

have been presented during the past year to the several legislatures of the South. I am quite happy to inform you that in several states these efforts have been successful, and restrictive license and local option laws have been passed in the States of Kentucky, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. By the advantages thus gained, and the enforcement of the laws, terror has been stricken into the ranks of the enemy, and hundreds of these vile places have been closed. If you desire further evidence of advancement and the progress we are making, I refer you to the number of judges, legislators, physicians, ministers, and municipal and county officials, who are to be found in our ranks, wearing the badge of our order, and who are now the advocates and champions of our cause. Would you know of the good results of the year's labor, you can learn them from the lips of the reclaimed thousands, who now form a part of the grandest army of philanthropists and reformers the world ever saw. Would you know where our principles have been most firmly planted, and where the gleaming light from our star-spangled banner is hailed most heartily, then go to the homes which were once desolate, where the wife was paled by sorrow and pinched by poverty, and where the little innocent ones, chilled with the bitter frosts, cried for bread; here you will find those who now sing for gladness, and bless you as the author of their joy. Comrades, you have opened fountains whose water shall never cease to cheer and bless. You have awakened sweet music, whose chords shall charm and delight the human heart and ear while time shall last. Our order is stronger now than ever before. Our numbers have greatly increased during the past year, and on the roll-books of our *International Order* we have registered more than SEVEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND NAMES. What a grand army to do battle for the right! Heaven be praised for all that has been accomplished.

DECISIONS.

The following decisions on questions and appeals have been rendered during the year:

1st. A W.C.T. cannot grant a clearance card. It can only be granted by a vote of the Lodge, when a member applying for the same is square on the books, and there are no charges pending. Decisions of G. W. C. T.'s in conflict with the above decision are void and of no effect.

2nd. Is it a violation of a Good Templar's obligation to drink Ottawa beer, as it is claimed by the makers that it will not intoxicate?

Answer. I cannot see how it is possible to make beer which does not contain alcohol. It is not beer if there is no alcohol in it; therefore, as our obligation does not permit the drinking of beer (alcohol) I would consider the drinking of Ottawa beer a violation of our obligation.

3rd. If an officer elect is absent on installation night, and no new election is held on the spot, and another person is designated by and with the consent of the Lodge, and is installed in due form by the Lodge

Deput
unles
Lodge

An.

else

for ge

postp

not d

out fi

elect

ing b

Depu

4th

interf

T. or

An.

infor

to do

appe

prude

in th

5th

refus

An.

offic

unde

when

6th

appli

plicat

ing n

grant

An.

ing o

the a

draw

quart

7th

remo

come

now

who

tion c

to thi