

hastily gathered around him but life was extinct. Tenderly they carried the lifeless form from the Chamber, and when the speaker resumed the chair, silence deep as death filled the Legislative Hall. With a tremor in his voice Hon. Oliver Mowat moved the adjournment of the debate, and immediately after the adjournment of the house, when all sorrowfully departed. How very forcibly we are reminded time and again, that in the midst of life we are in death.

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GRADED taxation, the principle upon which we have insisted from time to time as the only reasonable scheme of providing community expenses, has, says the *Canadian Churchman*: been accepted by legislation in Australia. Those who are able to spare most, who have the largest margin over their *needs*, are required to pay expenses in a proportionately large ratio—not a mere percentage. It is the only way to keep the balance between poor strugglers and fortunate possessors."

The question has involved considerable discussion not only in Winnipeg ~~but in Toronto~~ as well, where they are endeavoring to secure an amendment to the Act, through the Legislature, regulating the assessment and collecting of taxes. As there is much to be said on both sides, it will probably be like the free trade question, pretty well threshed out before anything is adopted.

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THE apostle of Prohibition, Joe Hess, is with us, and with the help of the Temperance people is endeavoring

to mitigate the evil of intemperance in Winnipeg. We wish him success in his work, and hope his labors will bring forth the fruit they so richly deserve. But as we remarked some time ago, unless the Churches take hold of the matter and demand that temperance reform go hand in hand with Church fellowship, we cannot hope for any great success. The trouble is there are too many Sunday temperance people, who doff their principles like their religion on and off the first day of the week. The almighty dollar has got to be looked after by hook or by crook, and is obtained without any very great qualms of conscience. We have temperance people, and temperance people, that is so called temperance people, who can give a good deal in the way of advice, but when asked to do something practical, cannot put their principles into practice. How many there are who will preach reform, and advocate temperance until they are hoarse, but if asked to give practical assistance to any temperance paper, or to assist in the means of carrying out their plans have some excuse for refusing. How about the saloon keeper, the hotel man, and the brewer. Who ever knew them to refuse aid to anything which was likely to benefit them; as Mr. Hess aptly puts it "they—the saloon keeper—get there with a hustle, for they know if they don't some one else will." Let us have some practical benefit accrue from the work which has been done by Mr. Hess, and have done with jealousy, avarice and bigotry. As Mr. Hess is engaged in a glorious work, we trust that the temperance people, and all those inter-