

HON. JOHN B. FINCH'S
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THE TEMPERANCE HERALD,

A WEEKLY FAMILY JOURNAL OF SOCIAL PROGRESS AND MORAL REFORM.

THE LIQUOR BUSINESS.

ROWLAND BURR, ESQ.,

OF THE CITY OF TORONTO, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

made before the Parliamentary Committee appointed to enquire into the subject of Prohibition, a statement as to what he had observed as the result of liquor selling in a number of families.

He stated that he had kept for fifty-four years a record of publicly-known evil results of intemperance in the families of one hundred liquor dealers who had resided on Yonge street in and north of the city of Toronto, and his record made the following awful showing:—

Number of ruined drunkards in the one hundred families.....	214
Loss of property once owned in real estate.....	\$234,800
Number of widows left.....	46
" orphans " 	238
Sudden deaths.....	44
Suicides publicly known.....	13
Number of premature deaths by drunkenness.....	203
Murders.....	4
Executions.....	3
Number of years of human life lost by drunkenness	1,915

WHAT THE BEER BUSINESS DOES FOR THE COUNTRY.

Let us carefully summarize what has been said elsewhere in reference to the financial results to the country of moderate beer-drinking.

A workingman who drinks daily two glasses of beer at five cents each, will this way spend annually THIRTY-SIX DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS.

This represents about 45 gallons of beer.

This represents about 3½ bushels of barley.

For this barley the farmer gets about TWO DOLLARS AND FORTY-FIVE CENTS.

The balance of the workingman's \$36.50 stays in the hands of the brewer and liquor seller. The workingman has swallowed his beer and has nothing of value to show for his money. He may have weaker nerves, a less clear brain and a dangerous appetite, but we leave these out of our calculations now, and say he has literally NOTHING.

Suppose that Prohibition became law, and the workingman did not spend this \$36.50 for beer, it would be available, and would be spent in NEEDFUL articles for his home. The bread, the butter, the cheese, the meat, the vegetables, the woollen clothes that it would purchase, are all directly or indirectly the produce of the farm. If we allow the manufacturers and dealers in these articles 40 per cent of their selling price for profit, the farmer will still get \$21.90, and the traders have \$14.60. But it must be noticed that now the workingman has had something to show for his money. Food in his cupboard, clothing for his family to the full value of \$36.50. And it must not be imagined that the farmer has failed to sell his barley. He has EXPORTED it either in grain or changed to beef, and has received the \$2.45 for it all the same, but with this difference, that now the money to pay him has come into Canada from abroad, and the country has in it \$2.45 more than it would have if its workingman had drunk that barley in the shape of beer.

Let us put these calculations in the form of a comparative table showing what is the result of the spending of the workingman's \$36.50 in these different cases.

UNDER LICENSE.

The farmer gets for his barley.....	\$2 45
The farmer gets for other produce.....	0 00
The merchant and manufacturer get.....	0 00
The workingman has left.....	0 00

Total for farmer, trader and workingman.....	\$ 2 45
Balance for brewer and liquor seller.....	34 05

Total of money and value held by all.....\$36 50

UNDER PROHIBITION.

The farmer gets for his barley.....	\$ 2 45
The farmer gets for other produce.....	21 90
The merchant and manufacturer get.....	14 60
The workingman has goods value for.....	36 50

Total for farmer, trader and workingman.....	\$75 45
Balance for brewer and liquor seller.....	0 00

Total of money and value held by all.....\$75 45

Some one will be ready to ask, "Do not the brewer and liquor dealer in the first case use this money in employing men and patronizing production?" The reply is, "Yes, but not nearly to the same extent as do the farmer and trader in the second case."

The great brewing and distilling interests of Canada are not only preventing the accumulation of wealth by the people, they are absorbing and locking up in their own possession the little wealth that does exist.

The second case may be made even stronger.—The brewer and liquor seller will be driven under prohibition to engage in some better business, that will bless the country instead of cursing it. The wealth they produce and hold will not be represented by \$0.00, and the aggregate \$75.45 will be still further increased; but, in the first case, under the beer system, there can be no change in any of the items of \$0.00, as the outcome of the workingman's expenditure of \$36.50.

15 Condemnation where due.

It is undeniable that to demoralize is immoral, to instigate cruelty is cruel, and to produce criminality is criminal; the strong drink traffic doing so, is vile immorality, fell cruelty, and dark criminality. Then all who are (actively or passively) on the side of license must be fairly counted as at least partakers in the blame. The business is palpably subversive of Christian civilization, and directly against the best interests of humanity.

CLEARER LIGHT, HIGHER MOTIVES.

It is notable that just in proportion as good citizens are led to read, hear, and observe attentively, and to think deeply, they wake up to the sad enormity of the evil traffic; and are so brought to feel keenly enough that they become zealous Prohibitionists. The fact is worthy of weighing, that people are always enlightened over towards but never away from Temperance principles and practice. Adherents are gained to the cause by increased knowledge, exalted motives, and improved principles.

No. 18. CRIMINAL AND CULPRIT FACTORIES.

Passing sentence on a criminal, Judge Johnston solemnly said, "Nor shall the place be forgotten in which occurred the shedding of blood. It was one of those thousand ante-chambers of hell, which mar, as thou plague-spots, the fair face of our land. Need you be told that I mean a tipping-shop: the meeting-place of Satan's minions, the noisome cess-pool, which by spontaneous generation breeds and nurtures all that is vile and loathsome. There for a pitiful sum is furnished that which made deceased a fool, and this trembling culprit a demon. I would not be the owner of a grogger for the price of this globe converted into ore."

LICENSE LAW IS PERNICIOUS

IN PRINCIPLE AND EVIL IN RESULTS.

If the liquor traffic be a most heinous, criminal and cursing business, then should the law which provides for its sanction be fittingly entitled, "An Act to secure misery, crime and disaster" or, "An Act authorizing open fountains of abomination, and providing facilities for destroying what good laws are enacted to conserve and protect," or "An Act to sanction, establish, and defend a vile injury," which moral suasion and patriotic effort engage in combatting on behalf of virtue, or "An Act to legalize home desolations."

In the struggle between good and evil for supremacy licensing the evil, adding to its power, is—so placing government authority hostile to the good. Surely this is not the right position for government to occupy.

It is as sad as it is inconsistent, that a grave body-guard of christian (?) legislators should conspire to protect and defend a monster evil, and so aid to frustrate the efforts of moral reformers.

It is manifest that all the bad results are as fully attained by the licensed, as by the unlicensed sale. It must not be assumed that the license takes any of the evil out of the alcohol. Evidently license is not the remedy for the dire drink-calamy.

Those who undertake to legislate for the common good are but trifling with solemn responsibilities when they neglect or refuse to enter on the very pressing duty of dealing thoughtfully, firmly and efficiently with this most momentous question, involving the best interests of society. — Stern hostility is the only right position of law toward a wrong.

In the mean time, public sentiment needs to be aroused. The hoary evil system must be upheaved to view, for deserved execration. Science and philanthropy actively aiding to expose its repulsive enormity until UTTERLY ABOLISHED.

No. 14. PROHIBITION PROMOTIVE SERIES, Jacob Spence Toronto

SUGGESTED ANNUAL REPORT

LIQUOR TRAFFICKERS.

If it were possible for those engaged in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks, to render an account of one year's evil consequences directly produced by their business;—

The Poverty, Disease, Lunacy and Misery. The Food Destroyed, The Homes Desecrated, The Murders and Crimes of all kinds,

CONTINUALLY BEING COMMITTED.

FEARFUL WOULD BE THE FIGURES

Could such a awful report be procured we would then have some idea of the evils to be fairly charged to the traffic. But those who fatten on the misery and death, look rather to their own gains, and how they may successfully oppose the efforts to stop the ruin.

THE TRAFFICKERS PREFER

to keep public attention away from the main issue,—

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC vs THE PUBLIC WELFARE

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC KNOWN BY ITS FRUITS.

"If it bear good fruit, well; BUT IF NOT, CUT IT DOWN."

The common sale of Intoxicating Liquors is the fruitful source of ill-health, ignorance, Sabbath-breaking, immorality, pauperism, degradation, misery, vice, crime, insanity and premature death. Not only are those persons who are addicted to drink plunged into ruin, but

GRIEVOUS WRONG IS ENTAILED ON SOCIETY.

Who is Guilty?

Surely those who brew, distill, and sell, are not clear of their brothers' blood, neither is the that giveth his neighbor drink. Not only does the corrupt traffic bear no good fruit but bears a terrible crop of horribly evil fruit.

The time is come to Speak Out.

The traffic inflicts upon humanity, wretchedness mourning, lamentation and we.

A business producing such fruits is wicked and deadly, and ought not to be sustained by the law of a Christian Land. Not the slightest ground of hope exists for it ever becoming improved.

Society has a right to

Protection from such a Curse

and with united voice, HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF RESOLUTE CANADIANS pronounce EMPHATICALLY THE DEADLY TRAFFIC MUST

BE SPEEDILY PUT DOWN.

This chain of readings published by JACOB SPENCE, TORONTO.