

and Alberta have provisions in their liquor laws authorizing local action of electors to secure the abolition of all liquor-selling. They also contain provisions under which no one can obtain a liquor license without securing the written consent of a very large proportion of the electors in the neighborhood in which he wishes to sell liquor. Because of this latter feature of these laws, there are comparatively few licenses in operation, and although the Local Option voting powers of the electors have not yet been exercised,

the rural portions of these provinces are practically free from any authorized sale of intoxicating liquor.

The Province of British Columbia is the only one which has not a Provincial Local Option law. At the present time there is a widespread and vigorous movement to secure the enactment of such legislation, and that movement bids fair to be successful at an early date. The Province, as a whole, is sparsely settled, and there are very few liquor licenses outside the cities and towns.

United States Prohibition

The extent of the territory under prohibition in the United States is continually increasing. Public sentiment against the liquor evil is steadily growing, and bids fair to sweep the traffic in intoxicating beverages out of existence. The beginning of the present year is a standpoint in time from which to survey the position of this wonderful sweep. The conditions that then prevailed were ably summed by Dr. F. C. Inglehart in the American "Review of Reviews" for May. His article is full of encouragement and interest to all friends of the temperance cause. With the addition of sub-headings to make its statement clearer, it is as follows:

The revolt against the liquor traffic seems to be world-wide. The fight against it in Europe is nearly as fierce as it is in this country. Finland abolished intoxicants by a vote of its Parliament. Iceland adopted national prohibition in September last. The Duma of Russia ordered the removal of the royal eagle from the vodka bottles, and the substitution of the skull and cross bones, the symbols of death, and the word poison written in large letters beneath them as a warning to

the people. In Paris there are placards placed on the bulletin boards saying that "whoever puts alcohol in his mouth takes out his brains, his money, his health, his happiness." Government statistics in England show a decrease of thirty million dollars' worth of intoxicants in the consumption during the year 1908.

In the United States

The temperance revolution in this country continues with unabated energy. Eleven thousand saloons were put out of business during the year 1908, and as many more in 1907. At that rate of decrease it would require but twenty years to abolish all the saloons of the country.

The Southern Sweep

About eighteen of the twenty millions of the people of the Southern States have already outlawed the saloons. In New York City alone there are one thousand more saloons than in all the fourteen Southern States, and it looks as though within the coming five years every State in that section would vote the saloon out of existence.

North Carolina

On May, 6th, 1908, North Carolina followed her sister States of Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, in the