

settled territory, covering the Transvaal, Griqualand and the Orange Free State, and with no rail communication whatever, the good work there is carried on in the face of obstacles that would be well nigh insurmountable with a less determined executive. Among the proceedings we note: members were allowed to debate in either the English or Dutch languages. Special prayers for rain, then so much needed in South Africa, were offered up. Providing means for thorough aggressive work in the Transvaal. Aiding certain Lodges that were building their own halls. Giving sympathy and aid to Dr. Lees in his efforts to secure to the Order its legal rights in England. Voting £150 to G. W. C. T. Schreiner in recognition of his services, and to aid him in defraying the expenses of his candidature for a seat in the Cape Parliament. Providing for the publication of the *Templar Advocate* for the present year, and for the thorough circulation of temperance literature in the Dutch and English languages. And re-electing Bro. Theo. Schreiner, G. W. C. T., and Sister H. R. Schreiner G. W. S.

SWEDEN.—Carl Hurtig, G. W. C. T. of the Grand Lodge of Sweden, writing under date of February 11th, says: The Order is growing very fast in Sweden. Nearly 700 Lodges are now unitedly working against King Alcohol in this country. But we have had last year a great controversy and have been fighting most seriously against the 'Workers' Ring,' (Arbetarnes Ring), organized by Mr. L. O. Smith, a powerful and extremely rich whisky seller, certainly the mightiest liquor seller in this country. The 'Workers' Ring' simulated temperance, attacked and assailed the companies of retail liquor sellers. These companies are organized at the towns throughout the entire country according to the Gothenburg Liquor Companies Line (Goteburgs Utskanknings Aklie Bolag). But the 'Workers' Ring' did not advocate prohibition, but proclaimed a new system of license with *low prices*. The liquor companies in Sweden are composed of—strange to say—temperance men who by legislative steps and measures, and by *high prices*, endeavor to raise difficulties and obstacles for the industrious classes to reach the destroying drink. They are kind to Good Templars and have, especially at Gothenburg, established several temperance and reading rooms for Good Templars. About 20,000 kronor (a kronor is about 27 cents, therefore about \$5,400) are bestowed upon these saloons. Besides at several places these Companies have given money to the Good Templars, amounting to several thousand dollars. The liquor traffic is thus bound and confined within—as I may say—certain hedges, the consumption having sunk (1880-1883) from 40,000,000 to 30,000,000 litres on year, or about 25 per cent. This is in no respect agreeable to the great whisky King, L. O. Smith. He therefore made the Workers' Ring—I hope you will understand why!"

The last three items are taken from the official circular of the R. W. G. T. which has just been received, and is full of interest and information.

GENERAL.

CANADIAN.

Cheering news continues to come in from all directions. "The heather is fairly on fire," and we may expect a grand summer's work on the Scott Act line.

ARTHABASKA, QUE.—Official notice is given to the people of the county of Arthabaska, Quebec, by advertisement in the *Arthabaskaville Alpha*, that the Scott Act petition, duly signed, would be deposited in the Registrar's office on the tenth of April. The promptness and quickness with which the workers in Arthabaska have advanced the campaign to this satisfactory stage is in the highest degree commendable and exemplary. Such beaver-like industry and unassuming devotion must result in triumph at the polls. Arthabaska is making herself a noble example to other constituencies.—*War Notes*.

DUNDAS, STORMONT AND GLENGARRY.—The Cornwall *Freeholder* reports "a large and enthusiastic meeting of the hotel-keepers and licensed grocers of the united counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry," held recently in that town. Mr. A. G. Hodge, the Secretary of that highly philanthropic organization, the Ontario Trades Benevolent Association, addressed the assembly at some length, urging the necessity of thorough organization. He referred to the recent Scott Act campaigns in Oxford and Halton, and "warned the licensed dealers not to be over-confident." To advise them not to give way to utter despair in view of the Oxford defeat would probably have been a more precise way of expressing the

view of the situation held by the managers of the Trades Benevolent Association, but to put it that way would have caused what it was meant to cure. Mr. Hodge also reported interviews he had with the Dominion and the Ontario Premiers, and closed by urging his beloved brethren to appoint local men everywhere to hold up the standard of the traffic, and when the proper time came the Association would supply foreign talent to aid in defeating the passage of the Act. When the proper time comes the Association will require a very large supply of "foreign talent" to meet the demand. Mr. McGannon advocated the publishing of two columns of anti-Scott Act articles in the newspapers of the counties. Mr. Geo. McDonnell favored the procuring of speakers to "stump" the counties in behalf of the liquor dealers and the raising of a fund among the dealers to carry on the campaign. After organizing an Anti-Scott Act Association, it was decided that each hotel-keeper and licensed grocer be assessed \$25 to be paid to the treasurer in five equal instalments. "Put a little more water in the keg, Joe; we cannot carry on this war without funds."

SIMCOE.—The April meeting of the C. E. T. S., at Orillia, on Tuesday evening, was the best held for some time. The Rev. Rural-Dean Stewart, President, occupied the chair. Miss Stewart presided at the organ, and the choir, under the leadership of Mr. N. Baker, led the singing of suitable hymns, at intervals. The Rev. J. O. Crisp stated that science had shown that alcohol was not food, and afforded no strength. He advocated total abstinence as beneficial to the abstainer, a benefit to the community, and a Christian duty. As probably that was the last address on temperance he should deliver in Orillia, he ventured to say that, though their efforts had been feeble and the fruits not very manifest, there had been good work accomplished, and the Orillia C. E. T. S., had much reason to thank God for the past, and take courage for the future. They had only entered upon the work, but it was one for the Master, and success sooner or later was certain. Mr. N. W. Hoyles, of Toronto, gave Orillia the credit of being the banner town in the temperance movement, and said he had felt it useless to visit the town for the purpose of talking temperance, until he read in the *PACKET* that there were still two or three Councillors who believed in the long exploded fallacy that the number of places where liquor was sold did not affect the consumption. He showed what progress temperance sentiment had made during the past twenty years, in the Motherland and in Canada. Scientific investigation had demonstrated that alcohol was not only unnecessary but positively injurious, in any quantity. He pointed out the usefulness of the dual basis, but urged the Christian privilege and duty of total abstinence. He expressed the hope that as Orillia was the banner town in the temperance movement, so would she be in that of Prohibition, by taking hold heartily of the Scott Act campaign. Eloquently he warned against indifference in that work. When the men of Israel went forth to battle, the people of the little hamlet of Meroz seemed to have said, if they are to have a victory, our few men will not be needed; if they should be defeated it will be just as well we should be out of it. But when the victory had been won without them, the Angel of the Covenant, the Saviour himself, pronounced those terrible words: "Curse ye Meroz; curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty." The Lord did not need any man's help; He would gain the victory whether men came to his help or not; but let men beware how they form indolence or worldly prudence, which incurred the terrible curse of Meroz. The opportunity of coming to the help of the Lord against the mighty evil of Drink was offered to the people of Orillia; would they take it?—The ladies served light refreshments. Mr. C. J. Miller, as a member of the Society, to which he considered it an honor to belong, moved a vote of thanks to the speakers. In doing so, he gave a short report of the convention held that day in Barrie. Two thousand dollars had been guaranteed for necessary expenses, and it was resolved that glorious Old Simcoe should be one of the twenty-eight counties in which the Scott Act would be submitted during the summer. That decision meant that hard work must be done, for the law would be adopted. Both the Judges of the County Court the Rev. Canon Morgan, the Rev. J. H. Harris, of North Orillia and Medonte, and other prominent members of the C. E. T. S., were at the convention, and heartily approved of the determination that Simcoe should be one of the Prohibition counties of Ontario. Mr. J. P. Henderson seconded the motion. He spoke approvingly of the work of the C. E. T. S., especially among the young. He said he had enjoyed the meeting very much, and particularly congratulated Mr. Hoyles upon his moderate yet forcible address. But as in