

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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NOTES OF NEWS.

FROM THE FIELD OF FIGHT.

A Mighty Army.

Northern Europe contains the following estimated number of total abstainers:—Sweden, 260,000; Norway, 200,000; Denmark, 100,000; and Finland, 20,000; an aggregate of 580,000 adherents.

Drink Did It.

A report comes from Ottawa of a brutal murder back on the Suckingham River, directly caused by drink. A man named McCabe was buying furs from Indians and irritated one of them who had been drinking hard. The Indian killed the trader with an axe.

Work in Welland.

Mr. Robert Coulter an old and tried friend of the prohibition cause, is working hard to secure a thorough organization of prohibitionists with a view to electoral action in the County of Welland, Ont., at next general election.

Where Liquor Rules.

The Chicago New Voice, reports that the municipal election this year in Milwaukee, Wis., was a most disgraceful saloon campaign, the liquor party taking a prominent part and succeeding in electing ten saloon keepers to the common Council and seven liquor dealers to the Board of Supervisors.

Progress in France.

On Thursday, May 3rd, the Minister of War for France issued an order prohibiting the sale of spirits inside barracks on all military camps and manoeuvring grounds. The prohibition does not extend to wine and beer, but covers distilled liquors and fermented liquors to which any alcohol has been added.

Well Organized.

Press despatches from Manitoba state that the prohibitionists have been thoroughly organized throughout the Province and are in good fighting shape, with a branch organization in every electoral division, and a prohibition committee in nearly every township. The work being done at present is urging the Legislature and Government to enact an effective measure of provincial prohibition.

A Bad Chief.

The Daily Guardian, of Charlottetown, P.E.I., calls attention to the fact that the Chief of the Fire Department of that city who was some time ago fined for selling liquor without a license, was lately arrested and fined for drunkenness. *The Guardian* strongly urges the City Council to dismiss this discreditable official, but apparently thus far without effect.

Work in the Army.

The Kildonan Castle, which took nearly 3,000 officers and men to South Africa, in the early part of March, was the scene of several Temperance meetings organized by Lieut. Webb, of the 3rd King's Own Scottish Borderers. The commander of this fine vessel and the officer commanding the troops readily gave permission for the meetings to be held. Eighty-two pledges were taken, including that of Capt. Robinson, the commander of the steamer, who took part in addressing the meetings, as did also Colonel Witham, Majors Laurie, Barrie, and McKie, Capt. Sir A. Grierson, Bart., and Lieuts. McCall, Cochrane, and Bell. Four branches of the Army Temperance Association were formed.

A Champion Conquered.

A press despatch from New York states that the champion beer drinker of that city recently dies in Bellevue Hospital, aged forty three. Previous to his admission to the Hospital he had drunk on an average, seven quarts of beer daily. His weight had increased from 180 pounds to 460 pounds, and he had not been able to sleep except in a rocking chair. He was suffering from the most severe case of cirrhosis of the liver that had ever been known in the hospital.

A Basis for Union.

The Temperance Committee of the Wesley Methodist Conference of England has issued a strong appeal in favor of progressive temperance legislation in Great Britain. This manifesto speaks of the urgent necessity for immediate reformation of the liquor laws, and states that the minority report of the Liquor License Commission is a fair and practical basis for union among men of different views upon the subject of temperance legislation. The manifesto is signed by the President of the Conference, seventeen ex-Presidents and a great array of Chairmen of Districts.

Grand Lodge of England.

The Good Templar Grand Lodge of England Annual Session at Southampton, at Easter, passed off with great eclat. The Hon. Mrs. Eliot Yorke and leading townspeople entertained the Grand Lodge members every day. The adult and junior membership was reported to be over 105,000, in over 2,000 branches, including 2,600 Naval and Military members—and of the latter about 500 were with their regiments in South Africa—in addition to members under other Grand Lodge jurisdictions. The Grand Lodge re-affirmed the demand for Local Option by Direct Veto and for Sunday closing, and generally approved of Lord Peel's Report on Licensing, but demurred to the compensation proposals and to any delay in Local Veto legislation.

The sessions were presided over by the veteran Joseph Malins who had just returned after a tour round the world in the interests of the temperance cause, during which he had travelled 40,000 miles and been greeted everywhere with great enthusiasm by his co-workers.

Good Templary and the War.

Perhaps the war in South Africa generally has produced no parallel to the calamities which have befallen a much-respected family named Webster, whose home is in Kimberley, and who were among the besieged. A 12-in. shell exploded in Mr. Webster's dining room, when Mrs. Webster, who had three weeks before been confined of a baby boy (who had only lived three days) had her leg so smashed that it had to be amputated three inches above the knee; her eldest daughter had her arm wounded; a son had his leg broken, his arm broken, and his hand nearly severed at the wrist; while a younger son, five and half years old, was killed outright. All suffered, of course many hardships, and the youngest survivor of the family, a girl of eighteen months, is still in hospital, and, though progressing favorably, weighs at last report only thirteen pounds. Mr. Webster, was an officer of the Good Templar Grand Lodge of Central South Africa, which embraced British and Boers, and whose annual session was due at Kimberley this Easter, but it is postponed till peace brings the brethren together again. The English Lodge Deputy in Kimberley was killed by a shell, and the roof of the Good Templar Hall was burnt. The G. Sec. is Walter Scott, a Scotchman, now in Capetown; and the Grand Chief Templar is a Boer, a Mr. Broeksma, of Johannesburg (where four British and

four Boer Lodges were working), and he names three Good Templar Boers killed in action. General Roberts has a Good Templar, Niel McWilliams in his body-guard. There are two Dutch Good Templar lodges in Pretoria, and thirty lodges in the British Army in South Africa.

RESULTS ARE INEVITABLE.

As shadow follows substance so surely does harm follow the use of strong drink, says Dr. T. D. Crothers emphatically. "The central point I wish to emphasize is that moral insanity follows all use of alcohol, and is present in all inebriates to a greater or less degree." As surely as a hot iron will burn the flesh, so surely will alcoholics injure both body and mind of those who drink it. The boast of the young man, "Drink does not hurt me," is false—absolutely false. He does not know himself. He is reckoning without his host. So able a man as Dr. Harlow, Superintendent of the Maine Insane Hospital, wrote me a remarkable letter. He states, "It is quite a frequent occurrence to have patients brought to us, between the ages of 50 and 70, who in early life were given to the use of alcoholic drinks, but had reformed and lived temperate lives ten, twenty or thirty years prior to the appearance of their malady, showing conclusively, to my mind, that the alcohol taken thus early left a damaged brain doubly susceptible to mental derangement."

I have in mind a man who inherited an excellent constitution, but who in early manhood took to the cup. Later he radically reformed and there never was a more abstemious man for the next thirty years, yet as age came on, he began to turn his mind back to what he had been in the days of his indulgence. He reacquired the same looks on his face, the same motions and actions of body, the same wonderings and hallucinations of mind as when he used to drink. His daughter said it was pitiable to see him, it was such a painful reminder of his former condition she so much witnessed when she was a little girl.

But worse than all this is the damage done through the drinker upon his offspring. They suffer to a degree beyond his own. Think of a whole large family, so-called sons and daughters, every one made a fool or near it by parental drinking. Go up and down the town and observe the idiots, the under-wits, the stunted heads and bodies, the nervous and hysterical and otherwise injurious bodies and minds and ask what has done it? And in almost all cases liquor through their parents is the proper answer.

A school teacher investigated the case of one of his scholars that had the appearance of being drunk. The fact was developed that not the pupil, but his father did the drinking. I personally knew a man past middle life who from a young man had the unsteady step, the broken and hesitating speech and other nervous irregularities characteristic of the appearance of old toppers. I charged him with drinking. He denied. I then spoke to some of his friends and was told to my surprise that he never drank, but that these drunken symptoms were begotten in him by his drunken parentage, running back several generations.

No, it is not safe to drink, either directly or indirectly; the mischief done will leak out. Consequences must follow, though they may not be expressed till in the third or fourth generation. Can one take fire into his bosom and not be burned? No more can one indulge in strong drink and escape. There is somewhere or at sometime an inevitable retribution. Drink and be damned. Such is the close logic, or let alone and be safe, you and your posterity.—Dr. E. Cheney in *National Advocate*.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND LEADS.

A SPLENDID EXAMPLE.

Provincial Prohibition a Fact. Great Victory for the Temperance Cause.

Just before this edition of the "CAMP FIRE" is printed off, a press despatch announces the third reading by the Prince Edward Island Legislature of a Prohibition Bill for the Province. This Act was the principal business of the session, which was prorogued on Saturday, June 9th. It was introduced as a Government measure by which the Premier stated his Cabinet were prepared to stand or fall. The Bill absolutely prohibits the retail sale of liquor excepting for sacramental, medicinal, or scientific purposes. Stringent restrictions are imposed upon all permitted traffic. Wholesaling is also prohibited except to druggists and physicians for permitted purposes, and in cases where the liquor is sold for consumption outside the Province.

THE ONTARIO GRAND LODGE.

The Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Canada, I.O.G.T., will be held at Ottawa commencing at nine o'clock a.m. on Wednesday, July 27th.

The usual arrangements have been made with the railways, delegates will purchase single tickets and secure standard certificates which will entitle them to reduced return rates on the usual conditions. It is expected that the meeting will be one of much importance and interest.