

A Manitoba Campaign.

THE LOCAL OPTION LEGISLATION.

The 'License Question' to be Voted on Work Already Begun The Alliance Pushing the Fight A Curious Law Dominion Legislation Need ed Plucky Temperance Workers Organizing

TEMPERANCE sentiment is strong in Manitoba, the Scott Act was there carried more than four years ago in the counties of Marquette and Laurier. It turned out subsequently, when municipal organization was completed in the province, that the existing counties of Manitoba were not counties as intended by the Scott Act, and the law was held to be not in force even in those places in which it had been adopted. The people of this part of the Dominion have therefore, been practically shut out from the benefits of the Scott Act.

Temperance work has, however, been pushed, and outside Winnipeg and the large towns, public opinion against the liquor traffic is very strong. A new license law was enacted by the local legislature last year, containing, among many other good provisions, certain local option clauses, and of these, although they are far from what they ought to be, our friends are now taking advantage.

The new Act provides that 25 per cent. of the householders of any municipality may require a vote to be taken on the question of "license or no license." On the submission of the question, only property owners can vote, and a three-fifths vote is necessary to secure the adoption of the law. Notwithstanding this apparently unfavorable provision, a vigorous campaign has been entered upon for securing a vote under this act, all over the province; and Rev. A. A. Cameron, president of the Manitoba branch of the Dominion Alliance, has issued a circular from which we take the following:

"To the Friends of Temperance. You may be surprised to learn that the following section is contained in 'The Act respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors and the issue of licenses therefor,' assented to by His Honor the Lieut. Governor of Manitoba on the 29th day of May, 1887, and is now law.

"39. No license shall be granted by the commissioner for the sale of liquors within the limits of any city, town or other municipality, when it shall have been made to appear to the commissioner that a by-law has been passed by said city, town or municipality forbidding the receiving by said city, town or municipality of any money for a license, said by-law shall be voted on by the people, as provided for in the Municipal Act for voting on municipal by-laws, and shall be only submitted on receiving a petition from 25 per cent. of the householders of said city, town or municipality asking them to do so."

"Under this section you are given the opportunity to place on record your objection to the payment for the management and improvements of your municipality by means of the traffic in liquor, and to protest against a system fraught with such evil consequences. It is a well recognized fact that it takes less in money to run a city, town or municipality where licenses for the sale of liquors do not prevail, than one in which they exist, and that there is a marked difference in favor of the former as regards virtue, morality, industry, economy and happiness.

"We, therefore, call upon you not only for the reasons above referred to, but in the interests of religion, good government and your fellowman, to embrace the opportunity now offered, and take immediate steps to have the petition for such by-law signed, the by-law submitted to the people and carried at the polls in your municipality.

"The work is not a difficult one. You will be supplied with petitions, copies of by-laws and all necessary information, and when requested we will send some person to explain and speak upon the subject.

"You will kindly call the friends about you together. Organize for the work, and as soon as possible report to E. D. ROBINSON, Secretary."

"We wish our friends a very great deal of success in their campaign. It will, however, be seen that they are laboring under unreasonable difficulties. It ought not to be necessary that three-fifths of the electors must favor good legislation, or before it can take the place of bad legislation, favored by two-fifths of the electors. It is wrong that only property owners should be allowed to vote on so important a question. The simple reasonable legislation, that ought to be enacted by the Dominion Parliament, in reference to Manitoba, is such a verbal alteration of the Scott Act as would make its provisions applicable to every part of the Dominion.

"We learn from our Manitoba exchanges that the different societies are pushing their special lines of work with vigor. Rev. J. C. Quinn, M. A. Emerson, G. W. P. of the S. of T., is visiting subordinate divisions in different parts of his jurisdiction and addressing large audiences on total abstinence and prohibition. The Royal Templars and I. O. G. T. are pressing on the fight on their respective lines. A great mass meeting of prohibition workers was held on the evening of Sunday, 9th inst, in Winnipeg, where, on the platform, presided over by Mr. J. A. M. Atkins, Q. C., and addressed by Rev. J. B. Sloss, Rev. J. M. Thomas, Rev. J. Dyke, and others. Rev. J. J. Roy, Rev. O. Fortin and Rev. E. Langford were also on the platform. Another great meeting was held the same day in Albert Hall, presided over by Mr. T.

Nixon and addressed by Mr. S. C. Briggs, Q. C. This Sabbath temperance work is taking hold, and is productive of great good. We hope for further and frequent encouraging reports of work in this part of Canada.

The Gales Monument.

Mr. R. McKillop, pastor of the Baptist Church, Mumford, N.Y., writes to say that the monument in memory of the late Rev. Thos. Gales has been erected at Dixville. Its cost in all is about \$300, of which sum the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance has given \$120. Any other friends wishing to contribute can do so by remitting to Mrs. Gales, 14 Union Avenue, or to T. S. Brown, Esq, 850 Sherbrooke street, Montreal. He recommends it most heartily on the basis of over 20 years' intimate acquaintance with the deceased, and also with confidence that it will meet a ready response, from the fact that he was a generally and satisfactorily known to the public of the province of Quebec, as the incessant and successful worker in the great temperance reform. He is worthy for whom this is done, any sacrifices, either great or small, will be to the memory of one highly esteemed both for himself and his work's sake.

A ROUSING SPEECH.

The Real McKay at Parkhill.

On the evening of 17th Oct., Rev. W. A. McKay, B.A., of Woodstock, addressed a large congregation in the Town Hall, Parkhill, on "The Duty of the Hour." The chair was occupied by Mr. Bishop, hardware merchant, and on the platform were all the clergymen of the town, Episcopalians, Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian. Mr. McKay secured the closest attention of his hearers for one hour and a half while he showed the iniquitous character of the liquor traffic, and in language of burning earnestness appealed to all to do their duty in enforcing the Canada Temperance Act until we get entire prohibition throughout the land. A correspondent sends us the following summary of the closing words of Mr. McKay's earnest and able address:—"I have been accused of a lack of patriotism because, with the help of God, I have not ceased with tongue and pen to arouse the people of this country to a sense of our national danger and disgrace. But I am not lacking in patriotism. I have come of a race whose blood has often been freely shed in defence of 'God, Home and Native Land.' I love Canada, the land of my birth. A better country, take it all in all, there is not under the sun. I love to think of its vast extent, equal to seventeen German Empires or to forty Great Britains, and its enormous wealth of mine, field and forest. (Other lands may have a more extensive philosophy, a more profound science and a more inspiring poetry, but no country can boast of better educational institutions, higher civil or religious privileges or a larger measure of true liberty.

"Free Freedom looks over all these broad domains, and hears no heavy clank of serf chains. Here man, no matter what his skin may be, can stand erect and proudly say, 'I'm free.' The lowest here walks in the sunshine, free as is the peer. Proudly he stands with muscle strong and free. The serf, the slave of no man doomed to be His own the arm the heavy axe that wields. His own the hands that till the summer fields. His own the hands that tread in the dew. His own the wife that treads in the cottage door. All the sweet joys of life to him are sure. All the proud rights of manhood are secure."

"Remove from our land the black blighting curse of strong drink and there will be no happier people outside of heaven than Canadians. But to accomplish this great reformation two things are absolutely essential. I will call them the two C's. There is, first, courage; and secondly, cooperation. Our people must show more courage. The unmanly weakness, I might say moral cowardice, of so many professed temperance people, has emboldened the traffic so that in some places the enemy is laughing at us and threatening to ride rough shod over us. Shame on such cowardice. Is not our cause that of justice, truth, benevolence? Are we not on the side of God and humanity? Does not God himself say to us, 'Be strong and of good courage, be not afraid, neither be dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee.' How have the great reformations of the past been accomplished? Look at the lives of our forefathers in their struggles for civil and religious liberty. What kind of men were they? Are not their deeds sublime? Why, those men laughed at danger and sung triumphant songs at the stake because God was with them. They never thought of withholding their testimony for fear of personal consequences. Look at Martin Luther going forward with the courage of a hero and with the strength of God; and if there had been as many devils in Worms as there were tiles on the house-tops he would have entered. And when the elector of Saxony refused any longer to shelter him, nothing daunted, the brave man replied, 'Thou I will shelter myself beneath the broad shield of the Eternal God.' Or look at our own John Knox, all emaciated, weak and ready to die; and yet so God possessed him that he is not yet preaching for one quarter of an hour before you think he will dash the pulpit to shivers; he shakes the whole of Scotland and is more dreaded by the wicked queen than an army of ten thousand men. And what gave such courage to these men? Why, they knew they were doing God's work and that God was with them, and therefore they feared neither man nor devil. Oh, for men and women who will serve God come what may, and who ask no questions but 'Is this right?' Then it shall be done. 'Is this wrong?' Then it must cease. There must be no compromise, no talk about popularity, or business or personal comfort or ease! Was to them that are at ease in Zion. Business! Will you

prefer selling a few more pounds of tea or yards of calico to a clear conscience and an approving God? Popularity? The less you think about it the better. Do as the good John Wesley did, who said, 'When I gave myself to God, I gave Him charge of my reputation also. It is hopeless to arouse our people on this momentous matter! Not at all, so long as there is a God of infinite power and grace in heaven. What we want is an outpouring of the Holy Ghost: the divine breath entering in, until our revived and quickened people, men and women, will stand up, an exceeding great army ready and willing to do the Lord's work whatever difficulties or discouragements may lie in the way.

But I said that in order to remove this great evil from our land there must be not only courage but cooperation. Temperance people must learn to act together, and regardless of party spirit or Tory vote only for good and able men who love righteousness and hate iniquity. They must learn to watch those political schemers and unprincipled demagogues who are ever ready to promise anything in order to get into power; but once in power, they are Judases who will sell their vote and belie their professions for even less than the thirty pieces of silver. If we are to have our country freed from the liquor curse we must put principle above party, conscience above mere expediency, and thus secure for all educational, municipal and parliamentary offices not weathercock politicians but men who are good and true, men who would no more think of taking a bribe into their hand than they would think of placing a viper in their bosom. Men who can say, as Henry Clay once said, 'I would rather be right than be President.' Give us men who will

Dare to be a Daniel.  
Dare to stand alone.  
Dare to have a purpose true.  
Dare to make it known.

We want brave men who, when threatened by wicked men with pistol, fire or dynamite, can calmly say with the apostle, 'None of these things move me. Let us by courage and cooperation secure such men for our rulers and there will be no bounds to the growth, no limit to the moral strength and religious power of our young nation. With or without 'Commercial Union,' if we have such righteousness our country will go on and on in greatness, rising higher and higher in virtue and holiness, until the angel of religion, shall ascend the skies and announce that Canada is freed from the curse of strong drink and from ocean to ocean rejoices in peace, purity and good-will. The time is coming. Victory is nigh. We have an abiding faith in God and therefore in the ultimate triumph of our cause. The prospect is as bright as the promise of God is sure.

DRINK IN LONDON.

A Terrible Record of Drunkenness.

The alarming extent of the traffic in Great Britain is hardly ever realized except by those who come directly in contact with it. In the City of London alone its dimensions are frightful, as may be seen from the following facts, clipped from the "London Letter" of the Alliance News:

"Foreigners and many of our own people do not know that there are several Londons. First the London that is under the charge of the Metropolitan Board of Works and which is nearly identical with the London of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages, the population of which at the last census of 1881 was 3,813,571. Secondly, there is Postal London which as to area and population is much smaller. Thirdly, there is School Board London, which is about equal to the first. Fourthly, there is the Metropolitan Police London, which excludes the City of London, and extends fifteen miles from Charing Cross, except the City. It covers an area of 688 square miles, and includes a population of 5,344,627 (estimated for 1886). The apprehensions for drunkenness mean in police language the arrests of persons so drunk as to be incapable of moving, and with no one to take them to their own homes. In the same language 'drunk and disorderly' signifies so drunk and so disorderly as not to be induced to cease fighting at the bidding of the police. In the Metropolitan police district there are 22 divisions alphabetically numbered and one for the Thames. Of drinking shops in this area the number and classes reported are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Public Houses, Beer Houses with Off Licenses, Beer Houses with On or Off Licenses, Refreshment Houses with On Wine Licenses, Wine Houses with Off Licenses, Wine and Spirit Shops with Off Licenses, Total Houses selling Strong Drink.

Though the proportion of drink-shops to population is small (1 to 376 persons), the size of many far exceeds that of liquor shops in general.

IN AUSTRALIA.

GOOD NEWS FROM FAR AWAY.

Progress of our Cause in Victoria The same old fight with the same old foe - Marching on to Prohibition - 1900 Testimonials in Convention - Restrictive Legislation Temperance Text Books

On many friends on the other side of the globe seem to be vying with their co-workers elsewhere in persistent endeavor to secure the enactment of effective laws for the suppression of the strong drink traffic.

Our Australian exchanges contain reports of the anniversary of the Victorian Alliance recently held at Melbourne. At the annual breakfast 420 guests sat down. Reports of work done were remarkably encouraging. The Rev. D. V. Lucas, so well known in many parts of this Dominion as an effective prohibition advocate, has been at work for some time in Victoria, addressing large audiences, organizing the electorate and making arrangements for Local Option campaigns. He was one of the most active members of the convention and by his experience of the effect of restrictive laws on this continent gave valuable assistance to our Melbourne friends.

The annual report of the secretary reported special success at Geelong, Port Melbourne, Maldon, Wallahalla, and referred kindly to the effective operations of other temperance societies.

A deputation was appointed to wait upon the Chief Secretary to present the resolutions adopted by the Alliance. The deputation was unusually large and influential, a number of ladies as well as gentlemen being present. Our readers will learn something of the character of the campaign our friends are carrying on by a perusal of the following resolution which is laid before the Chief Secretary by the deputation:

"That in view of the intention of the Government to amend the Licensing Act during the present session of Parliament, this conference urges the retention of all provisions of the Act which are intended to restrict the liquor traffic, declares its conviction that the Amending Bill, in order to be satisfactory, must provide for the repeal of the one third proviso, in order to secure the secrecy of the ballot in a Local Option poll, and for making the bar-locking clause apply to Sunday, as the Legislature intended when adopting it; and strongly urges the making of applications for colonial wine and grocers' license on the same conditions as applicants for victuallers' licenses, and the bringing of colonial wine sellers and grocers under the Sunday trading clauses of the Act. Further that the issue of wine licenses should be made subject to the Local Option provisions of the Act.

The different speakers strongly pressed the different reforms which this resolution discussed and urged the government to adopt them.

The forty-fifth annual report of the Melbourne Total Abstinence Society has been published and is full of encouragement and good news. The Australian Christian World mentions the following as the most important matters referred to:

"The formation of a Women's Temperance Union, which holds fortnightly meetings in the city, and has three suburban branches, the Sunday afternoon temperance meetings on the Queen's wharf, inaugurated by Mr. Geo. Hughes some years since, and very successfully carried on, the speaker's plan of public meetings for the advocacy of temperance, the success of the library and reading room, which added 228 volumes during the year, and which needs to have more space provided for it; the book depot, the sales at which during the year amounted to £1,055; the people's Saturday evening concerts, which have been extraordinarily successful, yielding £1,814, with profit balance over expenses of £612; the permission of the Minister of Education to allow the use, where teachers chose, of Dr. Richardson's 'Temperance Lesson Book,' and Dr. Ridge's 'Temperance Primer,' and the voting of £100 for a prize essay on the 'Physiological Effects of Alcohol.' The report closed with the expression of a hope that the local option provisions of the Amending Licensing Act would be altered so as not to destroy (as they do now) the secrecy of the ballot and that the bar-locking clause, which the courts have decided does not apply to Sunday, might be altered so as to carry out the intention of the Legislature in passing it, which was to prevent Sunday trading. The meeting which passed this report resolved to increase the prize for essays to £200. It also voted £100 for the free distribution of temperance literature, and further resolved to empower a committee to take steps towards the erection of a temperance hospital.

The whisky sellers of Melbourne are very much excited, they see serious danger to their business in the energetic work that is being carried on on total abstinence and prohibition lines. They are also alarmed at the fact that the temperance cause has the sympathy and cooperation of a large section of the influential press.

The liquor party in turn held a convention from which a deputation waited upon the Chief Secretary but had very little encouragement as a reward for its efforts. An other line of operations which is more than likely to influence public opinion in the right direction was a determined attempt of the liquorites to spoil the Alliance meeting. When 1,500 temperance workers clothed in the regalia of their respective organizations, assembled in convention to discuss the best methods for the

suppression of the drink system, it was not strange that the saloonkeepers should have been seriously frightened. They sent a deputation to the Alliance convention, but this deputation was not formally presented to the meeting; no one intended that it should be. It was a deputation of rough bent on breaking up a meeting of which they were afraid, and, according to the usual suicidal policy of men engaged in the liquor business, the ruffianism of the whisky party served the cause of prohibition better than they could have done by any other process.

We are very much gratified in noting the success of our antipodean friends. We are pleased to learn of the warm reception given to our Bro. Lucas, and to read of the effective work he is being enabled to accomplish. Prohibition is near at hand in Canada and it is not far away in other places. We trust the day will come, in which the accursed liquor traffic will be outlawed in every civilized community that calls itself Christian.

THE LOCAL VETO.

RALLY OF SCOTTISH WORKERS.

A Strong Resolution Outspoken Faultfinding with the British Government Sir Wilfred on Prohibition.

This Annual Meeting of the Scottish Permissive Bill and Temperance Association held recently in Glasgow was an occasion of very great interest. Among the names of the active workers we find Dr. G. B. Clark, M.P.; Sir Wilfred Lawson, Bart., M.P.; Sir Andrew Macdonald, Mr. Leonard Lyon, M.P.; A. D. Provan, M.P.; Mr. John Wilson, Mr. Capt. Brodie, Rev. J. Mackay, Ex-Bible Selkirk, Ex-Provost Dick, Rev. J. Cameron, Provost Macpherson, Mr. Gilbert Archer, Rev. Dr. Ferguson, Mr. Peter McEgan, M.P. The proceedings were marked by remarkable enthusiasm and the sentiments of those present may be gathered from the fact that the following resolution was adopted by a unanimous and enthusiastic vote.

"That this Annual Meeting of the Scottish Permissive Bill and Temperance Association, attended by members representing all parts of Scotland, hereby most emphatically protest against the manner in which legislation on the Liquor Traffic has been treated in the present session of Parliament. Mr. M. Macdonald, member for the fifth time introduced in the past session a Bill proposing to give the people of Scotland power to protect themselves from the operations of that traffic, a bill which has the approval of an overwhelming majority of the ratepayers, as demonstrated by the resolutions taken all over the country and in various other ways; and the principle of which over forty Scottish members of Parliament have endorsed, and having from time to time secured by ballot certain days for the discussion of the Bill, these have been appropriated by Government, and no other opportunity has been afforded for the second reading of this most important Bill. The refusal of the Government to give Sir Wilfred Lawson, Bart., an opportunity to submit a resolution on the question of liquor legislation—the action of the House of Lords in regard to the Cameron's earlier (Licensing) Bill—added to the treatment which Mr. Macdonald's Bill has received—has undoubtedly produced a feeling of profound dissatisfaction throughout Scotland, indicating as this conduct does a manifest want of interest in a subject that more than any other of a public kind, deeply concerns the entire body of the people. That copies of this resolution shall be sent to the members of the Government, Right Hon. W. F. Gladstone, Right Hon. John Morley, Right Hon. Mr. W. Harcourt and every Parliamentary representative for Scotland.

The great public meeting held in the city in the evening was very largely attended and addressed by many of Great Britain's most eminent workers. We could not spare space for any of the interesting addresses delivered, but we have much pleasure in giving our readers the following summary of Sir Wilfred Lawson's remarks as reported in the The Alliance News.

"The agitation which they were carrying on was even greater than that for freeing the slaves. That was a noble agitation to free the bodies from a base servitude, but they were now agitating to free the entire body of the people. That copies of this resolution shall be sent to the members of the Government, Right Hon. W. F. Gladstone, Right Hon. John Morley, Right Hon. Mr. W. Harcourt and every Parliamentary representative for Scotland.

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