

whelming mass of confirmatory evidence. Even if we ignore everything of recorded occurrence, and take simply the known physiological effects of alcoholic beverages, common sense will show that their consumption must lead to the weakening of the natural moral safe guards of society, and a consequent increase of offences against order and law.

Besides this direct result, the liquor traffic is terribly dangerous to society in the tendency it invariably has to increase the already abnormal and social inequality that exists in our communities. Anything that tends to lessen the earning-power and increase the spending tendencies of those who work for a living, must increase poverty, want and crime.

Drinking habits bring crime directly, also pauperism and vagrancy, and hence crime indirectly: and all this is fully borne out by our social statistics, which show that consumption of liquor, vagrancy and crime, increase and decrease together as uniformly as do altitude and temperature, or density and weight.

No argument in addition to what has been advanced is necessary to show that whatever leads to a lessened consumption of strong drink must also lessen crime. We have repeatedly piled up mountains of undisputed because indisputable evidence that where prohibition has been in operation under the Maine Law, under the Scott Act, under fairly enforced suppressive legislation of any kind, less liquor has been sold and drunk than formerly. All this makes absolutely unassailable the position of those who claim that the Scott Act will be a social benefit when adopted and enforced, and puts in its true light the contemptible character of an opposition that attempts to strengthen its own case by wilful misrepresentation of facts. We are willing to meet our opponents upon any line of legitimate argument, we are willing to discuss the question of the rightness of the policy of prohibition, we are willing to compare the actual results respectively of license and prohibition, we are willing to argue with them the question of our right to interfere with their business, but we must protest against any dishonest attempt of the whiskey-business to assume an attitude of philanthropy and pretend to oppose us on the ground that the Scott Act leads to crime. The liquor men are fighting us in the interests of their own pockets, and they know that they are trying to deceive the public when they pose as afraid of the Scott Act causing crime. We will fight them whenever they offer fair fight, but we will also expose them when they slander communities and laws, and try to disguise their own motives by professing to favor our principles and objects.

The clearly established relationship between the evils named, and the soundness of our position, received confirmation last week from a source entitling it to special consideration; being a source almost certain to be unbiassed by prejudice and uninfluenced by excitement. At Brockville, Ont., the County Court and General Sessions were held, His Honor Judge Macdonald, presiding; and the Grand Jury in their presentment made the following statement:—

"We also know that the great evil of drunkenness is the prolific source of vagrancy, and the demand for support of this class is becoming a large tax on the thrifty and prominent portion of the community. We desire to express the hope and belief that the effort to suppress the sale of intoxicating liquors by the adoption of the Scott Act may be the source of much good and the prevention of much crime in our country."

The learned judge carefully considered their remarks, and commented upon them as follows:—

"I am convinced that the liquor traffic is responsible for a large proportion of the offences against law and order which are committed in our Dominion, and in my judgment all classes of the community should gladly use any and every proper and lawful

"means which will have the effect of prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and believing, as I do, that the Canadian Temperance Act of 1878, commonly called the Scott Act, where adopted and properly enforced, is a valuable means of obtaining that desirable end. I think all true friends of temperance ought to accord it their support and give it a fair trial."

### THE PETITIONS.

The anti-temperance men have put into circulation a petition praying the Dominion Parliament to alter the Scott Act, so that, to secure its adoption, it will be necessary to have in its favor, three-fifths of all the votes polled at any voting on the question of its adoption.

The Executive Committee of the Dominion Alliance has decided to issue at once counter petitions urging that the Scott Act be not be mutilated for the gratification of the liquor sellers, and also praying that a law of total prohibition may be speedily passed. These petitions will be in the hands of our workers in a couple of days, and we earnestly urge upon our friends to lose no time in having them as widely circulated and extensively signed as possible. Let our petitions be such, in number of signatures, as this country has never before seen. We believe that a great majority of the better class of our Canadian people are thoroughly in favor of total prohibition and that it is the duty of Parliament to comply with their wishes. Meantime we cannot allow the only form of prohibitory legislation that we have, to be mutilated and rendered comparatively ineffective. There must be no backward step in our anti-liquor legislation.

### MISTRESS AND SERVANT.

One of the most difficult problems to be solved in connection with our modern social life is how to secure the help necessary to the performance of household work. Another is, what is to be done with young girls who are compelled to work for their living. At first sight one would imagine that the solution of the one problem ought to indicate the means of solving the other—in other words, that with a great demand for domestic servants, girls should have no difficulty in finding suitable employment without going into factories to earn a pittance as operatives. There are plenty of girls in this country to do all its domestic work without importing any. They would be better at it than they are either doing nothing or running looms and sewing machines. Why is there on the part of Canadian girls so strong a disinclination to become domestic servants? And why is there such constant jarring between servant and mistress?

The difficulty is not exactly the same in the country as it is in the city. In the country the servant is usually the daughter of some neighboring farmer, whose social position is quite as good as that of the family of which his daughter becomes temporarily a member. In the city she is either from the "country" or from the "old country," and when she does belong to a city family there is seldom any question of social equality involved. In the country the trouble arises largely from the very natural tendency of the servant to regard herself as the social equal of her mistress, and the equally natural tendency of the mistress to regard herself as the social superior of her servant. In the city the trouble is due largely to the monotony of domestic life to a servant who is shut out from all social intercourse with the rest of the family, and is thus in her own eyes branded with a stamp of inferiority which she cannot feel to be deserved. No wonder housekeepers in the country dislike to employ servants, and servants in the city dislike their positions and prefer those of saleswomen and factory operatives.

The evil is one of such magnitude that it ought to be carefully diagnosed and if possible remedied. That there are faults on both