

# THE ADVOCATE

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## Comment.

NUMBERS of complaints have come to hand from subscribers to the effect that they do not receive THE ADVOCATE regularly. While sorry of course that there should be cause for such complaints we are pleased when our subscribers take the trouble to advise us. We, therefore, request each and every one of them who fails to receive even a single copy to lose no time in notifying us. If that is done we will not only supply the missing number, but will take such steps as will ensure regular and prompt delivery in the future. Subscribers to a paper who do not advise the publishers of non-receipt are guilty of an injustice both to the paper and to themselves.

It really looks as if some people respect neither Christian precedent nor biblical teaching when they happen to conflict with their own narrow views.

There are dull say the croakers, and both in Toronto and in Hamilton the same paid in to date amount to more than they have done in any previous year.

The next sitting of the Supreme Court will be held on the fourth Tuesday of October, when it is expected judgment will be given in the Prohibition jurisdiction question raised by Sir Oliver Mowat.

ALDERMAN LAMB is of opinion that what bars should be closed at 9 o'clock every night. Alderman Lamb says nothing about the small clubs which now stay open an hour or more after the people's clubs are closed. Alderman Lamb should check the exclusive and well-to-do first. When he has got them to set the example there will be ample time to turn his attention to a business that pays through the nose for every privilege it enjoys and has the target for every so-called social reformer and every crank that wishes to get a vote.

It is interesting to hear from Mr. C. E. Bishop, an English director of the Dominion Brewery, that breweries in Canada are better than those in the States, and that the Dominion has pulled through the usual storm better than any country

in the world. Mr. Bishop, who is a man of extensive experience financially as well as in other ways, further says that he wishes all his interests were as safe as those he has in Canada. Such testimony at such a time is invaluable and should go a long way to restore or strengthen confidence in ourselves.

The Temperance Committee of the Methodist Church of Canada in session at London last week decided to recommend that all Sunday School Superintendents should be non-users of tobacco, and also to recommend the use of unfemented wine. Many good Methodist ministers have been addicted to tobacco—the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon and the late Rev. Morley Puncheon, for instance, and yet nobody ever claimed that their teachings were affected thereby. The use of unfemented wine is simply contrary to the example set in the Scriptures.

Is it a crime for a woman to smoke a cigarette on the street? Is the very grave question that is puzzling the New York people just now. A woman took it into her head to smoke on the street and "one of the finest" ran her in. The justice admonished her and told her to go and sin no more. If men and even boys can smoke with impunity out of doors why not women? In Great Britain and Ireland it is no uncommon thing to see old women sitting in the open air blowing clouds of smoke from their "cutty." It is apparent that the process of levelling up, or grading down, the sexes is not complete in some countries yet.

In Dartmouth, N.S., before a license is granted it is necessary for the applicant to have secured the approval of two-thirds of the electors of his ward. In other words, out of 340 persons if 114 failed to sign the petition 226 would be deprived of their right to taste or handle what their stomach might crave. This is justice with a vengeance. But when the 227 sign the license holder has no sure thing that his business will endure any time. One of the 227 might fail him at the next term, and he would be bankrupted. Dartmouth, N.S., must be a sweet place to live in. We wonder how the tea-drinkers would like the same law applied to them.

One of the last questions put in the Imperial House of Commons prior to its adjournment came from Sir Wilfrid Lawson, who seems to have been scandalized

by the fact that at Halifax the children are taught certain truths about alcohol, and that the lesson is given under the heading "Food and Drink." Sir Wilfrid fears, we suppose, that the children may thus be led to imagine that alcohol is a food. Well, if so, they will not, according to modern notions, be far astray. Recent discoveries have rather upset the ideas formerly entertained on this subject, and teachers cannot be expected to give instructions which they know to be out of date.

The executive committee of the Quebec branch of the Dominion Alliance have by 6 to 4 decided to petition the Government to take a Dominion plebiscite. One speaker said if Mr. Laurier were in power, and he hoped he would soon get there, a plebiscite would be taken forthwith. It is noteworthy that during his present perambulations Mr. Laurier is saying as little about his intentions as regards the trade as possible. If he were in power and went in for free trade or even reciprocity, he would have quite enough to do to make ends meet without cutting off the \$9,000,000 of revenue derived from the duty on liquors. Our Alliance friends would do well to catch their fish before salting them.

A BOSTON, Mass., correspondent states that Erastus Wiman attended a temperance meeting the Sunday before last at which a Mrs. Gougar, who is the plaintiff in a suit for libel against Congressman Morse, made a sensational and blasphemous address. Mr. Wiman appears to be keeping strange company, but then anything that comes under the head of temperance passes muster these days, let it be ever so intemperate. We wonder what the party of the other part would say were an anti-prohibitionist to stand up in a meeting on Sunday and deliver a blasphemous address. We wonder in fact what would be said were the anti-prohibitionists to hold a meeting at all on Sunday!

MR. E. BURNEY YOUNG, the official representative in England of South Australia, says that the cultivation of the vine and the production of good wholesome wines have been marvellous considering that forty years ago the industry was utterly unknown there. Mr. Young asserts that the colonial produce has had to contend with "prejudice," which is probably quite true. We can readi-

ly believe that there are persons who have enjoyed Australian wine under the impression that it was French Burgundy, but had been wine which was produced in France but had been pooh-pooled if they had been aware of its true origin. An encouraging thing for Australian wines is that some of the French medical men residing in France have taken to recommending them to their patients. This should certainly serve as a certificate of merit.

WHILE the autocrat of Pullman does not pay anything like the amount he should for the privilege of selling liquor on his buffet cars, he yet pays \$12,500 in one way and another. It is stated that he sells over a million gallons of wine, whiskey and beer in the year, which nets him upwards of eight hundred thousand dollars. This is a pretty tidy income for a model prohibitionist to make out of intoxicants. But Pullman is not only a prohibitionist and a liquor dealer, he is also a Christian and a robber. On property in the town he built, which is valued at \$15,000,000, he only pays \$15,000 taxes, while his employees pay \$20 on every thousand, or at the rate of \$300,000 for \$15,000,000. Mr. Pullman tries to pose as a philanthropist. One year his net income fell off \$50,000, and he reduced his workmen's wages sufficiently to make that up with \$10,000 added. Mr. Pullman is about as consistent as all his kind.

The Rev. O. S. C. Wallace returned his invitation to the opening of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition because he wished to be at liberty to "condemn" certain features. If Mr. Wallace has such little confidence in himself that he feared his judgment would be warped were he to accept an admission ticket, his consciousness of his own weakness must be remarkably forcible. Still, he ventures to lay down the law and to tell people what they shall and shall not do. If Mr. Wallace had his way every statue would wear pants or ballion skirts, every animal would be completely clothed and every picture that depicted a single portion of the human anatomy would be turned toward the wall. Mr. Wallace manifestly has no regard for the old sayings of "To the pure all things are pure," and "Evil be to him that evil thinks." He would doubtless like to expurgate certain portions of the Bible. Fortunately there is a classic that even he dare not "condemn."

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