

# B. C. GOOD TEMPLAR.

FOR GOD AND HOME AND EVERY LAND."

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## THE B. C. GOOD TEMPLAR.

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Edited by C. S. KEITH, T. C. WHITE and W. W. FORRESTER, under special instructions from the Grand Lodge.

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Correspondents and reporters should, in order to secure notice, pass in their communications before the 5th of each month.

Brothers M. Byson, E. B. Stuchcombe and A. L. Mann have been appointed to look after the interests of this paper in New Westminster, and are authorized to receive subscriptions and arrange advertisements.

A red mark around this article indicates that your subscription is due. You are earnestly solicited to renew.

### PROHIBITION.

The result of the recent plebiscite in Ontario points to a rapidly growing sentiment in favor of the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, and that the feeling is growing stronger in our own Province is evidenced by the recent debate on this question in the Legislative Assembly at Victoria.

On the 3rd inst., Mr. Keith brought in the following resolution:

"No wine, spirits, beer, porter, or other fermented or intoxicating beverage shall be brought, supplied, sold, bought, given, used, or consumed in or about the premises or buildings where the Legislative Assembly holds its sittings, or in any of the rooms, buildings, restaurant, or premises adjoining the same, or in its or in their immediate vicinity, or within the limit of the jurisdiction where the rules of the Legislative Assembly are applicable."

This motion gave rise to quite an interesting discussion, at the conclusion of which the question was put, resulting as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Semlin, McKenzie, Kitchen, Sword, Cotton, Kellie,

Beaven, Milne, Horne, Brown, Foster, Keith, Stoddart and Hunter.—14.

Nays—Messrs. Grant, Punch, Smith, Watt, Baker, Davie, Vernon, Eberts, Booth, Adams, Pooley, Turner, Martin, Croft, Rogers, Anderson and Hall.—17.

It will be seen from the above that the motion was lost by the very small majority of three votes. The Premier, however, afterwards announced that, in accordance with the evident feeling of the House, he would issue orders that no liquor should hereafter be sold in the restaurant attached to the legislative building. This resolution, it seems to us, is but the stepping stone to total prohibition throughout the whole Province.

Our citizens have reason to feel proud of the firm stand taken by our popular member for New Westminster, Mr. Brown, on this subject, and we trust that the Lodges in our city will endeavor to secure his services during the coming campaign, in order that he may present to them his views on the temperance question, and, if these views are strictly in accordance with the principle of prohibition, they should do all in their power to place him in the field as their candidate.

The Provincial elections are not far distant, and it should be the aim of every Lodge in the Province to select as its candidate, a man of pronounced temperance principles. All party considerations should be laid aside at such a time and our motto should be, "Measures, not Men."

We note that every member of Premier Davie's Cabinet voted against Mr. Keith's resolution, and it is useless to expect prohibition to be carried so long as a Ministry composed of such men as he has surrounded himself with, remains in power. Self-interest is the watchword of the present administration, the interests of the country and the moral welfare of its people being lost sight of altogether. The time has come for the great army of temperance workers to

put their shoulders to the wheel and work with all their might and main to elect as their representatives men who will unite in sweeping the demon alcohol from our midst.

### OUR LODGES.

Excelsior District Lodge No. 2, I. O. G. T., met at Northfield on Saturday, March 3rd.

Representatives present from the following Lodges: Onward, No. 2; Mt. Benson, No. 5, Somenos, No. 9; Cowichan, No. 39; Chemainus, No. 40; and Wellington, No. 43.

Lodge called to order at 2:45, D. V. T., Sis. A. Hill in the chair. After receiving the Credential Committee's report, thirteen members were introduced and received the District Degree.

The business was then continued in the Subordinate Degree. Election of officers for ensuing year: D. C. T., Bro. G. Kirkendall; D. V. T., Sis. M. Hardy; D. Councillor, Bro. R. H. Whidden; D. Secretary, Bro. W. J. Brown; D. T., Bro. J. A. McDonald; D. C., Bro. R. Wilkinson; D. S. of J. T., Sis. J. Mebius; D. M., Bro. McNabb; D. A. M., Bro. Wooley; D. A. S., Sis., E. Nord; D. G., Brother Conway; D. Sentinel, Bro. T. E. Lawley; P. D. C. T., Bro. H. Harold. Bro. Wilkinson, D. D. G. C. T., installed the officers.

The next meeting to be held at Duncans, on Saturday, June 2nd, commencing at 10:30 a.m.

Reports of Committees and discussion on the same, occupied the time till 6:35 p.m., when the Lodge adjourned for lunch.

Re-assembled at 7:10, Object and general work of the Lodge explained by Bros. Kirkendall, McDonald, Wilkinson, Whidden, Badcock and Brown.

Information about Cedar District asked for and given.

Bros. Dolan, Harold, Vipond, Wilkinson, Hardy, Hilditch and Brown were appointed a Committee to try to organize a Lodge there.

Bros. Kirkendall and Whidden were appointed to visit Cobble Hill Lodge, as they had not reported or sent representatives.

Bros. Whidden, McDonald and Brown were appointed as a Visiting Committee.