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## The Presbyterian Review.

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### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A welcome communication from London, Ont., conveys the news that the Presbyterian Council there, after a brief discussion, subscribed a sum of money for the purposes of the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance. The subject was brought to the notice of the meeting by a member who is also a member of the Alliance. It is to be hoped this good example will be extensively followed, and that the amount referred to is only the first instalment of London's contribution.

It must be apparent to all that the work for which the Alliance exists cannot be carried on without money and the appeal issued last week should interest friends throughout the province. By a typographical error the estimated amount was placed at \$3,500 instead of at \$2,500, not that the larger amount would not be found useful, but the actual needs are placed at the smaller figure. We feel sure that no money could be put to better use and again urge the claims of the Alliance on the Christian public.

It is evident that a lively campaign is in store for the prohibitionists. The Plebiscite has to be disposed of. Should past experience be allowed in forming an opinion, it is safe to forecast the introduction of party feeling as a factor in the fight. Politicians do not like prohibition, and the plebiscite will be so conditioned that the real voice of the country may not be arrived at, unless the campaign be managed with discretion, and side issues suppressed. Already campaign literature has made its appearance and

one leaflet contains a number of suggestions as to how the shrinkage of revenue that would be caused by prohibition would be met. Without entering into the merits of the various plans suggested, the wisdom of bringing forward direct taxation as one method of meeting the revenue may be questioned. Direct taxation need certainly not be a result of prohibition and one of the most effective weapons that will be used against prohibition will be the danger of direct taxation. For the Prohibitionists themselves, therefore to include this method among the possible ones is surely a mistake to remedy which steps ought to be taken without delay.

Another unfortunate suggestion from the same source is 'a tax of one half cent per pound on sugar seven cents per pound on tea, coffee and cocoa, and sixteen cents per pound on tobacco, levied on the quantities of these articles now used' Whoever is responsible for the publication of this leaflet with such stupid suggestions ought to be curbed for the future. Prohibitionists are not called upon to finance the country. That is the work of the Dominion Government and no more deadly blow can be levelled at prohibition than an agitation on the lines here suggested, the taxing of staple foods. Such a course may possibly suit the government, for while the temperance people continue to fight over details the government may idly look on. The duty of Prohibitionists, however, is to assert their principles and to enforce their views on the country should they prove to be in a majority; it is clearly for the government of the day to arrange the details as best they may; not for the populace.

This week the Jewish citizens have been celebrating the "Sabbath of Sabbaths" or "Day of Atonement," their most solemn annual feast. The ceremonies are very interesting, the fasting from sunset to sunset being strictly observed, and the liturgy of the synagogue devoutly adhered to. Next week the 'Feast of the Tabernacle' will begin and will continue for seven days.

The Ewart Woman's Missionary Training Home will be opened on Monday next by a lecture on the "Theological and Missionary Training of Women," by the Rev. Principal MacVicar, Montreal. This event is of unusual interest to the Church, marking as it does, an important onward step toward the goal of missionary effort. The occasion should be signalized by the women of Toronto. The curriculum at the Home will contain a course of lectures, to be delivered at Knox College, including one by the Rev. Principal Caven on the study of the New Testament, and one by the Rev. Professor Robinson on the study of the Old Testament.

In one respect the Roman Catholic Church has shown wisdom beyond that of most Protestant churches. She has cultivated a church press. Taking advantage of every means to advance her interests, the church recognizes the power of the press and her dignitaries speak holdly in its favour. We observe that Archbishop Bruchesi has marked his