



of beverages which are not "intoxicating in fact," but profits their sale. It does not take a very long memory to recall the time when the domestic manufacture of wine for home use was a part of the year's regular routine in a large proportion of farm and village homes. Elderberry wine, dandelion wine and wine from other fruits and ingredients shared honors with the grape. And our grandmothers always took pains to see that there was a supply on hand of "blackberry cordial," which was supposed to have sovereign value in digestive disturbances. Probably blackberry cordial would come under the prohibition ban today, for it certainly was "intoxicating in fact." But one needed a capacity far beyond the ordinary to consume enough of the old-fashioned home-made wines to become intoxicated by them.

ST. BERNARD

In ordering Italian border guards to fire on the monks of St. Bernard when they crossed the Italian border to rescue some snowbound travelers, the Fascist government outraged the humane sensibilities of the whole world. The Hospice and monastery of St. Bernard, founded in the year 926 by Bernard de Menthon, is more than a Swiss institution; it is enshrined in the heart of the whole Christian world.

Who has not heard of the men who give their lives to save others, as these monks have done for a thousand years? Situated 8,120 feet above sea-level, at the summit of the oldest-travelled pass across the Alps, the Hospice is a refuge for travellers—though motorists are not especially welcome—and the home of the famous St. Bernard dogs. These great creatures, standing three feet tall, are a breed especially developed by the monks, with thick hair to withstand the cold, keen noses to smell stray travellers caught in the snowstorms, and great strength to drag them to safety or run swiftly for aid. More than 20,000 persons every year

spend the night at the Hospice. No charge is made, but everybody is supposed to contribute the price of a night's lodging to the little church there.

HELIUM

Instead of being a rare gas, obtainable only at a high cost, as it was a few years ago, helium, the lightest of all the elements except hydrogen, is now obtained in practically unlimited quantities from the Government-owned gas wells in Texas and Oklahoma.

A movement has been started to induce the President and the Secretaries of War and of the Navy to permit the exportation of helium gas for use in commercial airships in other countries. Nothing could do more to aid in the development of dirigibles, and such an action on the part of our officials would go far toward better international relations. But the probabilities are that the advocates of war and the timorous ones who think the rest of the world is lying in wait to pounce upon the United States, will make a vigorous protest against letting any other nation have something which might be used in making war upon us.

HEAT

The newest vision of science is a substance which will take the place of steam for heating purposes. Diphenyl, a substance obtained from benzene, is said by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers to be much better for this purpose. It is a solid which melts at a temperature of 157 degrees and vaporizes at 492 degrees.

A house heating plant using diphenyl would have boiler and pipes full of this solid, which would gradually become liquid as the fire was started, and would circulate through pipes and radiators like water. It holds heat better than steam, and is said to give off more of the heat from the boiler furnace than steam does.

ESKIMOS
Traders returning from the Hudson Bay country tell of Eskimo families whose incomes in actual money run up to \$40,000 a year, which they get by trapping the rare white fox. These Eskimos, like all other uncivilized people who come into possession of such big money, they spend it on airplane joyrides, motor cars, and other luxuries. These great aviators having discovered that there is easy money in flying up to Herschel Island, in the Arctic ocean, where these Eskimos live, and charging them \$500 for a flight to Edmonton. They pay \$200 a ton for coal with which to heat their igloos, buy the most expensive radio sets, and arouse the envy of their less fortunate neighbors.

Some moralists are inclined to criticize these Eskimos for their lack of thrift, but it seems to me as if they were getting more out of life than most persons who save their pennies and have themselves anything in the way of luxuries.

WINE
The Federal Director of Prohibition declares to make wine or beer for one's own home for one's own use. The law does not prohibit the making



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