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R. BOSWELL, K.C., Chairman. D MATTHEWS, Vice-Chairman,

W. J. HAMBLY, Treasurer.

W. J. BOLAND, A. W. WRIGHT, Hon. Secretaries

To the Citizens of Greater Toronto:

As you are aware you are being asked at the coming municipal election to vote upon a by-law which pronoses to reduce the number of hotel licenses that may be legally issued in the city from 150, as at present, to 110.

As citizens who have no personal interest in the liquor trade and who have no concern in the proposed measure, except that, like all its people, we are interested in our city's moral and financial welfare and industrial advancement, we feel that it is our duty to urge our fellow-citizens not to decide to support the proposed reduction, at least until they shall have calmly, dispassionately and carefully considered the matter in all its bearings.

Such a question as the advisability or inadvisability of license reduction ought to be considered and decided without sensational statements or sentimental appeals, for such can only serve to becloud the issue and mislead the voters.

Three years ago the people of Toronto decided by a large majority against a similar proposal, and unless better reasons can be given than were then advanced for its passage it should be again rejected.

The people decided then that one hundred and fifty hotels were not more than were required for the city's needs. The city has a greater area and a larger population now than then, and the need of hotel accommodation for its people and the traveling public is certainly not less. The hotel accommodation of the city, instead of being excessive, is, as is well known, at times quite insufficient. with our increasing population and with the city's growth in area more hotel accommodation will be required rather than less.

Those engaged in the hotel business have from time to time been compelled to expend considerable sums of money upon their premises in order to meet the requirements of the law, and since the rejection of the proposal to reduce the number of licenses three years ago, the commissioners, acting upon the verdict of the people, have required still greater expenditures in this direction. Under these circumstances an arbitrary cutting off of forty licenses would be nothing short of confiscation.

The experience of Toronto in the past, and the experience of other cities as well, does not show that temperance or sobriety is promoted by concentrating and congesting the liquor traffic, nor is there any good reason to expect that a further intensifying of the monopoly of the sale of liquor would be beneficial.

Ours is not a drunken city, nor is it true that the excessive use of intoxicants is generally prevalent here, neither can it be truthfully said that vice, traceable to the inordinate use of liquors, prevails in our city. It cannot be denied, however, that since the last reduction of licenses, there has been, as the records, of the Police Court show, a regrettable increase in inebriety, owing doubtless to the congestion and concentration of the bar-room trade, which that reduction occasioned. For this reason a comparison with cities in the United States where unwise restriction has not been resorted to does not show our city in the favorable light we would desire.

The license laws with which hotelkeepers must comply are strict, and under them the commissioners have the power to suspend or cancel the license of any hotel when the proprietor violates in any respect the provisions of the law. By strict enforcement of the law, supported by public opinion, rather than by an arbitrary and unnecessary reduction of the number of licenses, the cause of true temperance will hest be promoted.

Even those who have advocated license reduction are forced to bear testimony to the general high character of the hotels of Toronto. It is not claimed and cannot be truthfully said that the law is not well obeyed, and nothing in the character of the hotelkeepers nor in the conduct of their business calls for any such measure as is proposed.

We believe the proposed reduction is not necessary; that it would be injurious to the business interests of the city by further curtailing the hotel accommodation, which is already quite sufficiently restricted, and that there is no reason to believe that it would lessen in any degree the consumption of intoxicating liquor or in any way tend to the promotion of sobriety or good citizenship.

For these reasons we believe that the citizens should reject the proposal to reduce the number of hotel

Committee rooms have been opened by the Committee at:	who was trained to be a first of
WARD 1—Corner Queen and Grant Streets	Phone Main 6154
WARD 2-271 Queen Street East	Phone Main 7155
499 Parliament Street	
WARD 3—302 Yonge Street	
First Floor—Entrance off Agnes Street.	
805 Yonge Street	
WARD 4-405 Queen Street west	
387 Spadina Avenue	
575 Bloor Street west	
WARD 5—803 Queen Street west	Phone Park 2406
966 Bloor Street west	Phone College 3262
575 Bloor Street west	Phone College 2022
WARD 6-1198 Queen Street west	Phone Park 1524
2 Roncesvalles Avenue, corner Queen	
598 Dundas Street	Phone Park 1669
North-east corner Bloor and Dufferin Streets	Phone Park 1608

At these rooms attendants will be present each day from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m., for the purpose of giving information to voters. Any who may find it inconvenient to go to the polls without a conveyance will please send notice to one of these rooms, or to the Central Committee Room at No. 21-2 Queen Street east, Room 45, Phone Main 6702 as a sufficient number of conveyances have been kindly volunteered by members of the committee

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Armstrong,	F. Barthe.	C. Bowering.	Samuel Balile,	R. S. Crashley.	R. J. Davidson,	G. S. Ewart.
Alexander.	W. J. Bradley,	E. Brennan,	Wm. Bewley.	D. O. Cameron.	F. A. Drake.	W. R. Evans.
ur Ardagh.	Chas. Bellanger,	H. Banfield.	Jos. Bouvier.	W. J. Campbell.	J. P. Duggan,	D. O. Elila.
P. Armstrong,	Jas. Bryan,	A. Betzner.	E. Burns,	Alex. Cavanagh.	D. M. Defoe.	Frank Evans.
W. Anthes.	A. R. Bickerstaff,	P. Burns.	Jno. Boyd.	Chas. Cottenden,	W. D. Dineen,	Jas. Ellis
Norman Alien,	Chas. Bushlaw,	E. S. Blyth.	A. H. Bailey.	Geo. Clements,	W. R. Draper,	R. R. Elliott.
Armstrong	W. Burns.	J. J. Brynes,	Root. Burns.	C. Clark,	Dr. R. J. Dwyer.	Dr. J. Elliott.
Applegath,	R. Burkhardt,	H. Beaman,	Geo. Bickle,	D. Colville,	LtCol.J.I. Davidson,	D. B. Elders.
Allen.	J. E. Bruxer,	G. W. Barber,	Geo. T. Bickle.	Arthur Callow.	Wm. Dobie.	R. Edgar
Allison.	Jas. Bonner,	A. Bourdon,	Jas. Breckenridge.	Geo. Cooney.	S. Deritte,	Juo. Easton.
A. A. Allen.	S. W. Burns,	C. W. Bougard.	Wm. Clarke.	B. W. Clark,	Miss Julia Doyle.	F. A. Eddis.
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Alerna.	E. T. Boland,	J. Brass.	Lionel Clarke,	F. Crofton,	H. L. Drummond.	Wm. Etwell.
Archer.	W. J. Boland,	J. Bonner.	Jno. Coffee.	Wm. Coulter and Son.	Chas. Duke:	Frederick Edmu
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s. Alshire.	L. P. Bouvier.	Hume Blake.	W. K. Colville,	F. S. Coutts.	Jno. Davis.	Thos. Flynn.
Adamson,	A. R. Boswell, K.C.	W. C. Buxton,	Jno. Catto.	Jos. Crozier.	J. Doble.	Jno. Fiskin.
Andrews:	Ira Bates.	C. F. Bond,	W. C. Clinch.	Wm. Croft.	J. Dowdle.	Ine. Fenson.
Aubin.	J. F. Brown.	J. Brett.	C. B. Cronyn,	Rev. Frof. Wm. Clark,	Robt. Davidson.	Jno. Framley.
F. Atkins,	G. A. Bingham.	F. Booth.	J. W. Curry.	W. C. Cadboy.	P. Dowd.	J. E. Fallerto
R. Allen,	Geo. Beardmore,	M. M. Broomhead,	Duncan Coulson.	H. Cardinal,	Pando Dimitri	Jos. B. Fullert
W. Bain, K.C.	R. Bigley.	Jno. Baker.	J. Lorne Campbell,	R. Courtney.	Wm. Dixon.	Jno. Flemming,
Burton.	T. C. Blogg.	Wm. Blaney,	Jacob Cohen,	Chas Cameron.	Phil Doyle,	And. B. Franc
M. Baxter.	Frank Britnell.	Robert Blaney,	J. E. Cameron,		Wm. Dicks,	J. M. Ferguson,
Barringham,	C. Boeck.	S. Beamish.	W. H. Cross,	J. A. Carbutt,	A. Day.	B. A. Foy,
W. Baldwin.	P. Burns,	H. C. Burgess,	A. E. Caldwell,	J. Y. Collins.	E. Daley.	S. Filer.
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Bryan.	F Broderick.	J. Brown.	C. Ciceri,	Wm. Crumpton.	Thos. Doyle,	G. Frood.
W Bradshaw,	R. Burke,	Harry Barton,	D. Cumming.	J. P. Coulson,	John Duck.	M. Furlong.
V. Bradley	H. C. Blakeman,	R. Beegher.	I .I Cloughley:			I. Faragher
H. Bradley.	R. Burgess.	J. Blackburn,	R. B. Chalue,	Jas. Cummerford,	Jos. Dillman.	J. Foley,
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Noel Marshall,
J. P. Murray, J. P. Murray, Maj. J. A. Murray, R. A. Mitchell. Dr. H. Moorehouse, o. Massey.
D. Montgomery.
J. Macleman,
D. Mathews.
H. Mins.
Chas. McKenna,
P. McKenna,

Officers were elected by the local erhood of Carpenters last night dent, J. M. Wallace; recording se tary, W. H. Cardwell; financial se tary, Sydney Jones; warden, Charles Nicholson; auditors, John Ekanes, Da-

ELECTRIC INTERESTS

Deliberately Misrepresenting Facts About Payments for Right of Way Easements.

The deliberate circulation of Talse and misleading statements by the electric power interests is so well recognized in the city that very few are

An effort is now being made to hoodwink the farmers of the province by misrepresenting the facts about pay-ments made for right of way case-

The rural papers and some city ones are being flooded with a story that Walter Death brought an action against the hydro-electric power commission for higher rates, that the commission succumbed, and that instead of \$60, Mr. Death is now to get \$300 for the use of his land. There is practically not a word of truth in the story

The agents of the commission, it is stated by F. T. Stocking, engineer of the right-of-way for the commission, originally went over the right-of-way nd took options from the farmers at

THE GREATEST EVENT IN HISTORY What is that? THE BIRTH AND LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST Spend Christmas Sunday Night at the

PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SERVICE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

In addition to the finest still and mo-tion pictures in the world, the event will be duly celebrated by music and

Part of the Program. "Star of Bethlehem," by Charles Swayfield; "The Christ Child," Minnie Broadbent; "The New-born King," Herbert Manly: "The Gift Sweet Saintly Babe of Bethlehem," by Kathryn Chattoe-Morton; "Hark! Angels' Voices Ring," choir of 40 voices.

N.B.—All sung by the light of a

BRILLIANT ELECTRIC STAR Mr. David Higgins, the well-known character actor, will give a recitation.

will find room for you up J. M. WILKINSON.

the rate of \$20 for each tower.

Not long ago the buyers were again sent out to revise the list, to settle claims to damage to bush and other matters, and to determine the location of the towers. Where these were located along the fence \$20 was the rate allowed. Where they were in good land in the middle of a field \$25 was allowed.

allowed.

It is true that Mr. Death attempted to bring an action against the commission, but as a flat would be necessary this is not possible. It is also true, that the commission's buyers called at Mr. Death's farm, but this was centrally without knowledge of any accommission's property without knowledge of any accommission. entirely without knowledge of any action brought, and independent of it They offered the same terms to Mr Death as were offered to all the other farmers similarly situated, and got Mr Death's option. The options have no yet been reported to the commission and are not, therefore, settled. Nor are the figures quoted correct. Mr. Death's original option was \$20

ment is being made that he has been given \$300. This is untrue. He has been offered by the commission's buysquare in good land in the middle of his fields. For the cutting of a strip of bush

eight rods wide and about 40 rods long and for patrolling for the right of way \$225 was offered. These are the same terms that are being offer ed in all similar cases, and the idea that the commission, as alleged by the electric power interests in their spired new articles, was intimidated by Mr. Death, is proposterous. Hon. Adam Beck said he had no official knowledge of the matter, as the options had not yet come before

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., Dec. 18.-(Special.)—Captain Newcomb, mander of the Dominion fisheries pro-tection cruiser Kestrel, recently over-hauled and captured the Tacoma fishing steamer Seapora for an alleged in-fraction of the Dominion fisheries regu-lations. The steamer was released on payment of a fine of \$1600.

Cosmopolitan Circle, A.O.F., elected officers last night as follows: Chief companion, Mrs. Brewer; sub-chief, Miss Bully; secretary, Mrs. P. G. Williams; treasurer, Mrs. E. H. Jackson; right guide, Mrs. Francis; left guide, Mrs. L. Leathers; inside guard, Mrs. Clarke; outside guard, Mrs. Webb; phy-sician, Dr. E. Fraser, Barrie.

Dr. Bell's Experiments.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor, left here to-day for Hammondsport, N.Y., where he will wincss experiments with the Silver Dart, the fourth machine of the Aeronautic Experiment Association. Dr. Bell has decided to continue experiments with his tetrahedron machine at Badeca, N.S., and will go to that place from Hammond-

vid Brown, Charles H. Mead; trustees, C. Nicholson, George Watson and C. H. Moad; delegates to district council, Glass, Cardwell, Ball, S. Boyd, Carter,

Students of the ladies' colleges were such in evidence in the Union Station yesterday, as a large number of the started for home to spend Christmas.

Xmas Rings

Ring want impossible of

and the Special Solitaire have become noted speak volumes of credit in our behalf.

We refer to our \$25.00. \$50.00, \$75,00 and \$100.00 "Tiffany" Diamond

They are stones selected with special care and precision in regard to Diamonds of equal rare quality and price are not seen elsewhere in this country. We say so con-

B. & H. B. KENT YONGE STREET, TORONTO.

STORE OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL