

The Dominion Alliance.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE QUEBEC BRANCH.

Largely Attended Conference—Discussion on the Law and Order Work—The Officers Elected—Interesting Debates.

The ninth annual Provincial Convention of the Dominion Alliance assembled at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning, the 12th inst., in the Young Men's Christian Association parlor.

The Chairman nominated Messrs. H. Morton, H. A. Moulton and W. H. F. Sharswood, as the Committee on Credentials.

Mr. Duff made a stirring speech reviewing the work of the year.

The minutes of the last meeting were presented in printed form, and were adopted as read.

The Secretary's report set forth that the Alliance had been active during the year, having waited upon the Quebec Government on two occasions regarding amendments and enforcement of the existing liquor laws.

Mr. Lebourveau presented the report of the Law and Order League Committee.

Mr. J. Baylis, provincial treasurer, reported collections during the year for general work, \$1,000; Law and Order collections, \$640; fines from Law and Order Committee, \$315, leaving a small deficit of about \$30.

Among the delegates present were Mr. A. M. Featherston, Mr. John Toss, Rev. James Watson, (Hemmingford), Rev. T. DeLong (Hudson), Mr. G. McLanaghan, Howick, representing the Royal Templars; Rev. R. Lindsay, St. Thomas Church Band of Hope; Messrs. F. Hamilton, George Barrett and H. A. Moulton, West End Temperance Society; Mrs. E. Middleton, President of the W.C.T.U.; Mrs. R. W. McLachlan, Miss Dougall, Mrs. S. Finley, Mrs. J. Atkin, W.C.T.U.; Mr. S. A. Lebourveau, Law and Order League; Mrs. L. C. Gaggie, Quebec W.C.T.U.; Rev. F. A. Reed and Rev. W. Adams, Stanstead County Alliance. Mr. A. W. Bannister represented the New Richmond Alliance.

Among others present were Mr. George M. Webster, Quebec Temperance Electoral League; Mr. A. M. Bannister, Principal of St. Francis College, Richmond; Rev. S. Bond, Right Rev. B. B. Usher; Mr. J. R. Nutter, Richmond; Rev. W. Pyke, Valleyfield; Rev. William Ryan, Waterloo; Mr. J. R. Dougall; Mr. S. Finley; the Rev. J. A. Newnam, Cote St. Antoine; Mr. D. Tees, Mr. C. Fessey, Mr. J. H. Cayford, Mr. H. Morton, Mr. F. W. Titus, Mr. A. Campbell, Dr. Bazin, Mr. Thos. Lee, Mr. James Baylis, Mr. Frank B. Smith, Mrs. C. W. McDonnell, Mrs. Gale, Mrs. Moran, Mrs. W. Paul, Rev. James Fleck, Mr. H. S. Sharswood, Mr. W. McNaughton.

The reports were referred to the committee of distribution of reports—The Rev. James Newnam, the Rev. James Fleck, and Mr. Webster, of Quebec. The Chairman appointed as auditors Messrs. J. H. Cayford and F. E. Grafton.

A discussion on "Law Enforcement, and Opposition to License Applications," was opened by Dr. Bazin. He held that the opposition to licenses was far more important than the punishment of evasions of the license law, and advocated prosecuting the leading hotel-keepers who break the law rather than the shoe-keepers.

Mr. Nicholls thought it very important the Alliance should now decide upon what lines law should be enforced.

Mr. W. Paul thought the Alliance ought to keep clear from saloons those districts in the city which were not yet inundated with them.

Mr. A. M. Featherston said that it was a necessity to have our detectives buy and drink the liquor.

Mr. Grafton was of the opinion that it was important to push the prohibition movement by public meetings, etc., than to give the whole of our influence to the Law and Order work, which was largely that of rendering the liquor traffic respectable.

Mr. Fessey opposed the sending of detectives to purchase and drink liquor; the end did not justify the means.

The Rev. Bishop Usher, Mr. Bond and Mr. Watson replied, speaking in very high terms of the self-sacrificing and courageous work of the Law and Order Committee. The gentlemen named considered that the law left no alternative but to continue the methods in vogue, and that the plans were free from any tinge of immorality. The discussion closed at 12:15 without a vote being taken, and the convention adjourned until 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON BUSINESS.

The first order of business in the afternoon was the election of officers. The Rev. Alexander Campbell presented the report of the nominating committee, which was adopted, as follows:—

Your committee on nominations beg leave to report as President, E. H. Bond, 111 The Lordship Drive, Bond, the Right Rev. Bishop Usher, Mr. T. S. Brown, Mr. James Baylis, Mr. S. A. Fisher, Mr. F. Heaton, Mr. J. H. Cayford, Rev. James Henderson, Rev. J. Fleck, Mr. Wm. McNaughton, Grimont; Rev. A. A. Ayer, Mr. A. M. Featherston; Mr. John Gough, Bedford, Mr. H. J. Jowell, East Farnham; Mr. O. O. Colby, M. P. Stanstead; Mr. J. Forster, M. P. Hemmingford; Mr. E. Holton, M. P. Chateauguay; Dr. Christie, Lacluth; Mr. W. H. Lambly, Inverness; Capt. Col. Dyor, Sutton; Mr. Peter Johnson, Quebec; Mr. H. A. Ekin, Sherbrooke; Mr. E. S. Orr, Cookshire; Rev. A. B. Chambers, Stanstead; Rev. D. W. Morrison, Ormatown; Rev. James Hines, Sherbrooke; Senator J. B. Rolland, Montreal; Mrs. Middleton, Quebec. Honorary Secretary, Rev. A. Campbell; Treasurer, Mr. James J. Orr. Committee—Rev. J. H. Dixon, Robt. Lindsay, T. Bennett, F. M. Dewey, J. A. Newnam, Mr. MacVicar, S. Bond, G. H. Wells, D. E. Antill and Von Aredegon Lindsay, Waterloo; Mr. A. S. Waibeau, M. P., St. Eustache; Mr. S. P. Moroy, Sherbrooke; Mr. A. Watson, Hull; Mr. W. B. McFarland, Huntingdon; Mr. David Boyd, Huntingdon; Alderman Melrose, M. P. W. Hamilton, M. P. O. Smith, M. P. H. Robinson, Waterloo; Mr. D. Graham, M. P. Robert Henderson, Mr. John Melville, M. P. W. E. Manson, Mr. W. Dazig, Rev. John Philip, A. G. Upham, Joseph Pine, S. O. Remill, S. H. Abbott; Mr. W. Drysdale, Mr. F. E. Grafton, Mr. R. N. Mudge, Mr. H. Irwin, Mr. Walter Paul, Mr. David Tees, Mr. William Tees, Mr. A. M. Johnston, Mr. J. H. Cayford, Mr. E. Murphy, Mr. W. Miles, Mr. Samuel Finley, Mr. J. S. Buchan, Mr. C. Fessey, Mr. H. A. Moulton, Dr. McConnell, Dr. Alexander, Dr. Bazin; Rev. F. A. Field, Hatley; Mr. G. M. Webster, Quebec; Mr. George McLanaghan, Principal, Bannister, Hitchmond; Mr. Young, Quebec; Mr. Thomas Chambers, St. John; Mr. Trenehan, Three Rivers; Mr. J. Trenehan, Lévis; Mr. George Walte, Jr., the Rev. Mr. Ryan, Waterloo; the Rev. Mr. Watson, Hemmingford; the Rev. Mr. Pyke, Valleyfield; the Rev. Mr. Belmont, Miss Ronaud; Mr. James Curran, Covey Hill, Miss Dougall; Mr. Peter Johnson, Quebec; Mrs. McDonald; Mr. Geo. Webster, Quebec; Mrs. Scott; Miss Cook; Mrs. Gaggie, Quebec; Mrs. S. W. Foster; Mr. J. G. Sanderson, Hanville; Mr. H. Hutchins, East Farnham; Mr. Wm. Smith.

The only goal which can be considered satisfactory. 3rd. That this annual meeting would express its strongest conviction that all lovers of the temperance cause should combine to exercise their voting power only on behalf of temperance candidates for public offices. 4th. That this annual meeting acknowledges with pleasure the successful work of the Law and Order League, believing that it has exercised a thoroughly good influence on the public, and a very salutary check upon transgressors of the law. 5th. We welcome the formation and are glad to observe the rapid growth of the Councils of the Royal Templars of Temperance. We note this work not to make an invidious selection, but because of its being a new organization. 6th. We again ask the prayer of all the churches of Christ for the Divine blessing upon the workers in this great cause. 7th. We express with gratitude our thanks to the Board of the Y. M. C. A., for the use of their hall. Shortly before six o'clock the ninth, and one of the most successful conventions of the Provincial Alliance was brought to a close.

A MEMORABLE MEETING. The great mass meeting in the Queen's Hall in the evening was the most imposing temperance meeting ever held in the Province of Quebec. The spacious hall was crowded in every part by an influential assemblage of two thousand people. Mr. J. R. Dougall, Provincial President Dominion Alliance, was in the chair. The platform was occupied by many of the most eminent prohibitionists in the Province. Eloquent speeches, whose tolling points were applauded until the hall echoed and re-echoed, were delivered by the Rev. Jas. Henderson, Mr. L. O. David, M. P. P., Mrs. Middleton, Provincial President W. C. T. U., and Mr. John A. Nicholls, Alliance lecturer. The music was of unusual excellence.—Montreal Witness.

Mr. John A. Nicholls, Provincial Lecturer, presented a plan of campaign advocating a vigorous and systematic organization of the province. The details were referred to the Executive Committee, whose report upon them will be made public through the press. After Mr. Nicholls had submitted the plan of campaign at the Provincial Convention of the Dominion Alliance, at the afternoon session, a lively discussion arose as to whether the recommendations could be embodied in the constitution, and the necessary amendments made, except at the annual meeting. The plan was referred to a committee of three, who recommended that it be referred to the Executive Committee. The plan, as a whole, received unanimous and enthusiastic endorsement. Encouraging reports were made by visiting delegates. Mr. Gough, of Bedford, thought the time was ripe for aggressive work in Missisquoi county, and as a result of his speech it was informally decided to hold a grand outdoor provincial prohibition demonstration at Bedford on Dominion Day. The Rev. Mr. McLeod, of Richmond, reported the formation of a new and vigorous local alliance, which is about to actively enforce the Dunkin Act in that municipality.

The Rev. Mr. Read, of Stanstead County, spoke in high terms of the work accomplished last summer by Mr. Nicholls in that part of the province. He had known Mr. Nicholls for many years, and would say from actual knowledge that that gentleman's plans were uniformly crowned with success. Other delegates spoke briefly, and Messrs. McCrea and Mr. Sinclair sang a trio most acceptably. The subject of "TEMPERANCE FEDERATION" was opened by the Rev. James Fleck, who considered that the Alliance was itself the best solution of the problem. The Rt. Rev. Bishop Usher believed that with the new leaders the Alliance would prove a progressive temperance federation.

Mr. J. M. M. Duff explained the plans and purposes of the Sons of Temperance, and their invariable practice of uniting with all other organization in temperance work. Miss Dougall responded for the W. C. T. Union, and advocated a systematic organization of the workers in every church in the city for the especial purpose of effectively opposing license applications.

The Rev. D. Saunders, of the Good Templars, thought organic union was in the distant future, but federation was a duty of the hour.

Mr. Roderick McKinnon, representing the Royal Templars, earnestly advocated the union of at least the three great orders Good Templars, Sons of Temperance, and Royal Templars—and adduced a number of practical reasons in favor of the proposition.

An able and stirring address was made by Mr. A. M. Featherston on "the duty of electors." He said there were many who prayed daily, "Thy kingdom come," and then went out and voted for the devil's kingdom to come, there must be consistency in this work, and christians should be prepared to vote as they pray.

Rev. Mr. Ryan said we had passed sufficient resolutions, what was wanted now was action. Mr. Geo. Webster, of the Quebec Temperance Electoral League, spoke strongly upon the necessity of shaking off parties, and uniting our effort in opposing every candidate for any public office, who is not prepared to support the principle of total prohibition.

The Rev. Mr. Watson, on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions, reported the following, which were adopted:— 1st. That we are thankful to notice the improved position of the Alliance, both in its financial condition and in its membership and in the formation of branch alliances, and would urge the use of all the means at our disposal to increase the membership. 2nd. That we record with thankfulness the growing public sentiment in favor of temperance and prohibitory principles as evinced by the attitude of all philanthropic and religious bodies, especially we note the unity of opinion so largely shown both by Roman Catholic and Protestant churches, and would also express our opinion that to the Government of Quebec is due part of the credit for the advance we note. Nevertheless, every effort is needed both by this Alliance and by every agency it can influence, to push on both Government and churches on the line of prohibitory sentiment, that being

the only goal which can be considered satisfactory. 3rd. That this annual meeting would express its strongest conviction that all lovers of the temperance cause should combine to exercise their voting power only on behalf of temperance candidates for public offices. 4th. That this annual meeting acknowledges with pleasure the successful work of the Law and Order League, believing that it has exercised a thoroughly good influence on the public, and a very salutary check upon transgressors of the law. 5th. We welcome the formation and are glad to observe the rapid growth of the Councils of the Royal Templars of Temperance. We note this work not to make an invidious selection, but because of its being a new organization. 6th. We again ask the prayer of all the churches of Christ for the Divine blessing upon the workers in this great cause. 7th. We express with gratitude our thanks to the Board of the Y. M. C. A., for the use of their hall. Shortly before six o'clock the ninth, and one of the most successful conventions of the Provincial Alliance was brought to a close.

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