

## THE SCOTT ACT.

Business Done at the Convention at Clinton.

Resolutions on the Police Magistrate Matter—Public Meetings Recommended—The Temperance Vote.

A convention of temperance workers of Huron county, was held in the Rattenbury St. Methodist church, Clinton, on Friday, June 25th. The President of the Scott Act Association, D. D. Wilson, Esq., of Searsville, took the chair at 10:30 a.m., and the meeting was opened with prayer by Mr. Robert Turnbull, of McKillop.

The President, in his opening address, recounted some important events and changes that had taken place since the last convention was held in May. The mission of the delegation sent to interview the county council had been unsuccessful, that body, by a large majority having refused to memorialize the Ontario Government for the appointment of a salaried Police Magistrate. One of the chief matters to come before the convention would be the question of how to have that lacking part of the Scott Act enforcement machinery supplied. In the meantime while the county remained without that officer, he would strongly recommend bringing all cases of violation of the Act, that could be found out, before the ordinary magistrates. Even if their decision were appealed from the result of having the cases worked out, the ventilation of a few such cases as that brought before Messrs. McMillan and Gowenlock on the 24th inst., in McKillop township, when the senior county judge, a would-be member of parliament, and nearly all the members of a municipal council were subpoenaed as witnesses, would open the eyes of the public to some facts they ought to know, and he hoped would have the effect of making some of our prominent men ashamed of their conduct, and cause them to hesitate to violate the law.

Another matter referred to by Mr. Wilson, was the change made by the Dominion Government during the last moments of the late session of parliament in the Scott Act itself, whereby the fines obtained from convictions under the Act must now be paid to the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province as formerly. He hoped the fact of the Ontario Government being deprived of the fines, would not influence them to relax their efforts to enforce the law or withdraw any of the machinery for that purpose, which they had provided.

This appropriation by the Dominion Government of all the fines, would of course, be a serious difficulty in the way of the Ontario Government administering the law, as they would derive no revenue from its operation, and would have the salaries of inspectors and commissioners, and the costs of unsuccessful prosecutions to pay. He trusted, however, that this loss would not prevent them from faithfully doing their duty. Though many obstacles are thrown in the way of temperance workers, he saw no reason for serious discouragement, for in spite of all difficulties in the way, temperance sentiment is advancing. He eloquently appealed to the members of the convention to be true to the cause and continue to fight earnestly and united the battle for temperance reform on the present line, and he believed the day to be not far distant when national prohibition will crown their efforts.

The announcement was made that Mr. George Walker could not accept the position of President of the Tuckersmith branch of the Scott Act Association, as he would be absent from home all summer, and on motion of Mr. T. McGillicuddy, seconded by Mr. J. Vanless, the selection of some one to fill this position was left to the Executive committee.

On motion of Dr. Williams, seconded by Rev. A. E. Smith, the following resolution was adopted:—"The members of the Huron Scott Act Association in convention assembled, having heard of the death of Mr. Benjamin Smiley, of Tuckersmith, late Vice President of this Association for that township, wish to convey to Mrs. Smiley our sincere and deep sympathy with her in her great loss. We join in the earnest prayer, that the God of all consolation and grace, may lighten her sorrow and her to bear with true Christian resignation, the loss of life, remembering that the hand that afflicts is Divine."

The president allowed a discussion to take place, without a formal resolution being moved, relative to the Police Magistrate, and the action of the county council in refusing the request of the Association.

Mr. T. McGillicuddy thought a thorough practical campaign should be organized and the county stumped from end to end with the object of returning a county council who will ask for a salaried Police Magistrate. The large majority obtained for the Scott Act when it was voted upon was the result of a vigorous campaign when the temperance people displayed earnestness and enthusiasm. In his opinion public meetings and public meetings should be held in every part of the county and the situation fully discussed, and invitations extended to opponents of the Scott Act to be present and take part in the discussion. Our cause would lose nothing by light being let in upon it.

Rev. A. E. Smith heartily approved the idea of holding public meetings. During the election campaign he and Rev. Mr. Danby held meetings in all parts of their townships, in school houses, churches and every place where they could get a meeting, and they intended to again adopt the same course.

Rev. W. M. Martin also endorsed the suggestion. He regretted the lack of public interest in the carrying out of the law which was evident. Even ministers of the Gospel has been entirely silent since the vote took place. In order to make a success of the enforcement of the law, we must preach it, and speak it and work it in exactly the same way as we worked for the carrying of the Act.

The President strongly favored holding public meetings and discussions. Our duty is to agitate and work. The more the question was kept before the public mind the more people will be convinced that a move must be made toward complete prohibition. We must also make

our influence felt in municipalities and parliamentary elections, by acting unitedly. Our legislators upon both sides of politics are afraid to touch the temperance question. We must close in our ranks and make known our actual strength, and compel politicians to take a decisive stand upon the question.

Mr. James Thompson suggested the formation of Electoral Unions in every municipality and the binding of the temperance people together with the pledge that they will vote only for candidates who give a satisfactory promise to support temperance principles at the council board and in the halls of parliament. A few men in any riding can elect whom they will, for by acting in union they can hold the balance of power. For himself he was prepared to take that stand, and he would not pledge himself to uphold temperance principles. Mr. Thompson did not favor pious, but would go in heartily for public meetings in every polling division of the county.

Rev. A. McLean had been somewhat discouraged about Scott Act enforcement. It had been partially a failure through defective machinery for carrying it out, though it had certainly not been altogether a failure. He was recently engaged in gathering statistics for an official report upon the temperance question, and in the course of his work he had a magistrate's opinion as to whether there was as much drinking going on as before the Scott Act came in force. The magistrate expressed the opinion that there had been no decrease, but upon consulting his books found that during the last year of the Crooks Act, thirteen cases of drunkenness had come before him, while during the first year of the Scott Act there had been no such cases at all. Jail statistics also indicated a great falling off of drunkenness and crimes that result from it. From many sources there came the same testimony of a material falling off in drinking habits, and he was convinced that much good was really accomplished with the Act even imperfectly administered at present. The Christian temperance people, however, are not doing their full duty and must be aroused to a sense of it and set to work.

The President called upon Rev. W. M. Martin to engage in prayer, and the convention adjourned for dinner.

At one o'clock the meeting was again called to order and opened with prayer by Rev. E. S. Rupert.

The President nominated a resolution committee consisting of Mr. T. McGillicuddy, Rev. E. S. Rupert, Rev. W. M. Martin and Messrs. R. Adams, Septimus Hogarth and Andrew Gowenlock, which committee subsequently presented a report which was received and taken up serially.

Clause 1 of that report, which reads as follows, was adopted by a unanimous vote:—"Resolved, that the action of the county council in its late session of parliament in the Scott Act, whereby the fines obtained from convictions under the Act must now be paid to the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province as formerly, is a serious difficulty in the way of the Ontario Government administering the law, as they would derive no revenue from its operation, and would have the salaries of inspectors and commissioners, and the costs of unsuccessful prosecutions to pay. He trusted, however, that this loss would not prevent them from faithfully doing their duty. Though many obstacles are thrown in the way of temperance workers, he saw no reason for serious discouragement, for in spite of all difficulties in the way, temperance sentiment is advancing. He eloquently appealed to the members of the convention to be true to the cause and continue to fight earnestly and united the battle for temperance reform on the present line, and he believed the day to be not far distant when national prohibition will crown their efforts."

The second clause of the committee's report, also unanimously adopted, was to the effect "that in the opinion of the Scott Act Association it is desirable that at the next municipal elections only such men should be supported as are favorable to the enforcement of the Scott Act, and the appointment of a salaried Police Magistrate."

The third clause of the report asserted, "That in the opinion of this convention it is necessary for the proper working of the Scott Act, that all lines accruing from convictions, should go towards paying the expenses of enforcing the act generally in the county, and we humbly request of the Governor-General in council, that the fines be so applied." This resolution also received the unanimous approval of the Convention.

Clause four was to the effect "That as the intelligent education of the people upon the Temperance question is necessary to the proper enforcement of the Scott Act, we earnestly call on all ministers and christian people throughout the county to agitate in the pulpit, and press, and by means of public meetings towards that end." The convention was of one mind upon this resolution and accorded it the same treatment that the others received.

Mr. Jas. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. Herbert Elford "That we, the members of this convention, hereby pledge ourselves that for parliamentary and municipal elections, we will vote only for those candidates who will give us a satisfactory pledge that when elected they will carry out our wishes, and that in case of both candidates in an election agreeing to be so pledged we are at liberty to support either candidate, and vote with the political party to which we respectively belong." This motion called forth a lengthy discussion, in the course of which many delegates avowed their determination to act in strict conformity to the resolution.

Mr. J. Wynn thought the temperance public had always allowed political leanings to outweigh their temperance convictions, and thought it high time to reverse the order. For this part he had always placed politics at the top and temperance at the bottom, for he had believed the obstruction to temperance advancement came from the political party to which he was opposed, but he has now learned that both parties are in the way, and had turned the matter the other way up, and in future would support temperance first at whatever cost to his political party. If his party were in the way, he would not be afraid of hurting it, but would want to hurt it if it did not do the right.

Mr. Jas. Thompson thought that now that the O.P.R. is built, and we cannot longer wrangle over that question, and the N. P., which had long been a bone of contention, is also an established fact, we had better call a truce in the battle, and have been waging so long, and make temperance our common platform and fight shoulder to shoulder on that line till we accomplish a complete victory.

Rev. Mr. McLean, Rev. Mr. Danby, Mr. J. P. Clark and Mr. J. C. Steven-

## THE HURON SIGNAL, FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1886.

son strongly supported the motion. Mr. Scott, Mr. T. McGillicuddy and Dr. Williams, while in hearty sympathy with the spirit of the resolution hesitated to subscribe to its letter, on the ground that the election of places from the candidates gave an opportunity for unprincipled vote-seekers to deceive, and betray the temperance people, by giving a pledge and getting the votes and afterwards proving untrue to the obligation. The resolution, however, when put, was carried by an overwhelming majority.

Mr. Jas. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. T. McGillicuddy, "that each license inspector in the county be requested to ascertain all the magistrates in each municipality of their respective ridings who will take information in the Scott Act cases, and that all who refuse to act be at once reported to the Honorable the Attorney-General with the request that they be dismissed, and that the Inspector to suggest to the Attorney-General the importance of holding such meetings, and that the Inspector be requested to be appointed in their stead. And that the Inspector be respectfully advised to bring to trial all cases that may arise before those magistrates who are willing to act."—Carried.

Mr. T. McGillicuddy moved, seconded by Mr. A. Gowenlock, and the meeting unanimously decided "That a meeting to further the interests of the Scott Act cause be held in every Municipality and that the Executive Committee be desired to urge upon the Branch Associations, the clergy, and the branches of the W. C. T. U., the importance of holding such meetings, and assist, if necessary, in the management of such gatherings."

It was agreed that the next convention should be held in Searsville early in September. The benediction was pronounced by Rev. A. McLean, and the convention closed a successful session.

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**HORACE HORTON, Manager.**  
Goderich, Aug. 5th, 1885. 1901.

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CURES SCURF, COLIC, HOARSENESS, ETC.

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WILL CURE OR RELIEVE  
BILIOUSNESS, DIZZINESS, INDIGESTION, DROPSY, JAUNDICE, FLUTTERING OF THE HEART, ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH, DR-NESS OF THE SKIN, AND EVERY SPECIES OF DISEASE ARISING FROM DISORDERED LIVER, KIDNEY, STOMACH, BOWELS OR BLOOD.

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## The Poet's

The Poet's

FROM THE INTER

To and fro moves the

Across the room.

With active grace

He seeks each place

While the guiding

With a firm and force

Seems to understand

And pay a true debt

To the sacred past

To the purity

That should reign in

Through the service

Kearney the patient brood

Seeks the shreds through

Gives to corners zealous care

Least the atoms lurking there

Give a stain upon the air

They too may have a part

And their impure breath

But the broom in circling

Makes of all one common

Gathered in a centred heap

Each with all conspires to

Like the thought of men

Then together like a river

Living legend and all

Are taught in this fine

Day by day.

Prepare the

Sweep from out the soul

Sweep away the dust of

the

the shutters, let God's

growing conscience with

as she purifies the work

To most children the

of a dose of castor oil

When physics is

new, use A. J. P. D.

combine over, essential

principles of a cathartic

ring sugar-coated, are

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have been enabled to

to paper regularly

and I must say we

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tempter to you persons

born and raised (a

years old) on the