

Is Life Worth Living?

By REV. F. M. HUBBELL
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TEXT—My soul is weary of life.—Job X. 1.

Temperance

GREAT ILLS OF ALCOHOLISM

Professor Strumpel, Leading Authority on Nervous Diseases, Gives Interesting Experiences.

Professor Strumpel, a leading authority on nervous diseases in Europe, has been giving his medical colleagues some interesting experiences of his researches in the field of "Alcoholism as Viewed From the Medical Standpoint," says a correspondent of the Chicago Daily News. In a private talk before the most noted medical scientists in Vienna the professor outlined in an impressively judicial manner an appalling number and variety of physical and mental diseases resulting from the excessive use of alcohol. He confined himself chiefly to the subject of chronic alcoholism, as acute alcoholism was generally the result of isolated cases of intoxication, the effects of which were usually only temporary and without any lasting consequences.



BURYING A VICTIM OF THE PLAGUE

This photograph shows perhaps the chief reason why the bubonic plague is working terrible havoc in Manchuria. The natives of the district refuse to allow the bodies of the victims to be cremated on the ground that their so doing would destroy the identity of the dead in the life hereafter. For the same reason they oppose the burning of infected houses in which are lying neglected and putrefied corpses. Instead, they prefer that the dead be buried in the trenches that the authorities have been compelled to prepare in consequence of the appalling mortality. The result is that the earth and the air are reeking with the disease germs; whole villages have been wiped out, and the plague is spreading with fearful swiftness. It is of a very virulent type, the recoveries being only about one per cent, and death usually occurring within 48 hours.

HOMES FOR TOILERS

Provided by Authorities in Vienna and Budapest.

Halt in Building Operations Causes Great Dearth in Houses of Least Expensive Kind—Huge Sum to Be Expended.

Vienna.—Exorbitant rents, coupled with a growing scarcity of small apartments, in the two capitals of Vienna and Budapest, have forced both the Austrian and Hungarian authorities to come to the rescue of the workers. The ministry in Vienna has voted 25,000,000 kronen (\$5,000,000) and the municipality of Budapest 25,000,000 kronen (\$5,000,000) for the erection of workmen's dwellings. It is expected that this action will not only supply the present urgent need for more small apartments, but also stop the persistent increase in rents.

Fur Animals Scarce in Maine

Trappers Compelled to Work Harder Than Ever Before and Secure Fewer Animals—Profits Big.

Bangor, Me.—Trappers who spend the winter in the Maine woods work much harder than they did 20 years ago. They get up earlier, travel farther, and take greater pains in attending their traps, and earn about as much as they did when furbearing animals were twice as abundant. They bring in lighter loads and take greater pains in skinning and preparing the pelts. They bring out muskrat and skunk skins that formerly they did not consider worth hauling, because of the scarcity of minks, otters and fisher cats prices have doubled.

Unique Way of Saving Time

New Jersey Banker Buys Big Farm So He May Cut Short Road to Railway Station.

Trenton, N. J.—It takes James M. Donald eight minutes to get from his home to the nearest suburban railway station, with fair consideration for New Jersey's speed law, and with regard to the mechanism of his high-powered auto. Eight minutes is more time than Donald feels he can spare at the start of his daily trip to New York, where he is chairman of the Hanover National bank.

Doctor Finds New Disease

Sandfly Fever is an Ailment Which May Be Widely Distributed, Says English Physician.

New York.—Sandfly fever is a disease which may be found in sections of this country at no distant date, if an English physician's opinion that it probably is widely distributed is correct. Apparently this ailment is just beginning to be recognized. Dr. T. G. Wakefield tells about it in the British Medical Journal.

Russia's Revenue From Drink

Russia received last year from revenue of intoxicating liquors \$275,000,000; enough to pay the cost of her army and navy. In the meantime she is coming to an unhappy pre-eminence as the most drunken nation in the world. The dire need of the whole nation for drastic measures of reform along the line of temperance was voiced by the Anti-Alcohol Congress which met a short time ago in St. Petersburg. Several members of the Duma also have been outspoken against the drink evil within the empire, and temperance reformers in other parts of the world will now look for the first unmistakable signs of the temperance awakening which these activities seem to indicate.

Need of Today

The need of today is a creed with a heart big enough to worship with our heart and soul and strength. The main postulate of our creed must be belief in God, the father-almighty.—Rev. Murdoch McLeod, Myrtle, Tacoma, Wash.

ELIJAH'S VICTORY

Sunday School Lesson for Feb. 12, 1911
Specially Arranged for This Paper

LESSON TEXT—1 Kings 18: 1, 2, 17-40.
Memory Verses 28, 29.
GOLDEN TEXT—"Choose you this day whom ye will serve."—Josh. 24:18.
TIME—Three to three and one-half years after Elijah first warned Ahab. Between H. C. 929-930 (or 925-927).

St. James in his epistle tells us that Elijah had prayed earnestly that "it might not rain," because the famine seemed to be the only way by which people could be brought to repentance, and that now, at the end of three years and a half, he again prayed that it might rain.

Elijah sent for the king to come to him. The prophet was the greater and had more power. That Ahab came at all, shows that he recognized the power of the prophet, and of the true God; and that he had been humbled by the famine experience. Ahab's first words were: "Are thou he that troublest Israel?" He had no word to say of his own sin; he forgot the iniquity of the people of the land, in which he had been the leader; he took no note of the hand of Jehovah in the calamity, and spoke as if the whole matter had been a mere personal difference between him and Elijah. Elijah replied, "I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house."

They grew frenzied in their excitement, and cut themselves with their weapons. Herodotus describes the dance of Hellenogabalus round the altar of the Emeuse sun-god, and Apuleius describes at length the fanatic leaping and gashings of the execrable Gall. Their feeling was that God was well pleased with such tortures and pains. The only sufferings with which God is pleased are those which men undergo for the sake of helping and saving their fellow men; such as Christ's sufferings on the cross, and Paul's sufferings to give men the Gospel.

They prophesied and cried in wild ecstasies, like those in ancient time who thus in excited frenzies pretended to be filled with the power of their deities.

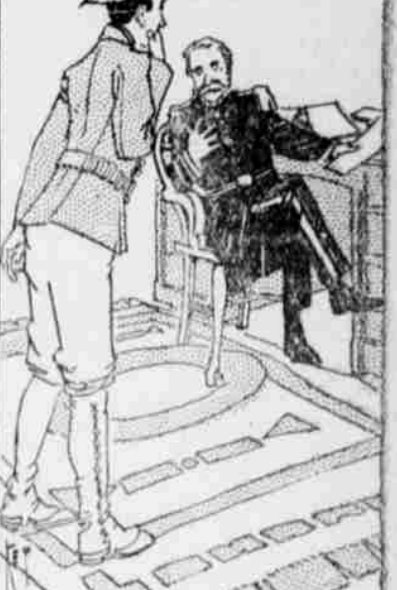
There was no answer, though they continued their exertions till the time of the offering of the evening oblation. And Elijah said, "Come near unto me," so that they could see and hear, and could know that there was no concealment or trickery.

He repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down. On this altar the wood and the sacrifice were laid. The fire of the Lord fell, not an accidental stroke of lightning, for the sky was clear of cloud. It was simply the direct act of God's will upon the laws of nature. No mere natural act such as Baalites or anyone else could do, would prove that it was God himself who was summoning them to obedience. It would be a strange God, and Father, that could not use his own laws of Nature to produce a moral effect. The proof was the more decisive because the divine fire not only consumed the offering, but the water and the very stones of the altar.

The people fell on their faces, and they said, "The Lord, he is God! the Lord, he is God!"

Heavy Railroad Improvements. Omaha, Neb.—Year-end figures show that the railroads spent \$2,400,000 for improvements in Omaha during 1910. It is estimated that more than \$20,000,000 was paid out as wages here.

The ONLOOKER by WILBUR D. NESEBIT



In a sketch of John R. McLean in a current magazine it is narrated that one time a young reporter came into his office and said: "I say, Jack"—Whereupon Mr. McLean replied: "Oh, my dear fellow! Don't be so beastly formal. Call me Johnny."

Hail, veteran of the jests! Once more you totter in. With eyes that blink against the light, with lean and toothless grin. How well do we remember thee when last you came around—'Twas then to General Nelson Miles your gentle form was found. A young recruit stepped up to Miles with "Miles" or something else. Just as presumptions, and Miles retorted: "Call me Nesebit!"

Again: "I have not troubled days when Washington's command was suffering the pangs of want—that braver and trusty band. The Father of His Country trusted the snow at Valley Forge. When up there came an orderly and said unto him: "George!" And Washington, they tell, turned round and gayly murmured: "Boh! Don't be so ceremonial! Why don't you call me 'Wash'!"

Again: When Julius Caesar led his soldiers into Gaul. A green and gawky Roman thought upon the chief to call. The lanky youngster found his tent, and, this is wholly true, He grasped the great commander's hand with: "Caesar, how dy' dost?" The mighty soldier sized him up with glances calm and cool. And smiled: "Tut, tut! Don't be so grim. Why don't you call me 'Jul'?"

When Thothmes built the pyramid, a messenger was sent To tell him how the work went on. Thothmes was in his tent With forty slaves fanning him with fans swung on a rope. The messenger remarked: "Hello, Say, Thothmes, here's the dope." Thothmes rose in kindly rage, and spoke in accents wrath: "Why are you putting on such lugs? Why don't you call me 'Thoth'?"

Hail, veteran of all the jests! Methusalem laughed at you. And Noah took you on the ark to cheer the voyage through. But long ere that old Enoch laughed until he lost his breath: When he first heard you from the lips of his old father, Seth. And Adam in the land of Nod one day said in a loud voice: "Don't stand on form with me, my boy. Why don't you call me 'Ad'?"

A Backslider. "Flossie says she does not believe in letting a man kiss her if she happens to stand beneath the mistletoe." "And she has always claimed to be such a sincere vegetarian!"

A Great Mind. "See that well-dressed man across the street? Well, a year ago he was about as poor as they make 'em. Hadn't a cent to his name, and his clothes were ragged and torn." "He certainly looks prosperous. Did he fall heir to something?" "Better'n that. He was one of these studious, dreamy fellows, and worked for years and years on a new health food." "O, that explains it all. I tell you these health food people are selling their stuff by the ton." "But he never sold an ounce of it as health food." "He didn't? Did the other manufacturers buy him off?" "No. But when the coal famine struck the country he had just perfected his invention, and being a man that realized the popular demand, he advertised his product as 'Burn-a-Quick,' and sold all he could turn out as a substitute for coal."

His Troubles. "I tell you," said the man with the pessimistic eyes, "a person shouldn't believe the half that he hears nowadays." "Maybe you're right," answered the man with the shiny bald spot, "but here of late I've not so blame deaf I can't hear the half that is said to me."

Affected. "Business is business, young man," said the employer. "This thing of your coming to work at ten in the morning is not right. I have to be on duty at eight in the morning. What do you think of that?" "Eight in the morning? My dear, sir, you have my sympathy."

Unhappy Lad. "Dere, O' course me Sunday school teacher 'd have to come along just as I'd studied up a brand new cussword to say at Hickey Murphy. An' now dat she's gone by I can't remember what de word was!"

Receptiveness. Man's understanding of spiritual truth would increase more rapidly if he were more receptive to the light.—Rev. W. P. Lyon, True Life, San Jose, Cal.

Paper Dictates Man's Styles. Paris.—Paris has produced a new paper for men, La Mode Masculine, with a mission to improve the male Parisian's dress. The new authority lays it down that Fallieres is the only Frenchman who is justified in wearing a dress suit in any hour of the day. A man's wardrobe must include four silk hats, one of which is for rainy days; two soft, two debies, one straw, a real Panama, an opera, and a soft felt.