

Alcohol and the Laborer.

By Malcolm Yeager.

(One of the \$5.00 prize essays in the W. C. T. U. contest in Bellefonte High school.)

The great demand for efficiency in the industrial world is accompanied by a valiant fight against alcohol and its attendant evils. Three of the most essential qualifications of an efficient laborer are: A strong body, a sound mind, and moral courage. Alcohol is a most powerfully destructive agent of these qualifications.

No person can use alcohol and keep a strong, healthy body. It is a poison which takes the water from the cells of the body, prevents the digestion of food and proper nutrition. It excites the heart to beat too fast, which causes imperfect circulation of the blood and often results in fatigue and sometimes complete exhaustion. Alcohol weakens the muscular tissues of the body and impairs the entire nervous system. All of these things render the person unfit for physical labor.

This powerful poison is not content with the physical disability it causes, but it weakens and may even destroy the mental faculties of man. So great is the evil effect of alcohol upon the brain that people who are addicted to the use of it become temporarily insane while under its influence. If the use of alcohol is continued, this insanity becomes permanent. Alcohol is responsible for about fifty per cent. of the people in the insane asylums.

No laborer is worthy of hire who has destroyed his efficiency as a laborer mentally and physically by the use of alcoholic liquors. No employer will advertise for such an employee; no engine is safe with such an engineer; no team is secure when the reins are held by such a driver. The workman who drinks not only endangers his own life but also the lives of others. Over ninety-five per cent. more accidents happen to the workmen who drink than to workmen in general. The man who drinks not only finds it hard to secure a position, but to hold one after he has secured it. "Every employer counts the use of alcohol against an employee."

Alcohol weakens the will power of man causing him to yield more readily to drink each time. It destroys the power to resist other temptations and to exercise self-control. Employers find such men unreliable and they either force them to work for cheaper wages or dismiss them from service entirely.

The home of a drunkard is always a pathetic scene. The temporary insanity caused by alcoholic drink often manifests itself in a desire to do harm, to destroy property, and often to take human life. Thus wives and children are often forced to suffer brutal treatment from hands that should be to them support and protection. The children of parents who drink moderately are likely to inherit some physical weakness.

Whoever uses alcohol, because he finds it hard to get employment or if he secures work at all the wages are too small to support him, will often seek to make a living in some dishonest way. Seventy per cent. of the criminals in this country are made so by the use of alcohol. Those who are dependent upon him for support must either suffer for the bare necessities of life or face the world as "bread-winners" for themselves. Children are often deprived of educational advantages because alcohol is used in the home. Poverty comes into the home of a drunkard as a natural result of the drink habit. With poverty comes ignorance, disease and crime. Alcohol is responsible for about sixty per cent. of our paupers.

After the first dry Sunday in Chicago it was reported that on sixty-three arrests had been made which were one hundred and eighty less than usual. On Monday there were only thirty-five cases in the city courts. Before there had been as many as one hundred and twenty-five. There were no murders. The banks reported an increase in deposits. The men took part of their earnings home to aid in the support of their families who had been entirely dependent upon the charity societies. Employers said that men were better fitted for work on Monday morning than ever before.

Hershey, Pennsylvania, a town more than eleven years old, stands out today as one of the most remarkable towns of the United States. There are said to be about three thousand workers in this town. They are prosperous, happy people whose children enjoy the best educational advantages in America. Hershey has never had a policeman; it has never had an epidemic; it has never known poverty or unemployment. The success of this town is chiefly due to its founder, Mr. Milton E. Hershey, "who studied to build a town with drink and its evils eliminated in order that he might put his employees in surroundings that for them were the best possible to be obtained." This is only one of the many examples of the blessings of prohibition and total abstinence to the laborer.

The use of alcohol among soldiers is forbidden in many of the best armies and navies of the world, because it destroys efficiency of soldiers. Even professional ball players and other athletes have learned that alcohol and efficiency are enemies. Mr. George Baker, superintendent of the Baker Stove company, just after an order had been issued prohibiting the use of alcohol by its four hundred employees and advising the use of milk instead said: "We are not posing as prohibitionists but we believe we can increase the efficiency of our men and reduce the number of accidents if the men are not allowed to drink at work."

The laborer who drinks is excluded from the society of the good. He becomes an outcast from the best people. His friends and associates are of the lowest type of morality.

His example and influence are injurious to society as a whole. He lacks that best and only true basis of a successful life, conscientiousness. If you are a laborer or friend of a laborer, if you favor better citizenship, if you approve of higher stand-

ard of morality; if you desire to lessen the expenses and thereby the taxes of your State, county and town; if you wish to secure your own health and that of your neighbor; if you want life, liberty, prosperity and happiness to abound in your country; if you desire to lessen the number of criminals, paupers and insane; if you favor higher wages, better education and more christian homes; if you are interested in the general welfare of all; enlist yourself as a volunteer against alcohol and use your influence to eliminate this great evil from our land. Use your every effort and trust God to do the rest. Alcohol and the laborer cannot agree. King Alcohol must surrender and the laborer shall be free.

FEAR RECURRENCE OF PLAGUE

Government Experts Favor Extermination of Rats Also as a War Measure for Saving Food.

Government experts are urging that the rat be exterminated as a war measure for saving food. The waste each year due to the rodent is estimated at \$200,000,000. A full-grown rat consumes more food than a baby. In addition, the animal is a menace to health.

The terrible scourge of the bubonic plague in Europe and Asia was spread by rats and their parasites. When the plague was carried by the animals in ships to our Pacific coast, a campaign for their extermination was conducted in the seaports at much cost. The disease was thus stamped out as it had been in the Orient, by the pound of cure instead of the ounce of prevention.

The plague returns at intervals from its breeding places in the overcrowded and filthy cities of Asia. War, pestilence and famine travel hand in hand. A recurrence may be expected as a result of the deprivations of war among the impoverished eastern people.

Turks Sought British Aid. "A relief from the atrocities of war may be seen in the excerpt of a letter from a nephew of mine," writes Valentine Robinson, 40 Wall street, New York, in the Herald, who is in the engineers' corps in Palestine.

"After the flies and sand of the desert the grass and trees of — were very grateful to the eye. We soon had a little brush with the Turks and some of our men were hurt; we drove them off and soon after a flag of truce came in with three Turkish officers. They wanted to borrow a doctor; theirs had been killed. Two of the officers, 'majors,' were to remain as hostages for his safe return. Devens volunteered and when he came back had with him two — regiment wounded that they had given him in gratitude. The two boys had been treated well, but were glad to be back with their own folk."

Courtesy Was Wasted.

There is such a thing as wasted courtesy and one encounters it almost every day in the crowded subway or elevated trains, observes a New York correspondent. Recently a man was riding in a jammed train and when it stopped at the Forty-second street station there was an inrush of passengers. Among them was a richly dressed woman, who led a boy of about ten by the hand. She stood before a chivalrous-looking man who occupied a seat. With a touch of his hat he arose to give the woman his seat, when the boy broke loose from her and jumped into the vacant seat. The woman made no attempt to take the seat for herself and remained standing. What was worse, she made not the slightest acknowledgment of the man's courtesy.

CHAUTAQUA IN WAR TIME AT BELLEFONTE JULY 18 TO 25.

Chautauqua is peculiarly an American institution. Nobody invented it. It was not devised. It just grew. Its roots run deep into the American character.

Its idea is that of a free assemblage of a sovereign people, every soul a king, every man looking upon the problems of the world, its governments and its morals, with a disposing eye.

The American people are always at school. They conceive of Education, not as the privilege of the few, but as the duty of the many, not alone for gentlemen and scholars, teachers and the learned professions, but also for Every Man, Every Woman, Every Child.

In War Time Chautauqua may be of invaluable service. Battles are not only won by soldiers at the front, but also by the spirit of the people at home. Equipped by long preparation in times of peace, the Chautauqua camps all over the country are now prepared, as is no other agency, to "keep the home fires burning," to maintain that intelligent patriotism, that clear understanding of what we are fighting for, that indomitable resolution to win and that cheerfulness and courage which are needed in order to make America one hundred per cent. efficient in her gigantic task of "making the world safe for democracy."

President Wilson justly terms Chautauqua "an integral part of the national defense." Never before has Chautauqua meant what it is going to mean in 1918. Here in the free air of discussion will be blown away the subtle poison gas of German propaganda. Here the great Common People will be lined up to support, not in blind subservience, but in discriminating loyalty, the government. Here will all good causes find reinforcement. Here will the greatest Crisis that ever was imposed upon the world be made to fuse the hearts of our people into a sturdy loyalty.

The hosts of Chautauqua this year will come to their places of assembly, in no rhetorical sense, but with true and earnest reality.

"Marching as to War," "With the Cross of Jesus Going on before."

Every home in the land has been affected by the requirements of the war.

In every community the customary methods of action and control must be reorganized.

New and far-reaching measures of collective effort have had to be adopted.

Welfare agencies, and institutions that before were overloaded, are now struggling with an additional burden of baffling new problems.

The Home CASUALTY LIST:

Children neglected and gone astray. Homes broken under strain of war.

Sickness and poverty grown apace must be kept as low as possible.

What of preparation to receive the handicapped returned soldier? What of the day of reconstruction?

Are the nine-tenths of us who must remain at home doing our utmost, and doing it intelligently?

PRISONERS WENT ON STRIKE

Refused to Go Back to Jail Until One of Their Number Was "Fired" by Workhouse Superintendent.

Perhaps the queerest strike on record was that of workhouse prisoners in Delaware county, Indiana, recently, when they refused to return to jail unless one of their number received his freedom. And it was not that they desired him to be free, either, but because they wished to be freed of his presence.

"I had my gang of prisoners way out by Yorktown, working on a country road that needed repairing," said James Cole, workhouse superintendent, according to the Indianapolis News, "when I noticed, about noon time to load them into the automobile and bring them back, that the prisoners were hanging back and talking among themselves. Finally one of them came to me with the story and his demands.

"The boys here won't go back to jail with you unless you fire Danny, there," said the spokesman. "They won't ride back in the machine with him because he has vermin in his hair and on his body. You either let him go or no more jail for us. We've agreed to make a run for it if you don't, and you can't catch all of us."

"Of course, I had no right to allow the man his freedom," Cole continued, "but the fellow jumped up and ran away just then and I'm bound to admit we didn't try very hard to catch him. Anyway, that broke the strike."

Safe Buying for Both.

Buying unnecessary supplies in advance and hoarding food, both by the housewife and grocers, was responsible for some of the highest prices of the last year. "Don't be scared into buying," the Interstate Grocer urges upon its retail grocery readers. That is just what food speculators desire. Normal buying of all groceries with a view to quick and regular turnover will keep goods moving in a normal way at reasonable prices. "Don't let anyone scare you into buying in anticipation of heavy advances, but force the channels of distribution to return to the old basis of competition in selling. Consumers are not apt to buy out any grocer, as most of them have spent as much money as they could spare in canning and preserving their own fruits and vegetables. If speculators succeeded in creating a panicky buying condition, unloading upon the retail grocers at abnormal prices, the latter would be left holding the bag."

"Coal Savers."

Various preparations are extensively advertised in this country at present which are presumed to contribute considerably to the heating power of coal when applied in the prescribed doses, writes Consul General Robert P. Skinner, London. The director of fuel research, in answer to an inquiry as to the value of these preparations, states that these proprietary substances have been in the market a long time, but that there does not appear to be any genuine scientific evidence in support of the claims of their manufacturers. He concludes: "The nature of the substances makes it highly improbable that they have any effect whatsoever on the combustion of coal or other fuels when they are used in the quantities prescribed."

Tenants Wanted.

"I thought that apartment house I put up last winter would prove a sure winner," said the owner.

"Doesn't it pay?" asked his friend.

"No," replied the disgusted owner, "it's a flat failure."—New Haven Register.

One Million Sweaters.

The American Red Cross is the greatest volunteer organization that the world has ever seen. It was announced by one of the high officials in Washington that millions of people are and have been for some months working six days a week without a dollar's pay. This includes the members of the local chapters and all other employees in this country and abroad. One significant item in this is the fact that the Red Cross has given the army and navy over 1,000,000

sweaters for the boys in the service, of which over 500,000 were made by the members of the local chapters. You who know the difficulty of making sweaters can estimate the character of the work and the self-sacrifice that the women of America are making to further the Red Cross mission of mercy.

A War Gift.

A "Tommy," lying in a hospital, had beside him a watch of curious and foreign design. The attending doctor was interested.

"Where did your watch come from?" he asked.

"A German gave it to me," he answered.

A little piqued, the doctor inquired how the foe had come to convey this token of esteem and affection.

"E' ad to," was the laconic reply. —Toronto Globe.

—All printers among the Russian prisoners in Germany are being kept busy on propaganda books in Russian, to popularize the Kaiser and everything German.

They Come Back For More

Has it occurred to you that the growth of a business depends as much on the return of old customers as on the acquisition of new.

We pride ourselves on the fact that our list of customers keeps pace with our mailing list, and the old names continue to appear season after season.

We mention this simply because to us it is an indication of sound business and if we had in mind the purchase of new clothes, we would incline toward an establishment that could boast of selling the same men, season after.

With no less pride we feature

HIGH ART CLOTHES

for they to have the faculty of bringing men "Back For More."

Once wear a "High Art" Suit and you will revise your opinion of ready-to-wear clothing standards—favorably of course.



FAUBLE'S