

# THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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**Every one who receives this paper is respectfully requested to read every part of it carefully. It is a journal that no Canadian temperance worker can afford to be without. The subscription price is almost insignificant. In the present campaign for prohibition legislation in Ontario it will be of intense interest and great value.**

## GET READY!

At an early date a deputation will wait upon the Provincial Government in fulfillment of its promise to promote provincial prohibition.

The answer of the Government will put prohibitionists in possession of definite information which will guide them as to methods and details of work in the coming campaign. The fight, therefore, is coming, and no time should be lost in preparing for it.

It is specially important that the names of officers of all committees and societies should be forwarded as speedily as possible to the Secretary of the Dominion Alliance, so that he may be able to communicate with them directly, with information, suggestions and advice, immediately after the Government's declaration has been made.

## STAND FIRM.

When the result of the Dominion Plebiscite was announced some earnest but impulsive friends of our cause who had expected larger results expressed their discouragement in unwise public utterances.

Unguarded statements were eagerly seized upon by the opponents of our cause, and in the House of Commons and in other places politicians made a great deal of capital out of the fact that a few temperance men had stated that the majority secured was not sufficient to warrant prohibitory legislation. Efforts are already being made by the liquor interest to draw friends of the temperance cause into the same net. We trust that these schemes will fail. No good can be done by anticipating difficulties that may never come, and endorsing or opposing methods which may not even be seriously considered.

The situation is simply this. The people declared for prohibition. The Government is pledged to prohibition. The Legislature has power to enact prohibition. We have a right to ask for prohibition. We have a right to expect prohibition. The duty now is organization, not fretting over lions in the way which exist only in the imagination of the fretters.

## READ CAREFULLY THE APPEAL ON PAGE 4.

### THE DECISION.

Friday, November 22nd, was a red letter day in the history of the temperance cause. It saw the deliverance of the judgment of the Law Lords of the Privy Council, declaring the constitutionality of the Manitoba Prohibitory Law. Provinces are therefore free to enact legislation prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes. The way is cleared for immediate advance.

In the Dominion Plebiscite every Province excepting Quebec gave a substantial majority in favor of prohibition. The enormous adverse vote of Quebec prevented the enactment of a national prohibitory law. There was uncertainty as to whether or not effective prohibitory legislation could be enacted by any other authority than the Dominion Parliament.

The doubt is now removed. Any Province can enact prohibition. Every Province but one is in favor of prohibition. Manitoba has a prohibitory law already. Prince Edward Island is in the same enviable position. Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia may now follow the good example that has been set.

No doubt the effective operation of prohibition in other provinces will lead to a change of sentiment in Quebec. We are therefore warranted in hoping that the decision of November 22nd will result in the outlawing of the liquor traffic throughout the whole Dominion. We "thank God and take courage."

### A DOUBLE CAMPAIGN.

Two campaigns are ahead of us: (1) A campaign to secure the enactment of a law when the legislature meets in January; (2) A campaign to secure the election of members of the legislature who will stand by prohibition. A general election will be held shortly after the coming session closes.

It is confidently expected that legislation will be introduced into the House by the Government. We must be prepared to use all reasonable efforts to have such legislation carried through the House in effective form.

Members of the Legislature who support us in the House will meet with bitter opposition from the liquor party when they present themselves for re-election. It will be our imperative duty to stand by such men.

There is therefore need for immediate organization. Our workers ought to lose no time in securing the

formation of a strong Prohibition Alliance in every electoral district, and the appointment of an energetic and judicious prohibition committee for every church congregation, young people's society and temperance organization.

### PUBLIC MEETINGS.

The campaign upon which we are entering must be a campaign of education as well as action. Public opinion on prohibition has recently become apathetic because of disappointment and delay. Now that bright prospects have opened to us, we must take steps to stir our friends to the earnestness which the importance of our cause and our position demands.

Public meetings are invaluable. Every church ought to have a prohibition meeting. Every young people's society ought to have a prohibition meeting. Every temperance organization ought to hold a public meeting. The Alliance Secretary will endeavor to furnish names of speakers and suggestions for such work.

This work ought to be commenced at once. Before the end of the year we should have hundreds of rousing meetings addressed by wise and earnest speakers. These meetings may be made useful in securing effective organization of our working forces. Now is the time to act.

### LITERATURE

Literature circulation will doubtless be an important feature in the coming campaign. This line of action produced splendid results in the plebiscite contests. It will be needed more than ever in the fight that is coming on. Already the liquor party has raised the cry of non-enforcement and is striving hard to discredit prohibition by misrepresentation of the results that such legislation has achieved in other places. We must be prepared to give the people the full facts in reply to the misstatements that will be issued, and to show the success that has attended wisely framed and honestly enforced prohibitory legislation.

Other phases of the liquor question must be discussed. Workers are urged to make provision in their plans for literature circulation. The Dominion Alliance will probably issue a great deal of carefully prepared literature suitable for distribution. Meantime any suggestions regarding the kind of literature likely to be most useful, and any copies of documents of value for this purpose will be thankfully received by the Alliance Secretary.

### LAWLESSNESS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

In Nova Scotia there is a roused interest in temperance reform and vigorous efforts are being made to enforce the Canada Temperance Act. These efforts are being met in some places by organized rowdiness and an attempt to terrorise prosecuting officers. Not long ago the Mayor of Glace Bay found nailed to his gate post, a large placard headed "The

Bullet and the Torch," in which he was warned that if he continued to enforce the law his house would be burned and the chief of police would be murdered. As an evidence of their earnestness, the liquor men destroyed a number of ornamental trees and killed a lot of poultry.

At Charlottetown, in Hants County, the License Inspector has been suffering for his honest discharge of duty. Two barns were burned, containing five horses, two cows, one hundred hens, a year's crop and a quantity of valuable implements, the total loss amounting to \$3,000.

At Stellarton a number of prosecutions have been brought by County Inspector John D. McMillan, who has been much encouraged by temperance workers, and as a result a large number of convictions have been secured.

In Westville, vigorous enforcement is the order and one of the most persistent offenders has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment. Rev. Mr. McLeod, who was fearless in denunciation of lawlessness, recently had his windows broken and an attempt made to burn down his dwelling.

### CANADA'S DRINK BILL.

The Canadian Excise returns for the fiscal year ending June 30th last are not encouraging from a temperance standpoint. The tables given show increased consumption of beer, spirits and wine, the quantities of spirits and malt liquors on which duty was paid during the past two years being as follows, in gallons:—

Year	Spirits	Beer
1900	2,523,576	23,309,172
1901	2,707,919	25,108,254

The Canadian importation of wine is comparatively unimportant. If we take all the liquors on which duty was paid during the past two years, we find the amount annually consumed by every thousand of the population to be, in gallons as follows:—

	In 1900.	In 1901
Spirits	701	765
Beer	4,364	4,787
Wine	85	100
Totals	5,150	5,602

The total revenue collected on intoxicating liquors, cigars and tobacco showed an increase for 1901 over the revenue for 1900, the increase amounting to \$565,590.

### AFRICAN NATIVES AND LIQUOR

The Native Races and the Liquor Traffic United Committee of Great Britain, has just issued an important document earnestly pleading for such administrative action in South Africa as will protect the natives against the terrible evils of intemperance. The different nations interested in South African development have recognized the desirability of totally prohibiting the sale of liquor to the natives. The committee has taken active steps to press upon the Government the necessity of such prohibition in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, and Mr. Chamberlain has given repeated evidence of his sympathy with the views of this committee.