

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

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F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1883.

THE TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

4 THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

In accordance with our plan announced some time ago, we are giving from time to time brief statements of the history, position and prospects of the different Temperance Orders and Societies. The Sons of Temperance is one of our most useful and influential organizations, and we are happy to be able to give our readers a summary of its methods and aims in the following article, kindly furnished us by a prominent and active member of the Order:

"This organization was instituted in the City of New York, September 29th, 1842, to supplement, solidify and perpetuate the results of the Washingtonian Reformation. For forty-one years the Order has been working diligently and increasing in numbers and power. It is now composed of a National Division, forty Grand Divisions, and nearly three thousand Subordinate Divisions, embracing every State and nearly every Territory of the Union—also, Canada, Great Britain, and the Islands of both the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, and it has enrolled more than three millions of persons. Its fundamental principle is total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks. It presents a fraternal combination to meet and overcome the social allurements of intemperance and the combined influence of the liquor traffic. Its beautiful and instructive ritual, filled with the spirit of love, and self sacrifice for the welfare of others, appeals to the highest faculties of human nature. The

plain and simple constitution, practical code of laws, sound financial basis, co-operation, sympathy and union with the moral and Christian elements of the country, are making it one of the most powerful agencies against intemperance and the liquor traffic in the world. The growing temperance sentiment of the country necessitates permanent organization, in order that the good accomplished by the Murphy Movement and previous efforts may be perpetuated. The experience, moral, numerical and pecuniary strength of the Sons of Temperance, offers every advantage necessary to satisfy the requirements of such an organization. Its membership is composed of the best class of persons of both sexes, old and young, who are actuated by a common purpose of reclaiming the fallen and throwing around them an influence calculated to benefit them morally, socially and intellectually.

The Order aims to educate the children in the principles of total abstinence, through organizations of the Cadets of Temperance, superintended and managed by the Divisions, and create a widespread public sentiment in favor of total abstinence, and to support and aid in carrying forward ALL movements designed to suppress the vice of intemperance. Not only does it aim to reform and save the drunkard, but also seeks to throw safeguards around the innocent, which shall prevent them from becoming victims to the vice of intemperance.

The Division Room is an educator, and possesses the charm of a social circle, where there exists the warm fraternal feeling and a community of interest. Those who enter this group come into an assembly of sympathetic friends, who receive them into cordial fellowship, and take a kindly interest in their welfare. As the bar-room has its social fascinations, so this Order aims to render temperance attractive. In addition to the social features, new and beautiful ceremonies are employed. The exercises at the regular meetings are always of an interesting character, being an agreeable blending of business and social recreation. Its grand purpose is indisputably an offspring of the gospel. Its principles, laws and practices are in accordance with its motto, "Love, Purity and Fidelity."

Since the Order was first instituted, it has been steadily at work saving the fallen and advancing temperance sentiment among the people. Many of the leading and most influential statesmen and orators, of the past and present, commenced their work in the Division Room, and owe a portion of their success to the Sons of Temperance, of which they are still members."

The Order in Ontario now consists of over 200 Subordinate Divisions and over six thousand members, and is steadily increasing in number and influence.

A full list of Subordinate Divisions and of Grand Division officers will be found on another page of the present number of THE CANADA CITIZEN.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

The "Temperance Vote" of every municipality ought to be a factor of importance at every election. In many places it may not be strong enough to nominate and select its own men, but it can always—if united—hold a balance of power, and by its influence secure the election of the nominated candidate most in accordance with its own views.

Canvassing will soon commence in anticipation of the January municipal elections. Now is the opportunity for our friends to combine, and flinging aside unworthy sectionalism, rally to the support of an effort to secure the representation of temperance sentiment in every council.

Municipal councils can do much in the way of restricting the liquor-traffic. They have power to limit the number of licenses, raise the standard of accommodation for the travelling public, and raise the license fee to any amount not exceeding two hundred dollars. By the exercise of this power, municipal councils could do a great