

1. I think it will not be disputed that while there are many Conservatives who are zealous and honest in the promotion of temperance, the great majority of temperance advocates are to be found in the ranks of the Liberal party. Will not the manifesto of the Alliance, directed as it is almost if not quite exclusively, against Liberals, be regarded as so unfair and offensive as to alienate their good-will at a serious crisis in the history of the temperance movement. Liberals do not believe that their leaders have broken their pledges or proved recreant to their professions as temperance men, and to lose the sympathy of the Liberals, whether the Government is defeated in the general election or not, will inevitably re-act upon the temperance movement. It is well known that the conduct of some so-called temperance leaders in 1902 was not helpful during the referendum campaign. History sometimes repeats itself: If it should be so, will the Executive of the Alliance be free from blame?

2. The Liberal Convention, as I have shown, has put itself on record in favor of advanced legislation in regard to some matters of supreme importance to temperance reform. The Conservative Conference has declared for nothing except sympathy. To defeat the Liberal party is to destroy the party that has already given all the temperance legislation now on the statute book, as stated by Mr. F. S. Spence at the Convention. To place the Conservative party in power is to give position to a party from which no temperance legislation has ever come and which even when public expectation is so keen will give no assurance as to its intentions.

3. Is it not quite evident that the Alliance, originally founded to unite all temperance workers, will, by the policy which it is now pursuing in the pending election, be found to be in alliance with the various forces opposed to temperance? Nothing will please the enemies of temperance more than to see the Liberal ranks divided. Every vote cast for a third candidate is a vote against advanced temperance legislation. It would not surprise me in the least, should the policy of the Executive prevail, to see a license victualler and a member of the Executive on the same platform, the one denouncing the Liberals because they went too far and the other because they did not go far enough.

MY MOTIVES MAY BE CHALLENGED.

Now, it will be said that my sole motive in this somewhat lengthened reply is to save my party from defeat. Admit the motive, if you will, but it cannot be said that it is an unworthy motive. The Liberal party, like any other human organization, has its imperfections, but it has nothing to fear on account of its record on temperance or any other public question in comparison with any other party. It has a good defence for its temperance legislation and it has no apology to make for its inability to proceed more rapidly or to legislate more comprehensively than it has done. And now perhaps more hopefully than for many years back it looks forward with confidence to be able to make further progress through the opportunities presented by the platform adopted by the Liberal Convention.