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Sunday School Banner

W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1903

After the Vote.

THE recent vote on prohibition in Ontario shows the vast strides that this cause has taken in the last four years. Under unfavorable conditions a vote very much larger was recorded than that given under very favorable conditions four years ago. Most of our cities, though long the strongholds of the liquor traffic, pronounced strongly in its condemnation. In the good work of creating popular opinion and crystallizing it into votes our churches and Sunday Schools and Leagues have had an active part. Their work is not done. We must not be satisfied till every scholar's name is on a pledge roll and till our youth receives the protection for which we have asked. We commend to the careful reading of all our teachers the admirable paper by the Rev. George Williams, printed on another page.

Sunday School Libraries.

FOR some months a Toronto Conference Committee on Sunday School Libraries, of which Emerson Coatsworth, Esq., is chairman, has held many meetings in the office of the Rev. A. C. Crews, Wesley Buildings, Toronto. The members of this Committee have gone over publishers' catalogues, distributed many books for reading, obtained opinions as to their suitability for Sunday School use, and are preparing a catalogue that will be of great service to all schools wishing to supplement their libraries. A great deal of thought and time and pains has been given to this important work. We present on another page two articles on this subject which we commend to the careful attention of our readers.

New Year's Rallies.

THE New Year's Day Sunday School Rally has become a fixed institution in several of our cities. In Montreal it has been observed for over fifty years; in Toronto for nine years; in Hamilton, Winnipeg, and Vancouver, for a shorter time. We believe that similar rallies in our cities from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Victoria, B.C., would be a striking demonstration of the strength, the unity, and solidarity of our great Sunday School interests.

The meeting in Massey Hall, Toronto, was, as usual, a brilliant success. About four thousand teachers and scholars were present. The addresses by the Honorable Justice MacLaren, Mr. Alfred Briggs, and Rev. M. L. Pearson, abounded in wisdom interspersed with wit. The massed orchestra of about forty instruments led the singing of our grand old hymns which was like the sound of many waters. Everything was bright and cheerful, as the titles of the hymns will indicate: "Sing to the great Jehovah's praise," "A Better Day is Coming," "See the Church of Christ Arises," "We have heard the Joyful Sound." The four schools with the largest membership were as follows: Wesley, 1,300; Metropolitan,