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CANADIAN TEMPERANCE LEAFLETS



4-PAGE SERIES.]

[No. 7.]

WHAT WE WASTE IN DRINK.

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Few people stop to consider the enormous waste resulting from the manufacture and consumption of intoxicating liquors in our young country. The process of manufacture takes upon itself the semblance of an industry, and thus deludes people into the belief that there must be some advantage in it both as regards the employment of labor and the purchase of raw material. The process of distribution also maintains the appearance of exchange and business, and in this way cheats the casual observer [into the belief that it possesses the healthy and stimulating virtues of legitimate and profitable trade. The ultimate effects of drink, both in its degradation and destruction of those who use it, and in the resultant cost of pauperism and crime to the community and the state, are largely lost sight of in the multitudinous detail in which they are distributed and observed.

And yet it is true that, in an economical sense, the traffic is utterly devoid of any favorable points, and is from first to last wasteful, destructive and impoverishing. Let us consider it in some of its various aspects.

1. *The Waste of Raw Material involved.*

The grain used in distilling is chiefly corn, with some rye, and weighs 56 lbs. to the bushel. One hundred pounds of barley will make 75 lbs. of malt, and barley is rated at 48 lbs. to the bushel.

The following is a tabular statement, taken from official returns of the grain and other material used in the manu-

facture of spirits and malt liquors taken for consumption in Canada, from 1868 to 1882, inclusive :

Years.	FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF SPIRITS.			FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF BEER.	
	Grain used.	Molasses.	Sugar, &c.	Malt used.	Sugar & other substances.
I	3	4	5	10	11
	Lbs.	Gallons.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
1868	67,685,511	.....	.....	22,681,749	380,787
1869	62,359,505	1,085	.....	21,915,137	174,449
1870	58,901,557	12,364	.....	20,463,338	147,352
1871	86,788,405	23,609	.....	23,707,258	21,654
1872	79,324,558	16,042	2,006,050	26,108,073	285,328
1873	91,452,558	.....	5,502	30,309,789	B'sh corn 349 282,375
1874	87,539,173	4,520	162,398	28,685,003	B'sh corn 343 194,761
1875	90,094,381	8,642	14,992	30,377,039	Corn 12,600 215,004
1876	59,472,129	.....	.....	27,980,256	68,560
1877	68,498,295	.....	.....	27,471,797	.....
1878	67,594,902	.....	.....	25,180,327	89
1879	66,749,856	.....	.....	25,456,803	2,410
1880	53,394,258	8,201	2,413	26,419,244	450
1881	53,667,108	502	9,674	28,395,987	.....
1882	70,402,810	.....	.....	34,775,986	.....
	1,063,925,006	74,965	2,201,029	399,927,788	1,785,819 B'sh corn 692

In the fifteen years included in the above table we have, therefore, used in Canada 18,998,660 bushels of corn and rye; 11,109,105 bushels of barley; 3,986,848 lbs. of sugar, and 74,965 gallons of molasses, or an average per year of 2,007,167 bushels of grain, 265,790 lbs. of sugar, and 4,997 gallons of molasses.

2. *The waste of Wealth involved. Cost for 1883.*

The following table shows the cost to the consumers of liquors, malt and distilled, taken for use in Canada in the calendar year 1883:—

Spirits (Canadian).....	3,766,586 galls. at \$5 00....	\$18,832,930
Spirits (Imported).....	1,004,075 " " 6 00 ...	6,024,450
Beer (Canadian).....	13,178,820 " " 60	7,907,292
Beer (Imported)....	395,352 " " 3 00....	1,186,056
Wines (Imported).....	563,778 " " 5 00....	2,818,890
Total.....	18,908,611 galls.	\$36,769,618

The people of Canada, therefore, consumed in the calendar year of 1883, 18,908,611 gallons of intoxicating liquors, at a total cost of \$36,769,618. The consumption per head was four and one-fifth gallons, and the cost per head a little over eight dollars.

Let us next consider the quantity of intoxicating liquors taken for use in Canada since Confederation, and its cost.

(a) The quantity used in fifteen years.

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY OF LIQUORS USED FOR CONSUMPTION IN CANADA, FROM 1868 TO 1882, INCLUSIVE.

YEAR.	SPIRITS.		BEER.		WINES.
	CANADIAN.	IMPORTED.	CANADIAN.	IMPORTED.	
	Imp. Galls.	Imp. Gal s.	Imp. Galls.	Imp. Galls.	Imp. Galls.
1868	3,203,830	1,290,654	6,194,738	199,704	488,098
1869	2,341,251	848,008	6,336,290	200,926	411,089
1870	3,175,857	941,479	6,075,451	188,024	562,441
1871	3,516,042	1,084,191	7,047,580	254,514	599,741
1872	3,808,292	1,320,915	7,964,441	304,734	780,820
1873	3,732,844	1,375,090	9,217,102	369,393	730,890
1874	4,566,509	1,555,907	8,976,268	415,651	890,922
1875	3,303,302	1,086,643	9,653,525	390,636	473,316
1876	3,441,125	1,251,848	9,319,190	320,234	689,304
1877	2,942,338	921,916	9,115,258	168,852	401,646
1878	3,007,870	826,046	8,578,075	294,651	382,793
1879	3,646,255	923,122	8,848,208	250,889	421,047
1880	2,290,366	636,641	9,201,213	193,266	317,421
1881	3,214,541	801,054	9,931,176	214,887	458,302
1882	3,552,818	891,467	12,036,979	248,491	553,826
	49,743,240	15,754,981	128,495,494	4,014,746	8,162,656

Total.....65,498,221 132,510,240 8,162,656

An average per year of 4,366,548 8,834,016 544,177

Or of all intoxicating liquors, 13,744,741 gallons per year.

COST FOR FIFTEEN YEARS.

Spirits (Canadian)..... 49,743,240 galls. at \$5 00....\$248,716,200

Spirits (Imported)..... 15,754,981 " " 6 00.... 94,529,886

Beer (Canadian).....128,495,494 " " 60.... 77,097,296

Beer (Imported)..... 4,014,746 " " 3 00.... 12,044,238

Wines (Imported)..... 8,162,656 " " 5 00.... 40,813,280

Total for 15 years...206,171,117 galls. \$473,200,900

Average per year... 13,744,741 " 31,546,726

The following is a tabular statement of the duties derived from intoxicating liquors in Canada.

YEAR.	Duty Collected on Spirits Manufactured in Canada.	Duty Collected on Imported Liquors.	Duties in Malt and Malt Liquors, including License Fees.
1868	\$2,309,592	\$1,307,403 73	297,330
1869	1,769,971	970,592 13	274,908
1870	2,400,886	1,099,700 99	261,891
1871	2,658,274	1,257,164 58	301,890
1872	2,879,067	1,580,186 57	330,688
1873	2,820,641	1,582,142 39	368,110
1874	3,498,989	1,922,349 02	366,963
1875	2,972,972	1,629,346 11	365,029
1876	3,097,018	1,895,157 06	334,117
1877	2,648,101	1,356,884 05	388,892
1878	2,707,085	1,244,289 95	529,282
1879	3,295,880	1,395,098 07	450,300
1880	2,290,309	1,444,416 39	260,747
1881	3,228,608	1,656,718 57	295,130
1882	3,552,990	1,661,900 52	385,990
	42,130,423	22,003,350 23	5,211,067

The total duty collected during the fifteen years amounts to \$69,344,840, or a yearly average of \$4,922,989.

One can scarcely grasp the awful significance of the above figures. The immense quantities of grain that have been worse than wasted would have fed millions of people. The cost of liquors for one year exceeds the whole revenue of the Dominion of Canada. The cost per head has been fully twice as much as the total cost per head of all our customs dues since Confederation. The total amount spent in the fifteen years above tabulated, aggregates, without counting interest, nearly \$500,000,000. This would have defrayed all our cost of government, built our railways and left us without a shadow of a national debt. To all this we must add the incalculable cost of citizens slain, labour destroyed, pauperism borne and crime watched, restrained and punished. The wonder is, that, with such terrible waste, our country enjoys any prosperity. If this waste could be made to cease, Canada, in ten years, would not know herself, so prosperous and wealthy would she have grown. Surely it is the part of all good citizens to see to it that such a frightful source of waste and destruction is dried up. Prohibition is the only effectual cure.

Entered according to Act of Parliament of Canada, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, by GEORGE E. FOSTER, in the Office of the Minister of Agriculture.