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Dominion Moman's Christian Temperance Union

BADGE-A Knot of White Ribbon

TIME OF PRAYER-Noontide

METHODS-Preventive, Educational, Evangelistic, Social and Legal

WATCHWORDS-Agitate-Educate-Organize

Toronto, April 25th, 1903

To the Ministry and Members of the Dominion Parliament, Gentlemen,-

The news that the wires brought us April 1st was a joyful surprise. We had expected a favorable vote, but that the representatives of 103 constituencies should declare themselves for the total suppression of the manufacture, importation and sale of the Cigarette, was beyond our anticipation.

Yet, why should it have been?

The Cigarette is a menace to our national life. That the guardians of that national life should pronounce in favor of the Home as over against sundry business interests and a vicious appetite, is but natural and rational. On behalf of the Home-Makers, the Churches and the Temperance organizations of Canada, who have united in petitioning you, we tender you our grateful thanks.

AGE-LIMIT LAWS.

A point raised in the debate, but not pressed to an issue, demands attention. Several speakers referred approvingly to age-limit laws and suggested amendments of this nature. Without calling in question the honorable intent of these gentlemen we desire to say, on behalf of those whom we represent, that we would consider such a disposal of the question, a death-blow to the whole movement.

Cigarette manufacturers are not afraid of age-limit laws. The Secretary of the National American Anti-Cigarette League, writes us that in several American States where prohibitive legislation was pending, the defenders of the Cigarette introduced and carried through age-limit laws, with the invariable result that the sale and use of the Cigarette was in no whit diminished. An editorial in the April number of 'The Eoy'', the organ of the National League, reads as follows:-

"Any state legilsature that has failed to have the Cigarette issue up in some form this winter is decidedly behind the times. Almost every method of dealing with the question has been suggested by the bills introduced, some of which were, evidently, devised by those friendly to the vested interests at stake. There has been no opposition to license measures, or those forbidding the sale to minors. Only when a straight-out prohibitory bill has been introduced, which would clear the markets of Cigarettes, has there been vigorous opposition.