

In the fight for Prohibition we are greatly encouraged by the wise leadership of our forces by the Committee of One Hundred and bespeak for them the confidence of all our people as the conflict advances. We regard the Press as a mighty weapon in this great struggle. Bismarck used the Press to drive France to war in 1870; Germany is spending millions to win neutral nations to her side through the medium of the Press. We may expect our enemies in this fight for Prohibition to use the Press to aid their cause. We would urge you to banish from your homes those papers and magazines which are subsidized by the liquor traffic and bring their poison of pernicious advertisements and subtle editorials to beguile the people. We rejoice that in Canada some of our leading dailies refuse all such pernicious advertisements, and trust the day may soon come when this may be said of them all.

Another sector of our battle line that needs careful guarding is the observance of the Lord's Day. Many attacks have been hurled at this point, but our lines have held. We would urge all our people to keep holy the Sabbath day.

A glance through the statistical returns for the year shows a decrease in most of our departments, but when we consider the conditions prevailing throughout the Province we are constrained to rejoice that these decreases are not greater. The Woman's Missionary Society reports an increase of 20 per cent. in their missionary givings. Let us pray that in the coming year all these decreases may be converted into increases and devote all our energies to help realize our prayers.

The ranks of our ministry have been seriously depleted for the coming year. Besides the twenty-three who have enlisted, one has died during the year, and three have asked for Superannuation after many years of faithful service. A class of eight are coming for ordination, one as a missionary in China, one a native Japanese and one a native Indian, to labor among their own people. It is hoped that all our fields may be provided for, but this can only be done by heroic measures and a spirit of sacrifice, both by the ministry and laity alike.

Of all the calls of duty in these days none is more important or more vital than the call to prayer. It is still true "without Me ye can do nothing." Jesus ever exhorted His followers to pray. May the incense of prayer ascend from every heart and from every Christian fireside and from every congregation as the people gather together at the hour of prayer to lift up the hands of their pastor that Israel may prevail.

Finally, we commend you to the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that He may establish you in every good way and work to do His will, working in you to will and to do according to His own good pleasure.

R. F. STILLMAN.
President, 1915-16.