

## About Non-Enforcement.

The people of the Province of Ontario are not alone by any means in their complaints about the non-enforcement of the stringent provisions of the license laws. These complaints are very general. As a matter of fact it would seem as though our liquor laws are better enforced and our officers in Ontario are more efficient in this respect than almost anywhere else.

There lies before us a copy of the resolutions adopted by the Irish Presbyterian Church General Assembly, held in Belfast last month, and one of the resolutions unanimously adopted denounced in strong language "the scandalous infringements of the Sunday Closing Act, to the consequent demoralization of the transgressors themselves, and to the hardships inflicted on all peaceful and law-abiding residents in the localities where such violations are perpetrated." It is well-known, too, that a Presbyterian General Assembly is cautious about the changes it makes and temperate in the language it uses.

At the last Manitoba W. C. T. U. convention, held in Winnipeg last month, a resolution was adopted denouncing in strong terms the shameful and open violations of the liquor laws in that Province. We have reason to believe that these charges are well founded.

From British Columbia similar reports come. The liquor laws are not nearly as stringent as ours, and even these are very poorly enforced in many localities.

In Montreal and in most other populous parts of the Province of Quebec similar complaints are frequent and bitter. The law there allows licensed places to remain open until 10 o'clock on Saturday night instead of 7, as here, and yet it and the Sunday closing laws are openly and systematically violated in many places. Frequent reports are published of the fact that after a good deal of pains has been taken to convict parties and have fines imposed on them the fines are left uncollected for months and in many instances never collected at all.

In Nova Scotia, while the license laws are very stringent and the penalties for violations are severe, it is a well-known fact that open and systematic violations are much more general than here. In Halifax for some years it was currently reported that at least 200 unlawful liquor selling places were kept open, and the city authorities were well cognizant of the fact. Matters are reported to be better there now, but in such leading towns as Amherst, Truro, Windsor and Yarmouth unlawful selling has been pretty general and open for years.

Very few laws are more difficult to enforce than liquor laws and in very few have the officials so little assistance from the general community. There are large profits to the violators—the sellers. Most persons feel that "it is not their business" to give any practical help in the matter of giving any help. In many cases it is actually dangerous to furnish any help or even a hint of information; the homes of those even suspected have been burned or other property injured or destroyed; there is a great prejudice against "informers," and when detectives are employed they are denounced as "sneaks and spies" even by magistrates in some instances as well as by the mere hiring lawyers. The difficulties of obtaining evidence to convict are very great, as the men by whom most cases could be proved have been demoralized already by the business. Even the advocates of the continued drink traffic are constantly urging that to enforce such laws causes a large amount of perjury. In nearly every case those who have the duty in hand of such law enforcement are fairly entitled to a good deal more help and sympathy than they generally receive.

One of the great advantages of a general prohibition law—making a clean sweep of the manufacture and importation as well as the sale—is that it is more easy of enforcement than a mere license law. Under the latter the supplies to the small seller are easily obtained almost anywhere; under the former these are cut off. Stop the manufacture and the importation, which are comparatively easy things to do, as these must needs be on a large scale to amount to anything much, and the sale is stopped very easily. There would be fewer violators under a reasonably efficient prohibition law than under a reasonably efficient license act.

## Some Physical Effects.

The North American Review of a recent date has a well written paper by Dr. E. P. Arnold on the effects of alcoholics on the physical system. The facts it gives are somewhat familiar, but they cannot become too familiar, to all classes of people. We therefore republish the following extracts in the HOME GUARD, hoping our readers will make good use of them in their future efforts. He goes on to say:

"The immediate effect of a moderate amount of alcohol is a feeling of increased vigor. Ideas are increased in quickness, but lose in concentration. The system soon demands the stimulant more frequently. Abstinence is followed by suffering. The hand loses its steadiness, the brain its clearness. Insomnia adds to the drain on nervous

forces, and the patient instinctively resorts for relief to the poison which is the direct cause of his condition. In time these symptoms become intensified, and evidences of chronic degeneration manifest themselves.

"Scarcely an organ in the body is exempt. Alcohol in the stomach retards digestion by paralyzing terminal nerves and by a chemical action on the pepsin of the gastric juice produces changes in the secretions of the liver and vitiates the processes throughout the whole alimentary tract by causing a perverted action of the sympathetic nervous system. Partially digested food passing from the stomach to the intestines becomes subjected to abnormal fermentations. As a result poisonous products, designated by modern chemists as ptomaines and leucomaines, are formed.

"Elimination is retarded by alcohol; consequently these products are absorbed into the system and an auto-poisoning results. The lungs and skin undertake to assist in relieving the system of effete material, as shown by the peculiarly disagreeable odor of the breath and perspiration, persisting for days after cessation from the use of alcohol. These patients will be found to suffer from chronic catarrh of most of the mucous membranes, notably the stomach, and chronic liver and kidney changes leading to cirrhosis and Bright's disease. Degeneration and resultant weakening of the walls of blood vessels predispose to rupture (usually in the brain) producing apoplexy."

## Progress in Ontario.

At the Dominion prohibition convention in Montreal last week Dr. MacLaren maintained that that gathering was representative of the prohibition sentiment which had gained such a victory in Ontario. That was a radical gathering. Nor need Mr. Buchanan go so far as England to find an example of a great reform. They had that at home. The history of prohibition in Ontario was the history of a great reform. They had now in power there a Government pledged to prohibition. They had, he would say, 65 members in the Ontario House who were Prohibitionists. They had the head of the Government pledged to a measure of prohibition, and his followers must support him. They had over a half of the regular Opposition on their side. They had more than the half of the Patrons, and of the P. P. A. they had one man. Was this nothing? (Applause.) There was a question of jurisdiction. Well, there was no question of jurisdiction with the Ottawa House. It could legislate as it pleased. He only wished they had in Ottawa such support as they had in the Ontario House. What they wanted was not that one party was ready to take up the question, while the other was bound to oppose it, but rather the bringing about of such a feeling as that if the party in power brought in a prohibitory measure, the Opposition would feel bound to support it. (Applause.) He was perfectly willing to put prohibition before party, but the results in Ontario had been brought about without the introduction of a third party.

## A New Methodist Episcopal Church in Rome.

The Holy City is not left altogether to the Pope and to Romanism in these days. Many denominations have already built fine edifices in that city, and the corner-stone of a new Methodist Episcopal church has just been laid. The location is said to be excellent, and the building has already far progressed. One difficulty has been met in the prosecution of the work which we in this country can little understand. As the workmen were seeking a firm foundation for the massive walls, they came repeatedly upon the ruins of older buildings, through which they had to dig. In this process many objects of archaeological interest were discovered. Interesting fragments of pavements and old statues were brought to light, and fifteen feet below the surface the diggers found that "they were pounding on the walls of a heathen temple over which a church and monastery had been built." Surely this is suggestive! At the bottom a heathen temple; above it a Roman church and monastery; above both the new Methodist church! The new building will cover a large site. There will be a separate church for English services adjoining a large audience room for Italians. There will be room for college work, and ample provision for a publishing department. There will also be a reading and writing room, which it is hoped will be a general place of resort for visitors in the city. The services at the laying of the corner-stone were celebrated on a beautiful afternoon in May, and addresses were delivered by Bishop Newman, Dr. Burt, Prof. Clark, the Rev. Mr. Powell and others. Above the heads of the speakers floated the flags of Italy and the United States, and the hope uttered by Bishop Newman that they might long float together elicited general applause. The progress of the Methodist Episcopal Church is a most interesting phenomenon; it seems to point toward a union of all Methodists; and a united Methodism would be one of the strongest forces for the evangelization of the world. Every such movement as the erection of this church in Rome is a suggestion that union may not be wholly a dream.

## Over a Glass of Wine.

They had been introduced, of course, but he spoke to her first at dinner.

"May I pour you a little wine?" he asked.

"Thank you," she said, simply, "a little. I drink only claret."

"You don't care for the sweet wines?"

"I don't think I really care for any wine, but this is what we drink at home. You did not pour any for yourself," she added a moment after.

"It would be for the first time in my life if I had."

"How strange!" She looked at him point blank with a pair of clear and very kind blue eyes. "Have you scruples? Do you think it wrong?"

"Well"—he drew a long breath—"hardly. Yet, for me it would be wrong."

The color deepened on her cheek a little. He saw her check back a word from her lips, and the shadow that swept over her face was sweeter than any brightness. But he could not appropriate her unmerited sympathy.

"No—no," he declared, laughing slightly. "It is not at all a temptation to me. I have never known the taste of any sort of liquor. I think I have a great advantage against fate in this, and—I mean to keep it."

"Then you are afraid, after all."

"Sometimes we recognize danger though we may not fear it."

"If it be danger you must fear it."

You do, or you would not take precautions."

He looked down and met her earnest glance. She was forgetting her dinner.

"If you were not afraid," she went on, impulsively, "wine would seem to you as harmless as water. It is because you have a fear that you will not touch it."

He was at a loss just here. It was difficult to match her candor without a touch of seeming discourtesy.

"Suppose I drink to your better courage," she said. A roguish smile showed itself. "The deadly cup has no terror for me."

He raised his crystal goblet and drank to her in sparkling water, saying gently:

"But of my cup no one need be afraid."

There was a pause. She had not lifted the wine to her lips. A servant came to remove the course and some one spoke to her across the table. When he could claim her attention again he was ready with a bright remark about the beauty of some roses in a vase near them.

"Yes—so pretty—pretty," she said vaguely, and then with purpose in her tone, "We had not exhausted our topic, I think. May I ask—is it your conviction that liquor should not be used in any form?"

"You are unmerciful," he deprecated. "Think how ungracious it would seem to object to anything amid such surroundings."

"Never mind about being complimentary," she replied gravely. "I am trying to reflect—to decide. I have never before given one serious thought to this question of temperance. The people I live among—and they are all upright, intelligent and refined—regard a moderate use of liquor as almost indispensable. Surely you must admit that there are thousands and thousands who are not in any way injured by its use?"

"I know," he said quickly, "but there are millions and millions—the jails will tell you—the hospitals—"

He stopped abruptly. "Yes," she said, thoughtfully, "yes. But why not take the good and avoid the evil? We need not become drunkards because we use liquor?"

He met the appeal of her earnest eyes with a look as earnest. "Since you desire it," he answered, steadily, "let me say one word, and then, I think, I will say no more. If you never touch liquor, you not only need not, you cannot become a drunkard. But, if once it cross your lips, the first step is made."

There was a long silence between them. The rest of the guests went on talking gayly. Presently she spoke, but so low that he had to bend his ear to listen.

"You have given me a wonderful message," she said. She laid aside her glass of wine, and in the simple act he knew there was consecration. [Ladies' Home Journal.]

## Proverbs.

Words of one syllable say most. Much blue blood appears to run in sewers.

The tramp is high tariff's walking delegate.

Many a king's son never spoke to the queen.

Few preachers believe more than they assert.

No man need apologize for being in the right.

Protection pays for many a pauper's passage.

Every small fault is supplied with a magnifier.

Where the road forks in life's journey keep to the right.

Rich men can sometimes be bought for less than poor ones.

Your mother's perfection may not always help your wife's appetite.

The undertaker has been suspected of a silent partnership in cure-all remedies.

## Prince Oscar of the Mines.

One of the most prominent of the recent metalled upon to exercise over purely private industries."

London was Prince Oscar II., King of Sweden. It will be remembered that three or four years ago married, at Bournemouth

ladies-in-waiting. The was quite excited by the father would not consent to marry without the return part of his son of the r. cession to the throne.

He smiled. "It would be for the first time in my life if I had."

"How strange!" She looked at him point blank with a pair of clear and very kind blue eyes. "Have you scruples? Do you think it wrong?"

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U Labor Troubles.

The labor Christian Advocate (Meth. s.): "What is at the bottom of labor troubles? Why is this widespread unrest among those of us who work with the hands? Is it not that these members of the community have never been duly appreciated? Is not the whole struggle of the laboring man a struggle for proper appreciation? It may seem that we are asking a great effort to a small cause; but there is a stronger feeling in the bosom of man than that which resents condescension and crav. honor."

T Outlook (Unden.), New York, while laying it down as a general principle that there "ought to be no compromise with the mob," and that no action can properly be considered until the right of the majority to govern has been vindicated and the supremacy of the law established, says:

"There is something to be said for the doctrine that coal oil, and other minerals stored in the earth are not properly subjects of private property, and should be owned, controlled and managed by the State—at least this proposition is a legitimate one for consideration."

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## His Church Affiliations.

This story is told of a minister of the Episcopal Church, traveling south, who met a citizen who claimed that he also was an Episcopalian:

"To what parish do you belong?"

"Don't know nothin' 'bout any parish," was his reply.

"Well, to what diocese do you belong?" I inquired.

"There ain't nothin' of that sort in this part of the country that I ever heard of," he replied.

"But who confirmed you?" said I.

"Nobody," he said.

"But didn't you tell me you were an Episcopalian?" I asked in astonishment.

"Oh, yes," said the old man, "I'll tell ye how it is. Last spring I went down to New Orleans visitin', and while I was there I went ter church, and it happened to be an Episcopalian one, and, among other things, I heard 'em say that they'd left undone them things they'd oughter done, and done them things they hadn't oughter done; and I said to myself, 'That's jest my fix, too,' and since then I've always considered myself an Episcopalian."

"Well," said the minister, as he shook the old man's hand, "if your ideas of an Episcopalian are correct, we are the largest denomination in the world."

—In England there is an important committee whose business it is to see to the protection of the native races of South Africa from demoralization as far as possible. The Duke of Westminster is the president. They have recently made a strong protest to the Marquis of Ripon, Secretary of State for the Colonies, regarding the increased smuggling of liquors in some parts of South Africa, and go on to assert that if the evil is not checked it "will bring about the moral and physical destruction of the Basuto nation."

Lord Ripon has replied that "You may rely on me that nothing I can properly do to lessen the evil shall be wanting."

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