

Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

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The Temperance Worker

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

TO NEW READERS.

Why should any of you be without such a complete family newspaper and organ of the temperance reform as this one, when it is given for the sum of fifty cents a year, under a cent a week, and ten copies at the rate of forty cents each.

TO OLD READERS.

Cannot you undertake to do a little work for yourselves and us in spare time by drumming up a few subscribers under our club terms? You can at least, if you like the paper, speak a good word for it, and aid its influence and strength for good. In either way you would win our gratitude as you now possess our good wishes. All orders to be addressed JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, Canada.

TO TEMPERANCE WORKERS.

Upon your good-will and mindfulness the *Weekly Messenger and Temperance Worker* largely depends for fresh news of every section of the great army of temperance, as well as for the extension of its patronage and influence.

OVERSHOOTING THE MARK.

What strange positions advocates of the liquor traffic often place themselves in when trying to make out a case, and thoughtless persons with no respect for the business are often misled by them. Everyone must be familiar with the argument against local restriction of liquor-selling, which holds that it is anomalous for the national government of a country to treat strong drink as an article of legitimate commerce, collecting revenue from it, and then allow the minor authorities to restrict trade in the article. This has ever been the cry when it was attempted to check the business under a license system. It seems to be forgotten that what is here regarded as anomalous is a well-recognized principle in the laws of every civilized country. Many articles that would be unsafe in certain hands and in particular circumstances are hedged about with restrictions as to ownership, sale, storage, quantities, and so on, of which it is only necessary to mention the two classes of merchandize, explosives and poisons. Those who use the argument in question are the very ones, usually, who, when it is proposed to entirely prohibit the traffic, say that is too radical and, instead of attempting to do away with what they now meekly admit to be an evil, they think it should be regulated by means of taxes and license fees. Again, in places where prohibition is the law of the land under either local option or direct legislation, it is incessantly urged against it that it is inoperative and a dead letter, and that more liquor is sold and drunk than would be the case if free trade in the article existed or its regulation by license was the policy in force. How much belief they have in such a statement of the case is shown by the supreme efforts

that are made on the part of the traffic to overthrow the laws that are held to be inoperative. Very many people, not friendly at all to the liquor traffic, are found imbued with these and similar views upon the temperance question, and that is one reason why aggressive temperance campaigns are often so difficult to push even among a comparatively sober people. Those who would hail with satisfaction the complete overthrow of the enemy should be guided by a resolve to fight it wherever it presents a vulnerable front. Thus while the shield of law protects it as an article of commerce at the national gates, let it be met and withstood where existing legislation allows the people to throw up a line of defences—at the borders of the county, city or town—and let those on the side of right be ever earnest in seeking extension of such self-protective privileges, always, however, looking and working for the closing of the national gates against the adversary.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

THE NATIONAL DIVISION.

The thirty-ninth annual session of the National Division began at Ocean Grove, New Jersey, on July 11th. An increase in the membership of 6,248 during the year 1882 was reported by the Most Worthy Patriarch, which number has been more than doubled the first six months of this year. He felt safe in saying the Order was stronger in North America that day than it was eighteen months previously, by 13,000 members. This progress is remarkable, being more than three times as great as that reported last year, when a net gain for 1881 of 2,017 was reported. There is \$1,678.44 in the funds, and the National Division owes nothing. Our readers will be delighted to hear that the next meeting of the National Division will be held in the Dominion, Halifax, N. S., being the chosen place. It appears the Grand Division of Nova Scotia is the largest in the jurisdiction, having a membership of 8,888 and contributing \$444.40 to the National funds, Pennsylvania comes next, with 6,467 members and \$323.75, and Ontario stands third, with a membership of 5,225 and a contribution of \$261.25. A recommendation of the M. W. P. of much importance to Canada was favorably reported upon by a special committee, but further action was deferred until next annual session. It was that two-fifths of the *per capita* tax received from the Grand Divisions of the British Provinces be used by a special committee of five, whose residence shall be in British North America, for the purpose of extending and propagating the Order in the British Provinces, and said committee make a detailed report of the expenditure of said fund to the Most Worthy Patriarch, and the Most Worthy Patriarch be authorized to draw upon the Most Worthy Treasurer for the amount of the fund, or any part thereof, when the special Propagation Committee shall have reported to him how said fund is expended. The committee also adopted, in effect, a proposal to divide the National jurisdiction into five propagating districts, of which the

Dominion and Newfoundland will constitute one.

THE ORDER IN ONTARIO.

Four new Divisions have been organized in the Province of Ontario since the semi-annual session.

Returns from subordinate Divisions in the Province of Ontario for the quarter ending March show an increase of six hundred members over the previous quarter.

"Coldstream" Division, Toronto, has a membership of 217, and is the largest Division in the Province. Bowmanville is next in point of numbers, reporting a membership of 183. Bradford admitted twenty-two new members during the second quarter since it was organized and now numbers 108 members.

Considerable interest is manifested in the Sons of Temperance Mutual Relief Society, and a good many members are taking advantage of this cheap and reliable system of insurance. None but Sons of Temperance are admitted.

"Lunenburg Rock" is the name of a new Division just started in Lunenburg town, Nova Scotia, with the following principal officers:—James H. Brown, W. P.; Andrew Gardner, W. A.; H. L. Rudolf, R. S.; E. L. Nash, Treas.; Albert Anderson, F. S.; Caleb Spindle, Chap. The Rev. D. S. Fraser, County Deputy, officiated at the organization.

GOOD TEMPLARS.

The Grand Lodge of New Brunswick held its thirteenth annual session in Hillsboro, commencing on the 17th inst. On the evening of the opening the Grand Chaplain, the Rev. J. McG. McKay, preached an excellent sermon to a very large congregation in the Baptist Church. Addresses were also delivered by R. M. Taylor, Esq., G. W. C. T.; C. Powers, G. W. C.; S. H. Galbraith, G. W. Sec., and J. R. Pidgeon, Esq. The choir of the church furnished good music on the occasion. The attendance at the session was quite large and much interest and enthusiasm were manifested throughout the various meetings. A large amount of business was transacted and a determination evinced to still further extend the branches of the order. The reports all tended to show the Order in a very prosperous condition. On Thursday a social picnic, by the ladies of East Albert, was the order of the day. The delegates returned home highly pleased with the state of the Order in Hillsboro, and the hearty reception accorded them. The following are the officers for the coming year:—Bro. J. R. Pidgeon, G. W. C. T.; Bro. R. C. Colpitts, G. W. Coun.; Sister R. M. Taylor, G. W. V. T.; Bro. Saml. Tufts, G. W. Secy.; Bro. Rev. M. Gross, G. W. Chap.; Bro. G. M. Stewart, G. W. M.; Sister Maud Colpitts, G. W. D. M.; Sister Isabella Gross, G. W. I. G.; Bro. Millidge Cameron, G. W. O. G.; Bro. J. Hetherington, G. W. M.; Bro. R. M. Taylor, P. G. W. T.

FRUITS OF THE TRAFFIC.

Mrs. Buchanan, whose drunken husband stabbed her lately, in Toronto, was not expected to live at last accounts.

A leading Quebec French paper has had a leading article, of which the following is a translated extract:—"The number of accidental deaths in Quebec within the past six months has been fearful. Drunkenness has played a large part in this sad harvest. We are really afraid to maintain a guilty silence in not stigmatizing in a striking manner each death caused by drink. Family chagrins and the grief of friends arrest our pen. We are wrong perhaps to have so often ceded to these considerations, for the scourge of intemperance augments in alarming proportions. There must certainly be a remedy to the evil. Christian preaching evidently no longer suffices and the secular arm must be placed at the service of religion and of morality. It cannot be denied that our country is overrun by drunkenness."

NEWS AND NOTES.

The striking telegraph operators of New York at a meeting resolved to abstain from the use of intoxicants during the strike. It is to be hoped they will be so benefited by the temporary abstinence that they will make it permanent. Whatever grievances they may have, those of them who are habitual drinkers are guilty of the greatest imposition upon not only themselves but upon their families.

A large employer of labor in a western United States to a marked the bills with which he paid his workmen one Saturday night. Of the amount paid out, \$700, within a few dollars of one half (\$342) was deposited in the local savings bank the next week. This would have been very good showing had not the depositors been saloon keepers. The Illinois town is not singular, we feel certain, and a similar experiment on the part of a Halifax employer might show the same results. We know of one man, at least, who only takes one third of his earnings home on Saturday night. As he is employed in a liquor establishment, and drinks himself, no doubt his employer banks the balance every week. When a rum-seller can boast of having saved fifteen thousand dollars in less than fifteen years, in a shop scarcely big enough to "swing a cat," there must be profit in the trade for some one. That some one is not the drinker.—*Halifax Watchman.*

AT THE ANNUAL RIFLE MATCH at Wimbledon, England, this year, the English riflemen came off victorious over the American, but the latter did exceedingly well in view of the fact that they were not used to the peculiar condition of the air that prevailed most of the time and interfered with good aiming. In shooting for the famous Kolapore cup the Canadian team took second prize in competition with English, Scotch and Irish marksmen.