

Whereas ample warning has been given those in the liquor business to reduce their capital or retire from it entirely, and

Whereas very high profits have been made out of the business while it has continued,

Therefore it is the decided opinion of this Convention that no compensation in the case is demanded either in law or equity.

5. "That the Convention would beg to recommend that the 14th of December be observed as the temperance Sunday throughout the Province, and that the ministers of the various denominations be respectfully requested, as far as practicable, to observe said Sabbath as the temperance day.

6. "That this Convention cannot recognize any license law, whether high or low, as an aid to prohibition.

7. "That the Committee respectfully recommend that the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Alliance be held on the second Tuesday in January.

8. "That this Convention rejoices to see a growing interest and activity in the various denominations of the Christian Church in respect to the prohibition of the liquor traffic."

9. "That the Convention desires to express strongly its sense of the loss sustained in the death of the late Rev. Thos. Gales, Secretary of the Dominion Alliance, and extends its sincere sympathy to his family.

10. "That the Ontario Branch of the Alliance secure the services of a Solicitor."

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd were carried. A considerable discussion arose upon the 4th. There was a difference of opinion as to the expediency of making such a statement. All the speakers, however, without hesitation condemned the idea of compensation. It was decided to let the resolution lie upon the table.

The 5th resolution was carried.

It was agreed that before discussing the 6th resolution the Convention should hear a paper kindly prepared by Mr. James Thomson, on the subject of "High License." On account of Mr. Thomson's absence through illness, his paper was read by the Secretary. The paper deplored the lamentable indifference of society to the terrible evils of intemperance, but recognized the fact that in every quarter of religious, political and social life, there was an awakening to the exigencies of the position and the necessity for remedial measures. The great factor in all successful agitation is moral suasion. Men must be convinced before law can be enforced, and legislation should advance step by step as the people are able to bear it. Speaking metaphorically, our most advanced communities might be called a University class, ready to graduate in total prohibition. With another intermediate one, not so favorably situated, a policy of restriction and limitation would be the only safe one to adopt. But there are communities still less educated, in which we can only work with such laws as now exist. These form our primary class in temperance education. In each class the work must be done thoroughly. All law must be enforced. If the people are not ready for prohibition we should make license laws as stringent as possible. High License is advocated only as a stepping stone towards prohibition. Prohibition must ultimately be our law. In Ontario the maximum limit for licenses is, in cities, \$260; in towns, \$230; in incorporated villages, \$220, and in townships, \$212. But these fees can be increased by a by-law submitted to and approved of by the people. In places where the Scott Act can not be carried, a measure of high license may find favor, and would diminish sensibly the extent of the liquor traffic. It is right that the sale of a dangerous article should be taxed as high as possible.

After the reading of this paper the question was further discussed, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Thompson was carried.

After some further discussion the sixth resolution was unanimously adopted.

MR. BURGESS presented the following report of the

#### COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE:

Your committee beg to report that they have carefully considered the subject of Literature as an important and essential agency in the carrying on of our work, and offer the following recommendations to this convention:

1. That any county or city organizing for the passing of the Canada Temperance Act be advised to publish a campaign sheet, containing articles, facts, answers to objections and other matters directly bearing upon the subject, to be issued *weekly, fortnightly, or monthly*, as occasion may require during the campaign. As a guide to our brethren, we commend to their notice the fact that *The Citizen* Company of Toronto propose publishing such a sheet, which may be adapted to the local circumstances of any county or city, and that *The Appeal*, the organ of the Norfolk County Scott Act Association, published by the Rev. T. L. Wilkinson, of Waterford, and *War Notes*, published at the *Witness* office, Montreal, may also be so adapted. All of these papers are offered on extremely liberal and advantageous terms.

2. We strongly urge the desirability of the Alliance having a general publishing house or book room where the various works on temperance and prohibition may be obtained. That some publishing house should be treated with, to carry a suitable stock and publish Alliance literature.

3. We recognise the special value of such leaflets and pamphlets as Professor

Foster's Series of Scott Act Leaflets, the *Witness* tracts, Lessons of Statistics by Rev. R. Wallace, and the sermon by Canon Farrar, and urge the importance of supplementing such literature by the publication of short pithy tracts, giving distinct and definite Scott Act information.

4. We desire to express the obligations which the temperance people are under to a general newspaper press, which, to a very great extent, and in numerous instances, have rendered invaluable aid to our cause, and we tender especial thanks to those newspapers in the counties where the Scott Act has been voted upon, who have so nobly and generously supported us in the agitation.

5. That steps be taken by this Alliance to make more widely known and to increase the circulation of the valuable "Manual of Temperance and Prohibition," prepared and published by Prof. Foster.

6. That a further publication should be issued as early as possible on the relation of the liquor traffic to the trade, commerce, capital and material, wealth of the Dominion of Canada, giving Canadian facts and statistics of the liquor traffic and its results, together with arguments, illustrations, facts and statistics, shewing how the license system wastes our resources and checks our material progress. Such a work should contain actual data upon which our advocates could rely and give the authorities and sources from which all the statistics and facts are derived.

#### Referred to Executive.

In order to secure a first-class work a sum of money should be devoted either out of the funds or specially subscribed for its publication, out of which a prize of \$100 or \$200 should be offered and given for the best essay on the above subject.

The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th clauses were adopted. Those remaining were referred to the Executive committee.

REV. T. H. ABRAHAM, of Burlington, read to the convention the following statement:

At meeting of Prohibitory Alliance for the municipality of Burlington, held on the 21st March, it was resolved,

1st. "That the Scott Act has done away with the great temptation to drink—an open bar."

2nd. "That in our opinion that the use of intoxicants has greatly diminished."

3rd. "That it has not in any way injured other business, as attested by business men themselves."

4th. "That from what we have seen and know, of the working of the Scott Act here, that there are fewer violations of the Act than formerly."

5th. "We recommend the thorough organization of every county for this work, and the providing of sufficient means to carry on the campaign."

"It is our opinion that temperance sentiment is increasing, and that any effort to repeal the Act will fail."

A letter from Dr. Youmans, St. Catharines, was read, requesting that the counties of Haldimand, Lincoln, Wentworth and Welland should be formed into another group in which to submit the Scott Act during the year.

On motion it was decided that these counties should form another group for that purpose.

The Committee on Nominations presented the following report, which was adopted:

"We recommend that the officers of the Alliance for the year 1884-5 be as follows:

President: S. H. Blake.

Vice-Presidents: W. H. Howland, A. Farley, Hon. A. Vidal, Rev. J. Smith, Rev. J. M. Cameron, Rev. E. H. Dewart, D. D.; Rev. W. S. Griffin, Rev. D. L. Brethour, D. Millar, R. McLean, J. H. Flagg, John McMillan, Hon. J. G. Currie, John Kay, John T. Moore, Patrick Boyle, Rev. M. C. Cameron.

Treasurer: H. O'Hara.

Secretary: F. S. Spence.

Executive Committee: Rev. John Smith, Rev. R. Wallace, A. Farley, Rev. H. Johnston, G. M. Rose, T. Caswell, J. McMillan, J. Thomson, Jacob Spence, J. Dobson, J. H. Macmullan, R. J. Fleming, Geo. Flint, A. Bell, J. Blain, W. H. Orr, W. Burgess, W. G. Fee, G. Spence, T. W. Casey.

Rev. D. V. Lucas, Mr. J. R. Dougall, and Rev. H. McKellar, of High Bluff, Manitoba, made a few remarks in response to a resolution expressing the pleasure with which the convention regarded their attendance.

On motion of Rev. D. L. Brethour a vote of thanks was passed to the temperance friends of Toronto for the banquet given to the delegates. Votes of thanks were also passed to the railway companies, for reduced fare, to the Young Men's Christian Association, for invitation to make free use of their rooms, to the press for reports, and to the Temperance Reformation Society for the free use of the Temperance hall.

After the singing of the doxology Mr. Jacob Spence pronounced the benediction, and the convention closed.

#### Literary Record.

THE APPEAL.—Temperance literature is growing fast. We have received a copy of *The Appeal*, the stirring organ of the Norfolk County Scott Act Association. It is ably edited by Rev. T. L. Wilkinson, of Waterford, and will no doubt prove a powerful aid in the good cause. We wish it much success.