

THE ISLAND GUARDIAN AND CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE. CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I. Editorial Comments.

Some of the witnesses who went before the Royal Commission think that Prohibition should be deferred until the people are educated up to observe it. By that time Prohibition will not be needed.

Rev. Father McAulay in declaring in favor of Prohibition, told the Commission that he did not think the Divine law prohibited the moderate use of any of God's works, or of any combination of them. What about the moderate use of opium?

It is a sad commentary on some of the theology of the day that nearly every licentiate expressed opinions on the liquor question far more creditable to the Christian sentiment of the community than did at least one of the city clergymen.

How is it with the exception of one of the Commissioners, questions are not asked, as to the effect of the liquor traffic, upon the industrial, commercial, and social interests of the community? If we understand correctly, the Commission was appointed to ascertain, if possible, such effects, and the probable effect of prohibition, so far as the observation of those examined led them to conclude.

Instead of endeavoring to do this a spectator would judge that a portion of the Commission, at least, had been appointed to discover the weakness of the Scott Act, the cause of its repeal in the community, and the superiority of a license law, to any other mode of dealing with the liquor traffic.

One of the clerical witnesses before the Commission, having expressed the opinion that the use of wine as a beverage was contrary to the Divine law, but saying that he would not prohibit it for medicinal and sacramental purposes etc., Mr. Giguault proceeded to read the 23rd verse of the 4th chap of I Timothy, as a proof that the use of wine as a beverage is authorized by scripture. The verse reads: "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomachs sake and thine often infirmities." If this is not clearly a medicinal prescription what is it? Perhaps Mr. Giguault thinks it expresses the Divine disapproval of water as a beverage. It looks as if more than one member of the Commission would like to establish such a theory.

Were the "Scott Act" as inefficient for the suppression of drinking as it is attempted to be shown, that does not prove that prohibition would not succeed in effecting the suppression of the drink habit. It is the non-prohibitory provisions of the Scott Act that are its weakness, and because of these it was found difficult to enforce.

Little as we had expected from the commission, we had hoped that the members thereof would have kept within the four corners of the commission, and would have been able to have presented some valuable information to parliament to the effect of the liquor traffic on the industrial and other interests of the Dominion. If the investigation is carried on in other places as here it should be styled a commission to report upon the workings of the "Scott Act" and the ripeness of the people for a license system to regulate the liquor traffic.

Enforcement of Law.

Much stress is laid by some parties, on the opinion, that, if prohibition of the liquor traffic were enacted, the law could not be enforced. Just here, however, it is necessary to have a clear definition of the term, enforcing a prohibitory law.

A law may be broken—may be broken even on a large scale, and still may be enforced. Of course, if the violation of law is general and open, it certainly is not enforced. If on the other hand, the officers of the law are vigilant and diligent in seeking out violators of the law, and if all those who are discovered violating the law are punished, why then the law is enforced, though there may be, through the scheming and concealment of those who seek to escape its penalties, many whom the authorities fail to bring to justice. Every penal law on our statute books is violated, more or less. Larceny and incendiarism, still obtain in our cities, although a law exists prohibiting them, and in many instances the offenders are not punished.

We are free to admit that a prohibitory liquor law will be evaded more than any other law. The temptations to, and facilities for its violation are peculiar to itself, and give to those who undertake to violate it an opportunity greater than to other law-breakers. The man who steals finds in the person from whom he steals one active and determined to bring him to justice. The manufacturer or vendor of intoxicants is aided and abetted by the person from whom the grain for its manufacture is obtained by the buyer of the liquor. The maker, seller and user of strong drink therefore seem to have a community of interest in concealing their wrong doing.

Violators of liquor laws are not treated as violators of other laws. Thieves, swindlers, or those guilty of arson are a menace to all parties. No one feels safe when they are about. Self-interest prompts society to guard itself against such felons. Offenders are sought out with all diligence and brought to justice. It would take a high state of moral sentiment to give equal aid to the enforcement of a prohibitory liquor law. Such a sentiment, we believe, exists to-day in the Dominion of Canada.

It could hardly be expected, especially at first that a prohibitory liquor law would be fully and rigidly enforced. But if outlawed by legislative enactment, all who have regard for the respect of the community in which they live, and to their standing among their fellowmen would withdraw from the business. It would be left in the hands of the lawless and disreputable.

If the government having passed a prohibitory law would appoint for their officers to enforce it men of tried and proved temperance principles, and then exercise the same authority over these appointments as is now done in the case of men employed to carry out the revenue laws of the country, a prohibitory law could and would be enforced quite as well as our revenue laws are. And who cries out for the repeal of the revenue laws on account of their non-enforcement? No one.

Let us have this law, and a fair measure of enforcement, the moral sentiment of the country against the liquor traffic would become stronger and stronger. Law is an educator. An educated public sentiment would help aid in the fuller enforcement of the law.

Understood thus, it seems to us that every witness who appears before the Royal Commission and is asked for his opinion as to whether a law prohibiting the "manufacture importation and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage" would be justified in answering yes.

His lordship Judge Hodgson, declared before the Commission his belief, that the curse of God was upon the liquor business, and whoever engaged in the iniquitous traffic, was sure to be reduced to poverty. But what about those who accept the blood money of the liquor dealers to defend them in their iniquitous business, when under the ban of the law, and who take advantage of every miserable quibble available to get them clear of their just punishment, and thus encourage them to continue in the business.

If the curse of God is upon the blood-money taken by the liquor dealer, surely His blessing cannot be upon that portion of it handed over to his counsel to enable him to defy the law and continue in the God-cursed business. We think they should all be put in the same boat. One is as much interested in the liquor business as the other. The only difference is the poor rum seller hasn't the chance to get out of the business which those have who are promoted to the Bench.

"I would permit a man to drink until he became a drunkard and then I would stop him," so says one of the witnesses examined before the Royal Commission. Why stop him? Would it not be irrational to allow some men the liberty to drink and prevent others because, forsooth, some fanatics choose to call them drunkards? To whom would the duty of determining when a man became a drunkard be assigned? An examining board of experts would be necessary. Would it not, in all common sense, be better to remove the drunkard-making cause and place every one on equal footing? What say ye who declaim against the "Scott Act" because it allows the rich to get their liquors and prevents the poor!

The Scott Act in Drummond.

DANVILLE, Que., Aug. 19.—Voting on the repeal of the Scott act in Drummond county took place to-day. The following are the results so far as heard from: Drummondville, St. Germain, St. Cyrille, West and East Wickham and St. Guillaume, six polls, gave 676 majority for the repeal. Utraverton, French Village, Kingsley Falls, three polls, gave 241 majority for the act.

N. W. T. School Bill.

REGINA, Aug. 23.—The Legislative Assembly struck out by a vote of 8 to 7, the section of the school bill providing for the opening and closing of schools with a payer.

Over 500 Strikers Arrested.

KNOXVILLE, Aug. 23.—Over 500 miners and citizens, have been arrested at Coal Creek and vicinity. 150 still held as prisoners in a little church.

THE RECOGNISED STANDARD BRANDS

"Mungo" "Kicker" "Cable."

Universally acknowledged to be superior in every respect to any other brands in the market. Always reliable, as has been fully demonstrated by the millions that are sold annually and the increasing demand for them, notwithstanding an increasing competition of over One Hundred and Twenty-five Factories. This fact speaks volumes. We are not cheap Cigar manufacturers. No 2

DAVIS & SONS, Montreal.

Largest and Highest Grade Cigar Manufacturers in Canada.

K. D. C. restores the Stomach to healthy action.

THE COMMISSION Evidence Concluded

MR. T. MORRIS HAS HIS SAY.

Wants Prohibition of Vice

Hon. Jas. Ross, Mount Stewart,

Testifies to Ripeness of Country for Prohibition.

Mr. Ewen McDougall would be a Law-abiding Citizen.

S. W. Crabbe (sworn)—Have been in business here 20 years. I think the Scott Act did good. It was well enforced at times and not at others. It depended on whether the city council was for or against it. I think there was less drunkenness under the Scott Act, especially among the countrymen. I was a member of the old license commission at one time. It was fairly well enforced. I do not remember of much illicit selling. The license act was violated. The Scott Act made a very great change in the habits of the people. The Scott Act was repealed because a lot of the electors had their names struck off the electoral list through some slip. The last vote did not show any material decrease of public sentiment in favor of the act, since the previous election. The Provincial exhibitions were generally very quiet during the Scott Act. There was much drunkenness at the last exhibition. I don't know that there is much decrease of drunkenness under the present system from that of the free run period. It depends largely on the season of the year. I think Prohibition would be more easily enforced by federal officials than by local authorities. I believe Prohibition would do good. I don't see why men in the liquor business should be compensated.

To Mr. Clarke—There have been larger crowds at the exhibitions the last two years than at the preceding, which were held in the drill shed. They occupied only two days and no horse trots were in connection. Mr. Crabbe here explained the progress of the agitation for the re-arranging the wards etc. I am opposed to a license law altogether and prefer the present system to it. Thomas Morris (sworn)—Am a merchant, have been in business 40 years. Judge McDonald here said that he understood Mr. Morris had refused to obey a subpoena. Mr. Morris said it was not so, and continued:—I am a partner in a brewery and have been 20 years. My mercantile business is a liquor business. I was engaged in the wholesale liquor business in Scott Act times. My business was confined to the Island. I had a wholesale license part of the time. To Dr. McLeod—I have no opinion of the Scott Act. It put a restriction on the sale. There was more difficulty in selling under it.

To Mr. Clarke—Outside brewers had the advantage of us. I think they sent more beer here than we sold, just as they do now. Every day the steamer comes in you can see casks of beer, etc. at the wharf. I sell about the same now as in Scott Act times. The sale is regulated by the quality of the beer.

To Mr. Giguault—We bought about 4000 bushels barley last year. There might be 1000 bush difference in a year. We have 6 or 8 employees. To Judge McDonald—I was a councillor 18 years. I retired last year because they deprived the Ward of one member which I do not think was right. To Dr. McLeod—I had a license to sell several years under the Scott Act. I don't know who my license authorized me to sell to. I think it was to vendors. I sold to others. (Judge McDonald raised his bristles and offered Mr. Morris the protection of the commission to the question which the last sentence answered. Dr. McLeod who has as much back bone as the judge has bristles said it would be time enough for Mr. Morris to get the protection of the commission when he asked for it. Mr. Morris did not ask it and the following question was put):

Did you know you were violating the law? There are plenty of laws violated. I will violate any law that is unjust, unconstitutional and tyrannical. I was careful in selling because it was contrary to law. We made beer in Scott Act times called hop beer, which we think came under the act. It was the same as a's but had less alcohol. If a prohibitory law made people virtuous I think it would do good. I don't think a prohibitory law could be enforced and it never has been. I think the Prohibitory law in the States is violated as much as the Scott Act here. A couple of d.z.n temperance cranks put their heads together as detectives and had my beer tested. I don't think the public would trust them in virtue or morality or anything else.

To Mr. Clarke—We make the beer a little stronger now. We made it weaker in Scott Act times to escape the law. Hon. Jas. Ross M. Stewart, (sworn.) Am a merchant. The Scott Act worked well with us when thoroughly carried out. Before the Scott Act we had much drunkenness, which was changed when the Scott Act was enforced. The prosecutor at one time neglected his business, and the sentiment of the country set the act working again. The act has been working well the last 6 months. Liquor selling is not stopped entirely, but the act has been a success.

To Rev. Dr. McLeod:—I have been talking to a good many, and I think the larger number of the people would like to see Prohibition. I think it could be enforced, if the govt. undertook to do so.

To Mr. Giguault:—There may be some underhand liquor selling in Mt. Stewart. To Mr. Clarke:—I prefer free rum to license. I believe license makes more drunkards, than free rum.

To Judge McDonald:—I do not think it would take many more preventive officers than we have now, to enforce prohibition. Ewen McDougall (sworn.) Am a liquor dealer, have been such 21 years. I was engaged in the business when the Scott Act was in force.

To Mr. Clarke:—My business has increased since the repeal of the Act. I stopped selling when the act came in force, and closed my store; but as I found my customers wanted a glass, I commenced again. I made more money under the Scott Act, as the profits were greater. People would give any price. The greater price was to cover the risk of selling. When public opinion was pretty strong, I generally shut down. The officers reflected public opinion. More sold under the Scott Act, then under license. When the Act was most rigidly enforced, there were ten liquor dealers in one block.

They may not have sold so much, but you could get the liquor. When I had a license and sold by the bottle people would come in and take charge of the place almost. Afterwards they became more careful. Very little of the liquor I sold in Scott Act times came through the customs. Dr. McLeod—Did you as a citizen help to create sentiment against the law? My business was to sell, and I sold to whoever I could. The buyer would offer a large price for liquor under the Scott Act. There was no competition, although there were more places to selling. It was all secret and each person had his place to go. The competition was not legitimate. My customers could not get liquor anywhere else. I haven't noticed that the drink trade effected other businesses.

The Scott Act made people more careful of getting drunk. I didn't notice that the Scott Act affected the status of the business.

To Mr. Clarke:—I prefer license to Scott Act, although I made more money under the latter, because I am a good citizen. I would not have sold under the Scott Act if I had not been pressed into it by people I thought better than myself. Pretty much all the old licensed sellers sold under the Scott Act. I believe very unscrupulous people to-day who if they had the opportunity would violate the license

Continued on fifth page.

Athlete AND DERBY CIGARETTES

Are Sold on their Merits. Everybody knows they Are the Best. Everybody Smokes Them. They Have no Rivals.

SKODA'S DISCOVERY contains MORE SANSAPARILLA than any Sarsaparilla made.



"People said I would die!" A TERRIBLE CASE OF Blood Poisoning! SKODA VICTORIOUS!

THE FOLLOWING CASE WILL BE VOICED FOR BY MANY OF THE BEST CITIZENS OF BELFAST, AND THE CURE THAT FOLLOWED IS TRUTHFULLY RECORDED.

"For months I had been a great sufferer from supposed Blood Poisoning, and its attendant results. My legs would swell to twice their ordinary size, and from my feet to my hips both legs were so sore that I could not walk. My arms and body also became affected in like manner. Senseless itching and burning tormented me day and night. I lost my appetite. My bowels became constipated. I was much reduced in flesh. People said I would die, and I believed there was no help for me. This was my condition when I began taking SKODA'S DISCOVERY and SKODA'S LITTLE TABLETS. I felt better THAN I CAN describe. I soon commenced to improve. I had gained fifteen pounds in flesh, and had less than one course of the DISCOVERY with SKODA'S LITTLE TABLETS and SKODA'S OINTMENT, has completely cured me. My appetite is excellent. Swelling all gone from my legs. Feet do not ache. I sleep well. Bowels in good condition. And my skin is free from sores and blotches, and only the very scars upon my legs tell of my previous trouble. BELFAST, Co. DUBLIN, WEST. SKODA DISCOVERY CO., Wolfville, N.S.

K. D. C. cures midnight Dyspepsia.

DISSOLUTION SALE!

Great Clearance Sale of Surplus Summer Stock at special reduced prices.

Jas. PATON & CO. Opposite Market House, South Side.

"Is it any use advertising at present?" The consensus of opinion is that with three-fourths of the population out of town, all efforts in this direction of inducing business is useless.

JAMES PATON & CO VICTORIA ROW, HAVE NOT FOUND IT SO.

Their efforts to keep this popular store busy the months of August & September in the past have been marked with the most unqualified success.

THIS IS NOT WONDERFUL considering that enormous quantities of substantial Dry Goods have been offered at prices away down.

This week and until further notice we will offer to still do better than before. The following has been prepared. Not certainly for the purpose of making a big profit, but for inducing those who have and those who have not patronized us in the past to favour us in the future, also to lower our enormous large stock.

ALL our STOCK of Silks in plain and fancy Surahs, Bengeline, Pongees, Shots also, all our large stock of standard makes, in Blacks, Colors, at startling reductions. Any lady in want of a genuine Silk Dress, will do well to visit this department. The following are a few of the prices offered to effect a speedy clearance. Regular price asked for our standard Black Silks \$1.20 and \$1.75. Dissolution sale price, 95c and \$1.20. Colored Silks \$1.35, for 95c. \$1.50 for \$1.00. Summer Silks, 65c for 45c.

MANTLES—Lot Summer Jackets sold at \$8.56, for \$6; \$4 for \$2—all this season's goods. Colored Cloth Capes \$2.90 for \$1.95. Silk Lace Mantles sold at \$24.00, dissolution sale price, \$14.00. Never before was there such value offered. Beaded Capes, \$7, \$8, \$9.75, \$12, now, \$4.75, \$5.00, \$6.50, \$7.00. Dolmans, regular price \$11.50. Dissolution price \$7.

Manufacturer's lot of BLOUSES, in Lawns, fancy Cottons, Steens—hundreds to choose from, regular price 80c. Dissolution sale price 50c—this lot must be closed out regardless of cost. 1 lot Silk Blouses \$1.90, for \$1.00.

MILLINERY! MILLINERY! MILLINERY! English made Bonnets and Hats for less than cost. Untrimmed Hats in white Leghorn black and whit to clear, at prices unheard of in this city.

NAPERY.—Large additions have been made in this department this Spring. We imported a very heavy stock, and in order to make a speedy clearance, will offer Table Linens, Towelings, Bed Furnishings, all selected by JAMES PATON, who has had fifteen years experience as a Linen Buyer in all the leading markets of Great Britain. We keep always on hand a good stock of the best Irish, Scotch and German makes. Housekeepers, and these intending, will do well to visit this department.

500 Christy's celebrated BATH TOWELS, in White Cotton; also in Linens in all the leading shades, white, brown, drab and stripes, from the lowest to the highest grades made—extraordinary value offered to clear this lot.

TABLE CLOTHS in white Linen, in good variety; Table Scarfs, Table Napkins bleached and unbleached, Dinner and Tea sizes; Bedroom Towels, in Huckabuck plain Linen; also Linen and Cotton Kitchen Roller Toweling cheap. In fact, every piece in this department has been marked away down so as to effect a clearance.

GLOVES! GLOVES! GLOVES!—Largest variety ever shown—in all the leading French makes, in 4 and 6 buttons; also 4 5 and 6 stud, in tans; grays, drabs, browns, blacks—one special line, in browns and tans, will clear this fine lot at 65c, worth 95c a pair; Evening Gloves in great variety; also fine black and colored Silk Gloves with kid gauntlets and tips, selling low for cash. Hundreds of pairs of Cotton and Lisle Gloves to choose from. Operating to such advantage in the exceptional circumstances influenced as to make purchases of such importance as to warrant us stating that the extraordinary stock that we are now showing of rich, valuable and high-class Gloves is beyond comparison the largest and most complete stock of Gloves ever shown on P. E. Island.

HOSIERY! HOSIERY! HOSIERY!—Ladies' Cotton Hose, from 5 cents a pair up. Hundreds of pairs to choose from, in all the leading makes and shades. Special feature in Ladies' Under Vests, in natural wool, Merino, Cashmere, and Cotton, in grays, drabs and whites; Ladies' Under-clothing. JAMES PATON & Co. have recently made large purchases in this department, and are prepared to offer qualities that cannot be beat. Ladies will do well to call and look at these Goods. Also, one lot of Ladies' White Skirts, \$1.00, for 75c Night Dresses, 88c. for 53c.

THE GREAT CLOTHING STORE!

IN CLOTHING we have just opened a lot of ALL-WOOL YOUTHS' SUITS to fit from 13 to 18 years of age, bought at a sacrifice and will be sold at \$3.75 a Suit—a genuine bargain considering the quality.

Our MEN'S and LITTLE BOYS' SUITS will go cheap. If you are in want of any don't pass us, as we have the goods and prices that will suit you; and for your own sake don't buy a dollar's worth until you see our bargains.

The goods have got to go and no doubt about it. No reasonable offer refused for Summer Goods, and lots of goods selling at half price.

J. B. McDONALD'S GREAT CLOTHING STORE.

DOMINION BOOT AND SHOE STORE

DREADFUL LOW PRICES OF BOOTS AND SHOES at the Dominion Boot and Shoe Store during the month of August. The stock must be sold and goods will be slaughtered.

West Side Queen Street, near Market Square, Charlottetown.

BOOMING BOOTS & SHOES

Must clear them out and get the money. We are now offering a lot of summer wear in Men's Womens Misses' Boy's and Children's boots, shoes and slippers at knock down prices.

GOFF BROS. Charlottetown, P. E. I.