay of cause and effect is somehow, some time, to be effectuated by act of Congress!

Liberty and decency. This is but another way of saying "cause and effect". Despotism and misery is another paraphrase equally valid. Freedom alone can assure us of social harmony and individual wellbeing.

PRIZE CONTESTANTS, ATTENTION!

Three good men and true, one of them a lady, have been working as judges on the "Mile" essays and it will be necessary to take a second vote on the question. Meanwhile, the Review asks that each person who submitted essays in the contest look thru the following list and see whether his pen name appears. If it does not that means that the name of the writer did not appear together with the pen name and we shall not be able to place the winner if it should happen to be either one of the two whose names are not given in this list. The pen names that we have received and have the real names for are as follows: Willie Jones, Billy

Burke, "S. M." "A. M. H." and Morris-ton. There are two others which have pen names but the real name is missing. Will the writers kindly send in the information needed at once? These two essays reached us thru the mail and bore only the nom de plume. It is important that this be done for otherwise the essays will have to be counted out of the contest. The winning essay will appear in the Review next week.

BREEDERS ASS'N. TO MEET.

At the meeting of the Minnesota Breeders' Association to be held at Shady Lane Farm, L. E. Potter's near Springfield, July 2nd; the following program will be rendered.

"Building up the Pure Bred Herd," R. J. Kinzer, Kansas City, Mo., Secretary of the American Hereford Breeders' Association.

"Feeding the Breeding Herd," Prof. H. R. Smith, Professor of Animal Husbandry, University of Minnesota.

"Developing Agriculture in Minnesota," Dean A. F. Woods, Dept. of Agriculture, University of Minnesota.

"Future Plans for our Association," round table discussion by members, led by Pres. L. E. Potter.

"Judging Hereford Cattle," Secretary R. J. Kinzer.

THE CONTAGION OF ENTHUSIASM

There is something so big, so tremendously vital to a country's welfare in its roads—bad or good—thathere is small wonder we find big men making sacrifices and whole communities giving much time and labor toward permanent road construction.

Emulating Missouri's example, the Portland Ad Club sponsored a "Good Roads Day" in Oregon on April 25th and was ably assisted by the Portland Realty Board, the Builders' Exchange, the Progressive Business Men's Club, Rotary Club, Transportation Club and the students of Reed College. Governor West proclaimed a holiday. Five hundred self-styled "city dudes" boarded a special train and actually accomplished work which would have cost not less than \$1000 on the Columbia River scenic boulevard, east of Portland. The "road recruits" worked with a will, under the stimulating lash of the tongues of bosses best known for their activity in Portland's business world. On the previous day, 750 men together with half a hundred more with teams, sallied forth from Hood River, the enterprising apple metropolis, and made a big showing in highway construction within their county, the value of the grading done by force of ministers, bankers, lawyers, grocers and various tradesmen, being easily worth \$2000 to the county. Other counties in the state have set aside Good Roads Day and will voluntarily contribute time and brawn to the cause.

The success of such cooperative efforts leads naturally to a conclusion that non-compulsory highway construction could be profitably inaugurated as a regular process.

There is something distinctly novel in the appeal of good roads. There must be when it turns men of independent wealth into constructive road bosses with practically no remuneration and makes hard headed business men lay aside their own work and don overalls and jumper and volunteer their services with pick and shovel. It is, after all, a community proposition, for it is not only the land owner who profits by good roads. There are mighty few public enterprises which appeal sufficiently to a man to make him volunteer to burden his pliant muscles with aches and pains and to encourage a crop of blisters.

Every man who digs a shovelful of dirt on a public highway does that much toward a permanent monument for himself.

THE GARDEN OF THE GREAT UNKNOWN.

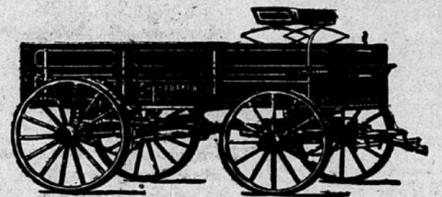
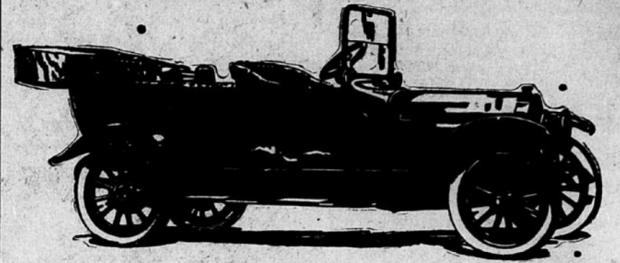
I stood before a crystal door—
Beyond I saw great lives spread out
In gardens, girt all round about
With winding paths, and ne'er before
Had garden, paths, and skies to me
Seemed one with all Eternity.
My heart said, "Go, see what's beyond."
My soul, "But wait, my child."
My mind said, "Ah, have you the key?"
My heart and I just smiled.
The door was op'd — no matter how;
I entered. Now the sunlight flashed
Across the garden, dazzling me;
My heart leaped madly in its glee.
I looked into a tulip's heart
Oh gold—there to behold
The Great Unseen for which I yearned,
The Great Unseen which is to mold my life.

I looked into the slender throats
Of lilies pure and calm; their balm
Whispered of Un-known-things To-Be,
And still to me their perfume clings,
With meaning rife.
But oh, the paths are many, and so queer
They lead me neither there nor here;
I stand, and hear and see and feel
The woe and weal, but cannot understand
The world has shown
Its heart to me, but will not clasp
Me to its bosom till I grasp
The Secret of the Great Unknown.
Wanda Gag.

Not a Permanent Return.
"I see your married daughter is home again."
"Yes, but only for a visit, my dear—only for a visit."—Detroit Free Press.

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Where the Edelweiss is Blooming-Song
College Chaps
Universal Peace - March
High Jinks
Enchantment - Waltz
The Mocking Bird - Transcription
Spirit of Independence - March
Spring Beautiful Spring
William Tell - Overture
The Georgia Rag
Poet and Peasant - Overture
Hilarity Rag
International Rag - Song
and others too numerous to mention.

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No. 3 Center St. New Ulm, Minn.

Charles and John Hauenstein and Frank and Arthur Schleif went to Com-frey Sunday to attend the Steinmetz wedding celebration.

The Postoffice will be closed on the Fourth with the exception of the hour between nine and ten in the morning. There will be no deliveries at all but all the carriers will be on duty at the above hour.

The business of Wm. H. Bierbaum is increasing so rapidly that he secured a new delivery boy last Thursday. The lad will not begin work for several years but will make his home at Bierbaum's and get acquainted with the family.

John Zimmermann of Sigel who was operated upon for appendicitis several weeks ago was able to leave the hospital Sunday. Mrs. August Radtke of Walnut Grove, also an appendicitis case, left the hospital Monday and Andrew Zupfer of the city was taken home Tuesday.

Dr. L. A. Fritsche expects to leave Sunday or Monday for a 3 months trip abroad. He will go first to London where he will attend the International Mayors' congress which convenes at that place July 20th and the International Surgical Congress which meets there on July 26th. Most of his time he will however, spend on the continent, in the operating rooms of the best hospitals in Germany. He expects to be back by the middle of October.

Mrs. Otto Jaeger of Lambertton underwent an operation at the Loretto Hospital Saturday, Daniel Werner, 72 years old, also of Lambertton, Monday and Mrs. Louis Saffert of the city for Kidney trouble Tuesday.

Last Sunday the friends of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Polta were invited to the John Kral home in Sigel to enjoy a sort of post-nuptial celebration. A large number attended and greatly enjoyed the occasion.

Ye editor is almost too disgusted with the weather to comment on it. The past week, barring the storm of last week Tuesday night, it has been a steady drizzle with one clear day, Sunday. The Tuesday night storm did almost as much damage as the one of the previous week, the wind getting in its work in place of hail. The greater part of the damage was done near Searles where several buildings were unroofed. E. Kappelmann of this city who recently moved to Searles to set up in business had his tools and machinery badly smashed and blown about and the work shop in which he had them stored was blown to pieces. The fields in many places about the county are looking very bad. Grass is too wet for the cattle to do well and corn is not much more than half as high as it should be. Clear bright days would make things all right in short order but it looks at present as tho such a thing were out of the question.