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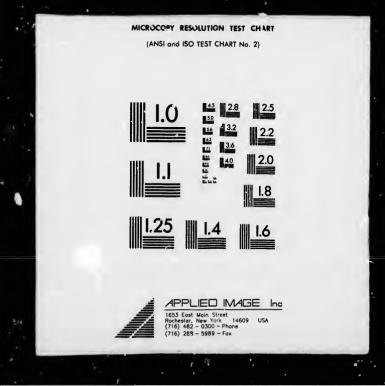
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(Prohibition Series.)

LIQUOR AND LABOR.

THE EFFECTS OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC ON THE WORKING CLASSES.

BY THOMAS C. WATKINS.

In the term laborer, I include all ho make a living either by manual or iental labor, or partly by-éach, and hat then is the relation between the quor-traffic and labor, taken in this xtended sense?

According to the Government rearms of the quantities of grain used y our distillers and brewers in the hanufacture of alcoholic liquors, from 875 to 1885, inclusive, was 1,163,-17,590 lbs., or 22,015,520 bushels, nd 458,697 gallons molasses, and 17.861 lbs. of sugar. The Rev. Wm. Burgess says in his valuable book, Land, Labor and Liquor,' " if this vast uantity of food were used in a way to romote the good, or to increase the ealth of the nation, it would be the use of great congratulation and reicing; but when we contemplate the ct, that it is not only wasted, but finitely worse than wasted, the magtude of the evil strikes us as perfectly ppalling. Consider the proportion of is waste to the entire growth of grain Canada. In 1881 the total proiction of all kinds of grain in the ominion, including wheat, barley, e, oats, peas, beans, buckwheat and rn, was 149,461,399 bushels. Taking, en, 150 million bushels as an average the grain produce per year, we disver the amazing fact, that once in

every seven years, the amount of all the grain produce in the Dominion, or its equivalent, is consumed in liquor. The grain thus destroyed in liquormaking the past seven years, was equal to more than one year's entire growth of all kinds of grain in the Dominion. Think of it! ye patriots who desire that the nation's resources shall be converted into wealth for her people. Think of it ! ye politicians who are in search of a cry for your next election campaign. Think of it ! ye judges and magistrates, before whom comes the perpetual array of drink-made criminals, while the criminals who make the drink are made jurors and governors. Think of it ! ye ministers of the Gospel by the grace of God. Think of it 1 ye farmers of the soil ; ye toilers in the workshops. Think of it ! every man and woman, every boy and girl; think, that the one-seventh of all the golden grain of every Canadian harvest is consumed in fire, burnt up in one vast mountain of flame-flung into the sea without hope of redemption? No, no ! Worse, a million times worse than that | It is turned into the vat and the still, and converted into rivers of poison, by which our people are afflicted with incalculable evils. and every form of human misery attends it." There is a loud cry made

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by our manufacturers about "over production," and they combine, and pay a part of the mills to lie idle, so that the remainder of them can put up the prices, and thus restrict the purchasing power of the community. While this gross violation of all sanitary and commercial laws is being enacted, our Government, which professes great maternal care for the manufacturers, according to their own returns for 1885, licensed Canadian brewers, distillers and importers of alcoholic liquors, to place upon our market that year 18,046,373 gallons of alcoholic liquors, at an estimated value to the consumers of \$37,255,971. Owing to an extra quantity of liquors being withdrawn from bond, in expectation that the duty would be increased, the whole of it would not be consumed that year, but taking an average of eighteen years, from 1868 to 1885, inclusive, the average each year which paid license, or duty to our Government was, 14,528,639 gallons, at a cost to the consumers of \$32,678,633. Taking the average population of our Dominion during those eighteen years, this was over three gallons each for every human being in Canada then; entailing a cost upon our people of over six dollars each for every man, woman and child of our nation ; or, averaging each family at five members, it would be a tax of over thirty dollars on each family in Canada. Think of it ! ye law-makers who flood our land with this distilled damnation. With this poison, which excites the passions of our people, deprives them of their reasoning powers, and urges them on to drink the poisonous draughts until reason is dethroned-wives are beaten -children are half starved, and educated for the prison, and the gallows; A2

our jails, reformatories, insane asylums, would b houses of refuge, homes for the friend-less, hospitals and penitentiaries are live sobfilled to overflowing by its insidious quadrup influence. The time of our police, necessar our jurors, our magistrates, our judges, be enorr is occupied largely in detecting and not suffe punishing the crimes, which are its legitimate offspring. The expenses entailed on Canada for the detection and punishment of crime, providing prisons, asylums, and all other places ot refuge for its unfortunate victims; their attendants, board and clothing, are chargeable, according to the statements of some of the most distinguished judges of Great Britain and Canada, at the ratio of from eighty to nincty per cent. of the whole, upon intoxicating liquors. Think of it I ye manufacturers; here is an array of charges against this devil in solution, when judges, before whom its victims are tried, tell us that from eight to ninetenths of the whole amount, which cannot be less than \$100,000,000, is the direct result of the free use of alcoholic liquors amongst us. Think of it 1 ye manufacturers; reason it out, see how it can be, that Governments which love you so well, can bring themselves to expend \$100,000,000 to provide for the detection, trial, and punishment of criminals, and then license other criminals to manufacture and import poison, to inflame the brains, and to excite the passions of the people, so as actually to be the direct cause of making, at the very least, eighty out of every hundred of those people criminals. Think, ye manufacturers, what is the reason why ye cannot sell all that the Canadian mills can possibly produce? It is not overproduction. If our Government would pass a prohibitory liquor-law, that

with half their pro mensel; tors woul proportio penitentia would be tavern-kee one-half. number, v 10 provide the other all the sal to becom useful, ins of the wea comfort ar dreds of th hopeful so falling vic stroyer, an drunkard's by the grad grants licer to impover their fellow of it ! reaso facturers ---capital inv taking care criminals, part of th depredation spent annu drink, mor which, at 1 poor, and m if this threewere spent

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The expenses a for the detection of crime, providing nd all other places fortunate victims; oard and clothing, ording to the statemost distinguished itain and Canada, a eighty to nincty ole, upon intoxicak of it I ye manuarray of charges in solution, when a its victims are om eight to nineamount, which \$100,000,000, is the free use of ongst us. Think rs; reason it out, hat Governments , can bring them-0,000,000 to pron, trial, and punand then license anufacture and ame the brains, ions of the peoo be the direct the very least, indred of those ink, ye manureason why ye Canadian mills It is not overernment would Juor-law, that

bries, insane asylums, would banish alcoholic liquors from homes for the friend-d penitentiaries are live sober lives, their wants would be ing by its insidious quadrupled, their purchases of the time of our police, necessaries and luxuries of life would gistrates, our judges, be enormously increased, they would y in detecting and not suffer half the sickness, or meet mes, which are its with half the accidents they do now; their producing power would be immensel, 'ncreased. One-half the doctors would be without patients, a large proportion of the jails, reformatories, penitentiaries, lunatic asylums, etc., would be empty, or nearly so. The tavern-keepers would be reduced to one-half, at the most, of the present number, which would be quite enough 10 provide for the wants of all travellers, the other half of the tavern-keepers, and all the saloon-keepers, would be forced to become producers of something useful, instead of being the destroyers of the wealth, of the prosperity, of the comfort and of the happiness of hundreds of thousands of Canada's once hopeful sons and daughters, who are falling victims daily to this foul destroyer, and are filling thousands of drunkard's graves annually, murdered by the grace of our Government; which grants licenses to some of our citizens, to impoverish and murder thousands of their fellow-citizens every year. Think of it ! reason it out carefully, ye manufacturers - about \$100,000,000 of capital invested in public institutions, taking care of and providing for our criminals, and protecting the sober part of the community from their depredations, and about \$32,000,000 spent annually in drink-poisonous drink, more than three-fourths of which, at least, is consumed by the poor, and middle classes. Then think if this three-fourths-this \$24,000,000 were spent in providing for the daily Α3

wants of about 4,000,000 of our citizens, who compose these two classes, what an impetus it would give to trade generally? What an impetus to the manufacturing interests of Canada? There would not be nearly enough of mills in Canada to supply the demand; manufacturers would have to double their capacity for production; peace and prosperity would rest upon our Dominion ; joy and gladness would fill the hearts of our sons and our daughters; the constant dread of any of them becoming drunkards would depart from many an anxious parent's heart, and then Canada would become the first nation of the earth, in working out the greatest moral reform that any alcohol cursed nation can possibly accomplish; she would manumit her hopeless, degraded army of slaves to alcohol-she would be free indeed.

According to the Government reports of the quantities of grain, etc., used in making alcoholic liquors from 1868 to 1885, inclusive, was 22,490,-356 bushels of corn, rye, etc., at an average price of 6oc.; 14,116,617 bushels of barley at an average of 70c. -making a total of 36,606,973 bushels of grain; 5,016,84r lbs. of sugar at 5c. and 74,965 gallons of molasses at 30c. -making a total value of \$23,629,175. The quantity of coal consumed in the manufacture could scarcely be less then 50,000 tons per year, which at \$5 per ton would be \$250,000. The number of men engaged in the manufacture would be at least-in the breweries, 1,411; in the distilleries, 285; in the malt houses, 500; in wholesaling the liquor, 2,000; in retailing it, 8,000 - making a total of 12,196 employes, at an average of \$370 per year, and the average cost of living at \$318, as made out by Mr. Blue, of the

Ontario Bureau of Statistics, from Government reports, makes the cost of coal and labor worse than wasted, amount to \$4,510,720 during the eighteen years, or with the cost of the grain, etc., an absolute loss to Canada of, say \$28,139,895. This, with the cost of the liquor to the customers of \$32,678,633, makes the enormous sum of \$60,818,528 of absolute loss; yes, ten thousand times ten thousand millions of dollars worse than absolute loss, for this grain might have been used for food for men and for cattle, which would have made a productive return upon the capital invested. The coal and the men might have been profitably employed in producing useful articles of large commercial value, and thus add materially to the volume of national and personal wealth, but instead of this, that vast sum of over sixty millions cf dollars has been employed in producing alcoholic liquors, which, according to the reiterated statements of hundreds of the most learned, skilful and successful physicians, surgeons and chemists of Europe and the United States, is a deadly poison, much worse than useless as a medicine, which those learned physicians and surgeons who do not use it at all in their practice (and yet do not lose one-half as many patients as do those who use it)positively assert, that, in fevers, and many other diseases, it kills from five to twenty-five per cent. of patients who, were it not for the alcohol administered to them, would have recovered.

Then, if we take the great army of drunkards, which, according to the best statistical reports, are about one in every hundred of the population, it makes 50,000 drunkards for our Dominion. These unfortunates are

mostly men and women who, were it reducting not for the liquor, would be amongst performed our most valuable producers; but their of prison systems are weakened by this liquid penses an poison, very many of them cease en them, in C tirely to be producers of wealth, but the Domir become producers of discord, misery, the count and woe unutterable-of crime in all in the Go its horrid forms, from petty larceny to \$193,097, foulest murder-of thriftless poverty Dominion and destitution ; the curse of which prisons, af falls not only on themselves, but on their work, their wives, their husbands, the miser. Then the p able children, the whole community. Is about 2, The wives have to suffer hunger, cold, \$600 per a abuse, sorrow, shame, and innumerable cost of the indignities-the husbands have to is reported bear with hunger, cold, neglect, and in 1885, \$ all the attendant miscries flowing from whole of t their wives' besetted habits-the chil-expend as dren, half starved, perished with cold, neglected, beaten, and abused by their wretched parents, learn to associate represents with the vilest, the most degraded of humanity, and, alas | soon become whole num thieves and vagabonds-the prostitutes according t and murderers of our commonwealth. 1881 given The charitable have to support these same censu wretched characters-the direct offspring of our wise (?) legislators' most cruel and unwise laws-the whole According people have to bear the enormous officials of burden of this immense outlay of cash, the proportion loss of time, punishment of crime, support of criminals, lunatics and in- This percent valids.

If we count up the loss of time of these 50,000 drunkards at one day in each week, which is a low average, as many lose their whole time, and others half their time, it makes \$2,600,000; then the cost of maintaining them in our penitentiaries, according to official reports for our Dominion, in 1884 was \$271,309; the lowest estimates for the Provincial prisons being \$83,708, after

porting lur about \$730 the actual l the Domini unatic to ev alcoholic lie gizes us the unatics der powers by th Then if we of sound m wealth for commonweal would make ing the total \$1,118,500 p Taking th А5

g \$83,708, after

women who, were it reducting the value of the work they would be amongst erformed. The cost of the transfer producers; but their if prisoners, including travelling ex-ened by this liquid enses and police constables to guard of them ccase en nem, in Ontario was \$4,258, or for a cers of wealth, but he Dominion, \$10,000. The cost of of discord, misery, the county jails for Ontario is stated le-of crime in all in the Government report for 1885 at om petty larceny to \$193,097, or at the same rate for the f thriftless poverty Dominion the total cost of all the the curse of which prisons, after deducting the value of themselves, but on heir work, would be about \$420,000. usbands, the miser. Then the police force in the Dominion whole community. is about 2,300, the wages of whom at suffer hunger, cold, 5600 per annum, is \$1,380,000. The e, and innumerable cost of the lunatic asylums of Ontario, usbands have to is reported by the Government, was cold, neglect, and in 1885, \$364,443. series flowing from whole of the rest of the Dominion to habits—the chil-expend as much as Ontario for sup-porting lunatic asylums, the cost is about \$730,000. This large expense Estimating the earn to associate represents only about three-fourths of most degraded of the actual loss to our country, as the soon become whole number of lunatics in Canada, s-the prostitutes according to statistical reports, were in r commonwealth. to support these the direct off-legislators' most unatic to every 437 of the population. aws—the whole According to accounts kept by the the enormous officials of the British lunatic asylums se outlay of cash, ment of crime, alcoholic liquors, is 13.1 per cent. lunatics and in- This percentage on our 9,889 lunatics, gizes us the alarming number of 1,295 s at one day in low average, as gizes us the alarming number of 1,295 unatics deprived of their reasoning powers by this accursed drink. Then if we had these 1,295 people

time, and others of sound mind, engaged in making es \$2,600,000; wealth for themselves, and for our taining them in commonwealth, at 1.00 per day, they ording to official would make \$388,500 each year, makon, in 1884 was ling the total cost of the lunatics to be stimates for the \$1,118,500 per annum.

Taking the total expenses of the А5

criminal administration of justice, we find the actual burden on the industrious people of Canada to be : Judicial proceedings, \$627,252 ; Dominion Police, \$18,953; Mounted Police (N. W. T.), \$564,294; Penitentiaries, \$271,309; Provincial Prisons, \$83,-708; Transfer of Prisoners, \$10,000; County Jails, \$420,000; Police and Constables time and expenses, \$1,380,-000. Then if the criminals who caused all this useless expense were sober people, they would be profitably employed, earning a living for themselves and families, and purchasing their various wants, thus giving an impetuc to trade, by that means making money for themselves, their families, the manufacturers, and the public generally.

Then taking Toronto, as reported by the Government at 11,426 prisoners confined there in jail in 1885, of whom 3,315 represented themselves as temperate, and 8,111 as given to drink, and taking the other twelve principal cities of Canada, at the same rate per capita, it makes about 86,000; then taking all the smaller towns, villages and country places, the number of prisoners they would have incarcerated would surely be equal to one-half of those in the thirteen cities, or say 43,000, making a total of 129,000 prisoners in our Dominion. Then take an average of one week in jail for each prisoner, it would be 287 years and 21/2 months' confinement, which, if employed in productive labor at an average of \$30 per month, would have amounted to \$103,410. The expenses attending the catching, confining, boarding and prosecuting these prisoners, then was the enormous sum of \$5,514,632. If we could ascertain the loss accruing from the loss of jurors'

and witnesses' time, police clerks' and magistrates' salaries and fees, it would in all probability be \$6,000,000. Then if we take the lowest percentage at which our oldest police officers and judges estimate the ratio of drunken criminals to the sober ones at 75 per cent., we find that there were 96.750 drunken prisoners arrested and imprisoned in this Dominion of ours in 1885, at a cost to the industrious classes of \$4,500,000, or very nearly one dollar for every man, woman and child in Canada. This is not all, for alcoholic drinks made 1,295 of our people luna. tics, the loss and expense of whom to our Dominion in 1885, as stated above, was \$1,118,500, which added to the above makes the astounding sum of \$5,618,500 of absolute loss to our people. Yes, millions of billions of times worse than lost, for it has been the means of making at least about 6,000 of our young men and boys drunkards, who came up to join the great army of Bacchus, to replace about six thousand drunkards who die annually in Canada, and are replaced by more than an equal number of new recruits, most of whom, charmed by the excitement produced by alcohol, rush on their mad way down to drunkards' graves, into which they prematurely fall many years before their time, poisoned by alcohol, and suicides in the sight of God. Many people who have not had an opportunity to study up this question, or who have not been active workers amongst poor drunkards, may think our indictment too strongly drawn against alcohol, and against the time-serving, guilty government, which has thrown the mantle of its fostering maternal care over its poisonous slimy coils, to protect and shield its crucl, murderous, deadly, destructive march over our A6

country, in many cases seizing on the ther calend brightest, the most promising of outerunkenness sons and of our daughters, and drag personal viol ging them down to early death-towas a publi eternal woe.

Sir Matthew Hale, Chief Justice of sizes : "A England, stated : "The places of judi crime to be cature, which I have long held in this from the vice kingdom, have given me an opportun if they took ity to observe the original cause o hose cases in most of the enormities which have some connect been committed for the space of twenty accused, or the years ; and by due observations, I have leave that la found, that if the murders and man one. If all the slaughters, the burglaries and robber from the us ies, the tumults, the adulteries, fornical he office of ju tions, rapes, and other enormities that Justice Hay have happened in that time, were chester assize divided into five parts, four of then to enquire i have been issues and products of exwith a view cessive drinking; of tavern and ale might be dim house drinking." Judge Coleridge ed itself at states : "Liquor has either been the remarked at t temptation beforehand to robbery, to Liverpool, wh get something to purchase it, or it is five murders the provocation under the influence of it would be liquor that causes them to quarrel, and chiefly attribu perhaps to commit murder; or it is the nothing else. liquor upon which the fruits that have diate, and dir been obtained by robbery, is generally evil and bad spent, and it seems to me that, but for fourd, address the cases where offences have been expired. brought on by the use of intoxicating "The greater liquors, the courts of justice might begenness. No shut up." Judge Wightman, in his of these cases address at Liverpool, said : "Of 92 and it is a cau prisoners whose names were on the crimes which calendar, six were charged with wilful and especially murder, twelve with manslaughter, 13 robbery, for w with malicious injury to the person, it stirs up evi eighteen with burglary, and eight with kindles the slu highway robbery, accompanied with human heart, violence to the person. He found a state of tw from the perusal of the depositions, hand, it points one unfailing cause of four-fifths of exposing his these crimes was, as it was in every after public h

Baron Alde H

Α7

ases seizing on the ther calendar, the besetting sin of promising of our crunkenness. In almost 'all cases of aughters, and diag personal violence and injury, the scene o early death-to was a public house or beer shop."

Baron Alderson said at the York , Chief Justice of essizes: "A great proportion of the The places of judi crime to be brought forward arose e long held in this com the vice of drunkenness alone. n me an opportun. If they took away from the calendar all original cause of those cases in which drunkenness had ities which have some connection, either with the person he spi 2 of twenty occused, or the accusing party, it would oservations, I have leave that large calendar a very small urders and man one. If all the men could be persuaded aries and robber from the use of intoxicating liquor, adulteries, fornica. the office of judge would be a sinecure." er enormities that Justice Hayes declared at the Manthat time, were chester assizes : "When people come arts, four of then to enquire into the causes of crime, I products of ex with a view to ascertain how crime tavern and ale might be diminished, the fact present-Judge Coleridge ed itself at these assizes, as ... had either been the remarked at the last winter assizes, at d to robbery, to Liverpool, when he had to dispose of rchase it, or it is five murders and eight manslaughters, r the influence of it would be proved, that they were m to quarrel, and chiefly attributable to drinking, and to urder; or it is the nothing else. Crime was the immee fruits that have diate, and direct effect of that besetting bery, is generally evil and bad habit." Mr. Justice Talme that, but for fourd, addressing the jurors at Stafford, ences have been expired. His closing words were: of intoxicating "The greatest English vice is drunkjustice might be enness. No doubt that this, in most lightman, in his of these cases, is the immediate cause, , said : "Of g2 and it is a cause in two ways of the es were on the crimes which will come before you, arged with wilful and especially of the crime of highway nanslaughter, 13 robbery, for whereas, on the one hand to the person, it stirs up evil, awakens malice, and , and eight with kindles the slumbering passions of the ompanied with human heart, and puts the reason into on. He found a state of twilight, so, on the other the depositions, hand, it points out the victim, who, by of four-fifths of exposing his money in public house t was in every after public house, is marked out by

some wicked associate, and rob'ed. One great evil is, I think you will find out on looking over the depositions, that each is a mere repetition of the same story over again, of some man who goes from public house to public house spending his money, and exhibiting it, and is marked out as a fitting object for plunder, when his senses are obscured, and who is made the subject of an attack under those circumstances, which enables the parties to escape from the consequences, because, although the story may be perfectly, true which the prosecutor in his case tells, -although it may be vividly felt hy him-yet he is obliged to confess"-----The judge ceased to speak, and was no more.

Mr. Justice Deasy, at the Armagh assizes asserted : " Drunkenne. s is the parent of all crimes committed in Ireland." Sir Wm. Bovil stated at the Denbigh assizes : " Drunkenness, according to my experience, is at the root of nine-tenths of the crime committed in this country." Justice Hannon, in charging a Liverpool jury in 1869, said: "I should suppose the testimony of every judge upon the bench, would be the same, as to the fact that a very large proportion of the crimes of violence brought before us, are traceable to intoxicating liquors." Mr. Justice Keating observed at the Norwich assizes : " After long experience, I can state, that nineteen-twentieths of the acts of violence committed throughout England, originated in public houses." "Drunkenness again ! It's almost the case with everyone that is brought before me." Chief Justice Davis of New York, says : "Of all the causes of crime, intemperance stands out the unapproachable chief." Dr. Elisha Harris says : "After two years

of careful enquiry into the history and condition of the criminal population of the State. I find that the conclusion is inevitable, that, in all its relations, alcoholic drink may be charged with far more than half the crimes that are brought to conviction in the State of New York, and that fully 85 per cent. of all convicts give evidence, of having in some large degree, been prepared, or enticed to the criminal acts, because of the physical and distracting effects produced upon the human organism by alcohol, and as they indulged in the use of alcoholic drinks." The Board of Police Justices of New York, state in their report for 1874: "We are fully satisfied that intoxication is the one great leading cause, which renders the existence of our police courts necessary." Governor Dix states : "Intemperance is undoubtedly the cause of four-fifths of all the crime, pauperism and domestic misery of the State of New York." Judge Allison remarked : "In our criminal courts we can trace four-fifths of the crimes that are committed to the influence of rum. There is not one case in twenty where a man is tried for his life, in which rum is not the direct, or indirect cause of murder." Numbers of the judges of our own Dominion are equally distinct in their denunciation of this dread demon of destructionthis intolerable incubus, which is crushing out the life of our young nationfilling our jails, our hospitals, our lunatic asylums, and the gallows with its innumerable victims-spreading poverty, disease and death on our right hand and on our left in every direction ; and which is licensed—positively licensed by our Government to slay our people by the thousand - to offer up hecatombs of Canadians to the god of Bacchus! To fill, according to the most accurate estimates, 6,000 graves with drunkards annually, to appear at

the great Judgment Day as suicid before the Judge of all mankind. The will each member of our Dominic Government, who alone can raise th flood-gates of alcoholic liquors, an deluge our great country with th devil in solution-this sum of all in quities-or can close those gates by prohibitory liquor law, and shut o this distilled damnation, this serpen whose fascinating eyes, have lure millions upon millions of our rad down to drunkards' graves-down eternal woe, the cold, maddenin slimy coils of which have gathere and are daily still gathering aroun many of the noblest, the best, the mo promising of our young men, an young women, and crushing out a the native nobility of their nature-a those noble, those grand, those hero plans which they had been forming for their future prosperity, and success i life, and leaving them miserable wreck on the shores of time, unfit to live, un fit to die; with health ruined, bodie enfeebled, life shortened, they drag ou a short, but wretched existence, a but den on the community for their sur port, they soon fall hopeless into di honored graves.

Canada expects every man and wo man to do their duty with heroi courage. This demon of intemperance must be chained down to his nativ hell, and our country freed foreve from this destroyer of our peace, ou happiness, our wealth and our health The temperance organizations Canada, by throwing the weight c their united influence with the Ne Party, will, by energetic work for a ver few years, so educate the masses of th people, as to the destructive effects of alcoholic liquors on our health, properity and very existence as a nation that a majority of temperance prohi bitionists will control the elections and we shall have a prohibitory liquo law passed, the fruits of which will b greatly diminished crime, peace an prosperity such as Canada has neve known.

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