

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

VOL. III. No. 5.

TORONTO, ONT., NOVEMBER, 1896.

25 CENTS PER YEAR.

Do not hesitate to take this paper from the Post Office. If you have not paid for it in advance, some one else has done so for you, or it is sent you free.

LADIES TO THE FRONT.

THEY PROPOSE TO STAY THERE.

Mrs. May R. Thornley's annual address to the W. C. T. U. workers, delivered at the convention at Pembroke, is an inspiring and interesting document. We regret that it would be impossible to present it in full to our readers. A few extracts are all we can give them. Regarding the plebiscite Mrs. Thornley said:

We did not ask for this trial of strength, but we do not shun it. We court every chance to meet the saloon in the open—for is it not an opportunity to sound a blast on the Prohibition bugle, that shall ring its way down into the consciousness of the sleepy Christian, pierce the dulled ear of the worldling, and catch and hold the harmony loving nature of youth?

The circle of soldiers and sympathizers widens with every fresh planting of the standard. We have nothing to fear, and everything to hope.

What shall be our share in the campaign?

There are the local tire, and country spokes and the provincial hub. If the White Ribbon wheel is to move effectively every part must contribute its quota of faithful work. Said a recent correspondent, "There are at least six places in our county where there might be Unions and are none." Should I pass on that item of information to the county President she would in all probability respond: "Though the Provincial pays the expenses for organizing new Unions, it does not and cannot supply the means for the necessary preparation of the ground. The county treasurer is glad if at the end of the year, after paying present obligations, she has a few dollars to the good. How can this additional burden be borne?"

Now, dear women, I will not minimize this difficulty, but I will say that it must be overcome; we must organize, if it is nothing more than a Youmans' Band Committee, in all these untouched places.

Some are so situated that they must confine their efforts to the local Union where they hold membership. Others may look to the broader county field, and there are a few whose endowments and home surroundings fit and permit of their giving at least a little help beyond both local and county borders.

Here is a proposal that may at least partially meet the difficulty. Let us prepare at once a list of all our women who can do effectively any public work. Let us add to this list three or four capable women lecturers, and a man or two. Then let our conventions be arranged systematically, and our workers and speakers sent from one point to the other with as little loss as possible of railway fare, and nerve force.

Besides the conventions, I am constantly written to for speakers for evening meetings, parlor gatherings, etc. These might be supplied from the same source.

SCOTLAND.

The Irish Templar gives an interesting report of a recent Good Templar meeting in Hamilton, Scotland, at which Lady Isabel Douglas Hamilton and her two sisters were initiated. Lady Hamilton is a sister of the Duke of Hamilton, another active total abstainer.

NOTES OF NEWS.

THE LIQUOR CURSE STILL RAGES.

WHAT THE FRIENDS AND THE FOES OF TEMPERANCE ARE DOING.

DROWNED WHILE DRUNK

A dispatch from Prince Albert, N.W.T., dated Oct. 22nd, stated that five intoxicated half-breeds while attempting to cross the river the preceding night, were drowned.

ANOTHER DRINK OUTRAGE.

While Chief of Police Taylor of Richmond, Que., was endeavoring to arrest a drunken man at the Grand Central Hotel, the offender struck the officer a heavy blow with a bottle. It is expected that the assault will result in the death of the wounded man. The offender lies in Sherbrooke jail waiting the result.

ENFORCING THE LAW.

Yarmouth town, in Yarmouth county, N.S. is having a vigorous Scott Act enforcement campaign. Two detectives from abroad were employed who spent some time among the different unlicensed places working up evidence which resulted in eighteen convictions. Fines and costs aggregating about \$1200 were imposed upon the offenders.

PATRONS TO VOTE.

The Executive Board of the Ontario Patron Organization has arranged to take a vote of the different local branches on the question of making prohibition a plank of the Patron platform. It is hoped that this work will be completed before the end of the year. To add new planks to the platform will require a ninety per cent vote of the local branches.

GETTING READY.

The prohibitionists of East Durham met in Convention at Baltimore on October the 20th for the purpose of organization in view of the approaching plebiscite. Committees to work in the different municipalities were appointed and a resolution adopted requesting ministers to preach sermons in behalf of the cause. Mr. Stephen Burwash was elected President and Mr. T. A. Chapman Secretary of the organization.

DRINK DID IT.

A sad piece of news comes from Muskegon, Mich., in the form of an account of an affidavit made by the only survivor of the wreck of the Schooner Waukesha. He states that the captain, mate and several sailors were drunk when the vessel arrived off Muskegon and this prevented the crew from taking the usual measures to secure their being rescued by the life-saving crew from the shore. After the wreck the man who survived got together a raft to which some of the men clung. Their drunkenness however, interfered with their success in the attempt to escape the danger that threatened them and all but one were drowned.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS.

The great Provincial Sunday School Convention held at London Ontario, during the last week of October, made the following strong deliverance on the temperance question. "We hereby reaffirm our abhorrence of the legislated liquor traffic and our demand for its total suppression by statutory enactment as a just and proper measure in aid of all moral efforts for the abolition of intemperance and its attendant evils, and inasmuch as the Dominion Government has declared its purpose to submit the question to a

vote of the electors of Canada, with a promise of prohibitory legislation in the event of a favourable response, we hereby request the Ontario Alliance to take such immediate and energetic action as may be necessary to secure a successful issue; we hereby pledge ourselves to hearty co-operation in the impending campaign and call upon Sunday School workers generally to join with others interested in the matter to do all in their power to make the popular verdict emphatic and overwhelming."

THE SERPENT'S TRAIL.

The New York Voice of Nov. 5th devotes a column to lately recorded recent catastrophes of which drink is the direct cause. Among them are the following:—

At Newark, N. J. an eighteen months old babe was murdered by its drunken father. An intoxicated laborer of New York threw his wife from a window forty feet above the ground, breaking several of her bones. A man at Erwin, Pa. in a drunken frenzy bent his father to death, and now lies in the jail while his wife has gone to an insane asylum. Another man crazed with drink killed his wife and children at Boiestown Ga. and then committed suicide. At Detroit another intoxicated man mortally wounded his wife with a revolver and then blew out his own brains. The same day at Boston, another victim of inebriety nearly chopped his wife to death with an axe, he then cut his own throat. In a saloon in New York a man who was drinking, threw a beer glass at his wife who came to take him home, fracturing the skull of a baby in her arms. In Kansas City, a grain merchant discharged one of his employees who at once got drunk and shot the merchant dead. In New York City on October 15th a woman was knocked down in the street and killed by a drunken man. These are only a few of the awful tragedies which the papers day by day report.

MANITOBA ROYAL TEMPLARS.

Rev. A. F. Andrews, Grand Councilor of the R. T. of T., Grand Council of Manitoba, has issued an address calling upon members of the Order to organize at once for the Plebiscite campaign. He earnestly urges all to forget partyism, cease discussing unnecessary questions and rally in an earnest effort to win from this opportunity a magnificent victory. He speaks commendingly of the addition to the Dominion Cabinet of Hon. Clifford Sifton "a well-known temperance man."

NO HALFWAY MEASURE.

A well-attended meeting of the Executive Committee of the Dominion Alliance was held at the Secretary's office, Toronto, on the 3rd inst. A goodly number of leading prohibitionists were present. Vacancies on the Executive were filled by the appointment of Messrs F. Buchanan, L. C. Peake and Mrs. Cowan. It was announced that the summary, prepared by the secretary, of the Royal Commission Report, was now ready and would be shortly sent out. Arrangements were made for a deputation to the Provincial Government to press upon that body the proposed amendments to the license law, approved by the Convention held in July. The deputation was also instructed to emphasize the fact that nothing short of the maximum of legislation clearly practicable would be considered satisfactory.

ONTARIO GRAND DIVISION SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

The 47th annual session of the Grand Division Sons of Temperance for the Province of Ontario, will be held in the Town of Whitchy commencing at 2 p. m., Tuesday, December 1st. The meetings of the Grand Division will be in the Music Hall the use of

which has kindly been given by the Town Council. A public reception will be held during the evening of the first day.

Among the prominent members of the Order who have intimated their intention of being present at this gathering, are Thomas Caswell, M. W. P., Toronto; J. H. Roberts, M. W. T., Boston, Mass.; Hon. G. W. Ross, P. M. W. P., Minister of Education; Hon. E. J. Davis, Provincial Secretary, Toronto; R. Craig, P. G. W. P., Quebec; E. W. Redhead, P. G. W. A., Lockport, N. Y.; Other distinguished members are also expected. The meeting will be one of much interest and importance.

UNITED KINGDOM PROHIBITIONISTS.

The annual meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance of Great Britain was held last month in the Central Hall, Manchester. Sir Wilfred Lawson, M. P., the president, occupied the chair. The attendance was large and the representatives present were enthusiastic. Strong and aggressive addresses were delivered. The official report of the Executive Committee was a historical document of much value. Among the resolutions submitted was one favouring work by the Alliance for restrictive legislation pending the attainment of prohibition. The proposal was voted down by a large majority. Emphatic resolutions were adopted in favor of immediate definite legislation giving the people power to suppress the liquor traffic in their respective localities. Total prohibition was declared for in the following terms:—

"That the poverty, approaching to destitution, of millions of people in the United Kingdom, mainly caused by the waste of money, time, productive and administrative skill and knowledge, as well as of health and life, which the liquor traffic directly and indirectly produces, is not only the cause of an enormous amount of self-inflicted as well as of unmerited suffering, but is also a grave political evil and national danger; and this meeting earnestly calls upon Christian and patriotic citizens to aid in awakening all persons in positions of power and influence to the necessity of ridding the country of this enormous evil and growing danger."

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The International Good Templar gives us the following information regarding the eleventh session of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, which was held at Victoria in September.

The session was not as well attended as some have been, but it is pronounced as one of the best and most harmonious ever held. A loss of 150 was reported in adult membership but a gain in Juveniles of 170 was made.

The Grand Chief Templar also referred to the work being hindered by lack of funds and a heavy debt they had at the beginning of the year.

Electorial Superintendent John N. Evans urges the members to prepare for the plebiscite which the government has promised to provide for, and proposes a convention of all lodges to prepare for the campaign.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year: P. G. C. T., Dr. Lewis Hall; G. C. T., Rev. A. E. Green, Eburne; G. Vice Mrs. (Dr.) Lewis Hall; G. C., James Russell; G. Sec., R. G. Clarke, Dewdney; G. Asst. Sec., Miss Mabe Reeve, Duncan; G. Treas., S. Gough, Nanaimo; G. Supt. Juv. Temp. Rev. J. P. Hicks; G. Marshall, D. C. McKenzie, Kamloops; G. D. M. Miss L. Banfield; G. Chap., A. R. Carrington, Nicola Lake; G. Guard, Sister I. B. Blyth, Somenos; G. Sentinel, O. Bell, New Westminster; G. Elec. Supt., J. N. Evans, Somenos; G. Messenger, W. F. A. Thornton, Sardis. Rev. A. E. Greene was elected representative to I. S. L.