

with me to the room in which my son slept. He had retired, but I woke him up to tell him the wonderful story.

He saw me with the bottle of "cocktails" in my hand and said—"Are you ill, father? Are you going to take a cocktail?" I answered—"My son, you see this bottle of cocktails. It is the last drop of liquor that shall ever come into this house, and the last drop of liquor which passed down my throat, and I do not know when that was, was the last drop that shall ever pass down it." With that, I walked into the bathroom adjoining his bedroom and I said—"Listen, my boy," and I emptied the bottle into the bathtub.

He sat bolt upright in bed, and said to me—"Father, that is great! Count me in with you." The thrill of joy which shot through me as I heard these words will more than compensate me for any loss which I may sustain by reason of this new resolve from now to eternity.

I was so happy I had to go and wake my wife up and talk to her for an hour, and she was just as happy as I was. This is why I write to you, the cause of it all, this little bit of history, and likewise a tribute of gratitude.

Most truly yours.

OUR GREATEST EXHORTER

Probably the Wesleys, Whitfield, Asbury, Cartwright, Gough and Moody, to say nothing of Sam Jones and Billy Sunday, never moved so many Americans on a religious or moral issue at one time as responded to the temperance appeal of William J. Bryan in Philadelphia Monday night. When he had finished his address, 12,000 men signified their purpose to refrain from the use of intoxicants. The sincerity of the orator was shown by the fact that he remained for hours after the meeting, affixing his signature as a witness to personal pledges of abstinence.

This is prohibition that will prohibit, if anything can. It is addressed to the individual. It obligates the individual. It has behind it the moral force, whatever that may be, of the individual. It gains support, no doubt, from the fervor exhibited in the same direction by so many people of like minds, but it depends not at all upon law or coercion or circumstance.

Millions of Mr. Bryan's fellow-countrymen who doubt his ability as legislator, financier, diplomat or statesman will readily acclaim him as the greatest of exhorters. Few men in his position with the world at war and questions of the utmost gravity arising almost daily in his department, could be persuaded to devote a day and a night to temperance. It will be said that he was neglecting duty. Yet the lesson of sobriety may be one that civilization needs today as much as any other.

A remarkable character is this secretary of state who preaches peace to nations inclined to war, who bids empires and kingdoms to think twice before drawing the sword, and who finds time in the midst of many distractions to urge, and by personal influence to help thousands to higher standards of life. How much does he owe to the president or the president to him?—New York World.

MR. BRYAN ROUTS THE "DEMON RUM"

The tremendous anti-liquor meeting in the Sunday tabernacle, at which Secretary of State Bryan gave such a pregnant address, had all the outward characteristics of a religious meeting; in fact, it was deliberately planned to fit into the phenomenal evangelistic campaign being conducted by "Billy" Sunday. Yet in spite of its setting, it was significant by reason of a shifting of emphasis from the moral to the economical. Every one in mature life will recall the period when the liquor question was considered almost exclusively from an ultra-religious standpoint; it was held to be sinful for any one to indulge in alcoholic stimulants. While neither Mr. Bryan nor any other advocate of total abstinence ignores or underplays the moral aspects of the question, the premises of the anti-liquor movement today are economical, industrial and political—political not in the party sense, but as affecting the general welfare and development of the nation.

This new emphasis can be readily grasped by isolating a few of the outstanding statements of Mr. Bryan's address:

"It is estimated that the people of the United States spend almost \$2,500,000,000 for intoxicating liquors.

"The annual appropriations of the federal government are little less than \$1,250,000,000.

Think of this nation spending twice that amount for alcoholic liquors!

"The cost of the Panama canal was about \$400,000,000. Is it not appalling to think we spend for drink every year six times the cost of the Panama canal?

"It is estimated that we spend \$750,000,000 annually for education. And yet we spend for drink more than three times this amount!

"If what we spend annually for liquor were applied to the European conflict, the greatest in the world's history, it would keep the war going six weeks.

"The nation submits to this taxation, which is five times as great as any taxation it would permit any political party to add to its burdens in one year.

"Use of alcohol not only lowers a man's productive capacity, but it imparts constitutional weakness to his offspring."

There can be no doubt that Mr. Bryan's tabulation of the cost of liquor will have a decisive effect upon American business men, irrespective of their individual opinions of their right to drink if they so wish. When it is proved that the financial toll and the price of lost efficiency are far too heavy for industry to stand, the sentiment in favor of restrictive legislation must be irresistible. If there is one question that is engrossing public attention and moving swiftly toward legislative action, it is that of the right of the people to pass upon the sale of liquor. Probably no one ever set forth the national aspect of the problem more clearly and conclusively than Mr. Bryan in his Monday night address, and the influence of that meeting, with its merciless display of facts, will play a part in the action of the Pennsylvania legislature upon the local option bill. — Philadelphia Public Ledger (March 17).

A RAILROAD MAN'S VIEW

The following interview by a "railroad man" would indicate that the said railroad man was giving more attention to agriculture just now than to railroading. It also indicates his attitude on railroad regulation:

"A railroad official who believes there is no reason why the benefits of government by commission should not be extended to the farmer as well as to the carrier has prepared a draft of a 'farming code' providing for the regulation of prices, service requirements, and a sort of 'full crew' law, with several 'welfare' clauses for the hired man. The bill is as follows:

"Only one price for a given commodity shall be lawful. A farmer desiring to change a price shall file a schedule thereof with the commission hereby created, which shall go into effect thirty days thereafter, unless suspended by the commission at the instance of any consumer.

"No prices shall be increased, however, except upon due proof, the burden whereof shall be upon the farmer, that existing prices are confiscatory of his goods and gear. In its discretion the commission may refuse to permit any such increase until a valuation by its engineers and accountants shall have been taken. In such valuation the farmer shall have no credit for past profits invested in new fields or improved structures, but shall be allowed only original cost plus borrowed money invested.

"Commodity, as used herein, includes all grains, vegetables, live stock, dairy articles, excepting sand, gravel, and manure.

"Every hired man shall work eight hours only a day, not including the Sabbath, and shall not recommence work unless he has completed a period of not less than eighteen hours absolute rest and quiet. He shall not work on the Lord's day nor legal holidays, nor on Jack Love's birthday.

"Every farmer shall hire one more hired man than his work requires.

"The only permissible exceptions to the two foregoing sections shall be periods of stress resulting from earthquake, Halley's comet, or European invasion.

"All wagons and poles and double trees shall be provided with couplers, coupling by impact, so that the hired man need not go between the wheels of the wagon and the heels of the horses.

"All wagons shall be supplied with suitable brakes, grabirons, stirrups, and platforms of standard dimensions to be fixed by the commission.

"All bulls, when moving on the highway or in unfenced areas, shall be equipped with a bell of not less than fifty pounds weight, a steam whistle, and an electric headlight of at least 1,000 candle power.

"All field engines and machinery shall be

fenced in, all belting shall be encased in metal housings and all grindstones, churns, hay-cutters, bull's horns, and other moving parts shall be strongly encased in sheaths for the protection of the hired men.

"Sheds shall be built over all fields where hired men have to work in summer.

"All barns, sheds, and other outbuildings shall in cold weather be adequately heated and at all times shall be well lighted and policed.

"If a calf is delayed in arriving, or is born dead, the farmer shall instantly provide another cow whose calf shall be born that day.

"The commission's inspectors shall weekly inspect all gasoline automobiles. If a cylinder is missing the farmer must find it before he runs on the road again.

"The right to mortgage real estate is a franchise reserved to the state. No farmer shall make any mortgage nor incur any indebtedness extending over a period of more than one month without the written approval of the commission, obtained upon petition and hearing and upon paying the state treasurer 10 cents for each \$100 of such indebtedness. Indebtedness without such consent shall be void.

"To enforce this act a commission of five persons shall be selected by the governor with a view to placating as many shades of political opinion as possible. No commissioner shall, however, be deemed disqualified by lack of previous political or other experience."

THE PEACE TREATY PLOWSHARE

The reign of King Uzziah was a period of prosperity and luxury. Great attention was given to commerce and military preparations. "Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither is there any end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses, neither is there any end of their chariots." Uzziah was famed for his invention of new weapons of war. He prepared for his army, "shields, and spears, and helmets, and habergeons, and bows, and slings to cast stones. And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad."

Isaiah was born during the reign of King Uzziah. In a vision the prophet sees a vast commonwealth centered in Jerusalem. His own city shall be the seat of the judgment of the Lord. God shall administer justice between the nations. By his retributions he will decide those international questions out of which war springs. Joel prophesied concerning the day when the nations shall gather to destroy God's kingdom on the earth. After this outbreak of savagery, Isaiah, the idealist, says the Lord will rebuke the people by convincing them of error; "and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord."

In our day of warring hosts and infernal machines for land and sea and air for the destruction of men, God is working through present-day idealists to usher in the day when nations shall learn war no more. Ten years ago William Jennings Bryan began to work on a peace plan with all nations. The plan was laid before President Wilson and soon after the inauguration was presented to the thirty-five nations represented at Washington. The United States has now made peace treaties with thirty nations, with three-fourths of the population of the world. This will make war well-nigh impossible between the United States and the nations with which these treaties have been made.

Mr. Bryan will present to the diplomatic representatives of the countries which have signed peace treaties with the United States miniature plowshares made of melted sword blades. A half-tone made from a photograph of the plowshare paper weight appears on the front cover of this number. Mr. Bryan's "plow of peace" bids fair to become as famous as his "cross of gold."—The Art Student, Nashville, Tenn.

What is most astonishing, according to my way of looking at it, is that men should bring each other into such a state—that men who have seen such a sight should not sink down on their knees and swear a passionate oath to make war on war—that if they were princes they do not fling the sword away—or if they are in any position of power they do not from that moment devote their whole action in speech or writing, in thought, teaching or business, to this one end—Lay down your arms.—Baroness Von Suttner.