

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

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Every one who receives this paper is respectfully requested to read every part of it carefully. It is a journal that no Canadian temperance worker can afford to be without. The subscription price is almost insignificant. In the great impending campaign for prohibition in Ontario it will be of intense interest and great value.

SHAMEFUL REVELATIONS.

The New Voice of Chicago deserves the thanks of civilization for its masterly exposure of the villany that has been perpetrated in the Philippines under United States military rule.

The New Voice sent a special commissioner, Mr. William E. Johnston, to investigate and report upon conditions in the conquered archipelago. Mr. Johnston found that the natives of the new possessions were as a rule, comparatively temperate and well behaved, but that the military occupation was fast breeding fearful demoralization.

The canteen system, authorized by army officials, has resulted in most disgraceful drunkenness among the American soldiers, accompanied by other evil practices, setting to the conquered people a shocking example of brutal immorality. In many cases innocent and unoffending natives both men and women, have been ill-treated so shamefully that the record must use the indignation of everyone who has any humanity or decency in his composition.

It is expected that these sad exposures will result in such indignation against the administration which is responsible for them, that there will be an uprising among Christian citizens and a vote polled that will show the politicians that public opinion against official encouragement of the liquor traffic is so strong as to be a political factor that they can no longer ignore.

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FACTS AND FIGURES.

AFFECTING OUR CAUSE.

A Fatal Fight.

A quarrel took place at the Humber tavern west of Toronto city on October 13th. The disagreement terminated in a rough and tumble fight, from the effects of which Isaiah Warner, one of the quarrelling men, has since died.

Fearful Depravity.

A shocking occurrence took place in the city of Toronto on the evening of September 25th. Several boys and young girls spent a part of the night in drinking together on a vacant lot in the west part of the city, and in the morning one of the young men, Fred Barnes, who had been drinking most heavily, was found dead on the scene of the debauch.

Drink Did It?

On September 13th a prominent dentist of Stanley, N.B., was found dead in his room at a hotel where he was staying. For several days he had been drinking to excess, having taken to the use of methylated spirits as a stronger potion than ordinary spirituous liquors. He was missed from his office in the morning and found dead in his room in the afternoon.

Another of the Same.

A drunken quarrel at Oil Springs on October 9th, between two brothers who lived together, resulted in the death of one of them. The men had been to Petrolia together with a load of grain. On the return journey they had a flask of whiskey from which they drank. They also stopped with others at a tavern on the way. Quarreling in the evening at home, they had a serious fight after which one of them lay moaning in bed till the following afternoon when he died.

Convention Reports.

The September Number of the Woman's Journal contains a series of interesting letters from Canadian delegates to the World's W. C. T. U. These letters taken together, give a good idea of the most salient features of that important gathering. The writers are Mrs. A. O. Rutherford, Dominion President, Mrs. Dougall of Montreal, Mrs. J. Bullock, of St. John, and Mrs. Asa Gordon, of Ottawa.

Ontario W.C.T.U.

The Annual Convention of the Ontario W.C.T.U. will be held in Smith's Falls from October 29th to November 3rd inclusive. Mrs. May R. Thornley, the beloved leader of Ontario White Ribboners will preside and the meeting will be of great interest and importance. Mrs. G. L. Stevenson, President of Massachusetts State W.C.T.U., and Mrs. A. O. Rutherford, Dominion President, will be among the distinguished visitors who will address the Convention. Any desired information regarding this important gathering may be obtained from Mrs. Mary Wiley, Provincial Secretary, Richmond Hill.

Quebec W.C.T.U.

In the early part of the present month the Quebec W.C.T.U. held its annual meeting at Granby. Reports were given by returned delegates from the World's Convention at Edinburgh. Plans for the coming year were laid and resolutions were adopted favoring an extension of franchise work, calling for watchfulness over scientific temperance instruction, and strongly condemning liquor selling in military canteens. Much regret was expressed in regard to evil results of Scott Act repeal in Bromo county. Mrs. Sanderson, of Dannville, was re-elected president, Mrs. R. W. McLaughlin, of Montreal, Corresponding Secretary, Miss Bazin, of Ormstown, Recording Secretary, and Mrs. S. P. Leet, of Montreal, Treasurer.

Startling Facts.

Among the revelations made by the *New Voice* special commissioner to the Philippines, are the following startling facts:—
There are now about 200 liquor selling canteens in the American Army garrisons in the Philippines.

During the occupation of the Philippines by the United States Army some 60,000 of the soldiers have been under hospital treatment and one of the principal officials has stated that 15,000 of these were in the hospital because of drink.

Another hospital official has stated that from five to thirty lunatic soldiers have been shipped back to the United States on every transport which has sailed since the occupation and that nearly every case of lunacy was directly caused by drink. Mr. Johnston believes that this would mean about 900 soldiers driven crazy through drink.

One of the principal surgeons referring to the eleven suicides that have occurred in the army, states that nine of them were directly caused by drunkenness.

Seventy-five per cent. of the so called foreign liquors sold in Manila, are villainous concoctions of bad alcohol and drugs manufactured on the spot.

Army officials have connived most disgracefully at gambling, vice regulation and the worst forms of inducements to men to drink in the interests of the liquor sellers.

"LET US ALONE—MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!"

In reply to this exhortation of liquor dealers, Dr. Burns, of England says:

"I cannot let the traffic alone. I have never sold, bought, given, tasted, recommended, or sanctioned it in one form or another. And yet, sir, this traffic won't let me alone. It attacks my pocket. Who pays the increased taxation of drunkenness? The sober and the virtuous. And it is a shame that the whole community should be taxed for one class. I know some persons have said, 'Why don't you let our traffic alone? We don't interfere with you, you may go on with your teetotal speeches, only don't come out in this prohibitory law manner.' I might also say in reply, if you let me alone, I might be tempted to let you alone, but unfortunately you won't. Where is the man in the country who has eyes to see and ears to hear, and a heart to feel, and bowels to yearn and sympathize with moral wretchedness, that is not disturbed beyond utterance every day at the calamities produced by the strong drink traffic? It moves me in every power of my mind. It distresses every motion of my soul. Am I a man, and can I see the manhood of my fellow creatures annihilated out of them? Am I a Christian and can I see the mouth of hell gorged with drunken victims? Is not every man in the community my brother? Is not the drunkard, though fallen, my brother? That degraded wife of his is my sister; those orphans have a claim upon my sympathies; and I do not deserve the name of a man—I should be put down as a monster—if I were not shocked and distressed, and grieved and pained, and martyred by this traffic. Therefore, though I am a teetotaler, and have no connection with the drinking habits of the country, I suffer in body, pocket, mind and conscience, and all the powers of my soul, by this evil and destructive thing."

PURE BEER LEGISLATION.

"It is generally considered and understood that nearly all beer brewed in this State, as well as in most States, would not pass muster under a pure beer law, and if brewed in, say, some parts of Germany, would land the brewer in jail."—*Liquor Trades Review.*

THE CRANKS.

The cranks are God's own people; they Who point, explore and lead the way. They plod that weary way alone; They ask for bread and get a stone; They ask for fish and get a snake. They starve without the raven's cake. They know the heartache and the tear. They know the bitter jest and jeer. Who dares to help his fellow man. Who dares propose a better plan. Is straight enrolled amid the ranks Of that high army of the cranks: While at their heels the mob decries them, "Stone them—jail them—crucify them!"

To night, alone, I'm thinking sadly—
The common people heard Him gladly,
And sat before His blessed feet,
And hearkened to His counsels sweet,
They ate His fishes and His bread,
And followed where His footsteps led.
Then who are they, all stern and loud,
Who haunt the outskirts of the crowd?
Who ridicule the Righteous One,
"Is this not He, the carpenter's son?
"Impostor, charlatan and fraud?"
The Pharisees! Mine eyes, Oh God,
With hot, indignant tears are wet,
They scourge their sunlit leaders yet!

And Festus yet in judgment sits
Mid cruel, fox-eyed hypocrites,
And these are they who sit to try
The men of genius, and they die.
And as of old they ask of bread,
And get a stone when they are dead.
The Master pilots, men of brains,
Die like Columbus, bound in chains.
The chains of custom, creed and sect.
The manacles of cold neglect.
Some think like Burns—how sad the tale—
Great luck to die outside the jail.
Or, fortunate, poor luckless elves,
To drink the hemlock cap themselves,
And dying painless offer thanks!
God help the hapless band of cranks!
For us who have escaped this school,
Thank God that we were born a fool!

—*The Khan.*

WAR AND INTEMPERANCE.

We lament the losses of our brave soldiers in South Africa where already some thousands have fallen in battle or died of wounds. Their death has carried sorrow into thousands of homes and has spread broadcast the pall of mourning. We grieve for the loss, although they died in what we believe to be a good cause. They died "as honor dies"—a noble death.

Large as are the numbers of our fallen soldiers, the total would make but a fraction of the vast army that are annually cut off in the British Empire through strong drink. In the British Isles alone it is estimated that 80,000 thus fall year by year with many other thousands in Canada, Australia and other colonies and dependencies. These die a death of shame and dishonor. What father or mother would not rather give five sons to die on the battlefield, than one to fill a drunkard's grave?

Yet the drunkard-making business goes on from year to year. Wars have an end, and between them there may be long intervals of peace. But the cruel slaughter of the rum traffic is unending. By day and night it goes on throughout the Empire, in Canada, here in Charlottetown! And it is carried on by men who are "authorized to sell" by the Christian Government of Prince Edward Island. Think of the wickedness, the shame of it.

We are unable to prevent wars, for they spring from international causes, beyond our control. But the votes of the people can make the rum traffic illegal and send to prison the men who are engaged in it. When moved to tears for our heroes fallen in battle ought we not to think of these thousands that are falling to death and dishonor by the rum curse, and of our duty to prevent this awful slaughter which is preventable? Think it over.—*Charlottetown Guardian.*