

THE CAMP FIRE.

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POPULAR GOVERNMENT.

On September 29th, 1898, the people of Canada declared in favor of the total prohibition of the liquor traffic by a majority of 13,687, the votes cast being, for prohibition 278,380, against prohibition 264,693. The Province of Quebec gave a majority of 94,324 against prohibition, the other provinces gave majorities aggregating 108,011 in favor of prohibition.

On July 3rd, 1900, the House of Commons by a vote of 98 to 41 adopted the following resolution:—"That at the plebiscite of 1898 only about twenty-three per cent of the registered electors of the Dominion voted for prohibition, that in the provinces and territories excluding Quebec, only twenty-seven per cent of the registered electors voted for prohibition, that these results show that there is not an active prohibition sentiment sufficiently pronounced to justify the expectation that a prohibition law could be successfully enforced, and therefore in the opinion of this House such a prohibitory law should not be enacted at present."

The people emphatically say "yes" The Government and Parliament emphatically say "no." What are the people going to do about it.

NOTES OF NEWS.

ABOUT THE WAR WITH THE DRINK.

Dangerous Sweets.

A good deal of interest is being taken in Montreal in an agitation by the W.C.T.U. against the sale of candies containing alcohol. It has been shown that the evil has been carried to such an extent as to cause drunkenness among some children. The London ladies recently made a successful campaign on the same line.

Drink Did It.

On Friday, June 16th, the jury of the Court of Queen's Bench in Montreal, declared Avila Bourass guilty of murdering his wife on April 4th last. The case was one in which drink was manifestly the cause of the crime and the Honorable Chief Justice in sentencing the prisoner to be hung on August 24th, began his address by saying "Prisoner at the bar, you are a sorrowful, but yet a striking example of the evil of drunkenness."

Temperance Pays.

The United Kingdom and Provident Institution of Great Britain has published its fifty-ninth annual report. As our readers are aware this organization has a general section in which safe lives are insured, and a temperance section to which only total abstainers are admitted. The record for the year shows that the number of death claims expected according to actuarial figures, was 392, and the actual claims made were 341. In the general section the expected claims were 414, and the actual claims 404.

A Vast Business.

The Scottish League Journal states that the public houses in London, England would form a single continuous row long enough to link Charing Cross with Brighton Pavilion. If a lover of intoxicants were to patronise these houses at the rate of one a day, it would take him 38½ years approximately to reach his last drink in London houses alone. The gross rental value of these 14,039 houses is £2,103,421, or, roughly, one pound in every twenty of the entire valuation of London.

Beer and Wine.

The annual English parliamentary return setting out the average consumption of intoxicating liquors in different countries gives the following as the figures for the consumption of beer which is said to be steadily increasing.

	Total Gallons.	Per head Gallons.
United Kingdom	1,250,000,000	31.3
France	2,050,000,000	5.3
Germany	1,382,000,000	26.0
United States	920,000,000	12.6

The beer consumption in Canada is about four and one-half gallons per head. France consumes 2¼ gallons of wine per head.

Russian Progress.

One of the most interesting exhibits at the great Paris Exhibition is a section of the Russian Department given up entirely to the work of the official temperance committees of the Russian Empire. Striking pictures are shown contrasting the conditions of homes where drink is freely used with the homes of temperate people. A great deal of literature is at hand and is gratuitously distributed. The Committees of Temperance of Russia are a state established institution and are charged among other duties, with overseeing the sale of intoxicating liquors, such sale being in Russia a state monopoly, spreading abroad knowledge relating to the effects of strong drink, providing counter attractions to public houses, establishing hospitals and other institutions for the cure of inebriety and aiding private societies that work towards the same end. The amount of work reported is enormous. It is supported by a Government grant of about \$1,500,000 per year.

A Great Convention.

The Prohibition Party in the United States have nominated J. G. Woolley, the famous temperance lecturer, as candidate for President, and Henry Brewer Metcalf, of Rhode Island for Vice-President. The National Convention of the Party met at Chicago on Wednesday, June 27th. There was an immense attendance from the different States, and tremendous enthusiasm. A strong organization was effected and plans laid for a vigorous campaign. The principal contest of the Convention was between the party desiring to have a broad platform including advocacy of many reforms, and the party seeking to make a campaign on the central issue of prohibition. Those who favored a union against the liquor traffic alone carried the day. A platform was adopted declaring that "the licensed liquor traffic is, or ought to be the overwhelming issue in American politics, and the destruction of this iniquity stands next on the calendar of the world's progress."

An Aggressive Anti.

Charles Schweickardt is a member of the Missouri State Senate and also the proprietor of several saloons in Missouri. He recently introduced into the Senate a bill providing that any license to sell intoxicating liquors should be permanent until the death of the holder or his conviction for crime. The Bill passed the Senate but was defeated in the House of Representatives. During his speech at the close of the debate Senator Schweickardt said: "Senators have said upon the floor today in this debate that they would like to see the saloon out of politics. So would I; and I will tell the senators when it will go out of politics: When every law restricting the liquor traffic is repealed; when you cease by legislation to discriminate against my business and to cripple it; when we can open our saloon on Sunday and run it as we could any other day of the week; when our business is placed upon the same footing and upon the

same plane with every other legitimate business—then, and not till then, will the saloon go out of politics. We shall fight you until this is accomplished. And in the end you will surrender."

Consumption of Drink.

A report issued by the English Board of Trade shows the production and consumption of alcoholic beverages in various European countries as well as in the United States and British colonies in each year from 1895 to 1898. Reducing the amount to an alcoholic basis the Licensing World shows that the amount of alcohol consumed per head of the population in four of these countries is in proof gallons as follows:

United Kingdom	4.70
France	10.07
Germany	5.09
United States	2.12

In this connection it is interesting to note that the estimated yearly per capita consumption of alcohol in Canada as set out in the report of the Royal Commission is less than six-tenths of one gallon.

FOLLY AND SIN.

Until this evil drink is put away, unrighteousness will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea; the cause of religion will be hindered, and there will be an impassable barrier to the triumph of Christ's gospel. Both physical and spiritual haleness are stunted by the drink.

Science and experience has given their voice in an unmistakable manner against alcohol, and later studies have also demolished the supposed sanction given by the bible to the use of these intoxicants. The apostolic injunction is, not to be drunk with wine wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit. There are two kinds of enjoyment and sources of life; avoid the one and drink deep of the other. The author of "The Anxious Enquirer," and therefore a true "endeavorer," John Angell James, said to young people years ago: "I do most earnestly entreat you to abstain from all intoxicating drinks. You do not need them for health, and to drink them for gratification is the germ of inebriety." We believe there should be no making, buying, or drinking of the poisonous spirit, and in this direction only is to be found the way of ending the sin of liquor-selling.

The six of liquor-selling: that word will occasion some heart searching and even savor. But is the term contrary to the actual truth? Sin is a violation of a Divine law, and to make intoxicating drink is to do violence to the law both of nature and of God. The "good creature of God" theory, as applied to alcohol as an article of consumption, is surely exploded; the grain and grape are good, but the manipulation and manufacture of these good gifts into alcohol is the work of the devil. Many learned Jewish Rabbis believed that the fermenting grapes formed the "forbidden fruit"; anyhow, this spirit of alcohol is the present great cause of the "fall of man," as it has ever been; the "Mortal taste which brings death into the world,

And all our woes," from the times before Noah; and this worship of Bacchus down to the present day dominates over the worship of God. What can we think then of the high priests of Bacchus, those who serve at its altars, who build their fortune on the misfortunes of its votaries? What awful wrongs must be perpetrated if the brewer and publican are to live and flourish!—Good Templar's Watchword.

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A TERRIBLE HEREDITY.

A special study of hereditary drunkenness has been made by Prof. Pellman, of Bonn University, Germany. His method was to take certain individual cases, a generation or two back. He thus traced the careers of children in all parts of the present German empire until he was able to present tabulated biographies of the hundreds descended from some original drunkards. Notable among the persons described by Prof. Pellman is Frau Ida Jurka, who was born in 1740, and was a drunkard, a thief and a tramp for the last forty years of her life, which ended in 1800. Her descendants numbered 834, of whom 709 were traced in local records from youth to death. One hundred and six of the 709 born were born out of wedlock. There were 144 beggars and sixty-two more who lived from charity. Of the women 181 lived disreputable lives. There were in the family 76 convicts, 7 of whom were sentenced for murder. In a period of some seventy-five years this one family rolled up a bill of costs in almshouses, prisons and correctional institutions amounting to at least 5,000,000 marks, or about \$1,250,000.—Medical Record.

WHAT PRODUCES DRUNKENNESS.

We noticed in a paper this morning the report of a death from "alcoholism," and we could but wish that all the deaths from drunkenness could be so reported until people have it burned in upon their consciousness that alcohol is a deadly poison. We hear so much about impurities in liquor that we are in danger of forgetting that the most dangerous thing in strong drink is alcohol. It is this that produces drunkenness. This is the element essential to whisky, wine and beer, of all degrees of goodness or badness. This is what is sought for and demanded, and this it is that causes the bite like the serpent's and the sting like the adder's. No poison that goes into what is called pure whisky is so deadly as the pure liquor itself.—Herald and Presbyterian.