

rance-men is clear. We must rally at once for the contest and roll up, as we easily can, such a vote in condemnation of whisky-selling as will open the eyes of all aldermen to the real state of public feeling. Then, self-interest, that often leads people astray, will compel them to do what is right, and what they ought to do without compulsion.

### THE ALLIANCE MEETING AT OTTAWA.

The action of the Dominion Council of the Alliance must commend itself strongly to every earnest friend of the temperance movement. The present state of license-law is unsatisfactory and uncertain. If the Provincial and Dominion Governments were in harmony there might be hope of some compromise by which a clashing of enactments would be avoided, but as matters stand, we can hardly hope for a settlement of the question of jurisdiction without much embarrassing and expensive litigation. Besides this, the people are sick of the miserable and ineffectual aggregation of inconsistent prohibitions and permissions that characterize our license legislation, and that must always characterize any attempt at regulating immorality. Liquor license laws always have been the most flagrantly violated of our public ordinances, and a law unsound in principle, and with its only commendable provisions unenforced, must have a doubly demoralizing effect. The only right, as well as the only hopeful method of dealing with such an evil as the drink system, is the method of utterly outlawing and exterminating it. The policy of at once placing the issue of total prohibition before Parliament is one that we have warmly advocated, and that we believe will have the approval of temperance men of every shade of political opinion.

The proposal to have a general and simultaneous voting upon the Scott Act in the different counties is also a good one. It was suggested and ably advocated some time ago by Mr. J. G. McCrae of Sarnia, in letters to the *Montreal Witness*. The reports of the success of this Act where it has been adopted, are encouraging in the extreme, and it is easy to see that it would be vastly easier to enforce it, and that it would prove a much greater success in an extensive territory than in an isolated county, with the sale of liquor permitted in surrounding districts. The desirability of the simultaneous voting is also very clear. A general agitation would create more interest, secure more thorough discussion, and for obvious reasons would be more favorable to the temperance side of the contest than would a movement of a merely local character. We earnestly hope that the gentlemen deputed to press this point upon the Government will meet with a ready response to their reasonable request, and also that our friends everywhere will rouse themselves to strenuous efforts to have petitions for the submission of the Act prepared and signed in every county at the earliest possible date.

The decisions arrived at by the Dominion Council are stated in the announcement that we publish as the first article in this number of THE CANADA CITIZEN. The full minutes of the meeting we hope to give to the public in a future issue. The Council was thoroughly earnest, harmonious and practical, and we trust the same will be true of the response that the country will make to its patriotic appeal.

### Selected Articles.

#### THE BISHOP OF NEWCASTLE ON TEMPERANCE.

On Saturday night, under the auspices of the Church of England Temperance Society, the first of a series of free entertainments for the people was given in the Northumberland Hall, Newcastle. The Bishop of Newcastle presided, and the hall was crowded. His Lordship, who was received with applause, said, in obedience to one who was not present, he had attended to say a few words to them. They all knew he referred to

one whose great, loving heart had, in concert with others, provided those entertainments, he meant the Vicar of Newcastle. (Cheers.) He was certain the Vicar would have rejoiced to see how thoroughly they had responded to the invitation, and, for himself, he could only prophesy, if this success went on, that they would have to secure larger rooms. (Applause.) There was no antagonism in that movement to any existing organization. Their one great object was to enable this land to throw off her intemperance, to drive more and more nails in the great coffin which was being prepared for, and in which he trusted they would all help to bury, the national intemperance. (Cheers.) There were so many sides to temperance that it was difficult to speak of the subject, but he would endeavor to say a few words on the economic, the physiological and spiritual sides of the question. With regard to the economic side of the subject, he had in his hand a pamphlet written by Mr. Hoyle, and he learned that during recent years the wages of artisans in this country had risen from forty to eighty per cent. in extent, and in some instances more. They spent every year in the cause of missions £1,050,000. For household coals they spent £15,000,000 per year in the United Kingdom; for milk £30,000,000; for butter and cheese, £35,000,000; for woollen goods, £46,000,000; for the rent of farms, £60,000,000; and they spent per year in the United Kingdom for house-rent and for bread about £70,000,000 for each of these items. But when they came to strong drink of one sort or another in the United Kingdom they found they were spending directly—besides all they spent indirectly—£136,000,000 per annum. Some might say to that, "Well, and why should not the country be just as rich as if that money had been spent in other articles?" The answer was to be found in Mr. Hoyle's words. Mr. Hoyle took the case of a hundred men earning £2 each weekly, and he supposed them to spend 12s. each per week in drink. At the end of the year these 100 men would have spent £3,120. Well, it might be said the £3,120 was not lost, for it circulated throughout the country, and what did it matter how it was spent? But Mr. Hoyle put the other side, he supposed that these workmen had put their money in a building club and invested it in building. It would build twenty houses, costing £106 each, and the money would be circulated in the country just the same as it was when spent in strong drink, but in the one case the £3,120 would be circulated *plus* nothing, in the other case it was circulated *plus* twenty houses added to the wealth of the nation. (Cheers.) He asked them to pursue the comparison. There would be in the case of money spent in drink, of drunkenness, and probably loss of work, miseries at home, a multitude of evils, and a loss of £3,000; in the other, according to Mr. Hoyle, they had twenty men or more set to work to build the houses, they had happiness in families, and comfort existing instead of misery and ruin. But what would the result have been if the £136,000,000 spent yearly in drink had been otherwise spent? Why, they would not have been there that night discussing economic and temperance problems, nor would they see intemperance still prevailing in many parts of their land. (Cheers.) He thought the economic side was one that would appeal to every one of them, and he was certain they would every one desire to see a great shading down of the distinctions that existed between class and class in England, a greater disposal of the wealth of the nation, a greater share for the working classes of that wealth they helped to produce. (Great cheering.) Those distinctions would be broken down if they could persuade many of their neighbors to be, what many of them were at that moment, total abstainers. (Cheers.) The physiological question simply meant were they better or worse for want of drink, and from all parts of England the reply came, "Yes, I am better—clearer in my head and lighter in my heart since I was a water drinker than I was before." He dared say there were that night some fathers of families, and he wanted to ask were they ever called up at night by a troublesome baby—(loud laughter)—for he was told, by medical authority, that it was a physiological fact that the children of total abstainers cried less at such times than those of other people. (Loud Laughter.) He trusted that the time was not far distant when these voices would all join in one great chorus, when the voice of the total abstainers would be heard in every household in England. (Applause.) He wanted to say a word or two on the deepest side of the question, for what, after all, was the whole object of their temperance work? He thought holiness was the great part of their work. No work merely social would ever regenerate, no work merely economical would make men fit for heaven. Let them remember that the grinding of the people was, after all, a stumbling block in the way. (Hear hear.) He thought there was something of mockery in proceeding down to those lairs—he could