

THE GREAT CONVENTION.

We desire to press earnestly upon our readers the importance of the great convention to be held in the City of Toronto on July 11th. Full particulars are set out in a circular issued by the Alliance Executive, which we reprint in full on our front page.

The emergency in which prohibitionists find themselves at the present time, ought to command the deep concern of all who are interested in what is right. The meeting at Toronto on the 11th inst. will have special relation to this situation. We earnestly urge all churches and organizations to make special effort to secure as full an attendance of delegates as it is possible to secure.

AROUND THE WORLD.

The annual report of the National Temperance Society of the United States contains many items of interest relating to the progress of the temperance cause in different parts of the world. We clip the following—

In Russia.

In this country various attempts have of late years been made by the Government to abolish drunkenness. The state dispensary or Gothenburg system was the last panacea recommended as the cure all. Among the papers advocating this measure was the "Novosti," of St. Petersburg, recognized as the leading liberal organ of Russia. Now that paper hoists the flag of absolute prohibition, in an editorial, which confirms that no temperance measures (that is, measures allowing the manufacture and sale in any form) will do away with drunkenness. Drunkenness will exist just so long as liquor is sold. To abolish drunkenness is possible but in one way—by abolishing through absolute prohibition the manufacture and sale of liquor.

Great Crusade in the North of England.

One of the most sweeping temperance campaigns which the North of England has ever witnessed has just been finished, under the auspices of the North of England Temperance League. Two thousand meetings were planned for the three months of January, February and March. Most of the work was done in the coal-mining villages and larger towns by volunteer service. Members of Parliament, Lord Mayors, members of the nobility and prominent ministers and laymen spoke daily.

Happy Iceland.

With 74,000 inhabitants, Iceland has only one policeman. No liquor is allowed to be sold, except in the capital, Reykjavik, where, by the express order of the king of Denmark, there are two places where liquor is sold. The sole duty of this policeman is to arrest such drunken sailors or visitors as threaten the public peace.

The Sudan Victory.

Sir Horatio Kitchener's recent victory at Atbara was a great triumph for total abstinence. Thanks to total abstinence, the men were able to make forced marches of the most extraordinary character across the burning desert, and under a blazing sun, the heat of whose rays can only be appreciated by those who have lived under the equator. Yet, in spite of this, there had never been a campaign where there was so little sickness, where so few men were compelled to fall out even in the longest marches, and where the troops had been got into such magnificent physical and moral training that they would actually cover thirty miles of sand with empty water bottles, without slaking their thirst once from the beginning to the end of the march, at the close of which they would still find themselves sufficiently fresh and vigorous to win a hard-fought victory, such as that at Atbara.

Banish the drink evil from the army and the Nation will save in men and money.

Victory for Abstinence at Santiago.

In the destruction of the Cervera fleet, alcohol was a potent factor. The Spanish prisoners freely admitted that many of their gunners were drunk. Before the sortie wine and spirits on board were handed out without stint. With the command to move out, came the order, "Open the stores of wine and brandy." The men drank as they served the guns. On the gun decks the sun beamed down on men whose stomachs were filled with the fiery liquid and made them half mad. They tore their clothing from their backs, cursing and shrieking because of the strain and the liquor. Such men, crazed with drink, could not shoot straight.

The firing of the American ships was frightful in its accuracy and effect, because the guns were manned by sailors whose nerves were steady, whose brains were clear.

Scientific Teaching in U. S. Schools.

It has been decided that the various boards of education must enforce the law passed by Congress May 20th, 1896, that makes the study of alcoholism with reference to its effects upon the human system a compulsory branch of study not only in the public schools of the Territories, but in the various Indian school wherever located, and in the naval and military schools of the United States. Teachers also must pass a satisfactory examination on this special subject if they have not already done so.

In France.

The Minister of Public Instruction has taken the matter up seriously, and has appointed a special commission to inquire as to what is the best way to bring the dangers of alcohol before the children in the public and superior schools of France. One result is that a series of recommendations have been made, amongst other things, that suitable hand-books be prepared, to be used in different classes to instruct the young on the nature and effects of alcohol, that regular instruction be given in the matter, and that special lectures be delivered by eminent medical men each year, in order to enforce the lessons learned in class.

Great Britain.

In Great Britain scientific temperance teaching is not as in the United States, obligatory, but is carried on by voluntary agencies. Among the most efficient agencies is the United Kingdom Band of Hope. The teaching is carried forward through local Bands of Hope and other Juvenile Temperance Societies, having in the aggregate some 3,308,908 members; while the number of children on the registers of the elementary schools 5,507,039, of whom 1,972,331 are infants and 3,534,708 are older pupils.

Germany.

Medical professors in the universities and practicing physicians in Germany are pushing the study of alcohol problems with a determined hand. They are finally thoroughly aroused on the subject, are organizing societies, instituting courses of lectures and public discussions of the subject, and producing a most valuable series of scientific addresses in the interest of total abstinence.

Recently, during the second annual convention of the German Medical Total Abstinence Society, which met in Braunschweig, a petition was sent by the assembled physicians to the Prussian Minister of Public Instruction demanding in all schools temperance teaching by means of tables of statistics and of drawings showing the effect of alcohol upon the human system and in self interest the practice of total abstinence during the school period.

Belgium.

With the hope of diminishing drunkenness, the Government Minister of Labor has recently sent out a circular with suggestions to local authorities. He tells them not to permit intoxicants to be sold in any municipal buildings, or in manufactories and workshops; to forbid

auctions in public houses; and not to permit any official to reside in one. Town Councils are to be strict in regard to taverns, dancing halls and cafes chantants, and to specially tax them. Drinking fountains should be erected in all public places.

Ethiopia's Appeal for Deliverance.

What a spectacle, Dark Ethiopia stretching out her hands to Christian Britain and praying to be delivered from the African liquor trade! The British Secretary of State for the Colonies, Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, lately received in London a deputation in part made up of representatives of native African races, appealing to him to bring about the co-operation of European powers for the repression if not the suppression of the sale of liquor in the Dark Continent.

Intoxicating Liquors and Labor.

The Department of Labor at Washington, desirous of ascertaining the extent to which employers of labor took into consideration the habits—in regard to the use of drink—of those seeking employment, and also the lines of industry refusing to employ those given to the use of intoxicating drink, sent out inquiries to 30,414 employers of labor, of whom 12,000 were engaged in agriculture, 6,673 in manufactures, 6,582 in mining and quarrying, 3,040 in trade, and 2,005 in transportation. Replies were obtained from more than one-half of the manufacturing establishments, employing more than one million men. In transportation 713 companies reported 458,764 employees. About 75 per cent. of those answering the inquiries declared that they endeavored to satisfy themselves that the men they employed were not addicted to the use of liquor. They employed men of temperate habits, as drinking men could not be trusted in responsible positions, neither was their work satisfactory.

Massachusetts.

The friends in this State have had much cause to rejoice over no-license victories. Twenty-four cities show net gains. The campaign in Brockton is especially worthy of note. After six months of license, the citizens turned out and voted No by a majority of over 2,000. It is a significant fact that on the night before the election, a number of the women of the local union were in prayer all night long.

In Boston the saloon majority was cut down nearly one half. The net gain in the cities was over 13,000.

The Faxon law, which makes it compulsory that every package of liquors shall have upon the outside the name and full address, with street and number of the receiver and also of the sender, has been declared by the Supreme Court to be constitutional.

Refused the Dispensary.

Lexington, N. C., does not issue license to sell liquor. Some people there wanted a dispensary and got a bill through the Legislature to have a vote on it the 1st of May. The election was held and only 24 people voted for it. The people just would not have anything to do with it. Good. Lexington can well get along without the dispensary just as she has gotten along without the saloons.

Triumph in Texas.

Steady prohibition gains have been made during the past year in this State, so that now one-half the population even in Texas is under prohibition; 55 of the 220 organized counties are wholly so by local option.

Results of Kansas Prohibition.

There are forty-five counties in prohibition Kansas where the poor houses and poor farms are without a single pauper, and at the last sittings of the district courts there were thirty-seven counties where no criminals were found for trial. Prohibition satisfies the great majority in that State. What license State can show one county where there is not a pauper in its poor house or a criminal for the courts? We think we are safe in saying, not one.

TORONTO, 1899.

DEAR FRIEND,—

You are respectfully requested to carefully examine **The Camp Fire**, a neat four-page monthly Prohibition paper, full of bright, pointed, convenient facts and arguments; containing also a valuable summary of the latest news about our cause. It is just what is needed to **inspire workers and make votes**.

The victory won last year was only the opening of a campaign in which the liquor traffic will do its utmost to block, delay, and if possible prevent our securing the enactment and enforcement of prohibitory law. We have plenty of hard fighting ahead of us. We must keep posted and equipped, knowing all that is being done by our friends and foes, and sophistry and misrepresentation that will be advanced.

The Camp Fire will be one of the best aids you can have in the struggle. It will contain nothing but what you need. Every number ought to be preserved. You cannot afford to be without it, and the subscription price is only nominal, **Twenty-five cents per year**.

While a necessity to every prohibition worker the **The Camp Fire** will also be of special value for distribution. Literature won the plebiscite victory. We must keep up the educating work. Printed matter tells. It does its work continuously, silently, fearlessly and No form of literature is so generally read and so potential as the up-to-date periodical. It comes with the force and interest of newness and life. For this reason the form of a monthly journal has been selected.

This journal will be in every respect reliable and readable. Every article will be short, good and forcible, containing nothing sectional, sectarian or partizan. The literature of the old world and the new world will be ramsacked for the most helpful and effective material. The price is very low.

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Your help is asked in this great work. **Every society** should subscribe for and distribute hundreds of copies. This is the easiest and surest plan of making prohibition votes. Look at the terms:

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