

# THE CAMP FIRE.

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## ITEMS OF NEWS.

### L. O. CAMPAIGNS.

Quite a number of Ontario townships are making arrangements to vote on the question of local prohibition. In some of them by-laws have already been read a first and second time by the councils, and voting will take place on the third day of January simultaneously with the holding of the municipal elections. There is yet time to inaugurate work in many other municipalities and have the voting take place on the same day.

### AN IMPUDENT PROPOSITION.

A curious request is said to be made to the Provincial Government on behalf of the License Holders' Association of Toronto. It is that the Government will put into the hands of this body the enforcement of the license laws, giving the organization some such power as is now possessed by the Ontario Medical Council. The suggestion is generally looked upon as a joke on the part of the Licensed Victuallers' Solicitor.

### GETTING READY.

The East Algoma Prohibition Association held its annual meeting on October 5th, presided over by Mr. John Dawson. Plans were laid for thorough organization of the district in view of the plebiscite campaign, twenty-eight organizers being named for the different localities. A protest was made against any rider to the prohibition question to be submitted. Resolutions were adopted expressing appreciation that a prohibitionist had been placed on the Board of License Commissioners, and requesting the Government to appoint another.

### LICENSE LAW AMENDMENTS.

On November 2nd a deputation from the Dominion Alliance waited upon the Ontario Government to ask for the amendments to the license law that were agreed upon at the convention held in July last, namely, that power be given to a majority of the electors in a polling sub-division to prevent the renewal of an existing license and that the electors of any municipality may have power to limit the hours of sale. Nearly all the members of the Government were present. The case of the prohibitionists was presented by Rev. Dr. Dewar, F. S. Spence, W. H. Orr, Rev. Dr. Chambers, Hon. S. C. Biggs and Mrs. A. O. Rutherford. The Government will consider the request of the deputation.

### MORE PREPARATION.

The Grand Division of N. B. S. of T., held its 50th annual session in St. John, commencing on October 27th. A good attendance was present. G. W. P., Bro. J. R. Woodlawn presided and was re-elected. Among the prominent visitors present were Bro. Jewell, M. W. S., Bro. Gates, M. W. A., Bro. Everett, P. M. W. P. The address of the G. W. P. made special reference to the coming plebiscite campaign, objecting to the burdening of the question to be submitted with any other issue and calling for united action to win a great victory.

### A TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.

No great fire in Canada for many years, left so many persons homeless and in other respects did so much mischief as the recent conflagration at Windsor, N.S. The evidence given at

the inquiries held makes it clear that to strong drink is fairly chargeable this great calamity. It is another evidence of the absurdity of the often stated falsehood that the liquor traffic will let us alone if we let it alone.

### A GREAT MEETING.

The annual meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance was held at Manchester, England, on October 19th, presided over by Sir Wilfred Lawson. A great array of leading representative workers from different parts of the country was present. Strongly worded resolutions were adopted calling for legislation closing all places on Sunday and giving the people power by local option to prohibit the continuance of licenses in localities where a majority were opposed to them. An immense mass meeting was held at night in the Free Trade Hall, which was crowded to its utmost capacity. Addresses were delivered by the Chairman, Lord Buttersea, Sir Wilfred Lawson, S. Pope Q. C., T. P. Whittaker, M. P., Rev. Chas. Garrett, W. S. Caine, Rev. L. M. Isitt, F. Maddison, M. P., L. Jones and T. Robinson. Most of the officers were re-elected, Sir Wilfred Lawson being again unanimously made President.

### A BANQUET.

The Toronto Good Templars' Bicycle Club held its first annual banquet in Wolsley Hall on the evening of October 27th. The attendance was all that could be desired. The hall was splendidly decorated with mottoes, flags, streamers and other similar appliances, bicycles being in evidence as part of the exhibit. An excellent supper was served after which a capital programme was rendered under the direction of Bro. A. Chamberlain who occupied the chair. Among those who responded to the toasts given were the Grand Chief Templar, His Worship Mayor Shaw, Ald. F. S. Spence, Ald. W. Beals, Messrs. L. S. Gurley, W. J. Armstrong, D. Smellie and C. Wesley. A splendid musical and elocutionary programme was interspersed between the speeches, among those taking part being Mr. W. Fisher and Miss M. Stanners, Miss Wright, Miss J. Malcolm and Miss Ivy Ranny. The club is growing and promises to be a useful institution.

### WHITE RIBBONERS.

#### Three Great Conventions

#### ONTARIO PROVINCIAL.

The Ontario W. C. T. U. workers held their twentieth annual convention in Brantford, commencing Tuesday, October 12th. It would be impossible in our limited space to give an idea of the extent of ground covered by the discussions and resolutions of this important body. Reports showed splendid work done on many different lines. Some of the more important topics dealt with were, Temperance in Sunday Schools, Prisons and Police Courts, Juvenile Department, Scientific Temperance, Sabbath Observance, Hygiene and Heredity, Systematic Giving, Franchise Extension, Social Purity, etc. The address of the President, Mrs. Thornley, was exhaustive and full of interest. Plans were laid for active effort to secure the best possible results from the approaching Plebiscite.

Officers were elected for the coming year as follows:—Pres., Mrs. May R. Thornley; Vice Pres., Mrs. Jennie Cavers; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Mary Wiley; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Saunby; Treas., Miss Jennie McArthur. Public meetings were held at which earnest and able addresses were delivered by enthusiastic workers. Carefully devised plans of further aggressive work were adopted. Altogether the meeting was one of the most interesting yet held and will no doubt tell forcibly for good in the impetus it must give to prohibition sentiment in Ontario and the prepara-

tion that will grow out of it for the coming campaign.

### THE DOMINION MEETING.

The Dominion W. C. T. U. held its tenth annual convention in the Horticultural Pavilion, Toronto, beginning on Wednesday, October 19th. Besides the delegates from different parts of the Dominion, there were present many visitors from other countries who had come to attend the meeting of the World's W. C. T. U. The President, Mrs. Rutherford presented an address covering many phases of work done in many parts of the Dominion. The Secretary's report showed that during the past year 6,720 meetings had been held, 1,376 signatures secured to the total abstinence pledge, 501,730 pages of literature distributed and the membership increased by 1,702, the total present membership being 10,191. Reports from many departments were laid before the delegates, giving details of various lines of effort that had proved as effective as they had been varied. A feature of the convention was a lecture by Miss Francis F. Willard on "A White Life For Two," which was very largely attended and received with much enthusiasm.

As in the Provincial Convention, the Plebiscite question received a good deal of attention, and resolutions were adopted suggesting plans of work to win from it the fullest success. The officers elected for the coming year are: President, Mrs. A. O. Rutherford; Vice Presidents, Dr. Yeomans, Mrs. Sanderson, Mrs. Thornley, Mrs. A. Lamb, Mrs. McClung, Mrs. Chesley, Mrs. D. McLeod, and Mrs. C. W. Strong; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Atkinson; Recording Secretary, Mrs. McLaughlin; Treasurer, Mrs. Tilton.

### THE WORLD'S CONVENTION.

Hardly ever has there been held a convention of moral reformers so thoroughly representative in its character and so comprehensive in its discussions and aims as the great gathering that commenced work in Toronto on Saturday, October 23rd. Delegates were present from every province in the Dominion of Canada, from twenty-one of the United States, from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, from several European countries and from Africa and Asia.

Proceedings opened with a banquet tendered by local workers to the visiting guests on the evening before the convention. The Horticultural Pavilion was not large enough to contain all who wished to take part, and the tickets to this enjoyable gathering had to be closely limited. A cordial welcome to the visitors was tendered by Mrs. Rutherford on behalf of the Dominion W. C. T. U., by Hon. A. S. Hardy, Premier of Ontario, His Worship Mayor Shaw on behalf of the city, and many other representative Canadians prominent in different departments of political and Christian work.

Miss F. E. Willard presided throughout the convention and delighted all by her wisdom, skill and courtesy. Even at this gathering, dealing with the liquor question from international standpoints, the discussion of the coming prohibition Plebiscite had a prominent place. The Secretary's report told of the spread of the cause in many lands and the different forms of work in which many members took part. Delegates from different quarters of the globe delivered addresses full of interesting information regarding the work being done, the difficulties being overcome and the success being achieved. The convention covered four days including Sunday on which many of the city pulpits were occupied by delegates, sermons being preached by earnest Christian women of every shade of complexion and with nearly every form of national accent.

We dare not even attempt to epitomize the many stirring topics that were discussed at length and regarding which deliverances were made, nor is it necessary that we should do so as full reports have

already been published in our various daily and weekly journals. Most of the officers who had served so successfully were re-elected. The coming to Toronto at this time of these workers was specially opportune in view of the present situation of the cause in the Dominion of Canada, and the results of their earnest appeal will be seen when the ballots are counted after the vote upon national prohibition, which now cannot be very far away.

### "BEER OF ALL ALCOHOLIC DRINKS, IS THE VERY WORST."

This is what Dr. G. Bunge, a Doctor of Medicine and Professor of Physiological Chemistry in the University of Basle, says:

"Beer is the most pernicious of all alcoholic drinks, because no other is so seductive. All classes of people regard it a disgrace to drink whiskey; but the intellectual elite of our people glory in immoderate beer drinking." He also says: "No other drink so greatly leads to intemperance." Another indictment which he makes against beer is that no other alcoholic drink so quickly spoils the appetite for normal food.

Beer deadens the consciousness. It makes men silly and maudlin. Beer robs men of their manhood, and sends them to the dogs.

### MODERATE DRINKING AS THE GREATEST DANGER TO HUMANITY.

The moderate use of alcohol is pronounced by Dr. Bunge not merely useless, but also in a high degree injurious. "The charge that they lead into temptation cannot be made against drunkards. They, on the contrary, deserve the credit of producing revulsion by their example. Those who lead astray are the moderate drinkers. And until the temptation ceases, intemperance with its consequences—sickness, insanity, crime—will nevermore cease. He who does not see this does not know the history of the warfare against drunkenness."

The drunkards are made by moderate drinkers—this terrible charge is made repeatedly and with great emphasis by the doctor.

He says: "Every drunkard was at one time a moderate drinker." The example set by moderate drinking becomes a temptation to others. It starts stones a-rolling, and it is no longer in the power of the tempter to stop them.—*N. T. Advocate.*

### GROWTH OF ENGLISH TEMPERANCE.

When Queen Victoria ascended the throne there were not more than a hundred abstainers among the ministers of the various religious denominations in the United Kingdom, no bishops and only about a dozen members of the medical profession. To day there are, according to returns just issued, two archbishops, fourteen bishops of the English dioceses, many thousand clergymen of every denomination and eighteen hundred physicians who are total abstainers. Moreover, one man in every three in the army is a teetotaler.—*New York Tribune.*

### A NEW OFFICIAL.

Bro. B. D. Rogers, of Stellarton, N. S., has been commissioned by the R. W. G. T. as a special Deputy to represent the International Supreme Lodge throughout the Dominion of Canada. Bro. Rogers proposes to devote a good deal of time to organizing and building up lodges in different parts of the Dominion. He has issued a circular announcing his appointment, and setting out in an attractive form some of the advantages of the I. O. G. T. and the work that it is doing. He is desirous of corresponding with friends in different parts of the country in relation to extension work.