

A communication from the Rev. Mr. Robson, President of the British Columbia Branch, was read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Work.

BRITISH COLUMBIA BRANCH.

The following letter has been received by the Corresponding Secretary:—

Nanaimo, B.C., 17th Feb., 1896.

DEAR SIR,—A letter from you to Mr. J. B. Kennedy, of New Westminster, has been handed to me. It is dated December 21st, 1895.

In reply to its contents, I would say that the British Columbia Branch of the Dominion Alliance, which was organized in 1881 (I think), did not have a long or successful career. It has, in fact, been dead for several years past.

On the 15th and 16th of December last there was a temperance convention held in Victoria, at which it was decided to re-organize the Branch Alliance, which was partly done by the appointment of a provisional Executive Council. Of this Council I had the honor of being elected President, and the Rev. Donald Fraser was elected Secretary. An account of the Convention and the resolutions passed thereat is to be found in THE CANADA CITIZEN of January 8th. From that account it will be seen that we deplore the "bad pre-eminence" which our Province has attained in the use of intoxicating liquor, and call upon our fellow-citizens to discountenance, by example and precept, the drinking usages of the day; that we are going to secure, as far as possible, the return to our Provincial Parliament at the forthcoming election of such men as will pledge themselves to vote for the thorough revision of our license law in the interest of temperance; that we are going to petition the Dominion Parliament to make the Scott Act available in British Columbia; that we have appointed a committee to confer with the Government with a view to securing temperance instruction in the public schools of the Province.

As to the sending of delegates to the Dominion Council meeting in Ottawa and payment of the \$90, I can say nothing, as nothing was said at the Convention. We are to meet again in May to perfect our organization by adopting a constitution, etc., when the matter of finance will be dealt with. At present we have neither membership nor funds.

Should you wish information respecting our Province and the interests of the temperance cause, Noah Shakespeare, M.P., will no doubt be glad to afford you anything in that line.

Yours very truly,

E. ROBSON.

The meeting then adjourned.

FRIDAY.

MORNING SESSION.

The Council was called to order at 10 o'clock.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

It was moved by Mr. Spence and seconded by Mr. Dougall:

"That the officers of this Council be authorized to issue credentials for any person or persons whom they shall select as representatives to the Temperance Conference to be held in London, Eng., during the approaching Colonial Exhibition." Carried.

On motion of Mr. Dougall, the order of the day was postponed, and the Council was resolved into a Committee of the Whole to discuss the report of the Committee on Legislation.

Mr. McLaren then presented the following

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION.

Your committee beg leave to report that they recommend the re-introduction