

DIED.—At Toronto, on Wednesday May 29th, Sydney Arthur, son of F. S. Spence, Editor, CANADA CITIZEN, aged one year and five months.

NO INTOXICATING LIQUOR; the perfection of order and discipline; unparalleled feats of endurance; courage and coolness unsurpassed; raw boys from counter and desk doing the work of trained veterans. Such are the facts, the history and the pregnant lesson of our Northwest campaign.

We appreciate consistency in all things, and we cannot appreciate the position of men who talk temperance and rent property for saloon purposes; or of journalists who write temperance and rent their advertising columns to men who deal in whiskey. There ought to be less private encouragement of the liquor traffic for the sake of making money, while it is publicly denounced as it ought to be on account of its evil. At the same time the wrong is not in the talking of temperance or writing in its favor, but in the weakness of giving way to the temptation to make money out of so vile a thing as the liquor traffic.

We desire to again call attention to the fact of the misrepresentation of the position of the prohibitionists that is being made by those persons who assert that we are attempting to substitute political action for moral suasion. The men who are now advocating and working for the Scott Act are those who have been, and are, the most earnest and successful workers on the line of moral suasion both by example and precept. They are now supplementing this good work by another that has already been proved to be a powerful auxiliary to the cause to which they are devoting themselves. There is no inconsistency in the position of being at once anxious to have the flames extinguished in a burning dwelling and to have the incendiary prevented from firing any other homes.

The statement has frequently been made during the past few months that the action of the United States Prohibitionists in bolting from the existing political parties, and running a presidential candidate of their own, had weakened their cause and the influence that they would otherwise have possessed with the said existing political parties. A complete refutation of this plausible theory is contained in the following instructive facts:—In the winter of 1883-84, sixteen States asked their Legislatures to submit constitutional amendments in favor of prohibition to a vote of the people; in three states, distinct promises were made that such requests would be granted; but in none of these, nor in any other case, was the request actually complied with. During the past winter (1884-5), compulsory education bills were enacted in nine states; the Legislatures of three states have decided to submit constitutional amendments to the electors; in two prohibitory states the law, has been made more stringent than before, and the provisions of the license law have been strengthened and made more effective in no less than nine states, giving a total of twenty-three distinct Legislative Acts against the liquor traffic, passed after the Prohibition vote, which would seem to indicate that instead of desiring to manifest any contempt for the temperance party, American politicians have really been taught to recognize and respect the reasonable claims of men and women, who showed last Fall that they were not to be trifled with any longer.

LOTTERIES.

There is a law against lotteries and it is a righteous law. The passion for gambling is easily acquired, develops very fast and

invariably proves a terrible curse to the individuals who engage in it and to the community in which it is carried on. Where wise laws have been enacted, and command the respect of the better elements of society there should be always provided adequate machinery for having them thoroughly enforced. It is difficult, however, to frame Acts of Parliament so as to entirely suppress evils, in the carrying on of which there is money to be made, and in a community where there are men unprincipled enough to do anything for money.

Commendable efforts have been made in Toronto to suppress attempts at introducing lotteries, with all their attendant evils without violating the letter of the law prohibiting them, but so far these efforts have not been successful and it would seem as if much must still be left to the moral sentiment of the community. There is at present carried on in this city an extensive and bare-faced lottery business in which an excessively high prize is charged for a weekly paper with the distinct understanding that a part of this money is practically expended in purchasing a chance in the distribution of a large number of valuable prizes that are offered by the promoter of the chance. It may be said that this is not a lottery within the strict meaning of the term as interpreted by courts of law, but no one imagines that it is not a lottery in nature, operation and result. If such things are not bad, the law against them should be repealed; if they are bad, the law ought to be speedily revised so as to cover all possible evasions, and in the meantime, right-thinking and morality-loving people should bring all the power of their influence to bear in the development of such a public opinion as will rightly view such contemptible subterfuges and such immoral practices.

If there is no law in the land that can suppress this nuisance, and if journalists will be mean and avaricious enough to continue it, then all right-thinking people ought to unite in a determined effort to bring these journalists within the bounds of common decency, by refusing to admit to their homes any paper that will persist in such a course. It is evident that these men are open to financial arguments, and they will doubtless cower before financial threats. Decency is after all in the majority, and by a little determination it can circumvent and abolish this fast growing curse of indecent advertising.

A PUBLIC NUISANCE.

There are, we regret to say, a great many Canadian newspapers that admit to their advertising columns disgusting notices of some of the vilest nostrums with which conscienceless quacks seek to gull a too-confiding public. There may be patent medicines that are harmless or even useful. There are well-known preparations that are looked upon by many people as essential to a household equipment; we do not refer to these, we allude solely to the obscene, confidential, filthy advertisements, that suggest vice in their very wording, that seek to terrify the timid, and tempt the curious into a correspondence that results often in what may fairly be called *blackmailing* of the most outrageous description.

There is no need that we should be more specific in describing these purient notices. Nearly all of our readers must have noticed them in our daily and weekly Canadian journals, and the fact of their publication ought to make every decent member of the community ashamed of the cupidity that prompts publishers to soil their pages with such indecency, and the want of right public sentiment that permits them to do it, as well as alarmed at the evils they must produce, judging from the fact of their continued expensive, and no doubt profitable, publication.