

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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TO OUR FRIENDS.

Subscribers to the CAMP FIRE are respectfully requested to send in their subscriptions immediately upon receiving notification of their being due. As it would not pay us to keep special accounts with subscribers it is necessary for us to drop names when renewals are not sent. Every number will contain so much matter of interest and value to our workers that not one should be missed.

PROHIBITION WORKERS.

Kindly read this paper carefully. Note the information it contains. Think of the good that its wide circulation would accomplish. Consider the value it would be to yourself if you received it regularly. Then subscribe. You will need it in the coming fight. Get your society to take a number of copies for free distribution. Read the low rates at which it is furnished.

THE ONTARIO ELECTIONS.

We have earnestly entreated our Ontario friends from time to time to prepare for the election that is now upon them. The liquor-traffic is doing its best to capture the legislature. We must defeat it. Many men are in the field who can be relied upon to stand by our cause. It is our duty to stand by them. Let every temperance voter's ballot tell for God and home and country. Remember our often declared policy:—To vote for KNOWN AND AVOWED prohibitionists.

It is a cheap device to brand the Temperance movement as fanatical. Now, I deny that it has a single feature of fanaticism; for it is based upon physiological principles, chemical relations, the welfare of society, the laws of self-preservation, the claims of suffering humanity, all that is noble in patriotism, generous in philanthropy, and pure and good in Christianity.—William Lloyd Garrison.

He was a hundred and a day,
He slyly looked at me;
'Yeth, I have drunk and chewed and thmoked
Through all my life,' said he.

He was a hundred and a day,
And he was sturdy yet—
But, gentle reader, it was in
The poorhouse that we met.

A LESSON FOR CHICAGO.

Chicago will do well to pattern after Toronto in one respect—perhaps in more than one, but this in particular—in that city saloon keepers are not allowed to become members of the City Council. What a clearance there would be in the Chicago City Council if all the liquor dealers should be "with sighings sent" to --- their own place:—*Advance.*

NOTES OF NEWS.

PROGRESS OF THE CEASELESS STRUGGLE.

Items of Interest from many Fields.

St. John, N B.

The police returns for the past year show a total of 1,392 cases dealt with as against 1,357 in 1896. The arrests for drunkenness number 788, an increase of 95. In considering such statistics it must be borne in mind that many other offences besides drunkenness are directly chargeable to the liquor traffic.

Getting Ready.

The Manitoba Branch of the Dominion Alliance is setting about preparation for the Plebiscite with vigor and earnestness. Already a large supply of prohibition leaflets has been secured and distributed. The President, Rev. J. M. A. Spence of Winnipeg, has issued a stirring appeal to all workers all over the province, to drop minor political issues and differences and make prohibition the issue of the hour.

Illicit Whiskey.

Mr. E. Floody, Inland Revenue Inspector, recently captured a large and well-equipped still near the town of Lindsay, Ont., and had the owner thereof arrested. It does not seem that the present rigid excise laws prevent men from manufacturing whiskey illicitly. Yet we are sometimes pointed to smuggling and illicit distillation under prohibition as evidence that prohibitory law is not a success.

Results of Rum.

The City of Charlottetown is already reaping the sad results of Scott Act repeal. A letter recently received from a well informed gentleman there, says "The situation as regards sobriety is at present most deplorable and is the daily comment of the press and the pulpit. In the history of the city there has never been such a condition of shameful drunkenness as exists at present."

A Big Victory.

The township of Mariposa has defeated a by-law for the repeal of local option, the vote standing for prohibition 544, against 273. This township has had a local option by-law in force for three years, not always as well enforced as could be desired, but still accomplishing such results as to commend itself to public opinion so as to secure the strong endorsement which has just been given it, and which may fairly be taken as the spoken opinion of the electorate.

A Welcome Co-Worker

The Grand Division, Sons of Temperance of Ontario, is publishing an attractive eight-page monthly paper, entitled "The Sons of Temperance Record and Prohibition Advocate." J. M. Walton, G.W.P., of Kettleby is editor, Messrs A. Gowler and J. C. McCarthy, of Toronto, are assisting in the management. Special attention will be given to pushing the work of the Sons of Temperance Order, and stirring up the electorate to prepare for the coming Plebiscite campaign. The first issue is attractive, bright and in every way promising. We wish its promoters the fullest kind of success.

A Stirring Debate.

The prohibition question evoked a hot discussion in the Montreal Church of England Diocesan Synod, on January 20th. A report on temperance work was presented urging members to promote the cause by advocating total prohibition as well as by moral suasion and general education. Several clergymen objected to the Synod's going on record as in favor of prohibition, and stirring speeches were made by prohibitionists and license advocates. The report was finally so amended as

to make it optional with members of Church Temperance Societies to advocate prohibition, moral suasion or education. A very able speech was made by Mr. E. L. Bond in support of prohibition. The presiding Bishop also declared himself "an out and out prohibitionist."

Halton Ready.

The annual meeting of Halton County Prohibition Association was held at Milton on January 18th. A good turn-out of representatives was present. Arrangements were made for the coming Plebiscite campaign. Officers were elected as follows:—Pres., Dr. Robertson, 1st. Vice-Pres., David Hartley, 2nd. Vice-Pres., Johnson Harrison, Sec., W. J. Armstrong, Asst. Sec., Miss Clara Hollinrake, Treas., Geo. Wooding, Chap., Rev. H. A. McPherson. An Executive Committee was also selected, composed of the officers named and the following, E. F. Earl; R. White; Rev. D. W. Snider; Rev. A. Mahaffy, of Milton; H. P. Moore, of Acton; H. W. Kennedy, of Georgetown; W. H. Young, of Oakville; E. H. Cleaver, of Burlington; H. N. Cook, of Trafalgar; C. Newell, of Nelson; C. P. Preston, of Esquesing; Thomas Moore, of Nassagaweya, and the presidents and secretaries of temperance organizations.

A Fearful Record.

Elizabeth Watts aged twenty-eight, was recently charged in the London, England, South Western Police Court, with drunkenness and disorderly conduct. It was her 221 appearance. She was sentenced to one month's hard labor.

A Scotch Rally.

Preparations are being made for a great Scottish Temperance Convention to be held in Dundee from April 2nd to 7th. The Rt. Hon. Lord Overtoun, D.D., will preside. Every temperance society in Scotland is invited to send representatives.

Third Party Conference.

The Prohibition Party of the United States held a big conference at Cincinnati commencing January 26th, a feature of which was a banquet. Inspiring addresses were delivered by many prominent workers. Full reports have not come to hand.

Non-Partisan W.C.T.U.

The National Non-Partisan W. C. T. U. held its eighth annual Convention at Columbus, Ohio, commencing on Saturday, January 8th. Encouraging reports of the progress of work were received. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—President, Mrs. Annie Wittenmeyer, Sanatoga, Pa.; Vice-President, Mrs. T. B. Walker, Minnesota; General Secretary, Mrs. Ellen J. Phinney, Cleveland, Ohio; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Etta B. Hurford, Iowa; Treasurer, Mrs. Howard B. Ingham, Cleveland, Ohio; Editor of *The Temperance Tribune*, Mrs. J. D. Weeks, Pittsburg.

A National Convention.

The American Anti-Saloon League held its third National Convention at Columbus, Ohio, commencing on Tuesday, January 11th. The attendance of delegates and visitors was about 800. Hon. Hiram Price, of Iowa presided. Organization in eighteen states was reported. A great mass meeting was presided over by Rt. Rev. John A. Waterson of Columbus, and addressed by Judge C. A. Pollock and others. Plans were laid for further pushing non-partisan work against the saloon. The principal officers which were elected unanimously, are as follows:—Pres., Hon. Hiram Price; Sec., James L. Ewin, Washington, D.C.; Treas., J. W. Cummings, New York.

Massachusetts Voting.

The cities and towns of the State of Massachusetts vote every year upon the question of license or no-license.

The thirty-two cities have already voted, and in March the town elections will take place. The term "town" in Massachusetts corresponds with the term "township" in Ontario. The result of the voting in cities was a total poll of 125,408 for license, and 103,786 against. The license vote shows a slight increase over that of 1896 and the no-license vote a slight falling off. Licenses are issued or withheld in each town or city according to the local vote. The cities that have not carried for prohibition are Beverly, Chelsea, Everett, Fitchburg, Malden, Midford, Newton, Salem, Somerville, Quincy, Waltham and Woburn. The cities of Brockton, Gloucester and Haverhill before under prohibition have gone over to license.

Prohibition Works.

The State of Kentucky has very large areas under total prohibition through the operation of local option legislation. The fact that the law is not a failure is forcibly illustrated in the following paragraph clipped from a recent issue of the *Tri-Weekly Advocate*, published in Danville in the state named:

"Last week a Danville girl was visiting in a city not over fifty miles from her home. She is about fourteen years and has been reared within sight of the town of Danville. During her visit away from home she was walking down street with her friend, and noticing a great many men going in and out of strange looking houses with queer signs upon the doors, she asked (What do they sell in these stores where those men are going?) What stores asked the other girl. (Why those stores with saloon on their signs.) And then the little maiden from Danville was given a description of the uses and purposes of the first saloon which she had ever seen."

CAMPAIGN EQUIPMENT.

The Vanguard, all numbers issued, in neat cloth binding, is the most important Canadian contribution yet made to the literature of the temperance and prohibition reform, containing **over 650 pages** full of invaluable arguments, facts and statistics, all reliable, fresh and good, fully and carefully indexed.

The People vs. The Liquor Traffic, a set of lectures by the late Hon. J. B. Finch, is one of the most forcible and comprehensive arguments for Prohibition ever made. Special Canadian edition, **240 pages**. Fine cloth binding, price 40 cents.

The Camp Fire is a neat four-page monthly campaign journal, specially published for campaign work. It summarizes the latest news about the prohibition reform, and presents an array of live, pithy articles and brief statements of important and helpful facts and incidents. Subscription, 25 cents per year.

The two great books above named, will be sent postage pre-paid, and also **THE CAMP FIRE** to December, 1898 inclusive, to any person sending at once **ONE DOLLAR** to F. S. Spence, 52 Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

With these three sources of information, any pulpit, press or platform worker, will be *fully equipped* for the great plebiscite campaign.

The number of books available for the purpose named is limited. First come, first served. Don't miss the opportunity.