

Anti-Scott party went during the day the meeting was to take place, and demanded an hour and a half for Dodds, who he said would be up on the evening train. Mrs. Youmans replied, "Let him come along, and we will give him what time he wants." But no Dodds appeared, and the impression is that it was only a game of bluff on the part of the Antis. On the same day Dodds was announced to speak at a Catholic picnic at Mount St. Louis, but here also he failed. Mr. Ira C. Lee was present and announced himself as "a poor substitute" for Dodds, who was sick. Mr. W. Burgess was on hand to defend the Act; the meeting, however, was not large owing to wet weather. In the evening of the same day a meeting was held at Hillsdale, about four miles from Mount St. Louis, and a special invitation was given to the Antis to speak, but again they did not appear, and Mr. Burgess spoke for an hour and a half to a crowded house. On Friday, the 26th, Mr. Lee held an Anti meeting at Oro, and here Mr. Burgess turned up unexpectedly, and replied to Mr. Lee's speech with characteristic vigor. As the vote takes place on the 9th of October, meetings are being held all over the county and in the Muskoka section, which is attached to Simcoe for electoral purposes. During the present week and next the following speakers will be on the ground in addition to Mrs. Youmans: Revs. John Smith, Toronto; E. W. Sibbald, Christchurch, Belleville; D. L. Brethour, and J. Neil, Halton; T. Earl, Elgin; W. A. McKay, Woodstock; B. B. Keefer, Hamilton, and C. R. Morrow; also W. H. Young, Esq., and Wm. McCraney, M.P. of Halton. The county being a very large one the work is unusually heavy. There are more than 50 townships and about 200 polling stations, but a staff of efficient organizers is engaged under the direction of Mr. W. G. Fee.

PEEL.—The vote on the Act in this county is fixed for the 23rd inst. The friends of the cause are vigorously pushing forward the work, and are confident of success. Some few townships are rather weak, and here the committee is directing special attention. Mr. W. Burgess is in the field here all week. He commenced on Sunday with three sermons in different parts of the county, and on Monday addressed a meeting in the Methodist church, Springfield.

On Tuesday a very large and enthusiastic meeting was held in the Oddfellows Hall, Streetsville. Dr. Oakly presided, who regretted the unavoidable absence of Mr. Wm. Berber to occupy the chair. He pointed out that the Scott Act was similar to the Permissive bill, which had received the support of the British Government. As a medical man he could not say with his present knowledge that alcohol has no place in medicine, but the trouble is that with the system of social drinking the people take too large doses. He showed that alcohol was always a dangerous narcotic poison, hardening the tissues and bringing on all sorts of disorders, and if used at all should be administered with the most careful attention as to quantity. He remarked that about 5,000 Canadians die annually through intemperance, and there are always 5,000 more just behind them to fill up the ranks, and 5,000 more behind them again, and as the average life of a drunkard is about ten years there are about 50,000 persons always in training under the license system for the drunkard's grave.

Mr. Hilts said he had been a temperance man for forty years. He had never heard an argument from Dodds that had not been refuted years ago. The only thing new in Dodds was his bunkum and distorted facts. Mr. Burgess followed with a lengthy address, reviewing the Scott Act and the principles underlying it. Mr. Cunningham, an opponent of the Act, said he had been an abstainer for forty years, and believed that he was indebted to the fact of his being a teetotaler so early to his present position in life as a sober man. But he believed in moral suasion. You could never coerce the people into sobriety. The reduction of the revenue in the old country by five million pounds, referred to by Mr. Burgess, was a result of moral suasion, and proved that legal enactments were not necessary to the sobriety of the people.

Mr. Burgess replied that while they rejoiced in the moral wave that had swept over the United Kingdom reducing the consumption of drink, the fact remained that under the license system the drink bill was still £136,000,000, while the bread bill of that country was only £70,000,000. Moral suasion was necessary, but law should be the expression of the highest moral sentiment of the people, and co-operation with the pulpit, press and platform in producing morality and sobriety.

On a motion by Mr. Graydon votes of thanks were tendered to the chairman and speakers, and the meeting then adjourned.

THE NORTH-WEST.—One of the objects to be accomplished by sending the mounted police into the country eleven years ago was to stamp out the liquor traffic, then considered by the whiskey traders to be a necessity in dealing with the Indians. Success crowned the efforts of the force; but another enemy presented itself in the introduction of the permit system. Granting all the credit due to the promoters of this scheme, it still appears the temperance principles of those in power were very lax. The permit system worked well until those who possessed the prerogative of issuing liquor permits granted them indiscriminately, thus thwarting the efforts of the temperance reformers in the older provinces, who firmly believed that prohibition was the law of the North-West.

The majority of the people in the East to-day hold the opinion that we have prohibition. Emphatically do we assert that there is nothing approaching prohibition. Drunkenness prevails in many sections of the North-West solely through the abuse of the permit system. The North-West Council levied a tax of fifty cents per gallon on liquor brought in through permits, still this did not in the least reduce the amount of liquor brought in. Taxation will not destroy the social customs. Liquor has been sold as high as ten dollars per bottle. Had the authorities granted only "permits for medicinal purposes" there would have been some hope of gaining the end desired; but to add to the unmitigated evil, "permits for domestic purposes" were issued. It is not to be wondered at that the pigmy attempts at prohibition have failed. The Council has pandered too much to the wants of the intemperate in communities. Now we are informed that there has been illicit distillation in the country; and, to mend matters, there is in contemplation the granting of licenses for breweries and the manufacture of beer.

The source of all the trouble lies in the fact that the temperance sentiment of the people have not been strongly enough expressed. There are those whose duty it was to suppress all attempts at breaking the law, who themselves have indulged pretty freely in the use of liquor, and lived in the same house with those whose domestic permits were almost, if not entirely, unlimited. How many members of the North-West Council would vote on temperance? The Council is to blame for ignoring the sentiments of the temperance people and others in the North-West. The temperance people have not been fully alive to the evil. They have jocularly referred to the permit system, and have supposed that it was an unalterable law. Let them now awake to the fact that what little they have had of temperance in the past will soon be taken from them unless they do something in the matter. It is easier to destroy a temperance law than to drive the liquor out. The churches must express their thoughts on the matter through the pulpit, at the polls, and in the form of memorials.

Illicit distilling is better than legalized breweries. Let the temperance reformers in the east help us to obtain prohibition if the permit system must go. It need not go. It is better than the license system. Enforce and maintain the permit system, not by taxation, but by a royal commission for investigation, that it may get to know the reason why permits are granted so loosely by the powers that be.—*Calgary Herald*.

TENNESSEE.—A local option law is working wonders in some counties. A correspondent of the *Nashville Daily American*, writing from Carthage the following significant paragraph:—

Circuit Court presented but a slim showing. There were only eight cases on the criminal docket, and but three of them for trial. Judge McConnell, in his charge to the jury, took occasion to mark the contrast in the docket now and several years ago, when liquor was sold. Then every court presented quite a number of larceny cases and heavy felonies, but now not a single felony on the docket. He spoke highly of the morals of Trousdale county, which he said was a little jewel in that respect.

KANSAS.—The "Prohibition a failure" croakers have been in agony for some time over what they supposed the Republican party in Kansas would do. An army of first-class prophets have been swearing that the Republican party in Kansas would not, this year, endorse Prohibition, because it was becoming unpopular. But it turns out that the State Republican convention not only endorsed Prohibition, but put in a plank demanding the enforcement of their prohibitory laws.

We are glad to see a Republican State convention so much ahead of the National Republican convention. Please excuse us from any third party in Kansas.—*Irrepressible Conflict*.