National Temperance Study Course

LESSON FIVE
NOVEMBER 9th
JACK AND JANE GO TO A FAREWELL PARTY
By Ruth Lucas Smith

Sunday School was a busy place. Everyone was being promoted to new classes. Jane was delighted for she was to be in Mrs. Beckett's class. Everyone loved to be in her class for she was such a good teacher. Mrs. Beckett had been teaching for several years, and her husband also had a class of boys.

Six weeks later the news came that the Becketts were leaving. Where were they going? Why would they leave now? Everyone wanted to know. They soon learned that Mr. Beckett, who was a mining engineer, had accepted a position with the Government which was sending him to the Arctic by plane. Although they would live in a very small community, they were both very happy about the move. Mrs. Beckett said, "Just think! It will be almost like being a missionary. We both hope to teach Sunday School. I'll write to you girls, and tell you all about it. We shall not get mail very often except when a plane goes in once a month. I hope that you will write to me, too."

When Sunday School was over, both classes waited around to talk to the superintendent. They wanted to know what would happen to their classes, and who would be the teachers. "Oh," said the superintendent, "we will find someone else. Think how nice it will be for the boys and girls who live where the Becketts are going. We must plan a little party for Mr. and Mrs. Beckett. "I'll talk to our minister about it, and let you know next week."

The boys and girls were getting more interested now, and a party would make them forget how badly they were feeling. "Let's get Mr. Beckett a present from our class," said Jim. "Something that will be interesting and useful in the Arctic."

"I wonder how cold it gets where he is going?" asked Bill.

"I don't know," said Jack. "We must find out a few things about the Arctic."

Jane's class were talking about a present, too, and wondering what would be nice. "Well, something that won't freeze," said Alice. "Let's all think about what we'd like to give, and find out how much it will cost, and report next Sunday," said Jane. They all agreed that this was a fine idea.

When Sunday came there were all kinds of suggestions. The girls thought of nylon stockings, hankies, a book or perfume. The boys suggested warm mitts, ties, a pen or a thermometer. After much discussion the girls decided to buy perfume. After all, Mrs. Beckett would be away from all these luxuries, and they knew she would like the perfume.

After they had voted, Shirley questioned, "Do you think it good to give her something liquid that will freeze?"

"Oh, we discussed that at home," said Jane. "Perfume is made with an alcohol, and it doesn't freeze."

"Alcohol," they all chorused. "Yes," said Jane, "all the shaving lotions and toilet waters have an alcohol base which makes them keep. Remember last summer when we tried to make rose water perfume from the rose petals, and it just went bad? Maybe we should have used alcohol instead of water."

The boys had decided on a thermometer. They were curious about Arctic temperatures, and would like one for themselves. 'You know," said Jim, "thermometers with mercury in them freeze at 40 degrees below zero, so we must get one with alcohol in it.'

"Alcohol!" chorused the boys.

"Yes," said Jack. "Alcohol does not freeze."

"In that case," said Joe Merton, "it would be a good thing for Mr. Beckett to take along a few bottles of whiskey to keep himself from freezing!"

But Jack knew better than that. "Anybody who has studied first-aid," he said, "knows that liquor doesn't do that. It makes people feel warmer only because it sends the blood to the skin. But in cold climates that cools the body so quickly that people who drink are in greater danger of freezing than those who don't. It acts like the pump in a car radiator and cools you down fast."

The boys agreed that while there were some good uses of alcohol, drinking it was not one of them. If people did not misuse the god things Good has given us, this would be a better world for us all.

The superintendent announced that the party would be held the following Friday. People were appointed to buy the gifts, and to make speeches. Each class was asked to plan a game. The classes of Mr. and Mrs. Beckett went together, and planned a treasure hunt, at the end of which the two gifts were found, and presented to their leaders. Mr. and Mrs. Beckett were both delighted, and told their classes how thoughtful the boys and girls had been in choosing these particular gifts.

The minister closed the evening with a reading from the Bible. He read from the letter to the Ephesians, chapter 6 and verse 10: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Verse 14, Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness: and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace: Above all, taking the shield of faith wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God: Praying always —for all saints."

They all bowed their heads, and joined in the prayer: "Dear God, we give thanks for this fine Christian family. Bless these Thy children as they go from us. Keep them faithful to Thyself, and bless them in all their work. May we be true in Thy service, and continue to build the Kingdom of God. Amen".

QUESTIONS

1. Do alcoholic drinks protect people from the cold? Explain.
2. Name as many good uses of alcohol as you know.

Pupils 9 yrs. and under answer question 1. Those 10, 11, 12, yrs. answer both.

LESSSON FIVE
LOOKING TO OUR DEFENCES

When danger threatens we look to our defences. That is true whether the danger takes for form a military invasion, or an attack of smallpox or diphtheria. Now, there are many respects in which the youth enemy confronting the youth of Canada today is the traffic in beverage acohol.

When this lesson was being written, the casualty lists of the Canadian troops fighting in Korea were made known for the first four months. There were 44 listed as dead, 124 wounded, and 14 injured in battle accidents. During three months of that time there were 187 persons killed on the highways of one province of Canada alone—Ontario. Our present methods of investigation do not enable us to state with accuracy the number of those highway deaths that were due to acohol, but the information available from studies that have been made lead to the conclusion that about 40 per cent. of such deaths have alcohol as a contributing factor. To date, alcohol seems to be a much greater menace to Canadian lives than is Communist aggression. It should be opposed with at least as great zeal.

The previous lessons in this series have drawn attention to other phases of this danger.

The subtle and persistent manner in which the liquor traffic seeks its victims, and builds up its markets constitutes part of its danger, and suggests one line of defence. Investigations have shown that a great deal of drinking is the result of social pressure, not because of a liking for alcohol, and that that pressure has been deliberately built up by clever propaganda. The Yale School of Alcohol Studies concludes that "60 per cent. of drinking is purely social." In magazines, in newspapers, on motion picture screens and on the radio, the drinking of alcohol is glamourized. Of course, the end results, the police courts, the jails, the highway accidents, the broken homes, are not shown. The next time you view a drinking scene in a motion picture show, say to yourself, "That scene may have been put in as a result of the efforts of those who control the liquor traffic to try to convince me that it is popular to drink." When you come to a page of liquor advertising in a magazine you are reading, raise the question in your mind, "What is the end result?"

A story was told in a recent journal about two brothers who went into a store to buy a chess set. The store was described as one that carried the atmosphere of the Old World over into the New, and after the purchase was made the propietor offered to play a game with each of the boys to show them how to play. As they played, another customer came in and stood beside them till they had finished. Concluding that the stranger was an expert at chess, one of the boys asked him if there was any advice he could give them about learning the game. "Yes," said the customer, "start at the end of the game. Arrange the pieces as you want them to finish. Then play backward, and study how to get them into that arrangement."

This is good advice for this game of life, particularly as it relates to alcohol. Ask yourself how you want the game to turn out, what sort of person you want to be five, ten and thirty years from now, and whether alcohol can help you or is it likely to handicap you in reaching your goal.

Regarding the glamourizing of the liquor traffic by subtle advertising George Bernard Shaw, who had suffered because of his father's drunkenness, had some pertinent things to say:

"If a natural choice between drunkenness and sobriety were possible in our civilization, I would leave the people free to choose. But when I see an enormous capitalistic organization pushing drink under people's noses at every corner, and pocketing the price, whilst leaving me and others to pay the colossal damages, then I am prepared to smash that organization and make it as easy for a poor man to be sober, if he wants to, as it is for his dog."

Part of the subtle appeal (or perhaps temptation is a better word) is due to the fact that those who sell it have tied it up closely with sociability. Man is by nature a social being. He craves the companionship of his fellows. Realizing this fact those who operate the beverage rooms or public houses have been careful to make the atmosphere congenial for pals or cronies to meet and exchange views on the affairs of the community and the world while they drink.

While you are working on this lesson, it might be a good project to make a survey of your community to discover what opportunities are provided for young people, and older folk as well, to come together under attractive surroundings for companionship. What opportunities does your church offer for good fellowship? In what respects might it be more hospitable in this regard. That boy or girl is wise who links himself or herself with companionship groups under wholesome surroundings and with a constructive programme. Trailrangers, Scouts, Canadian Girls In Training, Guides and Young People's Societies offer such opportunities. When one such organization is outgrown, one should join another more advanced, and continue right into adulthood.

Studies made of the reasons why people drink alcohol have stressed the discovery that one of the common causes is to get relief from some uncomfortable situation. A person may have suffered a bereavement, and decide to drown his sorrow" in alcohol. A man may be shy in a group and find that alcohol makes him forget himself and become the "life of the party." One's work on the assembly line in a modern factory may be monotonous and boring. A quantity of alcohol takes him out of it for a time into a world of fancy. In that fantasy he feels important, much more important than he feels as a factory worker. Many years ago, having in mind not only working but also living conditions, in the crowded sections of a large city a judge made the statement that "two pennywork of gin is the quickest way out of Manchester."

Alcohol used in this way is often referred to as a crutch. It is something folk lean on. Instead of solving his problems in an intelligent and constructive way, the drinker escapes from them for a time. But when the effect of the alcohol wears off, he is right back again to where he started with his problems unsolved, and with his ability to solve them diminished. He has started the habit of sidestepping, or escaping from his problem situations by means of an anaesthetic, and that habit grows rapidly. It has been the undoing of many people. We grow in character as we overcome our handicaps, and solve our problems.

If you have a problem, face up to it. Try to think out a solution to it. If you feel that you need help, talk the matter over with someone whom you respect and trust. If you should suffer a great loss, face up to it too. Calculate how great your loss is: consider what resources you have for going on with; then plan carefully so as to make to most of what you have. In general make the best of the situation. This course means growth in character and personality. You will find that you don't need alcohol as a crutch.

This brings us to another powerful factor in our defence against the danger of alcoholism, and that is religion. While it cannot be said that all members of Christian churches are total abstainers, it is true that one of the strongest bulwarks against the liquor traffic has been the Christian religion. Faith in God, not merely as the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe, but as the Father of each of us; and having that faith constantly renewed by public and private worship, has in countless numbers of cases left no place in life for alcoholic indulgence. The pages of Christian history are crowded with the experiences of those who have lived rich and satisying lives without the use of alcohol, and those who have triumphed gloriously over the most adverse conditions by strength of character. Genuine religion involves a sense of purpose in life, in each person's life, and that in turn involves the conviction that each of us is responsible morally for his actions. People have been likened to vines which never reach the maximum growth of which they are capable until they find something around which to climb. The sense of divine purpose in life has given folk something worth while around which to grow in character and toward which to aspire. In the fulfilment of that purpose, some things have had no place.

For Discussion

What would be an adequate social and recreational programme for persons of your age that would help to protect you against the liquor traffic?

QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the reasons why people drink alcohol?
2. In what ways does religion help in the defence against liquor traffic?

Pupils 13, 14, 15 yrs. answer question 1. Those 16 to 19 yrs. answer both.

East Baltic and Vicinity

Mr. Gerard Bruce, East Baltic, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Morrow and Mrs. Harold Hunter, North Lake, motored to Charlottetown October 30.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. McDonald, South Lake, were recent visitors to the City.

There was a large attendance at the adult sewing class which was held in the Kingsboro Hall on October 27.

Mr. Russell Ching, Black Pond, was a recent visitor to South Lake.

Mr. John McKie, Red Point, spent a few days at his home in Howe Bay recently.

Mr. Archie O'Hanley, St. Peter's Bay, was a business visitor to Red Point November 1st.

Mr. Harold McLean, Georgetown, has recently wired the home of Mrs. William Ching and Mr. and Mrs. A. Ching, Red Point.

Mrs. Augustus Mallard, North Lake, accompanied by Mrs. James Mallard, Clear Springs, left recently on a visit with friends in Boston, Mass.

Rev. H. R. and Mrs. Bell, Red Point, were recent Sunday visitors to Charlottetown.

Miss Mary McLean, Souris East, spent some time recently visiting with her mother, Mrs. Joseph McLean, South Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart McGregor, East Baltic, attended the Maritime Winter Fair at Amherst.

Sincere sympathy is being extended to Mr. Joseph Ford, South Lake, in the tragic drowning of his only son, Mr. Ernest Ford, which occurred in Black Pond recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Poole, Souris, spent Sunday, November 2, visiting in Bothwell and Elmira.

Potato picking has been completed in most of the districts and grading and shipping is the order of the day.

Miss Julia McInnis, Bothwell, spent the weekend of November 1 at Red Point.

Mrs. Harry Bruce, Red Point, spent some time visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dixon, Truro, N.S.

Mr. Alfred Cairns, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Frank Cairns, Souris West, has left by motor car to visit with relatives and friends in Boston, Mass.

Mr. Callum McLean, Kingsboro, was a recent business visitor to Red Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Poole, Souris, spent Sunday, November 2 visiting in Bothwell and Elmira.

Mr. Keith McKenzie of Central Market, Souris, was a business visitor to Red Point recently.

Mr. James Lappin, Charlottetown, spent a few days visiting at his home in Black Pond recently.

Deep sympathy is being extended to Mrs. Wilfred Lappin, Black Pond, in the recent sudden death of her brother, Mr. Ernest Ford, South Lake.

Mrs. Chester McNeil, Red Point, spent October 31 visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Wilbur Jarvis, Kingsboro.

The fishermen at Basin Head are experiencing very bad weather for the fall fishing, and it is hoped that it will improve.

The young son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Darrah, Elmira, is a patient in the Souris Hospital. All hope this little chap will soon be home again and enjoying his usual good health.

Mr. Theodore J. Robertson and son, Mr. Roy Robertson, were busienss visitors to Charlottetown November 3rd.

Mr. Chester McNeil, Red Point, and Mr. Arthur Jarvis, Kingsboro, are busy erecting a dwelling house for Mr. Kenneth McGregor, well known blacksmith of Kingsboro.

Mrs. Ralph Mooney of Souris is at present in the Souris Hospital. Mrs. Mooney is known to many throughout the eastern districts and a quick return to health is the wish of all her many friends.

The first card party of the season was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Fay, East Baltic, October 30, and quite a number of the players got their goose for Christmas.

Mrs. P. D. Massey, East Baltic, is at present not enjoying her usual good health and is receiving treatment in Charlottetown. All join in wishing her a speedy return to health.

Mr. Francis Campbell of the Fishermen's Loan Board, Charlottetown, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. John C. Campbell, Red Point, left by car recently on a visit with relatives in Nova Scotia and Boston, Mass. All wish them a pleasant and safe journey.

Her friends will regret to learn that Mrs. Melvin McQuaid of Sours is a patient in the City Hospital, Charlottetown. A host of friends wish Mrs. McQuaid a speedy return to health. She is familiarly known to many, having been matron of the Souris Hospital for a number of years.

A Hallowe'en party was put on by the young people of the Baptist Church in the Kingsboro Hall on October 29, and some very fine costumes were witnessed by a large crowd. The party consisted of general games, followed by a lunch served by Mrs. Lloyd Darrah, Mrs. E. Robertson, Mrs. Foster Young, Mrs. Kermith Bruce, and Mr. Lloyd Darrah served the drinks. Much credit goes out to the Rev. D. McClaine who gave of his time and talent to make the party a success. Prizes were given for the most original and real costume, which went to Mrs. D. McClaine, and for the most ridiculous looking costume to Johnnie Young.

—U.

En Route To Wed Gold-Miner In North

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 13 —(Reuters)— Mary Shepherd, a pretty 26-year-old brunette, Tuesday left here in the liner Empress of France to marry the Canadian gold-miner who has been proposing to her by post for the last seven years.

The gold-miner, Steve Makohoniuk, now is in Yellowknife, N. W. T. He met Mary at a Manchester England, Roller-skating rink eight years ago, while serving with the Canadian army.

Mary said before sailing that she had never been very far away from her Manchester home.

Steve is to meet her in Edmonton. They will be married the next day. Steve sent her the first class fare of £86.

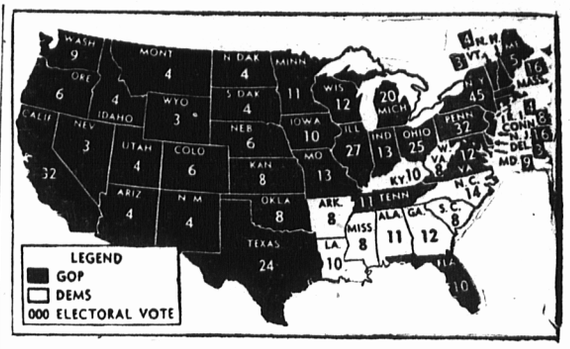
"I am taking a lot of wollens, because they say it is sometimes 20 degrees below zero in Yellowknife."

THRIVING CENTRE

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. —(CP) —Co-operation is building a bustling fishing centre at Co-op Point on Reindeer Lake in Northeast Saskatchewan. Combined efforts of lake fishermen have produced a big processing and freezing plant, a co-operative store and community kitchen.

MUSKRAT REGION

With 7,400 square miles under water, marshes in Louisiana supply most of the muskrat furs in the United States.



STATE OF THE UNION—Newsmap shows how each state voted in the 1952 presidential election as the Republican party won by an overwhelming victory. The GOP'S Gen. Eisenhower carried 39 states, with a total of 442 electoral votes. The Democratic candidate, Gov. Adlai Stevenson, carried only nine states and 89 electoral votes.

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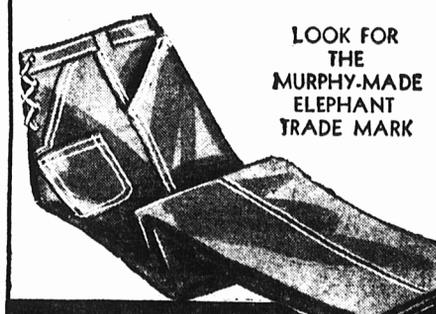

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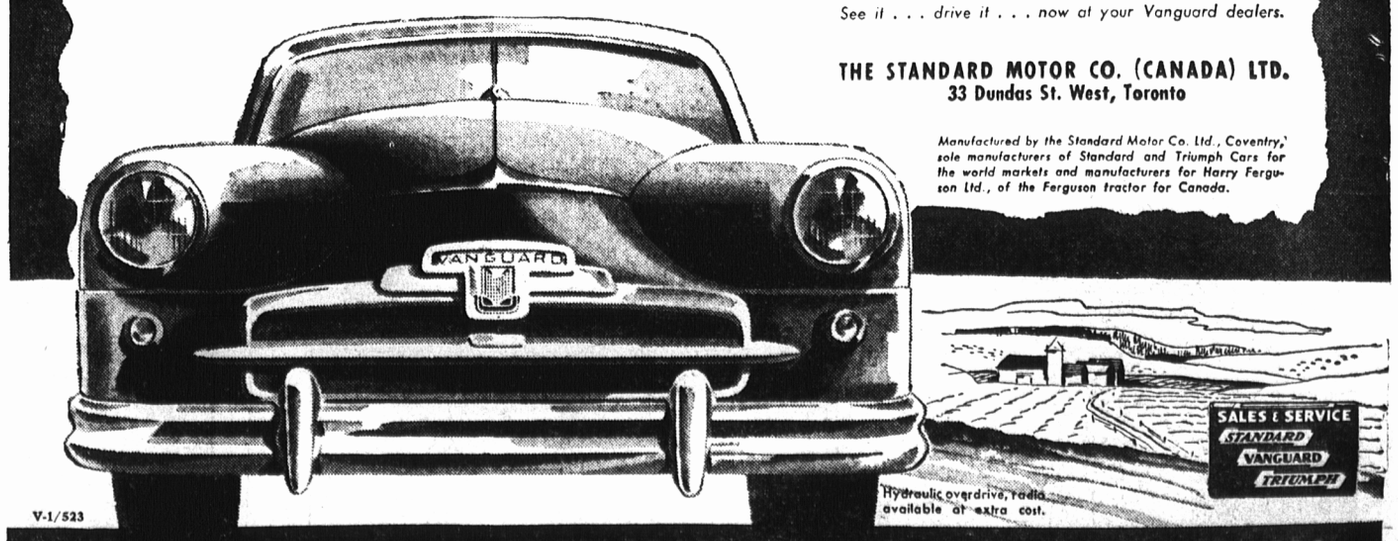

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