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THE CAMP FIRE

A Monthly Record and Advocate of the Temperance Reform.

VOL. VI. No. 1.

TORONTO, ONT. JULY, 1899.

25 CENTS PER YEAR

ARROWS.

CONVENTION CALL 1899 — URGENT.

OFFICE OF THE DOMINION ALLIANCE,

52 CONFEDERATION LIFE BLDG., TORONTO, JUNE, 1899.

The Annual Provincial Convention of the Dominion Alliance will be held at Toronto in the **HORTICULTURAL PAVILION** beginning on **TUESDAY, JULY 11th, AT 9 a.m.**, and will probably close on the evening of the same day.

A SERIOUS CRISIS. — The Executive Committee of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance, in summoning the usual Annual Convention of prohibitionists for this Province, desire to earnestly press upon the attention of all friends of moral reform the important and critical character of the position in which our cause at present stands.

We have to deal with the serious facts, (1) that the Government which asked for an expression of public opinion on the question of prohibition, has definitely refused to accept the mandate of the electorate as a whole, and (2) that notwithstanding the splendid Plebiscite majority of 107,948 in favor of prohibition in that part of Canada outside of Quebec, including a majority of 39,224 in this Province, neither the Dominion Government nor Parliament has, at the time of the issuing of this "Call," taken any step towards the enacting of any measure of prohibitory legislation. This inaction practically places Parliament and Government, so far as Ontario is concerned, in direct antagonism to the will of the electorate as clearly expressed by a very great majority of a very large vote.

AN URGENT DUTY. This extraordinary situation makes it exceedingly desirable that the coming Convention should be as largely attended as possible. We shall need all the wisdom, zeal, determination and strength that we can muster. We must carefully consider, definitely decide upon and then resolutely carry out, such a policy as will make absolutely impossible the continued forcing of the ruinous liquor-traffic upon an unwilling and protesting people, who have twice declared in favor of Prohibition by overwhelming majorities.

Every organization entitled to representation should therefore make a special point of sending delegates to this Convention. **Every delegate** appointed should make it a special duty to be present. **Every friend** who receives this "Call" is earnestly urged to use his or her influence to make the meeting a great success. **Officers of all Societies** are requested to bring the matter before their respective organizations. **Pastors** are requested to lay it before their congregations. **Newspaper Editors** are requested to give it as much publicity as possible.

REDUCED RATES, SINGLE FARE. Special reduced rates will be given by all railway lines. Each delegate will purchase on starting a single fare ticket to Toronto. He will also procure from the ticket agent a standard certificate filled up, showing that he has purchased said ticket. This certificate he will present to the Secretary of the Convention, who will sign it. It will then entitle him to a return ticket free of cost, no matter how low the regular fare to Toronto may be. **Every delegate is urged to attend.** The standard certificates must be secured before starting, otherwise the free return cannot be secured. Those having to travel over roads operated by different companies should procure a certificate for each. The free return will be conditioned upon our having three hundred delegates purchasing full fare tickets to the convention. Otherwise the railway companies will charge one-third of a single fare for return tickets. It is confidently anticipated, however, that there will be present many more than the number necessary to secure the free return.

REPRESENTATION. — The plan of representation to this convention is as follows: — Every church and society is entitled to two representatives, and each church and society having more than fifty members, is entitled to an additional delegate for each additional fifty.

The following organizations are entitled to representation on the basis named: County City and Electoral District Prohibition Alliances, Leagues or Central Committees, Branches of the W.C.T.U., Divisions of the Sons of Temperance, Lodges of the I.O.G.T., Councils of the R. T. of T., Branches of the League of the Cross, Prohibition Clubs, any prohibition or temperance organizations, Church Congregations, Young Men's Christian Associations, Salvation Army Corps, Societies of Christian Endeavor, Epworth Leagues, Branches of St. Andrew's Brotherhood, Baptist Young People's Unions, and other young people's associations in connection with church work; Ontario members of the Council of the Dominion Alliance, elected from representative ecclesiastical, temperance and prohibition bodies, members of the Executive Committee of the Ontario Branch of the Dominion Alliance, Ontario Members of Parliament and Members of the Provincial Legislature in favor of prohibition, will also be members of the Convention.

DELEGATES AND VISITORS. — It is specially requested that every organization appointing delegates will send a list of the names and addresses of such delegates to the Secretary of the Alliance at the earliest possible opportunity. The form sent out, or any other, may be used for this purpose. Every delegate should also be notified and informed of railway rates, and other matters set out in this circular.

The commodious gallery of the Pavilion will be reserved for accommodation of persons coming to the Convention who are not appointed delegates, and all such may secure reduced railway rates on the plan above set out.

The **Time and Place** of meeting, details concerning **Railway Rates**, and the **Plan of Representation** are fully set out on the other side of this circular.

The Secretary will cheerfully and promptly furnish additional copies of this "Call," credential forms, or any further information in his possession to any friend applying for the same.

On behalf of the Executive Committee,

F. S. SPENCE,
Secretary.

J. J. MACLAREN,
President.

Let your life be an open book, but not a blank book.

God promises a safe landing, but not a calm passage.

Make your mark in the world, but mind what your mark is.

It is not so much to tell the truth, as to make the truth tell.

Before the devil can be chained, the saloon door must be bolted.

You have no right to do as you please, unless you please to do right.

Temperance is not everything, but intemperance mars everything.

The devil scores a point whenever a good man opposes a good cause.

Life is a campaign, not a battle, and has its defeats as well as its victories.

Liberty is not the right to do what you like, but the liking to do what is right.

A saloon keeper is never so happy as when his spirits are steadily going down.

Some Christians are like children on a rocking horse, plenty of motion but no progress.

Habit is at first like a thin thread: by and by it becomes like a cable.

Put a smile on your face when you go out for a walk, and it will be surprising how many pleasant people you will meet.

Be as merry as you can. If there is no sunshine in your religion don't be surprised if nobody wants it. — *N. T. Advocate.*

VALUE OF CHARACTER

IN BUSINESS IT HAS GREAT WEIGHT — NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE EMPLOYERS IN DEMAND.

The young men entering business in our great cities are realizing more and more the value of nobility of character. It is becoming more difficult, for instance, for men who use intoxicating liquors in any form to secure positions and hold them, and this fact, not only in office employment, but in nearly all the other lines of business. Employers are unwilling to risk their business interests in the hands of those whose nerves and brains may be rendered unsteady by drink. Few, if indeed any, railroads will employ in any capacity whatever men who are habitual drinkers, and those who drink occasionally are insecure in their positions. Other large employers of men in factories are adopting the same policy. One large employer informs every man when engaging his services that he will give him one dollar a week more wages if he will take a pledge not to drink. If the man objects the employer does not exact the pledge, but tells him he believes his services as a non-drinking man are worth one dollar more per week than if he drinks, and leaves the employee to make the choice. Few decline to accept the one dollar advance.

There has grown up in recent years in the business practices in our cities a custom which has the force of law that still further illustrates the value of character in young men seeking employment in important positions. It is estimated that about 25 per cent. of those holding what are called office positions, such as cashiers and book keepers, are obliged to give bond for the safe handling of moneys entrusted to their care. In former days it was the custom for persons obliged to give such bonds to secure as bondsmen personal friends, but the custom has become almost obsolete and bonds are now signed by companies making that a business, and charging a specific rate per thousand for the security they gave. Such bond companies fully investigate the reputations of persons applying for their signature, and an applicant must have a good record in order to secure the bond, without which the desired position cannot be obtained.

Parents will do wisely to impress the business phase of character upon their children, especially their boys, and so instruct them that they will be prepared to take advantage of the opportunities which may present themselves in business life. — *N. Y. Christian Advocate.*

The Camp Fire.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE
ADDRESS . . . TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year.

NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers.

The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, JULY, 1899

CANADA.

There is reason for fervent thankfulness in the advanced position which Canada occupies in the matters of temperance habits and prohibitory law. Part of a statement prepared for another purpose, is reprinted in this paper under heading, "Liquor Laws of Canada." It contains information not known to all our readers and will be of interest to every advocate of moral reform.

THE DOMINION COUNCIL.

The Council of the Dominion Alliance will hold its annual session in Toronto on July 12th. Already credentials have been received from a great number of provincial temperance organizations and representative ecclesiastical bodies. A year ago thirty four of these organizations were represented at the Council Meeting. It is likely that this year there will be even a more representative gathering.

It is earnestly requested that every church and temperance body will bear in mind the importance of this gathering, and that all delegates will make it a special duty to attend. All the wisdom and zeal that can be mustered at this serious crisis in the history of moral reform, in Canada.

Delegates to this Convention are cordially invited. The Provincial meeting to be held on the preceding day, particulars of which are given on the front page of this paper. They may obtain return tickets on the reduced rate plan provided for delegates to that Convention.

SHALL THE PEOPLE RULE?

In the Plebiscite campaign the liquor traffic did its best. It spent money freely. It appealed to unworthy prejudices. It strove to rouse race feelings. It used every device that desperation and dishonesty could suggest. Yet the liquor traffic was beaten. The electors it prejudiced and the electors it bought were not enough to equal the earnest honest men who marked their ballots in condemnation of the traffic. The traffic was beaten and the people won.

The Government has taken sides against the people. It has refused to embody in legislation the principles that the electors have endorsed at the polls. Apart from the merits of the case, the Government ought to represent the majority of the people. Apart from the majority of the people the Government ought to represent the side of progress

and right. The Government allies itself with the traffic, to thwart the popular will and stands on the side of the minority and the wrong.

By its action the Dominion Government has forced into politics the question of whether the law is to be in favor of the minority and the wrong, or on the side of the majority and the right. It looks as if we must fight again at the ballot box the question of whether or not the people have a right to rule.

DELAY AT OTTAWA.

The resolutions of which Mr. Flint has given notice, have not yet been discussed in the House of Commons. The session is now so far advanced and the pressure of parliamentary business is so great, that these resolutions can only have full consideration by consent of the Government.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has promised that a day will be set apart for the question, after the re-distribution bill has been disposed of. It is evident that Members of the House of Commons do not look upon the prohibition question as one of great importance. It is made secondary to matters which have not certainly so intimate relation with either the material or moral prosperity of the country. If Parliament fairly reflects the views of the electorate, then our people are lacking in earnestness and enthusiasm. If the apathy of Parliament is not shared in by the electors, then our friends ought to make a strong effort to rouse their representatives to understand that their indifference is dangerous, and that their constituents expect them to deal with this issue promptly and definitely.

The division list upon Mr. Flint's resolution, and any amendments that may be moved, will be carefully watched, and will no doubt influence a vast number of votes at the next general election.

THE DEFEAT IN BROME.

On June 20th, the Scott Act was repealed in the County of Brome, P.Q., by a majority of 532. This startling result of a closely fought election, after twenty-five years of prohibition, is of special interest, and demands careful consideration.

It is freely and no doubt truthfully stated that improper practices on the part of the liquor traffic, prevailed largely in the contest, that many votes were bought. This, however, is not a sufficient explanation of the change. The men who voted for prohibition are not the class that can be bribed. We only count upon success for the temperance cause by a majority of the whole vote, taken entirely out of the part that is honest and high-principled.

About twenty-five per cent. of the electorate of Brome is French-Canadian. Here in all probability is the secret of the change. In the Plebiscite campaign, scheming politicians diligently sought to convince the French people that prohibition was something that would interfere with the influence that French Canadians have in public affairs to-day. They voted against prohibition to save Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Government from overthrow. They were made enemies of prohibition by the men who sought to array race against race, and to make it appear that Liberalism and prohibition were opposed. This not doubt the secret of the liquor triumph in the County of Brome.

THE GOVERNMENT IS RESPONSIBLE.

The present Government of Canada is not merely the administrative body

which superintends the carrying out of national legislation and the detail work of national government. It is also the mouthpiece of the great Liberal Party whose policy the Government was elected to carry out.

No one will deny the fact that in the last general election the people of Canada went to the polls with a definite understanding that the Liberal Party favored the taking of a Plebiscite on the question of prohibition, and favored the enactment of a prohibitory law if the Plebiscite should show that the people so desired. The Plebiscite did make that showing, far more definitely and emphatically than the ballot boxes in 1896 showed that the people desired the Liberal policy to prevail.

Placed in power with a strong party behind them, with the voice of the people unmistakably in favor of prohibition, the Government has taken upon itself the responsibility of failing to carry out the policy which the Liberal Party advocated, and refusing to the people the legislation for which they voted. If the liquor traffic is jubilant to-day, if friends of moral reform are thwarted in their work, if evil flowing from intemperance continues rampant and fearless in the land, if law that ought to be on the side of right upholds what is degrading and wrong, the responsibility must rest with the Government.

It is no excuse to say that the vote for prohibition was small. Outside of Quebec the vote for prohibition was very, very large. The majority was such as had never before been recorded in relation to any action or measure. This mighty vote cannot be ignored. The Government is acting unwisely as well as unjustly, and is inviting the opposition of all who favor justice and progress.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

The International Supreme Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars, in session in Toronto at the time this article is written, is an object lesson on the value of organization. Representatives are present from different nations in both hemispheres, speaking on behalf of constituencies aggregating over 500,000 membership. An increase during the past year is reported. Thorough organization and earnest work have made this Order a mighty power for good in every part of the civilized world.

Organization and work are the watchwords of this institution. Organization and work have in an incredibly short time made Good Templary a mighty power. Thorough organization and hard work are the secrets of success in any moral reform enterprise.

On July 12th, the National Division of the Sons of Temperance will hold its annual session at Niagara Falls. To it will come delegates from nearly every part of Canada and the United States. Here will be another example of the results of wise planning and earnest effort.

We wish our brothers of the I.O.G.T. and our brothers of the S. of T. every success. They are engaged in a glorious work that must result in the overthrow of the evil which they assail. These and kindred societies began the great prohibition crusade which has since been taken up by churches and other agencies. No movement ever inaugurated made so much progress in so short a time. Unless some sudden catastrophe should stay the wheels of progress it cannot be long before we shall see, in this country at least, the total overthrow of the liquor traffic against which so effective a warfare is being waged.

Selections.

"IF IT WAS NOT FOR THE DRINK."

BY A. L. WESTCOMBE.

'Tis close upon the midnight chimes, the fire is burning low,
My eyes are blinded so with tears, I cannot see to sew;
I'm faint and hungry, and I fain would eat a crust of bread,
But I must leave it till the morn, for the children must be fed.
I sent them early to their bed, their hunger to forget,
And stole to see them as they slept, but still their cheeks were wet.
I little thought five years ago, that we to this should sink—
And we might all be happy still if it was not for the drink!

We have but rags upon us now, our clothes are all in pawn,
Yes, one by one the things I had for rent and food are gone.
There's nothing but my shadow now across the empty space,
Where our old clock stood, year by year, with round and cheery face;
I used to like to hear it tick, and see the hour draw on,
That brought my Joe again to me, when his day's work was done;
But when I hear his footsteps now, my heart begins to sink,—
Yet he would still be kind and good if it was not for the drink!

My Lizzie, with the flaxen curls, and eyes so large and blue,
I'm thankful that your mother's lot can never rest on you.
There seemed no bitterness in death as I stood by your grave,
The heavenly Shepherd had stooped down the weakest lamb to save.
You'll never cry again, my child, with hunger or with cold,
For weeping is not heard within that city all of gold;
Yet still I miss your little face, and tears fall as I think
I might have had you with me still if it was not for the drink!

Oh! sometimes when I'm sitting here, I wish that I were dead,
And resting in the quiet grave my weary heart and head;
But then I look around upon my Johnnie and my Kate,
And call the wish back as I think of what would be their fate
Without my hands to wash and mend, without my hands to strive
To earn a little bit of bread to keep us just alive.
For it's very, very seldom now I hear Joe's wages clink:
Though he would bring them all to me if it was not for the drink!

Ah me! it is a bitter grief to feel one's love and trust
Have leaned upon a broken reed, and built upon the dust!
This bruise is sore—but oh! my heart is sorer still to know,
And try to hide, whose hand it was that gave that cruel blow;
For the drink has got such hold on Joe, he can't tell wrong from right:
He's dark and sullen in the morn, but worse, far worse, at night;
And wicked words he often says, that make me start and shrink,
But they would never pass his lips if it was not for the drink!

I feel ashamed to go to church, though a comfort it would be,
But folks would think I came to beg, if they my rags should see.
'Tis very long since I have had a gown, that was not old,
My bonnet has been soaked with rain, my Sunday shawl is sold;
And so I have to stay at home, and silently to pray
That God would pity my poor Joe and take his sin away:
While he sits sleeping heavily, without the power to think,—
Yet he would think and he would pray if it was not for the drink!

It makes me mad to see the man who sells him drink go by,
With glittering rings and chain of gold, holding his head so high.
'Tis hard so see his wife and girls in silks and satins shine,

And know the money that they spend should some of it be mine. I'm ready oftentimes to wish that all the drink could be—
With those that make and those that sell—flung down into the sea.
For almost all the country's woe and crime would with them sink,
And men might have a chance for good if it was not for the drink!
—Leaves from the Banks of the Severn.

FOUR POUNDS OF STEAK, CUT PRETTY THICK.

BY COUSIN GERTRUDE.

William Dalton was a good workman, and earned good wages; he could have supplied his family with all the comforts of life, and given his children a good education, had he not been burdened and cursed with an appetite for strong drink. He spent most of his nights in bar rooms, where, of course, his money went for beer and whiskey, over which he and his companions thought they were having a good time. As he did not have the money in his pocket to pay for what he drank, the drinks were charged.

On Saturday night, as soon as he received his wages, he went to pay his "debts of honor" at the saloon. We wonder why he did not, sometimes, consider his grocery store, and meat market bills "debts of honor." There was little left for groceries, to say nothing of good warm clothes and shoes for the children, after his drinking bill was settled.

The good mother at home took in sewing or any kind of work she could find, that her strength would permit, and managed to keep them from starving, but the children were never clothed so as to be presentable at either day school or Sunday school.

One Saturday night, about 11 o'clock, found William, or Bill, as he was called, at the meat market. He sauntered in slowly, with dinner basket in his hand, and a very little money in his pocket. A few moments after a well-dressed gentleman walked in with a brisk step, threw some money on the counter, and said to the butcher in a quick, business-like voice: "Send up four pounds of steak to my house by 9 o'clock in the morning, will you? And cut it pretty thick." Then he walked out without noticing poor Bill. Bill saw him though; it was the proprietor of the saloon where he spent most of his money. Bill sat for some time thinking, until aroused by the butcher, with "Well, Bill, what do you want, 10 cents worth of liver? Do you want it charged as usual?"

Bill got up, shook himself, and started toward the door. "No, I do not want anything to-night."

"Oh, come, man, take something home to the kids. You are welcome to it."

"No, not to-night," and Bill went out closing the door with a bang.

"Four pounds of steak, and cut it pretty thick," rang in his ears, and was all he could think of. How many weeks, even months, since he had had even a sufficiency of any kind of meat at his house, while the other man could order his "four pounds of steak cut pretty thick." The man had passed in front of him, and had not noticed him either!

He stopped at a grocery store and took home a few little bundles. The children, of course, were in bed, but the patient wife sat, hard at work, trying to patch up some of their clothes. She looked up timidly as Bill came in, and was surprised to see him looking so serious and sober. Wise woman that she was, she said nothing about it, but set the remains of their scanty supper before him; he ate little of it, and prepared to retire. He was so quiet she mustered up courage to ask him if he was sick. He replied with a kindly "No."

He went to work as usual next week, and came home promptly at night; mother and children were surprised, but too glad to have him at home to ask for any explanation. He worked all week to the tune of "four pounds of steak and cut it pretty thick," and the ring of the money on the counter; he even smiled over his work; his companions joked him and wanted him to come with them at night, as usual, but he only said, "No!"

He was very excited all day Saturday, and could hardly wait for 6 o'clock; it came finally; he received his wages and started—for the saloon, do you think? No, indeed! He went straight to that beef market, walked in, threw down a dollar, and exclaimed; "Give me four pounds of steak, and cut it pretty thick!"

The butcher stared at him, and Bill was obliged to repeat his order. The butcher was a wise man, and said: "Hurrah for you, Bill!" Bill did not seem to notice what was said, for he was in a hurry to get home.

Wife and children were surprised again; father coming home with their supper and throwing money into mother's lap was something new. He explained matters this time by telling what had happened the Saturday night before at the meat market.

"Now, Mary," said he, "I have turned over a new leaf, and it will stay turned over. I see how I have wasted my money, and you all have suffered for it. Let us have some supper, and then we will take what money is left, go out and get some clothes for the children, and start them to Sunday school in the morning, as you and I were raised to do."

Not one of the family ever forgot that "four pounds of steak, and cut it pretty thick" that had so completely changed life for all.—*Kind Words.*

selling in localities, and that Provincial Legislatures have no authority to interfere with the manufacture or importation of liquor. The question of whether or not Provincial Legislatures may entirely prohibit the sale of liquor within their respective territories is not yet definitely settled.

EXISTING LEGISLATION.

Under its prohibitory power the Dominion Parliament has enacted a local option law, known as the Canada Temperance Act, for counties and cities. Dominion legislation also prohibits liquor-selling in unorganized territories, except under special permits, also all sale on parliamentary election days and any sale to Indians.

Under their respective powers above mentioned the legislatures of every part of Canada have enacted license laws full of limiting provisions; and, in every province but one, have given to electors extensive local option power to prohibit the retail sale of liquor. It is understood that any authority exercised under provincial legislation takes effect only in localities in which the electors have not availed themselves of the prohibition authorized by the Canada Temperance Act.

In most of the Provinces no licenses are granted except on petition of a majority of the electors within a certain area. Nova Scotia requires a petition signed by two-thirds of the electors, and the petition must be renewed every year. Manitoba requires a petition for a new license to be signed by sixteen out of the nearest twenty householders, and provides that eight of the nearest twenty may prevent by petition the renewal of an existing license. British Columbia requires, outside cities, for a new license, a petition from two-thirds of resident lot owners and householders, and two-thirds of the wives of such lot owners and householders.

Nearly all the provinces have legislation authorizing relatives to prohibit by notice, the sale of liquor to habitual drunkards, minors, lunatics, or other persons in whom the notifiers are interested, and imposing severe penalties for sale after such notice. Most of the provinces have also civil damage laws, and, some provinces authorize the commitment of habitual drunkards to special asylums.

LOCAL PROHIBITION.

Through the operation of the legislation mentioned there are extensive areas under prohibition in every part of the Dominion. In Nova Scotia licenses are granted in only two out of eighteen counties. Prince Edward Island has no licenses outside the city of Charlottetown. Nine out of fourteen counties in New Brunswick have total prohibition. Outside the large cities, Quebec has 603 municipalities without licenses, out of a total of 933. The greater part of Manitoba is under prohibition. In Ontario there is a steady reduction in the number of licenses issued. In 1874 the number was 6,185, now it is less than 3,000. The city of Toronto with a population of 60,000, had then 530 licenses. Now, with a population of 200,000, it has only 209.

HOURS OF CLOSING.

The regular hours of closing licensed places, as fixed by provincial laws, are, in Nova Scotia 8 p.m., in New Brunswick 10 p.m., and in Manitoba 11 p.m. In Quebec hours of closing may be fixed by municipal councils. In the Province of Ontario the time for closing may be fixed by local license commissioners, but must not be later than 11 p.m.

All licensed places are also closed in Nova Scotia from six o'clock on Saturday night until seven o'clock on Monday morning, in New Brunswick from seven Saturday night till six on Monday morning, in Manitoba from half-past eight on Saturday night till seven on Monday morning, and in British Columbia from eleven on Saturday night till one o'clock on Monday morning. Some provinces, however, permit sale on Sundays in hotels to bona fide guests at meals.

LIQUOR CONSUMPTION.

Careful calculations show that the aggregate consumption of liquors in the Dominion of Canada annually amounts to about four million gallons of spirits and eighteen million gallons of wine and beer, making an annual consumption of a little less than four and one-half gallons per head of the population. This is about equal to one-fourth the per capita consumption of the United States, or one-seventh the per capita consumption of Great Britain. The annual expenditure for intoxicating liquor by the consumers is estimated at about forty million dollars.

The Liquor Laws of Canada.

The Dominion of Canada is a union of a number of what were once separate colonies, each of which still retains for local purposes its territorial and political identity. Dominion affairs are controlled by a Parliament composed of an appointed Senate and an elected House of Commons, and a Governor General. It includes the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, British Columbia and a large area known as the Northwest Territories, each of which eight divisions has a Legislature and a Lieutenant-Governor, exercising jurisdiction in matters and interests with which these bodies are authorized to deal. Outside the large territory which these legislatures control, is an extensive area in which the Dominion alone has jurisdiction. The population of the Dominion of Canada is over five millions.

THE QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.

The Act of the British Parliament which constitutes the Dominion has not made perfectly clear the respective jurisdictions of the Dominion Parliament and Provincial Legislatures in relation to the liquor traffic. Through decisions of Courts, the question is being gradually settled. So far it has been affirmed that the Dominion Parliament has power to prohibit the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquor; that Provincial Legislatures have power to impose license fees and restrictions, and prohibit retail liquor

THE GREAT CONVENTION.

We desire to press earnestly upon our readers the importance of the great convention to be held in the City of Toronto on July 11th. Full particulars are set out in a circular issued by the Alliance Executive, which we reprint in full on our front page.

The emergency in which prohibitionists find themselves at the present time, ought to command the deep concern of all who are interested in what is right. The meeting at Toronto on the 11th inst. will have special relation to this situation. We earnestly urge all churches and organizations to make special effort to secure as full an attendance of delegates as it is possible to secure.

AROUND THE WORLD.

The annual report of the National Temperance Society of the United States contains many items of interest relating to the progress of the temperance cause in different parts of the world. We clip the following—

In Russia.

In this country various attempts have of late years been made by the Government to abolish drunkenness. The state dispensary or Gothenburg system was the last panacea recommended as the cure all. Among the papers advocating this measure was the "Novosti," of St. Petersburg, recognized as the leading liberal organ of Russia. Now that paper hoists the flag of absolute prohibition, in an editorial, which confirms that no temperance measures (that is, measures allowing the manufacture and sale in any form) will do away with drunkenness. Drunkenness will exist just so long as liquor is sold. To abolish drunkenness is possible but in one way—by abolishing through absolute prohibition the manufacture and sale of liquor.

Great Crusade in the North of England.

One of the most sweeping temperance campaigns which the North of England has ever witnessed has just been finished, under the auspices of the North of England Temperance League. Two thousand meetings were planned for the three months of January, February and March. Most of the work was done in the coal-mining villages and larger towns by volunteer service. Members of Parliament, Lord Mayors, members of the nobility and prominent ministers and laymen spoke daily.

Happy Iceland.

With 74,000 inhabitants, Iceland has only one policeman. No liquor is allowed to be sold, except in the capital, Reykjavik, where, by the express order of the king of Denmark, there are two places where liquor is sold. The sole duty of this policeman is to arrest such drunken sailors or visitors as threaten the public peace.

The Sudan Victory.

Sir Horatio Kitchener's recent victory at Atbara was a great triumph for total abstinence. Thanks to total abstinence, the men were able to make forced marches of the most extraordinary character across the burning desert, and under a blazing sun, the heat of whose rays can only be appreciated by those who have lived under the equator. Yet, in spite of this, there had never been a campaign where there was so little sickness, where so few men were compelled to fall out even in the longest marches, and where the troops had been got into such magnificent physical and moral training that they would actually cover thirty miles of sand with empty water bottles, without slaking their thirst once from the beginning to the end of the march, at the close of which they would still find themselves sufficiently fresh and vigorous to win a hard-fought victory, such as that at Atbara.

Banish the drink evil from the army and the Nation will save in men and money.

Victory for Abstinence at Santiago.

In the destruction of the Cervera fleet, alcohol was a potent factor. The Spanish prisoners freely admitted that many of their gunners were drunk. Before the sortie wine and spirits on board were handed out without stint. With the command to move out, came the order, "Open the stores of wine and brandy." The men drank as they served the guns. On the gun decks the sun beamed down on men whose stomachs were filled with the fiery liquid and made them half mad. They tore their clothing from their backs, cursing and shrieking because of the strain and the liquor. Such men, crazed with drink, could not shoot straight.

The firing of the American ships was frightful in its accuracy and effect, because the guns were manned by sailors whose nerves were steady, whose brains were clear.

Scientific Teaching in U. S. Schools.

It has been decided that the various boards of education must enforce the law passed by Congress May 20th, 1896, that makes the study of alcoholism with reference to its effects upon the human system a compulsory branch of study not only in the public schools of the Territories, but in the various Indian school wherever located, and in the naval and military schools of the United States. Teachers also must pass a satisfactory examination on this special subject if they have not already done so.

In France.

The Minister of Public Instruction has taken the matter up seriously, and has appointed a special commission to inquire as to what is the best way to bring the dangers of alcohol before the children in the public and superior schools of France. One result is that a series of recommendations have been made, amongst other things, that suitable hand-books be prepared, to be used in different classes to instruct the young on the nature and effects of alcohol, that regular instruction be given in the matter, and that special lectures be delivered by eminent medical men each year, in order to enforce the lessons learned in class.

Great Britain.

In Great Britain scientific temperance teaching is not as in the United States, obligatory, but is carried on by voluntary agencies. Among the most efficient agencies is the United Kingdom Band of Hope. The teaching is carried forward through local Bands of Hope and other Juvenile Temperance Societies, having in the aggregate some 3,308,908 members; while the number of children on the registers of the elementary schools 5,507,039, of whom 1,972,331 are infants and 3,534,708 are older pupils.

Germany.

Medical professors in the universities and practicing physicians in Germany are pushing the study of alcohol problems with a determined hand. They are finally thoroughly aroused on the subject, are organizing societies, instituting courses of lectures and public discussions of the subject, and producing a most valuable series of scientific addresses in the interest of total abstinence.

Recently, during the second annual convention of the German Medical Total Abstinence Society, which met in Braunschweig, a petition was sent by the assembled physicians to the Prussian Minister of Public Instruction demanding in all schools temperance teaching by means of tables of statistics and of drawings showing the effect of alcohol upon the human system and in self interest the practice of total abstinence during the school period.

Belgium.

With the hope of diminishing drunkenness, the Government Minister of Labor has recently sent out a circular with suggestions to local authorities. He tells them not to permit intoxicants to be sold in any municipal buildings, or in manufactories and workshops; to forbid

auctions in public houses; and not to permit any official to reside in one. Town Councils are to be strict in regard to taverns, dancing halls and cafes chantants, and to specially tax them. Drinking fountains should be erected in all public places.

Ethiopia's Appeal for Deliverance.

What a spectacle, Dark Ethiopia stretching out her hands to Christian Britain and praying to be delivered from the African liquor trade! The British Secretary of State for the Colonies, Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, lately received in London a deputation in part made up of representatives of native African races, appealing to him to bring about the co-operation of European powers for the repression if not the suppression of the sale of liquor in the Dark Continent.

Intoxicating Liquors and Labor.

The Department of Labor at Washington, desirous of ascertaining the extent to which employers of labor took into consideration the habits—in regard to the use of drink—of those seeking employment, and also the lines of industry refusing to employ those given to the use of intoxicating drink, sent out inquiries to 30,414 employers of labor, of whom 12,000 were engaged in agriculture, 6,673 in manufactures, 6,582 in mining and quarrying, 3,040 in trade, and 2,005 in transportation. Replies were obtained from more than one-half of the manufacturing establishments, employing more than one million men. In transportation 713 companies reported 458,764 employees. About 75 per cent. of those answering the inquiries declared that they endeavored to satisfy themselves that the men they employed were not addicted to the use of liquor. They employed men of temperate habits, as drinking men could not be trusted in responsible positions, neither was their work satisfactory.

Massachusetts.

The friends in this State have had much cause to rejoice over no-license victories. Twenty-four cities show net gains. The campaign in Brockton is especially worthy of note. After six months of license, the citizens turned out and voted No by a majority of over 2,000. It is a significant fact that on the night before the election, a number of the women of the local union were in prayer all night long.

In Boston the saloon majority was cut down nearly one half. The net gain in the cities was over 13,000.

The Faxon law, which makes it compulsory that every package of liquors shall have upon the outside the name and full address, with street and number of the receiver and also of the sender, has been declared by the Supreme Court to be constitutional.

Refused the Dispensary.

Lexington, N. C., does not issue license to sell liquor. Some people there wanted a dispensary and got a bill through the Legislature to have a vote on it the 1st of May. The election was held and only 24 people voted for it. The people just would not have anything to do with it. Good. Lexington can well get along without the dispensary just as she has gotten along without the saloons.

Triumph in Texas.

Steady prohibition gains have been made during the past year in this State, so that now one-half the population even in Texas is under prohibition; 55 of the 220 organized counties are wholly so by local option.

Results of Kansas Prohibition.

There are forty-five counties in prohibition Kansas where the poor houses and poor farms are without a single pauper, and at the last sittings of the district courts there were thirty-seven counties where no criminals were found for trial. Prohibition satisfies the great majority in that State. What license State can show one county where there is not a pauper in its poor house or a criminal for the courts? We think we are safe in saying, not one.

TORONTO, 1899.

DEAR FRIEND,—

You are respectfully requested to carefully examine **The Camp Fire**, a neat four-page monthly Prohibition paper, full of bright, pointed, convenient facts and arguments; containing also a valuable summary of the latest news about our cause. It is just what is needed to **inspire workers and make votes**.

The victory won last year was only the opening of a campaign in which the liquor traffic will do its utmost to block, delay, and if possible prevent our securing the enactment and enforcement of prohibitory law. We have plenty of hard fighting ahead of us. We must keep posted and equipped, knowing all that is being done by our friends and foes, and sophistry and misrepresentation that will be advanced.

The Camp Fire will be one of the best aids you can have in the struggle. It will contain nothing but what you need. Every number ought to be preserved. You cannot afford to be without it, and the subscription price is only nominal, **Twenty-five cents per year**.

While a necessity to every prohibition worker the **The Camp Fire** will also be of special value for distribution. Literature won the plebiscite victory. We must keep up the educating work. Printed matter tells. It does its work continuously, silently, fearlessly and No form of literature is so generally read and so potential as the up-to-date periodical. It comes with the force and interest of newness and life. For this reason the form of a monthly journal has been selected.

This journal will be in every respect reliable and readable. Every article will be short, good and forcible, containing nothing sectional, sectarian or partizan. The literature of the old world and the new world will be ramsacked for the most helpful and effective material. The price is very low.

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Your help is asked in this great work. **Every society** should subscribe for and distribute hundreds of copies. This is the easiest and surest plan of making prohibition votes. Look at the terms:

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