

TEMPERANCE FEDERATION

Organization Meeting Was Held on Wednesday Afternoon

The organization meeting of the New Brunswick Temperance Federation was held at St. John Wednesday afternoon and evening. Rev. Thomas Marshall presiding.

Rev. B. Colquhoun, Woodstock, Scott Act inspector for Charlotte county, was enrolled a member of the federation. Letters were read from Rev. Dr. Brown, Albert, and Howard Trueman, Point de Lute, who desired to become members; also communications expressive of sympathy in the work from C. N. Vroom, St. Stephen; Rev. J. J. Colter, Fredericton; Dr. A. F. Carr, Campbellton; Rev. H. E. Thomas, Moncton; Rev. T. D. Hart and Dr. Burden, Sackville.

A letter from C. N. Abbot superintendent of the Dominion Express Company, stated that his company would in future carry liquor into counties where the Canada Temperance Act is in force only as far as they were required to do so by the law of common carrier, and further, that the company would not oppose any legislation the federation might desire in the matter.

A constitution was adopted, and it stated that the objects are: Clear and more hearty co-operation of the different societies in all temperance work; the work of temperance education; the union of effort to secure necessary temperance legislation; the enforcement of all laws tending toward the prohibition of the liquor traffic. Membership is open to all temperance associations who, by their recognized officers may affiliate with this society and subscribe to its aims; all persons may be duly elected and shall sign the platform.

The executive reported that it was not advisable to bring Tompkins Smith, the temperance lecturer, here till October. After the evening meeting it was announced that Rev. Thea Marshall had word that the government would introduce legislation prohibiting the express companies from carrying liquor into counties where the Scott Act is in force.

The appointment of four members of the executive was left in the hands of the executive itself, as was the question of employing a provincial organizer. A resolution was passed directing the secretary to send to the Dominion Express Company the thanks of the federation for carrying liquor into counties where the Scott Act is in force.

The president will prepare and send to all temperance societies a document stating the aims and ends of the federation and asking for support in the work.

Local Legislature

(Special to Advocate) The budget debate at the House was continued on Monday by Maxwell, LaBelle, Morrison and Treadwell, the latter having the floor when the House adjourned at 11:15.

Three local bills were passed, namely: The Grand Falls Water Bill, Fredericton Water Bill and the Madawaska House Bill.

Advertisement for Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, featuring a portrait of the woman and text describing its benefits for various ailments.

ANOTHER LETTER ON SCOT ACT.

Rev. Fr. Maguire States His Views in a Clear Manner.

WANTS PROTECTION.

Liquor Evil A Hard one to Cope Against but Laws Should be Obedied.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:

Sir:—My letter of last week on the liquor traffic and the Scott Act contained no "assumption" of fact, but statements of fact, and made no "insinuations" in the matter of the act, but plain and open proof of some of its defects. Let me point out another which is a fatal one. Law must have a sanction if it is to be carried out. The usual sanction of a law is the penalty meted out for its infraction. What is the sanction of the Scott Act? Not the punishment of the men who habitually buy liquor and frequently use it to excess, although many of them—this is no "assumption"—have, by their votes, helped to impose the Act upon the county; but the penalty falls upon the vendor. If this penalty were an efficient one, making its aim effective, it could plead justification for its adoption and would meet with general approval. But it is not efficient.

The law provides a fine of \$50 for a first offense; \$100 for a second—there can be only one such fine; and goal, without the option of a fine for a third and subsequent offenses. What more do you want? you have got your rattle, and must be a good child. The advocates of the Act need more than it has given them; what it has given with one hand it has taken away with the other. It has established penalties for vendors accused of a second and third offense, but it punishes the prosecutor at his discretion to charge the violators of the law not with a second or third offense but again and again with a first offense. This is a matter of some gravity. The defect might be overlooked if fines were imposed sufficiently often to make the liquor trade unprofitable. Here we meet the real difficulty. The temptation to Municipalities to work the Act for revenue is too great to be resisted. Can anyone deny they have succumbed to temptation? Facts are against them. Aldermen under the Provincial Municipality's Act may appoint the town inspector; he is created by their act and may be dismissed by them. "I cannot afford to be an independent officer; he must be guided by their policy and take his orders from them, which has happened here as elsewhere. If the Council insists on offenders being punished for every offense it will kill the "geese that lay the golden eggs." What more natural than to have them prosecuted often enough to swell the town revenues, but not often enough to drive them out of business.

There is another obstacle in the way of charging offenders with second and third offenses. It is the difficulty in securing convictions for such offenses. The accused will make a stouter and more protracted fight in proportion to the severity of the penalty which they would naturally seek to escape. This further more involves expense which the thrifty county or town is not prepared to defray. In prosecutions for a third offense, no revenue to offset the expense can be looked for. Hence the middle. The county authorities of Northumberland gave their county inspector instructions to carry out the law in matters of second and third offenses. An attempt was made but so expensive and ineffective did it prove to be that the councillors grumbled, and further efforts in this direction were abandoned.

It is now hoped that on the appointment or re-appointment of the town inspector the law will be enforced as far as it is feasible, for he has got his instructions. I am not among the number of the sanguine ones. When the other, last year, told the chairman of the Police Committee that he would carry out the law's provisions against offenders if the Council wished it, but he knew they did not, the Chairman and Committee asked the Council to back up the orders to the officer with their authority. The Council of Newcastle unanimously agreed, and yet it must have winked with one eye while it kept the other on the "gallery." Hence my scepticism.

I may state that whilst I verified every statement contained in my letter to the Telegraph and have nothing to recall or modify, I did not accuse the chairman of the Police Committee of making no efforts to have the law enforced. The sanction of the Scott Act is worthless or at least inadequate. Yet the sanction of a law in restriction of liberty must always be its key-stone.

There are other grave defects in the Canada Temperance Act which space and time do not permit me to notice now but which I shall take up next week. I have noticed that the Temperance advocates propose to ask Parliament to enact a prohibition against Express Companies carrying liquor into Scott Act counties. They are at putting a patch on an old shoe which cannot keep the foot dry.

In the Rev. H. Johnston's letter to the Advocate of last week, I notice the words

G. T. P. AWARDED CONTRACTS.

Tenders Have Been Accepted for 447 Miles of the Line.

Montreal, Feb. 27.—Contracts were out by the Grand Trunk Pacific shortly after noon yesterday for the construction of 450 miles of railway between Touchwood Hills and Edmonton. From Touchwood Hills to Saskatoon, a distance of 140 miles, was awarded to the Canadian White Company of Montreal, and the portion from Saskatoon, 317 miles, was awarded to Foley Bros., Larson and Company.

The conditions imposed upon the contractors is that the work be rushed with the greatest possible rapidity. This work together with the work now in hand between Fort William and Lake Superior Junction, make a total of 942 miles which the Grand Trunk Pacific has under contract.

"The writer," "On the assumption that things are what they seem etc." I did not assume anything in my letter to the St. John Telegraph, as I have already stated. Again he says that "the writer in proof of his insinuation that the Scott Act was unworthy the confidence and support of the friends of law and order, support of the friends of the temperance people in Charlottetown evidently unaware that the P. E. I. has a prohibition law for the entire province." The writer begs to state that he made no insinuations, for the evident drift of his letter was dissatisfaction with the Act, and he brought up the case of Charlottetown in proof that temperance people there must have been also dissatisfied with it. What he got in its place was outside his scope.

It is however, in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Reverend gentleman's letter that he takes up a novel and most serious position which in the interest of correct theology and orthodoxy, cannot be allowed to pass without notice. In my letter to the Telegraph I stated that I was utterly opposed to the principle of prohibition, for it drives the traffic into the dark, where men cannot hope to grapple with it successfully. Now in paragraph 7 Rev. Mr. Johnston had this to say:—"On the same principle (if this principle be a right one) a person should be 'utterly opposed' to the law prohibiting stealing and murder, etc. for thereby they are driven into the dark. Shall one, therefore, license stealing and murder? Because a sailing which is made criminal by law, shall we therefore, remove prohibition that it may become respectable. God forbid! This is trifling with the intelligence of the people."

The law against stealing and murder is a Divine law prohibiting acts necessarily, that is, essentially evil; if human law also forbids them, it merely reiterates the Divine prohibition and provides earthly punishment. Things good in themselves may, through the weakness or malice of man, be abused and can be forbidden; but there is no ground for comparison as is patient. If liquor selling admit of comparison with stealing and murder, or if it stand in the "same category" with them as he maintained in paragraph 8, it can only be because liquor is an essential evil. To hold this is to hold the heresy broached by Manes in the third century and developed by his disciples, the Manichees of the fourth and fifth centuries, against whom the great Augustine wrote, spoke, and waged relentless war in defence of Christian truth and the Christian church. They did not hold more extreme views on the evil of created things. In this view fire might be prohibited, all because the incendiary might use it to damage another. Drugs might be banned because the foolish man may use them to his own or another's detriment. All created things are in themselves good. Manes held they were evil. If they are used in themselves the act of them is not essentially wicked.

Exaggeration, confusion of ideas, misapprehension of the nature, source, division and scope of law, as well as the making a "fetish" of the Scott Act have brought the temperance movement into disrepute. Worse still; its prestige has suffered at the hands of some of its professed advocates in Newcastle who doled out liquor to the voters at the last Dominion election at a time when four deaths in Chatham were directly caused by liquor. By this we have been made painfully to realize the difference between profession and practice.

It is a mistake to try to impose our high ideals upon a community unless backed up public sentiment which here, is sadly lacking. In striving to accomplish we effect little. If these ineffective efforts were directed where the Scott Act does not run to ensure the observance of existing laws we should achieve more. Nevertheless, since the Act is here, it must, with all its defects be made to give us what protection is possible to give us against the growing evil of the liquor traffic, or against its worst phases.

Signed, (REV.) T. MAGUIRE, Newcastle, N. B.

February Clearing Out Sale AT CREAGHAN'S Remnants Dress Goods. Remnants Carpets. Remnants Prints, Gingham and Flannelettes. Odd Ends and Broken Lots from every Department. Many Lines Less Than Half Price. MEN'S, YOUTHS' and CHILDREN'S CLOTHING. Odd Suits, Coats, Pants and Overcoats, Half Price. 40 Boys' Tweed Vests, 20c. each to clear, worth \$1.00. 35 Men's All Wool Oxford Pants \$1.10 per pair, worth 2.00. 27 Ladies' Coats and Jackets, the latest style at Half Price. OPENING THIS WEEK Latest New York Style MEN'S SPRING HATS. Also New Carpets, Rugs, Floor Coverings, Window Curtains and Draperies. J. D. Creaghan Co., Ltd., Newcastle, Chatham, Moncton.

Editor's Mail.

Editor: Advocate: Dear Sir:— Permit me a small space in your valuable paper to answer my numerous and ever increasing anonymous correspondents. I am continually receiving letters signed "Temperance," "One Who Knows," "A Mother," etc., etc., purporting to give information against persons for violating the Canada Temperance Act, generally giving "as witnesses the names of nearly the whole community in which the supposed violator resides; and sometimes threatening me with dire consequences if I do not act on this anonymous information. To all such I say I have never betrayed the confidence of any person who has honestly given me information to assist me in the discharge of my duty, and I do not purpose placing any confidence in persons who do not place sufficient confidence in me to accompany their information with their names. I do now respectfully ask all such persons to sign their names plainly at the end of their letters, otherwise to save themselves paper, time and postage, and save me the necessity of opening the letters, looking for the names of my correspondents, and failing to find it, consigning the epistle to the fire. Thanking you Mr. Editor, I remain, JOHN MENZIES, Newcastle, Feb. 27. Inspector.

Sunlight Soap is better than other soaps, but is best when used in the Sunlight way. Buy Sunlight Soap and follow directions.

WANTED AT ONCE—A good upstairs girl and a good kitchen girl who can do plain cooking. Apply at once to ALBERT HOUSE, Chatham.

CHEAP FIRE-WOOD As yard where fire-wood is piled has to be cleared before end of March when building of new planing mill will be commenced, I am authorized to reduce the price of cord wood for immediate delivery. Take advantage of the low price and good hauling and secure cheap fire wood. P. J. DEWOLFE, NORDIN, N. B.

FOR SALE. That dwelling house and lot on Pleasant street, Newcastle, at present occupied by Mr. R. C. Byes. Possession given May 1st. J. H. PHINNEY, Fredericton, Feb. 24, 1906—225

Teacher Wanted. For district No. 9 Upper Nelson a female second class teacher. Apply stating salary to E. A. PARKS, Secretary Board Trustees.

BRANCH MANAGER WANTED By Carriage Manufacturing Concern, who intend opening a warehouse at Newcastle. To one who has experience in retailing Carriages, Implements, &c., this is a fine opening. A live Concern, best known goods in the Provinces and the intention of making this a permanent proposition should give all the chance expected. Apply by letter to "CARRIAGES," "Union Advocate" Office, Newcastle, N. B.

Sprains Bruises or Soreness are immediately relieved by an application of DR. SCOTT'S White Liniment. This preparation should be in every home or work shop, it is the very best of all our line of Liniments as it is invaluable for sufferers of Rheumatism. I have just received a large shipment from the makers and will give a Free Sample to every household who will call. Be sure and send for Sample first. Newcastle Drug Store, THOMAS J. DURICK, Proprietor. Quigley Building, near P.

Two Stores in One. I have much pleasure in informing my customers and the public generally that I have enlarged and very much improved my premises taking in the corner lot owned by Clarke & Co., using that for one only and remaining open by Hardware, and other shelf goods, making a complete business, and appearance second to none of its kind in the Province. I would give a cordial invitation to all from a distance to visit me on my new arrangement. My stock of Goods of every description, in all sizes consists in part of Steel Cast Range and Stoves, all prices Heating Stoves for any kind of fuel, Hardware, Earthenware, Japanese and Wire Goods, and Tinware of our own make in almost endless variety. Yours respectfully, J. H. Phinney.

Cross Pills! Pills for crossness? Certainly. They remove the cause—the crossness vanishes. A sluggish liver poisons the blood, spoils the temper. Keep your liver active and your bowels regular. Have a clear brain, a brave heart, a hopeful outlook. One of Ayer's Pills at bedtime. All vegetable. Sugar-coated. Sold for 00 years. We have no secret. We publish the formula of all our medicines. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.