

nection with these contests, so far as I have been able to learn from newspaper reports and other sources, the W. C. T. U. has been most active. The women voters have been canvassed in the interests of prohibition. Suitable literature has been distributed and in various ways a mighty influence for good has been exerted by our women, not only in Ontario, but elsewhere. Only a few of the Unions have reported to me, however. These are: Toronto District, Guelph, Cornwall, Berlin, Picton, Owen Sound, Meaford and Thornbury. The Superintendent for Grey county adopted the excellent plan of addressing a circular letter, together with some good literature, to every woman voter in town and county. She expended in this way \$11.75, and distributed about 3,500 pages of literature. We would say to every Union, in similar future campaigns, "Go thou and do likewise." Toronto District, Guelph and Owen Sound Unions report having written their representatives at Ottawa regarding the French Treaty, the latter Union also helping to elect some representatives to their town council. Two memorials were sent to Ottawa during the year, signed by the Provincial officers and the Superintendent of this department, one in favor of granting Dominion suffrage to women, and the other protesting against the ratification of the French Treaty, which treaty was agreed to, however, as you all know, despite the urgent appeals which poured in from all parts of the Dominion. By so doing our Federal Government have coolly ignored the existence of an overwhelming temperance sentiment in this country as expressed by the votes of the people, and they have also placed a strong barrier in the way of the passage of a prohibitory law.

The organization of the hotel keepers of Ontario is an event worthy of note, as is also the refusal of the Mayor of Toronto to welcome them on that occasion. All honor to the man who, by this action, proved that he possessed what so many of our public men lack—good, stiff, moral backbone! May the number of such in high places continue to increase.

It might prove instructive to state just here the different requests of the liquor men to the Government, for the advice of the old general was very wise, "Find out what your enemy intends to do and then do the other thing." The following are the requests of the hotel keepers:

- 1st. Uniformity as to hours of closing to be settled by legislation.
- 2nd. The number of taverns not to be reduced yearly and arbitrarily, but at regular periods, say three or four years apart.
- 3rd. Tavern-keepers to be eligible for municipal offices.
- 4th. Power of municipalities to increase license duties to be withdrawn.
- 5th. The sale of cigars to be regulated by the commissioners.
- 6th. The clauses requiring a majority of qualified electors to petition before a new license can be granted to be amended, and that there be less restrictions as to transfers.
- 7th. A question: Will the Government grant compensation in the event of a prohibitory law being passed?

Mr. Haverson, solicitor for the delegates, stated that they preferred the present system of granting licenses through commissioners to the system which preceded it.

There have been of late many evidences that the cause of Equal Rights for