

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., APR. 15, 1910.

Murray's New Liquor Bill.

Ever since the disastrous defeat of the government in Hans and Queens upon its temperance record, the air has been heavy with rumors to the effect that Premier Murray and his colleagues had learned wisdom from adversity and were to yield to the people's demand for an effective prohibitory measure. Many devoted temperance reformers were credulous enough to believe that such an issue was possible from men who for the past ten years have had nothing but contempt for the temperance cause and who remain in power by the grace of the liquor magnates of Halifax.

The promised legislation has at last been brought down and the 'most advanced temperance legislation' in the world has been rendered even more perfect still! While those who have been watching the government's record on the question did not expect great things it is likely that not even they were prepared for the insolence of the bill contained in Mr. McLean's bill and labelled 'prohibition' by his followers. For childish deception the measure even exceeds the temperance act of Hon. Mr. Drysdale, which was designed to carry the temperance vote at the last election, and which though loudly lauded at the time has now gone so far as to do it.

The reasons of the temperance people for demanding provincial prohibition are pretty generally known. An effective measure of provincial prohibition, it was argued, would bring about the following among other improvements:

1. A uniform law for the whole province. Legislation which makes an act an offence in one part of the province and a perfectly justifiable proceeding in another is not likely to be held in much esteem.

2. The abolishing of liquor advertising in provincial papers.

3. Severe penalties upon the rum vendors.

4. Removing the enforcement of such legislation from the local municipal authorities where the rum-mongers environment is adapted to shield the law-breaker.

5. The purifying of our provincial capital and making it a safe place for our young men to go.

6. The checking of the retail liquor business carried on in non-licensing and Scott Act countries by Halifax liquor dealers.

7. The impossibility of a few liquor sympathizers in a small section of the province maintaining a traffic contrary to the wishes of a preponderating majority in the province.

How does the new liquor act propose to bring about these results?

1. What is criminal for citizens of the rest of the province to do is quite the proper and legitimate thing for Halifax people to engage in.

2. Liquor advertising is allowed.

3. The penalties provided under the act are identical with those of the Scott Act.

4. The enforcement of the new act is still in the hands of the town or municipal council.

5. Halifax is allowed to be as rum-soaked as ever. It is true that the number of licenses in Halifax will be reduced, but this is just what the wholesale liquor-dealers have been demanding. They would prefer to have seventy good accounts in the city rather than a hundred bad ones.

6. The flooding of 'dry' counties by Halifax dealers is as easy as ever. The new act has not only advantage over the existing legislation and has many loopholes which the present legislation has not. For example read the provision of section 5, (1) subsection (a):

1. Nothing in this Part shall be deemed to make illegal,—

(a) the sale by legally qualified physicians to their patients in the regular line of their practice, at any one time, of spirituous liquors in quantities not exceeding twelve ounces, or of port or wine in quantities not exceeding one gallon, or wine in quantities not exceeding one quart.

By this section the family physician is made the family rum-seller. Who will go dry when he can procure from the family doctor, without prescription, twelve ounces of spirituous liquor, one gallon of ale or a quart of wine? For the temperance people to repeal the Scott Act for the McLean bill would be to exchange the devil for a witch.

Of course Halifax people and the Halifax press are enthusiastic. The Chronicle states that the bill contains the provisions advocated by Premier Murray at Windsor in the late by-election in Hans. If so, notes has already pronounced upon this policy, and the rest of the province will follow her lead. The Halifax Herald, which has been giving independent support to the government at the sessions, pronounces the bill O. K. Do these journals have regard for their advertising patronage?

The April session of the Municipal Council of Kings county will open at Kentville on Tuesday, April 26th, at 10 a.m.

For Pale Belkate People

Builds up strength, brings back the healthy glow of health, restores the natural appetite for nourishing food. Get only the B. & L., the original. See next p. 10, at all drug stores.

The Pope and Mr. Fairbanks.

Chicago Evening American.

A citizen writes as follows:

"Will you tell me how it is that you haven't commented on the refusal of the Pope to receive Mr. Fairbanks, formerly Vice-President of the United States? Was not the refusal a direct affront to the American people? While I am not a Catholic, I am by no means bigoted or prejudiced, yet I do feel that this refusal of the head of the Catholic Church calls for pretty plain speaking. What is your reply to this, or will you be afraid to answer?"

This is our answer: In the first place, if the Pope hasn't any higher opinion of Mr. Fairbanks than is entertained by the average American, he isn't to be blamed for not receiving Mr. Fairbanks. There are a good many millions of Americans that look upon Mr. Fairbanks as a joke or worse. And these millions of Americans are quite ready to admit that the Pope has a right to see or refuse to see whom he chooses. Mr. Fairbanks did not go to Rome in any official capacity. Had he presented himself at the Vatican officially as Vice-President of the United States doubtless he would have been received courteously, regardless of the Pope's private feelings. For Pope Pius has always proved himself courteous, kind and devoted to his duty as head of the greatest individual religious body in the world. Mr. Fairbanks was wandering around Rome as a private individual. And the Pope, briefly and sufficiently, has explained with regret the fact that he did not desire to meet Mr. Fairbanks. He did not refuse to seek Mr. Fairbanks, although he might well have done so. He simply did not invite him to a special audience.

Mr. Fairbanks in Rome attended and addressed a religious Methodist organization, and he was present in Rome, to some extent, as a semi-official spokesman of this Methodist organization. This organization, acting, doubtless, within its legal rights, has made itself extremely offensive to the Vatican and to the Pope. It has gone to Rome to proselytize in a vigorous, aggressive and rather impolite fashion. Needless to say, it hasn't manufactured any genuine Italian Methodists, but it has succeeded, according to the statements of Archbishop Ireland, in insulting sincere Catholic believers, and deliberately and unnecessarily offended Catholic feeling in Rome. The Methodists, as stated, have a legal right to do this. Any man who stays inside the police regulations can do anything he likes in any city. But it is quite natural that the head of the Catholic Church should not care to receive with special honor the spokesman of a Methodist organization that is accused of making it a business to belittle the Catholic religion in Rome, and by interference to insult the head of the Catholic Church in Rome.

Bishop William F. McDowell, of the Methodist Church, who supports the Methodist associations in Rome for the purpose of doing Protestant work among a Catholic people, and the Catholic Priest Fathers are doing a Catholic work among a Protestant people here. Charges that the efforts of Methodist missionaries have a pernicious, proselyting effect in Rome are no more true than the sin of the Paulist Fathers in this country. Bishop McDowell is mistaken. America is a sort of 'free for all' religious country. It is preposterous to say that Catholics at work in America are at work 'in a Protestant country.' There is no recognized official religion here. This country is not Protestant, or Catholic, or Mohammedan, or Christian Science, or Buddhist, or Confucian, or atheistic, or agnostic. This is a republic which recognizes officially no religion, which is forbidden by its constitution to recognize officially any religion. Here all religions and all religious teachers are on an equal footing. Catholics at work here are not proselyting in a Protestant country. They are looking after their own people, after the millions of Catholics that have come here as Catholics from other countries, and after those that have voluntarily joined their church.

In Rome it is not so. Rome, historically, sentimentally, and actually, is the seat of the Catholic religion, the home of the Pope for ages. It is the Pope's liberality and generosity that keeps open the Vatican and St. Peter's, with their beautiful treasures, to the travelers of the world. The Pope is an old man, undergoing voluntary imprisonment because of his faith. The least that any decent foreigner can do in Rome is to respect his feelings and the religion of which he is the head. And if Mr. Fairbanks did not know that it is a good thing for the Pope to have impressed the feet on him.

An regards Bishop McDowell's statement that the Methodist missionaries are in Rome to make Methodists of the Italians, we must say most respectfully that to anybody that knows Rome and its Italians, that is a very interesting Methodist joke. Some Italians want Catholicism and some do not. Some want Socialism and some H. Some want agnosticism. Some want no 'ism' at all. One thing is quite sure, the Italians do not want Methodism. And probably all of the real Italians that could be made real Methodists by a thousand missionaries in a thousand years could travel comfortably in one taxicab. The Italians are good natured and will listen. They are also a practical race. They will accept spaghetti, chili, macaroni, lire or kind words from a Meth-

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In Wolfville, large house suitable for a summer boarding house. Fine grounds and shade trees. Location good. Also several small tenements.

To the Public

The undersigned begs to notify the public that he is now prepared to undertake painting, paper-hanging, etc., of all kinds. Having had adequate experience he guarantees first-class work and entire satisfaction in every case. Orders may be left with Wolfville Decorating Co.

McCallum's Ltd.

McCallum's Ltd. beg to notify the public of Kings Co. that there will be a heavy rush of farm buyers from Great Britain through next March and April and all parties desiring to sell then should register their properties now with the Wolfville office.

For Sale

Pleasantly situated on Acadia street, Wolfville, house and barn, half acre of land with about twenty apple trees just beginning to bear. House has nine rooms, including bath and pantry and bath, heated with hot air. Can be bought at a bargain.

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The farm known as the Jacob H. Caldwell farm situated in Newmarket, Kings county, N.S., contains one hundred and one acres. About twenty acres cleared, two in orchard, balance standing wood poles. New barn, house and out-house. Farm well watered. About four and one-half miles from Wolfville. Part may remain on mortgage. For terms apply to W. B. Caldwell, Newmarket or H. Woodworth, Church Street, Kings Co., N.S.

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that were made so long ago. Why not redeem them now? Photographs that look like you are the kind that please your friends. Our new mounts will add to their value too. They are the best solution of the Xmas Gift problem.

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