

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

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F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1883.

THE C. E. T. S.

We are much pleased to be able to chronicle the formation of the Toronto Diocesan Church of England Temperance Society. Many isolated Church Temperance Societies have recently been formed, but they needed the federation that was accomplished last Friday evening to give them that union and co-operative agency necessary to the successful carrying on of their important work. We trust that the Church of England in all parts of our Dominion will follow the example that the Diocese of Toronto has so nobly given, and that this useful and growing society will soon assume national dimensions. We hail with joy any movement that has for its object the removal of the awful curse of intemperance. This new society has a splendid field before it. We wish it great success, and shall watch and record its progress with much pleasure and interest.

A TEMPERANCE HOLIDAY.

THE CANADA CITIZEN is publishing a series of articles upon the different temperance organizations, giving a summary of the history of each, and a short account of its present condition and mode of operation. The question presses itself very strongly:—"Should there not be some more substantial, more tangible bond of union between these societies, all working for a common end?" Our news columns record a movement that has recently been set on foot in Great Britain for the federation of the temperance bodies there. We need something of the same sort in Canada. We have various societies operating in different localities, upon somewhat different lines of action, and among different classes of people. This is all right, but there might be a periodical concert of consultation and encouragement. THE CANADA CITIZEN was instituted for the purpose of providing a central organ that all could support, and that could advocate the interests of all; and the company that publishes this paper is working towards the establishment of a publishing house that will be a central depot for the supply of temperance literature to all. Another step towards co-operative action is the temperance Sunday that we trust will shortly be a day observed in Canada by all denominations. There is, however, a direction in which nothing has yet been done, and in which is open

a capital field for united effort that would result in much stimulation to energy and zeal. We refer to the suggestion that a day should be agreed upon by all the different societies mentioned, to be observed as a NATIONAL TEMPERANCE HOLIDAY—a day set apart to commemorate the good that has been done, a day of festivity, a day devoted to thanksgiving for past successes, of rejoicing in present prosperity, and of discussion of plans and prospects for the future. We want to enlist every agency that can impress upon our hearts and minds—and specially upon the hearts and minds of our young people—the fact that temperance is something great and good, something to rejoice in and thank God for; and we want some means of bringing together, for review, all the divisions and detachments of our grand army of reform. We commend this matter to the consideration of our readers, and shall be pleased to have it discussed in the columns of THE CANADA CITIZEN.

HON. G. W. ROSS.

The Ontario Government is to be congratulated and commended on its latest acquisition. The gentleman who has been chosen to fill the position vacated by the regretted illness of Hon. Mr. Crooks, is not only one eminently fitted by his qualifications and experience to superintend the educational interests of the province; he is also one of those thorough and avowed advocates of Temperance and Prohibition whose presence and co-operation must have a strong effect in the right direction in the councils of the Executive. The esteem in which he is held by his fellow-teachers was shown by his unopposed election to the position of President of the Ontario Teachers' Association at the last annual session of that body, and the confidence placed in him by the temperance community has been repeatedly shown in his being chosen to fill such an important office as that of G. W. P. of the Sons of Temperance, in fact his earliest laurels were won on the temperance platform, to which he, like many others of our prominent men, owes his first introduction to public life.

Temperance men might naturally enough be expected to be the sort of men who would come to the front in a country like Canada, where true merit will nearly always find appreciation. The present able finance minister of the Dominion and many more of our foremost politicians might be named as examples of the success that awaits true merit and adhesion to what is good and right. The temperance cause in Canada to-day is not the cause of a party but the cause of the people, and we rejoice whenever we see one of our earnest workers—no matter what may be his political bias—reaping the reward of his energy and integrity, as well as winning promotion that will give him still better opportunities of aiding the glorious reform, in which so much yet remain to be accomplished.

WORK!

There is every prospect that the coming winter will be one of unusual activity in the war against the liquor traffic "all along the lines." The Scott Act agitation is progressing in Oxford County in a manner that promises splendidly for a glorious victory. Farther west, as well as down in the east, steps are being energetically taken for its submission. Blue-Ribbon Movements and Bands of Hope are being everywhere inaugurated. Church temperance societies—one of the latest and most hopeful of reform agencies—are rapidly springing into existence. The Good Templars, Sons of Temperance and Royal Templars, all have their organizing agents in the field, and all are reporting good work done.

While so much fresh ground is being broken it is specially desirable that there should be no neglect of that already occupied. Let the existing societies see to it that the veterans stand to their