

Temperance News.

W. C. T. U.

PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

The Annual Convention of the Provincial Womens' Christian Temperance Union of Ontario was held in the Congregational Church at Ottawa last week.

The Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Fawcett, of Scarboro', presented her report, which was approved.

The President, Mrs. ADDIE CHISHOLM, then read her annual address, in which she reviewed the excellent progress made by the Society during the year. She said that in Great Britain the progress made during the year has been highly astonishing, and solid victories that serve to mark that progress are not few in number. The blue ribbon movement has exceeded all former proportions and has extended its labours equally among those who live in noble houses and those who pass their days in lowly abodes. The Church of England Temperance Society was never so aggressive nor so strong, and its leaders have abated none of that eloquence allied to zeal which has long been characteristic of them. The United Kingdom Alliance has been as busy as ever, and under the able leadership of Sir Wilfred Lawson they scored their greatest victory in a third adoption of the local option resolution by a majority of 89 in the House of Commons. It is now quite certain that legislation cannot be long delayed in the face of a solemn declaration three times affirmed by the representative branch of the British Parliament. In the United States the work done during the year has been incalculable, and it was gratifying to note that the most prominent and successful of all organizations engaged therein has been the Women's Christian Temperance Union, marshalled by its noble army of 75,000 staunch and true Christian women. Temperance has in that country abated none of its machinery for the moral suasion of the people. Never before have pulpit, platform, and press been so active, but temperance has also gone into politics, and to all intents and purposes has gone there to stay. It is a vital question in almost every State of the Union, and in the various forms of license—high license, local options, and constitutional prohibitionists—is at once the bane of the party politician, and a serious and inevitable object of discussion for the people. In Canada our cause has not gone backward, but forward. Women's Christian Temperance Unions have increased in number and efficiency of working. Many unions have been organized in the Province of Quebec under the direction of Mrs. Yeomans, and a local union and a Provincial union have been formed in Victoria, B. C., by Miss Willard, President of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Christians owed a debt of gratitude to Miss Willard for this act of kindness. The various secret organizations have been fairly successful and the Dominion Alliance has done good work. One great drawback in this country is a strong and widely distributed temperance paper, a more abundant use of temperance literature, and the more systematic employment of public platform work. Turning from this brief survey of general work, we come directly to our special work as a Women's Christian Temperance Union. In Ontario several new Unions have been formed by Mrs. Boise, of Michigan; Mrs. Andrews, of Kincardine; and Miss Armstrong, of England; also a Young Women's Christian Temperance Union organized in the city of Brantford. Mrs. Boise writes me, from what she has seen during her short stay among us, that 100 unions might be formed in Ontario without difficulty. As we advance new possibilities open up before us, and while we may not compass all in one year or in many years, still the work is going on. The leaves are falling from the giant tree; influence, respectability, wealth, all these leaves that make it attractive now will soon follow from it, and then standing here in all its ugliness let intemperance die.

The Treasurer, Mrs. P. C. Brethour, of Milton, read the financial report for the year, which showed receipts, \$142.26; expenditure, \$67.03; balance on hand, \$73.23.

The election of officers had the following result:—President, Mrs. Addie Chisholm, Hamilton; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Tilton, Ottawa; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Cowan, Toronto; Recording Secretary, Miss A. Orchard, Brantford; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Fawcett, Scarboro'; Treasurer, Mrs. Brethour, Milton. Committees Prison and Gaol Work—Mrs. Chisholm, Miss Wheeler, Ottawa; Mrs. Rutherford, Toronto. Legislation—Mrs. Youmans, Picton; Mrs. John Macdonald, Toronto; Mrs. Featherstone, Ottawa.

Influencing the Press—Miss Phelps, St. Catharines; Mrs. Hugh Bridgman, Smithville. Unfermented Wine—Miss Wilmot, Mrs. James Harrison; Mrs. Cameron, Milton. County Fairs and Volunteer Camps—County Superintendents. Sabbath School and Juvenile Work—Mrs. Andrews, Kincardine; Miss Spice, Exeter; Miss Gordon, Goderich. Scientific Introduction of Temperance—Mrs. Chisholm, Mrs. Youmans, Miss Orchard. Presenting Claims of Temperance to Religious and other bodies—Mrs. Chisholm, Mrs. Youmans, Miss Orchard.

Miss Willard suggested that steps be taken to form a Dominion Union, and Mrs. Chisholm was appointed a delegate to confer with the Quebec Union on the subject.

It was agreed by a vote of 13 to 7 in response to the memorial from the Halton branch of the Dominion Alliance to petition Parliament for the enactment of a prohibitory liquor law for the whole Dominion.

The Committee on Resolutions and the President's Address reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:—That this Union reiterate the resolution of previous years as to the great importance of the introduction of the study of alcohol and its effects in connection with hygiene, by the teachers and scholars of the Public and Normal Schools of Ontario; that we urge more systematic temperance work in our Sabbath Schools; that we extend the lecture work throughout the Province as much as possible; that our members be impressed with the importance of bestowing their influence and patronage only upon those groceries where intoxicating drinks are not sold; that we will not use our energies in any work which implies the licensing of the liquor traffic in any form, all past attempts of that kind having proved futile, let our motto henceforth be "No license;" that we ponder the great necessity of educating our boys to the importance of using the franchise as a power whereby the liquor traffic may be overthrown; that our influence be exerted to banish intoxicating wine from the communion table; that the local unions continue to supply temperance items to the local papers, and also to supply where possible, by free distribution, temperance papers; that the application fee of local unions be twenty-five cents per member; that we adopt and wear the white ribbon as the badge of W. C. T. U. Resolutions were also passed authorizing the appointment of a general superintendent, and thanking the various churches, railway authorities, and the press for the courtesies extended.

After an informal discussion in reference to the employment of temperance lecturers, it was agreed that all unfinished business be left to the Executive Committee. The President, in closing the Convention, expressed her great satisfaction at the success with which it had been attended. In the evening Miss A. Willard delivered an eloquent and earnest address before a crowded temperance meeting in the opera house.—*Globe*.

GOOD TEMPLARS.

On Wednesday, the 24th inst., a lodge of this Order, to be known as the "Best Endeavour" Lodge was instituted in Cooksville by Bro. W. H. Rodden, special organizing representative for the Grand Lodge of Canada I. O. G. T. There were 21 charter members. The lodge meets on Wednesday evenings at 7.30. The charter officers are as follows: P. W. C. T. and L. D., E. A. Tolman; W. C. T., Wm. Haines; W. V. T., Lucy Readman; W. Sec. Neil McGillivray; W. T. S., James Falconer; W. Treas., Mrs. E. D. Browne; W. M., John Cunningham; W. Chaplain, Rev. G. Browne; W. I. G. Agnes Craigie; W. O. G., Joseph Haines; W. A. M., Barbara Craigie.

TENNESSEE G. L.

The Grand Lodge of Tennessee met last week in the Pythian Hall, Union street, Nashville. A large representation was present.

N. J. Gibson, G. W. S., submitted an annual report showing the order to be in a prosperous condition. The financial condition was reported to be good. There was 2,105 members initiated during the year, and thirty-four new lodges organized.

Hon. Geo. H. Morgan, G. W. C. T. elect, was introduced and delivered an eloquent address.

Mrs. Jennie Dawes was elected superintendent of juvenile work. Grand Officers were elected at the morning session and installed at night by C. T. Kelley, Past Worthy Grand Chief Templar.