

Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

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CAMPAIGN LITERATURE.

In press, campaign tracts, as follows:—No. 2, Sir A. T. Galt's speech on prohibition from a political economist's point of view; No. 3, a synopsis of the Scott Act, showing the steps required for its adoption; No. 4, the Rev. Mr. Brethour's speech on the success of the Scott Act in Halton; No. 5, a sermon by the Rev. Mr. McFarland, of St. John, N. B., on the duty of Christian citizens. No parcels will be sold of less than a hundred tracts, the price of which is twenty-five cents. Address JOHN DODGALL & SON, Montreal.

THE CAMPAIGN MESSENGER.

During the Scott Act campaign a liberal portion of this paper will be devoted to assisting the side of right, and workers are urged to make use of it both by sending it messages from the field and extending its circulation. Reports of the working of the Act where it is in force will be gratefully received, as being of supreme importance in the contest. Often the least troublesome but still effective way to keep us posted will be the sending of newspapers with references to the campaign or the working of the Act marked with pencil. Or, better, cut out the article and paste it on a sheet of paper with notes of your own. Address papers and communications to "JOHN DODGALL & SON, publishers *Weekly Messenger*, Montreal."

THE BATTLE FOR THE RIGHT.

In this number of the *Weekly Messenger* appears a large budget of Scott Act campaign news. Much of it consists of very strong evidence of the value of that law in constituencies that have had it in operation for some time. The accounts from Prince county, that so lately repeated its verdict by an increased majority for the Act, as well as those from Westmoreland, are remarkably encouraging and must stimulate the temperance workers throughout the Dominion who have entered upon a campaign to secure the benefits of the measure in their respective districts. These reports are all the more striking from the fact that in both the counties named the Act was very negligently administered up till a period after its constitutionality was affirmed by the Privy Council of the Empire. Leaving out of question the remaining difficulty as to responsibility for the enforcement of the law, the fact is being daily made more patent to the whole country, through reports in the press, that it takes very little application of the Scott Act to bring on mortal throes in the traffic at any particular spot. Another thing is becoming very observable, and that is that the people are not in favor of licensing hot-beds for the propagation of intemperance. While the Dominion License Act was welcomed in many temperance circles for its very stringent provisions, and proved a grievous disappointment to the interest in whose behalf it was ostensibly projected, yet it is viewed with dismay in regions where it threatens to supersede more familiar as well as more restrictive laws. Indeed, energetic measures being taken in some constituencies to en-

force the Scott law and in others to procure its adoption are in great part traceable to horror of returning to a legalized traffic involved in the carrying out of the Dominion license measure. It is of the utmost importance to the temperance cause in this country that our local option law should be adopted as nearly as possible to a universal extent, at the very earliest practicable date and as nearly as may be simultaneously in all the districts where it is feasible. This advanced measure owes its existence largely to the fact that temperance people were able to show that a fair use had been made of provincial restrictive measures. So a most convincing evidence of the ripeness of the country for absolute prohibition will be the general adoption and execution of the local option prohibitory enactment. Let not, then, any community or person shirk responsibility in the struggle now fairly inaugurated by the Dominion Alliance. Procure and distribute all kinds of literature bearing upon the question, circulate petitions and sow the seed for a heavy harvest of ballots for the Act in the ensuing autumn. You cannot begin too early to canvass for votes, as every recruit now gained, particularly if you infect him with your enthusiasm, is equal to two or half a dozen on polling day.

CAMPAIGN NEWS.

ACTIVE EXERTIONS are being made by the Good Templars in the Scott Act campaign in Leeds and Grenville, Ontario.

THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS collected in fines from Scott Act violators had been placed in bank up to a recent date in Charlottetown, P. E. Island.

TEMPERANCE WORKERS in Yarmouth, N. S., are making good use of the two or three local papers, in appealing to the electors to vote in the Scott Act on the sixth of March.

LATE REPORTS from Glengarry county, Ontario, indicate great enthusiasm in the Scott Act campaign. A crowded meeting was lately held in Martintown, and after several stirring addresses a resolution was passed, unanimously pledging the support of those present to the Scott Act. Committees were appointed at the same time to prosecute the campaign.

A THREATENING LETTER was lately received by the Warden of Westmoreland county, N. B., arising out of the re-appointment, as constables, of Messrs. A. Bulmer and John E. Ford, who have been very active in carrying out the provisions of the Canada Temperance Act in Sackville. Although not ornamented with skull and cross bones, the letter intimated that the Warden would be dealt with in the "Irish way."

A FLESHERTON, Grey county, Ontario, correspondent gives encouraging reports of the spread of temperance sentiment in that locality. During the campaign to carry the Dunkin Act in that county, he says, the Sons of Temperance worked hard, but seemed to think when the victory was won

that they might rest upon their oars. Lately, however, there has been a revival of energy on the part of Flesherton Division. It gave a public entertainment, "well-flavored with temperance morals," to raise funds for the purchase of an organ. A Scott Act agitation has been begun in Grey.

A GRAND MEETING of residents of Monton, N. B., was lately held, at which leading gentlemen, including Protestant and Catholic clergymen, delivered addresses, all in favor of maintaining and enforcing the Scott Act. Electors present were urged to sustain the Town Council in the action taken of placing \$1,000 in the estimates for the current year to enforce the Act. A few days ago the Stipendiary Magistrate of this town issued a proclamation dismissing the fifteen policemen and civic constables from office for neglect of duty in not enforcing the Scott law. However, the Marshal was advised, upon consulting with the Mayor and Police Committee, to take no notice of the proclamation, as the Magistrate had no authority in the matter.

MR EDWARD STORR, County Secretary of the Good Templars, in Carleton, Ontario, has sent us a copy of a resolution passed by the County Lodge at its last meeting, also similar deliverances from public meetings in Carp and Richmond village, in favor of having the Scott Act submitted to the electorate of that constituency. The following is the resolution of the County Lodge:—"Resolved.—That this County Lodge, believing that the time has fully come when action should be taken to submit the Scott Act to the electorate of the County of Carleton, we would advise that at the earliest date possible a convention be held in the county to consider the question; also, that the Executive of this County Lodge do issue the call and arrange for the holding of said convention immediately." Our correspondent informs us that up to the date of his letter, Feb. 4th, seven public meetings had been held in the county, at six of which resolutions in favor of submitting the Act were passed.

THE TRIUMPH in Prince County, P. E. Island, in voting down the petition for the repeal of the Scott Act was not a mere snatch verdict, for, whereas the majority for the Act at its adoption in 1878 was 1,544, that against repeal was 1,874—a gain of 330 in five years. A statement made by a clergyman as to the effect produced by the Act in this constituency having been impeached, Mr. Rogers, of Amherst, N. S., comes forward with the figures from the Inland Revenue returns, which prove that during the three years of half-enforced Scott Act the consumption of liquors over the whole Province was reduced one-third. A correspondent of the *Witness* writing from Freetown, Prince county, on the victory, calls upon the people's representatives at Ottawa to make a note of it and act accordingly, or else "prepare mansions for themselves while they may, as we do not want any McCarthy license laws on P. E. Island and we will not have any." This correspondent in a subsequent note says he attended a large meeting at Sum-

merside, called by the Alliance, to devise ways and means of enforcing the Act. All appeared determined the liquor traffic must be suppressed.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Moncton Times* at Shediac, Westmoreland, N. B., defending the Scott Act, cites instances of its effects in that place:—"We have had a license system, under which there has been abundance of liquor. And if a man wanted, he could buy, give away, throw away or get drunk on every day in the week. Under a license law murders have been incited, lives thrown away, prospects and fortunes dissipated through drink. A fortnight ago there were over a dozen rum shops openly selling liquor here, as openly as tea is sold. To-day there is no open bar, and different men have told me they could not buy a drop in the place. On Saturday many men went home sober who have not done so for a long time on that day. One old man "who always got drunk when he came to Shediac," went home without a drop on Saturday, but the air was blue with profanity. Men who said that it could not be stopped, now say, "Well, there is a great change, isn't there?" The streets are safe and quiet at nights, instead of being traversed by dozens of shouting, yelling, more or less intoxicated persons. What has brought about this difference? A license law? No, the "non-restrictive," "unlimiting," "non-regulating," "ineffective" Scott Act.

SHEFFORD COUNTY ALLIANCE, Province of Quebec, held its second annual meeting at Waterloo on the 11th of February. Mr. H. L. Robinson occupied the chair, and there was a goodly attendance of the clergy and other prominent men. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President—H. L. Robinson; Vice-Presidents for the different municipalities—Rev. W. B. Longhurst, Granby Village; W. L. Bowker, Township of Granby; Hon. G. G. Stevens, Waterloo; C. W. Curtis, L. H. Lawrence, Shefford; W. K. Knowlton, J. R. Bridge, South Stukely; A. T. Lawrence, North Stukely; M. Auger, M. P., Ste. Pudentienne; Wilder Bartlett, W. L. Davidson, North Ely; Nathan Darby, James Oberne, Jr., South Ely; Charles Willard, Milton; Bradley Smith, South Roxton; H. H. Prouty, Roxton Falls; Secretary—Treasurer, C. H. Parmelee. It was resolved to undertake to raise \$100 for the family of the late Rev. T. Gales, Granby and Waterloo each being apportioned \$50. Messrs. Noyes and Darby were named a committee to prepare a synopsis of Temperance legislation and also to report upon the state of public opinion in the county in relation to the passage of the Scott Act. The next quarterly meeting is to be held in Waterloo on the 15th of May. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Town Hall, at which short, practical addresses were delivered by Ven. Archdeacon Lindsay, Rev. W. Hooper and Messrs. J. P. Noyes and E. D. Lawrence.

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION, at Ottawa, Mr. Lynch, of Danville, advocated the establishment of a Government dairying office.