

OF INTEREST TO IMPERIAL

Strong Plea for a Clean Town by Rev. D. M. Gandier

DEAR MR. EDITOR:

It is frequently said that prohibition tends to produce "blind-pigs," whereas high license prevents their existence. The argument is that when a man pays a heavy license tax he will see that no one else infringes upon his rights without a license, whereas under prohibition the temptation to sell without a license is great and no one has any financial interest in preventing "blind-pigs" from running.

This theory has commended itself to many good temperance people. But it has one radical weakness, and that is that the facts are against it. Experience has shown conclusively that high license does not keep "blind-pigs" out, but on the contrary, seems to nourish them. The reasons for this are many. Three may be mentioned.

First, by licensing the traffic government recognizes its right to exist. At the same time the right to sell is denied to all except a privileged few. The result is, a spirit of resentment is stirred up in those who are denied the right, and they proceed to sell without legal permission. On the other hand complete prohibition stamps the traffic as a crime and treats everybody alike. For this reason it is more easily enforced than any license law.

Second, there is hardly a saloon in the country which does not violate the license law every day in the week. No one knows this better than the sa-

loon-keepers themselves and their friends who run the "blind-pigs." Hence the saloon-keepers do not dare to "squeal" about the "blind-pigs" lest they get "pinched" themselves. How many liquor men have ever been enlisted in the effort to get rid of illicit dives in any community?

Third, the brewers and wholesale liquor men own or control eighty per cent of the saloons in this country. These men sell to the "blind-pigs," as well as through their own saloons. They make a good profit on the sales to the illicit places and these sales have hardly any appreciable effect upon the sales of their licensed saloons. Hence they have no desire to interfere with the "blind-pigs."

If anyone doubts the accuracy of these statements he has but to examine carefully any license city. Look at Los Angeles. A short time ago the chief of police there reported to the police commissioners the names and locations of 144 "blind-pigs." Doubtless there were enough more not known to him to make the number of "blind-pigs" greater than the number of saloons. 200 licensed saloons, and 200 or more "blind-pigs!" Think of that and then think of what a howl would go up if 200 "blind-pigs" were found in a "dry" city of that size. Springfield, Ill., illustrates the same truth. In that city of 36,000 careful inquiry showed that there were 148 licensed saloons and 100 "blind-pigs" which had taken out Federal tax receipts. Add to these the ones which took out no kind of license and it is probable that there were more dives than licensed saloons in the place.

Think again of the fact that during the eight years from 1893 to 1901,

only 52,000 barrels of beer were consumed in prohibition Kansas, while 500,000 barrels were consumed in license Nebraska, although Kansas had 400,000 more people. In other words under license the consumption of beer is 29 times as great as under prohibition. Evidently, "blind-pigs" do not sell nearly as much of the stuff as the licensed saloons do. This is why whiskey sellers of every kind are willing to spend thousands of dollars to prevent the carrying of prohibitory laws. They know right well that in spite of "blind-pigs," prohibition does prohibit to a very great extent. Let no temperance worker be deceived by the old lie, "prohibition don't prohibit." It does prohibit to a great extent and with a little careful work we can and will make it prohibit still more.

Yours for a clean country.

D. M. GANDIER.

Across the river from Brawley in No. 5, 160 acres fine, soft, sandy land, all in crop, 2 1-2 miles from railroad. Don't answer unless you are a cash buyer. Bert R. Chaplin, Imperial, Cal.

Doctors Are Puzzled

The remarkable recovery of Kenneth McIver, of Vanceboro, Me., is the subject of much interest to the medical fraternity and a wide circle of friends. He says of his case: "Owing to severe inflammation of the Throat and congestion of the Lungs, three doctors gave me up to die, when, as a last resort, I was induced to try Dr King's New Discovery and I am happy to say, it saved my life." Cures the worst Coughs and Colds, Bronchitis, Tonsillitis, Weak Lungs, Hoarseness and La Grippe. Guaranteed at All Druggists, at 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

When the State Fixed Hotel Prices.

Before, during and for a time after the Revolutionary war the courts of the commonwealth used to fix the prices of tavern board and liquor, so when the sojourning stranger from afar struck Richmond he could pretty nearly know what "horse feed and breakfast" cost. There was also an assize of bread as well as of drink. The price of bread was regulated by the price of wheat. A fourpenny white loaf, a twopenny white loaf, a fourpenny brick loaf and a fourpenny brown loaf had each to weigh so much, according as they had other ingredients mixed with flour. In those days a "Boston biscuit" costing 1 cent had to weigh six ounces and two drams and so on. The connection between a loaf of bread and sixty pounds of wheat at so much per bushel has grown beyond the grasp of the modern mind. However, in the old time in Virginia the custom of regulating the price, or, rather, the weight, of a loaf of bread by the price of the wheat of which it was made was universal. So far as liquor was concerned, the courts used to fix not only the price of a single drink, a quart or a gallon of the stuff, but also "a gorum of punch."—Richmond Dispatch.

When Friends Are Enemies.

"One of our greatest troubles is to prevent patients from being killed by kindness," said a trained nurse in one of the public hospitals. "On visiting days, when relations or friends are admitted, we have in many cases to exercise extreme vigilance. The amount of improper, even dangerous, food which one able-bodied relative can smuggle in under cover of a satchel or a voluminous cloak is almost incredible.

"Only a few weeks ago I captured and carried away from the bed of a convalescent typhoid case a pasteboard box containing two big green pickles and a piece of exceptionally rich coconut cake. It was the boy's mother who brought the dainties, and presumably she did not wish to shorten her son's days in the land.

"This sort of thing is of frequent occurrence in a hospital. It is strangely illustrative of how little the average man or woman understands the delicate mechanism of the stomach and stomachic disease."—New York Press.

The Great Eastern.

The Great Eastern was 680 feet long, 83 feet beam, 28 feet draft when loaded, 23,000 tonnage; paddle engines, 1,000 horsepower nominal; screw engines, 1,700 horsepower nominal. She was commenced to be built at Millwall in the spring of 1854 and was launched after many difficulties on Jan. 30, 1858. The history of the Great Eastern was from the first financially an unfortunate one. She made several voyages to the United States at a great loss to her owners, but in 1865 and 1866 she somewhat redeemed her character by successfully laying the Atlantic cable. Subsequently, owing to her vast size, she was instrumental in laying most of the important cables across the Atlantic, in the Mediterranean, through the Red sea, etc. In 1888 she was sold at auction in Liverpool to be broken up, bringing the sum of \$280,720.—London Globe.

The Human Body's Tireless Organs.

Man has within him a stationary engine called his heart, which, with its veins and arteries, constitutes a perfect system of hydraulics, compared with which man's best work is clumsy, intricate and wasteful. The lungs are a working bellows, the most perfect method of sanitary ventilation. The stomach is a working vat of marvelous perfection. The brain is a wondrous condenser, and the skin is a great working evaporator, with reserve automatic appliances, ready for extra work in moments of need. All these are in action at all times, day and night, tireless, unceasing, self winding and repairing, for seventy years or more.

Dramatic Deaths.

What is a dramatic death? Of course the most dramatic death ever recorded was that of Placut, who dropped dead while paying a bill. Then there was the death of Fabius, who was choked by a hair in some milk; that of Louis VI., who met his doom because a pig ran under his horse and caused him to stumble; that of Saufelus, who was poisoned by the albumen in a soft boiled egg, and that of Zeuxis, who died from laughter at sight of a hag he had painted.

Her Feet Too.

"That new saleslady," said the blond at the ribbon counter, "has false hair and teeth."

"Yes," replied the brunette, who condescended to sell handkerchiefs occasionally, "and it seems that's not the only thing. I heard her complaining that she hadn't had a chance to get off her feet all day."

She Works at Home.

Hicks—I understand Mrs. Bias has learned how to keep her husband at home. Wicks—Nonsense! Bias is out with "the boys" nearly every night. Hicks—You misunderstand me. I mean the work she does at home keeps him. She's a dressmaker, you know.—Philadelphia Ledger.

ARNISH ROCK.

A Lighthouse Which Is Without a Light of Its Own.

The most extraordinary of all lighthouses is to be found on Arnish rock, Stornoway bay, a rock which is separated from the island of Lewis by a channel over 500 feet wide. It is in the Hebrides, Scotland. On this rock a conical beacon is erected, and on its summit a lantern is fixed, from which, night after night, shines a light which is seen by the fishermen far and wide. Yet there is no burning lamp in the lantern, and no attendant ever goes to it, for the simple reason that there is no lamp to attend to, no wick to trim and no oil well to replenish.

The way in which this peculiar lighthouse is illuminated is this: "On the island of Lewis, 500 feet or so away, is a lighthouse, and from a window in the tower a stream of light is projected on a mirror in the lantern on the summit of Arnish rock. These rays are reflected to an arrangement of prisms and by their action are converged to a focus outside the lantern, from which they diverge in the necessary direction."

The consequence is that to all intents and purposes a lighthouse exists which has neither lamp nor lighthouse keeper and yet which gives as serviceable a light, taking into account the requirements of the locality, as if an elaborate and costly lighthouse, with lamps, service room, bedroom, living room, store-room, oil room, water tanks and all other accessories, were erected on the summit of the rock.

THE ISLAND OF FIRE.

Java's Wonderful Lake of Boiling Mud and Lime.

The greatest natural wonder in Java, if not in the entire world, is the justly celebrated Gheko Kamdka Gumko, or Home of the Hot Devils, known to the world as the Island of Fire. This geological singularity is really a lake of boiling mud situated at about the center of the plains of Grobogana and is called an island because the great emerald sea of vegetation which surrounds it gives it that appearance. The island is about two miles in circumference and is situated at a distance of almost exactly fifty miles from Solo. Near the center of this geological freak immense columns of soft hot mud may be seen continually rising and falling like great timbers thrust through the boiling substratum by giant hands and then again quickly withdrawn. Besides the phenomenon of boiling mud columns there are scores of gigantic bubbles of hot slime that fill up like huge balloons and keep up a series of constant explosions, the intensity of the detonations varying with the size of the bubble. In times past, so the Javanese authorities say, there was a tall, spirelike column of baked mud on the west side of the lake which constantly belched a pure stream of cold water, but this has long been obliterated, and everything is now a seething mass of bubbling mud and slime, a marvel to the visitors who come from great distances to see it.

Burma Customs.

Two ceremonies in Burma mark when childhood stops and manhood or womanhood begins. The boys have their thighs tattooed and the girls their ears bored. The boring of a girl's ears is commenced with a needle, and the puncture is gradually increased until the tip of the finger can be introduced. The enlarging process is the one carried out in the Polynesian islands, where a native can carry a good sized knife hanging in the lobe of his ear. The ugliest mutilation is that of the Eskimo, who punches a hole in his cheek and puts a bone stud into it. The Burmese boy suffers great pain from the elaborate ornamentation of his legs, which are decorated in blue and red patterns.

Organ Grinders in England.

By turning the handle of an organ the Italian in England obtains nearly eight times as much per week as he can earn in Italy, more than four times as much as the English farm laborer and nearly three times the pay of the policeman who moves him on when requested. Thousands of skilled artisans who have served apprenticeship as carpenters, painters and joiners get only half the organ grinder's pay, for the Italian reckons it a very poor week indeed if he makes less than \$15, and he often gets \$17.50 to \$20 or more.

The Angler Fish.

The angler fish angles for his prey. From the upper part of his head project two long tentacles, with fleshy extremities, which wave about in the water and attract small fish, that, approaching and attempting to seize the supposed bait, are themselves captured by the angler. Without this device to attract his prey he would probably starve to death, as he is heavy and of comparatively slow motion.

Considerate.

X. (an incorrigible borrower)—Lend me a five, old man. Y. (weakly lending him £4 10s.)—I'm keeping the other shilling to pay for the postage of the letters which I shall have to write you before I get my money back. X. (coolly)—Keep 5 shillings, then. That will give me more time.—London Tit-Bits.

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