

THE POST OFFICE AND STRONG DRINK.

Recently several manufacturers of liquor have used the mails for the advertisement of their wares, offering to send postage free and without charge samples of their wares. In a number of instances which have been reported to us bottles of liquor have been sent right into Methodist homes. In some instances, it is possible that the advertisement was answered and the liquor forwarded as promised. But in quite a number of instances reported to us bottles of spirits have been sent through the mails to persons who were known to be strongly opposed to the use of liquor. Possibly some persons thought it a joke upon these workers for temperance. Many persons have expressed very determined objection to the sending of bottles of liquor through the mails. In view of the recent announcement that a parcel post system would be introduced into Canada at the beginning of next year, it is very natural that great alarm should be felt as to the effect should liquor be allowed to be sent in that way throughout Canada. In the United States, where a parcels post system was recently inaugurated, the Government by specific regulation prohibited the use of the mails for the sending forward of liquors in any form. The recent Methodist Missionary Conference at Amherst, N.B., held in connection with the Annual Meeting of the General Board of Missions, heartily adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, We believe it is the intention of the Government shortly to introduce a parcel post system in Canada; and whereas the Government of the United States excludes all intoxicating liquors from the mails; and whereas we believe that the great majority of the people of Canada are strongly opposed to the carriage of intoxicating liquors through the mails of His Majesty in our Dominion; therefore we the members of the General Board of Missions for the Methodist Church of Canada and the Methodist ministers of the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, together with representative laymen from all over the said Provinces now here in convention assembled to the number of about 300, as well as 700 citizens of the city of Amherst present at this meeting, respectfully request that all intoxicating liquor be excluded from the mails of Canada from the inception of such parcel post system and your petitioners will ever pray."

This Department some time ago entered a strong protest with the Postmaster-General against the use of the mails for sending alcoholic liquors, and upon the announcement that a parcel post system would be introduced urged that the regulations of this system should include the prohibition of liquor through the mails. No definite reply has yet been received.

We recommend that every minister be requested to call the attention of his people to this matter, and suggest that personal letters be written to Hon. L. P. Pelletier, the Postmaster-General, by influential