

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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CANADIAN ITEMS.

THE DEADLY DRINK AND THE WAR THAT IS WAGED AGAINST IT.

Drink and Death.

On Friday morning, April 1st, a sad accident happened in the city of Montreal, by which a young man aged twenty-seven, who had been drinking heavily, was run over by a street car and instantly killed.

Another of the Same.

The *Charlottetown Guardian* gives a report of a sad accident that recently took place near Alberton, P.E.I., in which a farmer, a young married man was drowned while under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

More Evil Results.

A great increase of drunkenness is reported from the village of Cardinal, being to a certain extent a result of the gathering of many men employed on the new canal works. A petition was presented to the Council praying for a vote on local option, but the request was refused. Mr. John A. Nicholls has been holding interesting and useful temperance meetings in the town.

The Traffic to Blame.

A sad tragedy took place in Oxford County on March 26th. A young man who had been in Woodstock the night before became very badly intoxicated, missed his train and walked on Sunday morning through a heavy rain storm, to Ingersoll, arriving there in such a state of exhaustion that he only lived a few hours. There is some suspicion that he was otherwise badly dealt with in addition to being freely supplied with intoxicating liquor.

A Stirring "Cry."

The *Canadian War Cry*, organ of the Salvation Army, for March 5th, was a red hot prohibition number. On the front page was an impressive illustration showing a great whiskey bottle as a nickle in the slot machine, into which the public put money and from which they got out a great array of evil consequences. A specially forcible article addressed to the drunkard was written by the Field Commissioner, Miss E. Booth. Many other articles and illustrations are exceedingly impressive.

A Worthy Enterprise.

W.C.T.U. workers of Lunenburg, N. S. have undertaken a useful and interesting work. A seaman's resort has been provided, at which sailors in harbor may meet for social intercourse, reading and other profitable occupation. The understanding will be under the management of representatives of different religious organizations and temperance societies. An appeal is made for financial support to which there ought to be a very cordial and liberal response.

Improving the Scott Act.

A bill is before the House of Commons introduced by Firman McClure, M.P. amending the Scott Act so as to provide that policemen and other officials may have the same power to

enter saloons, shops, warehouses, etc., in enforcing the Scott Act, that they now have under the License Law of Ontario. Provision is also made for a heavy penalty on any such officer who refuses to assist in enforcing the law when called upon to do so. The prohibitionists of Western Canada often overlook the fact that the Scott Act is in force and doing splendid work in the greater part of the Maritime Provinces.

A Templar Company.

The annual meeting of the Templar Publishing Company of Hamilton was held on March 21st. The Secretary-Treasurer reported that nearly all the \$50,000 stock of the Company had been subscribed and three-fourths of the first call of ten per cent paid in. Some discussion took place over the provincial election campaign, some of those present taking the ground that the Government should have been strongly opposed as not entitled to the confidence of prohibitionists. Directors were elected for the coming year and at a subsequent Directors' meeting the following officers were chosen. Pres., W. Watkins; Vice-Pres., J. T. Banard; Sec., J. W. Jones. Mr. Geo. Wrigby has ceased to be editor of the *Templar* and Mr. W. W. Buchanan has been appointed editor until further arrangements are made.

Plebiscite Work.

An important and well-attended meeting of the Executive Committee of the Dominion Alliance was held in Toronto on March 25th. Much anxiety was expressed respecting rumors afloat to the effect that there would probably be some rider relating to taxation attached to the prohibition question in the coming Plebiscite. The meeting was unanimously of the opinion that such action on the part of the Government would be exceedingly unjust to the temperance cause. Reports were received relating to the literary campaign, showing that more than 2,000,000 pages had already been printed and that there was a steady demand from nearly every part of the Dominion. It was ordered that immediately on the introduction of the Plebiscite Bill another meeting should be held to which would be invited many other representative prohibitionists not at present on the Executive Committee.

Dominion R. T. of T.

The Dominion Council of the Royal Templars of Temperance held its second biennial session at Hamilton commencing on Thursday, March 15th. Representatives from all the Grand Councils of the Dominion were present. A. M. Featherston of Montreal, Dominion Councilor, presided. Reports showed an increase in the beneficiary membership of 221 over last biennial report. The approaching Plebiscite was discussed and members of the Order were strongly urged to do their duty in the contest, giving special attention to the distribution of literature likely to help the cause. An emphatically worded declaration was made demanding that the Plebiscite be squarely submitted as distinctly promised, free from complication with all other questions. The Dominion Government was memorandized to keep the Yukon District entirely free from the liquor traffic. Touching reference was made to the serious loss to the temperance cause in the deaths of General Neal Dow and Miss Frances E. Willard. Satisfaction was expressed at the organization of the Templar Publishing Company, and the turning over to that body of the publishing interests of the Order. The following are the principal officers elected for the coming term. D. C., Bro. Geo. H. Lees; D.P.C., Bro. A. M. Featherston; D.V.C., Rev. H. S. Matthews; D. C., Rev. W. Kettlewell; D.S., Dr. C. V. Emory; D.M.R., Dr. B. E. McKenzie; D.A., Bro. J. W. Jones; Auditors, A. C. Neff, P. H. Stewart; S.P.Supt., Rev. C. W. Watch.

NOTES OF NEWS

FROM MANY PLACES.

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING.

Law Enforcement in Alaska.

A press despatch states that an order has been issued at Washington, D.C. ordering the closing of all saloons in Alaska and that Governor Brady has been instructed to see that the order is carried out.

Prohibition in Kentucky.

The Senate of the State of Kentucky has adopted a local option bill which is expected to be shortly in operation. Under it prohibitionists expect to secure the outlawry of the liquor traffic over the greater part of the State.

An Awful Record.

Official statistics recently published in Great Britain show that in England and Wales during 1896 the number of persons charged with drunkenness was 187,258 as against 160,298 the preceding year. The number of convictions was 162,695 and 7,146 of the offenders were sent to jail.

From Germany.

A card setting out the disadvantages of the use of intoxicating liquor and strongly commending the Independent Order of Good Templars is exhibited in the railway stations of northern Germany with the approval of the railway authorities.

Saloonists for Prohibition.

A fight is going on at Albany, New York, over a bill proposing to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquor in departmental stores. The ordinary liquor sellers are the advocates of the new measure, and their object of course, is to secure more business for their own establishments.

Work in Bulgaria.

The National Assembly of Bulgaria has imposed upon liquor manufacturing a tax so heavy as to close nearly all the distilleries. A national temperance society is at work, accomplishing splendid results, and in many villages the sale of liquor has been entirely suppressed.

Tightening the Restrictions.

The State of Arkansas has passed a law prohibiting musical instruments, gambling, billiard tables, cards and dice in places where liquors are sold. A conviction for violation of the law results in a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars with forfeiture of license and disqualification from being licensed for three years.

Kansas Strong as Ever.

Kansas State Temperance Union recently held at enthusiastic convention at Topeka, more than six hundred delegates being present. Among the resolutions adopted was one pledging prohibitionists to vote for no candidate for any office whose record and character did not give a reasonable guarantee that he would do his full duty in enforcing prohibitory law. J. W. Gleed, of Topeka was elected President, and T. E. Stephens, Secretary.

Fighting a Railway.

At Buxton in North Dakota, the agent in charge of the local railway station took charge of consignments of liquor marked "C.O.D." Local prohibitionists claimed that in delivering the liquor and collecting the money, he was acting the part of a liquor seller and had him prosecuted. The judge charged that the sale must be understood as taking place where the money was paid and a conviction was recorded. The railway company is now endeavoring to punish the village by closing the station and allowing trains to stop only on signal.

IMPORTANT! READ IT ALL!

THE CAMP FIRE

is a neat, four-page monthly journal edited by F. S. Spence, devoted to the advocacy of Temperance and Prohibition, full of bright, fresh, pointed, convincing facts and arguments. It is just what is needed for the Plebiscite Campaign, to inspire workers and make votes. Subscription, only **twenty-five cents per year.** ORDER NOW!

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