

knows. The Constitution Bill might be shelved by our own supporters on other grounds; and on the other hand our opponents might seize a chance of going against the adult suffrage clause when we might not have a majority for it in the House, so that it will be an immense relief to get it settled. When it is really through I will send you a history of the Franchise campaign in this colony. The Government, of course, have come round to our side to suit themselves, but there is no doubt that they would never have thought of taking it up had not the women kept up a persistent agitation. We certainly have very much to thank the Press for: it has been an invaluable ally.

Thank you very much for copies of THE WHITE RIBBON—I look forward to its arrival.

I am posting you our Annual report. We poor, isolated mortals over here quite envy you in New Zealand. The women seem all alive there, and you have so many workers. Here it is a great struggle. With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

C. E. CLARK.

Cor. Sec. Perth W.C.T.U.

Oct. 25, 1899.

Extracts from the Address of Rev. W. F. Crafts at the Rocky River Conference.

“Permit me as a specialist to point out some of the new lines of study while giving you, in brief, the nineteenth century's verdict on the drink curse.

I shall poll a jury, whose right to speak impartially, or at least with no prejudice on our side, will not be challenged, a jury in which none are temperance specialists, but all outsiders, most of whom come to the question from the standpoints of science and business.

The foreman of our jury is the insurance actuary, a composite jurymen, representing this whole profession, who tells us in the name of statistical science, in the interest of business, that even such very moderate drinking as does not cut a man off from insurance altogether injures health and shortens life. This on the basis of half a century's records in English and American insurance companies. In British companies where total abstainers and moderate drinkers are classified separately and rebates are divided in each at stated periods in proportion to how much each class fall short of the expected mortality, it has been found that the mo-

derate drinkers die about as expected, but the total abstainers persist in outliving their appointed time and get twenty to thirty per cent rebates. Emory McClintock shows that abstainers outlive the moderate drinkers to the same degree in this country, and at last they are tardily demanding that they shall receive their due in rebates by being separately classified.

The insurance verdict is that to the average, normal man, tipping is killing.

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Our second jurymen is the railway president, another composite jurymen, who, speaking for the railways of the country as a whole, tells us that nearly all railways forbid employes to drink while on duty, and that an increasing number are refusing to employ anyone who is not an abstainer at all times. Modern machinery is too delicate and the damages of drunkenness to property and life too great to trust an engine or even a switch to a fuddled brain.

Perhaps we shall sometime learn that as clear brains are needed to run a government as to run a freight train.

Our third jurymen is a composite banker who speaks for a symposium of bankers which showed that bankers increasingly prefer total abstainers for tellers and bookkeepers. Even a little alcohol may fuddle a brain enough to make a serious mistake in the swift and numerous mathematical calculations. Even a little creates a desire for more, and more leads to costly vices and consequent embezzlements.

Our fourth jurymen is the commissioner of the United States bureau of labour, who speaks for his whole force of specialists. We will quote “by the book” from his twelfth annual report, devoted by order of Congress to the “Economic Aspects of the Liquor Question.” He questioned employers all over the country, liquor dealers included, as to whether they require employes to be abstainers. The result is stated in these words; “More than half the establishments reporting require in certain occupations and under certain circumstances that employes shall not use intoxicating liquors.”

The report seems to me to have taken too narrow a range. It should have shown the bearing of the liquor traffic on our two chief economic problems, the unemployed and the farmer. But our fifth jurymen, the superintendent of the last census, will give us a verdict on this. The census shows that, of each dollar spent for books and printing, thirty eight cents goes to labour; of every

dollar spent in hats and caps, thirty-seven cents goes to labour, and so down the list to the bottom where stands the liquortraffic, paying labour of each dollar received only two cents in the case of whisky, only one when the sale is beer. This means that if the money spent for drink were spent for the twenty chief comforts of life, one and one-third million more would be employed providing for all the unemployed willing to work, even in panic years, and the farmers would get \$400,000,000 more for raw materials.

Our sixth jurymen is the chief of the Massachusetts bureau of labour, who speaks for his expert assistants also, by order of the State Legislature, as to the influence of intoxicating liquors in promoting crime and pauperism, in his twenty-sixth annual report, 1896. He reports that of the paupers in that State sixty-five and one-fourth per cent were known to be addicted to the use of intoxicating drinks, and that eighty-two per cent of the criminals were “in liquor” at the time of committing the offence. A yet larger proportion of the criminals, ninety-four per cent, were addicted to the use of liquors. He shows also that arrests increase when the plan of no-license is changed to license, and vice versa; also that fifty-one per cent of the insane were addicted to drink.

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Our seventh jurymen is the chairman of the “committee of fifty,” made up of millionaires and college professors, some of them drinking men, and none of them temperance specialists. I think it not unfair to say that this jurymen while seeking to be impartial, may fairly be supposed to be prejudiced against radical temperance views. It is all the more significant, therefore, that even this jurymen finds that twenty-five per cent of those aided by charity organization societies, outside of poorhouses, “owed their poverty to the personal use of liquor.” The report adds, “In the case of the almshouses, the liquor habit played a much larger part.”

Our eighth jurymen, more familiar with poverty and crime, is a composite expert in charities and corrections. He reports from a symposium of 816 almshouse superintendents in the *New Voice* of August 12, 1899, that fifty-one per cent of the paupers came to the poorhouse by way of the saloon; also from a symposium of a thousand jailers, in the same paper, that seventy-two per cent of the crime in licensed states and thirty seven per cent in prohibition states is due to drink.