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# TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE

(Continued from page 6)

sell liquor any more in Charlottetown and was going out of the business altogether. Mr. Schurman said that that was the very thing they wanted to bring about, the stopping of the liquor traffic; that they had nothing against him or any other man in particular. Mr. Bentley drew up a statement which the man signed in which he undertook to give up entirely the carrying on of the liquor traffic in this province. He told Billworth that the Alliance had no power to keep him from going to prison if any parties chose to have the sentence enforced, and Mr. Schurman said that, as far as he was concerned, so long as the man went out of the business entirely, he was not going to see the sentence enforced that he be imprisoned. On a point of law, he (Mr. Bentley) inserted a clause in the memorandum which Billworth signed, to the effect that in case the sentence was not carried out, the time he might be at large was not to be taken into account, as he might be at any time taken up and be put into prison. That was the agreement carried out with Billworth, and so far as he understood there was no imprisonment that he should not be imprisoned.

With regard to Benoit, there was no arrangement whatever made with him; he refused to plead guilty. The case was heard and he was convicted and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and that was all he knew about that matter. Rev. H. J. Fraser said that a good deal had been said for which the public had been asking. As he understood it, it now rested with the Prosecutors, and not with the Alliance, to demand the attendance of the detainees. Mr. Bentley said that with regard to the McLean case, as it was called, while the third charge had been withdrawn, the Alliance could, if it desired, have laid fresh information, but the preparation of it would have taken some time, and he was convinced from the trend of things that before they could have attempted to serve the summons, the party concerned would have been given the tip and would have evaded summons, and that a burlesque would have been made of the matter as they might have had to wait for a month or two to effect the service. So there was nothing to be gained in taking that course.

Rev. Mr. Murray said it was quite true that when the compromises were being made Mr. Phillips said that Mr. Strong was acting attorney, but was it not the case that after that compromise went through both Phillips and Strong said, Now Mr. Bentley, you can carry through the other cases?

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Phillips never said that. Mr. Bentley: I can simply tell the gentlemen that is not correct. Mr. Phillips never made any such statement. The only statement made was that I was never instructed to act for him and I had no authority to act.

Mr. Murray: Why then did you not leave the detainees there that Strong and Phillips could carry on the other cases? Rev. Mr. Marshall: If the detainees were within ool. If Mr. Phillips had said they would like to have the witnesses, they would have got them. But then Mr. Phillips would have had to pay for the witnesses and not the Alliance. The witnesses were at their disposal if they wanted them.

Mr. Murray: The impression on the public was that these witnesses were there to attend Court and on the recommendation of Mr. Bentley or some other party they were sent away so that when Mr. Strong and Mr. Phillips appeared before the Court they were without the necessary evidence.

Hon. Murdoch McKinnon said that it was clear that it was going to take a long time to get the information that was going to satisfy them. He understood that there were many people there present who wanted to know the truth of that matter, but they were few in comparison with the many outside who wanted to get

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at the truth of it. The truth would have to come out. If they did not get the truth that day there they would have to get it somewhere else, and it was somewhere else he thought that the truth would have to go to. As far as the Government was concerned they did not have any hand in the matter. In regard to the gentleman who had been brought so much into the discussion, whatever charges were made against him, so far as he was concerned, the speaker knew him as well as anybody in the room, and he had the fullest confidence in him to-day. As far as the Government were concerned, and he spoke for the whole Government, they were satisfied to see the cases being carried through by the Alliance; they were relieved to some extent of certain difficulties. The Alliance were allowed to go ahead in the action they took, and they got the assistance of the Government. They went on with the work and undertook a great deal of work. They all knew the result. In some of the cases the prosecution fell through; there were some cases never tried. They had got the explanation of the members of the Temperance Alliance, they might be satisfied with that explanation, but was it as satisfactory to the people outside, who had carried out with Billworth, and so far as he understood there was no imprisonment that he should not be imprisoned.

As he had said, the Government had had nothing to do with that matter, but now the Government had an interest in it because the administration of justice was not to be allowed to be tramped under foot or abused by anybody, whoever he might be or that was the cause. The result of it was that there was going to be an investigation. It would have to be in the Committee of the Temperance Alliance; they might have made mistakes but he was confident that they were acting to the best of their ability and convictions. But if they were at fault they had got to bear the blame. He thought, however, that the Committee deserved the fullest support of the general body of the Alliance. On the other hand as far as the officials of the Government were concerned, if the fault was to be found with them, they had got to bear it. Where in the case of the Alliance it would be a serious thing if through their fault justice was miscarried, it would be more serious if the Government officials were at fault, and that by their remissness allowed those prosecutions to fall through their hands. He did not see that they were going to get any result satisfactory to the Government by their discussion and other. If they had not been treated rightly in the carrying out of those cases let them just state their difficulties and lay over all the information at their disposal, and let the full fault be laid on the party responsible.

Rev. Mr. Rice said that it had been said that Mr. Phillips had not received any instructions as to the prosecution of the case. Mr. McKinnon said that that difficulty did not arise. If the Magistrate was on to his job and wanted to hear the cases he could have got counsel to proceed whether they were authorized or not. That was the way the matter had been done with in King's County; the cases were not dilly-dallied with there as they were dilly-dallied with in Summerside.

Up on a question raised by Mr. Nairne, Mr. Anderson said that if Mr. Strong had been willing to go on with those cases, the detainees would have been ready to go back the next day. Going on to refer to the "ouris cases he said that a clergyman had written a letter in the " Patriot, in which he had made the statement that the Alliance had left King's County in a worse state than when they started. Did it leave King's County worse to have that man Ellis driven out of that county? The Alliance drove him out. Yet they had never got a dollar's worth of assistance from Souris. They sent the detainees up there on a Saturday afternoon, and they remained there over Sunday and Monday; as the result of their two days' work the Alliance got \$700 worth of fines. It was as easy as taking one's supper to get fines in Souris. Where was that clergyman? Why did he not find those things out? As to those Souris cases, their prosecuting attorney, Mr. Stewart, looked over the information at the Alliance's disposal and said that they would fall in many of the cases because of the difficulties, because the detainees had not been there long enough to identify all the places. There was another fact; the detainees had been as good as ordered out; they could not get any place to sleep in, except with one widow; but later on her son came in and ordered them out.

A voice: Could they not get into the manse? (Laughter.) Mr. Anderson went on to say that in spite of the fact that they expected to lose many of their cases in Souris, they came out better than they expected; next morning the defendants came in with compromises, and the Alliance secured their cases without any effort. If they had been tried before a Magistrate like Mr. Wright they would have lost everyone. He would tell them why they were so successful in Souris. There was a man named Arthur McQuaid, who those fellows could not browbeat. If they had had a Magistrate like him, they would have won everyone of the sixty cases.

Rev. Mr. Morse said that there was one thing due from that meeting and that was due to Mr. Bentley. There were several of them there who had been spectators in the Summerside Court, and they were able to testify to the accuracy of the statements Mr. Bentley had made. The speaker could attest to the entire and perfect accuracy Mr. Bentley had made as to what had taken place in the Court at Summerside, so far as any and all the spectators could see.

Rev. Mr. Fraser in a word corrected the truth of it. The truth would have to come out. If they did not get the truth that day there they would have to get it somewhere else, and it was somewhere else he thought that the truth would have to go to. As far as the Government was concerned they did not have any hand in the matter. In regard to the gentleman who had been brought so much into the discussion, whatever charges were made against him, so far as he was concerned, the speaker knew him as well as anybody in the room, and he had the fullest confidence in him to-day. As far as the Government were concerned, and he spoke for the whole Government, they were satisfied to see the cases being carried through by the Alliance; they were relieved to some extent of certain difficulties. The Alliance were allowed to go ahead in the action they took, and they got the assistance of the Government. They went on with the work and undertook a great deal of work. They all knew the result. In some of the cases the prosecution fell through; there were some cases never tried. They had got the explanation of the members of the Temperance Alliance, they might be satisfied with that explanation, but was it as satisfactory to the people outside, who had carried out with Billworth, and so far as he understood there was no imprisonment that he should not be imprisoned.

light that shone through the proceedings in Summerside was the conduct of their prosecutor, Mr. Bentley. He was a gentleman throughout. Rev. Mr. Martin then brought up again his motion in respect to Rev. Mr. Wilson, as stated above, and it was put to the meeting and unanimously carried with a standing vote. Mr. R. C. Goff asked: Was Mr. Bolner or Mr. Phillips invited to this meeting? I don't see either here. The chairman: They were afraid to come. After some further discussion of that section of the report, the chairman said that the Alliance intended to ask for the dismissal of Stipendiary Wright and Mr. Phillips and Mr. Bolner. The clause of the report was then adopted, and the remaining sections were also adopted, without any discussion, the report being then put to the meeting as a whole and carried.

Rev. Mr. Young moved: That this Alliance express its hearty approval of the work of the Advisory Committee and hereby conveys to them its hearty thanks. Mr. McLeod seconded and the motion was unanimously carried, the meeting standing.

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EVENING SESSION The session in the evening, opened at 7.30 the Rev. Wm. McVie leading the house in prayer. Mr. S. M. Martin was called upon to read the report of the nominating Committee. The following officers were named as appointed: Pres. Thos. Marshall, Charlottetown; Taylor, Prince; J. A. Brace, Summerside; King's; D. L. McKinnon, Montague; Sec. Treasurer: D. Schurman, Charlottetown. ADVISORY COMMITTEE Pres. of the Alliance; David Schurman, Charlottetown; John Anderson, Charlottetown; A. W. Stens, Charlottetown; R. C. Goff, Charlottetown. The Rev. Mr. Sutherland, in retiring, expressed great pleasure and satisfaction at the support he had received. Mr. Marshall then took the chair. He said he knew, by reason of certain information of which he was possessed, that the prohibitory law had worked a marvellous change in P. E. Island; of this he was perfectly satisfied. They had done a great deal in the furtherance of temperance, but they had still a great deal to do. It would be child's play for them to stop now, they had driven the enemy to the gate, and they wanted to have what Oliver Cromwell called a crowning victory. (applause.) The budget for the next year was considered. Mr. Schurman announced to the meeting that there was sufficient money for the purposes of the Alliance. They had received \$2,000 and they sufficient on hand to meet their bills. They were concerned, however, so far as funds were concerned, that the summer season 1914, the detectives' bills had been a large portion of the expenses. In the meantime they were going to ask for \$3,000, of which Charlottetown would guarantee \$2,000. They had, in round numbers, from Alberton, O'Leary, Kingston, Montague and Quebec \$100 each. One gentleman from Charlottetown had promised him \$500 and he knew of another who was prepared to give the same amount. Mr. John Anderson then came forward with the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: "Whereas the employment of detectives by the Committee of the Alliance for the purpose of securing evidence against violators of the Prohibition Act by the purchase of intoxicating liquors from persons having the same for sale has been the subject of much comment when the extent and volume of such evidence became known, and whereas the discussion has been made to do duty on behalf of the illicit sellers in order to direct public attention away from the sin of law violations and thus if possible weaken public sentiment against such violations whilst the same were before the Courts; and whereas some misguided persons have desparately published and disseminated the same, and said committee's action was disapproved of by members of the Alliance; therefore resolved: That in order to set at rest this unwise agitation and place before the community the opinion of the Alliance we do hereby approve of the committee's action and this method of obtaining evidence."

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