

# The Camp Fire.

A. MONTHLY JOURNAL OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE

ADDRESS . . . TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year

NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers.

The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—If shorter, still better.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1901

## DRINK AND CONSUMPTION.

At the recent congress held in London to consider the question of tuberculosis, at which Dr. Koch read the famous paper which has created so much controversy among scientific men, there was presented another paper which also dealt with a matter of intense interest. It was submitted by Professor P. Brouardel, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Paris, a scientist of the highest standing. He was introduced to the Congress as "the greatest living sanitary authority in Europe."

Professor Brouardel's address dealt mainly with the causes of tubercular infection and the methods of preventing contamination. He spoke of the necessity of legislation as well as of private personal effort, pointing out the necessity of law going so far as to interfere with our daily life and habits when the public welfare demanded such measures.

The learned professor also took up the question of the relationship of the consumption of alcoholic liquors to the propagation of tuberculosis, and in this connection made some statements so strong and important that they ought to have the widest possible circulation. The following extracts show clearly the scope and clearness of his opinions on the question:

"Baudran, of Beauvais, has shown that mortality from tuberculosis and from alcohol are nearly identical.

"In this connection he obtained the following results:—

Deaths from Tuberculosis	Deaths from Consumption of Alcoholic Liquors
30 to 40	12.47
40 to 50	15.21
50 to 60	14.72
70 to 80	16.36
80 to 90	17.16
More than 90	50.70

"Any measures, State or individual, tending to limit the ravages of alcoholism will be our most precious auxiliaries in the crusade against tuberculosis, but the question is too large a one to deal with here. Still, I should like to draw attention to a mistake made too easily in the different countries by ministers who have the charge of the financial department of the State. They like to calculate the sum the State gets from the duty on alcohol, but they should deduct from it the cost to the community of the family of the drunkard, his degenerate, infirm, scrofulous children, who must have shelter.

"This invasion of alcoholism ought to be regarded by every one as a public danger, and this principle, the truth of which is incontestable, should be inculcated into the masses, that the future of the world will be in the hands of the temperate.

"Unhealthy dwellings cause other disasters. Dark and crowded as they are, cleanliness is difficult, if not impossible to preserve; they are not pleasant to pass the time in, and the workman stays in his home as little as possible; he eats there and sleeps there, but the rest of his time is spent in the public house. J. Simon was right in saying: 'The wretched lodging is the purveyor of the publichouse,' and we can add to it that the publichouse is the purveyor of tuberculosis.

"In fact, alcoholism is the most potent factor in propagating tuberculosis. The strongest man who has once taken to drink is powerless against it. Time is too short for me to draw comparisons between the laws in force in different countries, those which are proposed, private efforts, associated efforts, and temperance societies. But I can say that a universal cry of despair rises from the whole universe at sight of the disasters caused by alcoholism.

"I will quote but two sets of statistics but they speak for themselves. Tatham's show that the mean mortality being represented by 100, that caused by tuberculosis is in:

Butchers	105	Haw Dressers	149
Coalmen	116	Strolling musician	174
Coachmen	124	Dock Laborers	176
Publicans	140	Pedlars	239
Sweeps	141	Barmen	257
Brewers	148		

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The New Voice Washington Bureau publishes a statement to the effect that the brewing interest is being developed in Japan. At the same time there is a great increase in the foreign liquor imported.

The Sovereign Grand Lodge of British North America of the Orange body, at its annual session in Toronto, voted down by a large majority a proposal to exclude liquor sellers from membership in the Order.

An affidavit has been published, made by two ex-liquor sellers of the city of Kansas, declaring that they had been in the habit of paying a sum of money monthly to County Attorney Tracy, of Pottawatomie County, in consideration of which he refrained from prosecuting them for violation of the law.

At the 40th anniversary of the United Kingdom Band of Hope Union, held some time ago at Exeter Hall, London, the Secretary reported that there were now in operation 28,894 Bands of Hope, with an aggregate membership of 3,536,000, this year, showing an increase of 354 societies and 31,000 members.

Two convicts in St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary endeavored to gratify an alcoholic appetite by drinking spirits in which shellac had been dissolved for use as paint. The stuff taken made them seriously ill, and one of them, Gideon Deguire, succumbed to the deadly effects of the poisonous drug.

The official estimate of the amount of liquor consumed in the United States for the year ending June 30th, 1900, was 1,349,176,037 gallons, which is by far the largest in the history of the country. It is estimated that the cost to the consumer was \$1,172,491,445, being an average per capita expenditure of \$15.

## IMPORTANT.

TORONTO, 1901

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