

Temperance Department.

GOOD TEMPLARS.

THE GRAND LODGE SESSION.

The annual session of the Grand Lodge I. O. Good Templars was held in Hamilton last week, commencing on Tuesday morning and closing on Thursday afternoon. There was a larger representation than usual present, 155 votes being on the roll, representing lodges located from Ottawa to Sarnia. The meeting throughout was pleasant and harmonious, though, as is often the case at such meetings, a great deal of the time was wasted by tedious talkers discussing points of order or frivolous amendments to the constitution, when much more important questions should have been considered.

The reports of the officers showed that the Order is in good healthy working condition, though no numerical progress was made during the past year. The principal cause for this is that in nearly every county in the jurisdiction there have been Scott Act contests during the year, and the attention of the various leading temperance workers has been turned in that direction rather than in building up the numerical strength of the respective organizations.

OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The report of J. H. Flagg, Esq., G. W. C. T., was a concise, business report, such as has been usually presented by him, making reference, in general terms, to the work of the year, and some recommendations regarding future work. Mr. Flagg has been, for many years a leading member of the executive committee, and for the past four years the first officer. He declined nomination again, concluding the report as follows:—"No words of mine can express my gratitude for the honor conferred, I now cheerfully resign my place to another, who, I hope, may with equal fidelity and much greater ability discharge the duties of the office."

The report of Mr. T. W. Casey, G. W. Secretary, contained a large amount of statistical information in regard to the work, from which the following figures are taken:—

During the past year twenty-eight new lodges have been reported and fifteen dormant lodges reactivated. These are scattered over the various sections of the Province, and indicate a good deal of zealous work on the part of a large number of friends.

The present number of working lodges is.....	228
Lodges instituted during the year.....	28
Lodges reactivated during the year.....	15
Total membership in good standing.....	10,409
Members initiated during the year.....	4,420
" re-initiated.....	350
" admitted by card.....	90
" violated obligation.....	197
" expelled for violation.....	272
" expelled for non-payment.....	1,641
" suspended.....	1,091
" withdrawn by card.....	203
" withdrawn from the Order.....	901
Deaths.....	49

FINANCES

The total cash receipts from June 1st, 1884, to June 1st, 1885, were as follows:

For per capita tax.....	\$2,541.12
For supplies sold.....	404.09
Collection, etc., at Col. Hildeman's.....	60.56
meetings.....	
Total.....	\$3,005.77

Our liabilities have all been met promptly during the year, and there is now no indebtedness, except a couple of printing accounts not in at the time the books were closed, but which will be paid at once.

The reports of Mr. J. B. Nixon, G. W. T., and A. Barrett and G. H. Lees, Auditors, showed the Order to be in a good financial condition. There was a balance of cash in hand of \$47.65 and \$222 worth of saleable supplies in stock, with all liabilities paid. For some years there was quite a large debt, much hindering the progress of the work, but the members cheerfully came to the rescue, and now with a balance in hand and a clear future before them, are entertained of considerable progress during the coming year.

It may be here remarked that a good deal of aid in advancing the work has been given by two distinguished outside workers during the year. Col. J. J. Hickman, of Kentucky, spent a month during the winter in the Province, during which time he instituted

eleven new lodges, with an aggregate charter, membership of nearly 500. Col. Chevis, also of Kentucky, has voluntarily spent a couple of weeks in Middlesex county since the R. W. G. Lodge session, and, assisted by Dr. Oronhyatekha, six additional lodges were reported, representing a membership of nearly 300. These are not included in the above figures given in the report of the G. W. Secretary. The importance of employing in the work gentlemen of ability, education and high social standing has been well demonstrated in the results above referred to.

Very little has been done in the juvenile Templar work during the past year. The Supra. tent, Mrs. Cummer, in whose hands it was committed, having been ill for some months and was unable in consequence to go out for that purpose. During the session Miss Peck, of Connecticut, Gen. Supt., elected by the R. W. G. L., was present, and ably assisted in the deliberations regarding the juvenile work.

PUBLIC RECEPTION.

On Tuesday evening a public reception was given by the Hamilton Templars, and their friends, in Wesley Church. The large building was well filled and a very interesting meeting was held. Bro. Richard McBride, P. D., presided, and Bro. G. H. Lees presented the address of welcome. A welcome on behalf of the congregation of Wesley church was given by Rev. Dr. Hunter, himself an old Good Templar. A suitable reply was given by Bro. Flagg, G. W. C. T., and there were speeches by the local ministers, Revs. M. Collics, J. Morton, and M. Snider, and by Messrs. F. S. Spence, of Toronto, and Col. Chevis, of Kentucky. An excellent musical programme also given by the choir of the church.

At the conclusion of the public meeting, the members were invited to the Hall of "Ambitious City" Lodge, where excellent refreshments were served, provided by the leading Hamilton Templars, and an hour or two was pleasantly spent in social intercourse.

A good deal of the session of Wednesday was spent in considering some minor amendments to the constitution, of very little general importance. There was a long discussion in regard to the quarterly tax to be paid to the Grand Lodge. It was resolved to place this tax at seven cents per member for the year, two cents at least of which shall be expended in lecture work, for the propagation of the order. There was a good deal of discussion also regarding an official organ, the rivals being the *Good Templar*, a new monthly published in Toronto, and the *Citizen*, also of this city. It was finally resolved to instruct the Grand Secretary to furnish each the necessary official information, and recommend each to the membership.

THE ELECTIONS.

There was a good deal more canvassing, button-holing, and log-rolling about the elections than for some years past, the number of candidates being unusually large. The officers elected are as follows:—J. W. C. T., F. S. Spence, Toronto; G. W. C. T., E. Stor, Ottawa; G. W. V., Mrs. Young, Toronto East; G. W. S., T. Lawless, Hamilton; G. W. T., A. Barrett, Mitchell; G. W. Chaplain, Rev. J. J. Noble, Arthur; G. W. M., J. W. Hamilton, Sarnia; D. M., Miss Cole, Stratford; G. G. J. Webster, Galt; G. S., W. J. Lundy, Brampton. Superintendent Juvenile Templars, J. B. Nixon, Toronto; Auditors—G. H. Lees, Hamilton; W. J. Turnbull, Paris. Delegates to R. W. G. L., Dr. Oronhyatekha, London; Rev. M. L. Pearson, Lindsay; J. H. Flagg, Mitchell; W. S. Williams, Napance.

To those familiar with the officers' lists of former years it will be seen that there was a pretty general turn over in connection with the elections. Mr. Flagg, after filling the office of G. W. C. T. for four years, voluntarily retired, though strongly urged by a large number of friends to run again. His place is filled by Mr. Spence, of this city, who never before was elected to a Grand Lodge office. He is an experienced temperance worker and a fluent speaker, and has now an opportunity to demonstrate whether he possesses the tact, good judgment and discretion so necessary for success in this office. The other candidates for the office were Dr. Oronhyatekha and Daniel Rose, of Toronto. Mr. Stor has been G. W. C. before; he is an old member and a hard worker, whether in office or out of it. Mr. Casey, after sixteen successive elections as

G. W. Secretary, was defeated by Mr. Lawless, an old and experienced member. Mr. Nixon was also a candidate. Mr. Barrett, the new G. W. T., has been a member and an office bearer for many years. Mr. Nixon, the new Superintendent of Juvenile Templars, though an old Templar, is new to the Juvenile Templar work, and is expected to make a good report. The General Superintendent and the G. W. V., will be hereafter members of the Executive.

By unanimous vote the Executive were ordered to present Bro. Flagg \$100 and a galia, in recognition of his four years' faithful and efficient services as G. W. C. T., the work having been done without any salary; to Bro. Nixon \$50 and a regalia, were ordered in recognition of his four years' gratuitous services as G. W. T., and to Bro. Casey some substantial recognition his long services as G. W. S.

An earnest discussion took place regarding the organizing work during the coming year, the determination being to "push things" more vigorously than for some time past. An efficient organizer or two will be placed in the field as soon as the season for successful work arrives.

The next annual session will be held in Stratford, commencing the fourth Tuesday in June, 1886.

NEWS AND NOTES.

LOCKE'S WISDOM. — The celebrated John Locke, whose name is so well known and so much venerated by all lovers of English literature, wrote as follows, nearly two hundred years ago. Such remarks have still greater force now when the drink shops have so increased in number and attractiveness. Locke, in 1697, said: "The first step, therefore, towards the sitting of the poor on work ought to be a restraint of their debauchery by a strict execution of the laws provided against it, more particularly by the suppression of superfluous, brandy shops and unnecessary alehouses, especially in country parishes not lying upon great roads."

HIGH LICENSES.—An attempt has been made in several of the American States to reduce the number of liquor sellers by placing licenses at a very high figure. In some localities \$1,000 has now to be paid. In Chicago licenses were raised this year to \$500, we believe. The *Chicago Times* states that, under this rate no less than 3,287 licenses have been taken out, or but 13 less than last year. This would indicate that the liquor sellers are willing to pay a good deal more than they have paid rather than go out of the business. If licenses are to be continued let them be high priced licenses. The number will be thus reduced, and the amount paid in will go that much farther in helping the tax-payers meet the expenses incurred because of the continuance of the license system.

THE "NATIONAL LIBERAL TEMPERANCE UNION" of this city—the beer and wine-moderation—temperance society, appear to be somewhat hard pressed for supporters and sympathizers. At a recent meeting it was publicly announced that Rev. T. W. Jeffrey, the popular Methodist Minister of Queen street church, would be present and address the meeting. The chairman took occasion to allude to him once or twice during the evening, calling on him to come to the platform if present, and a number of gentlemen attended the meeting on purpose to hear what he would have to say. Mr. Jeffrey has since publicly announced that his name was used without his authority, and that he repudiates any connection with it. It is doubtful if any Methodist minister in the country can be found willing to identify himself with the association as it is now conducted.

TOBACCO OFFENCES.—Doubtless a great many kind-hearted men are unconsciously giving others much more offence by carrying around with them, in their clothing, the fumes of stale tobacco smoke than they are aware of. Not long ago the writer sat in a pew in a Toronto church beside a well-dressed man whose coat was so much saturated with smoke as to make it almost sickening to those beside him. The same writer has frequently visited a business office

here where the windows have to be thrown wide open to rid the place of the stale fumes of a lighted cigar carried in by some business visitor. A correspondent of the *Congregationalist* writes:—"A young gentleman made, not long ago, a business call on me one evening. We concluded the matter in hand in a few minutes, and he went away. The housekeeper came in soon afterwards, and instantly threw open the windows to rid the house of the odor of old tobacco smoke. Would the young man have felt proud of having made such a purification necessary? He, probably, had never surmised that his presence in the drawing-room is offensive." Now these are the very test cases. There are smokers so far gone as to puff away in any society or anywhere, apparently caring only for their own satisfaction, and regardless of the discomfort and annoyance of everybody else. Reader, do you know any such people as these?

BEER AND POLITICS.—No doubt the question of the liquor interests will be a burning question during the coming election campaign in Great Britain. It will be remembered that the Gladstone Government was defeated on the proposal to increase the revenue tax on beer and spirits. The same Government had been victorious over its opposition regarding the Sudan and the loss of Gen. Gordon, and the bitter attacks in connection with the settlement of the Russian complications, but when it came to increasing the cost of beer, the feather that broke the camel's back was laid on. Parnell congratulated the Irish people that by helping defeat Gladstone he had helped save "the one industry which survives in Ireland,"—whisky making—the very industry which Ireland can hardly survive under. It is said that nearly every beer shop and gin shop in England was illuminated over the defeat. It was said that "Beer and the Bible" was the cry with which the Liberals were last defeated and Disraeli rode into power, and this time "Beer and Blood" may be the cry. Of course there is one side of the story. It is quite probable that Mr. Gladstone preferred defeat on some insignificant question like that, rather than one of great national importance. Having been thus defeated, however, the temperance question will assume a good deal more importance in the campaign than it otherwise would have done.

THE SORCERY OF DRINK.—Archdeacon Farrar, one of the most popular of all the Church of England ministers of to-day, says:—"At the entrance of one of our college chapels, lies a nameless grave; that grave covers the mortal remains of one of its most promising Fellows—ruined through drink. I received, not very long ago, a letter from an old schoolfellow, a clergyman, who after long and arduous labor was in want of clothes and almost of food. I inquired the cause; it was drink. A few weeks ago a wretched clergyman came to me in deplorable misery, who had dragged down his family with him into ruin. What had ruined him? Drink. When I was at Cambridge one of the most promising scholars was a youth who, years ago, died in a London hospital penniless, of *delirium tremens*, through drink. When I was at King's College I used to sit next to a handsome youth who grew up to be a brilliant writer; he died in the prime of life, a victim of drink. I once knew an eloquent philanthropist who was a very miserable man. The world never knew the curse which was on him, but his friends knew that it was drink. And why is it that these tragedies are daily happening? It is through the fatal fascination, the seductive sorcery of drink, against which Scripture so often warns. It is because drink is one of the surest of 'the devil's ways to man, and of man's ways to the devil.'"

Grip's holiday number is, perhaps, the best yet issued from the office—and that is saying a great deal. The typography is excellent. There are four well-coloured illustrations and the usual amount of reading, and other illustrations, up to the usual standard. *Grip* has now become a well recognized Canadian institution, well deserving the excellent success it has attained.