

to come out. If you have 200,000 people in the Province of Ontario who want prohibition bring them out. What does it matter to you if your opponents do not come out?—(Some disorder, several gentlemen attempt to speak in reply).

THE PREMIER: Order, order, gentlemen. I have not interrupted anybody. Let your enthusiasm be restrained, my friends; we are down here at practical politics, practical business. We say to the temperance men of Ontario if three out of every eight of you come out to vote for prohibition, we will give it to you and enforce it. That is a very easy proposition. I am here on that basis myself—yes, about on that basis I am here myself. I am here by a majority of the votes polled, and you will be successful in prohibition by a majority of the votes polled, and I don't think you have a right to be successful in any other way, if you will pardon me for saying it. Mrs. Thornley has asked as to how we provide against corrupt practices. There is the same provision against corruption as in our own election. The law is as strong in one case as in the other. You will say, of course, that the liquor men will try to keep people at home. So they will, no doubt, and if you had the liquor men voting they would try to bring them out. Mrs. Thornley said there was gross corruption in London. That arose because they came out, and if you keep them away there will be no corruption. You will come out and vote purely, I am sure. You say they tried to stuff the ballot-boxes, but they cannot do that if they stay at home, and you will do your best, and I will, to bring them out by proper means. I know I do not satisfy you all, I do not expect to do that, but neither did I try to satisfy all the liquor dealers. My desire is to give the people of Ontario a liquor law that can be enforced. I am too good a temperance man, and I hope the good Lord will always keep me that, by word or speech to do anything that would be prejudicial to the temperance cause. It is too good a cause to be sacrificed, even by the enthusiasm of its friends. But we are here to legislate for the liquor-dealers just as much as for you. They are exactly the same in the eye of our law as you. All are citizens of the country, and all have the rights of citizenship. And, of course, we have to do what is fair. We propose to change the condition of things that have existed ever since Canada had a Government, by saying that three men out of eight may force prohibition on the rest of the people and put them to all sorts of inconvenience, and yet nobody says that prohibition is a religious obligation, to be observed no matter what the consequences. Surely those citizens who