

## TWO FAST MEN

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Dillon Field House in search of Gil Dodds. He was getting his rub-down when I presented a letter of introduction from W. Roy Breg, Allied Youth Executive Secretary. I congratulated Gil on his great race. He introduced me to his coach, Jack Ryder.

In the half hour's visit I had with Gil Dodds, I had an opportunity to get his views on several subjects. He neither smokes nor drinks. He said, "To me it is the easiest thing in the world to be an athlete yet a Christian. If you have high ideals and great ambitions as an athlete you will remember at all times that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, therefore treating it as such. All great athletes know that loose living and success do not go hand in hand. The use of intoxicants is injurious to all youth, not athletes alone. The satisfactions are not worth the cost."

The next week, Gil told a reporter that he was determined to run the fastest mile of his career in the Harvard race. While he was running he was thinking about his three preaching engagements the next day in Worcester, Massachusetts. "I preached my first outdoor sermon on Worcester's Common, and also spoke at meetings in two churches," he said. "You have no idea of the thrill I got out of speaking for the first time at an outdoor meeting and reaching the types of souls one would never reach in a church."

I was anxious to get a statement from Hagg about his attitude toward beverage alcohol. Gil Dodds graciously agreed to ask him for me. We went to Hagg's dressing room and found him surrounded by autograph seekers. Gil pushed his way up to Gunder and asked him to go outside to talk to him for a moment. Hagg responded promptly, apparently glad to be relieved of giving autographs for awhile.

In my presence, Gil asked Hagg through an interpreter if he would make a statement for young people regarding beverage alcohol. Gunder replied that it would be a pleasure to do so. He made the following statement: "I do not smoke or drink. I don't believe in alcoholic beverages. They have no place in athletics."

Thus two champion athletes speaking different languages unite in condemning beverage alcohol. Millions of other young people, who while not athletes desire to live at their best and achieve the maximum of efficiency, have likewise found that alcohol-free living brings no regrets and offers the best chance for achievement.

Hagg  
and  
Dodds  
at  
rest



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ings will be made available to Allied Youth and to all others who are interested. Leading scientists, expert in some phase of the alcohol problem, will be available through Yale for large conventions and gatherings of people. A new textbook is being planned by Dr. Jellinek and two members of the student body. Important research projects are in prospect. Very soon this School will enter upon sociological studies because the Directors feel that for the present enough has been done in the physiological side of the alcohol problem.

Allied Youth has benefited greatly from this unusual opportunity and will continue to do so.

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of developing clinics and hospital facilities, training social workers, doctors, teachers and ministers, so that the afflicted and their families will know the resources which will bring help and cure.

Tuberculosis affects about three persons in every thousand. Social disease affects about five persons in every thousand. Although we have never developed the accurate kind of statistics that would be part of a treatment program, it is estimated in responsible places that alcoholism affects from seven to nine persons in every thousand of the population.

Alcoholism is our greatest single public health problem that is not receiving systematic consideration. Prevention and treatment are two edges of the same sword. As citizens, in our civic activities, we must awaken the community to using both sides of the weapon with which we fight for a happy and healthy world.

**A**N EARLY summer report by the National Safety Council named the motor vehicle as still the greatest killer of American men, women and children.

Even with the decline in vacation traffic, the fatality rate has stayed high.

The Council's virtually complete figures for the early months of the year complete a tally of 40,000 traffic deaths since Pearl Harbor. The fatalities chargeable to motor vehicles exceeded in that period the death toll in U. S. forces in the war. While war wounded and missing (not including prisoners) totaled 70,689 in this same period, 1,400,000 had been injured in automobile accidents, and one in every fourteen of these was permanently disabled. The toll of essential war industry personnel has been heavy.

A number of test figures show that the ratio of liquor-caused accidents to the total is steadily rising. With sober, self-controlled drivers exerting more care, and maintaining slower (patriotic) speed, the drink-influenced motorist and pedestrian are proportionately more frequent in the highway casualty lists.

The so-called moderate driver at the wheel—who really believes he is driving carefully, because that's the way alcohol works—is apt to be a necessary war worker "letting down" in a particularly injurious way. His victims may also be men and women vitally needed in winning the war. Never was it more essential than now to reiterate that science, statistics, and common sense alike agree:

"If you're driving, don't drink. If you're drinking, don't drive."