

# 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 impending campaign for better legislation in Ontario it will be of intense interest and great value.**

## NOTES OF NEWS

### ABOUT THE WORK OUR FRIENDS AND FOES ARE DOING

#### ALL AROUND THE ROLLING WORLD.

The Bermuda Legislature have, on requisition from the W.C.T.U. and I.O.G.T., appointed a Committee to draft a Bill to prohibit the sale of cigarettes to children under sixteen years of age.

The island of Anglesea, off the west coast of Wales, contains 77 parishes, of which there are 8 having a population of 9,414, without a single public house.

The International Jubilee of Good Templary was celebrated at its birthplace, Utica, in the State of New York, the second week in July, by a gathering of the International Supreme Lodge, Mr. Joseph Mullins crossing the Atlantic for the thirteenth time to preside over the assembly.

The Government of New South Wales have agreed to have temperance wall-sheets hung up in the Elementary Schools—as has been done in the Colony of Victoria for some years past, which give uncompromising testimony against the use of any intoxicating drinks.

The British Licensed Victuallers Association have passed a resolution to "avail themselves of every opportunity of contesting vacancies on County Councils, Town Councils, Boards of Guardians and other legal authorities possessing important administrative power."

#### Drink and Death.

A press despatch dated Niagara Falls, July 18th, gives a sad account of the death through intoxication and poisoning of Douglas Cook, a sixty year old citizen who has spent a good deal of his life time in the jail and penitentiary.

#### Work in France.

The French Anti-Alcoholic Union, founded five years ago by Dr. Lograin, has to-day 435 local societies, with over 40,000 members. Influenced by the English Example, and especially by the fact that in Liverpool since the institution of coffee houses the number of arrests from drunkenness has fallen from 21,694 to 9,005 per annum. Temperance cafes are now being opened in various towns in France.

#### A Splendid Record.

The Independent Order of Rechabites in the United Kingdom reports a year of encouraging and substantial increase.

28,500 being added to the membership which now stands 269,968. Of these, 160,780 are adults and 109,188 are in the Juvenile Department.

#### Clergymen in Breweries.

A correspondent of the Daily Mail says that there are 311 clergymen who hold shares in five of the principal breweries of the British Isles. Guinness, it appears, claim the largest support from the clergy, as there are 178 rev. gentlemen who draw profits from that firm's beer and stout. In Sweden it is an offence for ministers of religion to have such financial interest in distilleries or breweries.

#### One Day's Business.

The United Kingdom Alliance News tells of a record recently kept by a temperance society of the number of persons visiting a licensed public house in the borough of Hackney on Sunday, April 28th. Under the Sunday law the place was open for only seven hours. During that time it was visited by 1,792 men, 766 women and 1,365 children.

#### Russia Awakening.

The Russian Government Commission on alcoholism recommend that spirits be no longer served as a ration to soldiers, in peace or war, nor be given by the officers; and that there be eliminated from the secondary school books the teaching that spirits are good in moderation. Of fifty-eight school children of the superior class, it was found that ten had already been drinking spirits and five had been drunk; while among twenty-seven of the lower class nineteen had already drunk spirits and seventeen had already been drunk.

#### A Mighty Meeting.

One of the most prominent features of the great Christian Endeavor Convention at Cincinnati last month was an enormous temperance meeting held on Sunday, July 7th, in the Central Christian Church, the great auditorium of which was packed to its fullest capacity. Stirring addresses were delivered by Oliver Stewart, Chairman of the National Prohibition Executive, Col. George W. Bain and Rev. Dr. Anna Shaw. Secretary J. W. Baer presided and the meeting was enthusiastically for prohibition.

#### Substantial Growth.

That temperance sentiment is not declining in Scotland is forcibly shown in the reports that have come to hand of the 32nd annual session of the Grand Lodge of Scotland of the I.O.G.T., which was recently held in Glasgow. The Grand Secretary's report showed an adult membership of 46,793 and a Juvenile membership of 42,629, making a total of 89,422, an increase of 3,558 for the past year.

#### United States Drink Bill.

The New Voice, of Chicago, quotes some interesting statistics showing that the amount of intoxicating liquor consumed in the United States during the year 1900 was 1,549,176,038 gallons, and that the estimated cost to the consumers was \$1,172,493,445. This enormous amount of money would have been sufficient to have wiped out the whole national debt and leave a surplus of \$65,000,000.

#### Prosperous Brewers.

Although business generally has been totally demoralized in South Africa by the war, it seems that brewing is an exception. At the annual meeting of the South African Brewing Company, in London, the Chairman stated that the Board was looking forward to a largely increased trade and making provision to meet it by enlarging their plant. They

had paid dividends for the past year of seventeen and a half per cent., their profits having risen from £86,000 to £118,200. It is probable that the great influx of British Soldiers accounts to some extent for the increase.

#### A Temperance Town

Mrs Orlando Baker, wife of the United States Consul at Sydney, says that her little native city at Indianola—having 5,000 inhabitants—and at a dozen smaller towns in the county, there is not a single place of which intoxicants can be had "for love or money." Indianola was founded fifty years ago and has never allowed a drinkshop; nor is there a billiard table or any gambling device in the city which has six churches and a college, and at public functions wine is not used and "sentiments" takes the place of "toasts." Yet there were some poor who needed help, but there is great freedom from squalor and vice.

#### THE ALLIANCE COUNCIL.

The Annual Meeting of the Council of the Dominion Alliance was held in Richmond Hall on July 10th. There was a large turnout of representatives from Ontario and Quebec. Manitoba was also represented. The meeting at the same time of the National Division of the Sons of Temperance probably kept some prohibition leaders of the Eastern Provinces from being on hand.

The tone of the meeting was aggressive. Dissatisfaction was expressed with the attitude taken by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in excusing the Government from carrying out the instruction of Parliament to improve the Canada Temperance Act. His statement that he had received no communication from the temperance people was, in the opinion of the Convention, too paltry a pretext for this failure, and expressions of criticism upon it were very pronounced.

After careful consideration the Convention decided to remove all ground for such complaint by laying before the Government suggestions for the improvement of the Canada Temperance Act and urging Parliament to embody them in law. The decision to take this course was unanimous. At the same time the Convention emphatically declared its adherence to the principal of total prohibition as the only effective remedy for the evils of intemperance, and its determination to accept nothing less as a settlement of the liquor question.

The matter of Government ownership and operation of the liquor traffic was brought up by Rev. W. Kettlewell in a moderately drawn and well worded resolution, which he supported by an exhaustive and able argument. The proposal, however, found little favor with the delegates, who, although listening respectfully to Mr. Kettlewell's address and believing in his honesty of conviction, defeated it by an overwhelming majority, only three delegates voting in its favor.

One of the most earnest addresses in opposition to Mr. Kettlewell's motion was made by Hon. Senator Vidal who in the warmest terms denounced the suggestion of any extension of the people's partnership in the liquor traffic which he believed would be a backward step and an injury to the cause.

Most of the old officers were re-elected, a few changes being made in the Vice-Presidents and in the Executive Committee. Opinions were expressed in favor of the holding of the Council meetings at a more convenient season of the year.

#### ONTARIO ALLIANCE CONVENTION.

The Annual Meeting of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance was held in the Horticultural Pavilion, in Toronto, on July 9th, and was a gathering of unusual interest.

There were present over three hundred delegates, representing church and temperance organizations from different parts of the country, and the meeting was characterized from beginning to end by unusual earnestness and determination.

As was anticipated, the attention of the meeting was centered upon two principal questions, (1) a demand for immediate reform in the Provincial License Law, and (2) preparation to make temperance sentiment effective in the approaching provincial elections.

All the suggestions for liquor-law amendments that have already been published in the Camp Fire were adopted, along with a number of others, among which may be mentioned the following: That electors under the License Law shall mean "municipal electors" That the time for laying information for law violation be extended to three months after the offence. That the names of parties signing a certificate for a license be published at the applicant's expense.

Strong resolutions were also adopted, condemning the sale of cigarettes, and the continued violation of law by liquor-selling in military canteens, and calling for a strenuous effort to resist the proposal to remove temperance from the list of examination subjects in the public school course.

A report was adopted from the Political Action Committee calling for the establishment of branches of the Alliance in the different ridings of the province, with a view to securing the nomination and election of candidates for the Legislature who can be relied upon to support the Alliance policy, and calling upon prohibitionists to take a more active part than ever in political affairs so as to make their influence effective in Parliament, Legislature and municipal council.

The President, Rev. W. A. MacKay, D.D., in his annual address, strongly denounced Government Ownership as a method of dealing with the liquor traffic, and no proposition in favor of this plan came before the Convention for consideration.

A well attended mass meeting was held in the evening at which stirring addresses were delivered by the President, Mrs. May R. Thornley, Mrs. S. G. E. McKee, Hon. Senator Vidal, Rev. J. H. Hector, Rev. G. G. Huxtable and Rev. Charles Deacon.

The last named speaker dwelt mainly with the question of law enforcement, giving interesting information and valuable suggestions along this line. The Convention cordially sympathized with strong criticism of the present failure of many officials to do their duty, and a demand was made for more thorough going action in this matter. Nearly all the officers were re-elected. The Convention attendance kept up till the close.

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