

B. ALLIANCE TAKES STAND ON PROHIBITION

Alliance Leader Charges Government With Breaking Faith.

The first, open letter published in the Witness and Canadian Home-Head, from Mr. C. N. Vroom, newly elected President of the New Brunswick Temperance Alliance, will be read with interest here to the People of New Brunswick:

I have been honored by election to the important office of President of the New Brunswick Temperance Alliance. I cannot fully express to you my appreciation of the confidence and trust placed in me, or my deep sense of the responsibility thrust upon me. At a convention of the Alliance held in Saint John in September last, a "Policy" or platform for action was adopted, which was reaffirmed at the recent convention in Fredericton. This is as follows:

1. The Alliance firmly maintains its unalterable position as standing for the complete prohibition of the manufacture, the importation and the sale of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes. It is the firm conviction of the Alliance that every evidence increasingly makes it manifest that all the experiments in dealing with the problem of the liquor traffic, other than complete prohibition have proved and are proving to be failures.

2. The Alliance shall continue an organized and vigorous campaign of education throughout the province. This campaign shall aim:— (a) To create an enlightened public opinion in favor of total abstinence.

(b) To instruct the people in the economic loss, the moral wrong and the destructive effect of the policy of government sale of intoxicating liquors.

(c) To stimulate public opinion in favor of a prohibitory law as the final settlement of the liquor problem.

3. In order to more effectively promote the interest of total abstinence and the prohibition of the liquor traffic, and to more thoroughly co-ordinate the work of the Alliance in every part of the province, there shall be local branches organized wherever possible. The local branches in each county shall organize a county branch of the Alliance. Each county branch of the Alliance shall be represented by one member on the Executive Committee of the Provincial Alliance. The Provincial Alliance shall encourage and promote the holding of county conventions to which local branches will send regularly appointed delegates.

4. The continued publication of the Bulletin and the circulation of other temperance literature will engage the constant attention of the Alliance. The Alliance shall seek the fullest co-operation of the pulpit and the press, that these two great agencies in the moulding of public opinion may be used to the largest possible degree in promoting the interest of sobriety in our land.

5. The Alliance will maintain its complete independence of any political party affiliation, yet it cannot consistently do otherwise than give determined opposition to any party standing for the sale of intoxicants for beverage purposes. The Alliance will seek to elect candidates who can be relied upon to work in the Legislature for the ends to which the Alliance is committed.

This is the key note of our activities and lays out for us definite plans for the future. From the Dominion plebiscite in 1898 to the present time, we have on every opportunity, expressed our desire for prohibition of the liquor traffic by a large majority vote, and the present liquor law is no due to any retreat from that stand by the people but is due to the perfidy of the Government which deliberately rejected the wishes of the people and submitted itself to the baser elements, pandering to the lower appetites and the greed for gain.

Fruits of the Traffic
From every part of the province come reports of depravity and calamity due to strong drink in a degree unknown under the Prohibitory law and these conditions are getting worse instead of better. The recent meeting of the N. B. Alliance, representative of every section of the Province unanimously approved the following finding of the Executive:— In looking back over the year 1928, the Executive cannot rejoice in any evident progress in the temperance cause. On every hand are signs of an increase in the liquor business with similar results that attended the licensed saloons of former days. Money needed for the maintenance of homes is squandered, men are losing situations on account of drink,

WILD ORGIES OF CHILDREN IN CHICAGO

Moonshine Booze, Obtained Within Half a Block of School, Causes Drunken Debauch and Fatality.

CHICAGO, MAY 3.—"We planned to go to a party, but decided it would be too tame, so we agreed to get some 'moonie' and have a lively time."

This from a 14-year-old grammar school girl, explaining a wild auto ride in which one youth was killed and his three companions were landed in jail. George Lux, 19, after six hours of drinking and speeding from one resort to another, was killed when in his blind-drunken condition he drove the car off a ten-foot embankment. It overturned and buried itself in the soft mud, with Lux underneath.

His befuddled companions managed to crawl out, but were so drunk they could not push the car off Lux, who smothered to death in the mud. The others of the party are Coletta Liston, aged 14, an eight grade grammar school girl; Gladys Hanks, aged 16, a fourth year high school girl, and Frank Cekanor, aged 19, a casual "pick-up." These survivors are in jail awaiting the inquest over the body of young Lux.

Wild Debauch.

Coletta Liston, the grammar school girl, was relating the details of the wild debauch which ended disastrously, and told how easily they had obtained moonshine booze at resorts a half block from her school.

"What! Do children of your age drink?" asked an astonished policeman.

"Sure, don't be ill, act your age," she replied. "We started out for a high time and, of course, we had to have some 'moon.' Our first supply came from a house a half block from the school. We drank all that and went to the Sunnyside Inn and danced until three this morning. There were many other boys and girl there, all teed up nicely; all drinking and dancing. There was plenty of booze in the crowd. Finally another bunch suggested that we go to another roadhouse, and they started out. They had a larger car than ours, and ran away from us. We had a little car, and four of us were crowded in one seat. In trying to overtake the other party we went into the ditch—"

Calls Mother.

"Say, can I use the 'phone?" One was placed at her disposal, and she called her mother.

"Say, mam," she said. "I'm in jail here in Willow Springs. We had an accident—No, I'm not drunk—come on a try and get me out—"

Her mother and various other relatives and neighbors and friends came, but the police refused to release her. The Coroner wants to know more about the wild drunken debauches of school children. So do many fathers and mothers.

and families are suffering. Charitable institutions are finding the demands upon them rapidly increasing. There is great need for the most strenuous efforts of the temperance people of this province to combat the growing evils of alcoholism.

We must be active in making known the true state of affairs in the face of misleading statements by those who are supporting the present law. Our Government seeks to make much of the large revenue from its rum-selling, but it does not refer to the fact, as shown by the published accounts of the province, that the expenditures in departments affected by the liquor traffic have largely increased. Apart from the loss to manhood and happiness caused by the liquor business it can easily be demonstrated that there is a large financial loss to the Province from it, as is abundantly proved through all the history of the business.

We had a good prohibitory law enacted in 1916 and our first Chief Inspector under that law brought good results, in spite of hindrance by those higher up. Under the succeeding Chief Inspector there was no attempt at a proper enforcement, and the people in their righteous wrath overthrew the Government and elected those now in power, under a definite promise of a strict enforcement of the law, and there was no attempt to fulfill this promise. Inspectors under this Government refused to prosecute those whom they knew were openly violating the law, and in view of what followed, we can only believe that the objective was to bring the law into disrepute, looking to its repeal which followed. It is for us at this

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ALERT ATTITUDE OF GOVERNMENT IS COMMENDED

Maritime Board of Trade Commends Stand Taken by N. B. Government Re Maritime Equity in Land Concessions.

ST. JOHN, N.B., May 2.—Commending the Provincial government for its alert attitude in connection with Maritime equity in land concessions and strongly urging that the matter of Maritime equity in concessions of lands and natural resources to other provinces of the Dominion, since Confederation, be taken up following the completion of present negotiations between the Dominion Government and the western provinces, was the text of a resolution passed recently at a full meeting of the executive of the Maritime Board of Trade.

This action was taken upon the ground that in 1870, by Imperial order-in-council, the four original provinces of the Canadian confederation, namely Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, purchased the territory of the Hudson Bay Company for \$1,500,000. This sum was paid out of the Federal treasury for an area of some 1,858,000,000 acres.

From this large acreage the province of Manitoba was created in 1870 being granted 47,188,292 acres, and in 1912 given a further grant of an additional 114,091,708 acres. The province of Saskatchewan was created in 1905 and given a grant of 161,088,000 acres, as was the province of Alberta with 163,382,400 acres. In 1888 an area of 22,000,000 acres was added to the province of Ontario, while in 1912 a still further addition of 93,696,000 acres was made to that province. The province of Quebec also came in for a large slice of this land, having been granted an area of 101,323,361 acres in 1898 and a further grant of 237,375,000 acres in 1912.

SCHOOL LANDS

The lands, forests, mines and natural resources of the three Prairie Provinces were reserved by the Dominion Government. No such reservation was applied to the additional areas granted to Ontario and Quebec, however, in lieu of their natural resources the Prairie Provinces received special subsidies from the Federal treasury. In addition, two sections in every township were set apart to be sold for educational purposes. The Dominion Government handles the cost of such land sales and annually pays the western provinces 5 per cent interest on the money derived, which up to May, 1926, amounted to a total of \$22,705,000. The value of the school lands still held by the Federal Government in trust for educational purposes in the Prairie Provinces is about \$163,000,000.

The Maritime Board of Trade, assuming that these unsold lands would be disposed of at prices averaging those already realized, figured that the grand total sum going to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta for school purposes out of this fund will amount to about \$192,000,000 without allowing for future accumulation of interest.

The ultimate income from these funded credits will yield the three Prairie Provinces between \$9,000,000 and \$10,000,000 annually for school purposes, which is some five times more than the aggregate appropriations which the three Maritime Provinces now set aside annually from their own revenues.

The board considered it a matter of vital importance to the Maritime Provinces, transcending all other questions confronting them. It was pointed out that the Maritimes had contemplated concession after concession made to other provinces while they received none. The board looks forward with pleasure to the steps being taken by the Provincial Government, which, while contending that the western provinces should have their lands and natural resources, is prepared and determined that a square deal will be allotted the Maritimes.

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NO AUTHORITY IN RIBLE FOR PROHIBITION

Writer in American Newspaper Stresses the Need of a Return to Old Time Virtue of Temperance.

The following communication to the New York Times presents the viewpoints of many with regard to the Biblical virtue of temperance as distinguished from prohibition.

To the Editor of New York Times: I notice in The Times that Dr. Elias H. Bartley of Brooklyn heads a list of doctors in protest against the iniquitous Jones law. The fact that he is one of Brooklyn's outstanding physicians as well as an elder in the Presbyterian church of which I am also a member gives great weight to his utterances and acts.

Is not the difficulty with the average prohibition fanatic, especially if he is a church member, that he merely skims his bible looking for proof texts to support his position instead of digging down below the surface for its real attitude on the subject of wine?

The bible is a wine book from cover to cover. When God the Father wanted to get the Israelites to behave themselves, He repeatedly offered them as an inducement "a land of corn and wine"—not cider or ginger ale. And the first official act with which the Master opened His public ministry was to make wine for a marriage feast at Cana, while His last official act was to embed wine in the most sacred ordinance of the church—the Holy Supper and during all the years of his life on earth He used wine freely at meals as was the perfectly natural custom of the country. The question with him was the abuse, not the use of wine.

Paul was an Abstainer.

Paul, the greatest protagonist of the Christian Church, himself commended wine to his protegee, Timothy and announced that he personally voluntarily refrained from its use because the priests of the State church used wine poured out in libations on heathen altars, and he did not want his antagonists to be able to charge that he was going the same thing. And, further there might be some men who, through abuse had fastened the drink habit upon himself, and would use Paul's example as authority for his own use. So, says Paul, in effect, "I am not going to use it, though I have a perfect right to do so if I wanted to, and if you want to voluntarily follow my example that will be fine. But I am not going to pass a Volstead act forbidding you to use wine in a reasonable way. And this phrase, touch not, taste not, handle not is a joke; is not to be heeded and will perish with the using."

Like a stern note sounding through the Word is the unequivocal statement "By the Law shall no man be justified or saved." The constant appeal of scripture is "Law cannot save but grace or Divine love can, in case you are enmeshed in habit." Here men are abusing a perfectly natural food, and then whining because it hurts them. In the year before prohibition, vital statistics show that over 800,000 people died each year from abusive overeating and 200,000 from drink. Why, therefore, not abolish eating because of the abuse of it?

Noah Celebrated Landings.

Punitive measures have always failed, and will continue to do so. In the era before the Flood, we are told that the inhabitants of that portion of the earth were steeped in drunkenness and vice, and that God inflicted on them a judicial extermination as being hopelessly beyond the pale; and only eight persons survived in the ark with a miscellaneous collection of live stock. Seemingly here was a complete extirpation of the habit of drunkenness at least; and yet the first thing Noah did when he came out of the ark was to get drunk. Severe penalties failed here.

To come down to our own time, it seems to be a question between country and city. The prohibitionists have a certain degree of shrewdness though they have stupidly overreached themselves in the Jones act. In order to get the farmers and back stretches generally to stand behind them they very sickly agree with Mr. Farmer that he may make all the juices produced on his farm into beverages for his own use, and provided he does not sell or give them away, whereupon Farmer gets apple

A Shameful Record Of Broken Pledges

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Speaker, is it reasonable? Do they expect any reasonable man to believe such a statement? Let us give credit to whom credit is due. The Minister of Agriculture under the Stewart Government, Hon. Mr. Myers, a capable, practical farmer, took hold of that farm and began to build up the herd that was there. They may not all have been pedigreed cattle, but there must have been some excellent stock on that farm when the present Minister took it over, otherwise they would not be what they are today. I am glad to see that a practical farmer in the person of Hon. Mr. Lea is still in charge of that institution, but, at the same time, if my hon. friends will look up the records, they will find that under the Stewart Government the cattle at that farm sold at very high prices; \$400 or \$500 for a single animal.

There is just one other matter that I wish to speak about. When the hon. member of the Government from the First District of Queens (Hon. Mr. Sinclair) was discussing the Sanatorium the other night, he spoke very strongly in favor of it. That was perfectly all right; but I regret very much that he made the statement that the leader of the Opposition was injecting politics into this matter simply because that gentleman had explained to this House certain transactions with reference

OLD AGE PENSIONS

(Special to the Guardian)
TORONTO, Ont., May 3.—Progress is being made in the organization for the Ontario government's old age pension scheme, Premier Ferguson stated. "Copies of the act are being sent to all county councils to whom applications have to be made," he said. "The councils do not meet until June, when they will discuss the question."

The agreement with the federal government, who pay fifty percent of the burden is being drafted. No decision, said the Premier, has been reached, as to how the scheme is to be operated, but it is rumored the mothers allowance commission will undertake it.

Crazed With Neuralgia, Relief Seemed Impossible

Petersville, N. B., May 4.—The experience of Mrs. Harry F. McDonald is not an unusual one. "I would have gone crazy with the pain of neuralgia and toothache had I not secured relief. My suffering was terrible. As soon as I used Nerviline I got relief. I wouldn't be without Nerviline. My children and my husband caught bad colds and had to go to bed. Nerviline was rubbed on their sore throats, they used it as a gargle, and in a short time they were well. I consider a 35 cent bottle of Nerviline a necessity in every home."—Mrs. Harry F. McDonald.

For coughs, colds, sore throat, neuralgia and rheumatism Nerviline will prove a boon to all that use it.

Fifteen hundred cigar makers in Manila, P. I., recently went on a wage strike.

Well, what of it? The republic was founded on defiance of obnoxious law. Our family has in its possession the original cup in which the blacking was mixed for the faces of the "Indians" of the Boston Tea Party. This cup received reverent attention when it was recently displayed in an exhibit of Colonial relics in the Brooklyn Academy of Art and Sciences; and the act in which it played a part is embedded in history as a glorious example of resistance to unjust laws, simply because it told George III where he got off. But it becomes curiously wicked to tell Volstead and Jones where they get off.

And that the so-called assaults on the Constitution are sadly misnamed is evidenced by the fact that for sixty-five years last past the said constitution stood, and still stands, even though the brethren south of Mason and Dixon's line thumb their noses at the equally sacred Fourteen and Fifteenth Amendments while howling for the strict enforcement of the Eighteenth. And yet, despite this unholy disparagement by our Southern brethren, the country seems to be doing pretty well, thank you, and the old flag still waves.

What's the answer? To go back to the Bible, men are not going to be swayed en masse from the abuse of liquor or anything else, by law; but individually. The trouble with the average prohibition fanatic is that saving one man at a time is not sufficiently spectacular. If several thousand people can be brought under the spell of this alleged eloquence, that's a good day's work and merits applause as well as swells the statistics on which contributions are solicited. But to go down to the McAuley Mission on Water Street night after night and help hand pick one poor bum out of the gutter is as Robert Louis Stevenson puts it "too inconsequential, a task for gentlemen of our heroic mold. We had rather found a schism or suppress a heresy." Education, intelligent and intensive, is the answer; and that it was working before prohibition is evidenced when such outstanding leaders in public affairs as the late Chauncey M. Depew had for ten years been turning down his glass at public banquets. But that is too trifling an act for a prohibitionist; five years in jail or boiling in oil is none to little for a rascally usurer or perfectly good, God given wine.

Only the personal presence of a personal God in a personal soul is going to steer a man through the mazes of life in all its phases—not the wine question alone, but of all the problems that arise. It is a question for my own soul to decide and act on; and no man made law worth the paper it is written on to help me, or make me, decide and act.

G. B. STUDLEY.
New York, April 1, 1929.



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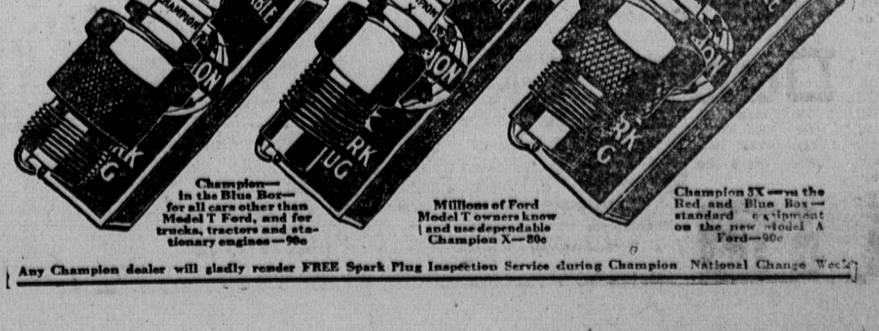
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