

There was deducted from this sum the expenses of the license commissioners, the inspectors' salaries, and similar charges to the amount of \$75,517. The balance was divided, according to the provisions of the license act, between the provincial treasury and the various municipalities in which the licenses were issued, and the fines collected, as follows :—To the provincial treasury, \$300,604 ; to the municipalities, \$289,487.

These amounts represent the sum total of the public revenue from all sources, and to all parties, from the license system in Ontario.

THE CONTRA ACCOUNT.

Sir Oliver Mowat says that as a result of over twenty-five years' observation and official experience, " it is no mere oratorical flourish " to state that fully three-fourths of the poverty, crime and wretchedness arise from this one source, the licensed liquor traffic. We take this statement then as the basis for the following calculations.

The official statistics for commitments are :—Fifty-two county jails, 9,011 ; Central Prison, 935 ; Andrew Mercer female prison, 234 ; Penetanguishene Boys' Reformatory, 252 ; Kingston Penitentiary, 702 ; total, 11,144.

These cost, Common jails, \$135,706 ; Central Prison, \$65,955 ; Mercer Female Prison, \$26,725 ; Penetanguishene Reformatory, \$36,977 ; Kingston Penitentiary, \$139,358. Total cost, \$404,721. These are only a few of a number of items of hard cash paid out. Add to this list a large number more in the various lock-ups, police cells and the like, and the thousands in our hospitals, poor-houses, and inebriate and insane asylums, and the enormous burden laid upon the shoulders of the tax-payers who never drink, by those who do drink and sell, is something that no free and intelligent people should tolerate.

The following sums also have a direct bearing on the question of loss from the liquor traffic :—Administration of justice, \$391,689 ; hospitals and charities, \$151,574 ; insane asylums, \$185,081 ; reformatory asylums, \$9,216 ; Central prison, \$46,915 ; lock-ups in out-lying districts, \$14,967 ; Crown counsel prosecution fees, \$8,882. Making a total cost of \$808,324 ; add this to the above \$404,721, and we get a total of \$1,213,045 ; three-fourths of these sums, all paid out of the provincial treasury during the year, would represent \$909,783 ; paid in for license fees, etc., \$300,604 ; balance to the loss side, \$609,179.

The items given above are taken from our official reports, and it is clear enough that, if Sir Oliver Mowat's estimate is correct, our