

## Temperance Department.

TRUTH desires to give, each week, information from every part of the Temperance work. Any information gladly received. Address T. W. CANN, G. W. B., Editor, Napanee, Ont.

### The McCarthy Act.

It surprised very few really intelligent people when the Supreme Court gave its judgment last week that the Dominion License Act—the McCarthy Act—was unconstitutional, and therefore null and void. Last year it became so evident that its validity was doubtful that the very Parliament who passed the Act passed another suspending the enforcement of nearly all its penalties until doubts about it should be removed, and not long after the Ottawa Government agreed with the Provincial Government to submit the following questions to the Supreme Court:—

I.—Question—Are the following Acts in whole or in part within the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, namely:—

(1) The Liquor License Act, 1883.  
(2) An Act to amend the Liquor License Act, 1883.  
II.—Question—If the Court is of opinion that a part or parts only of the said Acts are within the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, what part or parts of said Acts are so within such legislative authority?

The whole case was argued in September last, but it was not until last week that judgment was given. The following is an extract from the judgment containing the pith of the whole matter:—

"The Court having duly considered the same do now certify to His Excellency the Governor General in Council in answer to the questions submitted for the determination of the said Court in the said case, that, in the opinion of the said Court the Acts referred to in the said case, namely, 'The Liquor License Act, 1883,' and 'An Act to amend the Liquor License Act, 1883,' are, and each of them is, ultra vires of the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, except in so far as the said Acts respectively purport to legislate respecting those licenses mentioned in section seven of the said 'The Dominion License Act, 1883,' which are there denominated vessel licenses and wholesale licenses, except also in so far as the said Acts respectively relate to the carrying into effect of the provisions of the Canada Temperance Act, 1878."

The Honorable Mr. Justice Henry being of opinion that the said Acts are ultra vires in whole.

It will be at once seen that the enormous amount of expense entailed on the people in connection with putting the machinery of this Act in force during the past year was unnecessary, and that all the trouble and confusion there has been in consequence to the liquor traffic was also unnecessary. This is certainly a serious matter, and it shows the wisdom of those who strongly urged the plan of getting from the Supreme Court or the Privy Council a decision before involving the country in all the trouble and expense.

It is now said that the Ottawa Government intend to carry their case to the Privy Council. We do not know. So far the Dominion Government have got but little aid and comfort from the Privy Council in their contests with the Provincial authorities, and it is not very probable that they will fare any better in this instance. Surely those causing the confusion and expense of the last year have a good deal to answer for.

### Four More Victories.

The four votes for the adoption of the Canada Temperance Act on Thursday of last week all resulted in victories in favor of prohibition. Surely the tide of public opinion in favor of outlawing the present licensed liquor traffic is rising higher and higher each day. Little doubt can remain in the minds of the most skeptical as to the wish of the great body of the people of Canada in regard to the future of the liquor selling business.

The majority in Kent county, Ont., is reported to have been no less than 2,012. Probably the electors of that county never gave so decided a majority in any previous vote on any question.

In Lanark county the majority was 412, which is also decided enough has an indication of public opinion.

In Lennox and Addington there was only the slim majority of 23, which was, no doubt, a surprise to many of the friends of the Act, as they felt confident of a good deal larger vote. Probably one great reason of this result was that a great many of

the electors who voted for the Dunkin Act in that county some years ago were a good deal disappointed with its inefficiency, and they appeared to take it for granted that the present Act was almost identical in its character. In Addington, especially, the Dunkin Act was a great failure, largely because of the temperance of the then Provincial Inspector and the inefficiency of the Board. Lennox has just been passing through a series of hot political contests which tended to complicate matters very greatly regarding the temperance question.

In Bromo county, Quebec, the very handsome majority of 547 was given, which is a remarkably good, considering all the circumstances. There is a large French vote in the county, and that vote is yet very uncertain in regard to a prohibitory measure. Bromo, it will be remembered, was the constituency for many years of the late Judge Dunkin, the father of the Dunkin Act. There has long been a strong temperance sentiment in the county.

This week the city of Guelph votes, but too late to give the result in this issue of TRUTH. If the friends of Temperance prove successful it will be the first city in Ontario where a majority has been scored for the adoption of the Act.

### NEWS & NOTES.

**A DRUNKARD'S WIFE.**—On one of our recent bitter winter nights, the unfortunate wife of a man residing at West Toronto Junction was nearly murdered by the attacks of her inebriated husband. The day before she had given birth to a daughter, and the father appeared so elated over the fact as to go off on a spree. Returning home in a muddled condition, he first threatened the life of his sick wife and then rushed after some of the small children with an open knife. The poor woman, in her extremity, rushed out of her sick bed with her infant, to a neighbors house for protection, and just succeeded in falling inside the door in a fainting condition, but unable to tell the cause of her trouble. A little girl soon rushed in after bearing in her arms another child of fifteen months. The cause of the trouble being found out, the man was arrested and locked up in Toronto. As might be expected, the poor woman was in a critical condition from the fright, exertion, and exposure at such a critical time, and it was feared that death would be the result. She is reported better, however. This is but one instance of the hundreds occurring every day to the unfortunate families of the supporters of the drink traffic. Are such families to be compensated for losses they sustain because of drink selling, or are the drink sellers to be compensated for the loss they may sustain by the enactment of a law to stop to all such mischief? Some of those Christian ministers who believe in compensation will please grapple with the question.

**ANOTHER CONVERT.**—King Theebaw of Burmah has, it seems, given up drink, to which he has hitherto been greatly addicted. As is usual with unfortunate drunkards, he is not satisfied with becoming sober himself, but he insists upon every one else becoming sober. His methods are not exactly those of our temperance alliances, but are at least as effective. Hammering appears to be the punishment adopted for drunkenness. A Burman has been hammered to death, and the companion of his drunken spree, a Jewish British subject, is dying in jail, with several bones broken. "Thus," says the *London Standard*, "it will be seen that the customs introduced by Theebaw differ widely from those which prevail here. In Burmah drunkards are hammered to death; in England they hammer their wives to death. The Burmese method clearly possesses marked advantages."

**SCOTT ACT ENFORCEMENT.**—The Ottawa telegrams to the daily papers on Friday last contain the following:—

In their report to the Government on the Dominion license act, the judges of the Supreme Court say that those clauses of the act which provide for the enforcement of the Canada Temperance Act by officers appointed under the license act are within the competence of the Dominion Parliament. The machinery having been provided, the responsibility for enforcing the Scott Act in counties where it has been adopted, will rest with the Inland Revenue Department. At the argument before the Supreme Court,

counsel for the Provinces raised no objection to the clause before referred to.

**A NEW DANGER.**—A telegram from Panama on the 2nd inst. contains the following singular statement:—

Senor Isidoro Vival mot his death in this city a few days ago under most peculiar circumstances. When about retiring, feeling a pain in his chest he rubbed himself with alcohol, and then poured some of the spirits on his undershirt. He then put out his light, and went to bed. Subsequently, wishing to smoke a cigarette, he struck a match. The spark from the match inflamed the alcohol on the undershirt, and in an instant the unfortunate man was in a blaze. He died on the following day."

**LOST BOTH HIS ARMS.**—A terrible accident occurred to a resident of Port Hope, named John Fallen, at Toronto, last Saturday afternoon. He was under the influence of liquor, and ran against a moving Pullman car at the Union Station. He was thrown down with his head upon the track, and would have been instantly killed, had he not been rescued by an employee. As it was both of his arms were so crushed by the wheels that they had to be amputated above the elbows. He is said to be doing well.

**ORGANIZING.**—The saloon-keepers have formed a league in Chicago and have decided to work for the repeal of the Harper high license law during the coming session of the Legislature, and to urge the passage of a law making a uniform license of \$250 for beer and whiskey. It was said that scores of saloon keepers were selling whiskey under a beer license, while the city authorities had arrested only half a dozen of these violators of the law and then let them go unpunished.

**STRONG LANGUAGE.**—The New York Tribune has a good deal to say about the intemperate language of some temperance workers, but it expresses its own feelings as follows:—"Upon what does the success of the liquor traffic depend? Upon debased manhood, wronged womanhood, defrauded childhood. It holds a mortgage over every cradle; a deed written in heart's blood over every human life. Shall mothers know this and be silent? Shall fathers understand and be silent?"

**NOT TO BE DESPISED.**—Rev. Phillips Brooks in a temperance address made lately in Boston, said: "Never shall my hand or voice be lifted up against so-called temperance fanatics. If ever a cause justified fanaticism, the temperance cause does. To me there is nothing more disgusting or more disheartening to the cause of humanity, than the selfish, case-loving, luxurious man indulging in dissipation, and denouncing the temperance fanaticism."

**DEFEND THE DEFENDERS.**—According to the *British Medical Journal* there was last year an enormous loss to the effective force of the army and navy from intemperance. In the army 1,400 cases of drunkenness were tried by courts martial, besides over 4,000 convictions from crimes springing from excessive drinking. During the year 15,904 soldiers, or 102 in every thousand, were mulcted in their pay for drunkenness.

**IN FRENCH.**—A movement is now on foot to try and educate the French population of Quebec in regard to the desirability and importance of adopting the Scott Act. Arrangements are being made in the city of Quebec to print one hundred thousand copies of the Act in the French language for general distribution among the people.

**A SURE WAY.**—Charles Dickens one wrote, "It is love that makes the world go round." Another effectual way has been found out to make the world go round a good deal faster. It is to drink six hot Scotch whiskies and then suddenly step into the street and strike for home.

### Good Templars.

**COL. HICKMAN.**—Remember that Col. J. J. Hickman, of Kentucky, is expected to spend the present month in this Province, under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Good Templars. Any localities desiring his services will do well to communicate at once with Thomas Lawless, G. W. C., Napanee, who has the arrangements in hand. Col. Hickman is a gentleman of education, refinement, and rare ability. His object is, principally, to strengthen existing Good Templar lodges, or plant lodges where none now exist. No time should be lost in writing.

**THE GRAND SECRETARY.**—Mr. Casey, Grand Secretary, will be in Toronto a good deal of the time during this winter, and can be found during business hours at TRUTH Office. All communications regarding Good Templar work should be sent to Napanee as before. Such will always receive immediate attention.

**THE PASSWORD.**—The password for the February quarter has been sent this week to all deputies from whose lodges returns have been received for the current quarter. Any failing to receive theirs should write a line to the Grand Secretary at once.

### NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**B.**—The fastest time made on any of the British railways is 53 1/2 miles per hour. At the talk about 60 and 70, or faster, is just so much talk. Such a rate is fast enough in all conscience.

**GEORGE.**—Four emperors of Russia have been assassinated since 1740. Rather a ticklish position. Still, we suppose a braver man will stand to his place at all hazards. Every man to his taste.

**W. H. S.**—Persons can enter for more than one competition in TRUTH by sending in more than one subscription fee. Several are doing so and making a present of the extra copy to some friend.

**E. B. GARNER, and MANY OTHERS.**—All persons drawing prizes of the Cyclopaedia or other books, are expected to send 4 cents postage with the application, in case they expect them sent by mail. The same also in regard to brooches awarded.

**T. W. C.**—It is not necessary to copy out a selected and previously published story sent for competition. Sent in printed form it will answer just as well, and will be judged just as readily on its merits. The printers are partial to printed "copy" instead of written manuscript.

**J. T.**—In all cases of TRUTH Bible Competitions the announcements have been published in papers at a distance, like Montreal, Halifax, Boston, New York, London and Chicago. A sufficient time has been given so as to allow time for the mail to bring answers to this office, as soon as those residing nearer here. This is but fair to distant competitors. Every effort is made to deal fairly and impartially with all.

**L. T.**—TRUTH is not omniscient, and therefore can't say what would be best under the circumstances. Keep yourself warm. Take plenty of exercise and plain, wholesome food. Avoid all stimulants and take plenty of sleep, and you will, we suspect, come out all round. Especially keep feet and body warm, and head cold. Use a sponge bath every day and rub the whole body with hard towel. If you even think that the flannel is injurious, don't use it, wear greatly creatures of imagination.

**JACK.**—Yes, there are four British dukes descended from four of King Charles II's mistresses; nay, five. Duke of Buccleugh, from Duke of Monmouth; Lord Walter's son; Duke of Richmond, from Duchess of Portsmouth; Duke of Grafton from Duchess of Cleveland; Duke of St. Albans, from Nell Gwynne, the orange girl and cast off courtesan; the Duke of Devonshire, we rather think, came of the stock. A nice lot anyhow, to brag of the "scion"! Their forefather was one of the most scandalously disgraceful of men, and their mothers were among the most abandoned of women. The less inquiry made on such subjects the better.

**R. T.**—We are sorry for you. The miserable, "solitary habits" are ruining more young men than anything we know. They are taking the very life and vitality out of thousands, making them poor, nervous, shy, stupid louts. Don't think the nobody knows. Almost everybody does. The doctors all do, so do druggists, and teachers, and many others. More young men are through this sent to lunatic asylums than through any other cause. Break it as you value your life and sanity. Defiantly cut off your right hand, or gouge out your right eye, than continue that habit. Don't go to quacks about it. They will strip you to the last shilling. First, wash above all things, have done with it, and this, if necessary, go to a lunatic asylum and put yourself under treatment. Don't hesitate for a moment. Mind it is for life and it is by no means as yet too late. It may soon be, though.