

Because of the hardness of their hearts God overlooked many evils, although He showed plainly the evil in many of their practices, which God did not compel them to give up.

There can be no question today in this country about the evil of the liquor traffic and the harm done by the use of liquor.

Alcohol has been shown by the leading medical and scientific men of the day to be a poison to the human system, permeating every part of the body and affecting all of the organs, especially the brain.

Insurance men have shown conclusively that even the moderate drinker lives a shorter life than the total abstainer.

Physicians and scientists agree that the children of those who use alcohol in any form are weaker, mentally and physically, than are children of those who abstain from its use.

Business men have found out that alcohol taken at any time lessens the efficiency of the man who uses it. Many of the large employers of skilled and unskilled labor will not employ any man who drinks alcoholic liquor of any kind.

It is said by some that this is a question for the individual to settle for himself. If a man wants to drink, that is his concern. If an employer does not want to hire a man who drinks, he has a right to refuse to hire anyone.

But is this an individual question? It is just as true here as anywhere else that "no man liveth unto himself, and no man dieth unto himself."

The Army War College at Washington states that in all the wars that occurred between 500 B. C. to the Russo-Japanese war about 700,000 men. Before the breaking out of the European war those who have investigated the matter say that among the white races of the world 3,500,000 were killed every year by alcohol. That is five times as many as were killed in all the wars in 2,400 years.

In England the whole nation is feeling the financial effects of war and food has become very scarce. Yet in twenty months after the war began 2,500,000 tons of grain were destroyed to make liquor. And the people of England in twenty months of the war period spent \$1,500,000,000 for liquor.

The liquor bill in this country is probably larger than anywhere else in the world. The people of the United States are buying liquor at the rate of \$2,500,000,000 a year.

Looked at from these economic standpoints, can it be said that the use of alcohol is only a question for the individual? If floods and fires were destroying property all over this country at the rate of two and a half billion dollars a year, would it not be a national question? If some dread scourge, like Asiatic cholera, should scourge into this country and should slay its citizens by the hundred thousand every year, would that not be a national question?

Put upon the lowest plane, which is the economic, the liquor question is one of the greatest that confronts this country. It demands the best thought of the wisest men, that the liquor traffic may be entirely and effectually banished from this country and from the world.

"WORKING YOUR BLOCK."

The following incident was told at one of the Student Volunteer Conventions:

"I recently had given me at first hand some interesting facts concerning the conduct of one of the Presidential campaigns in the United States. A prominent business man, whose name is known throughout the entire Christian world, was asked to

take a leading part in the campaign. The duty assigned him was the carrying of the Empire State by the party with which he was affiliated.

"He knew that the storm center of the battle was the metropolitan city of the continent. He knew that it would be impossible to reverse the majority of the opposing party in that city. He believed, however, that the majority could be so reduced that it might be overcome by the tidal wave which his party would roll down to the Harlem river. He therefore set himself to the task of reducing the majority in the city. He believed that it could be done by securing a fair registration.

"Accordingly he enlisted the services of about one hundred young men from the leading jobbing houses, insurance offices and other commercial centers. He stationed each of these men in a block of the city where there was great danger of false registration and held each man responsible for knowing everything that breathed within the four boundary lines of his block. He frequently addressed those men as follows: 'You are not responsible for the national campaign, nor the State campaign; neither are you responsible as individuals for the city campaign. Appropriate committees have been made responsible for the national, State and city campaigns, and you are not members of those committees; but, gentlemen, the block, the block!'

"Those who heard him declare that he uttered the words 'the block' with such fire in his eyes and voice that he made every man of the hundred feel that upon his own block the national campaign hinged. Those men went back to their blocks and watched them day and night like faithful watchdogs. They made it utterly impossible for any man to register falsely from any one of those blocks.

"A fair registration resulted, and from that a fair vote, and from that a reduced majority, and from that the overwhelming of the majority by the tidal wave from the State. That business man won the contest by the block system."

This shows what concentration and enterprise will do when applied to politics. Can we not display the same wisdom in the Lord's work? Let each one do his duty and work his block. Remember, it may be possible to limit the purposes of God by the failure of our performance.

Marriages

Cox-Eden: At the manse of the Presbyterian church, Lake Charles, La., on January 28, 1917, by Rev. J. F. McKenzie, Mr. J. Lawrence Cox and Miss Carmen Eden, both of Lake Charles, La.

Ellis-Gilley: In Beaumont, Texas, January 22, 1917, by Rev. F. E. Robbins, Mr. Thomas Ellis and Miss Daisy Gilley, both of Beaumont.

Goen-Weistroffer: At Hotel Ogden, Beaumont, Texas, February 1, 1917, by Rev. F. E. Robbins, Mr. William Hugh Goen and Miss Evelyn Weistroffer, both of Port Arthur.

Kendall-Craig: In Chicago, by Rev. J. H. O. Smith, D. D., Wednesday, December 27, 1916, Dr. John Lee Kendall, of Chicago, and Miss Carrie Doyle Craig, of Craigsville, Va.

Leafrie-Nunley: At the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Max Politz, Beaumont, Texas, February 10, 1917, by Rev. F. E. Robbins, Mr. William C. Leafrie and Mrs. Anna Nunley, both of Beaumont.

Millard-Allison: At the home of the bride's mother, in Lake Charles, La., on February 4, 1917, by Rev. J. F.

McKenzie, Mr. Paul Horace Millard, of Beaumont, Texas, and Miss Margaret Davant Allison, only daughter of the late Rev. J. Y. Allison, D. D., formerly pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Lake Charles, La.

Mynes-Wade: Married at Bethesda manse, Rockbridge Baths, Va., by Rev. E. W. McCorkle, Mr. Roy G. Mynes and Miss Elizabeth G. Wade, both from Rockbridge Baths, Va.

Orr-Day: At the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. J. C. Tate, of Belfast, Tenn., February 5, 1917, by Rev. R. W. Hardy, Mr. R. Knox Orr, of Lewisburg, Tenn., and Miss Daisy E. Orr, of Belfast, Tenn.

Parker-Webre: In the study of the First Presbyterian church, Beaumont, Texas, January 31, 1917, by Rev. F. E. Robbins, Mr. E. B. Parker and Miss Yola Webre, both of Port Arthur, Texas.

Porter-Graham: At the home of the bride's parents, Beaumont, Texas, February 4, 1917, by Rev. F. E. Robbins, Mr. W. E. Porter and Miss Minnie Graham, both of Beaumont.

Williams-Otis: At the manse of the Presbyterian church, Lake Charles, La., on February 1, 1917, by Rev. J. F. McKenzie, Mr. Frank Williams and Miss Margaret Otis, both of Lake Charles, La.

Deaths

Brownlee: John Hunter Brownlee, aged 71 years, died at Calhoun, Ga., January 15, 1917. For over thirty years an elder of the Presbyterian church, and for a much longer time a "friend of the King." He is survived by his wife and the following children: Hunter L. Brownlee, of Galveston, Texas; Rev. E. Darnall Brownlee, of Sanford, Fla.; Carlton H. Brownlee, of Chattanooga, Tenn.; Lawrence C. Brownlee, of Calhoun, Ga.; Carrie May Brownlee, of Vienna, Ga.; and Fanny M. Brownlee, of Calhoun, Ga.

Stevenson: At his home, Cape Charles, Va., February 6, the spirit of Mr. Marion H. Stevenson went to be with the Saviour whom he loved. The church loses a valued elder, the community a noble citizen, and all who knew him a beloved friend.

Peck: Essie Puroom Peck, six-month-old child of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Peck, died at Sanford, Fla., February 3, 1917. While on earth she was a member of the Presbyterian Cradle Roll until called to the school above. "Of such is the kingdom of heaven."

SALLIE A. WILLSON.

Sallie A. Willson, daughter of James C. and Margaret A. Willson, was born July 8, 1858, and on the afternoon of October 2, 1916, passed quietly across the narrow line that separated earth from heaven and entered into the rest prepared for God's people. Before her illness she was a constant attendant at the church services, missionary meetings and a teacher in the Sunday-school. Her life was one of devotion and unselfish loyalty to her family, her friends and her church. She manifested through her years of suffering

that strong, abiding faith and trust in the Heavenly Father's love and His all-sufficient wisdom to guide His children into the haven of rest. She was ever thoughtful of the comfort of those around her, and, though racked with pain, never failed to appreciate and acknowledge the smallest attention of friend or attendant.

"These are they which came out of great tribulation and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

JANIE MARGGARET RICE.

Janie Margaret Rice, the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Rice, of Clifton Forge, Va., passed to her reward on the morning of February 1, 1917, in the fifteenth year of her age.

The subject of this sketch was one of the most mature characters for her years the writer has ever known. Being a child of the covenant, she gave her heart to Christ when she was about twelve years old, and always took the deepest interest in her Sabbath-school and church ever afterwards. It was the rarest thing to find her absent from either. With a disposition that was gentle and cheerful, she made friends of all whom she met, and those who knew her most intimately saw in her the very qualities of mind and heart that promised a life of rare beauty and usefulness. In her home her character appeared most open and unselfish. Nothing she could do for her parents or brothers or sisters was ever considered by her the least hardship. On the other hand, she was always thoughtful of every one else, going quietly about to see how she could lighten their daily tasks. And during her last conscious moments her mother's comfort and welfare rested heaviest on her young mind and heart. Just blooming into most promising young womanhood, it seems a strange providence that calls her away. The Lord of all had a higher service for her above, and left her here only long enough for her unselfish Christian character to impress itself indelibly on the lives of those who knew and loved her best. Her course here was soon run, her crown was soon given her, and now she lives forever with Him with whom is fullness of joy and at whose right hand are pleasures forevermore.

L. H. Paul.

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