

THE REV. NEIL HERMAN, B. A., REPLIES TO HIS CRITICS

In An Eloquent Sermon Preached in the Central Christian Church, Last Evening Rev. Neil Herman Explains His Attitude on the Prohibition Question and Deals With the Criticism Offered During His Absence.

Subject - The story the P. E. Island Prohibition Commission did not tell.

Text - Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; but have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully. 2 Cor. 4: 1-2.

The following is a short synopsis of the sermon Sunday night. Do you ask why people flock to see a game of hockey such as played last Friday night in our arena. It is because the instinct of contest and fair play is wrapped up in the fabric of human nature, and wherever the game is played, according to the rules of the game, red-blooded men and women are found thrilling and shouting.

And what we want to-day, is to get people—all the people—interested in the best game, the noblest playing and the most elevating contests.

The great struggle between Prohibition forces and the bootlegger is a real, live up-to-date play of strength and skill, and he who thinks otherwise is born blind.

Our own Prohibition Commission is in a real man's game and no one knows it better than the men who comprise the Commission. And I, with thousands of fellow citizens, should accord to these men every show of fair-play, that this big game demands. To-night, I take the stand that the Commission—for the most part—are playing the game according to the rules; they are setting up to the best of their knowledge; they are out to win in a play that is becoming, increasingly, difficult every day of the calendar year. God knows they got my sympathy.

But don't forget, that if the Commission are in the game at one end, the bootlegger is in the game at the other end. We are always making the fatal and tragic mistake that the bootlegger is a dumbbell and the playing is all one-sided. Let me tell you again—and pray don't forget it—the bootlegger is right up against the net and he is out to win. He is in a bad game; a dangerous game; a lawless game; a rotten, mean game; but a game he is in, and his wits are sharp and he swings a strong arm.

THE OLD PROHIBITION COMMISSION

Glance your eye back a few years and you will come to the record of the late Commission. Read it carefully, and read it without green glasses, and I think you will agree with me that the Commission in those days did not fall down on the job. They had their faults, like all of us, but they were not cads. They played a pretty stiff game and the records demonstrate that they were in the fight home a score over which they had no shame, and their faces in shame, I shall not weary you with statistics. The facts are fresh in your memories.

NEW COMMISSION ON THE BALL

For the last three years, we have had a new Commission. The record of this Commission is before you. He who runs may read, and he who reads without the passion and prejudice of partisanship, is forced to the conclusion that this Commission has been in a lively tilt, and has carried from the field of contest honors that should not be laughed at nor lightly esteemed. "Render to Caesar," and to God the things that are God's." And what did these men of the Commission do? They speeded up, they increased the steam pressure. The records are before you and they speak for themselves. During 1924 there was a visible increase in the activities of the Prohibition field. Searches were increased. Informations were increased. Convictions increased. Fines increased. All this spells victory. You can't get around the fact that bigger results were achieved than in 1923. I say this without a word of disparagement to the old Commission. And just at this point lies the danger zone. Just here is where we are all apt to make an invidious spill of good sense and hard won victory. The Commission scores a win in 1924 and we all throw up our hats and shout ourselves hoarse as if the dry millennium were ushered in and the golden age begun. But, stop a moment. What does this increase mean? Many lines of advance really and truly signify? Without a doubt, it means a partial victory for the forces of Prohibition under the leadership of the Commission. But, in the name of common sense, don't stop there. While it means for a Prohibition army a measure of success, it also means that the bootlegger has not been asleep at the switch. This increase in activity and results also means that the business of the bootlegger was a bigger concern, a keener affair, and a more elaborate system in 1924 than in 1923. The bootlegger played a sharper game in 1924 than in the years preceding. If the business of the bootleggers had not been enlarged, the business of the Commission could not have been so active and so effective. It was a large field that was opened to the Commission in 1924. The Commission entered the field and

when to be found drunk, is the beginning of a tribulation unknown in the history of the race. To be found with a bottle not labelled by the vendor is to be put under the shadow of disgrace and to be punished as a criminal of the first magnitude. Men and women are becoming more and more afraid of the law, if they are not imbued with the growing respect for the law. Let me repeat what I affirmed in the theatre on this score. To-day, men are drinking in basements, and cellars; drinking in secluded rooms and behind the kitchen stoves when nobody is around. They are drinking in wash rooms and lavatories; in sheds and in nearly any place and every place where secrets prevail and where darkness hides them from the gaze of friends and foes. They are drinking in the dens and holes of the earth, and are willing, if they know the law cannot reach them, to drink from the cans of prostitutes, bootleggers, and the lowest order of criminals known to man.

The untold story of the islands convicted drunkards, as well as those who are never reached by the strong arm of the law, should give every man and woman among us the jolt that we all sorely need.

NEW BOOTLEGGERS FOR OLD

I want to call attention to one thing more and that is the fact that during the last three years thirty-one bootleggers left the Province. Seven of these thirty-one returned and they were lodged behind the bars. The exodus of these bootleggers from our midst constitutes another fine achievement in the work of our present Commission, for it must be admitted that these men were outplayed by the bootleggers of the Commission. But while we are gratified for the departure of these lawbreakers we cannot blink our eyes at another fact. And what is that fact? It is this—while thirty-one illegal whiskey traffickers embarked on the island, the business of bootlegging increased to an alarming degree. Surely, I don't need to state that statement. Surely the Commission is not to be blamed for the unlawful traffic in strong drink increased during the last three years. Simply this—as I figure it out—when one bootlegger went another stepped in. I am inclined to think that when one left there were two to take his place. New bootleggers for old—that is the story. And does this surprise you? It seems to me it would surprise only those who imagined bootlegging is a dead man's game, and for every bootlegger you put out of commission there is no one to take his place. Bootlegging is an art—a science. Bootlegging is an art—a black art to be sure—nevertheless an art. Bootlegging is as much a system to-day as T. Eaton or the Standard Oil Company. A lawless system, I grant you, but a system. A system that belongs to the hidden things of dishonesty, and it is high time to make plain, the hitherto unwritten story of the sure and steady advance of the bootleggers on this island, as well as on other places on this continent.

PUT MORE TEETH IN THE LAW

What have we, to-day, in this island? We have a Prohibition Act. We have a Prohibition Commission comprised of men who repeat: are out to do their duty. We have the law and we have the agents of the law. With all our equipment we feel that the wheels of prohibition are moving with a headiness that does not augur a speedy advent of the better day. Where is the remedy? What can we do? There are those who tell us that the only way to swifter revolution and brighter and happier times is to put more teeth in the law. MORE TEETH IN THE LAW.

Men and women, here, tonight, I believe in law, and I believe in the law, but, thank God I believe in more than that. It will be a day of fate and tragedy when we stop at more teeth in the law. Norway tried more teeth in the law, and Norway failed in her struggle for prohibition. The United States is, by day and by night, putting more teeth in the law, and there are those who are in a posture to know, who tell us that the teeth are biting, and hard and fast legal prohibition is still in the experimental state, and some claim, a very doubtful experiment it is. More teeth in the law: Our own Western Canadian provinces tried it and you know where those provinces are today.

Ontario, that shall we say about Ontario law, when I say that Ontario tried more teeth and failed. While a populace and powerful province like Ontario changes its mind there is some reason for a certain school of reformers to sit up and take notice.

UNDER THE COVER OF DARKNESS

I see before me the record of Prince Edward Island's drunks for the last three years. They number 339. These were the drunks before the court. For the three previous years there were 477. Here is a decrease of 138 in three years. We can't deny there were fewer drunks before the court. Fewer drunks! And our shout goes up again. Our island home is getting drier and drier. Would to God that drunks were growing fewer and fewer. But what does the record mean? It means fewer men and women are appearing before the magistrates charged with drunkenness. It certainly does not mean that fewer men and women are becoming intoxicated. This is not the day nor the hour when men reel about the streets under the sway of John Barleycorn. Oh no! This is the day of a prohibitory law. The day, and iron bars that serve as instru-

South African

(Continued from page one)

Great Britain responded by doing the very opposite, and instantly from the far corners of Empire national sentiment was roused. Offers of assistance from Canada and the other dominions were graciously accepted, and there was a flocking to the colours. I can well remember the enthusiasm with which all our people united in seeing the boys away. In the station at St. John the crowd was so great that the men had to be passed in the train over their comrades heads.

The Canadian Red Cross organization in 1896 threw itself into service for the soldiers and established branches in every town and city in Canada.

A first and a second contingent went from Canada, and still later Strathcona's Horse equipped by the late Lord Strathcona, Canadian High Commissioner in London. Arrived in South Africa they were quickly fitted into the business of the home front. Recruited from every occupation of civil life they were soldiers every inch ready to march and fight and endure hardships side by side with the British regular or their Australian cousins. Warfare had not yet assumed some of the awfulness of the more recent conflict. The use of poison gas was unknown and armed aircraft had not yet made its appearance. But it was awful enough. The importance of sanitation was not so keenly felt as now and many a brave life went out before the onslaughts of enteric fever. The country was rough and scattered making fine opportunities for the guerilla warfare which the Boers sought to carry on. But British bulldog determination and the courage of the Dominion's troops was indomitable. Twenty seven years ago this day the first signal victory of the war saw the surrender of Cronje and his forces at Paardeberg and the Canadians were there. It was not without cost, but the victory was a monument in the Square tells only a part of the tale. There were maimed and limbless men who came just short of the supreme sacrifice, but their courage and endurance was supreme.

The story of one battle is the story of all. Kimberley, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Bloemfontein were occupied in turn by our Empire's troops. Soon the campaign was over and our brave boys—some of them—were turning their faces homeward. Lord Roberts addressed them in terms of affection. At Capetown the Mayor, on behalf of the citizens thanked the men for their splendid service on the field. Need I say that the warmest of welcomes awaited our Canadian lads in every hamlet in Canada.

Then came peace time, and with it a stimulus for the privilege of blunder. The change from armed resistance to democratic self-government seemed to many all too sudden. It was feared the conflict would have to be fought over again. But old Britain has the genius of wise government. She knows how to make friends of her enemies. She looked to the distant future and she saw the need of a splendid co-operation in the defence of the Empire's peril is abundant justification of her statesmen's judgment.

But the time fails me to go further. This service is first, I take it an expression of Thanksgiving and justifiable pride—Thanksgiving that you have served your country; that you have served which has been ours; Pride of achievement won, and of our Imperial heritage. It is a day of Thanksgiving and of pride on our part—thanksgiving for what you have done, and for you, and pride that your splendid service has been later and greater campaign. Then secondly I say to you, that the keeping of Paardeberg Day with a religious service is in harmony with the national spirit. Lift, progress, civilization, fresh standards of national life are the mark of British influence, find it has his place in her national life that is why. The words of the 48th Psalm come to my lips "God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge." "Every good gift and every perfect gift," says St. James, "is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights without shadow or blemish." And I venture to change the wording and say that "every perfect service" is inspired from the same source.

Lastly I say to you that today's is a service of consecration. Settling our seal of approval upon the past that is gone we turn our eyes upon the future and pledge our selves to give it of our best. Please God we shall live and die in peace, as far as international strife is concerned. The world is surfeited with that. We shall fight like the heroes of old to make the world better. Clean citizenship, liberty in its truest sense, godliness, Christian manhood and the work in which we live. Is not our nation as a city set on a hill? Good old Britain whose influence cannot be hid! At Versailles, the statesman's labours not in vain, for peace. If God wills, we shall labour for what is best, and the work of our life shall shine as a beacon upon a hill giving courage to struggling humanity upon the ocean of life.

ments of light, terror and disgrace, believe, above all, in the power of God in Christ to save and to keep. And I believe in that freedom, without which, though you pile your laws as high as the stars, we shall have a race of slaves, and weaklings—a people, whose doom shall be written as the dust forever and ever.

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BIG DAY SATURDAY ON THE NEW PARK SPEEDWAY

Large Attendance, Good Racing and Close Finishes Featuring the Days Big Program. Major S., Igo, Colorado Mac, Captain H., Yorkola, Dapper Don and Everready Were Winners of Their Respective Classes.

A more favorable afternoon for heat so it became a contest between the matinee races could hardly have been desired than that on Dillon C. led until twenty yards Saturday afternoon. There was from the wire when Matt by a just enough coldness in the air to dexterous twist of his wrists, lit-keep the Victoria Park Speedway rally lifted Everready and practically hard and make it fast and cally hurled him through the air, good for the speedy horses that performed there. Before two o'clock streams of people on foot and with horses and sleighs were arriving to witness the afternoon's sport and when the first race started at 2:15 it was estimated that there were nearly 800 spectators. The program was the most ambitious staged this winter, consisting of no less than seven events with twenty horses taking part. Most of the races were keenly contested, finish trotting steadily and with their fields and of course in future will have to be reclassified. The officials were right on their jobs and did excellent work, particularly the Clerk of the Course and Announcer, John A. McDonald. His stentorian voice could be heard above all the din and turmoil calling the horses and keeping order on the course, and the way he handled the situation was such as could be excelled by none and equalled by few.

The first race called was the Class A. Pace with Major S. and Marge Direct. In the first heat both horses got away on the second score, Marge going to a break when about one hundred yards from the wire and in second position. Her break was caused by losing a shoe. In this second heat Major S. was leading Marge about fifty yards from the wire when she made a break, then he also broke, so the judges quite rightly called it a heat. In the third heat both Major S. and Marge were on absolutely even terms and paced like a team for two-thirds of the course, then the Major forged ahead and won by two lengths. Marge again breaking.

Class A. Trot. This brought together three good trotters, Igo, Mary Pickford and British Ginger. The first heat Mary got away a little to the good of her rivals and kept her right foot out in front, winning by a length from Igo in a ripping finish. British Ginger third. In the second heat all three horses got off on even terms and paced like a team until well down the stretch. Mary Pickford broke to a break, then it was British Ginger and Igo with Igo triumphing at the finish and winning half a length. In the third heat she had a good advantage on the others. British Ginger going to a break and Mary also making a break, so that Igo won easily.

Class B. Pace. This had Colorado Mac and Royal Dewey, a recent importation from the U. S. in straight heats, the first heat easily, but the second time the Dewey horse was right on the pace and was only beaten a length. He is short of work having been laid up owing to an injury. He looks like a high pacer and should be heard from in later matinees. Class B. Trot. This had the old rivals Captain H., Silk Worthy and the Banker and a real good race it turned out to be between the first two. The Banker was not in form Saturday. Just as he got nicely started he would go to the chance, but Captain H. and Silk Worthy were on a hammer and tongs all through, the captain winning the first heat by half a length, and Silk Worthy the second heat by a nose and Captain H. the third heat by a few feet. Seldom such even racing seen.

Class C. Pace. This had Yorkola, Colorado P. and Royal Todd and was a case of bad classification as Yorkola had entirely too much speed for the others and should be promoted up with the real fliers. In each case he walked away from his opponents by months, apparently well within himself, Royal Todd second, Colorado P. third.

Class C. Trot. This was another real exciting race with Dapper Don, Dr. Setzer, Admiral and Harry Todd. In the first heat the horses got away on the fourth score. Harry Todd going to a break shortly after the word and Dr. Setzer trotting well until half way down the course when he also broke. This left the race between Dapper Don and Admiral winning by two lengths. Admiral second. In the second heat Harry Todd was drawn so the race narrowed down to Dapper Don, Dr. Setzer, and Admiral. The Doctor and Dapper Don got away very evenly and they put up a tremendous race, never being a foot more than a few feet apart and finishing so closely that the judges had difficulty in awarding the heat to Dr. Setzer. Third Heat. Dr. Setzer spoiled what would have been a real contest by making a break about half way down when Dapper won easily the Doctor second. Dapper is a very person much improved trotter with his end years.

Class D. Trot. This was the seventh and last event on the program with Everready, Dillon C. and Gateway as starters. After conceding the trio got that is, tained, partly so, as declared. Dillon C. trotting right to the front and winning comfortably or who knowingly accepts milk or Gateway was drawn in the second heat has been rejected within ten days.

NEW REGULATIONS DRAFTED FOR BUTTER AND CHEESE

TORONTO, Feb. 26.—New but-ter and cheese regulations which come into force on March 1 by order-in-council of the province provide for an advance of the cream grading adopted last year. This was done at the creameries at the buying stations. It was found, however, that the work at the buying stations was unsatisfactory and in future all grading must be done at the creameries. An important part of the new regulations provides for graded certificates to be issued to cheese and butter makers. The first grade of butter, 88 per cent. of No. 1 grade of butter, and second class manufactured 88 per cent. of their own butter in the previous year. No. 1 grade, and complies with the other conditions laid down. Permits will also be issued to a person not qualifying for a certificate but who in the opinion of the Board of Trade statistics show. Millinery and dressmaking had the greatest number of failures, 47, while of the others 37 were dress-makers, 33 grocers, 21 clothiers and outfitters and 20 lodging-house-keepers, four school-mistresses and one doctor.

WOMEN BANKRUPTS INCREASE

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The number of women bankrupts in England during 1925 totalled 440, or 27 per cent more than in the previous year. Board of Trade statistics show. Millinery and dressmaking had the greatest number of failures, 47, while of the others 37 were dress-makers, 33 grocers, 21 clothiers and outfitters and 20 lodging-house-keepers, four school-mistresses and one doctor.

ONE FOR HIM

"I shall never marry," Reginald declared, "until I meet a woman who is my direct opposite." "Well, Reggie," said Mabel, "there are a number of intelligent girls in this neighborhood."

STRAND

The Story of a Jewish Boy Who Became a Fighting Irishman

ITS MORE THAN A GREAT LAUGH SHOW—MUCH MORE! YOU'LL LAUGH UNTIL YOU CRY AND CRY UNTIL YOU LAUGH AT George Jessel

IN "PRIVATE IZZY MURPHY" Laughter and Tears, Pathos and Comedy—Love and War. Every Emotion is in this—

"HOLD STILL" CHRISTIE COMEDY

CLASSIFICATION BONSPIEL AT CURLING RINK SATURDAY

On Saturday afternoon and evening the much talked of classification bonspiel was held and created much interest among the players. The travellers had no tickets to travel with the railway Saturday night, to much excess baggage being the cause of their one side defeat 10 to 3. The Miss-fits and Mix-ups were truly named, where they could not get the lucky thirteen and are looking forward to losing the next evening, after the map-up was untangled, the count read 13 to 9 for the Mixers.

The Doctors operated on the insurance men and although they used a strong anesthetic the insurance men came back to life before the finish and are now out of danger and resting comfortably with a 10 to 8 score and are now preparing a losing policy for the Doctors in the next game. The Merchants got in a good deposit on the Bankers in the early stages of the game, but are being pressed by the Bankers were unable to draw and lost the game by 10 to 7.

The Civil Service team were talked out of a good game by the Lawyers, the former are very civil where the law is concerned and took a 12 to 8 defeat without a murmur. Whereas we have defeated the

British Captain and Lady Francis Crew Arrested Balfour Criticises Prem. Mussolini

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 27.—Warrants for the arrest of the Captain of the British steamship Clackamas and his crew of 27 men were issued today by assistant United States District Attorney Lanciauro, on charges of having smuggled 19,000 cases of contraband liquor into Newark, N. J. The ship is now in the lower Delaware River, having arrived at Chester last week with a cargo of wool pulp from Portland, Maine. Details of the alleged smuggling, were not set forth in the warrants.

Joliette Bank Deal by Provincial Bank

Effective today the Provincial Bank of Canada has become proprietor of the former premises of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Joliette, Quebec, and they have also taken over their deposits and business generally says the Montreal Gazette.

Women Bankrupts Increase

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One Month to Live

(Canadian Press) HUNTSVILLE, Texas, Feb. 25.—The execution of George Jessell, confessed slayer of thirteen persons has been postponed for one month.