

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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Every onewhoreceives this paper is respectfully requested to read every part of it carefully. It is a journal that no Canadian temperance worker can afford to be without. The subscription price is almost insignificant. In the great impending campaign for prohibition in Ontario it will be of intense interest and great value.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The Prince Edward Island Prohibitory Law will go into operation on June 5th. The question of enforcing the law was discussed in the Provincial Legislature on April 23rd. Premier Farquharson stated definitely that the Government would stand by the law and see it carried into effect, that the liquor sellers had had their day, had been given ample time to clear out their stocks and must be prepared for the new order.

In view of the decision of the Supreme Court of Manitoba that the prohibition law of that province was unconstitutional because it interfered with transactions that did not end within the limits of the province, the Premier of Prince Edward Island introduced the following amendment to the Prince Edward Island Act:

"While this Act is intended to prohibit and shall prohibit transactions in liquor which take place wholly within the Province of Prince Edward Island except as otherwise specially provided by this Act, and restrict the consumption of liquor within the limits of the Province of Prince Edward Island, it shall not affect and is not intended to affect bona fide transactions in liquor between a person in the Province of Prince Edward Island and a person in another province or in a foreign country, and the provisions of this Act shall be construed accordingly."

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NOTES OF NEWS

ABOUT OUR WORK AND WORKERS.

PROGRESS OF THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

What Our Friends and Foes are Doing.

The Annual Meeting of the I. O. G. T. Grand Lodge of Ontario will be held in Toronto, commencing at 10 a. m. on the third Wednesday of June. Particulars may be obtained from the Grand Secretary, D. Marshall, Thornbury.

The annual convention of the Maritime Prohibition Association presided over by Rev. E. Crowell, of Yarmouth, was held in the Temperance Hall at Truro, N. S., on the evening of May 7th. Particulars of the work done have not yet been received.

The Temperance League in Sydney, N. S., is making a special effort to rouse interest in Scott Act enforcement in that town. There has lately been a good deal of improvement in the administration of the law, but liquor selling is not entirely abolished.

In the year 1901 the Independent Order of Good Templars celebrates its Jubilee. An effort is being made to commemorate the event by the raising of a fund of \$1,000,000 to be expended in promoting the work of the Order and the cause of temperance.

A good deal of indignation is felt by the temperance workers of Coldwater, Ont., against the action of the License Commissioners for East Simcoe in granting a shop license to take effect in the village in spite of the earnest protest of a large number of the best citizens.

Encouraging success is attending the effort being made by the prohibitionists to secure better carrying out of the Scott Act in the County of Pictou, N. S. The bars of New Glasgow have been closed. A second conviction was secured a few days ago in Westville.

A drunken woman had a remarkably narrow escape from a shocking death in Toronto on the evening of May 2nd. She was found lying helplessly intoxicated on the Grand Trunk Railway tracks about ten o'clock at night, and was only removed a few minutes before a heavy train passed the place.

Pure Beer Legislation.

The Imperial House of Commons by a majority of 245 has given the second reading to a Bill providing that every cask of beer should be labelled either "Malt beer" or "Part malt beer." The object of this legislation is to protect beer drinkers against the use of noxious drugs in liquor manufacturing.

Britain's Drink Bill.

Rev. Dawson Burns, D. D., in the London Times publishes his annual calculation of the national drink bill of the United Kingdom, which he estimates at £160,891,718 sterling, for the year 1900. This is a falling off of about a million and a quarter from the drink expenditure of 1899. Reducing the different kinds of intoxicants consumed to an alcohol basis, Dr. Burns estimates the total consumption of alcohol in the United Kingdom at 84,251,006 gallons. The per capita consumption is 2.46 gallons in England, 1.82 gallons in Scotland and 1.64 gallons in Ireland.

A Temperance Victory.

Temperance workers of Great Britain are jubilant over the victory won in the British House of Commons on March 20th, when the second reading of the Sale of Drink to Children Bill was carried by a majority of 318. It is possible that the Bill may not reach a third reading, but the Government can hardly fail to take some early action regarding this important question in view of this wonderful demonstration of public desire for progressive legislation.

Prohibition in Massachusetts.

The report of the Prison Commissioners of Massachusetts for the year 1900 gives a table showing the number of arrests for drunkenness and other offences in the different cities of the state for the year ending September 30th. Twelve of these cities were under prohibition and twenty-one were under license. A careful calculation shows that the average arrests for drunkenness per thousand population in all the licensed cities, amounted to 29 and in the prohibition cities to 14, while the average arrests per thousand for all causes were in the licensed cities 41 and in the prohibition cities 26.

The Canteen Question.

On April 19th, the House of Commons debated the canteen question. Lieut. Colonel Prior, Lieut. Colonel Tisdale and Dr. Sproule championed the cause of the people desirous of having beer supplied to soldiers in training. They did not meet with much encouragement from the House. It is earnestly to be hoped that any action taken by the Minister of Militia will be in the wise direction of upholding the law as it stands and seeing that it is thoroughly enforced at every military camp during the coming season.

Good Templars Resolve.

The 32nd annual session of the English Good Templar Grand Lodge was held at Hanley, commencing on Tuesday, April 9th. About 300 delegates were present. Resolutions were adopted warmly commending the movement to secure the prohibition of the sale of liquor to children, declaring in favor of the local veto proposition and strongly opposing municipalization of the liquor traffic. Joseph Malins was re-elected Grand Chief Templar for the thirty-second time. Most of the other officers were also re-elected.

A Good Paper.

The Canadian Royal Templar, under the editorship of Mr. S. H. Graham, is doing splendid work for the cause of temperance and prohibition. The April number contained an immense amount of interesting statistical information and a number of strong and lively editorials relating to different aspects of the present position of the prohibition reform. It is to be regretted that so much space in this interesting paper has to be given up to official details of the work of the Royal Templar Order and that it is published only once a month. A weekly prohibition paper is one of the crying needs of the temperance cause in Canada.

Discriminating Law Enforcement.

Mrs. Carrie Nation met with trouble in Kansas City, Mo. She entered a saloon there on Sunday, April 21st, and protested against the sale of liquor contrary to law which was being openly carried on. A crowd collected and Mrs. Nation was arrested for causing a public disturbance. She was taken to the police station in a patrol wagon and on

the evidence of the policeman who arrested her, was fined \$500 for blocking the sidewalks. Meantime the saloons against which Mrs. Nation protested are carrying on their lawless traffic practically with the consent of a patronage of the city authorities.

Good Work.

The War Cry, organ of the Salvation Army of Canada, is doing splendid work for the cause of temperance by sound articles and striking cartoons. In the issue for April 13th the front page was devoted to a picture showing what could be purchased by the money necessary to supply three glasses of beer per day. The well-arranged array of articles of domestic consumption included six sacks of flour, six of potatoes, one of rolled wheat, one of oatmeal, twenty five pounds each of peas and beans, twenty pounds of butter, twenty-four dozen eggs, one hundred pounds of sugar, twenty pounds of tea, ten pounds of coffee, fifteen chickens, a turkey, a Christmas pudding and a substantial little surplus of cash for other purposes.

WHAT DRINK DID FOR ONE MAN.

"It was in the beautiful bar-room of the Tabor Grand, in Denver, a group of handsome young men were laughing and drinking, when a poor tottering tramp pushed open the door, and with sad eyes, looked at them appealingly.

"Come in, Senator, and drown your cares in the flowing bowl!" they said, jeeringly.

"I will come in, thank you," he said, "for I am cold and hungry."

"Take this brandy, Senator," they said mockingly, "and drink to our health."

"After swallowing the liquor the tramp gazed at them for an instant, and then, with a dignity and eloquence that showed how far he had fallen in the social scale, he began to speak:

"Gentlemen," he said sadly, "I wish you well. You and I complete a picture of life. I was, alas! a Senator. My bloated face was once as young and handsome as yours. This shambling figure once walked as proud as yours. I, too, once had a home, and friends and position. I had a wife as beautiful as an artist's dream, and I dropped the priceless pearl of honor and respect in the wine cup, and, Cleopatra-like, saw it dissolve and quaffed it down. I had children as sweet and lovely as the flowers of spring, and I saw them fade and die under the curse of a drunken father.

"I had a home where love lit the flame upon the altar and ministered before it, and I put out the holy fire, and darkness and desolation reigned in its stead. I had aspirations and ambitions that soared as high as the morning star, and I broke and bruised their beautiful wings, and at last strangled them, that I might be tortured with their cries no more. To-day I am a husband without a wife, a father without a child, a tramp without a home to call his own, a man in whom every good impulse is dead—all, all swallowed up in the maelstrom of drink.

"Young gentlemen," he said, as he passed out into the darkness, "whichever way you go—whether you follow your mothers', wives', and children's prayers and enjoy their love on earth and dwell with them in heaven, or whether you become a saddened soul, forever lost, like me, I—I wish you well!"

"I shall never forget that sad picture," continued the humorist. "It was wit and humor ending in pathos. Tears dimmed the eyes of the youth as they watched a despairing soul disappearing in the darkness."—Eli Perkins.