

# THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of The Temperance Reform.

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[We carried prohibition in Maine by sowing the land knee-deep with literature.—NEAL DOW.]

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## ... ADDRESS ...

### Of the Dominion Alliance for the Suppression of the Liquor Traffic.

TORONTO, May, 1896.

*Electors of Canada:—*

You are earnestly urged to take advantage of the opportunity now offering itself, in a general Dominion election, to secure a parliament pledged to prohibit the traffic in intoxicating beverages.

The judgment of the Privy Council just rendered, having in effect re-affirmed the position that the Dominion Parliament alone can pass a law for the total prohibition of the liquor traffic, emphasizes the necessity of electing sound prohibitionists to the House of Commons.

The majority Report of the Royal Commission, presented to the late Parliament, estimates that the cost of the intoxicating liquor annually consumed in Canada, at average retail prices, would amount to \$39,879,854, and the amount paid therefor by the consumers is "considerably in excess of that amount."

This appalling outlay is, however, only a fraction of the evil with which the liquor traffic is burdening our country. It lays upon our citizens a fearful load of suffering, poverty, disease, mortality and crime. It is an aggressive, debauching, and dangerous influence in political affairs.

The overwhelming majorities in favor of prohibition in the plebiscites taken in Ontario, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and the prohibition memorial unanimously adopted in the New Brunswick Legislature, clearly demonstrate that the electorate of Canada desire immediate legislation against this giant evil.

This is the most important political question before the country to-day. Earnestly we appeal to you not to allow it to be side-tracked by others, or ignored by the candidates for your suffrages.

The platform adopted at the Montreal Convention in 1894 details a plan which, if fairly carried out, will compel recognition of the prohibition reform, and secure the return of a Parliament pledged to put that reform into practical operation.

Our friends are therefore recommended everywhere to take an active part in political organization and work, doing all that is possible to secure the nomination and election of representatives who are known and avowed Prohibitionists, and who will loyally support prohibitory legislation regardless of party exigencies.

There is not a moment to lose. We cannot spare the aid and influence of any friend of our cause. Earnestly we appeal to you to act unitedly, fearlessly, determinedly and at once. Do not wait for any one else to begin. Consult known friends of our cause in your locality. Question every candidate who is nominated. Work loyally and earnestly for those who will stand by our cause, and thus aid in securing the speedy triumph of our principles in practical legislation.

By order of the Executive Committee.

**F. S. SPENCE,**  
Secretary.

**JOHN J. MACLAREN,**  
Chairman.

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### SUGGESTED QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES.

1. Are you in favor of the prohibition of the traffic in intoxicating beverages?
2. If elected to the House of Commons, will you do all in your power, in co-operation with the other members of Parliament who favor prohibition, to secure the introduction and enactment of prohibitory legislation at the earliest possible opportunity?

#### PROGRESS.

The annual meeting of the Montreal Citizens' League was held on April 18th, Major E. L. Bond presiding. The report showed a year's good work. Since the organization of this society, the illegal sale of liquor has been sharply looked after, satisfactory progress has also been made in the reduction in the number of licenses, the following being the figures for the license year ending as mentioned:

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| 1890..... | 1,082 |
| 1891..... | 1,074 |
| 1892..... | 995   |
| 1893..... | 938   |
| 1894..... | 955   |
| 1895..... | 911   |
| 1896..... | 870   |

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