

The Camp Fire

A. MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE GOOD TEMPLAR ORDER.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE

ADDRESS - - TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, FIFTEEN CENTS a Year.

NOTE.—It is proposed to make "THE CAMP FIRE" the cheapest temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published. Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers. The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words - if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER, 1894.

THE CAMP FIRE.

Every Good Templar ought to remember that this is his paper. It is published purely in the interests of the work which he desires to promote. Its usefulness can be greatly enhanced by two methods, which we cordially commend to our readers.

The first of these is the using of the CAMP FIRE as a medium for making known to your co-workers and the public what is being done by your lodge for our Order and cause. Every subordinate lodge should have a CAMP FIRE correspondent. We don't want long statements that would not be of general interest. We don't want lists of officers elected, or details of programmes of meetings. We do want brief statements of everything that is being done by the lodge in increasing its strength and usefulness, and information of all that is being done for our cause in every locality.

Members need not be afraid of their contributions not being in perfect form. Give us the facts and we will put them in shape. Drop us a post card telling us how many initiations you have, when you have a public meeting, social gathering, Demorest Medal contest, or any special effort for temperance and prohibition.

We want to know all about what you are doing, 10,000 other Good Templars want to know it as well. Give us an opportunity of letting them know.

The other way to help our work is to help our circulation. Every lodge should have some one canvassing for new subscriptions. Think of it, only ten cents a year for a monthly missionary to any home to which you want to send it. Good Templars cannot afford to do without it. It has met with much success, but your effort can make its success still greater.

We appeal to the rank and file of the Good Templar Order with full confidence that they will appreciate and aid in what is being done on this line. The circulation of the CAMP FIRE will help you in all you are striving to do for the temperance cause.

WHERE WE STAND.

Still no decision has been made by the Supreme Court upon the constitutional question. Still no indication to the public that any progress is being made by the now almost forgotten Royal Commission. We are still waiting. We must wait. But we must not be idle. The success of the temperance cause does not depend upon

either the Royal Commission or the jurisdiction question. It does depend upon the activity, earnestness and wisdom of its supporters. The prohibition of the liquor traffic will be attained in Ontario and all over our Dominion. That attainment is hastened by everything we do to strengthen public opinion, to weaken the liquor traffic, to build up the agencies that are fighting that traffic.

Every addition to every temperance organization is progress. Every meeting held to help on the cause means education. Public sentiment is being developed. Public sentiment is what must ultimately drive the liquor traffic out of the land.

We must wait, but we must not idle. The winter that is just commencing ought to be a winter of agitation, of advancement, of development. All through it we should have continued effort for the upbuilding of our Order, the circulation of temperance literature, the holding of public meetings. This work will tell whether courts or commissions are ever heard from or not.

INSURANCE SYSTEM.

Mr. Charles Smith has written to the Alliance News giving the latest published report of the mortality experience of the United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution. It refers to the year ending December 31st, 1893, and is as instructive as were the preceding reports. Mr. Smith says, the actuary (Mr. R. P. Hardy) reports the mortality on whole-life policies to have been as follows. Expected claims in the Temperance section, 337 for £86,204; the actual claims were 228 for £68,115. In the general section the figures are 300 expected claims for £93,722; whereas the actual were 385 for £86,195. The experience of the whole 28 years for which this experience has been chronicled may be briefly tabulated:—

TEMPERANCE SECTION.			
	Expected claims.	Actual claims.	Percentage of expected.
25 years 1866-90	4854	3123	70.5
3 years 1891-3	985	708	71.8
Total 28 years	5841	4131	70.7
GENERAL SECTION.			
	Expected claims.	Actual claims.	Percentage of expected.
25 years 1866-90	7277	7031	96.6
3 years 1891-3	1163	1232	105.9
Total 28 years	8440	8263	97.9

LITTLE TONG WONG.

BY EDWARD CARSWELL.

Melican man welly funny. I washee dishee for Melican lady. She say, 'Tong, be welly careful not breakee dishee. They much money cost, so I careful not breakee dishee. Then I waitee on table. Missee put much bottle on table. Melican man drunkee out of bottle. Missee get drunkee too. Then they laugh and get much funny. Then they get mad. Melican man he throw dishee on floor, and breakee all to pieces. Then Missee throw sugar bowl at Melican man, breakee all to pieces; (sugar bowl, not Melican man). Then he kick over table, and breakee lots of dishes.

Then I run away. Next day I say I makee it allee lightee, so I hide bottle away. When Missee say 'Tong, where is bottle?' I say 'Allee lightee, Missee, I throw him away so he no more breakee dishee, they so much cost.' Then she w'ly mad, callee me 'little fool,' and 'heathen Chinees,' Melican man welly funny.

Yes, Tong, Wong, we are funny, although crazy would be a more appropriate word. It costs the nation millions of dollars every year for broken dishes, broken bones, broken homes, broken fortunes, and broken hearts, all through this bottle; and yet we put it on the table. But

the strangest part of it is that we think we can pay for the dishes by charging the man who sells us the bottle a large price for the privilege, which he charges back to us. And we pay the whole bill. Tong, it is funny.—Edward Carswell.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

LOOK AT THIS—\$250 BENEFIT FOR 15 CENTS A MONTH.

The attention of all Good Templars is called to the following important statements showing how members of this organization may obtain the very safest form of assessment insurance on terms more favorable than can be obtained in any other organization.

WHAT A SAVING OF A HALF-CENT A DAY WILL GET YOU.

With a view to provide an insurance benefit for young people and others who feel that they cannot afford to pay the premiums necessary to secure the larger insurance benefits offered, the Benefit Association has decided to give an insurance benefit of \$250. This addition to the list of magnificent benefits provided by the Association places within the reach of nearly every person the possibility of providing against the uncertainties of life by means of an insurance payable during old age or at deaths occurring earlier. The cost of this new benefit is almost nominal, ranging from 15 cents per month for the youth of eighteen (of either sex) to 34 cents at the maximum of admission age 48. Think of it; a saving of one-half cent per day commenced at the eighteenth birthday and kept up regularly, will secure an insurance benefit of \$250 whenever death may occur. It is anticipated that this benefit will be coming speedily popular, owing to its exceedingly small cost, and within a comparatively short time at least a thousand applications for it should be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer.

WHAT YOU CAN SAVE BY INSURING YOUR LIFE NOW.

Under existing regulations it costs to join the Good Templar Benefit Association:

The admission fee	\$5.00
The registration fee for \$1,000	1.00
The examination fee not less than	1.00

Total minimum costs \$7.00

To encourage Good Templars to immediately enter the Association the Directors have decided to make this grand offer, namely, to refund:

The admission fee	\$5.00
The registration fee	1.00

making a total refund of \$6.00

to every accepted applicant for the \$250, or the \$500 insurance benefit who at the time of making application pays three monthly premiums in advance. The object of making this offer, which will remain open for a limited time only and which may be withdrawn any day, is to speedily increase the membership to a full benefit paying basis with a desirable class of members. One thousand members added to the Association within the next three months will place it in a position to pay in full every anticipated benefit claim immediately on presentation, as well as to lay the foundation for a substantial reserve fund. In the meantime a guarantee fund has been subscribed, insuring the full payment of claim arising out of first death in \$250 or \$500 class. While the Association could, without drawing upon this guarantee, pay a better first benefit than was paid by fraternal associations than are prominent to-day for the benefits they pay, it is felt that if at all possible full benefits should be paid from the start; by doing which the Association would establish for itself a record as creditable as it is rare. Remember, those who come in at once save six dollars, and get the benefit of practically free admission, while they are fully protected by the guarantee fund. This is an offer not likely to be kept open long. Wise Good Templars will, therefore, take advantage of it while they may, with a full consciousness that while they are promoting their own personal interests they are also increasing the strength and permanence of the Order to which they belong.

OUR PRESENT DUTY.

Personal abstinence from all that can intoxicate; that it is the first step in the pathway of reform. No man can be regarded as a temperance worker, or even as a friend of temperance, who takes liquor as a beverage. He may profess a word of sympathy with the drunkard's wife and family, and he may offer up long prayers for the salvation of the world. It makes no difference. The wine-drinking minister of religion and the whisky-drinking church member, equally with the publican behind the bar, are serving the devil by keeping in existence the devil's chief agent for the destruction of men. The first duty of intelligent thoughtful Good Templars, therefore, is to emphasize and enforce the truth concerning alcoholic liquors. Strong drink is not only physically hurtful, but is morally destructive, and that being the case it follows that the consumer of strong drink is violating the teachings of science and the dictates of revelation. Let us have sound instruction in our lodges in regard to the personal aspect of the drink controversy. Before a man can be recognised as a genuine temperance worker he must become a genuine total abstainer. That is a truth which Good Templars must spread broadcast; and, as every convert to total abstinence inflicts actual loss upon the enemy, those converts must be multiplied as rapidly as possible.

Good Templars are invested with a tremendous and far-reaching responsibility. If the machinery of the Order for rescue, reform and educational work is so superior to the machinery of other organisations, then that machinery should be worked to its utmost capacity for good. Splendidly finished and elaborately constructed machinery will not drive the ocean greyhound to her destination, unless there is a propelling power behind it; and the most complete organization will not revolutionise society, or bring order out of chaos, unless there is a living operating principle at work. What made Good Templary a power to be reckoned with in the past was the earnestness and enthusiasm of its members; and similar means will bring forth similar results in the future. The order is all right, and the lodge machinery is all right, but if the country is to be emancipated from the tyranny of the devil alcohol, steam must be got up and the machinery must be put in motion. We want more devotion to the work, more love for the drink-smitten victims of our large cities, and more of the inspiration that comes from God Himself. Are we prepared to make our lodges rallying centres of temperance effort, and real homes for the week and defenceless? If so, progress will be the order of the day, and the future will be more glorious than the past.

This is a work in which all can participate, Good Templary was never intended to be run by an executive. Every member of the Order is an element of strength or of weakness—an active contributor to its usefulness, or a drag upon its efforts to do good. Its progress in the future, therefore, will, as in the past, depend not upon the brilliancy of one or two recognised leaders, but upon the devotion, sincerity and the persistence of the rank and file. The exhortation to increased activity comes not only to the heads of the Order, but to the comparatively unknown members in the back blocks. There is a need of a revival both in the city and in the country, and a revival which will be worthy of the cause can only be brought about by officers and members unitedly consecrating themselves afresh to the work. The order is not yet played out. It is not going to die until the liquor traffic is dead and buried. Between Good Templary and alcohol there can be no truce and no basis of reconciliation. The two forces are in deadly antagonism, and it is war to the knife, and the knife to the hilt. There can be no doubt about the result. Religion and humanity are on the side of the Templar army, and therefore that army must succeed. When the triumph shall be complete, so far as this country is concerned, depends very largely upon the readers of this journal. If they are true to themselves, and equal to the obligation resting upon them, they will strengthen their ranks, fall into line, and march forward to a glorious victory.—Australian Temperance World.