

Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

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The Temperance Worker

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

Although an unusual thing in journalism to have a new paper obtain a circulation of seven or eight thousand within twenty months, it is not surprising that the *Weekly Messenger* should have done so when its character and price are taken into consideration. It has sustained the thread of the world's doings from week to week with precision and regularity from the start; it has discussed topics from time to time which could not have failed to interest its readers; it has been embellished with pictures to please the eye of young and old; it has contained Sunday school helps, Sunday reading and selections for the little ones and for the aged; its reports of the metropolitan markets must have been of great value to many farmers throughout the country.

The lately added department under the title of *The Temperance Worker* has given a large amount of intelligence calculated to be entertaining and useful to temperance people and societies, as well as discussions upon subjects which must have evoked some thoughtful reflection on the part of readers engaged in work for the temperance cause.

We shall always be grateful for news from all quarters of Canada respecting temperance effort and progress, and are prepared to arrange that such favors shall not cost their bestowers anything.

Will our friends kindly make this paper known as widely as they can, and do whatever falls in their way to promote its usefulness and prosperity.

See our advertisement on last page, and prepare for future competitions if too late for the present one.

MORE FROTH AND FURY.

The Windsor, N.S., *Mail* joins in the thoughtless cry, saying in a late issue:—"The Canada Temperance Act is a farce. It has been tried and found wanting, and the sooner the temperance people repeal it and get back our old Provincial Act, the better." There are more untruth and silliness in these few words than would suffice for a much longer article expressing the same views. In the first place the law in question is not a farce in any place where public officials are not left to please themselves as to whether they shall do their bounden duty or not. Neither has it been found wanting when tried in the highest courts of the Empire in point of constitutionality or in the humbler tribunals as regards effectiveness for its designed purpose. As to returning to the old Provincial Act, it is as yet a question to be settled by the courts whether old Provincial license laws can run parallel with the new License Law for the Dominion, except where specially provided in Federal legislation. If they can they are still in force in Nova Scotia. As to a license system being better than prohibition under local option, those who have had the largest experience and observation of the

working of anti-liquor laws, as well as those who even cursorily reflect upon the principles involved, are in the great majority thoroughly convinced that any license system that does not give the local option of entire prohibition to communities is futile as a means of keeping the liquor traffic from being an intolerable nuisance. Again, when the Provincial Act that is signed after by this journalist ruled throughout Nova Scotia, the cry was that it was anomalous and unjust that the Provincial law should provide for the prohibition of trade in goods that had been allowed to come into the country by the Dominion Government and upon which its importers had paid heavy duties for the benefit of the national revenues. That was an anomaly, but the evil of it lay in allowing goods to be taken into the country, the trade in which produced so much harm to the people that it was necessary to enact local laws against it. The Scott Act goes far toward ending that anomaly by prohibiting the introduction of liquor in wholesale quantities into districts where it is in force.

COMMENDABLE ACTION.

In Toronto for some weeks past the temperance people have been alive to the desirability of freeing the forthcoming Industrial Exhibition in that city from the taint of a liquor traffic upon the grounds. A well-attended meeting of representatives of the different temperance bodies in the city was held the other evening. The object of the meeting was to protest against the sale of liquor on the exhibition grounds during the fair next month. Mr. S. H. Blake, late Vice-Chancellor of Ontario, who had just returned from abroad, sent a letter of regret at not being able to attend. Says a Toronto paper:—"In years gone by there has been any amount of schemes devised by the holders of booths at the fair grounds to evade the spirit and letter of the law, as, applying to exhibitions, whatever it may be. Last year when the police attempted to stop people from selling liquor whom they thought had no right to they were told to go to Inspector Dexter, and he told them to go to some one else. And so on." After a spirited discussion the meeting in question passed the following resolution:—

That a deputation be appointed to wait on the Board of Directors of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association to remonstrate against their action in appointing Mr. Hill, their manager, to apply for a license to sell intoxicating liquor at their annual exhibition; that the said deputation be also requested to wait upon the Toronto Board of License Commissioners to request that no transfer or enlargement be made of the license granted to the manager of the exhibition, and to point out that the granting of the said license was entirely contrary to the text of the Ontario License Act.

GOOD TEMPLARS.

R. W. G. L. OF THE WORLD.—The following is a record of a few days' work done in Pictou county by Mr. Knight, G. W. C. T. of Nova Scotia:—At New Glasgow—Organized "Amon" Lodge, with the following officers:—W. C. T., D. R. Campbell,

W. V. T., Emma Meikle; W. C., Samuel Logan; W. Secretary, James McLellan; W. F. Secretary, Maggie C. McLean; W. T., John Fraser; W. M., John McRoberts; W. G., Elizabeth Ross; W. Sent., Duncan Fraser; Lodge Deputy, Stewart Fraser. At Fox Brook—Organized "Central Orb" Lodge—W. C. T., A. J. McKay; W. V. T., Nettie McFay; W. C., Maggie McKay; W. Secty., F. W. Thompson; W. A. Secty., Cassie McKay; W. T., Hugh McDonald; W. D. M., Alex. Brittain; W. D. M., David H. McKay; W. G., Daniel McKay; W. Sent., Elliott McIntosh; P. W. C. T., William Fraser; Lodge Deputy, F. W. Thomson. At Merigomish—Reorganized "Lorne" Lodge, with forty-nine members—W. C. T., Hugh McDonald; W. V. T., Annie Sutherland; W. C., Finlay Campbell; W. Secty., Ellena McVicar; W. A. Secty., Henrietta McDonald. W. F. Secty., Jessie McQueen; W. T., Thomas Grant; W. M., John Campbell; W. D. M., Rebecca Cameron; W. G., Angus Grant; W. Sent., Allan McVicar; P. W. C. T., Daniel Cameron; Lodge Deputy, John Cameron.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

CADETS.—The Grand Section, Cadets of Temperance, of Nova Scotia, held its eleventh annual session at Windsor a few days ago. Representatives were present from different parts of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The following officers were elected: G. W. P.—John E. Butler, Halifax; G. A. P.—A. A. McKinnon, Spring Hill; G. Sec.—John E. Hill, Halifax; G. Treas.—W. C. Sterling, Halifax; G. Chap.—A. L. Lawrence, Windsor; G. Archon.—A. Taylor, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; G. Guide.—L. P. Taunton, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; G. Watchman, R. B. Elliott, Halifax. We should be glad to hear of the prosperity of the junior branches of our various temperance societies, and hope they may become more and more useful as training schools for the temperance party of the near future.

A new Division was recently formed at Riverton, Pictou county, Nova Scotia, members of New Glasgow Division assisting at the organization. It is called by the name of the place, and started with twenty-one charter members and the following officers:—Samuel McKay, W. P.; John Grant, R. S.; Wm. F. Grant, A.R.S.; Alex. Grant, F. S.; Isa McKay, Treas.; James McKay, Chap.

A mammoth temperance picnic, participated in by about eighteen Divisions, was announced to have been held at Hutchinson's Clearing, near Eglershouse, N. S., on the 22nd August.

THE TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE of the Methodist Conference of Newfoundland at the last session of that body reported a series of resolutions, by which the conference in adopting resolved:—(1) That they rejoiced in the success which had crowned the efforts put forth in several localities in the Colony during the past year, to secure the benefits of the Local Option Law, and would urge

upon all the friends of Temperance increasing zeal in the same direction; (2) That they observed with much satisfaction the growing influence of the temperance sentiment throughout the bounds of the Conference, and would press upon the Conference the need of keeping abreast of the times in this great enterprise; (3) That the third Sabbath in December be set apart for the preaching of temperance sermons throughout the bounds of the Conference, and (4) That, as many Circuits have been remiss in making returns of temperance statistics, such should hereafter be made through the annual District Meetings in the ordinary way.

COLONEL J. J. HICKMAN, the temperance orator from Kentucky, is performing a speaking tour of thirty towns in Nova Scotia. He was greeted at Amherst by one of the largest meetings ever held there, and one report says:—"On rising he was welcomed by a storm of applause, and with language and earnestness seldom found in any one man, opened up a line of argument in favor of total abstinence and against liquor in any shape or form of the most refined and convincing character. He spoke over an hour and a half, during which time the dropping of a pin could have been heard, except when the audience applauded his many well-made points. In concluding he said that he had appeared in this country as the representative of the Independent Order of Loyal Good Templars, with which Society he had been connected many years, and could recommend it to every good thinking man and woman, and hoped that every person desiring a place among men would lend their aid and presence to the order."

IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED that an amendment is required to all our restrictive liquor laws, which would provide for the punishment of the illegal purchaser of liquor as well as the illegal seller. There is such a law in England, and its operation is said to be salutary. As one justly remarks, "The crime or offence is a mutual one, and the man who tempts the saloon-keeper to violate the law is morally as guilty as the man who sells the liquor."

THERE IS NO NEED to be discouraged because there are still people simple enough to lend strangers their money in railway stations, trains, etc., either upon the security of scraps of paper given for bank cheques or no security at all. The repeated warning examples appearing in the newspapers doubtless save thousands of people void of understanding from being fleeced, and the cases that still occur are probably of victims who cannot or will not read the papers and have no knowing friends to caution them against smooth-speaking and smooth-looking scoundrels when they go from home. A farmer lately fell into the hands of confidence men on a train near Toronto and innocently loaned them ninety dollars upon the usual security of a worthless cheque for two thousand dollars. Of course he never saw his money again.

FRANK BLOOD, Cobleskill, New York died from terror of hydrophobia after having been bitten by a dog.