

THE CAMPAIGN.

Our space is so much taken up with matter that it is needful to lay before the public at this time, that we can give our readers very little in the way of news of the progress of this great campaign, although much encouraging information is coming in to us every day.

THE PROVINCES.

Every province is organized and alive. Conventions have been held in all excepting Nova Scotia, in which a Provincial Convention meets on Aug. 23rd. From all come cheering reports of awakening interest and earnest effort.

British Columbia and the North-West Territories have had their Conventions since our last issue, the former at Vancouver, the latter at Regina. Attendance was good. Enthusiasm was high and plans were laid for thorough organization and work.

Mr. W. W. Buchanan and party are still campaigning in the Maritime Provinces. They have attended many County Conventions and done good work. The Quebec Alliance has engaged John A. Nicholls to superintend county work, and he is carrying on an energetic campaign. In another column we give a list of the Secretaries of all these provincial organizations.

LOCAL WORK.

We could not attempt to even enumerate the County Conventions of which we have received reports from Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. It is certain that the work of these central bodies will be well looked after, and this ought to ensure thorough organization of the smaller places which these county committees will superintend.

LITERATURE.

The literature campaign has attained dimensions that were not anticipated. Information concerning it will be found in the article headed "Appeal," upon another page. At the present time the office of the Dominion Alliance is behind in filling orders, which have accumulated to such an extent as to require the steady running of three large presses. The arrears will soon be caught up, and no one need hesitate about sending in more. Payment for the Alliance share of the cost of this literature is heavy, but the Executive will carry out this undertaking and keep on furnishing it at the low prices promised.

NO TIME TO SPARE.

In a few weeks the campaign will be over. For the present we must wisely use every moment that we have. Every friend of the temperance cause ought to be at work. There is more to be done than it is possible to accomplish; but the more that is accomplished the better will be the results. Every prohibitionist who wants information, or who has any doubt regarding any question, should write at once to the Secretary for his province.

The most important part of our work is to get out the vote. To this every other line of work must be made subservient. The possibilities before us, the responsibilities upon us, are great. Let us be true to them. The way to do this is to bear in mind and carry out the important motto, "Let every vote be polled."

VESTED INTEREST AND SPURIOUS LIBERTY.

BY THE VERY REV. DEAN FARRAR.

One of the idols which have to be destroyed is the idol of vested interest in national wrongs. Let it be understood, once for all, that there can be no vested interest in that which is the source of a nation's ruin and a nation's wrong. Other selfishness may be as intense, but none is so unblushing, because none is so much tolerated as the selfishness of monopolists claiming a vested interest in public infamy.

And the other is the idol of spurious liberty, which thinks that freedom consists in unlimited licence to do wrong, and that we ought to be allowed to do what we will, though the result may be the injury of our neighbors. The liberty to do wrong is the mother of bondage. No man is free and no nation is free which is free from righteousness and a slave to vice. The impulse of appetite is slavery, and the obedience to salutary restraint is the only true liberty. So long as England's liberty is the

spurious idol of selfish individual licence, her glory is built upon the sand.

THE DANGERS OF LUXURY AND SELF-INDULGENCE.

The demagogue and the socialist rail at the luxury of the rich. All luxury is an evil. The days are coming, yea, have now come, when the duty of perfect simplicity and stern self-denial will be incumbent on every class of the community. But I, who have often spoken plainly enough of the faults of the rich, declare that their luxury is in no respect so deadly and so outrageous as that of the drunken poor. There is many a working man in these streets, many a cabman, many a laborer, who spends every day of his life on drink a sum which I could not afford, and which I should think it criminally luxurious and disgracefully extravagant in myself to spend. And when these drinkers and drunkards thus poison their very lives and their very souls by wallowing in the depths of self-indulgence, they will have to a helped by charity, and we, out of the sweat of our brow, shall have to pay for the prisons which punish these atrocities, and the workhouses in which they end their worthless and wasted days.

Here is a specimen—one of hundreds. At the police court a married woman (and the case is not at all uncommon) makes her sixty-second appearance for drunkenness and wilful damage; she is the daughter of a man now in the workhouse, who has undergone more than one hundred terms of imprisonment for drunkenness, and whose single family of shame and worthlessness has cost the ratepayers of his parish over £1,000. We pay this money, thus miserably wasted.

Who profits by the manufacture of these wretched drunkards? Some, I suppose, must profit by it, some must gain their wealth from a system which to many means childhood without innocence, youth without shame, manhood without honor. . . . The prosperity of the drink trade, in short, means the misery of the people by which it thrives.

LICENCE THEY MEAN, NOT LIBERTY.

How are half the efforts at social amelioration, whether in the Legislature or by true Christians who think that Christianity means a good deal more than churchmanship—how are they met? Men talk of vested interests—yes, vested interests in men's ruinous temptations, vested interests in the destruction of flesh and blood, and souls and bodies. They use the proud name of Liberty, and declare that she demands the liberty of every human being to destroy himself, and to be a curse to his neighbor and to his land, deriding all legislation which aims at the restriction of evil weakness. They claim the policy of "Do nothing, and let nothing be done."

"Do nothing" simply means leaving the upright to the mercy of the cunning, leaving the ignorant to the mercy of the designing, leaving the weak to the snares of every tempter who would tempt him, and being very compassionate if the tempter's millions are for a moment touched, leaving the gambler to lure to early ruin ten thousand fools, leave everyone to make a profit out of human weakness, and then give him a title to reward him for his success in heaping up riches! That is regarded as statesmanship; while the creeping tide of human misery rises, rises, rises, only so slowly as scarce to stir the weeds which rot on its shore; rises until it shall have submerged our own land and all our civilization under its waves, and selfish luxury and pitiless greed shall have been swept away in the flood of misery.

DOES IT PAY?

A very interesting study of hereditary drunkenness was made, in the summer of 1880, by Professor Pellman, of Bonn University. He took certain individual cases, a generation or two back, and traced the careers of children, grand-children, and great grand-children in all parts of the present German Empire, until he was able to present tabulated biographies of the hundreds descended from some original drunkard.

The last paralytic treated was a woman who was born in 1740. She was a thief, a drunkard, and a tramp for the last 40 years of her life, which ended in 1800. Her descendants num-

bered 834, of whom 700 were traced in local records from youth to death. Of the 700 the Professor found 106 were born out of wedlock. There were 112 beggars and 61 more who lived from charity. Of the women, 181 led disreputable lives. There were in this family 76 convicts, seven of whom were convicted of murder.

In 75 years this one family rolled up a very large bill of costs in almshouses, trials, courts, prisons and correctional establishments. Professor Pellman says that this bill, which the authorities of Germany, and therefore the taxpayers, have paid, has been at least five million of marks, or about £250,000.

A STATESMAN'S OPINION.

The Home Office is an office which brings not only great responsibility but deep, and sometimes terrible, anxiety, when a man has to decide, whether the sentence of the law is to take effect upon men who, by the influence of drink, were practically unconscious of the acts they were doing. I desire to bear witness to my knowledge of the fact that of all those men who go to a violent death upon the public scaffold, I undertake to say that five-sixths go there through the influence of drink. Cases of wicked and deliberate murder happily are rare in this country. There are cases, sometimes, of violent passion; but, generally speaking, and in the great majority of cases, they are acts of brutality committed, as a rule, on a woman by the man who returns to the house insensible from drink. This is the history of the majority of murders in this country.—*Sir William V. Harcourt.*

FACTS TO BE EMPHASIZED.

That alcohol is a poison, and acts as such on the human body.

That alcohol is not a food, or a true stimulant.

That the common sale of liquor is inimical to the best interests of society.

That the expenditure on intoxicating liquors is wasteful, both individually and nationally.—*Prohibition Budget.*

A TERRIBLE FACT.

Some years ago the body of a young man was found in the River Mersey, near Liverpool. In his vest pocket was a piece of paper, on which was written—"Ask not my name. Let me rot. It is drink which has brought me here." The coroner was so touched with the tragedy that he published a description of the unfortunate youth, and his farewell message to the world. At the end of three days he had received three hundred letters from as many parents all over the country, making inquiries as to certain marks of identification that each might know if it was, or was not, his boy who had come to such an untimely end.

A PHILOSOPHER'S VIEW.

The labor employed in producing strong drink, in the growth of the grain, in preparing it for destruction, in brewing and distilling; in short, in the entire manufacture, carriage and sale of these liquors, is utterly unproductive. It is wholly unproductive of the things which can justly be called wealth. The labor expended on them adds nothing to the wealth of the community, to the means of subsistence, or the sources of true enjoyment; but, on the contrary, it produced what is positively injurious to all the interests of humanity.—*Adam Smith.*

THE QUEEN ON PROHIBITION.

Her Majesty the Queen, addressing some Bechuana chiefs at Windsor, in 1895, said: "I am glad to see the chiefs, and to know that they love my rule. I confirm the settlement of their case which my minister has made. I approve of the provision excluding strong drink from their country. I feel strongly in this matter, and am glad to see that the chiefs have determined to keep so great a curse from the people."

THE VANGUARD.

A GREAT WORK—READ CAREFULLY.

The VANGUARD was published during the stirring years of 1808-4-5 in the form of a magazine. It was devoted to expert discussion of the liquor question and the many matters thereto related, special attention being given to details of most interest and value to Canadians.

Prohibition workers found it a "mine" of information, and many of them desired to have its articles put into a form adapted for permanent use and reference. This has been done by binding and indexing the twelve numbers which were issued.

The book thus produced is a complete encyclopedia of information relating to the temperance and prohibition reform. In it are full and accurate statistics and other authoritative statements; covering nearly every field of available fact and argument, and including a great number of tables compiled with the utmost care. It also contains a record of the important events of the years named, and a summary of the history of the prohibition cause in Canada.

CONTENTS.

Among a great many subjects comprehensively treated, are the following:—

The Liquor traffic in Different Countries—Legislation Relating to the Liquor Traffic;—The Working of High License;—Prohibition in the Northwest;—Prohibition in Maine;—Prohibition in Kansas;—Prohibition in Pictou Island;—The Canada Temperance Act;—Local Option;—The Scott Act and Drunkenness;—The Gothenburg System;—The Question of Jurisdiction;—Constitutional Prohibition in the United States;—The Plebiscite Movement;—The Plebiscite Returns;—The Drink Bill of Canada;—The Drink Bill of Great Britain;—The Drink Bill of the United States;—The Drink Bill of Christendom;—The Indirect cost of the Liquor Traffic;—Drink and Mortality;—Alcohol in Medicine;—Beer Drinking and its Results;—Drunkenness and Crime in Canada;—Drunkenness and Crime in the United States;—Drunkenness and Crime in Great Britain;—Drunkenness and Crime in other Countries;—The French Treaty;—Beer and Light Wines;—Adulteration of Liquors;—The Revenue Question;—The Compensation Question;—The Liberty Question;—Bible Wines;—Total abstinence and Longevity;—The Catholic Church and the Temperance Question.

HOW TO GET IT.

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It will be a splendid handbook to speakers and writers in the Plebiscite campaign.

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