

The Camp Fire.

A. MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE

ADDRESS - - TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year

NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers.

The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1901

MRS. NATION'S CRUSADE

Intense excitement has been stirred up in the Western States by the crusade inaugurated by Mrs. Carrie Nation against the law-breaking liquor sellers of Kansas. Mrs. Nation made her first physical attack upon the liquor sellers about ten years ago, at which time she was living at Medicine Lodge. She wrecked the first saloon in the town and was arrested for the offence. A storm of public indignation, however, resulted in her release. She wrecked two saloons in Kiowa about two years ago. For this assault no punishment was attempted, and since that time she has been growing more earnest and determined.

Her present campaign began in the latter part of December in the City of Wichita, where she entered one of the most stylish wine rooms with an armful of stones. Here she smashed glassware, mirrors, etc.; among the destroyed property being a painting valued at \$10,000. Mrs. Nation was arrested and committed for trial, but previous to the sitting of the court the charges were withdrawn by the County Attorney, who expressed the opinion that she was insane.

Since that time she has pushed her plan with much energy. Among the places in which she has been operating are Kiowa, Wichita, Enterprise, Topeka, Anthony, Hiawatha, McCune and Goffs. Much property has been destroyed. A number of saloons have closed their doors to protect their goods. Mrs. Nation and her coadjutors have been mobbed several times, many of them have been badly hurt in the riotous proceedings attending their raids.

Mrs. Nation seems to be working on the plan of forming an organization of women to be called "The Army of Home Defenders." Her example has fired men, as well as women, with much zeal against the liquor traffic. Mass meetings, attended by thousands, have been held in Topeka, and saloon keepers have been warned that unless their business is closed armed men will break it up. The struggle between the saloon raiders and the liquor defenders seems to have been fiercest in Wichita and Winfield. At Wichita several women were shot by the defenders of the attacked saloons. Several of these women were badly injured.

It is stated that at Winfield saloon men are arming themselves for defence,

and that 20,000 citizens have signed a pledge to rid the town of the liquor traffic no matter what may be the cost. Already houses have been set on fire and wells have been poisoned by the infuriated saloonists. One church has been wrecked, lives of clergymen have been threatened and sympathizers from other places have come to the aid of the attacked. The temperance people have detailed armed men to protect some of their leaders. Students of the Methodist College are protecting buildings which the liquor party have threatened to burn. Nearly all the fire arms in the town have been purchased, and feeling is at fever heat.

It is hard to predict what will be the outcome of this strange movement. Where the fight is on, public opinion sustains Mrs. Nation, and she is warmly applauded for her efforts to protect the homes of the people against the law-breaking liquor business. Opinions expressed in nearly every other part of the country are strongly opposed to her methods. It is forcibly pointed out that mob violence must always produce demoralization and must react to the detriment of those who appeal to it. Fighting lawlessness with lawlessness is demoralizing, and the case in question is no exception. In some places leaders in women's temperance work have hastened to repudiate Mrs. Nation's methods.

It is easy to call attention to the discreditable fact that all the trouble exists because public officials have utterly failed to do their duty and because temperance sentiment has failed to insist upon fair administration of the law. If the men who are now arming themselves to attack the unlawful saloons had exercised their rights as citizens to elect honest officials the present trouble would not have occurred. It may be argued in a sense that the women in the case are less to blame than the men, because they have not the franchise power which ought to have prevented the discreditable conditions out of which the fight has grown.

Mrs. Nation's methods cannot be approved. We must only hope that the unfortunate occurrences will arouse public opinion so as to bring about by lawful means the result which the crusaders are seeking to attain by unlawful violence.

SOBER BY LAW.

In the Nineteenth Century for February, is an interesting article by the Assistant Commissioner of Police, for London. The subject of the article is "Punishing Crime," and, incidentally, he refers to the old argument, that "you cannot make men moral by Act of Parliament," in the following forcible terms.

"This must mean either that outward restraints will not change men's hearts, or else that they avail nothing to control their actions. In the one view, it is platitude; in the other, it is a transparent fallacy. Where is the man who is governed altogether and only by principle? No one is uninfluenced by those restraints and incentives which serve to shape and guide the course of common men. 'Lead us not into temptation' is a prayer that none can safely ignore. Morality by Act of Parliament is a great principle which enters into the very highest religious teaching, and it is supreme in the practical ethics of ordinary life. The whole criminal law bears testimony to its truth. . . . Nothing is more certain than that men can be made immoral by Act of Parliament; and bad laws, such, for example, as the drink code, are responsible for a large share of the crime of the country."

ADVICE FOR KING EDWARD.

From a number of English pulpits strong statements have been made regarding the hopes of the people, that the new King will set his people a safe example in his conduct and influence. In the Manchester Cathedral, Canon Hicks in a rousing address said:—

"The cancerous curse of gambling and horse-racing would, perhaps, be more effectually checked by the vigorous discouragement of the new King's Court than by the most careful legislation. English society and British politics would gain immeasurably by an infusion of the old Puritan sternness, and conscience, and self-control. The social plague of intemperance constituted a problem which no Government seemed strong enough to attack, so effectually did the influence of the liquor trade control the operations of Parliament.

Rev. C. F. Aked, the celebrated Liverpool preacher, referred to the situation in the following terms:—

Outside all party questions, outside all partisan complications, outside all our controversies is this tremendous problem. Will our King lead his people into better homes? Will our King make it the business of his life to see that his people are as well housed as his hunters, his racers and his dogs? Is it too much to ask for kingly leadership in the movement against strong drink? Drink wastes our wealth, and cripples our trade, and sullies our national reputation. It hampers and thwarts the earliest and happiest efforts of the Church; it saps our vitality, poisons our blood, and debauches the life of the State. A son of the Queen spoke of it as a "terrible enemy, the only enemy that England has to fear." Will our King give us kingly lead and light? For if this movement succeeded it would do more for his Empire than all the armies of the Empire could.

WHAT'S YOUR BOY WORTH?

I came across a mother in Ohio who loved her boy so that she would not give her husband any rest till he promised to vote for the second amendment. Some people thought she was only a humble, ignorant woman, but she was smart enough to know the value of her boy! You, mothers who read this article, answer me this question: What is your boy worth? Make the price high, for he is "bone of your bone, and flesh of your flesh." Ask father if he is worth a ballot next election. Put the question to him with tear-drops trickling down your cheeks, backed up with a prayer of faith. If you can do it with all sincerity, the true value of his boy will appear, and all other questions sink into insignificance.

What is your boy worth.

1st. He is worth asking to sign the total abstinence pledge.

2nd. He is of sufficient value to be sent to a Band of Hope meeting to be instructed as to the effects of alcohol upon the human system.

3rd. He is of sufficient importance for you to know where he spends his evenings and who his associates are.

4th. He is of more value than any household pets, and is entitled to more of your time and attention.

5th. To say nothing of the value of your boy's good character, he has cost you for food, raiment and education more than the average saloon-keeper's pay for his license.

6th. "As the twig is bent the tree is inclined." It will be of great importance to you whether your boy is a valuable citizen or a curse to you and the neighborhood in which you reside. If he turns out good, he will be worth his weight in gold; if otherwise, better he had never been born.

7th. Being immortal he is worth a life's work to prepare him for a happy hereafter.

Is it too much to ask the fathers of America to at least set enough value on their boys to yearly drop into the ballot-box a piece of paper that voices the sentiment of this journal—"We demand the prohibition of the liquor traffic?" What's your answer?

—New York Witness.

IMPORTANT.

TORONTO, 1901.

DEAR FRIEND,—

You are respectfully requested to carefully examine **The Camp Fire**, a neat four-page monthly Prohibition paper, full of bright, pointed, convenient facts and arguments; containing also a valuable summary of the latest news about our cause. It is just what is needed to inspire workers and make votes.

The victory won in the plebiscite was only the opening of a campaign in which the liquor traffic will do its utmost to block, delay, and if possible prevent our securing the enactment and enforcement of prohibitory law. We have plenty of hard fighting ahead of us. We must keep posted and equipped, knowing all that is being done by our friends and foes, and sophistry and misrepresentation that will be advanced.

The Camp Fire will be one of the best aids you can have in the struggle. It will contain nothing but what you need. Every number ought to be preserved. You cannot afford to be without it, and the subscription price is only nominal, **Twenty-five cents per year.**

While a necessity to every prohibition worker the **The Camp Fire** will also be of special value for distribution. Literature won the plebiscite victory. We must keep up the educating work. Printed matter tells. It does its work continuously, silently, fearlessly and No form of literature is so generally read and so potential as the up-to-date periodical. It comes with the force and interest of newness and life. For this reason the form of a monthly journal has been selected.

This journal will be in every respect reliable and readable. Every article will be short, good and forcible, containing nothing sectional, sectarian or partizan. The literature of the old world and the new world will be ransacked for the most helpful and effective material. The price is very low.

Such literature will convince many a man whom his neighbors cannot convince. It will talk to him quietly, in his own home, in his leisure moments, when he can listen uninterrupted, when he cannot talk back and when the personality of the talker cannot interfere with the effect of the talk.

It will ply him with facts, arguments and appeals, that will influence, instruct and benefit him. It will set him thinking. This is half the battle. Its wide circulation will swell the victory that we are about to win. This is its object.

Your help is asked in this great work. Every society should subscribe for and distribute hundreds of copies. This is the easiest and surest plan of making prohibition votes. Look at the terms:

Twenty copies will be sent to any one address every month for six months, for ONE DOLLAR, payable in advance

On no other plan can a small investment be made to produce so much of educative results. One hundred and twenty copies may be placed in as many homes. And have more than HALF A THOUSAND readers. One dollar will cover this placing of the claims of our cause before five hundred people. Ten dollars may reach FIVE THOUSAND. **WILL YOU HELP US?**

Address,

F. S. SPENCE,
52 Confederation Life Building,
Toronto.