

PROHIBITION PARS.**ARMY SURGEON AND ALCOHOL.**

An army surgeon recently stated that he had conducted 4,000 surgical operations and dealt altogether with 14,000 cases during the war. He had never once administered alcohol and had never lost a patient.

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DRINK, LUNACY AND VENEREAL DISEASE.

Sir Robert Armstrong-Jones, R.A. M.C., said: "It had been the idea of the Lunacy Commissioner that if alcohol were abolished the solution of the question of insanity would be found. They did not say that drink was the only curse but they did say that it was the short cut to all the other curses. There was a certain disease—a communicable disease—which was an absolute and positive danger to the country, and to that disease alcohol was a short cut."

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ALCOHOL THE ENEMY OF EFFICIENCY.

Winfield Scott Hall, M.D.: "Investigations in University laboratories of Europe and America have shown that while brain activity is increased with small doses of alcohol, the judgment is less sound, the reasoning less accurate, the perception less clear, the thinking less logical, the will power weakened. Thus activity was gained at the expense of control and of efficiency.

"Recent researches, therefore, have demonstrated that alcohol profoundly influences physical efficiency—decreasing strength, agility and skill of muscular action, interfering with judgment, reason, will power and logical thinking. Alcohol is the great destroyer of physical efficiency.

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COWBOY FEARS PROHIBITION.

The cowboy looked worried. "There's one thing about this prohibition that I'm afraid of," he remarked. Stranger: "Why, you all look better for it as far as I can see." "Ah, yes, but the death-rate will go up. We're all so steady in the nerves. We shoot much straighter."

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Surgeons innumerable have testified the abstinent soldier more promptly and more surely recovers from wounds and returns sooner to the firing line.

LIQUOR AND DRUGS—ALLIES.

In response to a cable message from Mr Thomas E. Varley, a Jesuit father in Austria, as to the statement that Prohibition increases the drug habit, the following reply was cabled back by Arthur Capper, the former Governor of Kansas, and Henry J. Allen, the present Governor: "Records in Kansas and throughout country show Prohibition decreases drug habit. Liquor creates desire for drugs."

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According to Representative Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois, Chairman of the committee appointed by the Treasury Department to investigate the use of narcotic drugs, "dope fiends" are increasing in numbers faster in wet than in dry cities. There are in the United States 1,500,000 drug addicts, but the greatest increase in the use of such narcotics has been in such wet cities as Cleveland, New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago.

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PROHIBITION AND MORTALITY.

One naturally associates the war with the enormous number of those killed in action. Consequently it is with somewhat of a surprise and a shock that we read the mortality figures which the New York Life Insurance Company gives of its policy holders in Germany during the four years of war from August 1, 1914, to July 31, 1918. These figures have just been compiled by the Company's chief actuary and show that the mortality, including deaths on the battlefield, was 12 per cent. less for the war period of four years than for the eleven years of peace immediately preceding. The Company's chief actuary says: "It is probable that this has been the result of restriction in diet, limitation in the consumption of alcoholic beverages, and a large amount of exercise which the Germans of middle life, the bulk of our insured, have had to stand." Then he adds that these facts "point a way to longer life for the average man, to wit: restricted diet, total abstinence from alcoholic drink, proper exercise."

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BEER AN ENEMY OF THE INTELLECT.

One-half to one quart of beer is sufficient to distinctly impair memory, lower intellectual power, and retard simple mental processes, such as the addition of simple figures. This narcotic or deadening influence is first ex-

erted on the higher reasoning powers that control conduct, so that the lower activities of the mind and nervous system are for a time released. The every-day, well-poised, self-controlled man goes to sleep, as it were, and the primitive man temporarily wakes up.

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ALCOHOL A HANDICAP.

Alcohol is a handicap for a nation at war. It is a handicap for an individual in the struggle for existence. This is not the judgment of scientists alone, nor of weaklings and faddists, but of the big-brained, strong-fibred men upon whom has fallen the tremendous burden of guiding great nations through the greatest crisis in history.

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THE BEST SHOT.

As regards straight shooting, it is everyone's experience that abstinence is necessary for efficiency. By careful and prolonged tests, the shooting efficiency of the men was proven to be 30 per cent. worse after the rum ration than before.—Admiral Sir J. R. Jellicoe.

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GIVE THEM A PLACE TO PLAY.

Plenty of room for dives and dens
(glitter and glare and sin),
Plenty of room for prison-pens (gather
the criminals in),
Plenty of room for gaols and courts
(willing enough to pay),
But never a place for the lads to race;
no, never a place to play!

Plenty of room for shops and stores
(mammon must have the best),
Plenty of room for the running sores
that rot in the city's breast!
Plenty of room for the lures that lead
the hearts of our youth astray,
But never a cent on a playground
spent; no, never a place to play!

Plenty of room for schools and halls,
plenty of room for art;
Plenty of room for teas and balls,
platform, stage, and mart.
Proud is the city—she finds a place
for many a fad to-day,
But she's more than blind if she fails
to find a place for the boys to play!

Give them a chance for innocent sport,
give them a chance for fun—
Better a playground-plot than a court
and a gaol when the harm is done!
Give them a chance—if you stint them
now, to-morrow you'll have to pay
A larger bill for a darker ill, so give
them a place to play!
—Denis A. McCarthy, in "The Journal
of Education."