

THE CANADA CITIZEN

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED

THE TEMPERANCE HERALD,

A WEEKLY FAMILY JOURNAL OF SOCIAL PROGRESS AND MORAL REFORM.

"FREEDOM FOR THE RIGHT MEANS SUPPRESSION OF THE WRONG."

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Campaign Tidings.

A Misrepresentation.

A letter appeared some time ago in some of our daily papers, stating that a legal opinion had been obtained, that the Scott Act prohibited the sale by druggists of essences, tinctures, and generally speaking all medicinal preparations, which contain alcohol.

The simplicity to these misrepresentations, lies in the fact, that in all Scott Act counties, druggists keep on selling these medicines, and have never been punished for so doing. It is true that some druggists who undertook to indiscriminately sell liquor slightly flavored under the pretence that it was medicine, merely to cover their defiance of the law, have been punished; but there has been no interference with the sale of medicines by the Scott Act in any part of the Dominion.

Well-Merited Appreciation.

Mr. Merrin Cody, one of the earnest and successful Temperance workers of Kintore, has decided to move his family from that village, much to the regret of the many friends with whom he has been co-operating.

A number of these recently gathered at our good brother's house, and held an affectionate farewell meeting. Addresses were delivered by a number of clergymen and others, referring to Mr. Cody's work in religious and temperance matters. An address was presented to Mr. Cody and his esteemed daughter, Miss Charlotte Cody, expressing the high appreciation in which they are held. They were also presented with a tangible evidence of appreciation in the shape of purses containing the sum of \$50.

An Anti Meeting.

The town of Midland held a curious meeting some days ago. It was called by the Anti-Scott people for the purpose of discussing "A High License Act, as compared with the Scott Act." That the audience was well qualified to discuss the subject, may be gathered from the fact that the chairman claimed that nearly every person in the hall had violated the Scott Act. He did not blame them for violating the law, he believed it should never have been put on the statute books.

The meeting, as may be imagined, was characterized by a good deal of noise and disorder. Its promoters moved resolutions condemning the Scott Act, and declaring in favor of returning to the Crooks Act. Amendments were made by some Temperance men present, but the chairman declared them lost in spite of the Scott Act people present, and declared the resolution against the Scott Act carried.

So seldom nowadays do the Antis ventilate their views in public that a meeting in the interests of whiskey selling is a decided novelty.

Dundas County.

The Scott Act is being vigorously carried out in this county at present, and is having a very beneficial effect. The efficient enforcement of the Act during the past few months will greatly help the temperance people in the coming contest for repeal. Mrs. Hoekay-aunt, of Irons, a noted character, has been fined for two convictions of the Act and it is expected she will be brought up for a third offence in a short time. She has become thoroughly frightened and has promised faithfully to break the law no more. This lady has been selling whiskey in defiance of law for a number of years. Before the Scott Act came in force she sold without a license in defiance of the Crooks Act, but managed to escape detection, although an honest attempt was made by the license inspector to convict her. The Scott Act has accomplished what the license law failed to do. This whiskey den has had a very demoralizing effect in the community, and the breaking up of it is a great boon to the entire township. The campaign is being vigorously carried on by the temperance people. A number of public meetings have been held and a private canvass is being systematically carried on.

The W.C.T.U. are taking hold of the work earnestly and in some localities are making a thorough personal canvass from house to house. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon them for their heroic work in this crisis. A good many voters who a short time ago were against the Act are now in favor of it, and will vote against repeal. Three more years of Scott Act will break up the traffic.

East Simcoe's Record.

STATEMENT of convictions and fines imposed in the License District of East Simcoe between the first day of May 1886 and 7th April 1888.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Number of convictions (96), Amount of fines imposed (\$1,950.00), Amount collected (\$2,800.00), Amount likely to be collected (\$2,150.00), Amount probably lost (\$1,550.00).

COST TO THE COUNTY. County's proportion of cost, 1886-7 \$ 503.33, 1887-8 773.33, \$1,276.66

RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY. Fines paid County Treasurer \$2,800.00, Police Magistrate's fees paid to County Treasurer 45.00, Total receipts \$2,845.00, Paid by county in two years 1,276.66

Actual gain to the county \$1,568.34, Amount likely to be collected 600.00, Probable gain to the county \$2,168.34

During these two years one man served two terms in prison, of two and three months respectively, besides a term of one month during 1885. Two men have served terms of two months each, another after serving six weeks, paid costs of appeal to Court of Sessions, \$15 and was liberated, another after being committed to jail got out on a technical flaw in the warrant of commitment, one woman after serving two days in prison paid her fine. Eleven have left their homes for parts unknown.

The Huron Campaign.

The Huron Signal presents to its readers the arguments used by both sides in the fight, and sums up the case as follows: "To our mind, the Scott Act party has the best of the argument on this line. Observation leads us to bear out the evidence advanced in the statement of the case made by the temperance party in their circular.

In Goderich, liquor drinking is now confined to a comparatively small section of the community, and if a record were kept of the men who systematically caused the violation of the Act, it would be easily seen that the circle was decreasing rather than extending.

Prior to the passing of the Scott Act there were many in Goderich who didn't think it out of place to drop into a bar room three or four times a day, in company with friends, to imbibe. Under the law as it at present exists we know of numbers who, although not total abstainers, have given up their public haunts in this regard.

It was claimed by the Antis that, if the Scott Act came in force, first class hotels could not continue to exist, or the accommodation would have to be inferior. After an experience of the working of the Act for nearly three years, we know of no house of public entertainment in Goderich that has retrogressed, and strangers who visit our town pay high tribute to the manner in which they have been entertained.

With regard to the alleged increase in the quantity of liquor sold, it is only necessary to point out that the very taste for spirits has been lost by some who were formerly consumers on this line, and on more than one occasion witnesses on oath, who had been brought up on the bottle for twenty or thirty years, were forced to admit that since the operation of the Act they were unable to distinguish between whiskey and ginger-beer. And similar testimony has been given in various parts of the country, time and again.

It was also contended that the commercial interests of the country would be sacrificed unless a certain number of licenses were granted in each municipality. This contention has not been made good during the time the Act has been in operation, as the volume of trade has not fallen off to any appreciable extent in any particular, and has extended and increased in many departments.

Looking at the question from every standpoint we know of no reason why the Act should not be sustained."

The Rock on which many a constitution goes to pieces is Dyspepsia. The loss of vigor which this disease involves, the malady which accompanies it, or which is aggravated by it, the mental despondency which it entails, are terribly exhaustive of vital stamina. Its true specific is Northrop and Lyman's Vegetable Discovery and Dyspeptic Cure, which likewise cures biliousness, malacia, female ailments, and those coupled with impurity of the blood.

Prince Edward County.

A correspondent from Prince Edward County, relating the statement that electoral unions are valueless, discusses the case of the late Dominion election held in his county, in which he claims that Dr. Platt owed his election largely to the support of Temperance men.

Dr. Platt is known to be a strong supporter of prohibition measures, and there were Conservatives who supported him, as well as many who refrained from voting, the Conservative candidate, Mr. Clapp, having declared himself opposed to the Scott Act.

At a meeting of the Citizens' Division of Sons of Temperance held not long ago, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, that whereas the Scott Act has taken such a rapid hold in this county, and that the united efforts of the liquor party is being made to overthrow the Scott Act, that we believe in the public feeling is strongly in favor of prohibition in this county and throughout the Dominion, and that the Dominion Alliance be requested to have petitions circulated through each county in the Dominion for signatures of those in favor of total prohibition of the liquor traffic, and petitions to be sent to the Dominion Parliament requesting them to take steps toward giving a total prohibition of the traffic throughout the Dominion, and that each county be organized by the Alliance for the purpose of securing the signatures of all persons interested in total prohibition, that each organization be governed by by-laws of the Dominion.

Is It High License?

The Crosby "High License Bill" has finally passed the New York State Assembly, but in such form that we can really hardly understand how the term "High License" applies to it.

The minimum license fee fixed is \$700 for the sale of spirituous and fermented liquors, and the minimum fee for the sale of malt liquors is \$100. It is probable that even these low figures may be still further reduced by the Senate.

In Cape Breton.

From the Temperance Journal, published at Fredericton, N. B., we learn that vigorous efforts are being put forth by the town council to enforce the Scott Act in Sidney, C. B. Not long ago Police Constable Musgrave, under the authority of a search warrant, broke into the store of John McVicar and seized a quantity of liquors. Criminal proceedings were immediately instituted and an investigation held before Justice McVicarish, lasting six or seven days. The Justice deferred his decision. Doid, Q. C., and Hearn, appeared for the prosecution, and Crowe for the defence. The liquors seized were advertised for sale but were repossessed before the sale took place. Two other convictions under the Act were made this week.

The Northwest.

Our friends in the Northwest are anxiously waiting to see what the Dominion Parliament is going to do in reference to the liquor traffic in the Territories. Nearly all the proposals that have been made are unsatisfactory. Our Northwest friends do not want a license law, nor do they want the sale of beer and light wines, which would open the door to all kinds of drunkenness and immorality.

What is really wanted is an abolition of the abominable customs in connection with the permit system and a more rigid enforcement of the prohibitory law.

The Battle in Bruce.

The Scott Act men and women of Bruce County are fighting a noble fight. Recognizing the unscrupulous character of the foe with which they have to contend, they are carefully, wisely and determinedly watching every point and leaving no stone unturned.

A number of able advocates are energetically at work holding meetings every night, and ably presenting the cause of the home against the alien.

The Antis are working on their usual still-hunt lines. The temperance party has circulated weekly for some time eight or nine thousand copies of the TEMPERANCE HERALD, as well as other campaign literature. The Bruce Telescope stands ably by the Scott Act, and from it we clip the following paragraphs: "The large number of convictions obtained during the last year against offenders for violations of the law are well known, which proves that the machinery for enforcement, imperfect as it confessedly is, has got a pretty solid grip on the traffic. But the question after all to be decided on the 19th instant can be resolved into a nutshell, is it right under any circumstances to license a wrong; the issue is clear and well defined. Those of

our readers that conscientiously believe that the licensing the indiscriminate sale of strong drink is hostile to the best interest of the commonwealth, will have no difficulty in recording their vote against the repeal, on the other hand those who believe that the license system is better and more satisfactory than under the Scott Act, will of course vote for the repeal. It may be stated here that the many violations of the Scott Act, is not fairly chargeable to the Scott Act, it only proves that we have a number of citizens in the county who are not law abiding, who have determined to do all in their power to thwart the provisions of a law that they will not obey.

It is a question that every one of our readers should calmly and dispassionately decide for themselves, and give expression to those convictions by coming out on the 19th instant and availing themselves of the opportunity afforded them of exercising the franchise. Let there be a full vote polled."

A DOUBLE TRAGEDY.

Murder and Suicide By a New Brunswick Law Breaker.

Another has been added to the list of horrible tragedies for which the liquor traffic and those engaged in it must be held responsible.

A despatch from Moncton, N. B., dated April 11th, informs us of a serious shooting affair, over the attempt of constable James Farrell, of Shediac, to execute a distress warrant against Thomas Bastian, of Panace.

Bastian had been found guilty of breaking the law, and refused to pay the fine. A distress warrant was issued. The constable attempting to do his duty, the liquor seller armed himself with a revolver, and shot the officer. Farrell fell badly wounded, and Bastian realizing what he had done, instantly shot himself dead. The constable is in a precarious condition.

Later on we have learned that this sad affair has become a double tragedy and the unfortunate liquor dealer a murderer as well as a suicide. Farrell the wounded constable, lingered in terrible agony till the morning of Saturday 7th inst, when he died.

The Dufferin Fight.

The infamous outrages perpetrated in the county of Dufferin, by the Anti-Scott Act party, have roused our friends to energy and determination, and will, we believe, result in the sustaining of the Act, notwithstanding the tremendous difficulties that have stood in the way of its enforcement.

The Dufferin Advertiser, which our friends will remember, bore the brunt of a good deal of Anti-Scott Act malice some time ago, still stands by the old flag. A recent issue says: "The Scott Act, though local in its application, is, we believe, an excellent measure to prepare the way for total prohibition. On this ground we oppose the repeal of the Act and ask the honest voters of this county to consider carefully before dismissing the Act because some interested parties loudly denounce it as a humbug and a failure.

With some the financial aspect is the important one. They admit it is a good Act, but plead its expensiveness as a reason for its repeal. The moral and social results accruing from the Scott Act are beyond price—no money value can be placed on them. Consider the number of drunkards it has reformed in this country, the number of young men it has saved from the temptation of drink, and the consequent joy and happiness it has brought to many a household, and then say if you have paid too much for it."

The Renfrew Struggle.

The fight is hot in Renfrew county. The Renfrew Mercury reports progress in the following paragraphs.

Leading hotel-keepers of Renfrew and Arnprior are out laying plans, and, with the recollection of heavy fines ranking in their memories, are fighting bitterly for Repeal.

On the other hand, the men who have been fighting whiskey in all ways for years, the majority of the clergymen of the County, and a large proportion of the ladies, are actively resisting the movement for Repeal.

The friends of the Act are holding public meetings, at which they challenge discussion.

As far as can be learned, the Antis rely wholly upon a personal canvass for success, and are venting their spite against those who dare to oppose them, by means of libelous personalities in anonymous correspondence in the Renfrew Journal and Pombroke Observer.

The bitterness with which the would-be liquor-sellers are fighting is ample proof, if any of the kind was needed, that

the Scott Act has hurt the liquor business, and that the Antis recognize that their only hope of being able to continue at all in the future lies in carrying Repeal.

The organizers of the Scott Act party can report, however, that in many parts of the county already visited there is a far better feeling on behalf of the Act than had been anticipated.

A BAD BILL.

Our British Brothers Protest Against It.

The opinion is pretty generally held, that the Local Government Bill now before the Imperial Parliament will not become law.

One of its most objectionable features is the method by which it proposes to deal with the liquor licensing system. It is proposed that the entire control of public houses shall be given to the new county councils. Provision being made therein, that in such cases in which the county councils see fit to refuse applications for renewal of licenses, compensation shall be given to the parties whose licenses are not renewed.

Temperance people are down upon all the propositions. They object to an arrangement, which would give the local governing body any interest in the perpetuation and extension of the drink traffic, the revenue, which is to form part of the fund controlled by the county council. There is also bitter opposition to the compensation proposal.

A special meeting of the National Temperance Federation was held to consider the measure, and the following resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote:—"That the proposed transfer of licensing powers to bodies elected on general issues, in no way meets the desire of the temperance party, but is only calculated to so complicate matters as to prove even more unsatisfactory than the present licensing system."

A meeting of the Alliance Executive together with the special advisory board, was also held about the same time, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

"That the proposal contained in the Local Government Bill which would limit the action of the people in dealing with the liquor traffic to the choice of three-fourths of the local governing body chosen for a great variety of purposes, ignores the claim thrice affirmed by the House of Commons that the inhabitants themselves should be entrusted with the power of restraining the issue or renewal of licenses in order to their protection against the evils of the licensing system. This Council is further of opinion that such a proposal cannot justly be described as 'An efficient measure of local option,' or as offering to the people any practicable means of escape from the most prolific source of the greatest social evils, viz., the liquor traffic."

"That the proposal that even a reduction in the number of licenses should be dependent upon the payment of a heavy fine under the name of compensation would unjustly limit the exercise of local self government, would destroy that absolute power to refuse licenses by way of renewal which has always resided in the licensing authority, would for the first time create a vested interest in licenses, and would effectually hinder the people from obtaining that relief from the enormous evils of the liquor traffic, which ought to be made possible by means of a legislative enactment."

"That this meeting solemnly protests against the Government's proposals to transfer the licensing revenues to local bodies, as a corporate interest in the perpetuation and extension of the drink traffic would thus be created, which, whilst conferring on the ratepayers an apparent pecuniary advantage, would render it more difficult to cope with the evils arising from the traffic."

While temperance people regard the proposals with alarm, the publicans are also dissatisfied, being in dread of any measure that would give the people's representatives any control whatever with their business. There is therefore general dissatisfaction all round, and the opposition that has already developed is such as to make it almost certain that the proposed measure will have to be withdrawn unless the government is prepared to risk a defeat in standing by it.

"It is a Great Public Benefit." These significant words were used in relation to Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil by a gentleman who had thoroughly tested its merits in his own case, having been cured by it of lameness of the knee, of three or four years' standing. It never fails to remove soreness as well as lameness.