

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

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F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1883.

THE ALLIANCE.

The Dominion Alliance for the total suppression of the liquor traffic was organized at Ottawa, in February, 1876. It was the outcome of a feeling among the various previously existing Provincial Prohibitory Leagues in favor of a central organization that would consolidate existing agencies, and direct all work on the line of national prohibition or restriction of the liquor traffic. Each Province in the Dominion has a Branch Alliance, that elects a number of representatives who constitute the Dominion Council. Each of the Branches is constituted by similar representation from local *auxiliaries*, as well as by direct membership.

It will be seen at once that there is in this arrangement an admirable adaptation to our peculiar system of national organization. It is conceded that prohibitory power, in reference to the liquor traffic, is vested in the Federal Parliament, and so far restriction has been exercised by Local Legislatures and Municipal Councils. The Alliance scheme provides, (1) an agency in each locality to work for Municipal restriction, to work for parliamentary representation and generally to organize and develop Temperance and Prohibitory sentiment and power; (2) a Provincial agency for the concentration of local forces in united effort to secure increasingly useful restriction by Provincial legislation, as well as to supply the additional strength that always comes from co-operation, sympathy and counsel; and (3) a Dominion Council furnishing a further working out of the same idea of union and mutual aid, also with the special duty of pressing the claims of public temperance sentiment upon the Federal Parliament, in reference to the liquor legislation by that body.

The many temperance societies, that are doing such a great and useful work, find in The Alliance a much needed means of combining their respective forces for political action, and it is to be hoped that they will still further recognize the necessity for, and the claims of this useful organization. It is the rival of none, but the helper of all. Its benefits have already been felt in every part of Canada. To it we owe the Dominion Temperance Act of 1878, the stringency of Provincial license laws, and the great success of Scott Act agitation and other local political temperance movements. Our many warm friends in the different legislative bodies have had their hands strengthened and their work facilitated by Alliance sympathy and support. And Alliance utterances are now listened to by all as being the voice of the growing temperance sentiment of the great Canadian Dominion.

No branch of temperance work is of more importance than the circulation of useful literature, and the informing the public thereby

of the facts and principles that underlie this movement, and of the progress it is making. The Dominion Council does good service in this direction by the publication of THE ALLIANCE YEAR BOOK. The issue of this for 1883 has just come to hand. It is the best compend of Canadian temperance history and statistics that we have yet seen; and a copy of it ought to be in the hands of every one of our workers. It gives a full report of the annual meeting of the Council held at Ottawa in the February of the present year, and also reports from the provincial branches. It contains, in addition, a valuable synopsis of the Scott Act with a summary of its history by Prof. George E. Foster, M. P., a report of the working of the same in the different places in which it has come into operation, a carefully prepared synopsis of the new Dominion License Act, an excellent paper on Temperance Teaching in schools by S. A. Abbott, and a mass of well-compiled statistics and other information in reference to temperance and intemperance in Canada, Great Britain and the United States. We strongly commend this pamphlet and urge upon the friends of our cause, the desirability of doing all they can to secure it the extensive circulation that it well deserves.

A list of the principal officers of the Alliance will be found in our directory on page 60. There ought to be an auxiliary in every County and City in the Dominion. The secretary of any of the Provincial Branches will gladly furnish information in reference to organization where this has not already been accomplished. He will also give his personal assistance.

In order to give a more complete general idea of the object and methods of the Alliance we append the Declaration of Principles of the Dominion Council, the constitution of the Ontario Branch, and the constitution of the Toronto Auxiliary.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF THE DOMINION ALLIANCE.

I.—That it is neither right nor politic for the State to afford legal protection and sanction to any traffic or system that tends to increase crime, to waste the national resources, to corrupt the social habits, and to destroy the health and lives of the people.

II.—That the traffic in Intoxicating Liquors, as common beverages, is inimical to the true interests of individuals, and destructive to the order and welfare of society, and ought therefore to be prohibited.

III.—That the history and result of all past legislation, in regard to the Liquor Traffic, abundantly proves that it is impossible satisfactorily to limit or regulate a system so essentially mischievous in its tendencies.

IV.—That no consideration of private gain or public revenue can justify the upholding of a system so utterly wrong in principle, suicidal in policy, and disastrous in results, as the traffic in Intoxicating Liquors.

V.—That the Legislative Prohibition of the liquor traffic is perfectly compatible with national liberty, and with the claims of justice and legitimate commerce.

VI.—That the Legislative Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic would be highly conducive to the development of a progressive civilization.

VII.—That, rising above sectarian and party considerations, all good citizens should combine to procure an enactment prohibiting the manufacture and sale of Intoxicating beverages, as affording most efficient aid in removing the appalling evil of Intemperance.

CONSTITUTION.

OF THE ONTARIO BRANCH OF THE DOMINION ALLIANCE.

I. OBJECTS.—The Ontario Branch shall, through its Executive, advocate the principles and promote the objects of the Alliance within the bounds of the Province, by endeavoring to procure the adoption and