

The Camp Fire.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE
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, MAY, 1898

CLEARING THE DECKS.

On Tuesday the 3rd inst. the Plebiscite Bill received its second reading, went through the committee stage in the house of Commons, and was reported practically unchanged. It is unlikely that any alteration will now be made, so that the campaign may be said to have begun.

The Premier in reply to a question from Hon. Mr. Foster, stated that the vote would probably be taken about the end of summer or in the early fall. We have thus before us only a few months in which to prepare for the struggle.

The situation lays upon prohibitionists heavy responsibilities and duties, which we are certain they will realize and discharge. No time must be lost. Preparations must at once begin. Other issues and questions must be laid aside. Energies and efforts must be concentrated on the one present overwhelming issue. Nothing must be left undone, the doing of which could help towards a mighty victory for our cause.

THE QUESTION.

The ballot to be used in the Plebiscite will be in the following form:

Are you in favor of the passing of an Act prohibiting the importation, manufacture or sale of spirits, wine, ale, beer, cider and all other alcoholic liquors for use as beverages:	Yes.	No.
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Voters in favor of prohibition are expected to make a cross under the word "Yes" and those opposed to prohibition under the word "No."

Some prohibitionists argue, and not without reason, that the question might have been put in a simpler form, no special kinds of intoxicants being named, the expression "alcoholic liquors" covering all. We cannot however, change it. There can be no doubt as to its meaning. In Parliament, objection was made to the word "cider" which it was stated might be held to include unfermented apple juice. In reply the Minister of Agriculture definitely and emphatically stated that the word "cider" would be taken as meaning the juice of apples so fermented as to be intoxicating, and that an affirmative vote would not be considered as an objection to the manufacture and sale of what is known as sweet cider.

This statement makes the case clear. There is dangerous and intoxicating cider, there is dangerous and intoxicating wine, there is dangerous and intoxicating beer. The question does not refer to the prohibition of any liquor that is

not intoxicating. It has exactly the same meaning as if it were couched in the simpler form:—"Are you in favor of prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of all alcoholic liquors."

LITERATURE.

Four more leaflets have been added to the Alliance list. Their titles are "Naked Lights," "The Scott Act in Ontario," "The Scott Act in New Brunswick," and "Liquor and Industry." The first two belong to the four-page series, the last two to the two-page series. The new leaflets like all of the campaign series, are clear, comprehensive, brief and forcible. They are just the kind needed in the present contest. Twenty-four kinds are now available. The universal verdict regarding them is that they are better than anything of the sort hitherto issued. The Alliance Executive pays a large proportion of the cost of preparing them, so that they are sold far below the price at which they can be manufactured. The country ought to be carpeted with them. If a supply has not already been secured for your locality, you ought to write at once to the Alliance Secretary for a price list and samples. In no other way can a small amount of money be employed as effectively as in purchasing and circulating these invaluable documents.

REASONS FOR TEMPERANCE.

During the temperance campaign in a Missouri county, a lawyer was discussing learnedly the constitutionality of the proposed temperance law. An old farmer, who had been listening attentively, shut his jack-knife with a snap, and said, "I don't know nuthin' about constitutionality or the unconstitutionality of the law, but I've got seven good reasons fur votin' fur it."

"What are they?" asked the lawyer. And the grim old farmer responded: "Four sons and three daughters."—*Selected.*

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, 1898 inclusive, to any person sending at once **ONE DOLLAR** to F. S. Spence, 52 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.

Selections.

SAVE THE BOYS.

License is a fraud immense,
Men of sober common sense
Save the boys!

Think no pleas of "revenue"
Will excuse your guilt if you
Give your voice and ballots to
Curse the boys!

Talk's a good thing, "in its place,"
Use it as a means of grace—
Save the boys!

But, oh, voters! one and all,
Crush the demon Alcohol;
From his cruel, bitter thrall,
Save the boys!

Banish strong drink from the land,
By the power of laws' command,
Save the boys!

Vote for those men who you know
Will not favor this vile foe,
But prohibit it, and so
Save the boys!

You can do it, if you will;
Ballots are the things that tell;
Save the boys!

For our homes we intercede;
For our country's life indeed;
In the name of God we plead,
Save the boys! —*Exchange.*

'TIS THE LITTLE THINGS THAT COUNT.

Just a little here and there, boys,
Such a trifling thing, you think,
A dime for a yellow novel,
And another one for drink;
A little spent in the card room,
A nickle for a cigar,
But O, do you ever think, boys,
'Tis the little things make or mar?

Just a little while from home, boys,
And ah! your unwary feet
Will be lured to sin stained bypaths
That lead to ruin's broad street;
It is just the first wrong thought, boys,
Just a few vile words, ah me!
And your current of life is changing,
You are drifting out to sea.

Where no human hand can save you,
Rudderless, and lost;
Don't you think these boasted pleasures
Are bought at a fearful cost?
'Tis the little things that count, boys,
That make up the mighty whole,
'Tis the little thoughts and deeds, boys,
In the balance against your soul.
—*Our Young People.*

IF RUM SHOULD DIE.

If rum should die, before another dawn
And we should wake to find it was
no more,
How many dreadful things would cease
to be,
And blessings come which have not
been before.
If rum should die.

How many gloomy faces then would
smile,
The drunkard's wife would cease to
mourn and sigh,
The drunkard's children, playing in
the street,
Would not at papa's coming hide
and cry,
If rum should die.

The man who spends his money for
the drink,
Would now commence to lead a
different life,
With no saloon to tempt him by the
way,
He'd carry home his earnings to his
wife,
If rum should die.

There would be better times through
out our land,
Murder and misery would soon
decrease,
Almshouse and prisons, too, would
empty stand,
Instead of drunken riots would be
peace,
If rum should die.

Our land would be delivered from its
foe,
Would be delivered from its greatest
shame,
A truly Christian nation to become
In deed and truth as well as in the
name,
If rum should die.

Yes, all these many blessings would
result,
If rum should die; but, friends, it
never will,
Unless the citizens of this, our land,
Unite their energies this foe to kill,
And make rum die.

It ought to be, we know it very well,
But still the voters camly let it stay;
Oh, let them from their lethargy
awake,
And at the ballot-box united say,
It's n, you shall die.
—*Nettie A. Perham.*

ALCOHOLIC EFFECTS.

ON DOGS.

Professor C. F. Hodge, of Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts, has been making a number of experiments as to the results of a diet of whisky on dogs. One of his objects was to compare the vigour and freedom from deformity of the young from both normal and alcoholic parents. The amount of alcohol given to the latter was not sufficient to produce intoxication. Both pairs of dogs under observation have produced three litters of pups up to date, and the results are given below:—

	Alcoholic pair.	Normal pair
No. of whelps,	7-7-6—20	5-3-8—16
Malformed,	2-3-3—8	1-0-0—1
Born dead,	2-2-2—6	0-0-0—0
Healthy,	4-0-0—4	4-3-8—15

ON THE HUMAN SUBJECT.

The significance of this result is enhanced by comparison with similar findings among human subjects, notably those of Demme, who compared the children in ten families addicted to the use of alcohol with those in ten temperate families:—

	Alcoholic Families.	Temperate Families.
Children,	57	61
Deformed,	10	2
Idiotic,	6	0
Epileptic and choleric,	6	6
Unhealthy,	25	3
Normal,	10	50

In such statements concerning human cases, it is difficult to determine whether unhealthiness as well as other abnormalities is due to inherent weakness of the offspring or to neglect of the parents. Hence arises the chief value of confirmatory evidence obtained from animals where conditions can be more fully known and controlled.—*Scottish Reformer.*

"WHY SHOULD I GIVE UP THE DRINK."

- 1.—Because I don't want to be deceived by it. (Prov. xx. i.; Isaiah xxviii. 7.)
- 2.—Because I don't want to set others a bad example. (1 Cor. viii. 9, 13; Rom. xiv. 21; Matt. xviii. 6.)
- 3.—Because I don't want to abuse the gifts of the good God. (Eccles. v. 18, 19; 1 Cor. x. 31.)
- 4.—Because I don't want my children to be drunkards. (Ex. xx. 5; Rom. v. 12; Is. xiv. 21-22.)
- 5.—Because it is better to be my own master than the devil's slave (Jn. viii. 34; 1 Pet. ii. 16; Jn. xii. 20.)
- 6.—Because I want to have a happy home. (1 Tim. iii. 3, 4.)
- 7.—Because I want to be a good citizen. (Matt. xxii. 21; Rom. xiii. 7-14.)
- 8.—Because I want to please Jesus. (Matt. xvi. 24; 1 Jn. ii. 6; Eph. v. 18.)
- 9.—Because I want to save my soul. (1 Cor. vi. 10; Luke xxi. 34; Gal. v. 21.)

"BUT"

- 1.—"I can't do without it." Can't do with it, you mean! The strongest man (Judges xiii) that ever lived did without it, and so can you.
- 2.—"It's no good trying." Not by yourself; but God helps those who help themselves. You can do it with His help. (Phil. iv. 13.)
- 3.—"I shall have to give up my friends." So much the better if they are bad ones, and you will find true friends instead of false. (1 Cor. v. 11.)
- 4.—"I shall be laughed at." Better bear the laughter of fools now than the laughter of the devils in hell hereafter. (Eccles. vii. 5, 0.)

"WHAT CAN I GAIN BY IT?"

- 1.—Health, strength, and respect.
 - 2.—The love and trust of my family.
 - 3.—Good friends.
 - 4.—Something put by for old age.
 - 5.—A quiet conscience.
 - 6.—The praise of God.
 - 7.—My own soul.
- Good Templars Watchword.*