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THE PRICE OF STIMULATION.

One of the most interesting things which have occupied the physiologists and psychologists of recent times is the result of certain experiments regarding alcohol in its effect on the human body. Like most discoveries and experiments, the truth is found to be contradictory to most men's experience in their own cases.

Experimentation in things of this sort are wonderfully simple and ingenious and are a great contrast to the methods once in force. Experiments now show that alcohol does not increase bodily or mental activity—on the contrary it decreases them both. The effect of alcohol is an illusion.

One of the most striking results is the fact that whereas the man who has taken a few drinks thinks he is thinking more quickly, the mental processes are in reality several times slower. The thing which is the cause of the illusion is the fact that whereas a mind normally carries several trains of thought in the mind at one time, after the ingestion of alcohol, this faculty becomes steadily lessened until at the imagined height of stimulation only one train of thought, so to speak, can be carried. The next step of course is the total loss of consciousness in the drunken stupor usually called "passing away."

Those persons who complain of "hangovers" and the "morning after" will do well to reflect that a dose of alcohol such as is commonly found in one glass of beer, will stay with the individual who has consumed it, for at least twenty-four and sometimes forty-eight hours. This may be discouraging to the man who says he only takes a glass of beer now and then. As a proof of what alcohol in moderate quantities will do, an experiment is cited.

Four healthy young fellows in a typewriters establishment were experimented on under the conditions in which they normally worked. The only part of the experiment was to furnish copy which was printed to secure absolute uniformity.

The experiment lasted over four days. The first and third days were observed as normal days, no alcohol being given. On the second and fourth days each worker received thirty-five grams (a little more than one ounce) of alcohol in the form of Greek wine. A comparison of the results of work on normal and an alcoholic days showed in the case of one of the workers no difference. But the remaining three showed greater or less retardation of work, amounting in the most marked case to almost fourteen per cent. As typewriting is paid by the measure, such a worker would actually earn ten per cent less on days when he consumed even this small quantity of alcohol."

The action of the railroads in this country in discharging men who drink has been criticised in some quarters, but experiments have shown that even the amount of alcohol contained in a glass of beer is enough to make a "marked disturbance of the mental processes involved in this reaction."

An experiment showed that in the case of an engineer, or train dispatcher the action of alcohol led to mistaking signals of various sorts and to impair the senses in no slight fashion.

It is easy, therefore, to see why many people who are tired out or worried, drink alcohol in some form. As the eminent psychologist of Harvard, Professor James, says: "The reason for craving alcohol is that it is an anesthetic even in moderate quantities. It obliterates a part of the field of consciousness and abolishes collateral trains of thought."

There's a reason.

LAWS, JUDGES, AND THE PERSONAL ELEMENT.

A considerable amount of comment has been made on the juries which were impaneled in the two "blind tiger" cases which were tried recently in the Wayne Circuit Court. These juries have been called every name in the heavens above and the earth beneath. In some quarters it has been held that these were fair minded men who would not be so cruel as to send

a man to jail for a very trumped up and circumstantial charge, in other quarters where more austerity prevails, it has been hinted that these were dull, low browed individuals, who were thick headed and it is even hinted sometimes purchasable.

From what has been said in a surprised and injured tone, it is hard to believe that Wayne County is not a den of corruption and no place like unto it in all the world. It may not be amiss to say that the conditions which apparently led to the decision under controversy, have always obtained to some degree in jury trials and the condition is not nearly so extinct as the celebrated do-do bird in the fauna and flora of the legal world.

It will be remembered in this state that it was not so very many years ago when the railroads could not obtain justice, no matter how clear and reasonable the case. Even today a woman whose horse gets frightened at a train in some portions of the state can get almost any sum she chooses to ask for on the strength of a "nervous shock." In this day and generation it is almost impossible to get justice for a negro in any sort of case in the South. In certain other parts of the country the Unwritten Law yields far more weight than the statute.

Every body knows these things and it has come to be taken for granted. However immoral these things may appear they are not to be treated with disregard nor are they to be thought entirely unreasonable. Many or the most of these things come from weak laws. By a weak law, the penalty of the statute is not called into question. That in some cases may be a cause of the weakness. In general a weak law is an uncalled for law, which is passed because the legislators must satisfy their propensity for doing something. Any law is weak which has not the sympathy of the average man. If it has not this sympathy it will be so much useless timber. Call to mind the fact that the laws under which most of the corporation abuses have been prosecuted and it will be remembered that these all lay idle until the public conscience got in behind them. It is at this point that the public gets in its work.

Legislators may in their wisdom or folly pass any law—the prosecutor may do his best—the judge may give the most explicit directions, BUT! It is at this point that the personal element comes in, for it is the spirit of the people. Be that spirit for the good or bad; be it moral or immoral; be it venal or incorruptible; be it fanatical or broad minded; there it is (like as it is much or little as you please.) "Yes," you say, "but these are not our representative men, these are not our best citizens."

If not, whose fault is it? Is it not the fault of these same good citizens who are the severest critics but who, when the time comes for service on juries disqualify themselves and leave the justice of the community for the hangers on of political parties and the professional talesmen? These same good citizens are not there when they should be. And hence it comes to pass that the jury, no matter what its personnel actually is, is almost invariably representative. And it is the loudest boast on all occasions that we believe in a representative government.

Thus the personal element, the spirit behind the law which should be both its source and enforcement does play a greater part in the scheme of things entire than we who are somewhat smug like to admit.

Will things change? Of course they will. But slowly. Nothing that is worth while happens soon.

Many things will have to happen first.

Some day, in the far future, we may hope to have laws which are good laws without any superfluous grandstand plays on our statutes. We may have good judges in more abundance and we may then have juries which can then decide within and not without the law.

It is foolish to call juries names. It is equally foolish to blame judges and foolish to rage a tempest in regard to a law. The fact is that all these actually represent for the most part exactly what the majority of people really want in the actual working of things. They may be venal, thick headed, moral or what not, but the people are responsible.

When the majority of the people want things they will get them. It is up to the people all over the country. Why not in Wayne county?

EARLY SHOPPING.

Christmas is coming, you can feel it in the air. The joyousness of the happy season is abroad with all its invigorating and unselfish gladnessomeness.

As yet there is no holly and mistle-toe on the street, those first harbingers of all that pertains to the Holiday Season. Thanksgiving is past, and Christmas is nearer than most of us like to believe. Christmas is the time when the sons of men unbend a little and think for a moment or two on the pleasure of giving joy to other people. And yet walk into any large shop,

where people are crowding to buy their gifts for their families and their friends. Crowds of men and women, pushing, shoving and pulling to get at the counters, people waiting in line to be accommodated, women asking the sales girl ten questions at once, all the wares of the place strewn out in confusing disarray, and in this whirl of confusion stands a little tired woman.

Her air is one of extreme good humor, of accommodating manners, she is unwearied in the attempt to serve customers. A fleeting smile hovers around her lips. And yet as you go and a breathing space is offered for a second or two, the smiling face relaxes into one of extreme weariness. Those eyes which only a few minutes before, were vivacious and full of life—what dark violet circles are those which are already gathering around them.

"Cash."

And a girl in short dresses comes running at full speed. It is almost eleven o'clock at night—"Oh well, this is Christmas."

The day is cold and bleak. Beating sleet comes from the east. The streets are filled with the rattle of wagons. A horse comes up panting at the curb, wet and dripping, panting, you notice that he has gone a little lame and the wagon is still full of parcels of varying size, many of them small—easily carried in the hand. "Oh, well, this is Christmas."

Greater success has attended the efforts of the department to enforce the alien contract labor law during the last year than in any preceding year. It is pointed out that "the greatest violators of the contract labor laws are the American manufacturers."

Labor unions, too, have at time been found among the violators of the law.

He is of opinion that advance "toward corporate reform must come through some general system of publicity."

Secretary Straus strongly recommends the adoption of a definite system of positive supervision and regulation of corporations through an administrative office, urging that such a system is constructive, not destructive. Through this office it would be possible to publish important facts as to corporate operations, safeguarding the unnecessary publication of all proper business secrets.

REGULATION NEEDED

Constructive, Not Destructive Supervision of Corporations Favored.

SEC'Y STRAUS'S REPORT.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 2.—Important and unusual statements and recommendations are made by Secretary Oscar S. Straus in the sixth annual report of the Department of Commerce and Labor, made public today.

Secretary Straus points out that labor and the industries and commerce are interdependent. "That commerce which is developed and expanded to the detriment, either of the health or of the wage standard of the laborers engaged therein, however profitable it might be in the material sense, is harmful to a nation's welfare and should be discouraged.

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CLEVER ADVENTURESS IS DENVER WOMAN

Mrs. Read's Work on Cassie Chadwick Order.

Denver, Colo., Dec. 2.—Detectives claim that Mrs. Allen F. Read, awaiting trial for attempting to kill Mrs. Genevieve Chandler Phipps with dynamite, instead of being an insane and erring woman is a shrewd adventurer. The officers alleged that through one forgery at least she netted \$10,000 and it is claimed that other operations may place her in the class of the notorious Cassie Chadwick.

Paris, Dec. 2.—For the first time, Marguerite Steinheil was questioned yesterday afternoon by M. Andre, the new Committing Magistrate, regarding the murder of her husband and mother six months ago, the case having been taken from Magistrate Leydet, who was one of her admirers.

Public opinion considers the murder of her husband and mother of seconda

ry importance and interest is centered in the death of ex-President Faure.

It was made known that Mme. Faure was aware of her husband's intrigue with Marguerite and that her greatest grief was that Faure died "in the arms of this abhorred woman." Despite her shame and grief, she is determined to preserve the name of the president from scandal.

Mme. Faure consented to an interview with Mr. Steinheil, and, according to La Libre Parole, paid heavily to assure his silence.

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Faure Died in Woman's Arms

Public Interest. Not in Murder of Mme. Steinheil's Husband and Mother, But Death of Ex-President of France.

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