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## VALUE OF FACTORY PRODUCTS, 1919

### XXXII—DRINK IN DENMARK

It is fair to say at the start that water is a common drink in Denmark. It is really a beverage among the Danes. It is universally served in the cafes and restaurants, in the hotel dining rooms, and in private homes. It is delicious water, soft and pure and palatable as one might expect from the springs and wells of a sand-clay-peggle area.

Not so in Germany and not so in France, for both are limestone countries in the main, and in general the water has the odor and pronounced taste of surface seepage through decayed limestone foundations. Outside the limited area of granite formation it is not safe to drink water in either country. It is even difficult to use it for shaving, bathing, or washing clothes. Nobody expects you to drink water in France and Germany. The natives do not drink it as a rule. They consider it good for cooking and scrubbing but not for drinking—good for dumb animals but deadly for humans. More than once we upset the whole establishment calling for drinking water in German and French cafes. Drinking water is ready at hand for everybody in American hotel lobbies and usually it is ice water, but in Europe if you want water to drink you ring for it and pay for it with a tip. One can buy anything to drink from the little hand carts that run alongside the trains in the French railway stations—anything but water. When one chances upon it, it is bottled Vichy or St. Evian from the granite regions of central France, but in Germany you do not often have a chance of this sort. We traveled across the Atlantic on a French boat. Wine was served free of charge and in unlimited abundance on the dining room tables at the luncheon and dinner hours, but you paid three francs a bottle for all the water you got to drink. Nowhere on the railway trains of the continent is there any water to drink. The most acute suffering we experienced was nine hours of thirst on a delayed train from Paris to Basle. When at last the dining car was attached to our train we swarmed into it and our bill for water alone was two good American dollars.

But water is a fairly common beverage in Denmark. Water bottles are common on the tables of hotel dining rooms, restaurants, and cafes—everywhere and the water is distinctly good for all the uses of water at home. But also every other kind of drink is common except the fantastic mixed drinks of the old days in the United States and the deadly drinks of the Volstead law era. However, one may find American bars and American drinks in the large cities of every European country—not only American drinks but also the American fashion of standing at a bar and gulping drinks down with

a single swallow after the manner of the film picture heroes. The Europeans criticize it as primitive and vulgar but they are developing the habit more and more across the Atlantic.

### Unlimited Drinking

The drinks of Denmark are unlimited in variety and quantity, indeed they cover Denmark like the dew—beer, porter, stout, wines, liquors, appetizers, everything in fact except absinthe. And everybody drinks one thing or another or all of these, men, women, and children alike. There are not now and never were any bar rooms in Denmark in the American sense of the term, but drinks are served to order in every cafe, restaurant, inn and hotel and equally freely served in private homes. Every grocery store sells bottled malt drinks, wines, brandies, and grain, potato, and sugar-beet alcohols. The beers and porters are made in Denmark and brewing is perhaps the largest manufacturing business of the Danes. The wines are usually imported and the Spanish-Portuguese wines are inexpensive. Imported beer is high because of a protective tariff, and so also are the imported fruit and grain alcohols. A considerable revenue is derived by the state from the tax on imported brandies and whiskies. The Danes like all the rest of the Scandinavian peoples crave strong drinks. Commonly the Dane wants a small glass of aqua vitae or fiery grain alcohol with his glass of beer, and the habit of mixing these drinks is almost as common among the women.

The nearest approach to the American barroom is the country saloon where the peasants congregate on Sundays and other holidays to drink and talk without interruption by their women folks. The wine shop of the farm village in France is a similar meeting place for the small farmers. The French village wine shop has its counterpart in the German must or cider halls. And I may add that alcoholic saturation is certainly as common in the wine shops of rural France and the hard cider halls of rural Germany as in the whiskey shops of rural Denmark.

### Family Drinking

But outside the country regions of Denmark, France, and Germany, it is the whole family that seats itself around a restaurant or cafe table to spend the evening or the holiday eating, drinking and having a social good time in general. They rarely ever drink without eating, but they eat and drink unbelievable quantities before the evening is over. It goes without saying that roystering parties, drunken and rowdy, frequently make the night hideous in the small hours of the morning in beer drinking Germany, in wine drinking France, and

## THE UNIVERSITY AND THE PEOPLE

The higher educational institutions in the state are more alive today than ever before to the civic and social service which they owe the people. Especially is this true of the University, which is heading the great onward movement. It is well. Higher education has frequently been indicted on several counts—in effectiveness, formalism, traditionalism, irreverence, and agnosticism. The educational world is recognizing that not the aristocracy of intellect so much as the democracy of culture must prevail; that the real test of the University is its civic and social service rendered, and society at large is demanding that the college take its active part in human affairs. Hence it has come about in recent years that some of the most far-reaching and uplifting sociological movements in the state have been headed and largely directed by men educated at the University of North Carolina. This is a very hopeful sign and is fraught with great possibilities as the scores of young graduates go out from its halls this month.—Sanford Express.

in whiskey drinking Denmark. And he would certainly be a stupid observer who could not see that light wines and beers as thoroughly alcoholize a people as the prevalent strong drinks of the British Isles and the Scandinavian countries. My deliberate conclusion is that light drinks settle none of the problems of alcoholism. Norway for instance is a country of free or nearly free beers and wines, with prohibition laws against brandies and whiskies beyond a stated small amount monthly. In other words, the Norwegians have, or had while we were in Denmark, exactly what some people advocate in this country, namely, light beers and wines. Nevertheless the bootlegging of strong drinks into Norway threatened to throw the whole kingdom into civil war in the fall of 1923. My conclusion was that lawlessness in Norway is very like the lawlessness of the United States, and that light wines and beers solve none of the drink problems of a country.

### Inhibition in Denmark

What Denmark has in her liquor laws and practices is certainly better than the lawlessness of Norway. Upon an average there is one country saloon for every 350 Danes the country over, but neither in the large cities nor in the country regions of Denmark did I discover as many signs of drink and drunkenness as anybody can see around the railway stations and hotels of any state in America, Utah alone excepted. As a matter of fact Denmark does not believe in prohibition. It does believe in inhibition. That is to say, in the will power of the individual to drink in

moderation and to stop short of drunkenness. The drunkard pays a swift penalty for his weakness in Denmark. And there are weak people in Denmark as in every other land and country. But what the drunkard and his family face are penalties that stagger the excessive drinker—not the penalties of law so much as the inevitable penalties of social custom. For instance, he faces the city workhouse or ladegaard as the Danes call these institutions. The workhouse inmates are called ladegaard-lemmers. The drunkard gets into the workhouse where he receives shelter, food and medical attention, and the daily job of the ladegaard-lemmers is to sweep the gutters of the streets. Moreover he sacrifices his old-age pension, for no man or woman who receives public charity or appears on the court records of conviction may expect state or municipal pensions in old age.

But another penalty stares him in the face, namely, the loss of credit. A man who drinks to excess cannot be a member of a local cooperative credit union or short-loan society as the Danes call them. There are 168 of these societies and membership is a badge of public honor. If he is expelled from his credit society his name is worth nothing at any bank. The loan cashier asks the would-be borrower what his post office is, and turning swiftly to the directory of credit-society members asks if he is a member. If the borrower says No, the cashier turns down his application without further parley no matter what property collateral may be offered. If the borrower has been dismissed from one of these credit societies and obtains a short loan under false pretense of membership he is liable to indictment in the courts. If he stands convicted of this or any other offense against the law he forfeits his old-age pension as well as his credit. It is a serious matter because in Denmark business is based on credit as in every other country of the world. But life and business are probably more intimately related to credit in Denmark than anywhere else in the known world.

Weakness of will in the matter of drink penalizes a man in Denmark. I fell upon a sad instance in illustration of this fact in Copenhagen. The son of one of the parliamentary leaders, a young man approaching thirty years of age, was working for his doctorate degree in the University. He was digging out his doctorate dissertation in the offices of a Cooperative Central in Copenhagen. He was a Jutlander and he could not withstand the temptations of gay life in the capital city of Denmark. He was promptly shut out of the Cooperative Central and because of that fact was just as promptly sponged off the University roll.

### The Danish Ideal

The ideal of the Danes is inhibition not prohibition—the inward denial of oneself instead of the outward denial of law. And inhibition with the Danes does

not mean teetotalism. It means moderation, say the Danes, and they stoutly contend that temperance in the Bible is properly translated moderation. It was the Lutheran pastor of a country church in Denmark who drew down his Greek dictionary and argued out this interpretation of the word in the Epistles of St. Paul.

The temperance movement in Denmark is an increasingly strong movement. The members of the temperance societies have already reached a total of some 200,000, and I was told that the number was rapidly increasing. But I found the temperance hotels in Denmark serving light wines and beers just as any other Danish hotel. They are not the cold-water temperance hotels of England and Scotland. Temperance does not mean total abstinence in Denmark. It means temperance or moderation in the use of alcoholic drinks.

And there is a prohibition movement in Denmark. The prohibition convention met in Copenhagen during my stay in the city. The delegates met in the fervor of the "two or three gathered together in an upper chamber"; but my guess is that prohibition will never command more than a handful of followers in Denmark. The Danes consider prohibition Norway a fearful example and the United States a still more fearful example. They stoutly maintain that moderate drinking is all told a far less evil than the widespread lawlessness of prohibition countries.

I am not arguing the matter. I am simply giving the situation in Denmark as faithfully as I can, with glances at the great problems of alcohol in other European countries.—E. C. Branson, Copenhagen.

### DOES EDUCATION PAY?

Constantly the college graduate is confronted by the query, Does Education pay? To some it does not, but there are failures in every line and these, for the most part, were failures in College.

Education does not insure success, it merely makes the chance better. Dean Coffee of the University of Minnesota Agricultural College recently published some statistics in the Minneapolis Journal showing the effect of education upon farmers in that region.

Men of high-school education, he says, on these farms earned about five hundred dollars yearly; those with some college training made about six hundred dollars annually; but those with a complete college training had an average yearly income of more than three thousand dollars. Only thirty-one persons out of five millions with no schooling attain distinction in their work; with elementary schooling eight hundred and eight out of three million achieve some distinction; with a high-school education twelve hundred out of two million rise above the average in accomplishment; with a college education more than five thousand out of a million render notable service.

Put in another way the figures mean that the college graduate has ten times the chance of making good than the high school graduate has, and twenty-two times better chances than has he who takes only the elementary courses.—Student Life.

