

DISTRICT DIVISION SONS OF TEMPERANCE

In Session in Newcastle Friday of Last Week---Have
505 Active Members in Kent and 242 in
Northumberland.

PLAIN TALKS ON TEMPERANCE AT EVENING MEETING

The sixteenth session of the Kent and Northumberland District Division, Sons of Temperance, met here on the 29th ult. Rev. R. Hensley Stavert, Harcourt, District Worthy Patriarch, was chairman; Frank Curran, Richibucto, Worthy Associate; H. H. Stuart, Newcastle, District Scribe, Newcastle, Harcourt, Rexton and Richibucto Divisions were represented. The chairman reported a recent great temperance victory in Harcourt, where after several years' effort a vote of three to one had been secured against license, the majority in the French sections being four to one. The vote was taken on the 19th and resulted as follows:

For license—Adamsville, 11; Harcourt, 27; Lakestream, 6. Total 44. Against license—Adamsville, 49; Harcourt, 77; Lakestream, 10; total 134. The people were much enthused and the prospects were good for winning local option in other parishes of Kent. Trouble was reported from some divisions resulting from dancing and games being introduced. A bye-law should be passed re this matter. He had tried to arrange a meeting last night to resuscitate Millerton Division.

The District Scribe's report showed the following membership in divisions on September 29th:

Kent County—Richibucto, 115; Rexton, 71; Bass River, 12; Harcourt, 102; Grangeville, 19; Coal Branch, 20; South Branch, 23.

Northumberland County—Bay du Vin, 28; Douglstown, 69; Newcastle, 45; Burnt Church, 24. Total, 177.

Divisions at Millerton and Doaktown were dormant. Newcastle Division did not meet regularly.

The financial report showed a surplus of \$21.31. Messrs. Frank Curran and H. H. Stuart gave notice of motion at next session of a bye-law dealing with dancing in Divisions.

The District Division unanimously expressed hearty appreciation of the noble and effective temperance work recently done by Rev. R. Hensley Stavert in Harcourt, and also the support given him by Harcourt, Grangeville and Coal Branch Divisions and others. It was recommended that Richibucto and Rexton Divisions initiate a local option campaign in Richibucto parish. The next meeting was arranged for Harcourt on the third Friday in January. A forward temperance movement was planned for Newcastle. A public meeting was held at St. James' Hall in the evening. Rev. R. H. Stavert in the chair. Excellent music was provided including delightful solos by Miss Bulmer of Moncton and Mrs. Parly Russell, Miss Williamson accompanist.

REV. DR. H. T. COUSINS.

The first speaker was Rev. Dr. Cousins, who regretted that young men here had no place to spend their evenings. A social club with a constructive policy was needed. Evil could only be overcome by installing good. He was glad the law was on the side of right. He hoped that at next civic election Newcastle would return no Councillors who will not back to the very uttermost the local prohibiting Act. He hoped the casting vote of the chairman would not have the power to block the enforcement of law.

REV. W. J. DEAN.

Rev. W. J. Dean said the people had power to put down the liquor traffic. He had lately seen three sailors going into a store in town, evidently for liquor. Liquor was sold within a stone's throw of the municipal office. He would be glad to cooperate in Dr. Cousins' plan. If nominal Christians the town could be kept straight. He hoped they would do something next election day.

REV. S. J. MACARTHUR.

Rev. S. J. MacArthur doubted if, with so much denominationalism, a union social club could be made to work. In a town in which he had been was there so much drinking as in Newcastle. The people did not seem to want Scott Act enforced. Trouble lay in the churches, in which much hard to hand work needs to be done. It was little less than an outrage to have our prohibiting law used as the commonest kind of a license. The whole life and meaning had been cut out of the Scott Act. A liquor seller pays so much every three months or so and goes right on. Temperance people should find a common platform and get to work.

H. H. STUART.

H. H. Stuart said that in many

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towns the authorities did not want a sober voting population, as sober voters were more intelligent than drinkers, and the more intelligent the voter the less chance some officials would have of re-election. The use of alcohol as a beverage should be done away with.

REV. R. H. STAVERT.

Rev. Mr. Stavert, who after years of persistent work has secured the overthrow of license in Harcourt, urged the making of the carrying of Newcastle election next spring for temperance the goal of the local workers. There was no man in the liquor business but was too good for it. Don't leave them in it. Destroy the liquor business. He urged the keeping pure of the home, and severely scored the women who neglect home to play bridge. Temperance orders were for saving souls, but some divisions were becoming places of merely selfish amusement.

STERLING WOOD.

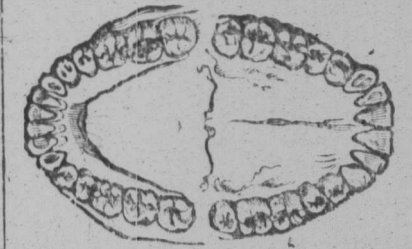
Sterling Wood of Douglstown Division, enquired why Newcastle Division had gone down and what steps were being taken for its resuscitation. The need was urgent and the matter should not be further delayed. In response to the appeal and further speeches by Messrs. Stavert, Stuart and Curran, a number of the audience pledged themselves to join Newcastle Division.

Rev. S. J. MacArthur, on behalf of the Trustees, offered the new Division the use of St. James' Hall until the Temperance Hall should be free.

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