

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

OUR RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD BEVERAGE ALCOHOL

International Sunday School Lesson for October 26, 1941.

Golden Text: "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people."—Proverbs 14:24.

Lesson Text: Deut. 5:32-33; 11:26-28; Isaiah 28:1-6; Habakuk 2:12.

One of the gravest problems confronting civic authorities today is what to do with the drink question. We may throw up our hands and say that it is uncontrollable, and thus do nothing about it, or we can face the problem squarely and, with the help of God, try to work out a satisfactory solution.

The moment a discussion of the problem is begun, opponents of any kind of control point to the failure of the Prohibition Act as proof positive that strong drink cannot be prohibited, that to do so violates the personal rights of individuals and that such a problem cannot be controlled by law. It is true that the attempt at prohibition failed, not because it was impossible to enforce such regulation, but because of the half-hearted efforts made to do so.

However, since we have no nationwide legislation to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages, the next best step to be taken is a program of education, directed especially to the youth of our nation, in the hope that they will never begin the habit of drinking alcohol.

Robert E. Lee, the famous Confederate General and outstanding Christian gentleman, declared, "Abstinence from spirituous liquors is the best safeguard to morals and health." It is very important that everyone considers the importance of his or her health. To those who contend that alcohol is "good for you," the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association declares: "Alcohol in medicine as a tonic, a stimulant, or for food, has no scientific value and should be discouraged."

What does alcohol do to one's body? (1) It injures the heart, clogging its muscles; (2) it burns the lining of the stomach and is frequently a cause of stomach ulcers; (3) it dilates the blood vessels of the liver, and produces a fatty tissue that makes the liver heavier than it should be; (4) it increases the susceptibility of the kidneys to inflammation.

(5) it attacks the whole nervous system, inflaming, enlarging, and hardening the nerve cells; (6) it deadens the higher functions of the brain; and, finally, (7) it reduces the number of white corpuscles, which attack disease germs, and weakens them, thus lowering the resistance of the whole organism.

Figures released by the National Safety Council in 1936 show a steady increase in automobile accidents caused by liquor and, three years later, reported that liquor had been directly responsible for 25 per cent. of deaths from automobile accidents. Twenty per cent. were caused by drinking drivers. One simply cannot have a clear mind and drink alcohol, either beer, wine or whiskey. Dr. Charles Mayo, the famous surgeon, once said, "You can get along with a wooden leg, but you can't get along with a wooden head. It is the brain that counts, but in order that your brain may be kept clear, you must keep your body fit and well. This cannot be done if one drinks liquor."

Of course, the health aspect of alcoholic drinking is important, but the most important of all is its effect on the drinker's soul. The use of alcohol is not only physically harmful, it is also sinful for it scars the soul. The person who drinks alcohol lowers his own moral resistance to evil, losing his sense of self-control and renders himself unable to distinguish clearly between what is right and what is wrong.

The drinkers of alcoholic beverages, who clamor loudest and longest for their "personal freedom" to "do what they want to do," are the very ones who are the most closely bound in slavery to a vile and destructive habit. The only real and worthwhile freedom comes through obedience to the laws of God.

Gladstone, that outstanding British statesman of another era, warned that "drink has been more destructive throughout the history of civilization than war, pestilence, and famine combined. Is our beloved nation facing such destruction? Let us remember the words of our Golden Text: "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people."

We Are Not Amused

Stranger—"What time do you empty this box at night?"

Rural Postman—"Now you have asked me something! I've been on this round for six months and never knowned there was a box there."

FOR SALE WOOD AND LUMBER

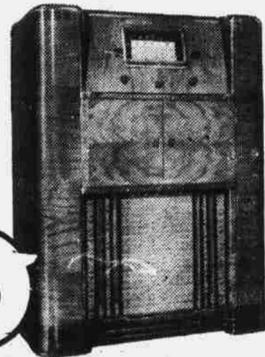
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SCS Offers Cash For Kudzu Seed

The SCS is sending out an SOS to North Carolina farmers.

Earl Meacham, Extension soil conservationist of N. C. State College, says the Soil Conservation Service is making an urgent plea for North Carolina farmers to harvest every ounce of kudzu seed that can be located this fall.

The SCS has announced that it will pay market price for all the seed it can get. At the present time, this runs about one dollar a pound for cleaned seed, and 25 cents a pound for seed in the pod. Approximately five pounds of dried pods are required to make one pound of cleaned seed. Until this year, the United States had depended on Japan, the home of kudzu for its seed supply. Now it appears that little if any will be imported from that country this year, which means that American agriculture again will have to fall back on its own resources.

Farmers and others knowing of a promising site where the kudzu is more than three or four years old are urged to inspect it carefully, Meacham said. If it has a good crop of seed pods, the work unit technician of the Soil Conservation Service in that district may be notified. Or the finder may write directly to the Service in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

The most promising places for locating a good seed crop, Meacham explained, seem to be large gullies covered with kudzu, or fence rows, vacant lots, porches, and old home sites. Kudzu usually produces more seed when it climbs over bushes, trees, fences, or trellises. Pods should not be picked until frost.

Dairymen Requested To Increase Supply

The greatest need for production under the nation's gigantic food-defense program in 1942 lies in the field of dairying, says John A. Arey, extension dairyman of N. C. State College.

Yet existing facilities for production in relation to probable needs indicate that dairy farmers of the country face a different task in meeting the national 1942 production goal of 125,000,000,000 pounds, an increase of 7 per cent. over the 117,000,000,000 pounds expected to be produced in 1941.

However, North Carolina farmers will find the demand not too difficult to meet, since they have been asked to increase production by only 4 per cent. This year it is estimated that Tar Heel cows will give 1,462,000,000 pounds of milk. Next year their goal has been set at 1,520,000,000.

At the same time, North Carolinians have been asked to add 10,000 milk cows to their herds by next year. Cow population this year is estimated at 380,000. Next year, the Government has asked that it be jumped to 390,000.

The State College specialist pointed out that better feeding and management should bring North Carolina up to its 1942 goal with no trouble. He expressed confidence that cow owners of this State would heed the Government's request and try to do their part in this national defense effort.

Much of the expected increase will be used at home to improve the health of American citizens, while an additional large amount will be shipped overseas to the British through the Lease-Lend Act.

Rules of the Road

Section 114, Motor Vehicle Laws of North Carolina:—"(a) The driver of a motor vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent with regard to the safety of others and due regard to the speed of such vehicles and traffic upon and condition of the highway.

"(b) The driver of any motor truck when traveling upon a highway outside of a business or residence district shall not follow another motor truck within one hundred feet but this shall not be construed to prevent one motor truck overtaking and passing another."

In other words, in judging how closely you can follow another vehicle with safety, you should consider the speed of that vehicle, the condition of traffic, and the condition of the roadway. If you drive a truck on the open highway, you should stay at least one hundred feet behind any other truck except when passing.

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Farm Prices Climb Toward 1920 Level

Higher consumer incomes, government price support, and reduced competition from abroad may create for American farmers in 1942 a total income approaching 13 billion dollars, greatest since the lush days of 1920. Quoting latest estimates released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. I. O. Schaub, director of the N. C. State College Extension Service, said the demand for farm products in 1942 will be "even better" than in 1941.

Increased cash returns were forecast largely on the basis of higher average prices received in 1942 than in 1941, although a moderate increase in production, particularly livestock and livestock products, will contribute.

Cost of farm production is expected to rise substantially next year, Dr. Schaub said, but not enough to offset the increase in price received by farmers. For the year 1942, the ratio of prices received to prices paid should be about at parity.

In its latest outlook report, the U. S. Department of Agriculture

pointed out that farm prices this year will average nearly 25 per cent. over 1940, and that a gain of about the same proportions is indicated for 1942 over 1941.

If contemplated goals are met, there will be a sharp increase in the production of livestock products. This will more than offset a decline of nearly 10 per cent. in the output of crops.

Farm wage rates are expected to be higher next year, and moderate advances will probably take place in the prices of farm machinery, fertilizer, seed, gas, oil, and possibly in taxes.

Sure Enough

"Is this a good place for rheumatism?"
"It be that, zur, Oi got mine 'ere."

Checked At The Source
"My wife has been forbidden to cook."
"Is she ill?"
"No, I am."

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