

small. The large church was literally packed, scores having to stand, and large numbers could not even get inside and had to go away. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Masson and Yeomans, of Dunnville, and Brethour, of Milton. I forgot to say, the Convention pledged the Executive Committee \$1,000 to meet expenses if needed. The effect of the Convention has been of the very best kind, inspiring temperance workers with hope and courage, and depressing the friends of the liquor traffic. At a recent meeting of the Council, the liquor licenses were raised in Hagersville from \$60 to \$100, and the hotel-keepers were talking of refusing to take out licenses at the latter figure. The Convention hastened the crisis. The morning after the five tavern-keepers met and drew up a bond which each one signed, pledging himself under a forfeit of \$500 not to take a license next year, and to other obligations, the nature of which I am not fully acquainted with. Hagersville will have prohibition twelve months ahead of the Scott Act.

The Convention was one of the most intelligent, business-like and enthusiastic, I ever attended. There is a noble band of workers in Haldimand, and their zeal and intelligence will tell tremendously against the traffic they are leagued to suppress. They evidently have not enlisted in the contest for fun or holiday-making, but every man is determined to do his best to roll up a large majority when the vote is taken. I ought to say that to a considerable extent the large attendance at the Convention was owing to good work done during the last month by Mr. D. Lucas Huff, who has been holding meetings through the county. The Executive Committee met at the close of the afternoon session, and concluded not to employ an Agent, but to use home talent to organize and speak at public meetings. Haldimand has had a good start. May success crown their work.—*Com.*

TORONTO.—The West End Gospel Temperance Society made a well organized raid upon Davenport last week, and held a very successful temperance meeting in the Town Hall. They were hospitably entertained by the members of the I.O.G.T., and their visit will no doubt give an impetus to the good cause in that locality. Saturday night and Sunday meetings of this Association still keep up their interest and usefulness.

The Toronto Temperance Reformation Society is doing a splendid work. At the close of their successful concert on Saturday night last, fifteen persons signed the pledge. On the Sunday afternoon, Col. J. J. Hickman, of Kentucky, spoke to a very large audience, and thirty-two persons signed the pledge.

At the usual meeting of the W.C.T.U., on Monday afternoon in Shaftesbury Hall, a deputation was appointed to proceed to Carlton next week, Thursday, and form a union there. A glowing report was received from the deputation that waited upon the ladies of Carlton last week. Arrangements were also made for united quarterly meetings of the three unions of the city, the first of them will be held on the first Monday in April, for the purpose of discussing plans for work and mutual help.

Mr. Wm. Kyle has issued a circular to grocers, who hold liquor licenses, stating that they may continue selling liquor after the 1st May next in spite of the Provincial authorities. Mr. Kyle claims that the Supreme Court has decided that the "importing" of liquors and wines is "trade and commerce," and therefore, under the control of the Dominion authorities. All retail dealers, he holds, could become "importers" by purchasing through manufacturers' agents.

A *Globe* reporter waited on Hon. A. S. Hardy, the Provincial Secretary, on Saturday, when the circular in question was referred to, and the following conversation took place:—

"If a retail liquor dealer purchased his supplies through a manufacturers' agent, would he still be under Provincial control?"

Mr. Hardy—"If he sold at retail he would be a retail dealer, no matter where he got his supply. The Province has the right to deal with shop, saloon, and tavern licenses."

"What action will be taken in cases where grocers continue to sell liquor in connection with groceries after the 1st of May next?"

Mr. Hardy—"The Ontario Government will prosecute every person who does not separate the sale of groceries from liquor after the 1st of May next."

"What action will be taken where a party attempts to sell under a Dominion license?"

Mr. Hardy—"We will prosecute all who sell without a license from the Provincial Government."

"Will those who sell having only a Dominion license be prosecuted by the Ontario Government under the recent decision of the Supreme Court?"

Mr. Hardy—"Yes. It is not necessary to wait for the judgment of the Privy Council."—*Globe.*

A meeting of the Toronto Temperance Electoral Union was held on Tuesday evening, at Shaftesbury Hall. The attendance was the largest that the Society has had for a long time. Mr. W. H. Howland, President, occupied the chair, and the whole meeting was marked by an unusual amount of interest and enthusiasm. We condense a report of the proceedings from the columns of the city dailies:—

The Executive Committee's report was presented, recommending that Scott Act work be commenced immediately, and that the necessary petitions be prepared and placed in the hands of canvassers.

Mr. A. A. Farley said the petitions to submit the Act should be got out without delay, and arrangements should be made for holding public meetings in favor of the Act. If the Act was to be submitted this fall there was not too much time to prepare for it.

Mr. James Thomson said that many of the Ward Associations were at "death's door," simply because there was nothing for them to do. About October or November would be the proper time to submit the Act, and it was necessary to commence work immediately.

Mr. Jolliffe fully coincided with Mr. Farley and the Secretary, and urged the immediate commencement of a vigorous campaign.

Mr. Park thought that it would be unwise to proceed rashly in the matter, and that organization ought to be thorough before the campaign was commenced.

Mr. F. S. Spence thought the public sentiment in Toronto was not ready for it yet. The city of Toronto, he thought, should not vote on the Act until every county in the Province had voted on it. If the Act was defeated in Toronto, it would have a bad effect on the counties where the Scott Act campaign was now in progress. If the campaign was commenced now in Toronto the counties where the agitation is now going on would wait to see the result in this city. They should not be in a hurry to get out the petitions before the city was thoroughly organized.

Mr. Robert McLean agreed with most of the speakers, who had gone before. He was of the opinion that the Scott Act would carry in Toronto when submitted, but he wanted to see thorough organization before work was commenced, and he would do all he could to aid in securing this.

Several of those present expressed their opinion in the matter.

The Chairman said that during the Dunkin Act fight he had acquired a good deal of experience. A great many votes went against them and a great many votes were not given on account of there being no organization. The matter of funds was a very serious one, which should not be left till the fight was begun. The first thing they wanted to feel was that they had a complete organization. He did not yet feel that. They must get into shape for winning. He thought they should post the people as to what effect the Scott Act would have. They must circulate literature to show the workman that it was in his interest. It was the workman in this city who was going to carry the Scott Act, and he most needed it. He thought the contest would be brought on this year, but he wanted to be sure of winning it. The brewers and distillers were to-day at their fullest strength, they were ready for the contest. They were now spoiling for a fight, and it was well to let them spoil. He was not willing to commence the battle till they had got the troops in array and all the officers at their posts. Just so soon as they were prepared they could go in and win.

The following resolutions were then moved and adopted:—

"That further consideration as to the circulation of Scott Act petitions in Toronto be postponed until the Secretary is able to report that the Ward Associations are organized, and the canvass books ready, and canvassers appointed for the work."

"That all Ward Associations complete organization and report this day month, also that all temperance societies and organizations report funds at the next meeting for the contest."

"That the Ward Associations be urged at once to proceed to hold public meetings to advocate the Scott Act."

"A Committee was then appointed to act in conjunction with the Provincial Alliance in the matter of raising funds. The question of petitioning the Provincial License Commissioners as to certain matters was left to the Executive Committee."

The meeting then adjourned.