

of supposition and contingency that it must be looked upon as a statement of what the predictor desires rather than what he thoughtfully anticipates. "If Sir John wins in the license contest, and if he takes the liquor traffic into his protection, he may do certain things." This is the whole style of the forecast, and some of the "ifs" are very big ones. The fact of the matter is this:—the people of Canada are sick of the liquor business; and they are determined to abolish it. No political party to-day would dare to become its champion. The great Conservative party has in it too many good men to allow it to do anything so wrong, and too many wise men to allow it to do anything so foolish. We are fighting to-day upon a straight issue. We are fighting for the principle and for the fact of prohibition, and we shall soon be in a position to enforce the good law we are now working for, and to demand of our Parliament a fulfilment of the promise to give us a better.

Selected Articles

THE SCOTT ACT CAMPAIGN.

EXTRACTS FROM ARTICLES IN THE TORONTO "WORLD".

The Scott Act campaign is just beginning to get hot. Before another six weeks it will be submitted in five counties. The temperance party are even saying that the day will not be long before they will try Toronto.

On the other side those in the trade say the agitation is ruining their business. They pay a tax, they say, into both the Dominion and the Provincial treasury, and therefore are entitled to protection in a legalized trade; but instead of that the agitation for the Scott Act is such that their business is falling away, and those in the wholesale trade say that they can collect nothing from their customers in counties like Simcoe, where the Act will soon be submitted. Still further, they have to pay heavy and frequent levies in order to fight the agitators and prevent their business being extinguished.

They also claim that until the matter of jurisdiction in regard to the liquor interest is settled, the agitation ought to be stopped by an act of the Dominion Parliament suspending the Scott Act.

A still further complaint from the distillers, brewers and wholesale liquor-dealers is, that the tavern-keepers and retail men are not willing to contribute a fair share toward fighting the agitation. These latter (hotelmen and retailers) say they lose enough now by depreciation in the value of their property and loss of business.

Some of the insurance companies have raised the rate on hotel property, while others are refusing such risks altogether. When a business gets in a bad way the buildings used in it have a trick, so the insurance men say, of going up in smoke when covered by a fat policy.

Still another feature of the agitation is the question of compensation. Men like Goldwin Smith contend that any legalized business ought not to be disturbed without compensation. If the trade is to be extinguished there is no doubt but what partial, if not complete, compensation, would be the cheapest method. These fights in each county are expensive undertakings for both parties.

"This Scott Act business is getting to be a serious matter," said a gentleman to *The World* yesterday, "serious for the liquor trade and for some others as well. * * * This straight fight between prohibition and anti-prohibition is modified by two things: first, the fight between the provincial legislatures and the federal legislature as to which controls the liquor traffic; second, by the relation of the two political parties to temperance legislation like the Scott Act.

"As to this last: first, the Scott Act was passed by the Reform government of Mr. Mackenzie, and more or less Reformers are bound to defend it. The Conservative party have never committed themselves to it; in fact it is to them that the opponents of the law now look for relief from what they call its harsh effect. Now take a step further and consider the cause I first mentioned as modifying the prohibition fight, namely, the fight between the Dominion and the Provinces as to which controls the liquor trade. And still go a step further and suppose the Dominion gains this fight in the long run. The liquor business will be declared a part of trade and commerce, and the government (Sir John's) will take it under their protection. Would you then be surprised to see his government take a position something like this: "we never passed the Scott Act; we take taxes from liquor wherewith to help support the government; in consideration of the money this business yields us we are bound to protect it—protect it at least

until a straight issue has been voted on by the people of Canada as a whole whether prohibition shall obtain or not, and still further this: that as the government has legalized the business so far, and has taken large sums from it, it is only just and equitable that compensation should be made to the trade for wiping out a business in which they have sunk all their means, and to carry on which they have paid heavy license fees."

"Mind I don't say this is what is to take place; it is however the direction in which things are tending, and they are at least my own views. In a word, I am in favor of this: first settle where the jurisdiction is; next go to the country on an issue of prohibition with compensation. This will be the straight fight and a short and economical one. To fight it out as an issue between prohibition without compensation as against the continuance of the traffic will be a long, bitter and costly struggle. Time enters into my idea of compensation as much as money. I may as well tell you I am in favor of prohibition with compensation, the compensation to take the form of a moderate allowance in money to all in the trade, and a certain number of years to get out of the business and to turn the capital they have sunk in it into some other channel."

EFFECTS OF BEER-DRINKING ON THE HUMAN BODY.

Dr. S. S. Thorn, a physician of an experience embracing a period of service in the army as well as some twenty years' practice in Toledo, said: "Adulterants are not the important thing in my estimation—it is the beer itself. It stupifies and retards his intellection, because it is a narcotic, and cumulative in its effects. For instance, mercurials are cumulative. They gather in the system. A dose of 1-16th or 1-32nd of a grain would have no appreciable effect upon the system, but a number of these small doses administered consecutively would soon produce salivation and other destructive results. So beer accumulates and gathers certain pernicious agencies in the system, until they become very destructive. Every man who drinks beer in any quantity soon begins to load himself with soft, unhealthy fat. This is bad, because it is the result of interference with the natural elimination of deleterious substances. No man, no matter what his constitution, can go on long with his system full of the morbid and dead matter which the kidneys and liver are intended to work off. If you could drop into a little circle of doctors, when they are having a quiet, professional chat over matters and people in the range of their experience, you will hear enough in a few minutes to terrify you as to the work of beer. One will say, 'What's become of So-and-so? I haven't seen him around lately.' 'Oh, he's dead.' 'Dead! What was the matter?' 'Beer.' Another will say, 'I've just come from Blank's. I'm afraid it's about my last call on him, poor fellow.' 'What's the trouble?' 'Oh, he's been a regular beer-drinker for years.' A third will remark how — has just gone out like a candle in a draught of wind. 'Beer' is the reason given. And so on, until the half-dozen physicians have mentioned perhaps fifty recent cases where apparently strong, hearty men, at a time of life when they should be in their prime, have suddenly dropped into the grave. To say they are habitual beer-drinkers is a sufficient explanation to any physician. He never asks anything further as to causes. The first effect on the liver is to congest and enlarge it. Then follows a low grade of inflammation and subsequent contraction of the cap sules, with the effect of producing what is known in the profession as 'hob-nailed liver,' or 'drunkard's liver.' The surface of the organ becomes covered with little lumps that look like nail-heads on the soles of shoes. This condition develops dropsy. The congestion of the liver clogs up all the springs of the body, and makes all sorts of mental and physical exertion as difficult and labored as it would be to run a clock, the wheels of which were covered with dirt and gum. The life insurance companies make a business of estimating men's lives, and can only make money by making correct estimates of whatever influences life. Here is the table that they use in calculating how long a normal, healthy man will probably live after a given age:—

Age.	Expectation.
20 years,	41.5 years.
30 "	34.4 "
40 "	28.3 "
50 "	20.2 "
60 "	13.8 "
65 "	11 "

"Now they expect that a man otherwise healthy, who is addicted to beer-drinking, will have his life shortened from 40 to 60 per cent. For in-