

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., SEPT. 23, 1898.

The Prohibition Pledgists.

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Probably never before have the people of this country been called upon to answer with their vote a question of such transcending importance as this which is now before them. An opportunity is now afforded as of doing a sterling service not only to Canada but to the world at large. The eyes of the nations are upon us and the cause of sobriety wherever found will feel the effect of our decision. The fact that a favorable vote on the 29th may possibly not mean the immediate enactment of prohibition does not detract from the importance of the issue to any great extent. The moral or immoral result of the vote will be felt no matter what the ultimate outcome may be.

It is certainly to be hoped that the people of this country will appreciate the immense importance of the matter. In political contests the complaint is seldom made that we as a people are not enthusiastic enough. Let it not be said of us, then, that we are more moved by the claims of party than of principle.

One important difference between this vote on prohibition and the ordinary political vote is to be noted. In the latter as a general thing one vote taken individually has little effect on the result. If the candidate of your choice is elected by a round majority or defeated by a large minority your vote taken by itself counts for naught. But in this fight every vote tells. No one can say that his vote is of no importance. Everyone who votes for prohibition or who influences a vote in favor of it may see the result in the grand total.

Again, it should be remembered that every vote must speak the one way or the other. There is no middle ground. No one can shrink his responsibility by staying away from the polls, for he who is not for us is against us, and the sympathizer of the measure who through carelessness fails to vote will be counted among its opponents.

The friends of prohibition can rest their case not only on ethical grounds but on business arguments as well. The great aim of the statement of Canada since confederation has been to make this a great agricultural country, and it has long been the complaint that the dream has been so long in being realized, and that our country is being drained of so much of its best blood for the reason that our young men have been compelled to leave their homes in order to obtain employment in the States.

The reason for our lack of industry is undeniably due to our lack of capital. The other necessities of a great manufacturing country, viz: raw material and laborers, we have in abundance. Capital alone is wanting. But what would be the effect upon the capital of the country if the \$40,000,000 now wasted in consuming an article not only unproductive but destructive in a high degree were turned into legitimate channels of trade? Such an effect a prohibitory law, properly enforced, would have. In the light of this fact it is fantastic to argue that such policies as free trade and protection pale into insignificance in contrast with the great scheme of prohibition.

There is one error in regard to the question which the government has submitted to the people for an answer on the 29th which we desire to take this opportunity to correct. It is thought in some quarters that legislation to be passed in line with the plebiscite question it would mean prohibiting the manufacture and sale of cider in any form whatever. This is not the case. The question asked is simply whether or not the people favor the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of cider as a beverage, and legislation to be passed in harmony with an affirmative answer to this question it would not in any way interfere with the manufacture of cider for other purposes as for example, the manufacture of brandy, rum, and other liquors.

A great responsibility will rest with those who on the 29th will elect to cast their influence against the cause of prohibition. The fact has shown that an awful retribution sometimes attends matters of this kind. Often he who dips his hand into the fire to help his fellow suffers the first to be consumed thereby. The torches of hell brought down to the very men who kindled them. It is a warning bell. Jonathan was the first to come under the curse which Saul's own lips had pronounced. It would therefore be

quite in harmony with precedent if the man who at this time should vote to perpetuate the curse of the liquor traffic on the dear ones of others should by a decree of fate be one of those to feel its remorseless tooth. Fellow voter, if you possess a son of whose manhood you are proud, if you possess a daughter whose virtue you cherish, you are taking a terrible risk if you fail to take advantage of this opportunity to remove from their path this awful menace.

On this, the last occasion we will have of saying a word to the voters of Kings before the momentous 29th, we respectfully ask you to weigh the question carefully and so to act that in after years you can look back to your conduct at this time with pride and complete satisfaction and not with remorse and despair.

Editorial Notes.

Mr. J. W. Caldwell, who has been in Toronto attending the meeting of the General Conference of the Methodist church, has our thanks for a copy of *The Christian Observer*, which contains full reports of the meetings. A particularly interesting one is that of the "Prohibition Meeting" which was held on the evening of the 12th inst. Rev. W. Dolson, of Halifax, gave a vigorous address which was received with great applause.

Blackstone says that law is the supreme rule of the community, commanding what is right, prohibiting what is wrong, regulating what is indifferent. If the liquor traffic is right in itself it should be commanded, commended and strengthened by law. If it is wrong in itself it should be prohibited. If it is indifferent, it may be regulated. We have no hesitation in saying that the liquor traffic is wrong; by all its past record, by all the young lives it has wrecked, by all the dark shadows it has cast, by all the disease, poverty and crime it has caused, by all the homes and souls it has ruined, it is declared to be **WRONG**.

The public schools were dismissed on Wednesday in consequence of the fur, which were lighted for the first time this season on that day, being out of condition and filling the rooms with smoke. It is said that the janitor reported to the School Board last spring that the furnaces needed packing and other repairs, but no attention was paid to his report, and the summer was allowed to pass without anything being done. The Board has received considerable criticism for its inaction in the matter. It does seem too bad that such an important work should not have been attended to at the proper time, when the whole apparatus could have been put in perfect condition without occasioning any loss of time by the school. If the packing had been done during the summer vacation it would also have had plenty of time to set, and the result would have been a much better and more permanent job.

Municipal Council.

A special session of the Municipal Council of Kings county was held on Monday last at the court-house in Kentville. The Mayor and all the councillors were present with one exception, Councillor W. Kinman, of Ward 1, being absent. The Warden stated the circumstances which had led to the calling of a special session. The resolution passed at the April session of Council, providing for the appropriation of one-third of the grant to each ward to the retirement of existing overdrafts, if any, and also prohibiting any overdrafts in future, without leave of Council, had so diminished the available grant in some wards that councillors were unable to provide for absolutely necessary repairs. In his own ward (Ward 3) one large bridge had been carried away and repairs on others were urgently required.

A number of the councillors called attention to the condition of bridges in their respective wards which needed money expended upon them at once, and to the general unsatisfactory condition of the highways. The Warden suggested the suspension of that part of the resolution adopted in April, which requires one-third the grant to be retained to retire overdrafts. After considerable discussion a resolution was passed suspending the action of the council at the April term as regards the retaining of one-third of grant to retire overdrafts, thus permitting the whole amount of this year's grant to be expended.

After some discussion a resolution moved by Councillor Batoon, seconded by Councillor Borden, was carried as follows: Resolved: That in all wards which have no overdraft of road money, and in all wards where the overdraft is less than one-third of the present road grant, in case of any absolute necessity arising from the building of a bridge, or the repair of any bridge, or in order to make the road passable, or in case a road may become absolutely impassable from other causes, such wards have the right to make overdrafts to the extent of one-third of the previous road grant, or the difference between one-third and the amount of the overdraft now existing, as the case may be.

George Johnson, the Dominion Government statistician, has recently made a calculation, showing the amount of Canada's drink bill, based on the consumption of 1896. He places the drink bill of that year at \$35,308,954, or \$6.99 per head for every man, woman and child in Canada.

MONEY TO LEND ON MORTGAGE.—Apply to E. S. Crawford, Solicitor, Wolfville, N. S.

The Newest Wonder of Science

Is the title of an article in the June number of the "Cosmopolitan," which treats of the liquefying of the air, an undertaking which most of people have hitherto thought impossible.

Anybody who will take time to read the article referred to will have no trouble to appreciate the contents of the manufacturer of

OZONE

an unfailing remedy for numerous disorders of the human body. He claims that in his liquid preparations the elements necessary for the recuperation of health, such as are found in the purest atmosphere, exist in sufficient quantities to ensure good health to those who use it. It never fails to cure indigestion, general debility, etc.

—FOR SALE AT—
RAND'S DRUGSTORE.

Disposal of Sewage.

The lecture given by Mr. Chas. S. Hamilton on Tuesday evening in Temperance Hall before the citizens of Wolfville on the above subject was a most interesting and profitable one and showed that the speaker had made a careful study of the whole question. The attendance at the meeting was not large and much of the profit that should have been derived from the lecture was lost in consequence. However those who were present listened with close attention and were well repaid for so doing. Mayor Thomson presided and in a brief address introduced Mr. Hamilton to the audience as a former alderman of the city of New Haven, Conn., and a gentleman who had thoroughly posted himself in the question to be discussed. Mr. Hamilton then came forward and in a clear and logical style addressed the meeting. He stated that unlike Mark Twain he could not say that his name was mentioned in the Bible, but the subject upon which he was to speak was emphasized there. The Levitical law required particularly that cleanliness should be observed in and about the habitation of the people. "Cleanliness" is said to be "next to godliness" and generally they go hand in hand. The plagues of Eastern lands which spread westward and are so destructive to human life have been traced directly to the filth that exists. Such cities as New Orleans, which were formerly hot-beds for the dreaded yellow fever, have been made healthy by the introduction of cleanliness and good sanitation. The speaker referred at some length to the danger caused by waste matter not being properly disposed of, and the importance of seeing before it was too late to prevent an epidemic of disease. He then proceeded to explain the different methods of sewage so practiced at the present day. These he enumerated as the dry system, cess-pools and the drainage system. In the first the sewage is carried by pipes to some distance into the country and there subjected to a process by which the fluid is dried out and the solid matter used for fertilization of the land. This system has been in use in Europe with a large measure of success, but where used in the United States has not proved successful. The cess-pool system he designated as an "expediency of doubtful utility." This system is in common use in many small towns and has been successful for a time. The speaker referred to many of the dangers resulting from this method, and stated that in the end it was neither cheap or satisfactory. The drainage system, through which by means of drains under the streets and carried out to the tide water the sewage is disposed of was recommended as the only satisfactory method. This system could easily be employed in Wolfville, and though it could not be introduced without considerable expense the money would be well expended, and the benefit that would be gained would compensate for the outlay. Mr. Hamilton described how the system could be put in here and at the close of his remarks announced that he would gladly answer any questions that might be asked. A number of questions were propounded and satisfactorily answered, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed and tendered to Mr. Hamilton for the pleasant and profitable address.

The ballot is the power of God to cast out national evil just as much as the gospel is the power to rescue sinners from ever-lasting perdition. If Christians have the power by ballot to destroy the saloon, the gambling den, the pool room, and refuse to exercise it, they have just as much denied the faith as if they refused to use the gospel in winning souls to Christ.—*Christian Standard*.

Notice.

I wish to inform my friends and the public that I will, if they desire it, call at their homes, test their eyes and fit spectacles or get them made to order if needed, correcting all errors of refraction, such as myopia, hypermetropia, astigmatism, presbyopia, etc.

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"NEVERSLIP"

RUBBER SOLE

CUSHION HEEL SHOE

MADE by the WHITHAM SHOE CO., of Montreal, and known by all Shoe Men as the best Rubber Sole Shoe made in Canada.

PRICES: \$3.00, 3.50, 4.00, 4.50.

COLORS: Tan, Chocolate and Black.

TOES: Pinstriped, Ball Dog and Cambridge.

Men's and Boys sizes, good wearers and fitters, just the shoe for fall wear before rubbers become necessary.

FOR SALE ONLY AT THE

PEOPLE'S SHOE STORE.

Avonport.

The farmers of this vicinity are busily engaged gathering in their fruit, of which there is an abundance.

Mr. A. Forsyth, of this place, is we are sorry to learn, seriously ill. Hopes are entertained of his recovery.

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