

Quarterly Meeting Sons Of Temperance

Grand Worthy Patriarch Commends Recent Enforcement Activities But Denounces Government Participation in Brewery Stallion-Loaning Scheme.

The First Quarterly session of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of Prince Edward Island was held in the Upper Free-town Hall on the afternoon of Tuesday February 16th with a public meeting in the evening.

Quite a goodly number of members were present at the afternoon session and a deep interest in the work of the Order was manifested by all.

As the majority of the Grand Division officers believe to the eastern and western divisions of the island quite a number of them were not able to present. Their offices were filled by other members.

The afternoon session was opened with the following slate of officers on duty:

Rev. R. Hensley Stavert, Grand Worthy Patriarch.
Mr. Frank Deacon, Grand Worthy Associate.
Mr. Ralph McCaul, Grand Scribe.
Mr. Ira McKay, Grand Conductor.

Mr. George Jardine, Grand Sentinel.
Rev. A. F. Baker, Past Grand Worthy Patriarch.

The following sessional committees were then appointed:

State of the Order Committee—Rev. A. F. Baker and Messrs. Ralph McCaul and Ira McKay.
Programme Committee—Rev. J. W. A. Nicholson and Messrs. Silas McFarlane and Louis Cairns.

Finance Committee—Messrs. Ira McKay and George Jardine.
Credentialed Committee—Mr. Frank Deacon.

Resolutions Committee—Rev. R. Hensley Stavert, Rev. J. W. A. Nicholson and Rev. A. F. Baker.

After the minutes of the last annual session had been read by the Grand Scribe and approved by the Grand Division the reports of the several Grand officers were presented to the meetings.

The first officer's report was that of the Grand Worthy Patriarch, Rev. R. Hensley Stavert. This was read by Rev. Mr. Stavert and is published in full in the press today.

The Grand Scribe's report was read by the Grand Scribe, Mr. Ralph McCaul. The order is in a good healthy condition. During the past quarter there have been quite a number of gains in membership, and there have also been some losses so that at the end of the quarter there was very little change in the total number of members in the various divisions reporting.

In the absence of Mr. Allison Profit the Grand Treasurer this report was given by Mr. Ralph McCaul.

The finances of the Order are in splendid shape with a good large balance on the right side.

The Grand Patron, Rev. Carlyle Watterworth having gone to Saint John the Grand Worthy Patriarch, Rev. R. Hensley Stavert gave the report on the work being done in the interests of the Bands of Hope.

The several reports were thus received and were passed on to the respective committees appointed to deal with them.

A recess of twenty minutes was then declared, in order that the various committees could deal with the several reports entrusted to their care.

At the close of the recess the chairman of these various committees presented their different reports to the meeting.

The report on the State of the Order was given by Rev. A. F. Baker and was as follows:

"We your committee on the State of the Order beg leave to report as follows:

"That we as a Grand Division make a request for the services of the Nova Scotia organizer Rev. A. A. McLeod under the auspices of the National Division for a month beginning not earlier than May 20th 1937 is being agreed that the National Division shall pay Rev. Mr. McLeod's salary and that the Grand Division of Prince Edward Island shall pay his travelling expenses.

"That the appointment of a Grand Patron or Supt. of Young People's work we would recommend that the Grand Worthy Patriarch, Rev. R. Hensley Stavert and the Grand Chaplain, Rev. T. R. Goudge be a committee to find some one who can and will undertake this work and report the success of their efforts at the next session."

Mr. Ira McKay, the chairman of the committee on finances reported that after all bills had been paid and all accounts squared up that there was still a good sized balance set down to the credit of the Order.

Mr. Frank Deacon, the chairman of the credentialed committee reported that he found that the credentials of all of the members present were in order.

Rev. J. W. A. Nicholson, chairman of the programme committee read the programme of solos, readings and choruses which he had in sight for the evening meeting.

Rev. R. Hensley Stavert, chairman of the Resolutions committee then read five resolutions which he and the other members of his committee had prepared. These were all approved of and Mr. Stavert was asked to present them to the public meeting in the evening.

Quite a large gathering was present in the evening.

The Grand Worthy Patriarch, Rev. R. Hensley Stavert presided and the following programme was well carried out:

Opening chorus, O Canada.
Remarks by the chairman.
Solo, Miss Grace Deacon, (encore).
Reading, Out to Old Aunt Mary's by Rev. J. W. A. Nicholson, (encore).
Solo, Rev. A. F. Baker, (encore).
Address of Welcome, Mr. George Jardine.
Reply to address of welcome, Mr. Ira McKay.
Reading, Mr. Louis Cairns, (encore).
Solo, Mr. Ira McKay, (encore).
Address, Rev. A. F. Baker, (encore).
Solo, Mr. Ira McKay, (encore).
Reading, Caleb's Courtship, Mr. George Jardine, (encore).
Reading, Mr. Silas McFarlane, (encore).
Reading of resolutions and address by Rev. R. Hensley Stavert.
The accompanist of the evening was Mrs. Frank Deacon.

Resolutions

The following are the five resolutions adopted at the afternoon session and sanctioned by the public meeting in the evening.

1. Resolved: That the hearty thanks

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of the Grand Division be extended to the residents of Free-town for their hospitality and their kindness in making the stay of the different members present at this session so enjoyable.

2. That we urge upon all of the officers of the Grand Division the great need of having more temperance work done among the boys and girls, by way of addressing the children in the public schools on the subject of temperance, and of having Bands of Hope organized wherever possible—and that as the week beginning Feb. 21st is being set aside by the Teachers Federation of Prince Edward Island as Education Week we would suggest that a special effort be put forth by all of our Grand officers and others interested in the welfare of our children to have as many of the schools as possible visited that week.

3. That we as a Grand Division request the Grand Worthy Patriarch and the Grand Scribe to have a letter of sympathy prepared and sent to the family of the late D. M. McDonald of Hopeville who was for a long number of years a highly esteemed member—and also at one time an officer—of the Grand Division.

4. That we as a Grand Division take this opportunity of putting on record our high appreciation of the splendid service rendered our Order by Rev. Carlyle Watterworth when in the employ of the Temperance Federation—we know that he never spared himself in any way whenever he could do anything to advance the cause of temperance and we all join in wishing him God speed—and we would suggest that a copy of this resolution be sent to Rev. Mr. Watterworth by our Grand Scribe.

5. That we as a Grand Division here assembled commend the Provincial Government for the very noticeable increased activity in law enforcement including the raiding of the Club Rooms in Charlottetown since the annual meeting of the Temperance Federation last and we would urge upon the said government the need of still more intensified effort along the same line.

At the public meeting in the evening the following resolution was added to the above list, and this one was also sanctioned by the said public meeting.

Resolved:

(6). That we at this public temperance meeting here assembled strongly urge upon the Department of Island Revenue the necessity of the strictest possible enforcement of the laws, prohibiting the importation of intoxicating liquors into this Province, and that a copy of this resolution be sent by our Grand Scribe to our Attorney General and another copy to the Department of Inland Revenue, Ottawa.

After this resolution and all of the other five as well, had been sanctioned by the public meeting the gathering was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

PATRIARCH'S REPORT
The following is the report of the Grand Worthy Patriarch, Rev. R. Hensley Stavert, to the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of Prince Edward Island.

Officers and members:
One of the apparently self-evident facts of human life is that—"Time Flies!"

And so very clear does the truth of this seem to everyone, that we feel that we have here one fact at least which needs no proof whatever in any age or in any clime.

And yet even in the face of the belief that we thus hold regarding this, we sometimes cannot help wondering whether or not it is really true.

When we look about us in this great physical universe of ours, we find everything so calm and so peaceful that there seems to be no motion anywhere.

We look up into the starry heavens at night. We see there the countless stars and as far as action is concerned everything is apparently motionless. The same stars as shone down upon our forefathers in the ages gone are there at the present time, shining down upon us of today. Since that time there has been no apparent change and there is still no evidence of motion anywhere.

And then when we have thus concluded that in this whole vast physical universe there are no signs of motion anywhere, how can we say that this one element called "time" is moving as such a rapid rate of speed, that we are compelled to speak of that swift rate of speed under the term of "flying"? It seems like a contradiction in terms then, to say that everything in this great universe about us is motionless, and then almost in the same breath to say that one element, at least, never halts, never rests—in other words to say, that time always "flies."

But strange as it may be, in this wonderful physical universe—as in some other great spheres of life as well—things are not always what they seem to be. Instead of being motionless, on the contrary, everything is in motion. Nothing is at a stand still. No nothing. All of these great worlds which make up the starry heavens are each moving at almost immeasurable rates of speed. And in line with all other things and elements in this marvellous

physical universe of ours, this thing called "time" is indeed moving rapidly on and ever on.

We no doubt have all come to know something about the swiftness with which our own allotted portion of time is slipping quickly away; and probably too we may have complained about its passing speed. We may even have felt that each year was apparently getting shorter than the one before it.

Yes, so often has time slipped by so quickly that sometimes before we realized it, the moments—even the hours—which might have been spent in doing some noble deed, or in determining upon some high and noble purpose, which might have changed the whole open course of our lives, that time has slipped away into the past.

There is thus a great sadness about in thought of the swift flight of time and of the lost opportunities, which along with it, have for us, gone by forever.

We stand today at the close of the first quarter of our Grand Division year.

It seems only a little while—apparently just a few days—since we met in annual session in November last and made great plans for the wonderful things which we were going to do, in the incoming year then lying before us.

But today even in the face of the fact that it seems like only a few days since we last met, as we look at the calendar and note the date of our meeting—viz Feb. 16th—we are brought to realize that already one whole quarter is gone, and, as far as we can judge at the present, with much less accomplished—much less done than we had hoped for.

Should then this thought of the terrible swiftness with which our time is slipping away not arouse us to still more determined action, to do what we crave to do with all our might while for us it is called today. Yes we believe that it should.

Would then that we one and all could realize to the full, the awful solemnity of life and what vast issues depend upon the proper use of our time. If we could but grasp this thought in its fullness and in its awfulness we believe that it would send us out with a burning zeal determined to fill every movement with something worth while, something that will count when for us life's little day is over, past and in no sphere of life are we in greater need of something to spur us on to greater and still greater things than in this sphere of moral and social reform—this sphere in which we as a Grand Division are trying to do our part. It is surely then very fitting indeed, that we as a Grand Division should pause for a little while to look the whole situation over and to try to find out what we have done thus far in this year—or if it may be perchance to learn of what we have not done—to promote the cause of temperance—the cause of all mankind.

Then when we have found out how really very little has been done thus far, and what great tasks await us still, and also have had is brought home to us with force that one full quarter of our Grand Division year is already gone, and further, that the remaining days are even now fast slipping away by one. May it be then that the thought of times swift flight, still spur us on and ever on, and lead us to determine that, as for us, we shall at once and forever take up arms against this curse of rum and shall never lay them down—never, never, never—until we have done all in our power to crush this evil out, forever from our fair Canadian homeland.

Since the coming in of this first quarter of this our Grand Division year, we might note in passing that among other things—we have entered upon a new fiscal year.

Somewhat over a month after our annual session we said farewell to the old year, 1936, and for about six weeks we have been travelling along with the new year, 1937.

The three months which have just passed away have been in some respects quite eventful ones. On looking into the different spheres and activities of life we shall find this to be true.

In the great business world, for example, you will find that during this period there has been a continual upward trend. Men and women everywhere are now being cheer than they have been for years.

In the political world of this far-flung British Empire of ours an outstanding change has taken place.

King Edward VIII, perhaps the most popular king as a young man that the world ever knew, for reasons, best known to himself, decided to give up the throne of our great Empire. While the regret on losing such a noble king is great, on many sides and among all classes of people, yet there was nothing left to do but to accede, to his request, to release him and to secure another king to take his place.

In accordance with the customary procedure the Duke of York, a younger brother of King Edward VIII was set aside as king—to be known as King George VI.

In the providence of God and under the guidance of great leaders such as Premier Baldwin and others the change was brought about with great dignity and in quietness and peace.

The new king—King George VI—has already shown himself to be a man of sterling worth—a worthy son of a worthy father. Our Great Empire is certainly to be congratulated on having secured such a noble young man as her king.

We should never cease to thank God for such a king, and may it be that all of the peoples throughout his vast domain shall, because of his true worth, ever take a great delight in singing with heart and voice

"God save our gracious king
Long live our noble king
Long may he reign!"

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In our own home political world from time to time, during the past few months a number of minor changes have been taking place—all of which, we trust, will be for the best welfare of all concerned.

In the religious world, during the past three months within our own Dominion a large number of meetings have been held in the interests of the Evangelization of Canadian Life. A great deal of good has been done, we believe, in some places toward the quickening of Christian life among many of the members of our various Canadian churches.

More and more people are coming to realize that the greatest need of the world in all spheres of life—is the need of God. Men in their darkness and ignorance and selfishness have shut Him out of so many spheres of life that the world has of late years been really running riot in many places without His guiding presence. Something must be done and done at once give God His rightful place in all of the activities of life, if we are to save and to preserve for the future the Christian civilization of this wonderful twentieth century of ours.

In the world of moral and social reform which is the particular sphere of activity in which we as a Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance are to carry on our great self-denying work, there is yet much room for improvement.

In various parts of the world, things have been taking place of recent date in this sphere of moral activity which lead us to believe that many people within all parts of our Great British Empire and within the Great Republic to the South of us, together with many in other parts of the civilized world are coming to realize as never before, what a terrible curse this traffic in intoxicating liquors has been to men and women throughout the ages and many of them are now apparently determined to do all in their power to get rid of it forever.

Yes, it is quite possible—and we believe more or less evident too—that we are nearing the dawning of a new era when men and women in all parts of the civilized world, having become utterly disgusted with the way in which their fellow men and women of earlier generations have trifled with this curse, and having become fired with a great love for God and for all mankind are now getting ready to buckle on the whole armour of God and to go forth to crush out once and for all, this awful body-and-soul-destroying curse, from this wonderful God given world of ours.

In the meantime though we are one and all, as a temperance organization must continue to carry on and to plan for a great forward movement all along the line. Yes, we each must get ready at once to do our part in order that we might have something to do with ushering this better—this more enlightened day. For boast as we may about the enlightenment of this great North American continent of ours as a whole, we are nevertheless forced to admit that

there is still within its borders a great deal of darkness which yet must be scattered abroad.

All over the United States there is an increasing restlessness regarding the present liquor laws. Thousands and thousands of people have already lived to regret the part they took in having the eighteenth amendment wiped off from the Statute books of America. Groups of temperance people and local welfare organizations all over the Republic are crying out for plebiscites, so that the people might have an opportunity given to them to drive this evil forever from their midst.

In our own Dominion of Canada there is a similar restlessness. In all of the provinces outside of Prince Edward Island thousands and thousands of people are crying out against this awful force called government control, more or less inefficient as were these various prohibition laws which were once in force in the different provinces, they were infinitely better than the present force—this so called government control law.

Some of the incidents connected with the work of the temperance Federation have been subjects for discussion for quite a number of the weeks following this session.

Of quite recent date the Permanent or Continuation committee whose duty it is to have an oversight of all of the temperance work carried on throughout the province between the annual sessions of the Temperance Federation have been pleased to report that they have noticed an increased activity of late, by the way of strict law enforcement.

Among other things, this has been clearly evidenced in the number of raids which have been recently made in the City of Charlottetown. Three of these were made on the headquarters of the Riding Club, The Gentlemen's Club and the Navy League. All three were worth while and set the owners of these several places thinking and guessing.

Law suits following the raids, some have been successfully settled with the fines in evidence while others are still under dispute. Then besides, a renewed activity by way of making searches at the headquarters of these various organizations, and at other places as well, a number more of the medical doctors have had their books of scripts taken from them. We understand that at present there are quite a goodly number of our doctors who are not allowed to issue prescriptions.

For some time it has been reported that certain doctors have been in the habit of signing before-hand quite large numbers of scripts and passing them around among their would-be-sick patients.

Some of these doctors have already paid dearly for their folly. Others we believe are soon to be taught similar salutary lessons.

Our R.C.M.P.'s have of late been giving a good account of themselves, not only in carrying on these successful raids in the city of Charlottetown, but also in various other places throughout the province. Within recent months quite large supplies of liquor have been taken and destroyed. All honor to all who are thus trying faithfully to do their part in trying to get rid of this awful curse. Our Attorney General too, we understand has of late been doing much to assist the officers of the law with a more stringent enforcement. For this we wish to extend to him our thanks and our congratulations.

In our own Sons of Temperance world we have quite a large number of faithful workers who have been carrying on the work of the various subordinate divisions.

The report of the Grand Scribe will give us in detail the results of the work of the past quarter. If, during the winter months our various divisions can hold their own we feel that they have done very well. This I understand is about what we have been doing throughout the recent months.

About two weeks ago it was the privilege of your Grand Worthy Patriarch to organize a Band of Hope in connection with the new division of the Sons of Temperance instituted as High Bank, Kings County, in March last. The name of this band is "The Sunshine Band". The board of directors is made up as follows: Miss Margaret McLean; Miss Catherine McDonald and Messrs Stewart McDonald and Charles Stewart.

The patron is Miss Margaret McLean and the officers of the Band are as follows: President—Bella McDonald; vice-pres.—Alexander McLeod; secretary—Eli Munn; treasurer—Malcolm McLennan; guide—Isabella McLeod; conductress—Anita McDonald; sentinel—Miles Gillis.

We are expecting good things of this Band and I feel sure that we shall not be disappointed. The Band at Murray Harbour South is carrying on splendidly. We are looking forward to the pleasure of organizing two more Bands of Hope in two neighboring communities in the near future.

At the annual session held in November last when Rev. C. Watterworth was appointed Grand Patron we had hoped that long before this we would have had quite a number of bands of hope organized. But since Mr. Watterworth has accepted a call to a church in Saint John, N.B., we shall have to secure some other active person to

Continued on page 15

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Continued on page 15

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