The Social History of Alcohol and Drugs

an interdisciplinary journal

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The International Conference on Drugs and Alcohol in History at Huron University College, London, Ontario

Contents

Editor’s Note 10

Essays
The Evolution of U.S. Temperance Movements Since Repeal: A Comparison of Two Campaigns to Control Alcoholic Beverage Marketing, 1950s and 1980s
Pamela Pennock 14

Opiate Addiction and the Entanglements of Imperialism and Patriarchy in Manchukuo, 1932-45
Norman Smith 66

ADHS Forum
Mr. ATOD’s Wild Ride: What Do Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Have in Common?
David T. Courtwright 105
Response to the Keynote Address
Transubstantiations of the Mystery: Two Remarks on the Shifts in the Knowledge about Addiction
Hasso Spode 125

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs:
A Response to David Courtwright
Ian Tyrrell 129

Morality, Society and the Science of Intoxication: A Response to David Courtwright’s “Mr. ATOD’s Wild Ride: What Do Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Have in Common?”
Jim Mills 133

Addiction Science, History, and the ATOD Paradigm: A Reply to Hasso Spode, Ian Tyrrell, and James Mills
David T. Courtwright 138

Review Essay
The Last Modernist: Hunter S. Thompson and The White Logic
John W. Crowley 141

Book Reviews
Corey E. Andrews 154

Erika Dyck 156
Joyce A. Madancy  158

Jon Miller  161

Kim Munholland  164

Knut Oyangen  166

Lee S. Polansky  167

Marty Roth  169
Editor’s Note

Welcome to the redesigned Social History of Alcohol and Drugs: An interdisciplinary journal (SHAD). As mentioned by David Fahey in the last two volumes of the SHAD, in the summer of 2004 the Alcohol and Temperance History Group (ATHG) broadened its focus to recognize formally the addition of drugs in its field of interest and changed its name to the Alcohol and Drug History Society (ADHS).

Along with a name change, we are standardizing our release dates and creating two issues per year. These changes will help us present more of the excellent scholarship that we have been privileged to provide to our readers. The first issue of each volume will appear in Autumn, and the second in Spring.

At present, the SHAD will continue to be available without restriction on line. Eventually, members of the ADHS will have access to these issues on-line concurrent with their publication and access to the articles will be unrestricted after one year. We hope that this accessibility of strong scholarly articles on the history of alcohol and drugs will further enhance the scholarly activities in these fields. You can view the articles and other information about the ADHS at http://www.historyofalcoholanddrugs.typepad.com.

Since the impetus for the change began at the International Conference on Drugs and Alcohol in History (ICDAH), held in 2004 at Huron University College, in London, Ontario, Canada, it seems fitting that this issue contains articles originally presented at that conference. Greg Marquis from the University of New Brunswick in Saint John and I organized the conference. Major financial support came via a “Hannah Development Grant” from Associated Medical Services, Inc., a non-profit Canadian foundation which
Editor’s Note

provides support for history of medicine research and dissemination, and an “Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences in Canada” grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. We are grateful to both of those bodies for their continued support of research and dissemination of histories of alcohol and drugs. Other articles from this conference will be published in a special issue of the Canadian Bulletin of Medical History (www.cbmh.ca) and in a volume of essays with a publisher yet to be determined, and which will also be supported by funding from Associated Medical Services, Inc.

The papers in this issue demonstrate the strong scholarship in our field. Pamela Pennock’s excellent work on the campaign for restriction of alcohol advertising in the United States during the mid-to-late twentieth century and Norman Smith’s study of the politics and perceptions of opium consumption in Manchukuo China, notably the literature that supported and subverted the policies of the Japanese colonial government, offer interpretations in two understudied areas. We have also included David Courtwright’s keynote address from ICDAH. Since it was a keynote address, we thought it appropriate to present a brief forum of comments on his work. In this issue we have comments from Ian Tyrrell, James Mills, and Hasso Spode, followed by Prof. Courtwright’s response. I hope that further discussion will continue on the ADHS listserv. To subscribe to the ADHS Listserv, send an email to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.MUOHIO.EDU with “sub ADHS [your email address your name]” in the body of the email. Leave the subject line blank.

This issue was produced in a far shorter time than journals traditionally take to turn around, and I must offer my thanks to a number of people for making it happen. Thanks, then to Jon Miller for patient work in the nuts and bolts of the SHAD production, to Hazelden Publications for agreeing to continue to publish the SHAD free of charge, to the article reviewers who read and offered substantial comments on papers in a very short time, to Greg Marquis for his work organizing the ICDAH and helping to liaise with authors, and to the rest of the editorial group for their ongoing sup-
port and input. Notably, Elaine Parsons has taken over the role of book reviews editor with gusto, and the results may be found in the pages that follow. We should also acknowledge the support of the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences at Brock University, for supplying administrative support. Beverley Boudreau designed the new cover for the journal.

A note on citation styles

The \textit{SHAD} is an interdisciplinary journal, and therefore we felt it appropriate to accept two reference styles. We permit authors to use either endnote style (preferred in many of the humanities disciplines) or in-text reference style (preferred in many social sciences and sciences). Both of these should follow the guidelines provided by the most recent edition of \textit{The Chicago Manual of Style}.

\textbf{ADHS Membership and new payment methods}

ADHS Secretary-Treasurer Scott Martin has been working to update the old ATHG membership list to make sure that we have a solid list of up-to-date members. Memberships may be renewed easily on-line through the ADHS website. Clicking on one of the payment links on the left-hand sidebar will direct the viewer to the “Paypal” site, at which credit card payments may be made. Alternatively, you may still renew memberships the traditional way, by following the instructions at the back of this issue.

Website traffic

As of November, 2005, the Alcohol and Drugs History Society website has received over 100,000 “hits” and over 2000 postings of items of interest on alcohol, drugs, tobacco and so on, from around the world. If you have not had a chance to scroll through the information on this site, I highly recommend it. Thanks to our webmaster, Matt McKean, for his work maintaining this site.
“What’s New” information

It has been the tradition of this journal to publish information such as conferences, upcoming special issues of journals, and so on. Since the internet provides much more timely access to this type of information, we will not be including as much of this type of information in the journal. We will periodically include references to new sources, especially libraries and archives, but we believe that the ADHS website and listserv are more properly the forums for such information, and we encourage readers to access these sources frequently.

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