

The Camp Fire.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

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ADDRESS - - TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year

NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers.

The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER, 1900

THE DOMINION ELECTIONS.

The election which took place on the 7th inst. fixes the Liberal Party firmly in control of Canadian national affairs for another parliamentary term. The Government carried all the Provinces excepting Ontario, in which the Conservative party made substantial gains, and secured a large majority of the constituencies.

The new House of Commons is in its personnel very different from the last. Nearly eighty new members are elected, a majority of whom are the supporters of the Liberal party. Some friends of the temperance cause have been defeated while some of the new members are known to be warm supporters of prohibition.

Prohibitionists will specially regret the defeat of Rev. Dr. McLeod who was a candidate in the Conservative interest in York, N. B., Firman McClure, of Colchester, N.S., and James McMullen, of N. Wellington, Ont.

Among the new members who are known to be actively in favor of prohibition are W. S. MacLaren, of Huntington, Que., A. E. Kemp, of E. Toronto, and W. Gibson, of York, N.B. Thirty-three of the members who voted in favor of the anti prohibition Parnalee resolution, are left out of the new House.

It is too early yet to predict what the complexion of the new Parliament will be from a prohibition standpoint. It is to be sincerely hoped that more members than before will be found ready to listen to the voice of the people. This ought specially to be the case among the Ontario representatives, many of whom owe a considerable part of the support they received to dissatisfaction with the Liberal Government's treatment of the temperance question.

THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

The members of the Ontario Legislature will act wisely in carefully studying the results in their province, of the recent Dominion election and learning therefrom something of the folly of resisting public opinion.

A great number of Ontario electors who formerly voted with the Liberal party, changed their votes because of the unfair treatment of the temperance question by Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Government. This province has in two plebiscites overwhelmingly declared itself in favor of prohibition. Electors naturally resent any attempt by politicians to override the people.

The Ontario Legislature will be asked at its coming session, to do what the Dominion Parliament refused to do, give

the people the legislation they desire. If the Legislature should take a course similar to that of the Dominion Parliament there is little doubt that the provincial election will see a vast change in the personnel of the Legislature. Unjustly ignored and slighted in Ottawa, temperance workers are looking anxiously to the Ontario Legislature, led by Hon. G. W. Ross, a pronounced friend of the temperance cause, for an effective measure of relief from the curse of the liquor traffic. We sincerely hope that they will not look in vain, but that Ontario, following the wise example of Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, will be placed among the communities that have outlawed the greatest social curse of modern times.

AN EMPTY BOAST.

The Liquor Sellers' Organizations took an active part in the recent Dominion election. They sent circulars throughout the various ridings in which candidates were supposed to be favorable to prohibition, urging the supporters of the traffic to favor progressive liquor legislation. Since the election they have been shouting loudly about the great gains they made in the contest. A scrutiny of the list of members elected, hardly justifies the boast. It is more than likely that loud talk is simply made to impress the new legislators with an exaggerated idea of the strength of the liquor power. An encouraging list of prohibitionists in the new Parliament might be compiled. No doubt an opportunity will be given the newly elected members before long to show where they stand on this important issue.

OUR SOLDIER BOYS.

The Commander-in-Chief of the British Armies, Lord Wolseley, recently issued an earnest appeal to the public to refrain from offering intoxicating liquor to soldiers returning from the South African war. From Pretoria, Lord Roberts sent a similar appeal. No doubt both of these wise deliverances will have a beneficial effect. Subjoined is the address issued by the Commander-in-Chief:—

The time draws near when we may hope to welcome home many of the gallant soldiers who have so nobly fought our battles for us in South Africa. Their reception will, I know, be cordial, and it is this assured cordiality that impels me to ask those wishing to do them honour to refrain, while extending to them a hearty welcome, from offering intoxicating liquor. Our soldiers are recruited from all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, and only differ from their brothers in civil life by the habits of discipline they have acquired in the army. Like all of us, they are open to temptation. Many of them must soon resume the occupations and positions their employers have patriotically kept open for them. Others will have to seek for new situations, and will require a helping hand in doing so. It is therefore most important that all should endeavour to preserve a good name for steadiness and sobriety before entering upon their civil work. I trust that our greeting to the brave soldiers returning from this war may be something better than an incitement to excessive drinking, and that all will remember that whoever encourages it in this, far from being their friend, is really their worst enemy.

SOBER SOLDIERS.

The Medical Age comments on the waning use of alcoholic stimulants in the British army:—"The modern General knows that hardships can be best borne and dangerous climates best encountered without the constant use of stimulants. This conviction has long been gaining ground. Even in the Indian mutiny Havelock's men performed the greatest feats of endurance on coffee alone as a beverage. To General Wolseley, the present Commander-in-Chief, may per-

particularly attributed the growth of the spirit ration. In his expedition of 1870 Wolseley continued the spirit ration, and ordered that no troops enjoyed health than those engaged. The ration was discontinued in the war of 1873, and was again prohibited in the Kaffir war of 1877-78. In the Sudan expedition all alcoholic liquors were prohibited, and the men engaged achieved fine physical condition as regards health and endurance."—The Toronto Globe.

A TEMPERANCE DOG.

The old blue farm-wagon, with its load of fresh, green "garden truck," gave a pleasant touch to the city square, and the farmer had such a kindly face and such a homely air about him that many a man in the hurrying throng smiled half involuntarily as he caught his eye.

But it was the farmer's dog on which the glances of the passers-by rested longest—a magnificent, pure-blooded Newfoundland, black as coal except for a little patch of white on his chest, and a hint of gray with which advancing age had touched his muzzle. He stood on the curb by his master, watching the passers with expectant eye, and wagging his tail in dignified approval whenever some one stopped to make a purchase.

By and by one man, who seemed to have more leisure than his fellows, paused a moment to speak to him.

"What's his name?"

"Dow," replied the farmer promptly.

"Dow? That's a queer name for a dog!"

"Yes I s'pose it is, but it fits him. Neal Dow is his full name."

"O, I see! Temperance dog!" said the stranger, smiling. "Never takes anything but water, I suppose."

"Yes, but he's more than that. He's a prohibitionist—a regular temperance reformer."

The stranger evidently wanted the story, and the farmer continued:

"Yes! Jim Snow, a hired man up our way, got him of a tin-peddler when he was about a year old. Jim was a good worker and a pretty decent fellow otherwise, but he never went to town without coming home the worse for liquor. One day a week or two after he got the dog, he came home as usual, staggering drunk. The dog was lying in the sun on the doorstep. He had grown very fond of Jim; but this time, instead of running to meet him, he rose up, growling with the hair on his back as stiff as bristles, and every tooth in his head showing. Any man in his senses would have kept away, but Jim was too far gone to know what he was doing. He spoke to him, but the minute he started to go a step nearer, the dog fastened on his hand, and there he hung. Jim yelled, and the Spragues where he worked, came running out, but the whole family had all they could do to make him let go. The next day the dog was as good-natured as ever, but when Jim came home drunk again a week or two later, he growled and snarled, just as he had before, and finally went off out to the barn and stayed two days. Jim kind of took the thing to heart. He'd had good advice before, but it didn't seem to take hold on him the way this did; and after it happened the third time, he said: 'Well, if I got so low my dog is ashamed to associate with me, I guess it's time to quit!' He stopped right there—never drank another drop, and never another bit of trouble with the dog from that day to this. At the time it struck everybody as a mighty strange thing. We didn't know how to account for it. But about two years afterwards the peddler told somebody how one time a drunken tavern loafer struck this dog's mother with a hot poker, and after that she would never let anybody who had been drinking come near her. I suppose her puppy got the trait from her."

"But how came the dog in your possession?" asked the stranger.

"Well," said the farmer with a twinkle, "you see my name is Snow—James Snow. I was the hired man. If it hadn't been for Neal here, I might be a hired man yet, instead of owning a good farm. Poor old dog! He's getting well on in years now, but I ain't likely to forget him."—Youth's Companion.

IMPORTANT.

TORONTO, 1900.

DEAR FRIEND,—

You are respectfully requested to carefully examine **The Camp Fire**, a neat four-page monthly Prohibition paper, full of bright, pointed, convenient facts and arguments; containing also a valuable summary of the latest news about our cause. It is just what is needed to inspire workers and make votes.

The victory won in the plebiscite was only the opening of a campaign in which the liquor traffic will do its utmost to block, delay, and if possible prevent our securing the enactment and enforcement of prohibitory law. We have plenty of hard fighting ahead of us. We must keep posted and equipped, knowing all that is being done by our friends and foes, and sophistry and misrepresentation that will be advanced.

The Camp Fire will be one of the best aids you can have in the struggle. It will contain nothing but what you need. Every number ought to be preserved. You cannot afford to be without it, and the subscription price is only nominal, **Twenty-five cents per year.**

While a necessity to every prohibition worker the **The Camp Fire** will also be of special value for distribution. Literature won the plebiscite victory. We must keep up the educating work. Printed matter tells. It does its work continuously, silently, fearlessly and No form of literature is so generally read and so potential as the up-to-date periodical. It comes with the force and interest of newness and life. For this reason the form of a monthly journal has been selected.

This journal will be in every respect reliable and readable. Every article will be short, good and forcible, containing nothing sectional, sectarian or partizan. The literature of the old world and the new world will be ransacked for the most helpful and effective material. The price is very low.

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