

We referred last month to the *personnel* of the Royal Commission. Since then we have seen it stated in one of our exchanges, that the Secretary of the commission is not a member of it—that he only acts as Secretary! This seems to us like a strange statement and we would like to have it explained. In the meantime we don't believe it, any more than that Sir Joseph Hickson is not a member of the commission, but *only* the Chairman! Why do so many of our friends find so much fault with the commission before-hand! It seems to us rather unfair. Give them a chance.

The total number of petitions received in favor of a prohibitory liquor law last session of the House of Commons, is reported to be as follows:— Ontario sent in 1,576 with 191,737 names; Quebec, 197 with 17,158 names; New Brunswick, 262 with 25,559 signatures; Nova Scotia, 336 with 43,738 names; Prince Edward Island, 113 with 13,101 names; Manitoba, 88 with 7,395 names; N. W. T., 28 with 3,587, and British Columbia, 26 with 2,533, or a grand total of 2,626 petitions and 304,808 signatures.

LODGE DEPUTIES.

We were going to write an article on the duties, etc. of Lodge Deputies, but finding the following in the last issue of *The Good Templar* of Ontario, we insert it instead. It says:—

"The office of Lodge Deputy is an important one and if filled by a wise, judicious, and earnest Good Templar, the Lodge is prosperous and everything proceeds smoothly. It is astonishing what great influence one man can exert in helping along a work, and throwing great enthusiasm into the ranks of the members. There is no other officer in the Lodge, not excepting the C. T. himself, who can make or mar a Lodge more than the Deputy, and the necessity of appointing a suit-

able person for the important post is imperative. We have in our Order many members who have filled the post of Deputy for years, and have been the mainstay of the Lodges, yet we cannot hide the fact that there are others who hold that important post who not only do not attend to their duties by their presence in the Lodge to encourage both officers and members, but take so little interest in the welfare of the Order as not even to communicate to the Lodge important documents received from the Grand Lodge, and fail also to correspond with the executive when written to.

Many of these Deputies are fixtures in their Lodges. No one dares to propose another to take their place, they have a vested right in the office, and we have known of cases where they have removed away from the neighborhood where their Lodge meets and still retain their office, all to the detriment of the Lodge, who requires a live officer in that important post. It therefore becomes a question whether or not a by-law should be made in Grand Lodge to limit the time a deputy can hold that important office to two years at one time, he being eligible to re-election after three years for another two years' term. Such a by-law would have the effect of making a change, and perhaps throw some enthusiasm into the Lodges.

OUTSIDE WORK.

"Ye Editor" managed to get away a few days during the month and accepted a long-standing invitation to visit Warden. Changing cars at Actonvale I called on Rev. Bro. Rivard an hour or two and after enjoying the excellent tea prepared by his good wife, I was ready for work when I reached my destination. Bro. Temple, the courteous L.D. and Bro. McLaughlin the amiable G. T. met me at the station and gave me a warm welcome.