

Scott Act News.

COMPTON, QUE.—On Thursday, 14th inst, a most successful picnic in aid of the Scott Act agitation in Compton county was held in the sugar orchard of Mr. Smith, at Johnville. The weather was all that could be desired for the occasion, and the attendance was large and enthusiastic, the interest in the speeches being sustained throughout. Above 500 teams arrived on the grounds, and, including the arrivals by excursion train, there were present 2,000 persons. Mr. E. S. Orr, of Cookshire, presided, and was supported on the platform by the Rev. D. V. Lucas, Dr. Larac, Rev. Mr. Graham, Dr. Kink, Dr. Wales, Rev. E. A. King, rector of Point Levi, Rev. Mr. Purkis, Rev. G. H. Porter, Rev. J. Robinson, Rev. Thos. Constable, Rev. F. C. Reed, Rev. Joseph Eaves, Mr. R. J. Hutton, Rev. F. Powell and others. The Compton band was in attendance and performed during the intervals of the speeches. The W.C.T.U., of Compton, had a stall for the sale of provisions and temperance literature, and took a good many dollars.—*Casket*.

STANSTEAD.—A crowded meeting was held in the Baptist church, Conticook, on Monday evening, August 18th. The Rev. D. V. Lucas, secretary of the Provincial Alliance, delivered an address in favor of the Act, and the Anties were given a chance to reply, but none of them did so. A large committee was appointed to canvass the town for signatures to the petition. The temperance people have no fear about the result of the vote, as long as the Scott Act voters stand true to their trust.—*War Notes*.

ONTARIO.—A meeting of the Executive Committee was held last week at Port Perry, to receive reports, etc. The news from all parts of the county is encouraging in the extreme, already over 2,600 signatures have been obtained. The work of canvassing will be continued for two weeks more, by which time it is fully expected 1,000 names over the required one-fourth will have been obtained, when the petitions will be at once deposited with the proper officer, and an effort made to have the Act submitted as soon thereafter as possible. Seven municipalities did not report to-day, the eight which reported show that over 40 per cent. of the total number of voters in each have signed.—*Globe*.

HALTON.—It will be inexcusable if the Act is repealed because of the indifference of its friends, and such an event will paralyze effort elsewhere. Every man should be at his post, organization should be complete, and every vote favorable to the maintenance of the Act, polled. The leaders of the liquor party are working for personal interest; with them it is a matter of dollars and cents, and they will do their utmost. They should be made to see that those who work for God and humanity are under the most inspiring impulses, which can lead men to labor and sacrifice. There can be no doubt of the issue if every man does his duty.—*Christian Guardian*.

Mr. John McMillan, Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Sons of Temperance of Ontario, has issued a circular addressed to the several subordinate divisions of the Order in Ontario, soliciting a donation from each division in aid of the Scott Act defence fund for the County of Halton. Bytown and Chaudiere divisions in Ottawa have each already voted a donation from their funds to aid the friends of the Scott Act in Halton. It is understood that Chaudiere division is organizing a moonlight excursion to raise funds for the same object. The divisions in Toronto and in York County have also responded liberally to the call. Friends of the temperance and especially former members of the Order of the Sons of Temperance are invited to send any contributions they may desire to make to John McMillan, G. W. P., 397 Yonge-street, Toronto.

LANARK.—Mr. McLanahan, a young farmer near Balderson's, went to Perth a few days ago and as usual put his team in the Wilson House yard and went to Meighen's to transact his business. Returning for his horses, the porter stood at the gate and asked for fifty cents for the use of the shed. "You are a Scott Act man," said the sentinel, in effect, "and we are going to make you pay sweetly." "All right," was the cheerful reply. Several people of the McLanahan type have been similarly served. The hotel men have secured all

the signatures on the petitions praying for the submission of the Act, and thus know fully all who are aggressive. Those who are not outspoken, who are inactive, who are strong in principle, but weak in execution, are not troubled. Those only who expose themselves are shot at. All through the surrounding townships the hotel notices of magnified charges are posted up. In Lanark village, the hotels have not yet taken action. There is a good Temperance House in the place, which is a wholesome terror of evil doers. The hotel keepers in North Lanark are anxiously awaiting the results in South Lanark before signing their declaration of war. The *Courier* has heard the matter stated in this way. Under the old tariff, "use of stable, single horse, hay and oats," say 35 cents; 10 cents for the attendance, and 12½ cents each for hay and oats. The charge has been rarely known to exceed this. At present quotations oats cost 40 cents per bushel, and hay ten dollars per ton. There are eight feeds (a gallon each) in a bushel, and about three hundred in a ton of hay. That is, the hotels' old retail price was \$1 per bushel for oats, and \$37.50 per ton for hay; a profit of 60 cents per bushel, and \$27.50 per ton; and a very fair profit as the world goes. Under the new—"LIVE AND LET LIVE" tariff, the charge for "use of stable, single horse, hay and oats," is \$1, that is, say for attendance 25 cents, and 37½ cents each for a feed of hay and oats. Quoting the above prices, the present charges mean \$3 a bushel for oats, or a profit of \$2.60 on a bushel; and \$112.50 a ton for hay, or a profit of \$102.50 per ton. The new tariff is probably intended for the farmers.—*Carleton Place Canadian*.

The Rev. H. Cocks returned last week from a tour through the county in the interest of the Scott Act. His object was to learn the prospects, and to urge on those who were lagging behind. His reports are favorable to the party he represents. In most of the sub-divisions the petition will contain a majority of the electors. One of the canvassers in Lanark township received nineteen names out of twenty, and some in Ramsay have been nearly as successful. It is believed that few if any of the petitions will have less than 25 per cent. of the electors within their limits. In Almonte nearly half of the voters have signed the petition.—*Almonte Times*.

The *Toronto News* says:—"In the extremity of the Scott Act conflict political line fences are trampled out of sight, and the war rolls over both folds, and devastates and demoralizes both flocks. One-half of the population of Halton county cannot tell at the present time whether it is Grit or Tory. But every five-year-old child knows exactly where it stands on the Scott Act question.

"Liquor can be procured in Halton, but you've got to know the ropes, and know them well. It is all nonsense to say that whiskey flows in Halton. It does nothing of the kind. It merely dribbles, and you've got to pay for every dribble, too. A Halton whiskey-seller gets ten cents every time a man winks at him. Sometimes he gets more—sometimes he gets \$50 and costs or sixty days. As I said before, it can be got, at times, but only by a favored few. The treating system is totally abolished. The habit of dropping in for a drink is totally abolished, going on a spree is a thing of the past, and the only ones who can and do drink are a few of the old soakers and a few empty-headed young fools that imagine drunkenness and manliness synonymous terms. The Scott Act may not be all that its friends claim it to be, but is not what its foes say it is, by a large majority."

A man well known in Oro, and who came here from Halton, visited Milton lately. He stayed three days at the Wallace House, and saw no liquor sold, though he kept his "weather eye" open. He found all the appointments at the hotel as good as formerly, and the charges the same, with the additional advantage of freedom from the accompaniments of liquor drinking. He says that from his observation, not one-fiftieth of the quantity of liquor formerly drunk is sold there now. Treating open and drinking at the bar, at least, are things of the past.—*Orillia Packet*.

YORK.—A meeting in the interest of the supporters of the Scott Act was held in the town hall, Eglinton, Wednesday evening under the auspices of Union Star Lodge 266, I.O.G.T. The audience appeared to be entirely composed of persons favorable to the Act. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Milne, President of the Scott Act Association for York, and with him on the platform were Mr. W. H. Howland, Mr. F. S. Spence, and Rev. Mr. Gray.

The Rev. Mr. Gray opened the meeting with prayer.