

# The Camp Fire.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL  
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF  
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE

ADDRESS . . . TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year.

NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers. The editor will be thankful for correspondences upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1897

## OCTOBER RALLIES.

The present month will be one of much importance to the prohibition cause, throughout the English speaking world. The annual meetings of the United Kingdom Alliance, the great parent prohibition association, will be held in England. One of the features of this gathering will be the presentation of reports of the work being done for the cause in Canada and other colonies. The National W.C.T.U. of the United States will hold its yearly convention in the city of Buffalo.

Canada will not be behind. The biennial meeting of the World's W.C.T.U. will be held in the city of Toronto where also the Dominion W. C. T. U. will hold its meeting. The Provincial Branch of the great white ribbon organization meets in Brantford. Ontario Christian Endeavorers will gather in St. Thomas and are giving plebiscite work and prohibition special prominence in their programme.

At some of these gatherings addresses will be delivered by workers of vast experience and world wide reputation. Among the eminent ladies who will take part in the deliberations and public meetings at Toronto, will be representatives from different Australian colonies, from Japan, Egypt, Iceland, Finland, Spain, Syria, the Hawaiian Islands, Chili, Newfoundland, different parts of Great Britain, many States on the other side of the line, and every Province of the Dominion. The result ought to be an immense impetus to the great cause which this organization exists to promote. We heartily wish every enterprise for the promotion of the temperance cause the fullest prosperity and success.

We would specially recommend our friends in every part of the Dominion to watch the press reports of these various meetings, gathering from them and treasuring up for future use the many important facts that will be presented and which may be of service to us in the hard fight that is near at hand.

In this way we may greatly increase the value of these gatherings, extending their influence and securing from them inspiration and aid for many who will not be brought into direct contact with the great leaders of our reform.

## VOTERS' LISTS.

In many parts of the Dominion work is now being done by assessors and other officials in the way of preparing and revising provincial voters' lists. It is almost certain that in this

work they are really preparing the lists upon which the plebiscite will be taken.

Our friends will see the importance of the situation. They ought to do their utmost now to secure the listing of every prohibitionist who is entitled to a vote. We have been too careless in this matter. Too little attention has been paid by temperance workers to the duties of technically qualifying themselves to vote, and then exercising the franchise thus secured.

It is ultimately through the polling booth that the temperance sentiment of the country must be exercised. No opportunity should be missed for the expression of that sentiment at the polls. It ought to affect the election of every municipal, legislative assembly, or parliamentary representative in the Dominion. It is impossible to overstate the importance of this matter.

There are three specific points at which every voter has a personal duty that cannot be delegated. There are the preparation of voters' lists, the selection of candidates for public positions, and the polling of votes. Success can only be achieved by making right use of these three opportunities. To fail in one is to fail in all. In many places two of them are upon us now, namely the preparation of lists and the nomination of candidates. Earnestly do we urge our friends to take advantage of them.

## COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

The importance of general county organization in view of the approaching plebiscite cannot be too strongly urged. While the detail work of canvassing voters and superintending polling arrangements must be carried on by the workers in the respective localities, it is absolutely necessary to have a more comprehensive organization in which a number of municipalities unite. This larger body, with a strong Executive Committee, will in many cases be needed to stimulate local organization, to see that every part of the field is worked, and to prosecute such general effort, arranging series of meetings for some particular speaker, planning for literature distribution, etc., as can best be done on the broader scale.

A few of the leading temperance workers in each county should unite in the "Call" for a county convention. There ought to be no longer delay regarding this matter. Already in many counties of Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island this organization is being put into shape. Every other province should follow this good example. Earnestly we appeal to our friends to lose no time. If any suggestions about methods of organization are required, they may be obtained by addressing the office of the Dominion Alliance Secretary.

## PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION.

Now is the time to make preparations for approaching the provincial legislatures which will meet early in the coming year. In every case in which it is deemed desirable to have amendments made to existing provincial license laws, our friends should carefully and concisely set out their proposals, not asking too many things, but asking those things that are of most importance. They should then interview members of provincial legislatures and provincial governments, showing the reasonableness of what is suggested and asking for support. In most provinces plebiscites have shown how strongly the people feel in opposition to the liquor traffic. There ought to be no hesitation on the

part of legislatures in doing all they can to move towards what is so strongly and generally desired.

## A WARNING.

The sudden attack of the liquor men last summer on the Dominion Government with their direct taxation scheme, was a timely warning. The traffic is organized. It is watchful. Its agents will do their utmost to defeat us in the plebiscite before the campaign comes on. They will strain every nerve to secure the submission of the prohibition question in such form as will be unsatisfactory to prohibitionists, hoping by such tricks to snatch a seeming victory for their cause.

The people want prohibition. A straight vote will make this clear. We must insist upon a straight vote. Our friends are earnestly urged to be upon the lookout for any other suggestion. If it is made let us unitedly show its unfairness and respectfully but firmly claim what we have a right to expect, a fair fulfilment of the government pledge by a straight vote on the single issue of total prohibition.

## CAMPAIGN LITERATURE.

The plebiscite literature now ready for circulation includes twenty documents, ten four-page leaflets and ten two-page leaflets. They have been prepared with great care and must be productive of very good results. One of these leaflets occupies the last page of this paper.

Any worker applying to the Secretary of the Dominion Alliance may obtain at once, free, samples of this literature together with a circular of instructions regarding methods of distribution setting out also the prices at which large quantities will be furnished.

The veteran Neal Dow who now seems to be on his death bed, said that Maine was carried for prohibition by "Sowing the country knee deep with literature." Let our Canadian workers do the same and they will win a like victory.

## THE COMING CAMPAIGN.

### PREPARATION MADE.

Literature Circulation Plans. Progress in Organizing Work.

The Executive Committee of the Dominion Alliance held an important meeting in the city of Toronto on September 21st. There was a good turn-out of members.

Reports were received from the Literature Committee and the Secretary, showing progress made in carrying out the plans agreed upon by the July meeting. A series of twenty campaign leaflets had been prepared and a circulation plan devised by which these important documents will be delivered in any part of the Dominion at the following low prices, four-page leaflets, seventy cents per thousand, two-page leaflets, forty cents per thousand. The balance of the cost of producing these documents will be paid from the Alliance literature fund.

Circulars had also been prepared suggesting methods of literature circulation and about 6,000 copies sent out along with samples of the leaflets.

It was reported that provincial organizations were now formed in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. Correspondence was going on with friends in other parts of the Dominion regarding preparation for work.

The reports and plans were approved. Delegates were appointed to the W.C.T.U. Conventions. A Platform Committee was appointed to inquire and report regarding literature work. The news received from different places was very encouraging and hopes are high for good success in the approaching struggle.

"A little farm well tilled,  
A little wife well willed;  
Their good effects can all be killed  
By a little corn distilled."

## COLD WATER.

You can boast of your brandy and wine as you please,  
Gin, cider, and all the rest; [degrees;  
Cold water transcends them in all the  
It is good—it is better—'tis best.  
'Tis the best of all drinks for quenching  
the thirst;  
'Twill revive you for work or for play;  
In sickness or health 'tis the best and  
the first—  
Oh! try it; you'll find it will pay.  
—Banner.

You may pay big money to insure  
your home against the fire fiend.  
Why not put a little money into a  
cause to insure your son against the  
drink fiend?—Portland Herald.

## THE WORLD'S BEER.

An official document recently issued sets forth some remarkable figures of the quantity of beer consumed throughout the world. The annual quantity consumed, it is stated, amounts to 17,700,000,000 litres or quarts. Of this amount 5,000,000,000 quarts are made in Germany; in Great Britain and Ireland, 4,790,000,000; in the United States, 3,200,000,000; and Austria-Hungary, 1,350,000,000. Belgium produces and consumes yearly 1,050,000,000 quarts of beer; France, 840,000,000; and all the Russias only 400,000,000 quarts.

—The League Journal.

IMPORTANT! READ IT ALL!

## THE CAMP FIRE

is a neat, four page monthly edited by F. S. Spence, devoted to the advocacy of Temperance and Prohibition, full of bright, fresh, pointed convincing facts and arguments. It is just what is needed for the Plebiscite Campaign, to inspire workers and make votes. Subscription, only twenty-five cents per year. ORDER NOW!

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