

## The Ontario Conventions.

**S**OME people wonder what the two Ontario political conventions were held for. Resolutions emulating each other in pharasaism are adopted with enthusiasm, but beyond working up a certain amount of mock enthusiasm and displaying red light nothing came of either convention. Still the resolutions adopted are worth summarizing, and the liquor resolution especially passed by the Liberal gathering. That resolution read as follows:—

1. Any legislation against the drink evil in the interest of the people of Ontario.

2. In any municipality a vote on Local Option can be brought on by a petition signed by 25 per cent of the ratepayers without reference to or action by the Municipal Council. If desired the people can chose between abolishing the bars, restricting the present license law, or putting the business under Government control.

3. No new licenses are to be issued in New Ontario, the Government to take charge of the sales for medicinal purposes.

4. In license municipalities no new licenses shall be issued except on the petition of 50 per cent of the electors of the polling sub-division interested.

5. Any license holder convicted twice of violating the law shall lose his license.

A clause recommended by the more extreme element of the temperance people read as follows:—

“That in each municipality a vote be taken at the municipal election of 1906, on the questions of abolition of the bar and abolition of the shop licenses, the result to be decisive, and to go into effect at the expiration of the then outstanding licenses and that all necessary legislation be introduced in the meantime to enable this to be done. In municipalities in which licenses are continued, a similar vote may be taken at any time after three years.

This was warmly debated and finally voted down by a large majority. The local option law as at present in force is the basis of the plank adopted by the convention with some amendments. Other resolutions adopted were as follows.—

Moved by Mr. Robert Holmes, ex-M. P., Clinton, seconded by Mr. F. L. Costello: “That this convention desires to place on record, on behalf of the Liberal party of Ontario, an expression of implicit confidence in the Hon. Geo. W. Ross and the government of which he has been for the last five years, and is at the present time Premier. The legislation of the province during his Premiership has been progressive and always in the right direction, even if the majorities have been small. He has never shrunk from grappling with important measures and has been invariably successful in carrying them through. The administration of the affairs of the Province has been able, energetic, prompt and honest throughout the several departments. This convention would regard a change of Administration of the present time as fraught with danger to the best interests of the Province, and however long the record of the Liberal party may have been in controlling the public affairs, the best interests of this Province at the present time demand that its Government shall be continued under the Premiership of one whose name is a household word, not only for this Province, but throughout the Dominion as that of a man of great ability, progressive ideas and sterling integrity.”

The convention was addressed by members of the cabinet. As sworn of office the reconstructed Ross cabinet is as follows:—

Hon. G. W. Ross, Premier and Treasurer.

Hon. F. R. Latchford, Attorney General.