

The aggregate result of the Scott Act campaign thus far is as follows:—

Contests won by the Temperance party	59
Contests won by the Anti-Temperance party	12
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Total number of contests	71
Cities and counties whose latest vote was in favor of the Scott Act	49
Cities and counties whose latest vote was against the Scott Act	10
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Total cities and counties that have voted...	62

Three votes have been taken in the county of Lambton. The Scott Act was carried on the first, but the courts held the election invalid on technical grounds, and the second vote was against the Act. The third vote has resulted as already indicated.

There have been two contests in each of seven counties. In one of these the Act was defeated on the first vote, but carried on the second; in the other six cases the second contest was on the question of repeal, and in every instance the Act was sustained.

The Provincial Secretary for Ontario has sent a copy of the following circular to all the Provincial Inspectors of Licenses:—

"PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
"LICENSE BRANCH.
"TORONTO, 3rd March, 1885.

"SIR,—Your attention is particularly called to the following instructions:

"1st. In the case of by-laws separating the sale of liquors from other goods, you are requested to see that the provisions of such by-laws are respected, and a license should be issued by a Dominion Board of Commissioners for the purpose of evading the by-law under which sales are made, you are directed to prosecute under the Ontario License Act the holder of such license as for selling without license.

"2nd. With regard to those applicants to the Dominion Boards of License Commissioners for tavern and shop licenses to whom Ontario Licenses will not be granted, you are directed to refuse all tenders of fees or duties for such licenses, and to notify the banks in which the license fund accounts are kept to also refuse such fees or duties.

"3rd. Wholesale and vessel licenses will, pending the result of an appeal to the Privy Council, be issued by the Dominion Boards of Commissioners and Inspectors. The fees or duties for such licenses you will accept, if tendered, and deposit to the credit of the license fund account as usual.

"4th. After the expiration of the present Dominion licenses you will treat as a nullity all licenses issued from this date by the Dominion Boards, except wholesale and vessel licenses, and prosecute under the Ontario License Act all parties selling liquors under the authority of such licenses for selling without license.

"I have the honor to be, sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"ARTHUR S. HARDY,

"Provincial Secretary.

"To the Inspector of Licenses."

ANTI-SCOTT ACT HERALD.

It was thought that the climax of impudence and folly had been reached by the whiskey party in their now famous Ottawa expedition. It was believed that the failure of their ballot-stealing tricks, and the prompt arrest and conviction of the Georgetown firebug would have shown them the hopelessness of a policy of violence and fraud. There were, however, possibilities of folly and outrage, yet unrealized, and the liquor-men seemed determined to let none of them escape. It is to the credit of Canadian journalism that it has hitherto given comparatively little assistance to the traffic in its struggle to retain its tyrannical position. Many of our best public journals fearlessly champion the temperance cause, and very few show us open hostility. The Antis have been driven to desperate efforts to establish papers of their own. The result of the latest attempt in this line, lies before us in the *Anti-Scott Act Herald*, Volume 1, No. 1, dated March, 1885, and published at Smithville, Ont. It leaves little further to be attained in the line of silliness, and is hardly surpassable in the matters of insult, braggadocio and threatening. The thing is in the form of a four page, sixteen column sheet, wretchedly printed on miserable paper,

and almost unintelligible on account of its woeful defectiveness in matters of orthography and syntax.

We would not have worried our readers with any notice of this worthless production had it been anything else than a whiskey organ, but we are fighting the liquor traffic, and, of course, can neither select our opponents's weapons nor ignore the fact that these weapons are used against us. We reprint as specimens, a few extracts from this drink-defending periodical, merely correcting the ridiculous spelling that disfigures them in the original. The opening article gives the following account of the Scott Act's origin:—

"Some time ago a set of maniacs of which the country is tolerably well stocked * * * importuned the Parliament at Ottawa for a prohibitory liquor law, and the Parliament to get rid of the rabid rustics granted them a LOCAL OPTION LAW or a Scott Act with about the same air of contemptuous pity that one throws scraps to a hungry dog or feeds a caged wild animal to prolong its existence that the bounty on its pate may be secured."

The erratic genius that conducts this would-be journal also grapples with the financial aspect of the drink question, but in such a way as to plainly show a lack of ability to even distinguish between the cost of the liquor and the amount of revenue derived from it. Among other curious attempts at calculation the following is presented:—

"If Canada expends nearly \$28,000,000 annually on the liquor traffic, and that traffic be cut off by actual legal prohibition, and a like sum raised by direct taxation, she would hardly be worth as much as the five-chambered revolver with which Mrs. Dudley attempted the assassination of O'Donovan Rossa; for if we divide (do a little figuring as well as the *Globe*) \$27,680,000 by 4,000,000 of a population, we shall have between \$6 and \$7, nearly \$7 per head to raise by direct taxation, or the man who pays now say between \$20 and \$30 taxes, would have to pay somewhere in the neighborhood of between \$200 and \$300, which in our judgment would reduce the country to within a degree or two of beggary in good times, and several degrees below it in cold, damp, bad times. Or in other words, instead of farmers asking a price for their lands they would be glad to give a bounty to get rid of them."

Proceeding a little further we find that our writer takes for granted that Parliament will yield to the liquor men's claim for compensation, and in a very curious dissertation, after arguing for the rightness of the compensation claim holds up to our gaze, as one of the evil results of the Scott Act, the terrible straits that the country would be placed in by giving this compensation. The following extracts are from two of these articles:—

Hundreds of millions would not recompense those whose property would be rendered useless and valueless, as well as the vast sums that would be expended in costly law-suits between private parties and the government before a correct estimate could be made of those losses; then in addition to the above, take into consideration the number of operatives thrown out of employment, the greatly enhanced price of alcohol for use for which there is no substitute, and which would then have to be imported. * * * * *

"Let them [the breweries] stand there idle; pay for all the hotels and other places where the traffic is carried on; support the men and their families who are thus deprived of employment when half the country is now idle with the other half looking at them; stifle the farmers' interest in the barley business; deprive the travelling public of every accommodation, and we have arrived about at the place where a set of men, who by some strange fatality are out of the lunatic asylum, would have us."

This champion of the liquor-sellers, however, does not confine himself to financial discussion. He goes into the physiological aspect of the temperance question to no small extent. Among his wanderings on this question we find the following:—

"A convocation of doctors at Boston not long since, pronounced the appetite for liquor a disease. This is doubtless the truth, but what causes the disease? * * * * * Now, reader, what causes dyspepsia, or what was the cause of a dyspepsia? Answer, a desire for too much food. What would be likely to cause a desire for too much food but by being too often deprived of it? Then, what would be likely to cause a diseased (morbid) appetite for liquor but by being too often deprived of that stimulating food that the natural condition of the human system requires."

Of course, he shouts loudly for British liberty, but goes a great deal farther than any of his predecessors, in open statement of the means to be used for the retention of this so-called liberty. * * * Perhaps it is as well that a certain section of the liquor traffic comes out squarely and proclaims its principles in the following which is