

grows that we are about to enter upon a terrible conflict. In Canada the battle thickens. The whole country has been startled by the sudden and firm stand taken by the *Toronto Mail* on this question. Without doubt the victory of the future is in the hands of the party which will be the first to place itself fairly and squarely in favor of prohibition. The tide is rising, the traffic must take its stand among the doomed things of the world. We need only competent leadership to give shape and effectiveness to the national sentiment in favor of the total abolition of this waster of our most precious race-elements.

NOTES.

A GRADUAL increase in the average size of the skull among the natives of India is said to be taking place as a result of civilization. It will take more brains to govern more brains. Wanted: Statesmen.

A CHEAP METHOD OF MANUFACTURING HYDROGEN.—A method has been discovered by Hembert and Henry for manufacturing hydrogen at a very low cost. A mixture of equal volumes of hydrogen and carbonous oxide is produced by projecting superheated steam, in fine jets, on incandescent coke. In another retort the gases are passed over a large heated surface, and by the injection of steam raised nearly to the point of dissociation carbonic acid and hydrogen are formed. The cost of production is estimated at about eight cents per thousand feet, and one ton of coke will yield 3,200 cubic meters of hydrogen.

MR. RUSKIN ON BEGGING.—A few weeks ago Mr. Ruskin received a circular letter asking for a subscription towards paying off the debt owed by a chapel in London; to which he returned the following characteristic reply: "Sir,—I am scornfully amused at your appeal to me of all people in the world the precisely least likely to give you a farthing! My first word to all men and boys who care to hear me is, 'Don't get into debt.