

THE CAMP FIRE.

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W. F. BROCKENSHIRE, G.C.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE, I. O. G. T.

The 42nd Session of the Grand Lodge is at hand, and will no doubt be one of unusual interest.

From different parts of the Province ~~that women favored to the~~ temperance cause will meet to consult and plan for the advancement of that cause.

These men and women meet in the name of one of the strongest and most powerful prohibition organizations of the world.

It was founded forty-four years ago, with a purpose and a plan that have proved wonderfully successful and useful.

Started in a humble form by a few earnest workers it now girdles the globe with a net-work of lodges, and exerts a mighty influence for good.

The last reported membership was 423,039. In addition to this great army of men and women, there were also enrolled 160,804 girls and boys. Speaking in round figures, the Good Templar forces to-day total over 600,000 souls.

They are distributed among about 11,000 subordinate lodges, which are united in about 90 different Grand Lodges. There is scarcely a land or language in which this Order is not at work.

In every Province of the Dominion, and in nearly every one of the United States, are strong and aggressive Grand Lodges. In different countries of Europe, in Africa, in Australia, in the West Indies, in New Zealand, in India, in Tasmania, and in many of the Islands of the Seas, the good work is going on.

The ritual is translated into many languages, and probably at every moment of time, Good Templar lodges in some place or other, are carrying on their work.

The numerical strength of an organization is, however, no adequate measure of its strength and value. Good Templary writes its most valued records, not in statistics and tables, but in hearts and homes all round the globe.

No one could estimate, for no one knows the blessings that it has been the means of bestowing upon suffering humanity.

Through its agency many a victim of evil appetite has been rescued from the terrible thralldom. Wives that were worse than widows, and children that were worse than orphans, have had restored to them the blessings of love, protection and home.

Eternity alone will reveal the vast results that have been accomplished through the self-denying labors of Good Templary workers.

The Order is not proportionately as strong in Ontario as in some other parts of the world. There are other similar organizations here that are bearing part of the burden. The tone of society generally, in relation to the liquor traffic, is higher than in any other country. Religious, social and political organizations here are doing the work that falls mainly on our Order in other lands.

We have still, however, a responsibility and a duty that must not be ignored. It is the privilege of our workers to carry the advance banner in the civilizing march of this great reform.

~~There are probably 100,000 women~~ and men in the Province of Ontario alone, stalwart soldiers for the temperance cause, who received their first training in Good Templar lodges. This Order has been the school from which have graduated the leaders and workers that in other temperance societies in the different churches and in the political arena, are so bravely aiding the cause to which they will stand true.

We are living, however, not in the past, but in the present for the future. To-day, Good Templary is carrying on the same quiet, unostentatious, effective work for which it has always been noted. That work will go on while the liquor traffic and its inevitable results are here to curse and degrade humanity.

To the earnest Good Templar, the Order, the successful machine, is valuable simply because it has been the means of attaining results. He values no name, no pass-word, no shibboleth, his object and desire are the attainment of valued results. Good Templary helps him to attain those results, and so he loves and labors for Good Templary.

In this spirit let us all take up the work of the coming session, and that session cannot fail to mark another step in advance, a nearer approach to the time when the legalized drink crime will no more curse our fair Canada.

GOOD TEMPLARS.

The Annual Session of the Good Templars' Grand Lodge for the Province of Ontario, meets in Toronto on the 10th inst. In view of this fact we have published in the present CAMP FIRE, an address to the members of that organization, and also present our readers with portraits of the three principal officers, the Grand Chief Templar, the Grand Vice-Templar, and the Grand Councillor. We feel certain that temperance workers of all classes will be interested in the report of this organization.

To-day the churches are in the front of the fight for prohibition. They are making success possible. There are, however, other organizations that are doing magnificent work. It would be impossible to over-rate the value of the service of the W.C.T.U. The Royal Templars have of late years made the most rapid progress in this country. The Sons of Temperance is the oldest of all these organizations. The Independent Order of Good Templars is to-day, taken as a whole, the strongest. Some years ago, it was numerically the largest in Ontario as it still is in the Dominion of Canada, and in the world.

A GREAT TEMPERANCE GATHERING.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUPREME LODGE I.O.G.T., MEETS IN BOSTON, JUNE 26 TO JULY 3.

The coming session of the International Supreme Lodge of Good Templars in Boston, June 18 to July 3, is awaken-

ing a widespread interest. The order now numbers about 500,000 adult members, and 200,000 in its juvenile department. It is thus by far the largest temperance organization in the world, and has obtained a foothold on every continent. From the day of its origin, in 1851, it has occupied an advanced position, standing for total abstinence and the entire prohibition of the liquor traffic.

The Supreme Lodge is a representative body, and meets every

two years. Dr. D. H. Mann, of Brooklyn, N.Y., is the present right worthy Grand Templar. The Boston session, which will commence on June 26, will last about eight days. It will be preceded by a two-day session of the International Juvenile Institute. Among the more prominent members who will be present are Dr. D. H. Mann, R.W.G.T.; Col. B. F. Parker, R.W.G.S.; Samuel D. Hastings, P.R.W.G.T.; Hon. S. B. Chase, chancellor of course of study; Miss Charlotte M. Gray, of England, I. S. L. organizer;



MISS J. ROBERTS, G.V.

Hon. Edward Wavrinsky, M. P., of Sweden; Mrs. H. R. Stakesby-Lewis, nee Schriener, of South Africa; Rev. M. B. Hogg, of Ireland; Hon. W. H. Lambly, of Quebec; Oronhyatekha, M.D., P.R.W.G.T.; W. W. Turnbull, of Scotland, P.R.W.G.T.; Hon. Joseph Malins, of England; Amanda M. Way, Albert Dodge, Gen. Walter S. Payne, "Mother" Stewart, Col. J. J. Hickman, Lou J. Beauchamp, Col. G. W. Bain, and W. Martin Jones.

The plans for the session, apart from the business to be transacted, include a reception by Governor Greenhalge, trips to points of interest, and several public gatherings. On Tuesday evening, June 25, a public reception will be given to the Supreme Lodge by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. On Thursday evening a banquet will be held, with not less than 1,000 plates. It is expected that about 5,000 Good Templars will be in Boston during the week of the session.—*The Voice*.

A CATHOLIC VIEW.

At the Catholic temperance congress held in Chicago recently, Father Maddock of Winona said that of the effectiveness of prohibition in suppressing intemperance, there could be no honest difference of opinion. "Where no liquor is to be had," he said, "men will not drink. The reformed drunkard is always in danger of returning to his cups while the saloon stands invitingly open on every corner. But close those saloons, and he cannot fall. It is the duty of every good Catholic to work with might and main for the enactment of prohibitory laws. But he should not cease his efforts there. The only benefit of this legislation comes from its enforcement, and officers sworn to execute the law should be compelled to do their duty."—*The Constitution*.

We are even threatened with a veritable reign of the saloon, so effectually has the unprincipled office-seeker succeeded in establishing there his stronghold and the gathering place of his unsavory cohorts. Temperance and civic reform must go hand in hand. The reign of decency and order will never be assured until it shall cease to be possible for beer and whiskey to choose for us municipal officials from highest to lowest.—*The Standard*.



J. D. ANDREWS, G.C.T.