

THE TEMPERANCE SITUATION IN ONTARIO.

From reports received at the office of the Ontario branch of the Dominion Alliance in Toronto, it is learned that there is likely to be another strenuous Local Option campaign in the Province of Ontario this fall and winter.

The secretary of the Alliance, Rev. Ben. H. Spence, has handed out a list of 89 municipalities in which campaigns are more or less advanced, and it is likely that this list will yet be added to.

During the past few years there has been a great advance in the movement for bar-room abolition by the Local Option method in the Province of Ontario. Within the past six years, 191 municipalities have polled a majority for Local Option By-Laws. Last year the three-fifths requirement prevented coming in to force 44 of these municipalities, and in some other places the by-laws were quashed in the courts, but there are at present in the province 153 municipalities in which the law is operative, and there are 133 other municipalities in the province in which no licenses are granted for various reasons.

According to figures furnished by the Alliance secretary, a striking feature of the Local Option movement is that when Local Option By-Laws are passed in a municipality they stay passed. There seems to be an almost unanimous approval of the measure by municipalities that have adopted it. Last year there were 34 municipalities where by-laws had been in force for three years or more, and where, therefore, a repeal vote could have been brought on. In 8 places repeal was tried, but in only one instance was it successful, and there (the town of Steeltown), the temperance people claim that the circumstances were exceptional.

During the past six years, out of 150 chances to repeal Local Option By-Laws by a simple majority vote, there has been only one successful, and that Steeltown.

On the face of it, there would, therefore, seem to be good ground for a contention that the condition of Local Option is a much more permanent one than that of license.

The Alliance officials are making preparations for a big campaign. There is a big staff of workers in the office, and the services of many very prominent speakers have been secured. One feature of this fall's campaigns is the large number of incorporated towns and villages in which a vote is being taken. Of the 89 places in which campaigns are in progress, 35 are incorporated towns or villages. There are at present 297 licenses granted in these 89 municipalities.

In the following table are given the names of the municipalities where campaigns are now on, and also, to show the sentiment of these municipalities, figures are given showing how they voted on the question of Provincial Prohibition in the Referendum. The number of licenses in each municipality is also given. This list is of course incomplete as petitions may be filed with the clerk of the municipality on or before November 1st.

Here is the list:—

Municipality.	Referendum		No. of Licenses.
	Yes.	No.	
Aldborough.....	646	230	*6
Ancaster.....	410	103	4
*Bayfield.....	42	14	3
Beverley.....	550	113	3
*Brookbridge.....	305	92	5
Brant.....	352	168	4
Brighton.....	375	41	0
*Brighton.....	154	36	2
Brook.....	468	128	3
Brooke.....	511	66	1

Burleigh and Anstruther	50	18	2
Caistor.....	269	29	0
Camden East.....	494	33	8
*Campbellford.....	294	66	6
*Cannington.....	120	44	2
Carrick.....	204	486	8
Charlottesville.....	303	140	2
*Chatsworth.....			1
*Colborne.....	120	22	3
*Creemore.....	68	27	3
Culross.....	290	184	2
Dumfries South.....	353	126	2
*Durham.....	147	54	3
*East Toronto.....	79	60	5
Elora.....	95	57	3
Eldon.....	336	67	5
Erin.....	535	70	3
*Erin.....	48	32	2
Etobicoke.....	355	239	6
*Fergus.....	132	72	4
Flamboro East.....	349	89	4
Flamboro West.....	349	144	4
Flos.....	388	185	4
Foley.....	38	28	1
*Forest.....	147	63	3
*Goderich.....	177	17	9
*Grand Valley.....	107	28	3
*Gravenhurst.....	218	67	3
*Hagersville.....	112	29	3
Hamilton.....	437	80	5
*Harriston.....	200	72	4
*Hastings.....	61	11	4
Holland.....	479	86	3
Howick.....	583	104	4
*Huntsville.....	258	48	4
Kennebec.....	156	13	1
Kinloss.....	304	98	1
Loughborough.....	212	73	2
Luther West.....	281	64	1
*McKellar.....	79	25	1
Malahide.....	493	34	2
Medonte.....	489	173	6
Medora and Wood.....	37	45	3
*Mount Forest.....	242	112	5
Mulmer.....	447	56	2
Murray.....	379	44	2
Nelson.....	366	82	1
*Newcastle.....	51	33	1
*Norwood.....	125	19	2
*Orillia.....	514	185	8
Oso.....	66	74	2
*Paisley.....	139	24	3
*Palmerston.....	179	94	4
*Perry Sound.....	253	88	3
Percy.....	363	93	2
Pittsburgh.....	220	85	5
Plympton.....	459	44	1
*Port Perry.....	138	87	3
Roxborough.....	490	212	4
Saltfleet.....	292	143	5
Scarboro.....	315	170	5
*Schrieber.....	49	19	2
Seymour.....	500	52	1
Sidney.....	543	105	4
Somersville.....	124	40	2
*Stirling.....	81	91	3
*Streetsville.....	43	28	2
Tay.....	450	254	2
Thorold.....	205	68	3
Thurlow.....	527	139	4
Toronto.....	505	289	4
*Trenton.....	263	82	9
*Tweed.....	157	39	4
Wainfleet.....	285	81	2
Walpole.....	463	148	5
Wollaston.....	83	6	0
*Wroxeter.....	55	27	2
York.....	322	362	12
Zorra East.....	374	206	2

Municipalities marked "*" are incorporated towns or villages.

The October number of the W.F.M. Tidings contains the following names of new life members: Mrs. W. D. Armstrong, St. Paul's Auxiliary, Ottawa; Mrs. F. W. Nisbit, St. Andrew's Auxiliary, Sarnia; Mrs. R. S. Laidlaw, St. Andrew's Auxiliary, Belleville; Mrs. Geo. Storey, MacGregor Auxiliary, MacGregor, Man.; Miss Martha Smith, B. E., presented by ladies of Erskine Church Auxiliary, Toronto; Mrs. J. T. Taylor, presented by Collingwood Auxiliary, India; Miss Kate Belle Reid, Burns Church, Hulet, and Knox Church Auxiliary, Londesboro, Harlock.

DEATH OF REV. ARCHIBALD STEVENSON.

The Rev. Arch. Stevenson, pastor of Beach Ridge congregation, in the Presbytery of Montreal, died suddenly at the manse on the 8th October (1907) and was buried on the 10th in the cemetery adjoining his late church, where he had buried his son, William Edward, a little more than a year ago. The funeral service was held in the church. The Presbytery of Montreal was represented by Revs. A. Bowman, of Ste. Therese, a fellow student of the departed; G. F. Kinnear, of Montreal, who presided; J. McC. Kellock, of Howick; J. M. Macallister, Russelltown; G. Whillans, of Georgetown, and C. Haughton, of Hemmingford, all of whom took some part in the service. Rev. J. R. MacLeod, Three Rivers, of the Presbytery of Quebec, for years an intimate friend of the deceased and his family, was present, and by request of the family preached the sermon. There was a large attendance of the congregation, friends from a distance, and the public generally.

The Rev. Arch. Stevenson was a native of Scotland, being born in the charming town of Stirling, 29th July, 1841. He took his arts course at Glasgow University, entering in 1861, and studied theology at New College, Edinburgh, entering it in 1865 and graduating therefrom in 1869, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Stirling in the same year. For some time after graduating he served as army chaplain in England. Under commission from the Free Church of Scotland he sailed for Canada, and arrived in Toronto in 1873. In 1874 the congregation of St. Vincent, in the Presbytery of Owen Sound, extended him a call, which he accepted. For ten years he served this congregation, and while there married Selina Hall, daughter of the late Dr. Hall.

Leaving St. Vincent he was called to Sunderland, where he was settled, but owing to illness of a member of his family he resigned shortly. In 1885 he was called to Molesworth, where he remained till 1893. His next charge was at Danville, in the Presbytery of Quebec, where he was inducted in 1895. At his own request the presbytery accepted his resignation, which they did with regret. The same presbytery then appointed him to Grand Mere, as ordained missionary, where he served till 1904, in which year he was called to Beach Ridge, where he served an attached people till death put a period to his labors. The congregation feel their loss keenly. Mr. Stevenson leaves a widow, two daughters and three sons, viz., Dr. Robt. H. of Danville; James, of the Eastern Townships Bank, Danville, and George, a science student of McGill University. Mr. Stevenson was a man of much guilelessness, of great kindness and tenderness, of a most frank and genial disposition, and was highly esteemed by his brethren. He was a warm hearted evangelical preacher and a diligent pastor.