

was to the United States government; a solemn, forcible, defiant declaration of war, by the simultaneous opening of hostilities. There is no backing out now for either side: The Prohibitionists have shown at this election that they now are enlisted for the war to its bitter end. They propose to crush the liquor traffic out of existence, by fair means or foul, and they have good reason for being sanguine of success. Look at their sweeping victories in Kansas and Iowa, at their progress in Missouri, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Illinois, where local option and high license prevail, and at their steadily growing strength in a dozen other states, such as Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin Michigan, Minnesota and others. Are you blind? Are you deaf? Are you the tools of whom the Latin Poet said: Quos Deus vult perdere prius dementat. Whom God wants to punish, he first makes mad, (crazy.) It would seem so indeed.

"The Prohibition flood is now sweeping over every state in the union, threatening some of them, ruining others. It undermines the very foundations of every distillery and brewery and shakes like an earthquake every liquor warehouse and every saloon in the land. Do you not hear and feel the Prohibition waves beating against the very walls of your stores, your business places, your family dwellings?"

"Once more we call your attention to your danger; There was mirth, rejoicing, carousing and revelry in the dining-hall of the Babylonian Monarch, Belshazzar, where a mysterious hand traced on the wall in fiery characters the ominous words, "Mene, Tekel, Upharsin." Neither the king, nor the guests took notice of the warning, and before moving they were slaughtered, the royal palaces plundered and given a prey to the flames, and the Babylonian or Assyrian empire obliterated from the face of the earth.

Saloonkeepers, liquor dealers, brewers, distillers, beware! The muster of the Prohibition hosts, at the late election is your "Mene, Tekel, Upharsin." Ruse yourselves from your lethargy; form your protective phalanxes, fight for your rights, for your business for your homes."

CHRISTMAS.

The holiday season is here with its reunions and festivities, its bustle and excitement, its happiness and mirth, and alas! its perils and its sorrows as well. Millions of homes during the coming week, will be full of gladness and mirth, friends that have been far apart will be clasping hands again. But too often the exciting surroundings will throw the judgment off its guard, temptation will come in unusually seductive guise, and mother's hearts will beat faster in painful fear of the mischief the holidays may do their boys. Down lower in the social scale, where more of a sacrifice will be made to give the little ones a Christmas treat, all the more appreciated, because of its rarity; even there the anticipated joy will often be marred by sin and shame, and Christmas will bring terror and pain instead of joy and peace. There will be, in all probability, in our Christian communities during the coming fortnight, more drunkenness with all its attendant miseries than has been in any two weeks of the past year.

We call the attention of our many readers to this sad fact, simply for the purpose of warning those in danger to be more than ever on their guard, and warning all to beware that they have no part or lot in causing any temptation that might make our joyous Christmas season a cause of stumbling to any weak or erring brother. Let our homes be bright with the gladness of purity and love, and entirely free from the intrusion of anything that might lead to any evil.

BRANT AND BRANTFORD.

The Scott Act has been carried in the county by about 600 majority but defeated in the city by 166. Our aggregate majority in the city and county is therefore over 400. Our Brantford friends made a noble fight against some very contemptible and dishonest tricks that were indulged in by their opponents

in a desperate effort to defeat the Scott Act at any cost. Brantford must still remain under the license system, it is certain that ere long a totally prohibitory law will extend to our fair Dominion the benefits that localities must work so hard for now.

Our present record is: out of 58 contests we have won in 47 and our polled majority to-day is nearly 30,000 in favor of the Scott Act. We "thank God and take courage."

Contributed Articles.

THE TORONTO TEMPERANCE ELECTORAL UNION.

To the Editor of THE CANADA CITIZEN,

SIR,—The above is the name of the organization under whose auspices the agitation for the submission of the "Scott Act" to the vote of the electors of Toronto is being conducted. The "Union" consists of officers, one president, three vice-presidents one treasurer, one secretary and assistant, and a membership comprising seven representatives from each ward association, viz., the president and secretary by virtue of their office, and five representatives appointed by the Ward Association, thus giving for the twelve wards of the city a membership of eighty-four, to which add the officers of the Union (seven,) and we have a membership of ninety-one, to which may be added an indefinite number of the city clergymen, some of whom take an active part in forwarding the movement. The executive committee is composed of the seven, officers of the Union and the president and secretary of each ward branch (twenty-four),—thirty-one in all, and this again may be divided into sub-committees of Finance, Literature and Lectures. This "Electoral Union" is the nearest approach to an organic union of the temperance forces of the city which has yet been attained, but it is only directly representative of those elements which are 'outside' of existing temperance organizations. There are many and powerful organizations, societies, and Orders which are not represented in this Union, and which, to the mind of this writer at least, must be brought into harmony before we can help to a successful issue the great work before us. Let us enumerate some of these organizations. The churches are through their ministers indirectly represented on the Union:—The C.E.T.S., the W.C.T.U., T.T.R.S., W.E.C.T.S., I.O. G.T., S. of T., Royal Templars, etc., etc. Then there is another very important element which must not be overlooked; our Catholic fellow-citizens. All these various elements and organizations must be brought not only into harmony with our views, (many are so already); but must be brought together by some organic union, so that the whole body may move intelligently, and unitedly. How shall this be done? I say, by representation on the 'Union.' Let each of the bodies named, or any others if there be such acting through this new UNITED Central Body, appoint say three representatives to the Union, of these three let one belong to the executive of the Union thus a sufficient representation without undue bulkiness would be obtained. Thus, the churches could act unitedly through their Ministerial Associations. The I.O.G.T. through their district lodge or association, and so on with the other bodies. This, it appears to me, must be the very Genesis of our work; and for this an "organizing agent" is indispensable. In the majority, if not in the whole of the places where the Scott Act has failed to carry, it has so failed because of the lack of proper and sufficient organization; properly worked and attended to. Let us here in Toronto, the Queen City of the West, show what can be done by thorough organization thoroughly worked out to the end. I do not believe that the Scott Act is a certain failure in our cities. Granting that the liquor traffic is there at its strongest, that the 'lower orders the residuum' is there in full force, so is, or ought to be the 'moral and spiritual forces found at their best. What shall we gain? What shall it profit us? If in all our rural constituencies prohibition prevails must our cities be given up as hopeless, reeking centres of corruption? Where then is the boasted power of our civilization? Where the 'superior force' of Christianity, of which we hear so much?

Mr. Editor, I have written at your request, my aim is, that, by whatever means, this Scott Act agitation, upon which we are now just entering, may we so far as organization is concerned, be placed on the high road to assured success. The spirit of 'union' and federation is in the air; many before us now do not realize that "Union