

The Great Destroyer

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The recruiting should begin in the public schools. Not a class or grade should be allowed to pass without educational instruction in the facts of alcohol.

Next to recruits in importance comes the officers. Every great effective army must have a system for developing its leaders.

The College Is the School for Officers.

Though less than 2 per cent of the men of America go through college, yet from this 2 per cent the nation draws 7,700 out of the 10,000 leaders in all the walks of life. To the colleges we must look for our leaders. Not a single class in any college should be allowed to graduate without having had presented to its members in scientific form the great truths underlying this war. One of the weakest elements of our struggle has been the lack of leadership, the lack of a system for developing leadership. The destroyer today has a strong hold upon our colleges, particularly in the large universities. This grip must be broken at any cost.

Next in importance to preparation comes the question of resources from which to draw the "sinews of war." As yet the work of developing resources on our side can not be considered as even begun. The enemy by a voluntary stamp system has perfected an almost unlimited source of supply, a tax upon his \$2,000,000,000 business. It is vain to hope to win full and enduring victory in the face of the enemy's resources until our own resources have been systematically developed. In a war upon which the nation's prosperity, its institutions, its very life hinges, we ought in reality to be able to tap the whole vast resources of the nation. A national finance committee must be organized and begin operations with a definite program to create a new net income of \$100,000 each year. In ten years the great war should have available a net minimum income for national purposes of a million dollars a year; and each decade thereafter should add an additional net income of a million dollars a year. With adequate resources in all departments of the war operations could be conducted systematically, and we could complete those great preparations necessary for the gigantic war we have on hand.

Organization is the Watchword.

After resources are developed, after the army has been recruited and officered, the next great step is organization. The army must be organized and drilled until it can be wielded like a great engine of war, like the great standing armies of the world. In every state, in every county, in every township, in every precinct, the individuals must be gathered under local leaders into squads; squads must be assembled under higher leaders into companies, companies into regiments, regiments into brigades, brigades into divisions, divisions into army corps, until upon the word of command we can set in motion 10,000,000 patriotic men, the flower of the land.

Strike With Our Whole Power.

When the preparations are completed and war operations begin, we must observe the laws of strategy and, above all, the first law of strategy, concentration. Whenever a decisive battle is to be fought, like the approaching battle in Maine, we should bring to bear our whole power. The liquor forces of the United States, of Canada, of the world, will be gathered there to assault the citadel of real constitutional prohibition. Shall we leave our local state forces alone, as we did in the recent constitutional fight in Alabama and Florida? When the British occupied Boston, suppose the other colonies had left Massachusetts alone to meet the British Empire. Suppose at Yorktown only Virginians had been in the field. Under such a conduct of war no victory could have been possible. We must assemble all the prohibition and temperance forces of America, develop a strong national organization, and be able to strike with our whole combined power on every decisive battlefield.

Strike Where the Enemy Is Weakest.

The second law of strategy is to strike where the enemy is weakest and strike him in detail. The enemy is weakest

where the people are the least degenerate—that is, in the country, in towns and smaller cities.

Use the Principle of the Wedge.

When attacking a stronghold the principle of the wedge must be adopted. Enter the point of the wedge by ward local option; win additional wards, concentrating the attack at each fight; and when the majority has been won strike for the city. In the case of great cities win the rural districts until the majority of the state is sure, then strike for the whole state. For our very great cities, the enemy's citadels, that swing their states, we must put the wedge into the rural states, win state after state, till, sure of a majority, we strike for the nation and split the log open.

The Spirit of the Men.

Though no great war has ever been won without following the laws of preparation and strategy, neither has any long, hard war ever been won without deep incentive to maintain the spirit of the men. Up till now, before science spoke, by false education and through lack of knowledge on the part of the people at large, the enemy has been able to invoke higher principles, particularly when our leaders blundered in the issue and laid themselves open to the charge of seeking to have the state overstep the dominion of the individual and encroach upon the home.

But by wisely laying the battleground now, with the full facts about alcohol determined, we can by diligent work of education take away from the enemy all incentive but that of greed and gain and can show him forth in his true light, a mighty, ravaging horde, more terrible today than all the hordes of Huns, Saracens, Tartars, Ottomans—than all the hordes of history. On the other hand, we should take to the men of our ranks a full realization that we fight for home and fireside, for liberty, for country, for God.

The enemy by ruse attempts to shake the spirits of our forces by saying, "Prohibition does not prohibit." Let us not only show up how it does already prohibit to a marked degree, but let us realize that getting prohibition is but part of our war. The second part is its enforcement. Let us turn the whole power of our organization throughout the prohibition territory into such complete enforcement that all the world must see. Shrewd word is also passed along our ranks, especially to the worrying, that "Prohibition can not prohibit." Let us fling this back in the teeth of the enemy. It is nothing less than a boast that the nation is already lost. Let us put it before our ranks as the cry of pirates who have boarded the ship of state and with jeers are trying to hoist the black flag, with its skull and crossbones, above the Stars and Stripes.

We can and should stir in our ranks the greatest depths of the human heart, depths from which men are transformed, under whose impulses mortals are capable of accomplishing what seems the impossible.

Indeed, we can and should one and all have that deep abiding realization that sustains even in dark hours of temporary defeat, the realization that we are working with the great forces of nature, that the stars in their courses are fighting for us, that it is written in the book of fate that this great destroyer shall be destroyed.

We can all go forward in the great war with a song in our hearts, each to do his full duty, whether as an officer or as a private in the ranks, knowing that whatever betide, whether the heavens fall or the earth melt away, whether we see the victory or die in the conflict, that "the Lord of Hosts is with us," that "the God of Jacob is our refuge."

Saloon Business Must Yield

When it clearly appears that there is a real conflict between them, human rights must have the upper hand, for property belongs to man and not man to property.—Roosevelt.

License laws have not only failed in the past, but it is certain that they cannot succeed in the future because of inherent weakness.—Hon. R. C. Pitman.