

WHAT SHALL WE DO?

How dare we be silent, unmoved, and cold
When the fire of drink, that for centuries has rolled
Through the fields of humanity, still rolls on,
With its fury increased, with its flames uncontrolled!
Shall the century to come as the century gone,
See this fire, law-fed, growing bold and more bold?
How dare we be cold?

Shall not we fight fire with fire—the fire
Of rum-thirst with the fire of God's love? Shall we tire
In our labor of love for humanity, while
Satan's labor of hate is increased, and while higher
And higher defiant leap flames that defile?
While the day of destruction or freedom draws nigher,
Shall we tire?

While Right and Wrong with each other vie
Until death, can we stand idly by
And watch the conflict with heart unmoved?
Or wide to the breeze shall our banner fly,
As we fight with the soldiers that time has proved?
Oh! now in this grand age of do or die,
Dare we stand by!

A thousand times "no"! We as Christians must bear
Our part in this fight; we must do and must dare
To the utmost of strength, that the foul curse of rum,
That hath blotted the past with the blank of despair,
Shall be cleansed from the skirt of the century to come,
While this star-crowned nation the palm branch shall wear,
And the rum-fettered slave bask in liberty's air,
We will do, we will dare!
—M. M. Jackson, in *Temperance Record*.

WHAT PROHIBITION AIMS AT

The true object aimed at by Prohibition and supporters of prohibitory laws was thus pertinently delineated by Rev. Herrick Johnson, of Chicago. Said he:

"Prohibition aims at a thing, not a man. It would smite a traffic, not a personal indulgence; annihilate grog-shops, not invade homes. See how this works in other matters. A mob is a bad thing. Prohibition says, 'Repress it.' But to repress it, it may be necessary to seize private property and destroy life; nevertheless, the mob is what Prohibition is after, not the life and property. A conflagration is a bad thing. Prohibition says, 'Stop it.' But to stop it may require seizure and destruction of property in the path for the fire; nevertheless, the fire is what Prohibition is after, not the property. A contagious disease is a bad thing. Prohibition says, 'Fence it in; the house must be quarantined.' But that's an interference to liberty. So the saloon is a bad thing. Prohibition says, 'Abolish it.' But to abolish it, it may be necessary to interfere with some private drinking usage; nevertheless, the saloon is what prohibition is after, not the private usage.

"Can interference with personal liberty be pleaded as against the suppression of the mob? No. Can the plea of individual right of the property bar the effort to stamp out a conflagration? No. Can the right to go in and out of our houses at pleasure be urged as against the restraints of quarantine? No. Neither can a private drinking usage constitute a good reason for a prohibitory liquor law. If the law smites the usage in smiting the saloon, it does so only incidentally. Good citizenship will willingly bear an incidental evil for the sake of essential and universal good. Life in the end will be more sacred if we repress the mob. Property, in the end, will have better securities if we put out the fire. Personal liberty, in the end, will have complete safeguards if we stamp out the contagion. So, every interest of society and of the individual, in the end, will be better shielded if once we say, determinedly and effectually, 'The saloon must go!'

THE PROFITS OF MURDER.

The report of the South Carolina Liquor Commissioner shows that the dispensary's profits for one year, were \$210,000. The assets of the concern now are \$284,000 and the liabilities about \$74,000.

Over \$11,000 was spent during the quarter ending October 31 in maintaining the contraband liquors seized. There are now seventy-five retail dispensaries in the State, and applications for the establishment of others are pending. The sales show a steady increase; in August, \$44,000; in September, \$60,000, and in October, \$111,000.

THE FACTS OF THE CASE.

The "Facts of the Case," a convenient volume of 310 pages, published by the Executive Committee of the Dominion Alliance for the total suppression of the liquor traffic, is a summary of the most important matter to be found in the report of the Canadian Royal Commission on the Liquor Traffic. The report of the Commission, in seven large volumes, is too extensive for practical use by temperance workers. It is believed that the compendium made will be found to be an exceedingly valuable work of reference and source of information for those who are interested in studying and discussing the question of which it treats. It is specially useful in supplying reliable statistics and arguments for use in prohibition campaign work.

After the work of the Royal Commission was closed there remained in the hands of the Alliance a small surplus of the money contributed for the placing of the case for prohibition before the Commission. It was deemed wise to use this money in publishing and circulating the work just mentioned. Two thousand copies were sent free to leading journals, public libraries, persons who contributed to the fund and other prominent workers selected by the officers of the contributing organizations. A few copies remain, and until all are sent out, one will be forwarded, postage prepaid, to any person applying and forwarding therefor to the Secretary of the Alliance, thirty cents in advance.

By order of the Executive,
F. S. SPENCE,
Secretary,
51 Confederation Life Building,
Toronto, Ont.

DENMARK.

In Denmark the temperance movement seems to flourish. It was never in a better condition than at present, says the president of the Denmark Temperance Society. There were 500 delegates at its last annual meeting, and six thousand had joined during the year. There is progress.

The Government had made an appropriation of over £300 for the use of the society, and it is in future to receive from the Government £400 yearly. With such support any society might flourish.

There can be no doubt that this country might, with great advantage to its progress and welfare, include the national Temperance organizations in its educational grant; but its subsidy should not be drawn from the money it derives from the liquor traffic. As to the good it would receive from such a grant there can be no question.

Take the Temperance Society in Denmark as a proof of this wise policy. It is estimated that there are in Denmark about 70,000 adherents to the Temperance cause. The society has 40,000 members and 665 local societies, and 350 teachers belonging to it. So that there is an abstainer in every seven of the population.

Were our Government to grant Temperance societies a proportionate subsidy to what Denmark gives, we should soon see similar results in this country, and what an unspeakable blessing that would be to our people.—*Scottish Reformer*.

A NATION'S BEER BILL.

The total consumption of beer in the United States for the fiscal year ending July 1, 1895 was 34,460,661 barrels, an increase over the consumption of a year ago of 191,000 barrels. This year's figures, while in excess of those of last year, are less than the total consumption of 1893, which was 34,822,857 barrels. A barrel of beer in brewer's measure is about 31½ gallons. The consumption of lager beer in the United States this year is, therefore, in excess of 1,000,000,000 gallons.—*The Constitution*.

A MONTH'S WORK.

A STIRRING TIME IN THE RANKS OF PROHIBITIONISTS.

PROGRESS AND PREPARATION.

The month of February was one of work that was characterized by a spirit of intense earnestness and determination. Temperance conventions were held in different parts of the Dominion, some of them local, some of them provincial, and at nearly all the leading themes of discussion were preparation for the coming plebiscite, and immediate advance in provincial legislation. We have only space to mention a few of the most important of these gatherings.

ROYAL TEMPLARS.

February is the month for Royal Templar Annual sessions. The Grand Council of Ontario convened at the town of Oshawa on Thursday 18th, presided over by the Grand Councillor, George H. Lees. The different parts of the Province were well represented. Its proceedings were characterized throughout by harmony and zeal. Subordinate Councils were called upon to take the initiative in preparation for the fight. Delegates were appointed to the Alliance Council Meeting to be held in July, to devise plans for the general campaign. Strong demands were made upon the Provincial Legislature for important changes in the liquor laws and a deputation from the Grand Council waited upon the Government to urge action in line with the Grand Council's resolutions. Most of the past year's Executive officers retain their places.

The Grand Council of Manitoba opened its annual session at Winnipeg on Feb. 2nd. Its action was similar to that of the Ontario gathering. W. W. Buchanan, the leading spirit of the Order, was present and stirred the workers greatly by his earnestness and aided them by his large fund of information. A deputation urged the Provincial Government for progressive legislation and plans were laid for the plebiscite campaign. The North West Territories' gathering began at Regina, on Feb. 16th. The meeting for Quebec opened at Montreal on the 22nd, and that for British Columbia at Vancouver on the 23rd. All were well attended and took action similar to that taken by Ontario and Manitoba.

THE QUEBEC ALLIANCE.

The annual session of the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance was held in Montreal on February 20th, presided over by Mr. J. R. Dougall. Representatives were present from many parts of the Province, delegated by many different organizations. Union, progress and preparation were the watchwords of the day. Resolutions were adopted, suggestions were offered, plans were laid, all looking to the big fight ahead, the deepest interest in which will in all probability be centred round the French Province in which no provincial Plebiscite has yet been taken and whose position is therefore not so fully defined as is that of the other parts of the Dominion. Hon. S. A. Fisher, Dominion Minister of Agriculture, was present, addressed the Convention and predicted victory in the approaching fight.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION.

The Ontario Legislature is now in session. On February 25th the Provincial Treasurer introduced a measure for the amendment of the liquor laws. The bill contains provisions for further restricting the number of licenses that may be issued, fixing hours of closing, prohibiting the sale of liquor to persons under twenty-one years of age, prohibiting the sale by druggists except by medical certificate, and making some other changes. The bill as a whole is however, very far short of what was anticipated by temperance people in view of the pledges given by the Government and the overwhelming majority recorded in the plebiscite. Quite a storm of protest has broken out. Indignation meetings are being held in different parts of the Province, members of the legislature are being deluged with appeals for more effective legislation. A Provincial Conference has been called to be held in Toronto on the 11th inst. and it is generally anticipated that the Government will be compelled to promote much more stringent measures. The different temperance organizations have vigorously taken hold of this

matter, nearly all of them issuing special circulars calling upon members of their respective organizations to join in the effort to secure something more radical and useful.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS.

County Conventions have been held in different Provinces at which organization has been completed for the plebiscite contest. This is wise and timely. The plebiscite bill is expected to be before the people shortly, then the fight will begin. Preparation before hand will be a great advantage.

THE SOCIETIES.

Nearly all the different temperance organizations have been specially active during the past month. In Ontario the Sons of Temperance under the leadership of their new head Mr. J. M. Walton, have had a specially large number of organizations and resuscitations. Encouraging activity prevails everywhere, one of the features of which is a continual demand for prohibition literature for circulation. This lack will soon be supplied by a series of plebiscite tracts specially prepared to meet the emergency. Some organizations are taking hold of the CAMP FIRE and circulating quantities of it in their respective localities.

LOCAL OPTION AT WORK.

Dr. A. C. Gaviller of Grand Valley, writes an interesting report of the success of local option prohibition in his township. He says, "the only trouble we had was during the time that the question of the constitutionality of local option was before the Privy Council. Shortly after the settlement of the matter, the liquor men had one severe lesson. Our Inspector seized all the liquor and packages in their houses, empty and full. The dealers were fined Fifty Dollars each, the liquor was spilled and the boys burned the kegs. About One Hundred Dollars worth of stuff was demolished. One treatment effected a cure."

ABSTINENCE AND LONG LIFE.

Dr. Ogle, of the Registrar-General's Department in Great Britain, has compiled a table of expectancy of life based on the death-rate for the years 1871-80 of the general population of the country. This, when compared with the actuarially-compiled experience of the Independent Order of Rechabites Friendly Society, gives the following result:—

Age Years.	Dr. Ogle's table of experience Years.	Rechabite table of experience Years.	Rechabite advantage Years.
20	39 40	48 83	9 43
25	35 68	44 30	8 62
30	32 10	39 72	7 62
35	28 64	35 08	6 44
40	25 30	30 58	5 28

So that at twenty years of age a Rechabite has nearly nine-and-a-half years of life more than the average of the general population of the country at that age.—*Good Templar Watchword*.

FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

Literature to distribute.

The CAMP FIRE is a neat 4-page monthly paper full of bright, fresh pointed convincing facts and arguments. It is just what is needed for campaign work, to inspire workers, and win recruits. It will be supplied for distribution on the following terms:—

Twenty copies will be sent to any one address every month for six months, or ten copies for one year for ONE DOLLAR, payable in advance.

On no other plan can a small investment be made to produce so much of educative result. One hundred and twenty copies may be placed in as many homes, and have more than HALF A THOUSAND readers. One dollar will cover this placing of the claims of our cause before five hundred people. Ten dollars may reach FIVE THOUSAND. WILL YOU HELP US?