

and we ask somebody to hold an umbrella over us as we go to the polls to vote for prohibition, and we ask somebody to take us to vote for John Smith as Alderman, and then when you get inside and mark a ballot for councillor, you slip a ballot into the box for prohibition, and in that way you expect prohibition to be effective! Great movements and reforms are not won in that way. (Ministerial cheers.) And if there be anything for which the temperance men of Canada have to reproach themselves more than another it is because they were not prepared to stand up or be counted either for referenda or for the Scott Act.

An Unworthy Reproach.

I dismiss that as an unworthy excuse for failing to do one's duty in a great moral reform, and I dismiss as unworthy of notice the pretence that employers will exercise undue influence over the voters. I do not think that will be done. Hundreds and thousands of men who employ labor are as anxious for prohibition as the men who serve them. (Hear, hear.) It is a reproach which should not be cast upon them, that they will not give their men ample facilities to go out and vote. The law allows two hours at midday to vote; our bill will give the same privileges, and I will be disappointed if a single man is told by his employer that he must yield his liberty as a British subject in going to the polls.

Vote in November.

I say we prefer the month of November as the date of polling. We shall have the polling on a day in that month. It will be convenient. The last general election of the Dominion was held in that month. It was considered to be seasonable weather, and under these circumstances I think we may expect as full an expression of public opinion as the occasion will warrant. We hope to close the hotels on that day in order that no undue influence might be exerted. We hope that those who have changed their residence since the June election may be enabled to vote. What we want is the fullest expression of opinion without let or hindrance. The bill we present on that basis. We are glad of the reception already given it. We shall be glad if that bill prevails. If it prevails and we are in power, we shall see that it is enforced to the best of our ability. It is no objection that this election will cost something. It will effect a great deal