

National Temperance Study Course For Sunday Schools

Study V. October 29th, 1939 WHY BE A TOTAL ABSTAINER (Intermediate Senior) By EDITH LANG

Science tells us that the actual physical effect of alcohol on a human being is to paralyze the brain, and that this paralysis begins with the first glass. Further that the first part of the brain to be affected is that which governs our highest functions, those with which man alone among God's created creatures is endowed, namely those by which we exercise our judgment, our conscience, our self-control, our self-criticism. These capacities are blunted before we have taken enough alcohol to affect those centres of our brains which control the movement of our limbs with the result that long before a man is really drunk he is "drunk" visibly, he has impaired his thinking power, he has impaired his birth-right of his God-given knowledge between good and evil and will be powerless to escape the good and renounce the evil, and all in return for a mess of pottage in the form of a drink containing a narcotic poison called alcohol.

Surely it is time that we, as Christians, made up our minds that we will not do this foolish and wicked thing! How can we love and serve God and humanity with our body, mind and spirit if we deliberately throw away our chance of doing good thinking and our power of will to perform right actions? There never was a time when the world at large and Canada in particular, was in greater need of people of clear thought and of courageous action. Neither was there ever a time when the young people of the country were so anxious to serve, to give of their best for Christ and their country. What, then, shall we do about alcohol? Shall we not put it out of our individual lives, and seek to tell others about its harmful effects that eventually we, as a nation, shall intelligently and willingly vote for the complete prohibition of its manufacture, importation, sale and use as a beverage?

How best can we set about helping on this great movement which has for its objects the making of individuals efficient to serve, and of a nation in which the kingdom of God may prevail? Much has been said and written as to the help which signing a personal pledge of "total abstinence from all alcoholic liquors as a beverage" may or may not be to individuals as workers in this great campaign. Personally, the writer always advocates it, and for the following reasons:

(1) It helps the individual. Having signed a pledge we have made up our minds once and for all. There is no need to make it up again each time the opportunity to drink alcohol comes our way, as it will come over and over again for many years to come. Further, when we are asked to make it, the reply that we do not take it, or we prefer not to take it, leaves us open to argument and pressure while few people will continue to urge any one to take a drink when they reply at once, "I am a pledged abstainer."

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Ch'Town Royalty And Vicinity

Mrs. McAulay who has been absent during the Summer has returned to her home in St. Avaris.

Mrs. Uily Birt, Covehead Road, spent Wednesday with her sister, Mrs. Price Thomsson at St. Avaris.

Mr. Leslie Wood has returned to St. Avaris following the closing for the season of the cheese factory at Abram's Village, Prince County.

The Guardian regrets to learn of the continued serious condition of Mrs. Wesley Dennis, Mt. Edward Road, in the Prince Edward Island Hospital.

Some portions of York Road now being widened and graded, are almost impassable owing to the continued heavy rains, which have also been retarding the work somewhat.

Master Harry Cook, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Cook, Palmer's Lane, is making a steady recovery after a serious operation in the Prince Edward Island Hospital. He is expected home shortly.

Mr. and Mrs. Colby Lewis and family, formerly of Pictou, have taken up residence in York having purchased the property occupied by the late Mr. B.R. Brown of Ayrshire fame. Mr. Lewis specializes in Holsteins.

The first meeting of the Study Group of the teachers in this vicinity was held at Parkdale School Oct. 20. Mr. Angus Gilmore, principal of Parkdale school called the meeting to order. Mr. Gilmore was elected President of the Group.

Mr. Gordon Douglas, Vice-President and Mrs. Fanny E. Leigh, Secretary. A discussion on the teaching of History was led by Mr. Gordon Rice. A paper on this subject, prepared by Mr. Howard Court, of the Teacher Training Department of P.W.C. and by Supervisor MacKenzie, was read. The next meeting will be held at Parkdale School on Nov. 17th at 2:00 p.m.

A gentleman with a long white beard, and dressed in a red gown and hood.

"Good evening, Mrs. Pobblejoy," said he politely. "Soon be time for cutting the Christmas-trees now! We've a very fine croon this year."

"Why, it's Santa Claus!" cried Mrs. Pobblejoy.

"At your service, m'am," said the old gentleman, bowing. "May I have the pleasure of showing you around? This tree, now, is one of which we're particularly proud: grown by a widow with seven children. She's been working at it all the year, a penny here, and a penny there, and it has grown remarkably well. Toys on it, you see, and apples and sweets and seven pairs of new shoes. And this tree, too, will interest you, Mrs. Pobblejoy: it has been grown by your neighbours for their children, Emily and Gertrude—there is a new dress and hat and coat for each of them, and a doll's preambulator and a tennis-racket and all sorts of surprises."

"I never saw anything so pretty!" said Mrs. Pobblejoy. "I wish our children could see them; they were worrying me about a Christmas-tree this very day. You haven't a tree to spare that I could have, I suppose?"

"But there is one of your own here!" said the old gentleman. "Every family has one."

"Well, now!" exclaimed Mrs. Pobblejoy. "I never knew that."

She followed him in and out among the trees, but not one of them had a label with "Pobblejoy" on it.

"Then they came to a great pile of bottles, with a shivelled twig sticking out of the top.

"That's your tree," said the old gentleman sadly.

Mrs. Pobblejoy held up her hands in dismay.

"It's a great pity," said he. "A great pity; but I'm afraid there's only yourself to blame. We plant the new Christmas-trees on Christmas night, so that they have a whole year in which to grow, and ever since this one was put in you have been making that pile of bottles round it. There are three hundred and sixty-four there now; tomorrow, I suppose, you will add the three hundred and sixty-fifth, and the poor tree will be quite killed."

"Lawk-a-mussy!" cried Mrs. Pobblejoy. "Are those my stout bottles?"

"They are, indeed," said Santa Claus, sadly. "and every one of them cost money. Just think what three hundred and sixty-five bottles could do for a Christmas-tree."

"Lawk-a-mussy-me!" cried Mrs. Pobblejoy again.

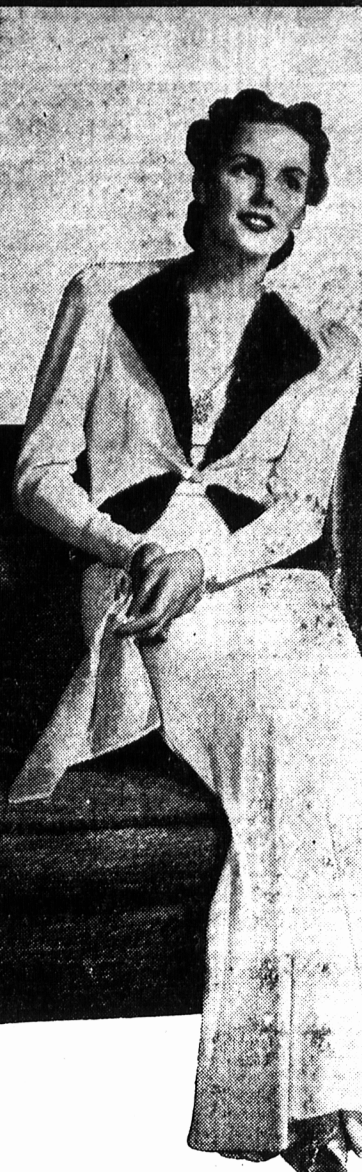
"And just think what all those three hundred and sixty-five drinks of stout have done for you. Your red nose and your dull eyes and your hasty temper and the children's dirty faces and the ragged curtains at the windows and the tarnished door knocker and the spilt Christmas-tree—all the fault of the stout! It has been stealing away all the best of your health and carefulness and thought and love, and all the best of the money."

"Well, I never!" exclaimed Mrs. Pobblejoy, more astonished than she had ever been in her life.

"It's true, quite true," said the old gentleman. "I shall be putting in your new Christmas-tree for you on Christmas night. How about keeping it free from stout bottles and giving it a little care and attention now and again? You'd be surprised what a fine tree you'd have next year. Let me show you."

And before Mrs. Pobblejoy's eyes the bottles rolled away, the little tree hung all spread-eagles and bedded among the leaves, and toys and shoes and oranges and peppermint sticks and books and pen-knives and new suits and pink muslin frocks grew out of the branches.

There it was standing in a tub in the middle of her own kitchen table.



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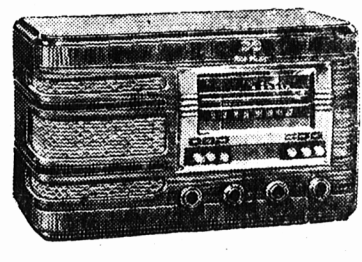
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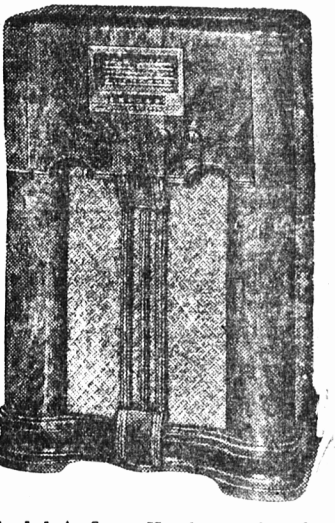
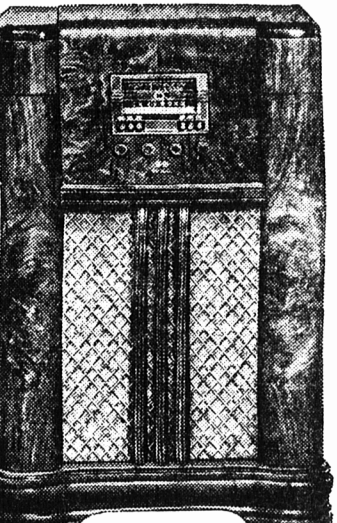
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Perfect Secretary Married In London

LONDON, Oct. 26.—(CP)—A woman who never disclosed a secret in 15 years as Ramsay MacDonald's "perfect private secretary," Rose Rosenberg, was married Oct. 2 to Lazzio Hoening, London interior decorator.

Probably no woman holding an official position in recent years has been so close to the heart of state affairs for so long a time as the secretary to the head of Britain's first labor government.

From behind the scenes at 10 Downing Street, she watched the formation of that government in 1924 and the second in 1929. She was at her post in the critical days of 1931 when Mr. MacDonald became the head of the National government. With him, she left Downing Street for Whitehall when he resigned the premiership in 1935 to become lord president of the council.

Mrs. Rosenberg accompanied the premier on his North American tour of 1928 and kept an account of his official discussions there. She was necessary for many years a confidante of ministers and high officials but, seeing all and hearing all, she was the soul of discretion.

BLENHHEIM IS SCHOOL

MALVERN, England.—(CP)—Gift of Queen Anne to the first Duke of Marlborough, Blenheim Palace is to be taken over by Malvern College as a school building. Best known of the Marlboroughs today is Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty.

crept back to bed with very cold feet and a number of very queer feelings inside.

"What's the matter?" asked Mr. Pobblejoy, sleepily.

"I'm just getting to get ready for next Christmas," said his wife. And though Alexander and Maud and Joseph Henry and little Sam had no Christmas-tree that year, when Christmas came round again they had such a fine one that they never stopped talking about it for a month.

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New Schools For Canadian Indians

Canada is making marked progress in the extension and improvement of facilities for the education and vocational training of her Indian population, according to the Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa. School buildings erected and under construction across the Dominion during 1939 included twelve day schools and two residential schools.

To meet the educational requirements of the increasing Indian population one-room schools were erected on reserves at Salmon River, N. S.; Newcastie, N. B.; Chapleau, Ontario; Brantford, Ontario; Mafeking, Manitoba; Glad-damix on the Nass River in Northern British Columbia, and near Lytton, B.C. At the Big River Reserve near Leask, Saskatchewan, two one-roomed schools were built. Day schools with two class rooms were erected at Maria, Quebec, and also on the Mud Lake Reserve near Lakefield, Ontario, and a four-roomed day school was built on the Cowichan Reserve near Duncan on Vancouver Island, B.C.

In the basements of all of these schools equipment for vocational training has been provided.

Reconstruction of the Indian residential school at Cross Lake, Manitoba, which was destroyed by fire was commenced in the fiscal year 1939-39 and will be completed during the current fiscal year.

Erection of a new school to replace the residential school at Albert, B.C., also destroyed by fire is under way.

ACQUIRES WANDERLUST

LONDON.—(CP)—"Bob," a mongrel who lives near the country headquarters of the London, Midland and Scottish railway, has developed a passion for his trips. He jumps aboard for an excursion, but always returns at night.

FROM DEPTHS TO HEIGHTS

GEELONG, Australia.—(CP)—For the second time since its construction in 1926, the Wurd Boole reservoir here was full, after recent rains. Last May the reservoir level was the lowest in its history.

ENGINEER IS BARONET

SYDNEY, Australia.—(CP)—Sir John Gordon, ninth baronet of Arion and Earlston, who succeeded to the title when his father died, recently is an assistant engineer in the New South Wales Government Railways.

OTTAWA, Oct. 26.—(CP)—H. B. Chase has been appointed director of industrial relations on the War Supply Board. It was announced tonight.