

THE CONDEMNATION OF JOHN BARLEYCORN.

At the annual meeting of the American Medical Association the following resolutions were adopted:—

"Whereas we believe that the use of alcohol is detrimental to the human economy, and whereas its use in therapeutics as a tonic or stimulant, or for food, has no scientific value; therefore, be it resolved: That the American Medical Association is opposed to the use of alcohol as a beverage; and be it further resolved: That the use of alcohol as a therapeutic agent should be further discouraged."

The Association has a membership of 81,000 physicians and surgeons.

The Hon. Jeanette Rankin, in an address, said that 10 per cent. of the freight cars used in her country were required for hauling alcoholic liquors.

Mr Arthur Mee makes the astounding statement that the breweries have destroyed more food than all the German submarines.

Dr. Fort Newton, pastor of the City Temple, says: "When I see American soldiers staggering in the streets, I hate London. It is a criminal offence for an American to sell drink to a soldier. Here every opportunity is offered, and every trap set, to debauch our boys travelling to and from the Front. How long will America send food ships to England for the manufacture of liquor to ruin our boys? It is unfair."

THE FOE OF EFFICIENCY.

Sir John French says: "Abstinence and self-control makes a man more serviceable."

Sir Frederick Treves (surgeon to the King) says: "If you want to be efficient, don't touch alcohol."

Admiral Sir John Jellicoe says: "In the Navy there are three qualities upon which efficiency mainly depends: Discipline, Endurance, Straight Shooting."

Abstinence is necessary for the highest efficiency. Strong drink makes weak men. Don't drink!

In industries, on the railways, in ironworks, shipbuilding yards, cotton and woollen factories, glass works, in the harvest field, in building, and, in fact, in all trades and industries, experience shows that work can be better done without alcohol.

BRITAIN'S SHAME.

"It could be proved from official figures that the weight of drink stuff carried about since the war began had been as great as the weight of the solid material carried by the Navy to all our fighting fronts. The waste of man-power through drink since the war began had been equal to the closing down of all our munition works for 100 days. We could have put 100,000 men more on the land this year with prohibition. Drink had used up since the war began 5,000,000 tons of food."—Arthur Mee.

Sir Arthur Pearce Gould said the British soldier was not a drunken sot, but it was the civilian population that was at fault. Hospitals should be a sacred retreat for soldiers, yet even there they would hardly believe how difficult it was to protect the men from drink introduced from outside. He instanced the case of a paralysed and helpless man who was found hopelessly drunk after his friends had visited him. Captain McNeill, of Canada, said that all the weapons this nation needed in the war had had their edges blunted by the drink traffic.

TOO TRUE.

An officer of the Ohio State Liquor League is accredited with the following, taken from one of his recent speeches on prosperity to the liquor brotherhood:—

"It will appear from these facts, gentlemen, that the success of our business is dependent largely upon the creation of an appetite for drink. Men who drink liquor, like others, will die, and if there is no new appetite created our counters will be empty, as will be our money drawers. Our children will go hungry, or we must change our business to something more remunerative.

"The open field for the creation of this appetite is among the boys. After men are grown and their habits are formed they rarely change in this regard. It will be needfull, therefore, that missionary work be done among the boys, and I make the suggestion, that nickels expended in treats to the boys now will return in dollars to your tills after the appetites have been formed. Above all things, create appetites."

JOHN BARLEYCORN.

John Barleycorn is the prince of slackers, the king of wasters, and the veriest glutton in all the world. In this year of threatened famine he will, unless he is curbed, swallow more food than will the wide Atlantic, aided by the entire fleet of German U boats. Eighty million bushels of sound grain, 120,000,000 gallons of molasses—that is only a part of the good foodstuffs that will go to glut his monstrous appetite. And meanwhile Europe starves; our Allies cry for food. In answer to that cry we sound the alarm for grain, more grain and ships, more ships, to put it in. We suffer panic from our lack of farm lands and farm hands.

The war will be won in the trenches of France and in the furrows of America, so we are told. We set ourselves to the task of training a million men in a year, of bringing new acres under the plough, and yet during the course of that twelve months we will consume in the form of alcoholic beverages alone enough grain to feed 11,000,000 mouths.

It is all wrong. It is colossal waste. It is extravagance which the world cannot tolerate in this hour of stress.—Rex Beach.

AN EVENING PRAYER.

Forgive us for the smiles we failed to give—
Smiles on which saddened hearts may live—
And yet—and yet we failed to give!

Forgive us for the words we've left unsaid—
Words that feed hungry hearts like bread—
And yet—and yet were left unsaid!

And for the little deeds we've left undone,
That might have cheered some lonely one—
And yet—and yet were left undone!

Forgive us, Thou who knowest us so well,
That we have failed our love to tell
By smiles and words and deeds so well.

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