

spoils. It is a relic of barbarism that civilization will one day out-grow, but it still has the officiousness and falsehood to assert itself a public benefactor, to claim the protection of a paternal (?) government, and to ask its victims to vote for the perpetuation of its villainy and their own misery and shame.

POLLINGS FIXED.

REMEMBER THE WORKERS IN YOUR PRAYERS.

Carleton.....Jan. 29 | Durham & Northumberland..Feb. 27

THE DOMINION ALLIANCE

—FOR THE—

LEGAL SUPPRESSION OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC

ONTARIO BRANCH.

ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The annual convention of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance was opened at the Temperance Hall, Temperance street, Toronto, on the 20th inst., at 10 a. m.

In the absence of the President, Hon. S. H. Blake, who was unable to attend, Rev. John Smith, one of the vice-presidents, took the chair.

The proceedings were opened by singing the hymn "Rescue the Perishing." Rev. F. B. Stratton, of Madoc, then led in prayer.

After a short address from the chairman the following Business Committee was appointed:—Revs. R. Wallace, D. L. Brethour, F. B. Stratton, and Messrs. Robt. Rae, and A. Farley. Mr. Wm. Munns was appointed Recording Secretary, and Mr. Wm. Burges, Minute Secretary.

Mr. F. S. Spence, Secretary, then read the report of the Executive Committee, of which the following is a summary:—

The present meeting of this branch of the Alliance will have the pleasure of reviewing a period unparalleled in the history of our cause in the matter of effective agitation and accomplished work. It is with unusual satisfaction that your executive lay before you the following summary of the first year's work:—

SCOTT ACT WORK.

Early in the year an announcement was issued by the Dominion Council of the Alliance in which was embodied a call for an immediate advance upon the line of Scott Act agitation. The convention of the Ontario Branch, held on the 25th of March, warmly endorsed this proposed policy, and arrangements were made for a prompt and energetic campaign. Before we had completed our arrangements for the submission of the Scott Act in the different counties selected, the liquor party managed to precipitate a repeal vote in Halton, but their most desperate efforts utterly failed, and Ontario's banner county sustained the Scott Act by a majority of more than double that by which it was first secured. This advantage was followed up, and in 1884, beside the struggle in Halton, there were thirteen other contests in this Province. Out of these we carried ten, our smallest majority in any case being 602, while the largest majority of the Anti-Scott Act party was 104. The aggregate vote in these fourteen counties was:—In favor of the Act, 43,955; against, 32,967; total majority for the Act, 10,988. Since the commencement of the present year we have had another instalment of glorious victories, carrying three of our best counties in one day with an aggregate majority of about 3,000 votes. Our Province has 33 municipal counties and 10 cities, making in all forty-eight Scott Act divisions, and there are only eight of these in which campaigns have not yet been inaugurated. A full statement is submitted of all votes taken in the Scott Act in the Dominion up to December 31st, 1884.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Early in the year the Toronto auxiliary of the Alliance was merged into this branch, the Executive Committee of that body being added to the Ontario Branch Executive, and the funds of the auxiliary were made over for our use. This generous action of the Toronto friends has helped us materially in our finances, and has given us a much stronger central organization. There have been eleven meetings of the Executive, with an average attendance of nine members. The Secretary's services were given free, but the Alliance hired a clerk to assist him, and he was thus enabled to visit different parts of the Province, and take part in most of the Scott Act contests. Special efforts were made to have a well posted representative of the Alliance at nearly every meeting of the inauguration of work, and by this means many mistakes and delays were avoided. Advice upon many legal points were obtained by the Executive and furnished without charge to the workers in different countries. In this con-

nection the Executive would express their great indebtedness to the eminent professional gentlemen who have kindly and freely given their assistance in this important matter. The total work performed by the Alliance during the year has cost less than \$650, including all office expenses, travelling expenses, and the circulation of literature.

LITERATURE.

The furnishing of literature during the past year has been done almost entirely by the Citizen Publishing Company. It was decided at the last convention to furnish the CANADA CITIZEN free to subscribers to the Alliance funds of \$150 and upwards. This paper, edited by the Alliance secretary, has been doing a great work during the year. It has scattered over the country in its own circulation, exclusive of all advertising matter, about one-quarter million pages of carefully prepared temperance and Scott Act literature. The company has also issued 70,000 copies of the *Scott Act Herald*, and has furnished campaign literature, including correct legal forms, etc.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

It is strongly recommended that during the present year liberal financial support should be given to the Alliance so that good permanent effective agents may be employed, and the present movement pushed forward vigorously towards the goal of total prohibition.

The report was, on motion, referred to the Business Committee.

At this point of the proceedings a letter was read from Sir Leonard Tilley, expressing regret at being unable to attend.

While the Business Committee was considering the report, brief reports from the different localities were made by delegates respecting work done.

Mr. H. O'Hara, Treasurer, then submitted his report.

The report was referred to the Finance Committee, and the meeting then adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was opened at 2 o'clock, the chair being again taken by the Rev. John Smith.

The written reports from the different counties were read by Mr. F. S. Spence.

A committee comprised of the following gentlemen was appointed to interview the Ontario Government to ascertain their position in reference to the enforcement of the Scott Act:—Revs. D. L. Brethour, A. M. Phillips, Messrs. Johnson Harriston, G. H. Kennedy, J. G. Strong, G. M. Rose, Ald. McMillan, Senator Vidal, and Dr. Youmans.

Prof. G. E. Foster, M.P., then delivered an address on "The Prohibitory work in Canada." The following is the *Globe's* report:—

"He said the important thing to be kept in mind was that prohibition must come from within, and could not be enforced from without. It was quite true that men could not be made virtuous by Acts of Parliament. Prohibition was only successful as it started in the hearts of the people. They must have a solid majority convinced that prohibition was just and that it would do good, and so have it worked out. Prohibition was a growth, and began with the first man who felt that the weak who were likely to be tempted must be protected by the community. The prohibition movement must grow from the smallest beginnings to the greatest might of its grand perfection. No curb had ever been put upon the liquor traffic which had not been in the line of prohibition. That first old fiction that a man to sell liquor should be a man of good character was in the line of prohibition, and it had been growing up and up ever since, and if they would have it come to perfection they must work upon the hearts of the people. In Nova Scotia, it used to be the law that a man must have a majority of the electors on his petition, two thirds of the Grand Jury, and a majority of the Sessions. That was a measure of prohibition as was the prohibition in the North-West. So in the Crooks Act, 2,000 licenses were cut off, and in 1878 came the Scott Act, and so it reached a stronger and higher phase in the endorsement of that Act by so many of the people, and still higher when the House of Commons of Canada passed a resolution by 122 to 40, declaring that when the country's sentiment was ready for it they would pass a total prohibitory law. It would be well to consider the work that had been done so far."

There had been 63 contests fought, of which 52 were carried. Some of these were double votes. Fifty-five counties and cities had been polled, and of these 49 held out of the 167 in the Dominion. The enemies of the Scott Act declared that they would mutilate the Act next year. But there were 62 representatives from Scott Act counties out of 211 members, and that did not represent the full temperance sentiment. However they would be able to hold the balance of power. This was not a wave as was pretended, but a current which went on strongly, and in its appointed course forever. Nor was this a mere means of registering a public sentiment. It was not a mere stick placed in the sand to mark how high the tide came up, but a dyke to stay the tide of the liquor traffic. (Applause.) The Scott Act was pre-eminently a means of putting down public tipping places. The important thing now was to enforce the Scott Act. This was, in his opinion, the most important thing in the interest of prohibition to-day. This year this Alliance should devote their attention to the ten counties in which the Scott Act was to become law next May. Carrying the law was child's play as compared with enforcing it. They must have the strongest kind of force, let them not abate the moral suasion work, and let them have money and good legal advice at the back of their Central Committee. Let them be ready to jump to the front at the very first moment, and say that the Act should be enforced from that instant. They who hesitated in this were lost. He was a man of morey, but he believed that