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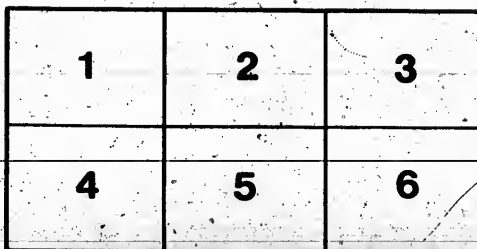
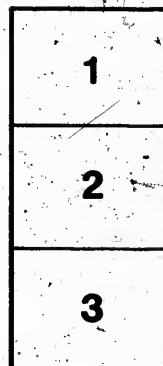
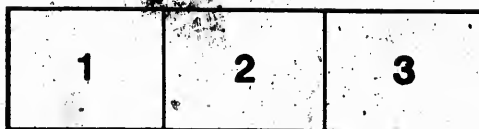
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The Progressive Temperance Record

— OF THE —

ONTARIO LIBERAL ADMINISTRATION

1874-1898

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The Testimony of Rev. A. Carman, D.D., General Superintendent of the Methodist Church of Canada :

Rev. A. Carman, D.D., in Toronto Daily *Globe*, Jan. 15, 1898, says: "In view of the facts, Ontario has done well during the last twenty years. To reduce the licenses from 6,000 to 3,000, so that instead of a license for 300 people it is now a license for 800 people, is encouragement enough to work on. Abolition of saloons, one-half in July, 1898, the balance in July, 1899, prohibition for druggists, except on medical certificate; fixing hours for closing; increasing age of minors from 16 to 21 years, and other similar points are demonstration that the Government has heeded the demands of prohibitionists, and favored, as now appears from the opposition to the movement, to the extent of their ability this great legislative reform. What they would have done had they been sustained in quarters where support might be expected, we can only infer. And we can only infer that, comparatively sober as Canada is, and Ontario is, they would have been on a much higher platform of sobriety if there had been help where there has been hindrance."

The Chief Features of the License Law.

That great good of a permanent character has been accomplished under the present administration of the license law is plain from comparing the present state of affairs when :

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) There is a better class of houses. | (7) Less drinking at the bar. |
| (2) Better accommodation. | (8) Prohibition of sales to minors. |
| (3) Licenses reduced one-half in number, and provision for further reduction. | (9) Reduction of hours of sale. |
| (4) Saloons abolished. | (10) A general weeding out of undesirable persons and premises. |
| (5) A total separation of the grocery from the liquor shops. | (11) A prohibition of sales by druggists without a doctor's or a Justice of the Peace's order. |
| (6) No special licenses. | |

The Government's Advanced Temperance Legislation.

It has efficiently regulated the liquor traffic, and has given us an act which has reduced the number of licenses from 6,185 in 1874-5 to 3,006 in 1896-7, or one license for every 287 persons in the province in 1875, as against one license for every 725 persons in 1897.

It has made temperance teaching compulsory in schools under Government supervision from a special text book, by which means, during 1897, over 200,000 pupils were instructed on the moral and physical evils of intemperance.

It has, by means of education and legislation, assisted in the diminution of drunkenness so that commitments for this offence have fallen from 4,032 in 1877 to 1,716 in 1897. Thus while there was one commitment for every 441 persons in the province in 1877, there was in 1897 one for every 1,308 persons. The Dominion Government, in its Statistical Year Book, has for several years published statistics, obtained directly from official sources, which show that in the sobriety of its people Ontario stands at the head of all the provinces of the Dominion. It may be added that no state or country from which statistics are obtainable shows so good a record.

The following are nine of the principal features of the Government's license law :

- (1) It has given the province a Local Option law which permits the entire prohibition of the liquor traffic for temperance purposes in municipalities.
- (2) It has provided that not more than three licenses may be issued for the first one thousand of population and one for each full 600.
- (3) It has provided that Municipal Councils may still further limit the number of licenses.
- (4) It has conferred the power of prohibition as to new licenses upon a majority of electors in polling subdivisions.
- (5) It has given legislation which prohibits the sale of intoxicating liquors on vessels navigating the lakes and rivers of the province.
- (6) It has provided that after April, 1899, saloon licenses shall be abolished.
- (7) It has prohibited the sale of liquor to all persons under 21 years of age.
- (8) It has given legislation enabling relatives or employers of persons who drink to excess to prohibit the sale of liquor to such persons.
- (9) It has prohibited the sale of liquor from seven o'clock on Saturday evenings until six o'clock on Monday mornings, and during Municipal or Parliamentary election days; and that for three violations of these provisions, within two years, the license shall be cancelled. It is further provided that on other days in townships and villages no liquors shall be sold after 10 p.m. until 6 a.m.; and in towns and cities from 11 p.m. until 4 a.m., and that standard time shall govern.

The Gradual Reduction of Licenses.

The following table gives the number of each kind of license issued for the several years between 1874 and 1896 inclusive.

Year.	Taverns.	Shops.	Wholesale.	Vessels.	Total.
1874-5	4,743	1,307	52	33	6,185
1875-6	4,459	1,257	78	24	5,818
1876-7	3,977	787	117	27	4,908
1879-80	3,493	737	72	22	4,324
1881-5	3,253	675	28	14	3,970
1885-6	2,574	505	24	9	3,112
1886-7	Scott Act Period.	2,567	28	12	1,973
1887-8		2,496	28	14	1,882
1888-9		2,066	330	26	17
1889-90	3,073	415	27	16	3,521
1890-1	3,071	428	24		3,511
1891-2	2,990	403	21		3,414
1892-3	2,966	378	25		3,369
1893-4	2,888	357	31		3,276
1894-5	2,785	337	29		3,151
1895-6	2,779	327	26		3,132
1896-7	2,747	323	26		3,096

A Comparison with other States and Cities.

1874-5: 6,185 licenses, or one to each 287 of the population.

1896-7: 3,096 licenses, or one to each 725 of the population, an average reduction of 140 licenses per year for the last 22 years.

In striking contrast: according to a late return, in

Illinois there is	one to each 183	Michigan	one to each 239
Indiana	" 217	Minnesota	" 301
Iowa	" 289	New York	" 134
Massachusetts	" 386	Ohio	" 203
Montreal	" 319	Toronto	" 1,208

Ontario one to each 725

Revenue from Licenses.

	Municipal Revenue.	Provincial Revenue.
1886-7	\$153,716 79	\$216,455 78
1887-8	154,979 80	211,529 45
1888-9	190,297 79	232,514 55
1889-90	297,393 45	307,271 02
1890-1	294,368 26	308,266 17
1891-2	289,487 41	309,694 38
1892-3	289,973 74	297,614 47
1893-4	282,373 97	289,821 02
1894-5	272,101 31	277,478 99
1895-6	267,072 40	273,212 14
1896-7	263,330 48	270,906 90

Increase of License Fees.

The following table shows the amount of fees as fixed by the License Act of 1876, and the amount as fixed by the License Acts of 1884 and 1886, respectively:—

	1876	1884	1886
<i>Taverns and Shops—</i>			
Cities over 20,000	\$100 00	\$160 00	\$250 00
Cities under 20,000	100 00	100 00	200 00
Towns	80 00	100 00	150 00
Villages	60 00	80 00	120 00
Townships	60 00	72 00	90 00
<i>Saloons—</i>			
Cities	100 00	160 00	300 00
Towns	80 00	110 00	250 00
<i>Wholesale—</i>			
Cities over 20,000	150 00	225 00	250 00
Towns and cities under 20,000	150 00	225 00	250 00
<i>Vessels</i>			
Great Lakes	100 00	125 00	
wine and beer	50 00	62 00	
Inland Waters	60 00	85 00	
"	30 00	42 50	

Rate pro-
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