

THE PRICE PAID FOR ALCOHOL

We are now living in an age when people, as never before, are counting the cost and asking the question, what is the ^{Price} cost? For some decades we have been acquainting ourselves with the cost of railroads, canals, levies, the raising of stock, and various products, but until recent years we have been silent and ignorant as to price paid, financially, physically, mentally, and spiritually for the evils that prey upon us. We are now rising as it were from a stupor and our eyes are being opened, enabling us to see to some degree, at least, the price which we are paying for the ~~evils~~ ^{mis} that confront us. There are so many evils ^{for which} ~~that~~ we are paying ~~for~~ that it is impossible for us to estimate ^{them} ~~their~~ cost of ^{all}, therefore ~~this discussion~~ ^{not try to estimate the entire cost of all, but will be} will be confined to, ~~one~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{namely:} "The Price Paid for Alcohol!"

This liquid monster is the greatest enemy of the human race, the burglar who steals the greatest amount of our finance, the murderer who kills the greatest number of human bodies, the anarchist who dethrones reason from the greatest number of minds, and the devil who destroys the greatest number of immortal souls.

The time has passed for guess work as to the effect of alcohol on any thing or anybody. Knowledge absolute and scientific, is saying yes to Bible questions three thousands years old and to human observation and experience as old as the human race. Its action on every part of the body has been thoroughly tested and the remarkable revelations stand undisputed by the thoughtful and unbiased millions of to-day.

This burglar crouches near our door and by a magic touch throws men and women, boys and girls into a delusion wherein they are caused to think that our financial conditions will suffer greatly if alcohol is done away. But man's reason directed by the hand of God, enlightened by the divine

Spirit, and developed by the best training is growing out of its narrow sphere into a higher realm where it no longer suffers delusion but where it sees in their true light the facts which convince beyond all reasonable doubt that alcohol does not help but destroys business. Statistics show us thst in the states that are wet we find the greatest amount of poverty, the least number of homes owned by the occupants thereof, and the smallest number of dollars per capita. While on the other hand in dry states like Kansas we find far better business, better schools, larger bank deposits, and less poverty and crime. Where alcohol is we find more crime, more insanity, and of course more jails and insane asylums together with demands for money to support those institutions. In such places statistics show that where the city receives one dollar for license it pays out thirty eight for* to support places for criminals and lunatics. On this basis it costs Cincinnati \$6000000 and the United States \$260000000 to run their saloons last year. Fifty per cent of the poverty of Germany and the same per cent of the hardship of England have been caused by alcohol.

The money spent annually for alcohol, if put in silver dollars and laid the one on top of the other, would make a column 2992 miles high. This pile of dollars would pay the expenses of the government for one year, and besides pay a pension to every soldier, and twennty dollars per month to every pper-son over fifty years of age in our nation and at the same time provide for the education of every child from the ages of five to nineteen years.

In Calafornia during recent years four men have retired as millionaires because og the whiskey business. During this same time in poverty and shame 114000 men have filled drunkar@sgraves.

As an anarchist alcohol dethrones our reason and as a murderer kills our bodies. Our people are the losers, our people pay the price.

Each poison has a sellective affinity for a special part of the body.

Thus mercury first effects the salivary glands, strichnine the spinal cord, but alcohol selects the brain the most vital and important organ of the body.

The brain is composed of cells starlike and small, but by the microscope millions of them may be counted. These cells are connected by nerve fibers that transmit the brain impressions to the muscles and are collected in groups which are known as nerve centers. Each center has a special work to do. The condition of the nerve centers determine whether we will do our work well, indifferent, or not at all.

The brain cell centers have a definite order of growth. The unvarying rule of nature is, that the first to be created is the last to be destroyed, and the last to be created is the first to be injured or destroyed.

The first organ and nerve center of the brain to appear in the pre-natal infant, is the muscle of the heart and the brain center ~~which~~^{that} is to control it through life. The next organ to develop is the lungs. The third development is the nerve center that presides over voluntary muscular movements. The fourth group of cells or centers are those which make possible the attainment of knowledge. The last group of cells to be developed or formed are those which have to do with self control and self-discipline. These are the brain cells that control the moral and spiritual life.

Alcohol, when taken in to the body, affects the last formed cells first, thus bringing about the conditions that we see exist in all drunkards the destruction of self control. The brain in the cerebrum is paralyzed and the brain in the cerebellum is stimulated to all sorts of activity. The "Watch dog is chained in the cerebrum!" The burglar in the cerebellum pillages the house. The strong man being bound the foragers take possession.

It is like lightening unchained, a tornado turned loose, and an engine without a brake, a centrifical force without any centripetal to check it. The higher functions of the brain are paralyzed and the baser functions are the unbridled masters of the man. Hence the crimes committed by drunken people. Fifty percent of all the insane are made such by the use of alcohol. In Michigan the percent is even larger there being three out of four.

Fifty years ago our nation joined in with the liquor forces by giving them a license to sell ~~to~~ sell the poisonous stuff and during these fifty years in sanity has increased five hundred per cent. Rome was without rum five hundred years and prospered but whiskey came and Rome fell, because of the corrupted and insane minds made so by the use of strong drink. ~~When this is said of the mind it is useless to say that the entire~~ body in blood, digestion, and nerves suffers in like manner.

This being true of the adult is proof possitive that his will be a weakened posterity. The man who robs his family of the necessities of life that he may be able to buy a drink thinks that he really settles his account when the money clanks on the counter; but in this he is mistaken and sadly so, for his posterity is, perhaps, yet to come forth paying the price with weakened bodies, inefficient minds, and blinded eyes. Yes coming forth to curse him for his sin. He finds too late that the price is not paid in money but with innocent blood.

With drinking parents seventy ~~two~~ out of every hundred babies born are unsound. While at the same time with parents who do not drink only eight ~~out of~~ every hundred babies born are unsound.


Last year in our own nation there were 90000 babies born blind, all being caused by alcohol. Prof. Hahnel of Germany says that among the Bavarians, the greatest beer drinking people in the world, three hundred of

every thousand babies are born ~~69000~~ dead, and 69000 die annually in the first year of life.

By the above facts and figures we see that our nation as well as other nations is paying the price with human bodies yet more with human souls for this curse of the human race _____ alcohol.

This liquid fire is costing us the strength of our nation, for no nation is stronger than its manhood. Then too we might say that alcohol is costing us the beauty of our nation for no nation is fairer than its womanhood. We see every day its dreadful work. It is the cancer eating into the very heart of society. It is a constant visitor to the underworld and each successive time it goes there it carries its victims with it. It attacks homes both of wealth and poverty. And in whatever home it goes we find in its trail homes broken up, happiness destroyed, and hearts torn asunder by its fiendish touch.

If this were guess work our hearts would not be so broken up, but the facts are before us. I wish that a picture could be drawn which would represent the sorrow, pain, and death caused by alcohol but such is impossible. However, one year's work of alcohol may be imperfectly outlined in the following lines: 5000 suicides, 10000 murders, 25000 smothered babies, 40000 widowed mothers, 60000 fallen girls, 100000 fallen boys, 100000 criminals, and 100000 newly made drunkards' graves. This remember is just one year's work not to say any thing of the bad influence that went from these lives to others where the fruit will be reaped in coming years.

 To make the above picture the more sad we only have to think of this fact: if the widows and orphans, made so by alcohol, were caused to stand side by side and hand they would belt the globe three times.

The above facts ladies and gentlemen, give only a small estimate, and a dim picture of the enormous, " Price Paid for Alcohol."