

Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

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The Temperance Worker

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

Please read our second offer of commissions and prizes to canvassers, which presents a fine opportunity for making money and doing a good work besides. Everybody can make a commission and no one need despair of winning a prize. The first prize in the last competition was about double as much money as the winner of it sent to us. Friends can have sample copies at any time by dropping us a card with their addresses.

Temperance people in Canada would do us a service for which we would be truly grateful by sending us news of work and progress in the cause in their neighborhoods.

Questions upon matters of general interest will be gladly answered through these columns.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Lately an analysis was made by the United States Internal Revenue Bureau of a patent medicine sold under the name of bitters, and the sample yielded 82 percent of ordinary whiskey and four percent of drugs, with water for the rest. Under false names, as medicine, liquor presents one of its most dangerous aspects, in which it is highly important that it should be combated. People heretofore innocent of drinking habits by the doubly deceitful nostrums for what they purport to be, and are deluded with their early exhilarating effects until the baneful appetite for intoxicants is established and their health made worse than ever. Newspapers of principle should know what they are advertising when filling their columns with advertisements of patent medicines.

A blue ribbon movement actively prosecuted is doing great good in British Columbia. Many hitherto regarded as hopeless cases are clothed in sobriety and are in their right minds. The clergy endorse the movement; the Bishop of Columbia has eulogized it highly in a sermon. Side issues are raised by the publicans—ever capable as their class is of any meanness in defence of their craft in danger. One minister has been attacked—just think of it—upon the score of his doctrinal views! Shades of the early Fathers—rumsellers the censors of theological belief! By the time they have mastered the purport of all the Scripture references to themselves and their wares, we should think they will be sick either of theology or of their business.

DOMINION ALLIANCE.

A well-attended meeting of the Executive of the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance was held in the *Witnes* office, Montreal, last week. In sending a list of business to the meeting the Secretary, Mr. Gales, wrote from his sick retirement, "Workers may die, but the work will go on." Mr. J. R. Douglass gave an encouraging report of the visit of the Rev. Mr. Wells, Mr. James Baylis, and himself, as deputed, to Argen-

teuil county in July last. The Rev. Alex. Campbell was appointed a delegate to the Grand Lodge of Good Templars at Sherbrooke, and the Rev. D. W. Morison to the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance at Ormstown. Upon behalf of the annual picnic committee the Rev. Mr. McCaul reported the demonstration at Cowansville to have been one of the most important ever held in the Province.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

The following new Divisions have lately been organized in Nova Scotia:—"Crystal Light" Division, to meet on Tuesdays, at Whyecocmagh, Inverness county, with thirty-one charter members and the following officers:—W. P., Peter A. McLean; W. A., Duncan Carmichael; R. S., Robt. Finlayson; A. R. S., Arch'd McDougall; F. S., John Gillies; Treas., James McKinnon; Chap., James McPhail; Con., Arch'd McDonald; A. C., Janie McMillan; I. S., John McDonald; O. S., Robert Burton; P. W. P., Maggie E. Mitchell; D. G. W. P., James McPhail. "Speedwell" to meet on Tuesdays, at Baddeck, Victoria county, with forty-one charter members and the following officers:—W. P., Rev. Kenneth McKenzie; W. A., Albert J. Hart; R. S., Leavers Sparling; A. R. S., Carrie Anderson; F. S., John E. Campbell; Treas., T. S. McLean; Chap., Daniel McCurdy; Con., John T. Phillips; A. C., Alice McCurdy; I. S., Hedley McKay; O. S., Daniel Ross; P. W. P., James Archibald; D. G. W. P., John L. Bethune, M. D. "League of Honor," to meet on Fridays, at North Range, Digby county, with twenty-two charter members and the following officers:—W. P., Neill McNeill; W. A., William McNeill; R. S., Peter D. Nowlan; A. R. S., Allen McNeill; F. S., Johnson Thomas; Treas., Robert McNeill; Chap., Jas. S. Wright; Con., Benjamin Frefy; A. C., Elkannah N. McNeill; I. S., Leman Bill; O. S., E. W. White; P. W. P., Cyrus B. McNeill; D. G. W. P., Peter D. Nowlan.

By the kindness of Mr. McCollum, of St. Catharines, M. W. S. of the National Division of America, we have before us a printed abstract report of the fifteenth annual session of the National Division of Australasia, held last March. To our antipodean friends, last year was not one of progress, the temperance cause in their quarter of the world having suffered a reaction. Still, a number of their Grand Divisions were able to report an increase of Sons, and others of Daughters. While in the previous session the M. W. Scribe had to congratulate the membership upon their political success in the passing of the new Licensing Bill, at this session he had to press upon all the necessity of untiring exertion to prevent all they had obtained from being swept away. Says he: "The cry must be, organize and petition. Further, if we desire to succeed, we must labor as well as shout." That is as good advice on this side of the globe as on the other. Strangely, the abstract does not give any statement of the total membership of the Order in Australasia, only presenting statistics of the bene-

fit membership. There are 3,431 Sons on the benefit list, and 1,549 Daughters. Including two Grand Divisions in New South Wales, whose returns were not tabulated with the others, and the New Zealand membership, there are in all over 5,700 benefit members in the jurisdiction. In 1882 the Sons' benefit receipts were £8,353 5s. 11d., and the expenditure—under the heads of sickness, medical men, deaths and sums exclusive of benefits—£7,066 17s.; the Daughters' receipts, £2,252 3s., and expenditure £1,696 15s. 3d. Amounts respectively on hand were—Sons, £19,919 13s. 8d.; Daughters, £3,425 9s. 10d. Besides the benefit system there is a Funeral Fund, giving a funeral gift that the past session raised to £50, with quarterly fees of 1s. 6d. for Sons and 1s. for Daughters.

The Division at Butternut Ridge, N. B., numbers about a hundred and twenty members.

W. C. T. U.

A Woman's Christian Temperance Union Convention for the Maritime Provinces met in Fredericton, N. B., on Sept. 8th, delegates being present from all parts of that region. Mrs. Dr. Todd, of St. Stephen, N. B., was elected President; Mrs. Hotson, of Halifax, Vice-President; Miss Thorne, of Fredericton, and Miss Denistadt, of Moncton, N. B., Secretaries, and Miss Lockhart, of St. Johns, Treasurer. New Unions have been organized at Amherst, N. S., and Sackville, N. B. The committee on unfermented communion wine had received a favorable reply from the Baptist Convention to an appeal sent to the governing bodies of different religious denominations in the Provinces. A temperance hotel has been established under the auspices of the Union at Amherst. Mrs. Black presented the following police report, which shows the Scott Act to be anything but a failure as a legal instrument:—"Number of prosecutions under the Canada Temperance Act, since March, 1880, 158; number proved, 107; amount of fines collected, \$3,650; imprisoned for non-payment of fines, 26; cases appealed, 11, of which one was sustained, 4 dismissed and 6 are still before court." It was resolved that the members of the Maritime Convention do covenant with each other to wear the blue ribbon at all times and to use their influence to persuade members of local Unions to do the same.

The Members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of St. John, N. B., are bitterly disappointed over the result of leaving the erection of a drinking fountain, for which they had raised funds, in the hands of an architect and the Public Grounds Committee of the City Council. Their original design of a figure of Moses striking a rock, with the inscription, "Thou shalt bring forth water to the people," was rejected by the Committee, one of whose members gave as his reason for objecting to the design, that he had never seen Moses. The ladies hope that the fountain, which cost from eight to nine hundred dollars, can yet be improved.

"GENERAL NEWS."

The Pictou News, published at Pictou, N. S., in a county where the Canada Temperance Act is law, contains the following account of a fatal fruit of the traffic:—"Last Friday evening, Murdoch McKenzie, of Cariboo River, who had been in town all day, went home well under the influence of liquor. On Saturday morning he was found in a stupor from which it was found impossible to rouse him, even after medical assistance had been procured. He exhibited all the symptoms of a person under the influence of opium, and, although not certain, Dr. McMillan who attended him thought there were evidences of blood poisoning. He died on Tuesday while still in an unconscious condition. This is possibly a case for investigation, at any rate another victim is added to the deaths from rum-drinking."

The sober people of Pictou, who allow liquor to be sold in their community when they have voluntarily assumed the power to prevent its sale, ought to reflect whether they have any responsibility for such melancholy results of the illegal traffic as the above one.

The following item is going the rounds of the press. It will be seen that there is one prince of the earth who "dares to be a Daniel" in maintaining what he deems to be right. Although some of the laws of this prince mentioned below would hardly be endured in a civilization partaking of advanced freedom, yet it is better to see tyranny erring on the side of right than on the outside. His nergetic enforcement of the laws against intemperance is an example that needs to be copied by those responsible for the enforcement of similar enactments in many enlightened communities on this continent:—"A stern reformer is the Prince of Montenegro. Some time ago he closed all the cafes and drinking shops in his dominion, regarding the same as schools of effeminacy, extravagance and corruption. Then he abolished all titles, so that, while formerly every other man in Montenegro was an 'excellency,' now even the ministers have to be content with plain 'Mr.' And now the prince has issued an interdict against all 'luxurious wearing apparel,' including cravats, gloves, walking sticks, parasols, umbrellas. No one dared complain, because the prince himself lives up to the strictest letter of his laws."

Woodstock District Meeting of the Methodist Church at its last session passed a resolution rejoicing attempt being made to pass the C. T. act of 1878 in Oxford county, "an act which removes the responsibility for the evils of the traffic from the electorate and places it upon those who wilfully break the law of the land;" and, further, strongly urging all the ministers and members of that church to do all in their power to secure the passage of said act. Many members expressed the opinion that the Act would be triumphantly carried. The Rev. C. R. Morrow, agent for the Oxford Temperance Association, is doing valiant work in the campaign.

Ninety-eight persons took the pledge at the close of a temperance meeting held by Mr. T. M. Lewis, at Bear River, Digby, N. S., last week.