

You will see that I have shown you that the workingman could pay pretty good prices for everything, and would be able to buy an additional quantity of these things, and my experience of the workingman that drinks 10 cents per day, from what I have seen of their children and wives, would be that the \$34.45 would be an exceedingly grateful thing in their houses, and that there would be no difficulty in getting away with all the extra items which I have mentioned here.

If the farmer will consider for a moment the fact that the brewer only pays him \$1.95 for the raw material of the article by which, when manufactured, \$36.50 is absorbed from the means of the workingman, he will readily see that an enormous sum in the aggregate will be added to the available means of the workingman for expenditure in the products of the farm, provided that the expenditure on intoxicating liquors is ended—more than sufficient to provide for the loss calculated in the liquor dealers circular a hundred times. But when, as I have shown, no such loss accrues, the positive financial advantages to the farmers and to the country, of the adoption of the Scott Act, are so apparent that no sensible man should hesitate to do all in his power to bring about this desirable end as rapidly as possible.

THE SCOTT ACT IN HALTON.

The *St. Thomas Times* sent a special commissioner to Halton to examine into the working of the Scott Act in that city. We clip the following from his report:—

Doctor's differences are proverbial both personal and professional, but they cannot begin to compare with the differences of opinions held by residents of Milton in reference to the Scott Act. Acting on your instruction I 'interviewed' various merchants and other business men as to the effects of the passage of the Scott Act on the trade of the village, and as was to be expected I found them widely divided. Many of them say that their business has not decreased an iota—in fact that it has increased. Since there has been no legalized hotels to shed their blessings around, they claim that many men who formerly spent their money at the groggeries, now lead sober, industrious lives, and devote their wages to the support of their families. Those who prefer to see the continuance of the sale of 'the juice o the rye, which is so indigenious to our soil' contend on the other hand that the injury occasioned has been vast, while still others who are neutral express no opinion, but prefer to use their own discretion in dealing with the question, and it is undeniable that a majority of them do not fail to indulge in more or less searching experiments, upon their own constitutions as to the relative effects of licensed and unlicensed whisky. That the passage of the Act has not had the effect of closing up all the hotels is self-evident for, as I write, "I take mine ease in mine inn." And the surroundings of the hostlerie are as cosy as ever, albeit the shining crystal is no longer displayed in glittering rows on the bar. True, there are not the same number of houses of accommodation as in former times. Those which have been closed still hold out an almost ludicrous resistance against the march of time; propped up by wooden beams resembling crutches, against which they lean like some incurable cripples, who have the appearance of being on their last legs. The conclusions I have come to, after thoroughly comparing the views of all parties concerned, the Scott Act stands no chance of being repealed in Halton. The licensed hotel is a thing of the past and

I know not where is that Promethean heat
That can its light relume.

Briefly summarized, the working of the Act in Halton the past two years has had the following effects.—It has reduced public tippling, but has not prevented the consumption of liquor, enormous quantities of which are smuggled into the several villages from Brampton. It has undoubtedly had the effect of reducing crime, which is now almost unknown in the county. Its enforcement has not been of a stringent character and many of its provisions have been openly violated. That the measure has had deleterious effects upon business is not clearly proven, but as there are no cities or towns of any considerable size in the county its trade forms no criterion, and could not fairly be used in argument. The absence of places of any considerable size prevents any idea being formed from the county's experience, of the extent to which the adoption of the measure might affect the trade of a city like St. Thomas. Its population being principally rural, Halton was

one of the most favorable counties in which to submit the Act, as well as being the one which would least show the injurious outcome—if such there should be—likely to flow from the passage of the prohibitory law. There can be no question, in my mind, and the conclusion is a deduction from the views expressed by the various parties interviewed, that less injurious effects, in a monetary point of view flow from the passage of the Act in agricultural communities than in towns and cities.

THE LIQUOR DEALERS ALARMED

The following remarks are taken from the *Champion*, the organ of the liquor sellers in the United States. To a great extent they may be considered as referring to Canada as well as the United States.—"Our foes, those who seek the suppression of the liquor traffic, have thirty two States and Territories thoroughly organized, and all contributing liberally to their campaign funds. They keep dozens of able speakers and agitators in the field, going from State to State, from town to town, to enlist recruits for the prohibition armies, and collect money for war purposes. The result of their energy and work can be seen by the reports of the various State legislatures. The whole United States are ablaze with the beacon fire of the prohibition crusaders advocating prohibition, or extravagant high license, which is but the first step toward prohibition, and has become a political issue between the two great parties, the Republicans and the Democrats, not only in every single State, but in the halls of our national Congress.

"What are you liquor-dealers and manufacturers going to do about it? Are you going to look on like the Mahommedan to the accomplishment of his destiny, of the fatalist to his final doom? or do you propose to fight for your rights, your liberty, your property and your existence? It is time you should awake to the sense of the doom which stares you in the face."

HOTEL KEEPING AND LIQUOR SELLING.

Some very unscrupulous men engage in selling whisky, as well as in other things, but it must be remembered that there are some respectable men who are honorable in their business transactions, and kind and generous in their natures, that have also been engaged in this work. There need not be a more respectable calling than that of keeping a hotel, but unfortunately the sale of intoxicants has been usually connected with it, and has certainly, in the estimation of many, brought a stigma upon it. If the sale of liquors be prohibited, it will certainly raise the general respect for the hotel. It will still be a lucrative business, and it ought to be, for when a man surrenders for the accommodation of the public much of his domestic privacy, and opens his house as a home to the public, he ought to be well paid, not only for the service he renders, and the provisions he supplies, but for the accommodation he affords and the domestic quiet he surrenders. There would be no business more necessary, more respected and legitimate than that of keeping a good hotel dissociated from the sale of liquors. Next to his own home what would be more grateful to a weary traveller than a comfortable hotel? And where can the many young gentlemen engaged in business in our cities away from their homes find a better substitute for them than a respectable hotel, apart from the temptation of the bar? We contend, then, that hotel-keepers are not to be brought under a sweeping denunciation in this warfare, nor are they, by intelligent temperance men, who contend that by doing away with the liquor traffic they shall confer a favour on all respectable hotel keepers, by removing that which, in the estimation of a great many, is a stigma upon the business. There is no wish, if we understand the claims of the temperance men, to inflict any injury on any legitimate, useful and necessary business, but only to remove what is unnecessary, that the business may stand before the public on its merits, and not to be misjudged because of something connected with it that is not indispensable and is certainly injurious and bad in its influence. It would be well if in the beginning of the conflict the leaders on both sides could understand each other; there would be much less bitterness in the coming contest. Let each give the other credit for what is right in effort and intention. In some places hotel keepers have been as glad with the prohibition of the sale of liquors as anybody else. It is quite possible there may be some who on calm deliberation will feel that those who are trying to get legal enactments to suppress that part of the business which brings a stigma on all the rest, are not personal enemies.—*St. Thomas Times*.