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Mr. H. D. Smith, barrister, is an applicant for the position of Local Master at Chatham, made vacant by the death of R. O'Harai Archie Campbell and T. L. Pardo have been already beset by a crowd of Chatham lawyers, and no one doubts that a Chatham man will get it, if by any possibility an applicant from outside can be held in check or side-tracked by the party machine of that city. The interest in this appointment will be somewhat less than that which centered in the recently, filled clerkship.

The position of Local Master in Kent has not been a very lucrative one, so far as the receipt of fees goes. But the late Mr. O'Hara had commuted the fees for a salary of \$1,600 a year, and the business of the Local Registrar, which should have fallen to his office, was by degrees transferred to that of the late Mr. Campbell and swelled the income of the Deputy Clerk of the Crown, so that in the last few years that office has yielded to its incumbent a good deal over \$3,000 a year.

At Mr. L. D. Smith, barrister, is an applicant for the position of Local Master at Chatham, made vacant by the death of R. O'Harai Archie Campbell and T. L. Pardo have been already been already beset by a crowd of Chatham lawyers, and no one doubts that a Chatham lawyers, and no one doubts that a Chatham man will get it, if by any possibility an applicant from outside can be held in check or side tracked by the party machine of that city. The interest in this appointment will be somewhat less than that which centered in the recently, filled clerkship.

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have made the fees more commensur-ate with the sajary. By statute up-on the death of the local master, the offices of local master and deputy cierk of the rown are consolidated. To secure this consolidation, the government, anticipating the death of Mr. O'Hara, when appointing Mr. Holmes clerk of the county court and regisclerk of the county court and regis-trar of the surrogate court, also made him deputy clerk of the crown. This leaves the work of the local mas-ter temporari'v in the hands of the two county judges. Some of the Chatham lawyers want to get rid of J. B. Rankin as a practitioner, and so have proposed that he perform the du-ties of local master in addition to those of draipage referee. It has also those of local master in addition to those of drainage referee. It has also been said that Judge Bell would like to be made local master. But this suggestion does not seem to meet with favor in the legal profession. His Honor's income now amounts te nearly \$4,000 a year, and as only two or three lawsers in Chatham would profit by lawyers in Chatham would profit by Mr. Rankin's disability to practice law, neither the Chatham bar nor the East Kent bar favor the judge getting

this further office. Among the Chatham men after the posi-tion, we believe Mr. Edwin Bell as worthy as any. No one can doubt his fitness, as he is unquestionably one of the best office men in the city. But in view of numerous appointments that have been made of Chatham men, we think it would be quite out of place for a Chatham man to press his claim, when anyone outside of the city is available, and is willing to undertake the duties of office

A competent special examiner in the high court is needed in Kent, and the person ap-pointed to this office should be made special examiner The two combined would bring the holder of the position an income of \$600 or \$700 a year and he could practice law at the same time. In St. Thomas the local master is in this position.

We are of the opinion that this office can be filled by an East Kent man, and have no nesitation is saying that H. D. Smith has considerable title to recognition as a claim-ant of the office. His fitness as a lawyer is indoubted and so far as his politics are concerned, he has been a prominent figure in active politics from boyhood, and is always in demand on the platform as one of the ablest champions of Liberal principles in

Pill Sense. -It stands to reason that Agnew's Little Liver Pills will crowd ut of the market many of the nauseous old-timers. A better medicine at less than half the price is all the argument needed to keep the demand what it has been—phenomenal—40 doses to cents. They cure Sick Headache, Biliousness, and allay all stomach irritations. -5

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Vote for Prohibition.

Mr. Wells Declares fir. Parrott Has No Right to Count Against It-A Convincing Letter.

To The Chatham Daily Planet:-The ssue of your paper for September 10th contains a report of an interview with Mr. E. E. Parrott, President of the County Temperance Association, in which he is reported to have said that the result of the prohibition plebis-cite was virtually an expression from seventy-eight per cent. of the electors to the effect that they did not want prohibition.

Mr. Parrott has perfect liberty to decide for himself whether he shall consider prohibition warranted by the number of votes cast in its favor or not, but prohibitionists should not leave him free to make unchallenged statements which are inaccurate and statements which are inaccurate and misleading, more especially as his connection with the prohibition movement gives to his opinions a significance which would not otherwise attach to them.

If Mr. Parrott knows anything about elections he must know that the total number of votes on the lists are

never available at any given time. The lists always contain a certain number of names of persons who have died or moved during the period which has intervened between the preparation of the lists and polling day, as well as the names of many persons employed on railroads and as travellers, and at other occupations which do not permit them to return home at pleasure At the time of the plebiscite I can-vassed and acted as scrutineer in a polling sub-division where the voters' 1st contained something over one hundred and ten names. Of this number there were not more than eighty available votes. That is, there were not more than eighty persons who could have voted had they desired to do so. One man whose name was on the list was confined in the Central Prison and could not get out for the occasion. Others were employed on the sailroad and could not be home during voting hours. Then there were men whom I personally knew to be total abstainers and they assured me that they had a desire to see prohibition put into operation, but they had no faith In the government, and LECLINED TO WASTE TIME

over the matter. When Mr. Parrott over the matter. When Mr. Parrott says the vote was virtually an expression from seventy-eight per cent. of the people that they did not want-prohibition, he takes a round-about way of saying that all persons in the classes to which I have referred were opposed to prohibition. Such a statement is simply not true. Moreover, what right has Mr. Parrott to assume that the people who did not vote were unfavorable to prohibition? He says that seventy-eight per cent. of the electors either voted against prohibition or did not vote at all, and that electors either voted against prohibition or did not vote at all, and that
therefore they virtually declared
against prohibition. Why does he not
rather say that less than twenty-two
per cent. of the electors (I take his
own figures) voted for a continuance
of the present system, and hence that
more than seventy-eight per cent. of
the people, by refusing to support the
present order of things, declared for a change? Is not the logic as good one way as the other? And if not, why not?

Then has not the good Sir Wilfrid Laur, er, who always keeps his promises and never tells lies, said that the people of Quebec are as temperate as Dominion t and ha she not shown, and do we not know as a matter of fact that local option is in force over a considerable portion of the Province of Quebec? Now, how can it be said that people who are satisfied with lo-cal option are opposed to prohibition? They cannot get anything to drink in any case. Why then should they care as to the form of the law? When as to the form of the law? When these people, already under prohibition, and still apparently will to stay under prohibition, vote with substantial unanimity against the question put to them at the polls when the plebiseite was taken, does it not look as if there might be some truth in the as if there might be some truth in the statement that the people of Quebec were not voting against prohibition but to pease the Laurier government.

IF A MAJORITY of the votes registered on the lists are required in order to carry an elec-tion, why does not Mr. Parrott have another interview with your reporter and suggest that Mr. Laurier's party climb down from powert for the Lib-erals fall short of having such a majority by nearly a quarter of a mil-lion votes. Under the circumstances I should be very greatly obliged if Mr. Parrott would exp a n why prohibition is defeated while Liberals are elected. Mr. Parrott is reported to have pro-ceeded to say that he thought a well enforced license law ifar better than a prohibitory law. If he knows where there is a well enforced license law he will confer a great favor on the community by conveying the informa-tion to Hon G. W. Ross and his associates, for they appear not to have learned ho to enforce the law here. Mr. Parrott evidently thinks the way to lessen the drink evil cosists in li-censing certain individuals to manufacture and place in stock all over the land large quantities of liquor, and then sending detectives sneaking anound to see that it is only sold at such times as the Ontario government. prscribes. Common sense and experi-ience unite to prove that it is much more easy to prevent a man from re-ceiving and carrying alcoholic bever-ages in stock than it is having given him the right to store them, to regu-

late their sale. I am not a Conservative and I have I am not a Conservative and I have no interest in criticising the Laurier administration, but when for the sake of he ping a political party a pro-fessed prohibitionist goes about fight-ag against prohibition and trying to persuade people that they have noth-ing better to hope for than our rotten liceose system, it is time to call a halt.

The Ridgeiown Phaindealer Has Of the Electorate Who did not Fall Trade = 1900 = Fall Goods

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> CHARLES BELLEMY. W. F. BELLEMY.

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sonally cases where pros and intis paired off so as to save themselves the trouble of going to the polls. Yet Mr. Parrott counts them all against prohibition because they did not vote. But this great family journal cannot take him seriously. His arguments throughout appear to be those of a weak prohibitionist who, ashamed of the course he is following, is willight to say or do anything that will equies that course in the eyes of the plic. But as far as we can see, if Mr. Parrott wishes to set himself right, the simplest way would be for hearing those public offices in prohibition ranks and also in chure ficircles, the retention of which may possibly bition ranks and also in church circles, the retention of which may possibly lead others astray. We imagine that parents would hardly like their children to pattern their conduct on such public matters as prohibition after that of Mr. Parrott. Under these circumstances and as he must know the way resole talk it would it seems to cumstances and as he must know the way people talk, it would, it seems to us, be better for Mr. Parrott to retire from public life. With no public offices, such as president of a temperance society, Sunday school superintendent, etc., to hamper him, he would have the absolute right to be his own master, and he could then yell all be liked for David A. Gordon and free whiskey or no whiskey at all, and no man would have a right to question his reasons.

But when the President of the Prohibition Society says the government

should continue to be a partner in the sale of liquors his position lends importance to a contention that pro-hibitionists at large are not pre-pared to accept. But as a private pared to accept. But as a private citizen Mr. Parrott can think and say what he pleases without carrying en-ough importance in the public mind to make him worth considering. In the meantime as Mr. Parrott, holding the extraordinary views he does for a prohibitionist, still clings to for a prohibitionist, still clings to his offices we think he owes Mr Wells and the public some defence of his course. For this purpose the Planet's columns are fully at his disposal.—Ed. Planet.

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