

THE LESSON APPLIED

Drink is a deadly foe of Canada to-day, as it was of Israel in the time of Amos. The fight of the brave prophet against drink is being continued in our own land. There is a loud call for helpers in this fight. And the victory is coming nearer every day.

THE FOE

Drink is a foe to material progress. Well on to a hundred millions of dollars was spent last year throughout Canada on strong drink. By the use of drink, the working power of the country is reduced by one-twelfth. What great enterprises might have been carried out with that wasted money and working power! Drink is a foe to physical well-being. Fatal diseases are often originated or accelerated by drink. One death, at least, out of every twenty in Canada, is drink caused. Drink is a foe to morality. Wherever the sale of drink is diminished, the convictions for crime decrease. The more drink the more crime, the less drink the less crime.

THE FIGHT

The fight against the drink evil in Canada has been a long and hard one. The churches have done their part in the instruction and warning of their people and in denouncing the traffic. Temperance organizations in all the provinces have carried the battle to the very gates of the enemy. The women of the country, individually and through their organizations, have greatly helped. The Sunday School, with its Quarterly Temperance Lesson, has kept the evils of intemperance and the benefits of abstinence constantly before its thousands of scholars. In the day school much has been done for the cause of temperance through instruction as to the ruinous effects of alcohol on body and mind.

Great victories have been won. In the Province of Prince Edward Island the liquor traffic is entirely prohibited. The whole of Nova Scotia, with the exception of the city of Halifax, is under prohibition. The same is true of three-fifths of New Brunswick. The sale of liquor is prohibited in three-fourths of the municipalities of Quebec. About the same proportion of the municipalities in Ontario are now "dry." Half the

municipalities of Manitoba prohibit liquor selling. In the comparatively new Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, there are Local Option Laws by which electors can secure the abolition of retail liquor selling; but these, as yet, have been adopted in only a few cases. Since, however, in these Provinces a license to sell liquor in any neighborhood cannot be obtained without the written consent of a very large proportion of the electors of such a neighborhood, there are comparatively few licenses in operation and the rural sections are mainly free from any legalized sale of liquor. British Columbia is the only Province of the Dominion in which there is no Local Option Law; but a vigorous campaign, however, is being carried on to secure such legislation, and this bids fair to be successful. In this sparsely settled Province there are few liquor licenses outside the cities and towns.

The following table shows the proportion of convictions for crime to the population of the various provinces, and proves conclusively that prohibition lessens crime:

One Conviction for

	People
Prince Edward Island	345
Nova Scotia	91
New Brunswick	115
Quebec	96
Ontario	64
Manitoba	49
Saskatchewan	75
Alberta	44
British Columbia	42

THE CALL

The fight is still on against the drink evil and there is a part for each good Canadian, old and young, to take in the battle. If a start has not been made by any one in our churches and Sunday Schools, it can be made to-day. The first step is to range oneself definitely on the side of temperance. One can hardly do this better, than by "signing the pledge." This will be a declaration to oneself and others of just where one stands. Then one can gather and scatter information as to the evils of drink and the best methods of overcoming them. And if