

## THE DISCUSSION ON REFERENDUM

It Will Come Before the Legislature Tomorrow — The Case as Presented by the Alliance.

The question of a referendum will be before the legislature at Fredericton tomorrow. The discussion will be non-

partisan. The line of argument followed by the delegation from the New Brunswick branch of the Dominion Alliance which appeared before the legislature and urged that a resolution be passed in the matter of a referendum on inter-provincial traffic in liquor, was as follows:

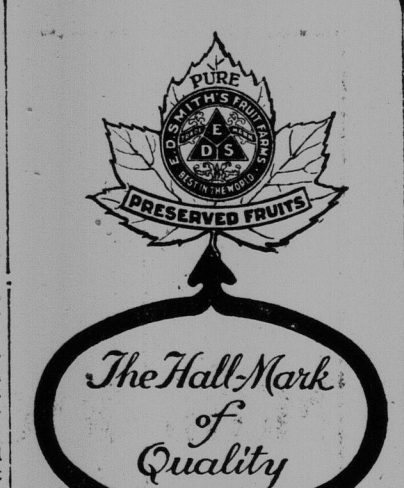
The temperance alliance desires to express its appreciation of the courtesy of the premier in arranging for this meeting to the members of the legislature for their presence.

We are representing all the churches of this province and a good many other organizations as well.

We are here to ask the legislature to pass a resolution asking the dominion government to appoint a referendum enabling the voters of this province to say if they wish prohibition to be made effective. Unless this resolution be passed by the legislature the referendum cannot be taken.

The legislature of this province in 1916 passed a prohibitory law to prevent the sale of alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes within the province, and in spite of its limitations it has been successful beyond our most sanguine expectations.

One of the greatest hindrances to the effective enforcement of the law has been the importation of liquors into the province under the dominion law regarding inter-provincial trade.



under the dominion law regarding inter-provincial trade.

The dominion order-in-council passed in 1918 prohibited this importation with marked beneficial results in this province.

This order-in-council was repealed by the dominion government with disastrous results to the enforcement of the prohibition laws of the several provinces making them largely ineffective.

The dominion house of commons passed the necessary legislation to provide by statute for the prohibition which had been given by order-in-council, but for some unaccountable cause the bill of the people's representatives was rejected by the senate.

The house then passed in amendment to the Canada Temperance act providing that any province might take a referendum vote of the people giving to them the power to decide on the question of the importation of liquor into the province for beverage purposes.

The process by which the vote is to be brought into effect in any province is as follows:

1. The legislative assembly of the province must pass a resolution signifying a desire that a vote be taken on the question.

2. The resolution must be sent to the secretary of state for Canada—that is the resolution we now ask you to pass.

3. The dominion governor-general-in-council will then issue a proclamation announcing the date and detailing the arrangement for taking the vote.

4. If more than one-half of the total number of votes cast are in favor of prohibition the governor-general-in-council will, by proclamation, declare the law in force in such province.

The effect will be to prevent the importation into the province of liquor for beverage purposes, allowing it for medicinal, manufacturing and sacramental purposes.

6. All the provinces, with the exception of Quebec, have already passed or are passing similar resolutions with similar aims.

7. It may be asked why this resolution is being asked for when the government has already provided for a vote on the provincial prohibition law.

If the vote under the provincial law be favorable, of which we have no doubt, the question of importation would still remain as it is today, one of the great barriers in the enforcement of our own provincial law.

The dominion referendum is necessary to settle this question and to remove this difficulty. The reason why we ask it now at this session before the provincial question is settled, is this—that unless it is done at this session it will be fifteen or eighteen months before it could be brought into force, as it would need at least three months after the next session of the house before the vote could be taken, and paralyzing the enforcement of the provincial law during all that time.

All the provinces are ahead of us on this question except Quebec. You gentlemen are equally interested with us in the success of the prohibitory law and doubtless will be as anxious as we are to give the people a chance to say for themselves what they wish to have done and which can only be done by the passing of this resolution we are now asking you to pass.

The delegation also impressed the following four reasons:

1. consistency and common sense in relation to the provincial law as sale.

2. In the interests of law and order.

3. International obligations especially to the State of Maine.

4. As a principle of democracy.

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Deer Island, J. B. Cline & Son.

Doaktown, Otto Hildebrand.

Dorchester, Palmer, Ltd.

Fairville, Fairville Drug Company.

Fredericton, Lawlor & Cain.

Gagetown, D. Moore & Son.

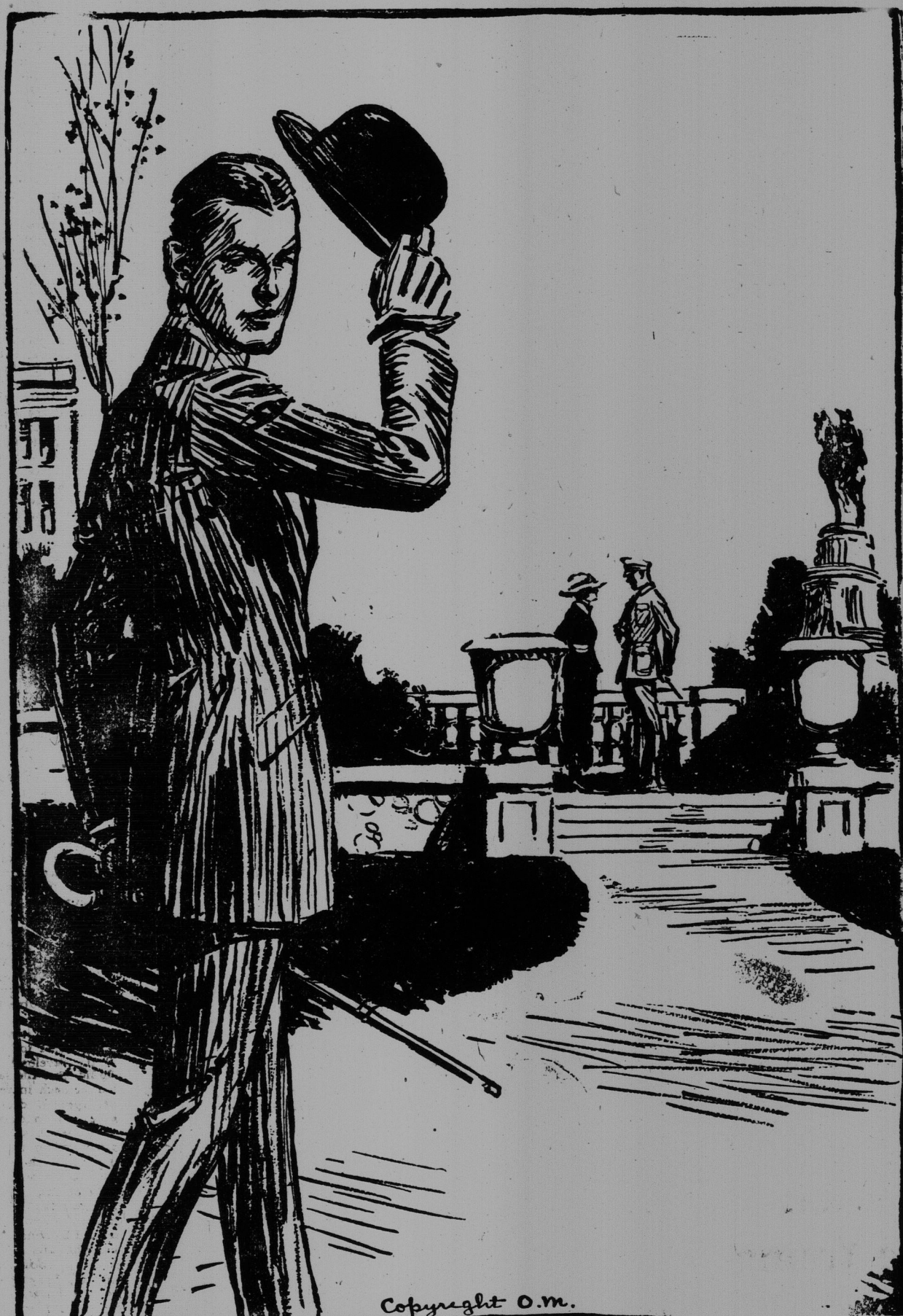
Grand Falls, G. M. Taylor.

Hampton, J. W. Smith.

Harland, J. W. Montgomery.

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35.00 Suits ..... Now 28.00	35.00 Overcoats ..... Now 28.00
40.00 Suits ..... Now 32.00	40.00 Overcoats ..... Now 31.50
42.00 Suits ..... Now 33.50	45.00 Overcoats ..... Now 35.75
45.00 Suits ..... Now 35.75	50.00 Overcoats ..... Now 39.50
48.00 Suits ..... Now 38.50	All Blue and Black Suits at 20 per cent. off regular price.
50.00 Suits ..... Now 39.50	
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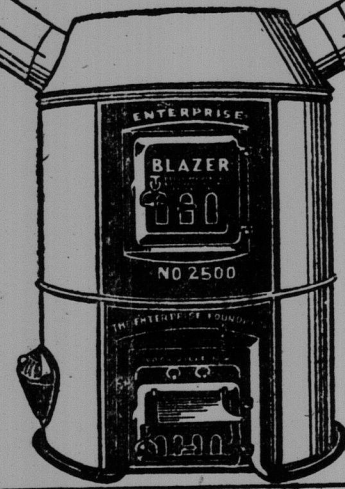
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