

B. C. GOOD TEMPLAR.

"FOR GOD AND HOME AND EVERY LAND."

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The Official Organ of Good Templars in British Columbia.

Edited by C. S. KEITH, T. C. WHITE and W. W. BRRESTER, under special instructions from the Grand Lodge.

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Correspondents and reporters should, in order to secure notice, pass in their communications before the 5th of each month.

Brothers M. Byson, E. B. Stuchcombe and A. E. Mann have been appointed to look after the interests of this paper in New Westminster, and are authorized to receive subscriptions and arrange advertisements.

SOCIAL.

Good Templary has always made the most of the social side of life, and herein lies one source of its great hold on the peoples of the world. Of late years it has been extending this already important branch of work, and now in addition to the regular Lodge social circle and the one day picnic, we have week outings, and, in some cases, the month camp meetings. We believe the time has come when British Columbia should have her Lakeside or Phantom Lake, or more properly speaking, have three, one on the island, one on the lower mainland, and one in the interior. There seems to be two principal ways of managing these gatherings; one is by means of a committee from the society, and the other and better one is to form a joint stock company. When run by a company the meetings sometimes last throughout the warm weather, visitors coming and going as opportunity offers. In conducting a committee camp the following seems to be the most approved plan of procedure:—

First—Decide on the place of meeting and the length of time.

Second—Make out an estimate of the necessary expense, such as tents, conveyances, provisions, etc.

Third—Raise by subscription such funds as may be necessary to square the account over and above the rent of stands, etc.

Fourth—Sell or rent all the privileges such as the rent of tents, refreshment and fruit stands, etc.

Fifth—Arrange for lots of music.

Sixth—Arrange for several good speakers, especially if the meeting is to last for a few days.

If our societies were to take hold of this and arrange something after the manner indicated, a goodly number who now merely flit away the time at some unsightly resort with its continual bath, would attend the gathering, glad of the opportunity to inspire the mental as well as the social and physical nature. We trust that some of our members in the District or Subordinate Lodges will take hold of this matter and arrange a meeting, and maybe thereby some of the poorer members who could not otherwise get away, might be induced to attend at a small expense.

ON TOP AGAIN.

Ontario has gone Prohibition. Majority, 60,314. Prince Edward Island majority, 7,226.

POLITICAL.

We would recommend that the members of our Order drop party lines in times of election, and to vote for those candidates who are pledged to our support.

Such is the recommendation of our Grand Lodge to our members throughout the province, and a recommendation, we think, which should be faithfully observed by every member of our Order and every sympathizer of temperance principles.

On the 18th inst. the Provincial Legislature will be opened for the fourth and last session of the present parliament, and in the ordinary course

of events the provincial elections must take place sometime during the coming summer. It therefore behooves every friend of moral reform to be up and doing; it is not too early even now to make preparations for the coming campaign. We believe, speaking more particularly to our own membership, that every Lodge should, for the coming contest, have committees at once appointed composed of voters.

Some of the duties of this committee would be, we think: 1st—To secure the registration of every person entitled to vote who is favorable to our views. 2nd—To see to having a reliable candidate brought forward. 3d—To act in conjunction with the committees from other societies. 4th—To raise the funds necessary to carry on the campaign. 5th—To keep all proceedings of the committee absolutely secret. If the committee bring forward a candidate, great care should be taken in making the selection. Every temperance man or every member of a temperance society, or every member of a church, is not necessarily a suitable candidate.

A suitable candidate should be: 1st—An advanced prohibitionist. 2nd—In favor of moral reform. 3d—A church member. 4th—A man who will not need all the influence of the Prohibitionists, moral reformers and church members to carry him over the history of his past life. 5th—A man who, above all other considerations, has the record of an unblemished character to fall back on. 6th—a man (not a figure-head). Having secured a committee and a candidate, canvas every voter and don't take evasive answers. Know before election day exactly where you stand. Prevent by every means in your power a three-cornered fight unless you have the dark horse. Use all the printer's ink you can get hold of. Good Templars should take advantage of their power. Fifteen hundred Good