

peated. I have known a medical practitioner, one of the most eminent and popular in his profession, utterly unable from intoxication to attend upon a poor woman in her hour of travail. Did time permit I could tell of many such cases where, in all grades of society, the moderate drinker has, at some time or other, taken just a little too much, and risked, if not lost, his reputation and position in life, and with them the means of providing for those who looked to him for support. In truth, no one is safe. Trusting in his own power of refraining from more than what he believes will do him no harm, the moderate drinker, standing on the so-called higher platform of moderation, points to himself as an illustration of what temperance should be. Ah! let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."—*Temperance Record*.

### Temperance News.

#### THE SCOTT ACT.

IN PARLIAMENT, OTTAWA APRIL 16TH.—Sir JOHN MACDONALD moved the second reading of the Act to amend the Canada Temperance Act of 1878 as passed by the Senate. He explained that under the prohibitory by-law it was to come into force within a certain period after the expiring of licenses. In counties where no licenses had been issued it was therefore impossible for the Scott by-law even to come into force. The bill now before the House would remedy this, by providing for cases where no licenses had been issued. Then the second part of the Act should come into force after thirty days from the issue of the Order in Council to that effect. The bill made similar provisions where the order in Council was already issued.

The bill was read a second time.

MR. MACKENZIE asked if the amendment was made at the instance of the temperance people.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD said it was.

The amendment was adopted.

MR. IVES drew attention to what he considered was an anomaly in the application of the local option provisions of the Act so far as passing a prohibitory by-law was concerned. It could be done by the smallest municipal organization known in any province. But local option for the purpose of a prohibitory by-law had not been so far given to any smaller jurisdiction than a county or city. He believed that in this particular those who were promoting prohibitory by-laws had a great advantage over those who did not believe in prohibition, and that the principle of local option had been inequitably extended much farther in favor of prohibition than in favor of the well-being with respect to the repeal of the prohibitory by-laws. He moved an amendment to the effect that where after the prohibitory by-law has come in force in a county, a town has been incorporated and made a separate municipal entity, the town or county may severally without linking in the other repeal the by-law and that where a separate municipal entry has been created before the passing of a prohibitory by-law either the remainder of the county or the incorporated town may pass such a prohibitory by-law.

MR. FOSTER thought the amendment would kill out the Canada Temperance Act in many of the counties of the Dominion and stop the efforts of the temperance people in the organized efforts they were making to carry the Act in various municipalities.

MR. FOSTER spoke amid great uproar, which rendered his remarks almost entirely inaudible.

MR. IVES replied amid similar disorder.

The amendment was lost on a vote of 46 to 45.

MR. IVES then introduced an amended providing that the municipal council of Richmond, Q., might pass a by-law repealing the Temperance Act within the limits of such municipality, providing that such by-law be approved by the majority of electors.

He spoke briefly upon the subject, but amid such confusion it was impossible to understand what he said. He was understood to represent that this Act was to a great extent a dead letter in the town and should be repealed.

MR. OUMET said he would vote against the amendment because this Parliament had no power to interfere with the municipal franchise. The motion was lost on a division.

MR. CAMERON (Victoria) rose amid great noise and confusion which continued during his speech. He said in effect that he had an amendment to propose which he was sure would be received with favor, seeing that the greatest temperance authority in the

House, the Finance Minister (Sir Leonard Tilley), was in favor of it. His amendment was to the effect that a three-fourths majority vote should be necessary to bring the Scott Act into force.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY said he had for a long time been strongly in favor of a three-fifths majority in permissive prohibitory Acts such as this, but when a similar amendment was proposed two years ago he declared he would be the last man to vote in favor of interference with the provisions of the Scott Act. He favored the three-fifths principle, but as the law provided that the fall of the Act in any county should be decided by the majority, he certainly would not vote for a change.

MR. CAMERON spoke evidently with some indignation, but the noise and interruptions were too great to enable more to be heard than a statement that the Finance Minister was by his own words pledged to vote for this motion.

The amendment was put and lost on a division.

The Committee rose and reported the bill to the House.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD then moved that the bill be read a third time.

MR. IVES re-introduced his first amendment and called for a division.

The amendment was lost; yeas, 55; nays, 93.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

SIMCOE.—A Convention was held at Barrie on the 15th inst. It is generally admitted that a detachment of the Salvation Army which pitched its tents in this town not long ago have done much to promote the growth of temperance sentiment and encourage the temperance people to enter upon their present energetic campaign for the adoption of the Scott Act in Simcoe. This convention of the friends of temperance in the county, from King to Muskoka, was held to-day to discuss the advisability of submitting the Act to the electors, and to devise means to carry out their object. The meeting was convened in the Young Men's Christian Association Hall. There was a very large attendance of the most enthusiastic workers in the cause. Rev. W. L. Scott was chosen Chairman of the Convention, and Mr. D. Murray, Editor of the *Orillia Times*, Secretary. The following resolution was unanimously carried:—

"That in view of the unmitigated evils from the traffic of intoxicating liquors, a traffic protected by the licensing system of the country, which we believe to be a great moral wrong, and inasmuch as the Dominion law gives us the power to spoil this traffic of the right of its strength, this Convention feels that the people of this county would be recreant to the best interests of all concerned if they did not take immediate steps to have the Canada Temperance Scott Act of 1876 submitted for adoption."

It was decided that a number of printed petitions be prepared to circulate throughout the various municipalities of the county, to be signed and sent to the Governor-General, praying that the Act be submitted to the ratepayers for their vote.

Valuable suggestions were given to the Convention by Mr. F. S. Spence of Toronto, and Mrs. Youmans. The meeting organized itself into a Scott Act Committee, and at the afternoon meeting appointed the following officers: President, Mr. J. G. Strong; Honorary Vice-President, Rev. Canon Morgan; Secretary, Mr. George Scroggie; Assistant do., Mr. R. J. Fletcher; Treasurer, Mr. A. Lang. Vice-Presidents from each municipality in the county were also appointed, whose duty it will be to organize local committees and call conventions in their respective localities to agitate in favor of the passage of the Act. Judge Ardagh was at first proposed as President of the Committee, and a deputation was appointed to wait on him and to ascertain if he would accept the position, and report to the Convention. The deputation subsequently reported to the Convention that Judge Ardagh had told them while he was in the deepest sympathy with them in the attainment of their object, it would be inconsistent for him as one of the License Commissioners under the McCarthy Act to be at the head of an organization that was formed to prevent any license being granted in the county, while in his official capacity he went about the county granting licenses to hotel-keepers.

It has not yet been decided when the Act shall be submitted, but it is likely that the campaign will last the summer and the Act will be voted on in the autumn.—*Globe*.

BRANT AND BRANTFORD.—A Convention was held at Brantford on Monday. The various delegates unanimously agreed that the city and county should work together with regard to the proposed submission of the Scott Act. Committees and officers were appointed with regard to the matter, both for the city and county, with the Rev. F. R. Beattie as General President, and a President