

The Camp Fire.

A. MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

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ADDRESS - - TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year.

NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers.

The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1897.

A YEAR OF WORK.

It is almost certain that the Dominion Plebiscite campaign will be upon us during the year we have just entered. This will bring us into the heat of the hardest battle for the advance of the prohibition cause ever fought in Canada, perhaps in the world.

Out of this conflict we expect to win a magnificent victory for our cause. We hope to see it result in a law of total national prohibition for the Dominion of Canada.

Independently however, of this mighty boon, the campaign is absolutely certain to have a powerful effect in educating and moulding public opinion on the drink question. It will be the greatest opportunity ever offered to prohibitionists for the strengthening and up-building of the intelligent opinion upon which only any law can rest with safety.

In these facts we have the highest kind of incentives to earnest, determined, judicious work. We must let no prejudice or sectionalism interfere with the responsible duty that we have on hand. We must sink out of sight minor differences. We must completely abandon the discussion of side issues and unimportant details. TOTAL NATIONAL PROHIBITION is the question to be presented, argued and advocated. Matters regarding which we have differences of opinion, may well lie in abeyance, while we concentrate our energies on winning a splendid triumph out of this providential opportunity.

WEAPONS FOR THE WARFARE.

In the fight upon which we are just entering, literature will be a more potent factor than it has ever been before. The number of readers is greater than ever. The facilities for supplying them with printed arguments and appeals were never so great.

Two kinds of literature will be needed in the contest. In the first place writers and speakers will require such documents as "The Facts of the Case" in which they will find reliable information to form a basis of useful articles and addresses. In the next place we will need the condensed, forcibly presented campaign document for the use of the electors. In these campaign documents our facts and arguments must be stated clearly and forcibly. Many thousands of people have neither time or inclination to wade through volumes of statistics. They will read and be influenced by a brief, intelligent paragraph or address.

In another part of this journal will be found some information regarding the Camp Fire, and its use in this contest. We have very much pleasure in also recommending to our friends the War Notes published by Mr. J. R. Dougall, editor of The Montreal Witness.

In both these papers will be found just what is wanted for broad-cast sowing. The matter will be fresh, attractive and effective. The freeness from advertising will make it even more acceptable. The periodical form will make it more welcome still. Earnestly we urge upon prohibitionists to make all possible use of these valuable agencies.

THE PLEBISCITE.

A great mistake will be made by any prohibitionists who take time at the present crisis to discuss the coming plebiscite from the standpoint of party politics. Whatever may have been its origin, it now affords us an opportunity to crush the legalized liquor traffic in Canada and for that result every effort should be made. In the Dominion Parliament a plebiscite was advocated by both Conservatives and Liberals. Hon. George E. Foster and Hon. David Mills have both been among its strongest advocates. It was however, before the last election, made a part of the declared policy of the Liberal Party, so that when the present Government took office, it was with the definite pledge that a vote of the people would be taken on the question of total national prohibition.

The government is not only committed to the taking of a vote, but by the definite declaration of the First Minister, is committed to the promotion of legislation giving effect to the will of the people as declared at the polls. There is no uncertainty regarding this matter. Such a victory as we expect to win for the cause of prohibition means nothing short of legislation for the total suppression of the traffic in intoxicating beverages.

The liquor traffic recognizes this. Already there is sore anxiety in the ranks of our opponents. They are making preparations for a desperate fight. It will be a struggle in which the existence of the liquor business will be at stake. The outcome will either be a death-blow to the traffic or a further lease to it of life and power.

This is the crucial year. On every Christian woman and man a heavy responsibility rests. Everyone has a duty in relation to the contest in which everyone ought to have a share. Our full strength cannot be exerted unless we act unitedly. We must forget all differences and divisions and go into the contest as one man. The discussion of dead issues is worse than a waste of time. It is a dissipation of power.

For the sake of thousands of sin-cursed homes, for the salvation of thousands of imperilled souls and bodies, for the emancipation and elevation of our country and our people, let us go forward in the strength of God with this single inquiry. "What can I personally do to help in this serious crisis?" Let the inquiry be accompanied with decision to fearlessly obey the answer that judgment and conscience dictate. If we face the issue in the right spirit with the right determination, we are absolutely certain to win.

LOCAL OPTION.

A local option by-law was adopted on January 4th by the township of Madoc. The same day a vote was taken on a proposition to repeal a prohibitory by-law in the township of Pickering, the result being a good

majority in favor of prohibition. The liquor party has also been making a strenuous effort to do away with the prohibitory by-law in East Luther. A petition was circulated asking the Municipal Council to submit a repealing by-law. The temperance people immediately got up a counter-petition which in a short time received more than 300 signatures, making it absolutely clear that the people would not tolerate any change. The repeal petition was quickly dropped and prohibition stands.

The four townships of East Luther, Amaranth, East Garafraxa and West Garafraxa standing solidly together, are entirely free from license. In many other parts of the province a similar happy condition of affairs exist. It is worthy of note that in every place in which an attempt has been made to repeal a prohibitory by-law, under local option, the prohibitory by-law has been overwhelmingly sustained.

There is ample time now to start a campaign, have a prohibitory by-law passed through the different necessary stages, have a vote taken and prohibition under this legislation come into force on May 1st of the present year.

Local Option campaigning need not hinder, but may materially help preparation for the coming plebiscite. Prohibitionists of Ontario are urged to look sharply after this important matter and at once commence work in those localities in which sentiment is known to be strong enough to ensure the adoption of prohibitory by-laws.

CAMPAIGN EQUIPMENT.

The Vanguard, all numbers issued, in neat cloth binding, is the most important Canadian contribution yet made to the literature of the temperance and prohibition reform, containing over 650 pages full of invaluable arguments, facts and statistics, all reliable, fresh and good, fully and carefully indexed.

The People vs. The Liquor Traffic, a set of lectures by the late Hon. J. B. Finch, is one of the most forcible and comprehensive arguments for Prohibition ever made. Special Canadian edition, 240 pages. Fine cloth binding, price 40 cents.

The Camp Fire is a neat four-page monthly campaign journal, specially published for campaign work. It summarizes the latest news about the prohibition reform, and presents an array of live, pithy articles and brief statements of important and helpful facts and incidents. Subscription, 25 cents per year.

The two great books above named, will be sent postage pre-paid, and also THE CAMP FIRE to December, 1897 inclusive, to any person sending at once ONE DOLLAR to F. S. Spence, 51 Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

With these three sources of information, any pulpit, press or platform worker will be fully equipped for the great plebiscite campaign.

The number of books available for the purpose named is limited. First come, first served. Don't miss the opportunity.

Ripans Tabules.
Ripans Tabules cure nausea.
Ripans Tabules: at druggists.
Ripans Tabules cure dizziness.
Ripans Tabules cure headache.
Ripans Tabules cure dyspepsia.
Ripans Tabules cure flatulence.
Ripans Tabules assist digestion.
Ripans Tabules cure bad breath.
Ripans Tabules cure biliousness.
Ripans Tabules: one gives relief.
Ripans Tabules gentle cathartic.
Ripans Tabules cure torpid liver.
Ripans Tabules cure indigestion.
Ripans Tabules cure constipation.

AROUND THE WORLD.

NOTES OF NEWS ABOUT THE GREAT
CONFLICT.

CANADIAN.

ANOTHER STEP.

Lieutenant Colonel Kitson, recently placed in charge of the Royal Military College at Kingston, has abolished the use of liquors in connection with the Cadets Mess. This practically excludes intoxicants entirely from the establishment.

ANOTHER UNFORTUNATE.

A despatch from Cornwall, Ont. tells of a sad death just across the river, caused by intemperance. A man who had been out in the cold and drunk a great deal of liquor, threw himself on the floor beside the stove, refusing to get up. He was covered up carefully, but in the morning was found to be dead.

A PROHIBITION VICTORY.

Prohibitionists of Madoc township won a splendid victory on January 4th. A by-law under the Ontario Local Legislation was adopted by a majority of 123 out of a total vote of 613. This by-law will wipe out all the legalized bars in the township on May 1st.

NEWS FROM STANSTEAD, P. Q.

Prohibition sentiment is finding emphatic expression in the county of Stanstead, Que. The municipal election for Stanstead township has resulted in the return of a no-license Council. The same result was obtained at Rock Island and Beebe Plain. Arrangements are being made for public plebiscite meetings in different places.

A DRINK MURDER.

A fearful tragedy took place on Friday, Jan. 9th in the City of Montreal, resulting in the death of a young woman named Lucie Lessard, an inmate of a disreputable house, who while in a condition of intoxication was flung from an upstairs veranda over thirty feet from the ground. Her neck was broken by the fall and she lingered only a few hours. A man charged with her murder is under arrest.

LOCAL OPTION IN MANITOBA.

The Manitoba Branch of the Dominion Alliance held a special meeting in December for the purpose of laying plans for the pushing of local option work in the province. It was decided to send out a form of petition to be used by electors in requesting the submission of by-laws, and also a form of by-law to be adopted by Municipal Councils so as to prevent mistakes. It is expected that the local option campaign will educate the people and prepare the way for the coming plebiscite.

PROHIBITION SUSTAINED.

The friends of temperance in Pickering are well pleased with the result of the recent attempt made by the liquor men to get rid of the prohibitory by-law in force in that township. The difficulties in the way of enforcing the law, because of the unsettled question of jurisdiction, were discouraging and the liquor party hoped that although enforcement is now in good shape, the past trouble would enable them to secure a vote against the measure. They were however, badly disappointed the repeal by-law being defeated and prohibition being sustained by a majority of 58.

LIQUOR MEN ALARMED.

The Ontario Licence Holders' Protective Association of Ontario recently waited upon the Provincial Government to object to the granting of some important amendments to the License Act for which prohibitionists had asked. The encouragement they received was rather scant, Hon. Mr. Hardy assuring them that while their representations would be carefully looked into, that it would be the duty of the Government to prepare such legislation as would be in accordance with public opinion and such as is demanded by the country at large. The carrying out of this promise will of course involve additional restrictions instead of relaxations.

The flutter and fear that pervades the ranks of the liquor party in view of the plebiscite, is not confined to Ontario. The Montreal English-speaking Licensed Victualler's Association