

### For Patriotic Reasons

Effective in the fight against evils which menace national life is the patriotic argument. An appeal to personal pride of advantage, or to the benefit for section or state often is lost on the individual addressed. But there are few citizens whose ears are dull to the beseechment of those in authority for aid in times when the nation is in danger. In all the world's wars the rulers have had but to point out the menacing circumstances and volunteers have rushed to national defense. It is cause for world-wide rejoicing and it is a helpful sign of the times that so many of those in high places of authority have joined with preachers of righteousness and forces working for reformation in pointing out the danger to national life and prosperity in the sale and use of intoxicants, harmful drugs, the corruption at the ballot box and other perils.

In an address, recently the crown prince of Sweden gave utterance to the following:

The temperance movement is one of the greatest of our time; a movement by which the people will gain self-reliance and self-control. The final aim is nothing else than the most complete possible liberation of our people from the destructive effects of the use of alcohol. That nation which is first to free itself from the injurious effects of alcohol will thereby attain a marked advantage over other nations in the amicable yet intensive struggle for existence.

Emperor Wilhelm, of Germany, has publicly urged abstinence as an essential to national efficiency and supremacy, declaring that in the next war victory will lie with that nation which uses the smallest amount of alcohol.

"The patriotic argument," asserts Dr. W. F. Crafts, secretary of the International Reform League, "has won the greatest of moral crusades, that of China against opium, where the chief cry has been, not that opium injures individual health and happiness, and hurts business, and increases crime and poverty and taxes, but rather this: 'That China may be strong.'"

France, also, Dr. Crafts points out, has adopted the argument of patriotism in putting up official posters warning the people because of the declining birth rate of that dying nation, against alcoholism, as the chief peril to be avoided.

### Doctors After Clean Bill of Health

"The argument is used that if the soldier is allowed beer in the canteen it will prevent him from going out to the low saloons and drinking and then frequenting houses of assignation, where we will contract venereal disease. This cannot be established by logic. Alcohol lessens a man's self-restraint. It benumbs his higher sensibilities. It makes him more reckless. Now, where is the restraining influence of the canteen? I mean to say that the canteen is the recruiting office for the saloon and bawdy house just outside the camp. The young man who has never known anything about the saloon or house of prostitution can get his first drink in the government canteen. His moral sensibilities are benumbed, his baser appetites are stimulated and he will go outside that he may "have a time." He comes back into camp diseased for life. He never would have fallen but for the initial drink he got in the canteen. I learned long ago that although "figures won't lie," you can get almost any result with them you want, and so it is with statistics, you can make them prove anything. \*\*\*\*\*

I want to say I think the medical profession as a body has been most shamefully disgraced by proclaiming to the

world that 279 of its membership have memorialized congress to pass the Bartholdt bill. I think it is high time that we who are opposed to it should do some memorializing and express our indignation."—W. A. Wiseman, M. D., in Journal of the American Medical Association.

It appears that the work of preparing the above-referred-to petition and securing the signatures there was largely the work of one person. Some of the signers assert their signatures to the petition were secured under a misapprehension as to its nature, and have withdrawn their names from it. As is well known, the medical profession is very largely opposed to the use of alcoholic liquors either as beverages or as remedial agents. Naturally enough, the doctors are unwilling to furnish character for the saloon gang or to lend aid to a liquor scheme.

### The New Liquor Adjective

Your average liquor man is a hoary-headed master in the art of deceiving the people. In a popular government the liquor traffic could not exist for a day if the people generally were fully aware of its diabolical character and deeds. To keep these from the people, is the great goal of the liquor trust. To accomplish this, they employ all sorts of decoys, misleading catch-phrases and side issues. Their fundamental principle of operation is, "You can fool all the people some of the time." When the people generally have discovered the hypocrisy and falsity of a liquor scheme, it is promptly dropped and a new and more plausible one is confidently installed in its place. For a while, "personal liberty," which every true American cherishes most highly, was dinged into our ears. Some good people were deceived by this clamor for awhile. Now the majority of people are seeing that in the liquor vocabulary, personal liberty means nothing more than license to debauch one's self. In this emergency, a new adjective is requisitioned and "temperate" personal liberty is, with much eclat, touted as the Moses to save the liquor traffic from utter annihilation. If personal liberty must be "temperate," it ceases to be "personal" in the liquor sense of the word and becomes social liberty, that is, individual action is controlled not by the individual himself, but by the ethical ideals of society. The people are rapidly coming to see through these ruses and misleading phrases and refuse to be deceived by them any longer.

"In vain is a net spread in the sight of an old bird."

### Drinking Among College Men

In an article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer by President Charles F. Thwing, of the Western Reserve University on the subject of the drinking of alcoholic beverages among college men, that eminent educator said:

The beginning of the college year emphasizes the significant fact that the academic like the general community is becoming more temperate in its use of liquors. \* \* \* \* Goethe and Schiller are cited as saying that the work which they did under the influence of stimulants, although at the time seemed to be brilliant enough, are badly done. The movement in favor of abstinence is certainly growing among German students. This movement has the sanction of the Kaiser, as his wish for the spread of abstinence or of temperance among all classes is recognized.