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PROHIBITION AND RUMORS AFLOAT

More Drinking Than Ever?
"Everyone Making It At Home"—Can You Buy It?

(By H. A. Knevels, Secretary.)
The current number of the Country Gentleman, which is the oldest agricultural journal in the world and of undoubted integrity, gives first place in its pages of the current issue, dated December 22, to an article under the caption of "Lying About Prohibition." It also illustrates the article with an interesting cartoon labeled "The Growth of a Rumor." The Country Gentleman is blest with more than a million subscribers, so this article will be given wide publicity. On account of its great value and interest we propose to give some brief excerpts from its text, sincerely hoping that each reader may be able to get access to the paper and read the complete article itself. The author is an accomplished newspaper writer, A. B. MacDonald, who states that all through last winter and summer he spent a great deal of time investigating the workings of prohibition in cities and towns and country districts from the Atlantic Coast to the Far West, and he can say positively that prohibition has not collapsed anywhere.

We quote: "It has come nearer to a collapse in Detroit than in any other place, but it is not the fault of prohibition; it is because in Detroit the officials can be bribed and are bribed with booze profits to ignore it. There is more loose talking and loose writing and lying about prohibition than about any other one thing: For example, loose talkers are everywhere repeating over and over the following statements, not one of which is true: 'There is more drinking than ever.' 'You can buy it in open saloons everywhere.' 'Every one is making it at home.' 'Prohibition is making law breakers of everyone.' 'You can get more drink now than in the old saloon days.' There is a change in sentiment on prohibition; people want beer and wine. 'Prohibition doesn't prohibit.' Those are simply loose statements. Millions of people in this country know that prohibition has not collapsed everywhere and that neither the entire country nor any considerable part of it is awash with illicit liquor. Even in Detroit there is a vast difference between conditions now and in the old saloon days. Then beer was five cents a glass, whiskey ten or fifteen cents. Now beer of poorest quality is twenty-five cents and booze is fifty or seventy-five cents. Then there was a wide open saloon on nearly every corner. Now a man has to be introduced to get it. Then a man knew the worst harm the booze could do him was to make him drunk. Now he gulps it down with a feeling of doubt."

"I found that after one has learned the ropes, and if he wants to sneak around after it and pay bootleggers big prices, he can buy booze quite easily in the cities along the Canadian and Mexican borders and the coast lines of the Atlantic, the Gulf and the Pacific, and in Chicago and other big cities of the interior. Outside of those districts, in all the great agricultural area of the West and South, the country is dry."
"I am convinced that little real whiskey is sold anywhere in this country. The chief of the government chemists in Washington told me that in the last year they had analyzed 40,000 samples of bootleg booze bought in different parts of the country, and 98 per cent of it was not whiskey at all but stuff made mostly from alcohol redistilled by bootleggers from poisonous denatured alcohol. In the four years it has been in operation national prohibition has closed the distilleries, the breweries and the saloons of this country, and has ended the open making and selling of booze as a beverage. In doing that it has decreased drunkenness to such an extent that in most places it has almost ceased to exist; it has lessened poverty and brought prosperity; it has given children and girls and mothers a better chance, has reformed countless drunkards and brought happiness to thousands of American homes. These are the outstanding facts of prohibition, and wet propagandists cannot wipe them out by argument nor cover them up with lies. I have been in Chicago several times in the last year, and in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Cin-

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NEWS FROM KENTUCKY

Virginia's Work in Kitchen Improvement Comes Over Radio.

(Miss Lillian V. Gilbert, County Home Demonstration Agent)
Those who were fortunate enough to get in on the radio program Wednesday night had the pleasure of listening to an address given in Louisville, Ky., in which special mention was made of the work being done in Virginia along the lines of kitchen improvement. The speaker said that Virginia had taken the lead in the great piece of work and made a point to explain how it was done, giving the details. It is hoped that a large number of those in Prince William county who took part in this big piece of work heard the address.

TOWN SCHOOLS GIVE PROGRAMS

Old English Christmas Party and Pageant at High School—Mother Goose Program.

A number of beautiful Christmas programs were given in the Manassas schools last week. Both leagues held meetings, an elaborate program of Christmas songs and recitations being presented by the school before the Bennett league, each grade contributing a feature. On Friday the primary department joined in a Mother Goose Christmas program and each of the upper grades dressed a beautiful tree and presented a program of its own, a mysterious Santa Claus in the meantime visiting all the rooms.

At the high school the upper classes gave an old English Christmas party Thursday night to the freshman class. A King of the Revels, with his courtiers, herald and jester, made merry. The traditional Yule log was brought in with ceremony and placed upon the fire. Old English carols were sung. Santa Claus also appeared upon the scene and games closed the program.

On Friday morning the third year class under Miss Campbell's direction presented an impressive and really beautiful Christmas pageant adapted from Tennyson's Holy Grail. On Friday afternoon the usual Christmas assembly was held, old English, Latin and French carols being the especial feature. This carol singing was made possible by the kindness of Mrs. A. Stuart Gibson, who trained the class. The program given Friday afternoon follows:

Prayer, Rev. J. Murray Taylor.
Carol, "Adeste Fideles."
Reading, "Angels and the Shepherds," St. Luke; Latin, Miss Elizabeth Coleman; English, Miss Constance Henry.
Carol, "Holy Night."
Reading, "The Child Born at Bethlehem," Miss Rose Rice.
Carol, "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night."
Story, "St. Joseph of Arimathea," Miss Mildred Monroe.
Carol, "We Three Kings of the Orient Are."
Recitation, "Sir Launfal," by the First Year Class.
Carol, "O Little Town of Bethlehem."
Reading, "Teig's Christmas," Miss Nellie Raymond.
Recitation, "The Night Before Christmas," Dabney Waters.
Reading, "The Christmas Tree," Miss Gladys Ball.
Reading, "The Christmas Dinner," by Charles Dickens, Miss Virginia Speiden.
Reading, "French Christmas Customs," Miss Evelyn Lynn.
French carols by the French Class.
Presentation of Red Cross Nursing Certificates to Home Economics Class, Rev. A. Stuart Gibson.

PAGEANT AT TRINITY CHURCH

On Sunday evening a large congregation assembled to witness the Christmas pageant given by the Church School of Trinity Episcopal Church. The entertainment consisted of well arranged tableaux and music by the children's vested choir. The most striking scene pictured was of Joseph and Mary watching over the manger. The procession led by the children's choir, followed by the shepherds, wise men and those representing different nationalities made a sacred and beautiful picture. Miss Margaret Temple Hopkins took a leading part in training the young people for the dignified and reverent rendition.



TWO DROWN AS CAR PLUNGES INTO BASIN

Hammen Eskridge, Brother of Mrs. George Bryant, Meets Death in Washington.

Hammen Eskridge, fifty-four years old, brother of Mrs. George Bryant, of Manassas, and John J. Craven, aged fifty-five, were killed in Washington Wednesday when the automobile of Robert McLennan, blocked from turning into the narrow bridge over the Tidal Basin inlet by the sudden appearance of another car, plunged from the speedway into the basin. Mr. McLennan, the only occupant of the car to escape death, is under treatment at Emergency Hospital, where a policeman is on guard. An inquest is to be held today.
Mr. Eskridge, whose identity was not known to the survivor, was not identified for some time after the accident occurred. Mr. Bryant, his brother-in-law, went to Washington to verify the identification. The deceased, who had been living in Washington for thirty years, was a native of Virginia. Interment was at Merrifield, Fairfax county.

LOCALS WIN TWO GAMES FROM VISITING TEAMS

Basketball Stars Defeat Iroquois From Alexandria and Hebron Seminary.

(High School Reporter)

The Manassas High School basketball team defeated the Iroquois team from Alexandria last Friday night at Eastern gym. The score was 35 to 10.

December 14 in Eastern gym the Manassas High School team defeated the strong Hebron Seminary by the score of 21 to 19. During the first half the locals outplayed the Nokesville men. In this half two substitutes, forwards, for Manassas (W. Lynn and Ledman), made a very creditable showing, running wild with their heavier opponents. In the last half, the regular team playing, the Nokesville fellows ran the score up till it looked like victory. But finally the Manassas boys awoke and won the game in the last few minutes of play.

Tell your neighbors The Journal is only \$1.50 a year in advance.

BODINE HOME BURNS

Nokesville Dwelling Destroyed on Christmas Day—McMichael Fire.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt Bodine, near Nokesville, was destroyed by fire on Christmas morning. Nothing was saved and how the fire started is not known. Mr. and Mrs. Bodine left Nokesville early Tuesday morning to spend the day at Warrenton. They knew nothing of the fire until their return in the evening.

A less disastrous fire occurred in the same neighborhood on Wednesday at the home of Mr. A. J. McMichael starting from a fire in the family sitting room. Prompt measures soon extinguished the flames. The water, it is reported, did as much damage as the fire.

GAME REPORT OF COUNTY COMPILED

Game Warden Reading and District Supervisor Fletcher Provide Information.

Through Supervising Game Warden Albert Fletcher, of the eighth district and County Game Warden C. L. Reading, the following interesting statistics are presented:

Game killed or captured in Prince William county last season: Quail, 2,155; wild turkeys, 34; rabbits, 4,700; squirrels, 2,880, and ducks, 350.

There were 748 hunting licenses issued, aggregating the sum of \$1,129, as against \$1,240 for the previous year.
Dog tags sold, 1,688. Dogs destroyed, 28. Dog law convictions, 4. Amount paid for damage done by dogs, \$227.12. Amount paid into the treasury of Prince William county for twelve months' dog licenses and used for roads and schools, \$2,159.34.

The above amount from dog licenses is retained by the county, and appropriated by the Board of Supervisors to pay for damages done to stock by dogs, and for bounties on hawks, crows, etc., and the remainder is devoted to schools and roads in the county. A total of \$261,309 net was the past year paid into the treasuries of the counties, cities and towns in the commonwealth for this purpose after 15 per cent of the gross amount had been deducted for the maintenance of the Game Department.

The State Game Department has to be self-supporting, and is maintained from the hunters' licenses, besides 15 per cent of a total of \$307,422.40 (dog licenses), the balance, as stated, going to the various counties, cities and towns, over a quarter of a million dollars. In the support of the Game Department are the wardens, the game farm, fish surveys and hatcheries, restocking of streams with fish, and the woods and fields with game and birds. Prior to the adoption of the Baker dog law (1919) there was less than \$75,000 per annum collected in Virginia through assessments by commissioners of revenue.

Annual survey of game throughout the state shows an increase during recent years, the year 1923 being the banner one. These statistics on amount of game killed and the estimate on the amount of game in the general survey of the state, are procured by game wardens in each locality, and confirmed by huntsmen and land owners. The recreational value to our citizens is untold. This, and the actual value of the game killed, is difficult to estimate in dollars and cents. The survey on the quantity of game is as authentic as it is possible to make it. The U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey accepts it and figures the values, etc.

ARRESTED IN PROBE

Five negroes are in jail and one white man out on \$2,000 bond on charges of connection with a gang believed to have been at the bottom of a series of freight car robberies in the yard of Lynchburg railroads recently.

Stolen goods were found, police officers charged, in the store of Charles P. Dameron. A search warrant was issued and quantities of goods, alleged to have been stolen from freight cars on sidings, there, were seized. Dameron was bailed, and the five negroes from which he said he received the goods were arrested.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Speiden, Miss Virginia Speiden and Miss Nolle Nelson left Tuesday evening to visit relatives in South Carolina.

TEACHERS HEAR MISS L. D. METZ

Manassas Instructor and State President Addresses Gathering at Richmond.

One of the State's greatest needs—ability to make serious-minded citizens realize the cost of ignorance—the waste to the individual, to the State, in having inadequate and poorly equipped schools; poorly paid, undertrained, overburdened teachers and short school terms, was stressed in the annual report of Miss Lulu D. Metz, president of the State Teachers' Association, made at the general meeting held in the auditorium of the John Marshall High School in Richmond. Not the least among other problems which must be faced in the consideration of the price of ignorance, as a hindrance to progress, and as a source of financial and economic loss is the changing of teachers from school to school, said Miss Metz, who added:

"It is estimated that from 4,000 to 5,000 teachers in the State of Virginia change positions every year. That teacher who changes from one school to another every year, or even every two years, cannot do her best work. It takes the greatest part of a session for a conscientious worker to acquaint herself with the community, its problems, its opportunities; she must have time to discover these and to adapt herself thoroughly to the needs of the community in which she serves, if she would do justice to herself and serve the best interests of the State. Besides there cannot be the same incentive for good work nor the same enthusiasm in maintaining the co-operation of parents and patrons, as when she plans to remain and become a real and vital part of the community, a factor in its life."

Is Great Economic Loss. Continuing, Miss Metz' report said: "If we may compare the financial loss alone, with the standard labor turnover, which is estimated as being \$50 per person changing positions, we can get at least a fair estimate of the loss in the teaching profession from the changing of positions. How serious the question really is and how great the loss is a problem to be earnestly considered, and it is not until teachers and school officials realize equally the extent of the loss that a remedy will be found." Miss Metz said the duty of teachers was to bring about an awakening of the conscience of officials and teachers to the true situation as it exists today.

Advocate Uniform Scale. Miss Metz said there should be a uniform salary scale based not upon experience alone, but upon terms of service to the community. Touching on the code of ethics to be acted on before adjournment of the conference, Miss Metz said a strong code of ethics would have a decided tendency towards preventing the constant changing of teachers. She said all teachers would be aided by the development of a pedagogic consciousness, and said not until the teachers become aroused to the importance of professionalizing their work as has the physician, the nurse and the lawyer, will the inherent strength of the teaching profession be understood and recognized.

Factor in Health Work. Miss Metz said she desired every teacher in the State to realize how all-essential a factor she is in, the better-health campaign which is sweeping the State and what efforts will mean to future citizenship. "Such is my faith in the 12,000 and more teachers in the State of Virginia, in whose hands is the task of aiding in the shaping of the destinies of Virginia's thousands of school children, that I believe they need only to recognize the extent of the loss of human life and effort, and they will be ready to take their place in all endeavors which make for better health conditions."

Miss Metz said that reports for 1922-23 show that 77 per cent of all rural teachers in Virginia have first grade certificates or higher.

Quoting Dr. Eugene Lyman Fisk, medical director of the Life Extension Institute, "Intelligent physical training, instruction in personal hygiene, the establishment of high ideals, of physical excellence—these will go far beyond any other laws or forms of cultural influence in placing the nation on a higher moral plane and opening up a vista of true happiness." Miss Metz said it is the truth of Dr. Fisk's words that makes the goal worth striving for, and the duty of

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AUTOMOBILE IS GIFT TO BAPTIST PASTOR

Rev. J. Murray Taylor Receives Ford Touring Car from Manassas Congregation.

A Ford touring car, a gift from the Baptist congregation and friends, was presented to Rev. J. Murray Taylor on Christmas night, when the Sunday School of the Manassas Baptist Church held its annual Christmas entertainment at the church. The address of presentation was made by Hon. C. A. Sinclair, from whose hands the pastor received a tiny counterpart of the gift.

Rev. Mr. Taylor made a brief speech of acceptance, expressing his pleasure and surprise.

The Sunday School gave an attractive program of music and readings, Mrs. Taylor, the pastor's wife, and Mrs. Mary Price Poteet presiding at the organ. Mr. L. Ledman, superintendent of the Sunday School, served as master of ceremonies.

A Christmas tree with bright decorations and the giving of gifts also featured the service.

BILL ASKS PURCHASE OF TOWN OF QUANTICO

Congressman Would Have Government Buy Town for Marines for \$600,000.

The purchase of the town of Quantico for the Marine Corps, at a cost of \$600,000, is proposed by Representative Fred A. Britten, chairman of the House committee on naval affairs. The plan is outlined in Representative Britten's bill for consolidating various naval reservations and marine bases.

Quantico has a civil population of several hundred, all of whom, under the Britten plan, either would be removed from the authority of the state of Virginia if the Federal government purchased the town, or would be forced to move from the premises. The town would come under military rule. Whether the Marine Corps could purchase the town from individual property holders, or whether the authorization of the Virginia legislature would be necessary to bring Quantico under Marine Corps jurisdiction, are questions which the House naval affairs committee will consider in connection with the plan.