

the intervals, between the meetings of the World's W. C. T. U. All these meetings should certainly strengthen, and undoubtedly will, the temperance cause in our land. Two hundred and seven regularly appointed delegates were in attendance, and 14,000 R. R. certificates were presented. Egypt, Japan, China, Spain, Finland, Iceland, England and her colonies, and the United States were represented. Frances E. Willard, the world renowned and time honored president, was in her place. Also the secretaries — Agnes E. Slack, of England; and Anna Gordon, of Illinois. The vice-president, Lady Henry Somerset, on account of illness, could not be in attendance. All the officers were re-elected by the executive. In her opening address, the president said in part, "Canada leads the world to-day in the great prohibition struggle, and it leads with cheering prospects of success. 'The country is homogeneous; it has not that great foreign population to contend with by which we are almost fatally handicapped; its people are serious-minded and practical; its average standard of morals and religion is higher than ours; it has put itself on record by popular plebiscite in which prohibition triumphed; it has survived the horrors of the Royal Commission to investigate the liquor traffic, and is on the eve of another popular vote in which, although it must contend against the united power of the alcohol trade in all countries, which will be brought to bear upon its politicians and its people, we have faith to believe (and we go largely by sight as well, because this thing has been done once) that 'Our Lady of the Snows' is going to pluck from the heavens of purity and plant on her own fair brow the bright star of prohibition, which means happy homes to her people and a harbinger of peace to all the world."

The secretary's report showed encouraging progress in the different countries during the past two years in

the organization of the W. C. T. U. which has become such a power for good and for reform along the lines where reform is much needed.

S. P. Z.

## GEORGE ADAM SMITH'S LECTURES

AT THE SCARBOROUGH SUMMER SCHOOL, ENGLAND.

(From the British Friend.)

### I.—EARLY HEBREW POETRY.

It was with great delight that those of us who had revelled in Prof. George Adam Smith's illuminating volumes on Isaiah, learnt that among the other good things provided for us at Summer School were two lectures by this great authority; and it goes without saying that we were not disappointed. In eloquence, vigour, and a certain trenchant originality of treatment, Prof. Smith's two lectures were surpassed by none during the whole gathering.

The first on the *Early National Poetry of Israel* began by saying that though Hebrew poetry has given us our first view of God, and its rhythm haunts our language, yet it is the product of an alien race and of a stage of culture far removed from our own. Moreover, judged by western standards, the Hebrew poet cannot be correctly so designated. He is rather a gazer, a seer, a messenger, a herald; he gives us impressions and conceptions, not creations; his work is characterized not by order and beauty, but by urgency and emphasis; the weight of his substance renders him careless of the form; in a word he is much more of a prophet than a poet. In order, however, to understand the genius of the Hebrew, we must observe his racial affinities, and note what he has gained from his heredity. The Hebrew is a branch of the great Semitic race, spread over Western Asia from the Levant to the Indian Ocean; Arabia is the original home of