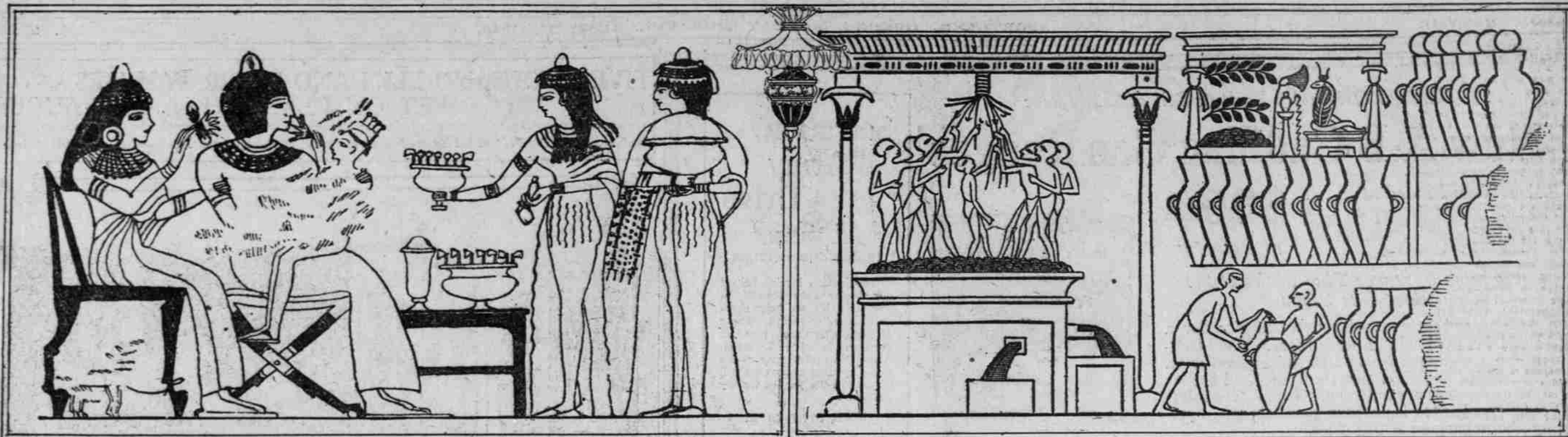


STORY OF ALCOHOL--WHAT IT IS, HOW IT HAS SPREAD

How It Has Been Fought and Fostered



Picture taken from an ancient tomb, showing an Egyptian wine press of 3400 years ago, when the grapes were heaped in a box and the juice trodden out by men in bare feet, a process employed in parts of southern Europe to this day.

Wine drinking in Egypt more than 3000 years ago, showing the head of the house, his wife, child and servants gathered about the flower-decked bowls.

FIRST INSTALLMENT.

(Copyright, 1919.)

IN a good many ways the approach of the days when prohibition is to be enforced throughout the United States is one of the epochal events of history. Other things than alcohol have been put under the ban of law—gambling, slavery and numerous others that have seemed harmful to the progress of mankind. But none of these have been so universal as alcohol nor has any one of them been traced so far back into the dimmest periods of human history. So it seems now the timeliest of timely subjects for illustration and dissertation. Everyone is familiar with the war that has been waged against alcohol in this country and with the details of the victory that has been won over it. Now that little over a week remains during which intoxicating liquors may be sold, it will be worth while to glance at its history and, as we come nearer our own time, to notice the gathering strength of the prohibition movement and its most notable manifestations.

First of all, what is alcohol? It is a colorless liquid that can be manufactured from practically any starchy or sugar-containing material. Although the possible materials are practically numberless, only a few are of great importance to the liquor traffic of today. These are cereals and potatoes among the starchy plants, and grapes, sugar-cane and cane molasses among those rich in sugar.

Beer Known to Egyptians.

When was alcohol first used as a drink? That is one of the questions that can never be answered. The picture reproduced on this page of "Wine Drinking in Egypt More than 3000 Years Ago" is one of the earliest that we possess of a drinking scene. It shows an ancient Egyptian with his wife, child and servants. The child is holding up a lotus flower for his father to smell and an attendant is inviting him to drink from a bowl of wine. The little lines projecting from the bowl and topped with circles represent flowers which the Egyptians were fond of using in their wine bowls because of their fragrance and decorative effect.

This picture of more than 30 centuries ago seems far enough removed from us in time, but authorities upon the curious life of that earliest period of a high civilization say that the Egyptians had at least four kinds of wine 6000 years ago. But the ancient Egyptians were not restricted to wine. They knew how to make beer more than 6000 years ago. This was brewed from red barley and there were two kinds. One was very strong in alcohol and the other was apparently only slightly alcoholic, perhaps a forerunner of the beer that some of the brewers of today are talking about making after July 1.

Although the Egyptian civilization is the oldest of which we have knowledge, it is not certain that they were the first to experiment with intoxicating liquors. In Egypt, Greece and Rome alcohol has been known for so long a period that the people ascribed the invention of it to their gods. And it has been inferred that the prehistoric people who had reached a partially civilized development in Switzerland perhaps 7000 years ago may have known the taste of wine, for grape seeds have been found in the remains of their ruined houses.

Egyptian Wine Press in Use 3400 Years Ago.

NUMEROUS other pictures of Egyptian drinking scenes and vineyards could be reproduced here to show how general was the practice of wine-drinking many thousands of years ago. But perhaps the most interesting of all these drawings of bygone days is the accompanying one of an Egyptian wine press, which shows how the grape juice was secured. This is not, as Egyptian pictures go, a very old one, for it represents a scene at the period of the New Empire, which was inaugurated about 1400 years ago.

This Egyptian wine press is a very primitive affair, but in Southern Europe today it is possible to find specimens that differ very slightly from it. The grapes were heaped into a box and the juice was trodden out by men who stepped on them with naked feet. The picture shows very realistically how the wine ran out into vats below. At the right are shown the big jars ranged in rows after being filled and a man filling one from a vat.

Cabaret Patterned After Ancients.

From pictures and ancient parchments it is possible to discover a good deal about Egyptian drinking parties. They seem to have anticipated the cabaret, which, several thousand years later, became regarded as an innovation on Broadway. At least it was apparently the accepted thing to have music played and to look on at dancing while eating and drinking. Alcohol had the same effect centuries ago that it has today. The guests chatted, relished drinking songs and are merry and light-hearted. But then they drank too much. According to one contemporary, "the banquet is disordered by drunkenness." One ex-



Noah in his vineyard, from E. Boyd Smith's drawing, "After They Came Out of the Ark," used by permission of G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. The first mention of wine in the Old Testament makes Noah the planter of the first vineyard.



"The Spies Bringing Grapes From the Promised Land," from the drawing by Gustave Doré. When the wanderers in the wilderness were nearing a close, Moses sent 12 men out to explore the land they were approaching. Two of them are shown returning, bearing between them a gigantic cluster of grapes.



An Assyrian drinking scene from an ancient drawing, representing guests at a feast marching up to a large vessel to fill their cups. The last man in line carries a skin, an evidence of the primitive ways from which that vessel and just emerged.

remely realistic picture upon a tomb depicts a lady of apparently high birth and standing, who is grievously ill from her potations.

Nor was the morning after any pleasant in ancient Egypt than it has been in other times and lands. Americans who wake up with a "hangover" have been accustomed to find solace in ice water. The Egyptian hard drinkers of centuries ago found cabbage the best remedy.

Parallel Found in Greek Writings.

A Greek writer has preserved two ancient sayings which have been translated into English:

Wife, quick! cabbage boil, of virtuous habit. That I may rid me of this seedy feeling!

Last evening you were drinking deep. So now your head aches. Go to sleep! Take some boiled cabbage when you awake. And there's an end of your headache!

It is possible to find a parallel to almost everything in modern life in the Egypt of centuries ago. Thus we find the words of a teacher addressed to an erring youth: "Drink not beer to excess! The words that come out of thy mouth thou canst not recall. Thou dost fall and break thy limbs, and thy no reaches out a hand to thee. Thy com-

rades go on drinking; they stand up and say: 'Away with this fellow who is drunk!' If anyone should then seek thee to ask counsel of thee, thou wouldst be found lying in the dust like a little child."

Babylon and Assyria Have Drinking Codes.

FAVORABLE geographic conditions made Egypt the seat of the first great civilization, and the same cause was responsible for the rise of Babylon and Assyria. And like the ancient Egyptians, the Babylonians and Assyrians experimented with alcohol. One of the pictures reproduced here, entitled "An Assyrian Drinking Scene," shows three guests at an Assyrian feast marching up to a large vessel to fill their wine cups. The man coming last in the line carries a skin, an evidence presumably not of greater thirst, but of the primitive ways from which the Assyrians had recently emerged. There are numerous ancient drawings of this character, and in many of them the cups are so ornate in design and so varied in form that

they prove a high degree of artistic skill.

Several inscriptions have also been found in the ruins of Nineveh that give lists of wines in vogue among the Assyrians. One of these has a list of ten different wines that were supplied for the royal table of Assur-banipal. Other lists give an even greater variety.

Spirits Distilled From Dates.

The Assyrians evidently knew a great deal about alcohol. Not only did they make wine from grapes, but they also distilled spirits from dates and from the sap of the palm-oil tree. According to one authority, the Babylonians had advanced so far in civilization, or perhaps one should term it decadence, that they had a mixed drink that seems to have rivaled the modern absinthe in its capacity to undermine the constitution of the drinker.

"It obstructs the heart, blinds the eyes and emaciates the body," says this contemporary treatise. Three of the ingredients are mentioned—whey of milk, a rare kind of salt, and bread so old that it was not edible. The widespread prevalence of the liquor traffic in ancient times is strikingly emphasized by a huge inscribed monument in the kingdom of Elam, an ancient state so powerful that it won

back its independence after being conquered by the Babylonians.

Here, among many laws of the 23d century, B. C., several centuries before Moses gave his code to his people, is one that reads: "If riotous persons assemble in the house of a wine merchant and those riotous persons shall seize not and drives to the palace, that wine merchant shall be put to death."

More than 4000 years ago alcohol was giving trouble to the authorities. The inscription gives us the curious information that the wine merchant of that time was usually a woman. There must have been many scenes of revelry and dissipation in Elam, the capital ancient Elam, to cause so drastic a penalty to be exacted for merely countenancing disorder. It seems a safe inference that the gilded youth of Elam was very much given to indulging too recklessly in drinking and that their unseemly behavior had become a scandal in the eyes of those intrusted to preserve law and order.

Noah Plants First Vineyard and Drinks Too Deeply.

THE FIRST mention of wine in the Old Testament makes Noah the first to plant a vineyard and the first to yield to temptation to drink too deeply of the fermented grape juice. There are no contemporary pictures such as those discovered of Egyptian and Assyrian drinking parties, so, for the purposes of illustration, it is necessary to reproduce the accompanying insignificant ancient painting, entitled "Noah in His Vineyard," found in a book for children.

There is nothing in the book of Genesis to indicate that an overindulgence in alcohol was one of the sins that brought about the deluge. There is no description of wine or vineyards in the brief account that is given of the ten generations between Adam and Noah. Evil was widespread, but what it was is not divulged.

In the sixth chapter of Genesis, it is stated that "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Later in the same chapter it is said that "God looked upon the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth."

Noah Plants Vines at Age of 900.

Consequently, as far as we can learn from the Biblical story, Noah was the first known man to plant a vineyard. This was after he had passed his 900th birthday, for "Noah was 600 years old when the flood of water was upon the earth." After the water had subsided and after Noah had made his covenant with God, it is recorded that he "begat to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard." From the grapes that he raised he made wine and drank of it and "he was drunken." His sons

beheld his disgrace and because Ham mocked his father, his son Canaan was cursed by Noah.

In connection with Noah's planting of the vine, it is interesting to notice a Mohammedan tradition. This ascribes the planting of Ham and states that Satan, who was present at the time, watered the ground with the blood of a peacock, sprinkled the leaves with the blood of an ape, drenched the grapes with the blood of a lion, and, when they were ripe, poured upon them the blood of a swine.

Intoxication Stages Described.

What happened in consequence is thus described by the framers of this tradition: "The first glass of wine makes a man animated, his vivacity great, his colors heightened. In this condition he is like the peacock. When the fumes of the liquor rise into his head, he is gay, leaps and gambols as an ape. Drunkenness takes possession of him, he is like a furious lion. When it is at its height, he is like the swine; he falls and grovels on the ground, stretches himself out, and goes to sleep."

Noah's overindulgence apparently did not harm him greatly, for after it he lived for more than three centuries, as he died at the ripe age of 950 years.

Hebrew Spies Bring Clusters of Grapes to Moses.

AFTER the deluge and Noah's planting of a vineyard referred to in the Old Testament that it is evident that alcohol became popular with the peoples of that bygone age. Lot drank himself into a sudden state; Isaac drank wine with the savory meat that Jacob brought him. But perhaps the most dramatic mention of the grape is that found in the Book of Numbers, when the period of the wandering through the desert was drawing to a close.

Moses sent twelve spies ahead to find out the kind of land it was that they were nearing. They wandered widely and that which most appealed to them was the great size of the grape clusters that they found. They cut off one of the branches and two of the men bore it between them. And they named the place Eschol, which means a "cluster of grapes."

Fruits Show Fertility of Soil.

After 40 days of exploring, the spies came back to Moses, bringing with them the grapes and pomegranates and figs that they had gathered, so that all who looked upon them knew how fertile was the land ahead.

Several Hebrew words are translated as "wine" in the English version of the Old Testament and there have been various interpretations placed upon them. In many cases it is probable that the "wine" was not intoxicating more.

and was what we know as unfermented grape juice. The most common of these Hebrew words is "yayin," which is found nearly 150 times in the Old Testament. It was "yayin" that Noah drank, and as it is explicitly stated that it made the builder of the Ark drunken, it is evident that "yayin" was intoxicating. Lot also drank "yayin." The famous verses in Proverbs say: "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth its color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."

Here, too, the Hebrew word is "yayin." But it was also "yayin" that Jacob drank, and Melchizedek gave bread and "yayin" to Abraham.

Biblical Writers Refer to Drink. Sometimes the Old Testament writers speak of another intoxicating liquor that is translated as strong drink. "This is always the same word in the Hebrew, and it is apparently something quite different from 'yayin.' Commentators have differed as to the exact meaning of the word and it has been inferred that it may have been a wine made from dates, or from pomegranates, or that it was a beer made from barley.

Of the other Hebrew words besides "yayin" that have been translated as wine, the most common is "tirosh." This occurs 38 times. "Tirosh" apparently means wine that is new, and it has been reasonably inferred that it was what we call grape juice.

WOMEN PREPARE PAGEANT

Hood River to Hold Big Celebration on July 4.

HOOD RIVER, Or., June 21.—(Special.)—As a feature of the Fourth of July celebration, to be held here this year under the auspices of the Commercial club, the Women's club is preparing for the presentation of a patriotic pageant on the lawn surrounding the county library. All valley civic organizations and fraternal bodies are co-operating with the club to make the Fourth one of the most successful ever held in the city.

Funds raised at concessions will be devoted to the equipping of a free automobile park and a booth will be provided for sales of tags for raising a fund with which a memorial park, dedicated to veterans of the great war, will be beautified.

Price of Cigars Increases.

LONDON.—Londoners are facing the unenviable prospect of further increases in the cost of their cigars, owing to the large number of cigarmakers who have recently left the country, trade authorities say. This scarcity of labor has been followed by increased demands from those who have remained, while "increased cost of materials" is also given as an added cause for the advance. Cigars which before the war could be bought for \$7.50 a hundred will now command \$15.00, while the most expensive brands will cost even more.