

Nova Scotia—	
For	34,678
Against	5,370
Majority for	29,308
New Brunswick—	
For	26,919
Against	9,575
Majority for	17,344
Prince Edward Island—	
For	9,461
Against	1,146
Majority for	8,315
Manitoba—	
For	12,419
Against	2,978
Majority for	9,441
British Columbia—	
For	5,731
Against	4,756
Majority for	975
North West Territories—	
For	6,238
Against	2,824
Majority for	3,414
Total for prohibition	278,380
Total against prohibition	264,693
Majority for prohibition	108,011
Majority against prohibition	94,344
Net majority for prohibition	13,667

The Government of that day decided that, in view of the small majority, and in view also of the decided stand that had been taken by the province of Quebec on the question, it would not be wise to bring in a Dominion Prohibition Act, and so the matter was allowed to stand as it was. But I wish to give to the House some idea of the great progress that has been made in the province of Quebec since this adverse vote was given on the 28th of September, 1898. On that occasion Quebec declared against prohibition by a majority of 94,324. We have in the province of Quebec 72 constituencies in the local House, and of these 44 have "gone dry" as follows:

Argenteuil, Bagot, Beauce, Bellechasse, Bonaventure, Brome, Champlain, Charlevoix No. 1, Charlevoix No. 2, Chateauguay, Chicoutimi, Dorchester, Drummond, Gaspé No. 2, Huntingdon, Iles-de-la-Madelaine, Kamouraska, Lac Megantic, Lac St. Jean No. 1, Lac St. Jean No. 2, Levis, L'Islet, Lotbinière, Maskinonge, Matane No. 1, Matane No. 2, Megantic, Montmagny, Montmorency No. 2, Nicolet, Pontiac, Portneuf, Richelieu, Richmond, Rimouski, Saguenay, Stanstead, St. Hyacinthe, St. Maurice, Temiscaming, Temiscouata, Wolfe, Wright, Yamaska.

This shows that the great majorities of constituencies in the province of Quebec, of their own volition, have adopted prohibition, and have carried it into effect by the action of their county councils or other-

wise. This shows a tremendous change in public opinion; and I am satisfied that if there were a referendum to-morrow in Quebec on the subject of prohibition, especially at this moment, the reform would be adopted by an overwhelming majority. In support of this, I desire to give further evidence.

If prohibition has made tremendous headway in the province of Quebec, it is largely due to the efforts of the Roman Catholic clergy. In former days, the Dominion Alliance and other prohibition organizations were recruited largely from those of the Protestant faith. Of course, the Roman Catholic church has always favoured temperance not only in liquor but in everything else. But in the last few years, in the province of Quebec, they have taken a decided stand. At the head of the Roman Catholic clergy in the province is the Archbishop of Quebec, Monseigneur Roy, who is the acting assistant to His Eminence, Cardinal Begin, head of the Roman Catholic church in Canada. I wrote to Monseigneur Roy and sent him a copy of this resolution, asking his opinion upon it. His answer is as follows:

Archbishopric of Quebec,
February 20, 1916.

Dear Sir,—This is about my opinion on the Stevens motion:

1. The prohibition movement is serious, profound and irresistible.

2. The manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the present conditions certainly constitutes one of the worst plagues of the country.

3. Public opinion, properly enlightened and directed, has expressed itself thereon with a clearness and a persistency which can leave no doubt.

4. To establish the prohibition regime in the rural parts and small towns, and have the trade free in the large centres, is a grave error and opposed to common sense.

5. The present war furnishes an excellent opportunity for the Government and Parliament to intervene to deliver us from a public plague, and throw off the degrading yoke of the manufacturers and dealers in alcoholic liquors.

6. The 240 municipalities and towns of the diocese of Quebec have of their own free will voted for prohibition. Alone, the city of Quebec stands as the supreme entrenchment of the enemy, driven away from everywhere else. Still, four-fifths of the population of Quebec want prohibition.

Conclusion: The Parliament at Ottawa will meet the wishes of the very large majority of the Canadian people if it places the whole country under the beneficent regime of prohibition. Please accept, dear Sir, with my congratulations, the assurance of my personal esteem and of my entire devotion to the cause which you wish to serve.

(Sgd.) P. E. Roy,
Arch. de Sel.

Hon. Charles Marcell, M.P.,
Ottawa.