One of the judges, Judge Henry, was of opinion that the Act was invalid even as to these, but his opinion in that respect was not shared by the other members of the court. No reasons are given for the conclusions arrived at, but it is to be inferred from previous decisions that it is based on the fact that as the regulation of trade and commerce belongs to the Dominion, wholesale and vessel licenses properly come under that head, as relating to business frequently carried on in more than one province; whereas "s op, saloan, and tavern licenses" are by the Constitution specially assigned to the provinces. This leaves the Scott Act for the whole Dominion, and Provincial license laws for the various provinces. In some piaces it was represented that the Scott Act was on its trial; but as we pointed out a few weeks ago, the constitutionality of that Act had been established beyond question not only by the Supreme Court but also by the Privy Council.

SCOTT ACT ENFORCEMENT.

One of the most important matters to be discussed at the coming Convention is the question of Scott Act enforcement. It has been clearly demonstrated that the Scott Act as it now stands e in he worked with most encouraging results. Its operation has conclusively established the practicability and merit of prohibitory law It is not, however, a perfect piece of legislation, and experience his shown wherein it may be improved. Mr. Young, Police Magistrate of Halton, who will open the discussion upon this subject, is a practical man and of extensive experience. He will no doubt be be able to give sound counsel on this point. Another important phase of this subject is the question of how far it is the duty of citizens generally to organize and work specially for the carrying out of a law that officials are appointed to enforce. We must remember that the Scott Act has to cope with the anomaly of a a large, strong and wealthy organization that exists for the specific purpose of opposing it. We do not believe in the principle of enrolling our private citizens as a volunteer police force, but if unusually strong efforts are being put forth in antagonism to order and law, unusually strong efforts must be made in the interest of order and law. Wherever the Scott Act has been carried, the organization that secured it should still be retained, and should co-operate with, and aid, those whose duty it is to enforce the law, until such time as the degrading effects of whiskey-selling have to some extent passed away; and our communities are freer from the lawlessness and rowdyism, the disregard for social rights and civic authority, and invariably bred by the strong drink-traffic.



CNTARIO BRANCH

-OF THE-

DOMINION ALLIANCE

CONVENTION, 1885.

January 20th, 21st, and 22md.

PROGRAMME:

FIRST DAY,-TUESDAY.

10 a.m.-Opening exercises. Enrolment of delegates. Organization.

11 a.m.—Report of Secretary. Report of Treasurer. Report of Business Committee.

12 noon-Adjournment.

2 p.m.—Enrolment of Delegates. Reports of County Secretaries. Reports of Delegates.

4.30 p.m.—" Prohibitory work in Canada," introduced by Prof. G. E. Foster, M.P. New business.

Evening.—Reception to Delegates at Shaftesbury Hall. Tea served at seven o'clock.

8 p.m.-President's address, by Hon. S. H. Blake, Report of Literature Committee.

SECOND DAY,-WEDNESDAY,

9 a.m.—Reports of Committees.

9.30 a.m.—"Alcohol as a Cause of Disease," introduced by W. B. Geikie, Esq., M.D.

11 a.m.—"Lager Beer and Light Wines," introduced by W. H. Howland, Esq. 12.30 a.m.—Adjournment.

2 p.m.-Report of Finance Committee. Unfinished business.

3.30 p.m.—"The Constitutionality of the Scott Act," introduced by J. J. McLaren, Esq., Q.C.

The Improvement of License Laws," introduced by Wm. Houston, Esq. New Business.

THIRD DAY .- THURSDAY.

9 a.m.-Unfinished business.

9.45 s.m.-Report of Committee on Legislation.

10 a.m.—"Scott Act Enforcement," introduced by W. H. Young, Esq., Police Magistrate, Halton County.

2 p.m.-Unfinished business. Reports of Committees.

4. p.m.—Election of Officers. New Business. Report of Committee on Resolutions.

-NOTES.-

Delegates and members are requested to register their names as soon as possible after their arrival.

Tickets for the Tuesday evening meeting may be obtained from the Register Secretary.

It is hoped that there will be full discussion on all matters submitted to the Convention. Speakers are requested to be as pointed and brief as possible.

Mass meetings, to be addressed by prominent workers, will be held as follows:

Wednesday Evening—SHAFTESBURY HALL. Thursday Evening—ST. ANDREWS' HALL.

ADMISSION FREE.