

## XVII. TEMPERANCE REPORT.

Your committee is glad to report that in the work of Temperance, Methodism in this Colony is still to the front, and that interest is still alive in connection with one of the most vital questions that concern us as a Church and people. But while we rejoice in the measure of success that marks our efforts in this direction, we cannot but deplore the fact that the evil influence of the Liquor Traffic upon the people is not yet destroyed, and that there is more need than ever of our Church taking a firmer grip of this question, and striving to arouse in the hearts of our people a holy enthusiasm in this great crusade, and a more direct application of the truths of Scripture in relation to Temperance.

1. Your committee recommend that upon every circuit and mission, the ministers pay due regard to the imperative duty of preaching Temperance sermons, and otherwise keeping the subject well before our people.

2. That as a Conference we unhesitatingly declare our conviction that Total Prohibition of the importation, manufacture, and sale of intoxicating drinks, is the only efficient safeguard to the people of this land against the evils entailed by permitting the sale of such drinks. It is further our opinion that the traffic cannot be legalised without sin on the part of the Legislature and people.

3. We are pleased to learn that steps will be taken to raise the limit of the age of youths to whom intoxicating liquors may be supplied, but we would respectfully ask the Legislature to make the age 20 or 21 instead of 18, so that no difficulty may arise in proving charges against dealers who furnish strong drink to minors. While asking this remedy for an existing evil, we do not wish to compromise the attitude affirmed in the preceeding resolution.

4. We strongly deprecate the harmful effects of tobacco upon the youth of our country; and with a view to prevent its use, we recommend that Legislative enactment enforce as the law of the land, a similar measure to the act now in force in Ontario which prohibits the sale of tobacco, cigars, or cigarettes to youths under 17 years of age, under a penalty of \$100 for the first offence, etc., and that any youth found using, or with the same in his possession shall be liable to arrest by a police officer, or charged before the magistrate by any citizen.

5. We would especially call the attention of our people to the general rules of society paragraphs 31-35 in which the violation of Total abstinence from the use, and the buying or selling of strong drink clearly means the severance of membership with us.

6. As "Discipline" authorises the establishment of Temperance Societies in connection with our Sabbath Schools; we recommend that upon all our circuits and missions such societies be formed, believing that if earnestly and successfully worked, this will hasten the coming of Total Prohibition in this country.

7. We rejoice at the success that has attended the "Womens' Christian Temperance Union" and other Temperance Societies, and

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