

Commeate.

WHAT did Mr. Marter get? *Proprietor* chicken got.

This paper only costs you Four *Leaves* a year. It will give you Four Hundred Dollars' worth of information.

How comes it that Ald. Lamb did not loom up at the Prohibition Convention with a resolution to close off the talk at 9 o'clock?

AN ineffective law is just one degree worse than no law at all. An unenforced Prohibition law is a thousand times worse than even a poor licence law.

How many of the party are like Ald. Hallam of Toronto—in favor of prohibiting everybody else, but determined upon maintaining his own wine cellar.

THE Prohibition Convention in Toronto concluded its work by appointing F. S. Spence as permanent secretary on salary. He is to devote his whole time to the furtherance of the cause.

In another column will be found the conditions of the International Beer Competition at Vienna this summer. Our Canadian brewers should make a point of heading the list. Canada should be well represented.

On Sunday Rev. W. F. Wilson informed a Toronto audience that what the Prohibition party needed was a leader, and he proceeded then and there to nominate Mr. James L. Hughes for the position. James was wise. He declined.

THE GLOBE sent two commissioners to Iowa and Kansas, and proved conclusively the failure of prohibition in both of these States. But Sir Oliver Mowat having made a combine with the faddists, the organ now screams for Prohibition.

IS Chicago a saloon keeper is being prosecuted for refilling Walker's Canadian club bottles with cheap whiskey and selling it as the original contents. Right in this city Mr. Walker could find whiskey that never saw Walkerville, being sold out of "club" bottles.

WHAT did the Toronto News mean in its last Saturday edition in printing a picture of Nicholas Flood Davin, M.P., in oratorical attitude under the heading of "A Counterfeiter's Victim," and labeling it "you are the chosen man?" This kind of thing will yet lead to the effusion of blood.

THE Mail good-naturedly pokes fun at Sir Oliver and his Cabinet over their recent enrollment in the cold-water ranks. It is, if we recollect correctly, nearly eight years since the Mail announced its firm intention of carrying a musket in the Prohibition ranks. The musket has never since gone off.

IS the week that has elapsed since Sir Oliver Mowat's declaration in favor of

Prohibition, Mr. Mowat has spoken at Whitley, Mr. Awey at Brampton, and Mr. Hardy's voice has been heard. Strange to say, neither one of them were a blue ribbon, nor did either refer in even the most remote degree to the question of Prohibition.

CONSERVATIVE Prohibitionists are now calling for a reduction of licenses. What do these good people mean? Surely the trifling embarrassment they could give the Ontario Premier is not justification for an attempt to turn men out of their homes into the streets, ruin them and drive them into the ditch, and that without any possibility of good accruing? For their party's sake, if not for their own, they should cultivate a little common sense.

WHEN Toronto University undertook a presentation of Sophocles' "Antigone" in the original Greek set to Mendelssohn's magnificent music, the question of ways and means was a very serious one. Four of Toronto's public spirited citizens promptly came forward and guaranteed the University against loss. They were Mrs. Alexander Cameron, Mr. George Gooderham, Mr. William Mulock and Hon. Frank Smith.

THE action of the United States Secretary of Agriculture in purchasing large quantities of Canadian barley for seed purposes, is a glowing tribute to the excellence of the Canadian grain. It is not, however, testimony to the Secretary's knowledge of agriculture. Soil and climatic conditions are necessary along with the seed. There is no part of the United States that can produce barley equal to the Ontario product and Congress unless the Senate makes a change, has practically prohibited Canadian barley by the imposition of excessive duties.

A CHICAGO despatch says: The first step towards suppressing a wholesale system of fraud in connection with the sale of whiskey was taken to-day, when Justice R. H. White held Thomas E. Eger, a Randolph street saloon-keeper, to the grand jury in \$700 bond on the charge of refilling "Canadian Club" whiskey bottles from the distillery of Hiram Walker & Sons, Walkerville, Ont., with cheap liquor and selling it as the original contents. The defendant waived examination and was released on bail. Under the trade mark law of 1891, distillers' labels are afforded protection and the unauthorized use of the same is made a penitentiary offence. This test case will be followed by numerous criminal prosecutions against saloonkeepers in Chicago and other American cities.

THERE is as much excitement out on Queen street west over an application for a transfer of licence as though a majority election were on. A shop licence is held at No. 666 of that thoroughfare. This is in Mr. Crocker's fine brick block and is a most excellent stand in every respect. The proprietor wants to move across the road to a little wooden building, formerly used as a laundry, which he

has purchased. Naturally he wants to be on his own premises. But Euclid Avenue Methodist Church is only three doors away and 400 members of the Church protest against the transfer. Their chief objection is to a side entrance which opens on a lane in rear of the Church. There was a big meeting before the Commissioners on Tuesday.

THE death of Rev. Dr. Douglas, of Montreal, "the blind man eloquent," removed one of the most unique and remarkable figures of the pulpit of Canada. He was certainly the most prominent, and, until afflicted with blindness some twelve years ago, one of the most active personalities in Canadian Methodism. Lately, through influences that need not here be discussed, he was led to take very extreme views on political creed and some social questions, by reason of which his great reputation was somewhat impaired. These faults of his old age, however, will soon be forgotten, while the charm of his magnificent eloquence, the dignity of his presence, and the breadth, energy and fullness of his life work will be ingrafted in the history of the Dominion. The death of a great man is a loss to the nation.

LAST week we referred to a negro in the fence in South Waterloo. It appears that things in that constituency are even more mixed than we had supposed. The Patrons of Industry do not approve of the Prohibitionists' selection of Mr. Goldie, the miller, and are bringing out a candidate of their own in Mr. Sipes, a farmer, who is not acceptable to the Prohibitionists in that he grows barley, which is purchased by the local brewers and maltsters. Mr. Sipes has also oak trees on his farm which might be cut up into staves and manufactured into beer barrels. Consequently he is a dangerous man. In addition the P.P.A. propose to put a candidate in the field, which, together with the regular Reform and Conservative nominees will leave plenty of choice. As to the chances, the Prohibitionists could not elect a pathmaster, the P.P.A.'s are an unknown quantity, the Patrons are strong if united, and the Reformers have a nominal majority of anything up to four hundred.

Citizen and Home Guard is a very nicely conducted temperance journal issued from the office of the London Advertiser by Deacon John Cameron. In its last issue it calls attention to the fact that the buyer of liquor in Ontario, during prohibited hours, is liable to a fine as well as the seller. It is pointed out that the law has stood that way for years, and the assertion is made that "Sunday selling has become less and less frequent." Bless his heart, what does the good deacon know about Sunday selling? We venture to assert that he has no more idea of the amount of liquor sold on Sunday in his own town than he has of the color of the North Pole. In Toronto there were in 1891, 92 liquor cases, in 1892, 136 and in 1893, 129. These were prosecutions of unlicensed places, and do not include prosecutions of hotel keepers. Now there are a dozen glasses of liquor

sold in unlicensed places for one that is handed out over a bar on Sundays; and, if Bro. Cameron and his well-meaning, but not well-posted friends would give the respectable hotel keeper a little encouragement instead of continually hounding him, and would turn the vials of their wrath upon the unlicensed places, they would be acting the part of wisdom.

THE CAUSE.

THE Hamilton Herald says our cause is "as unpopular as a bent pin." In part this is true, but this is not the first time that the editor of this paper has taken up an unpopular cause. If the cause is right it can be made popular.

THE Toronto News says, "THE ADVOCATE is better than the cause it represents." Therein our contemporary is in error. Our cause is the Right of the people to reasonable freedom, on the one hand, and to save this country from the intolerable evils that invariably follow in the wake of a prohibitory law on the other. The cause is good, THE ADVOCATE can yet be made better.

ORGANIZE AT ONCE.

With the leader of the Ontario Government pledged to the Prohibitionists, and that same body holding in reversion the leader of the Opposition, is the case of those opposed to Prohibition hopeless?

By no means. Surely right and justice will rise above mere political expediency. What right have thirty per cent. of the voters of this Province to dictate to twenty per cent. in a matter of this or any other kind. What justice is there in driving three or four thousand men to business ruin simply to appease the whim of a minority? These matters are too serious to be made the shuttle war with politicians may weave the party web. And yet in no other way can Prohibition ever be carried.

What then is to be done? The answer is plain. Organize against the politician. Establish Liberty Clubs in every constituency. Take into them every opponent of Prohibition. Then when a candidate runs who favors Prohibition throw the whole strength of the organization against him. Kill him. Never mind whether he is Conservative, Reformer or mixed breed, give him the knife right up to the hilt. The representation of one-half of the constituencies in Ontario, can be changed at this year's elections by such an organization. A majority in the Legislature against Prohibition is the guarantee of safety.

In the formation of this organization those interested in the liquor traffic will have to take the lead. And work should be commenced at once. This week should not go by, this week will not go by, we may say, without a start being made. The contributions formerly given to the campaign funds of the two parties will provide ample means for all necessary work.

Thoroughly united, the next election returns will tell a story that will make the Plebeian crawl under the barn.