

Ladies' Home Journal Patterns for Easy Dressmaking.

A very large number of these Patterns are sold, and because of their simplicity, and the excellent results that are obtained from them, they are most popular with New Zealand women. Clear directions are given with each Pattern. Designs for every description of clothing for women and children.

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CHRISTCHURCH.

Traffic had become world-wide, supported by thinking men everywhere on the grounds of humanity and efficiency. It was no longer extremists or fanatics that were asking for it, but the movement had been placed on a new footing by receiving the support of the commercial community. Nor was it any longer insular or local, for every country in the world was dealing with the matter, and that by drastic measures. He had come to the conclusion, from reading the writings of Sir F. Smith, that the consumption of alcohol was largely a matter of fashion. Sir F. Smith had recently visited North America as a representative of the British Government, to present to the people there the ideas of England about the war. The article he wrote while travelling revealed an interesting change of opinion. At first amazed, even to the extent of indulging in sarcasm, by the absence of liquor in important social functions, he found that Prohibition was a permanent part of the social life of the people, and before long he became himself a convert to the principle.

Mr Milner gave an interesting resumé of the struggle against liquor in the United Kingdom in the early part of the war. Spite of the pleadings of the Shipbuilders' Federation, spite of the representations of Lord Jellicoe, of the Director of Transport, and the Director of Munitions, spite of the example of the King, every effort to sweep away the drink evil failed, and Mr Lloyd George had to content himself with certain restrictive measures because the Traffic was so strongly entrenched, numbering amongst its proprietary supporters clergymen, titled persons, members of Parliament, and a large majority of the Balfour Ministry.

Referring to the instruction of the young, the speaker strongly advocated Scientific Temperance education in the schools, when the plastic minds of the young can be so easily moulded. The strong public sentiment in America on the liquor question was

the result of the systematic temperance instruction given in the schools there for the last thirty years or more. In 1905, 15,000 medical men of Britain, among them all the leaders of the profession, had asked that hygiene and temperance, especially the dangers of moderate drinking, should be taught in the schools. But again the political influence of the brewers was too strong, and nothing was done. Here in New Zealand the Minister of Education (Mr Hanan) had asked the Education Boards to see that proper temperance instruction was given in the schools. But nothing was done, nor ever would be until public opinion insisted on the teachers being trained in the subject, and the inspectors being directed to report on it as on the other subjects of the curriculum.

The Liquor Control Board in England set up a committee of nine experts to report on the effects of alcohol. They were eminent medical men, absolutely unbiassed, and their report showed that the claim of alcohol to any value as food was quite unfounded, that the benefit of the carbohydrates in alcohol was more than compensated by the evil effects on the nervous system. The amount of alcohol that could be assimilated by the human body in 24 hours was only about as much as was contained in one pint of beer. Alcohol did not assist, but greatly reduced muscular power. It was not a tonic, but on the contrary, a narcotic, a paralysing, to be classified with drugs like opium and chloral, and the evil effects were produced not merely by its excessive use, but by minute doses, as proved by a series of investigations. Deterioration in the quality of the work done was invariably the result.

Referring to the Imperial aspect of the question, Mr Milner said that though Britain claimed to be fighting for freedom and democracy, in one respect she had failed lamentably in her treatment of the native races, viz., in her liquor trade with them. Alike in India, Africa, New Zealand, she had

sent her accursed liquor to be the ruin of the natives it was her duty to protect. This was a blot on Britain's Imperial escutcheon. In New Zealand now huge fortunes were being made out of the liquor traffic. Whisky was pouring into the country, and much of it, costing 2s 6d a gallon at Leith, was being retailed in New Zealand at 7s a gallon. It was time people woke up to the facts, and destroyed the Trade before it had fastened any more firmly its hold on the Government and Parliament of the country. It was a grand thing that the business men of the Dominion were associating themselves with the fight. He trusted that the time was near when the people should have the opportunity of striking such a blow at the Traffic as would remove it for ever from our midst, and so the generation to come should have a better chance of happiness and advancement than was possible to those who had gone before.

Votes of thanks were passed to the speakers, and the proceedings terminated.

RECIPE FOR GOOD CAKE.

This recipe is suitable for sending to the boys. It will keep in good condition for many months if kept in a tin:—6oz. butter, 7oz. dark sugar, 5 eggs, 10oz. flour, 1½lb. mixed sultanas, 6 oz. lemon peel, 4oz. chopped almonds, 4oz. nutmeg, 4oz. cinnamon, ½ cup milk. Beat butter and sugar together, add eggs and milk, then dry ingredients; bake in slow oven.

QUEENSLAND WOMEN.

Queensland is the one State in the Commonwealth that has not done anything to restrict the liquor trade. The women, feeling very aggrieved at this, went in an immense procession, four abreast, and stormed Parliament, demanding at least 6 o'clock closing.