

Temperance Column

"LIQUOR CONTROL"

We clip the following from the Telegraph-Journal: "The Toronto Star today publishes the following: 'Later hours for liquor stores to beat the bootleggers now begins to loom up as the probable policy of the Ontario Liquor Control Board.

"Chairman D. B. Hanna stated to the Star today that the Board had received a number of suggestions and requests of late to the effect if stores were kept open in the evening hours the business of the bootlegger would be greatly cut down or vanish completely."

This is exactly what we might expect. What the whiskey-drinker wants is to have it where he can get it any time and what the Government that wants the revenue from it wants, is to sell it any time there is sale for it. So we might expect to see the wedge entered in until we have wide open doors, as bad as the old-time saloon.

It has not been long enough yet to see any agitation for changes in this province, but they are sure to come. Government Control has been on trial in British Columbia for some time, and there has been a strong agitation for the licensed saloon, proving out that there is only one thing that will please the man who wants the liquor that is unbridled liberty.

The law in this province says that it is not to be sold to persons intoxicated. But we had only to stand by the door of one of the stores a few minutes to see that that law was not carried out. I saw a young man come out with his package of liquor under his arm and he went staggering up the street with just all he could navigate under.

I went into one store to ask the man who was dealing out the liquid damnation if he did not feel any compunction of conscience about it, and asked what he would think about it if someone got drunk and went home and beat his wife, or got run over and killed. He replied that it did not make any difference to him what they did. He was in it for a living. He said further that if there was any blame it would be up to the Government. I have been thinking how inappropriate was the name, "Liquor Control." But then it came to me there were two days to control a stream.

We might control it by damming it up, or we might control it if we turned it into another channel.

So that is what the term really means, that is to direct the current down the throats of thirsty souls.

H. C. MULLEN

REPORTS

Montreal—The Secretary of the Police Department, in a recent statement to the press, reports that arrests for drunkenness in Montreal for the first three months of 1927 were 100% more than for the corresponding period of 1926, and that general crime had increased more than 100%.

Toronto—During the great National Exhibition this year, the first under the new liquor law, twenty-four drunks were arrested. During the years when the Ontario Temperance Act was in force the annual record was in the neighborhood of one or two arrests for drunkenness.

Edmonton—Reporting upon the results of the liquor law for 1926, the Alberta Prohi-

bition Association says: "We made 497 of our men and women, boys and girls, into registered drunkards—'interdicts.' This is five times as fast as drunkards were made under the old bar system. We caused 2,809 liquor-induced crimes by our citizens. Our people spent \$11,780,586.25 legally for liquor—\$19.46 per capita for our 600,000 population. In 1926 we drank twice as much wine as in 1925. We drank 318,000 gallons more beer in 1926 than in 1925. We drank 21,000 gallons more hard liquor in 1926 than in 1925. And we call our system 'Government Control.' God help us."

Charlottetown—In following up the success achieved at the polls in the recent election, the P. E. I. Temperance Alliance is launching a vigorous campaign in anticipation of the plebiscite which is expected within two years. The Secretary plans to visit every public school in the Province, and to deliver a half-hour address at each, stressing the evil effects of alcohol upon the human body. Charts will be used to illustrate these talks.

Vancouver—The following is taken from a review of the report of the British Columbia Liquor Board: "Illegal selling of beer continues and presents many difficulties despite the opportunities for purchasing liquor at Government stores and the facilities for the consumption of beer in public."

Halifax—The Central Committee of Nova Scotia, representing the four leading temperance organizations of the Province—the W. C. T. U., the I. O. G. T., the S. O. T., and the Social Service Council, has taken steps to organize for a Province-wide educational campaign. The temperance leaders do not intend that Prohibition will be lost in this Province through lack of aggressive action taken in time.

SCOTT ACT INSPECTORS

Should the Supreme Court decide that the Scott Act is in force in former Scott Act Counties, it will be then necessary for the Municipal Councils of all such Counties to appoint Inspectors. That such appointments should be made without the slightest political bias goes without saying, and we feel confident that such will be the case. In former days the office of Scott Act Inspector was frequently anything but a happy position, and the conscientious official was often visited by the penalties which fall upon those who seek to follow the path of duty. But under present circumstances the fearless representative of the law will be strongly supported by the newly organized Provincial police force, and the task of making the Scott Act effective will be much less taxing.

But the all-important matter is that suitable men be appointed—men who are themselves enthusiastic supporters of law and order, and who have such other and necessary qualifications as will render their service a benefit to the Province and a protection to the citizens.

We understand that a large number of applicants for positions on the Provincial Police force were turned away without appointment although they appeared to be very acceptable candidates, simply because the full compliment of officers had been secured. We would respectfully suggest that Scott Act Inspectors be chosen from those who are on the waiting list of the Provincial Police, and that it be understood that their hope of appointment to the permanent police force would depend upon their success in the less remunerative position, and that promo-

tion should be assured as the need would demand. Such a system would have a three-fold value: The Scott Act force would benefit by the previous experience of the officers, and a close co-operation would be maintained between the Inspectors and the Provincial Police.

GOD HEARS THEM ALL

One evening as two American soldiers in France were passing the makeshift hut of a refugee French pastor, they poked their heads inside the door and saw the little daughter of the family kneeling at her mother's knee praying: "Notre Pere qui est aux cieux, ton nom soit sanctifie. (Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed by thy name)."

Softly they tiptoed down the dusty road, and Soldier Number One said huskily: "D'ye know, Buddy, it never dawned on me before that God knew any other language than English—yet there's that little kid positive He can parler Francaise! Say, how'd you like to listen in some evening? Mighty interesting, though right strenuous for Him 'round prayer time, I wager!"

"Oh, I dunno," said Number Two, reverently, "I reckon He knows 'em all."

On some long summer evening when the fireflies flicker in the honeysuckle vine and balmy breezes cool the heavy air, what more refreshing mental zephyrs thin this—to recall that in every land "as pants the hart for cooling streams," so mankind everywhere seeks God, who knows each strange language?—Young People's Leader.

YOU CAN PRAY!

If you cannot preach a sermon,

You can pray!

Anglo-Saxon, French or German,

You can pray!

Men of every tribe and nation,

Are in need in all creation;

'Tis no time for self-inflation—

You can pray!

If you cannot be a preacher,

You can pray!

You can stand behind your preacher,

You can pray!

You can bear him up each hour,

At the throne of grace and power;

You can keep sweet every hour—

You can pray!

—Sel.

THE GRAMMAR OF LIFE!

Live in the active voice rather than in the passive, intent upon what you can do rather than upon what may happen to you.

Live in the indicative mood, not the subjunctive, concerned with the facts as they are rather than as they might be.

Live in the present tense, concentrating upon the duty at hand, without vain regrets for the past or worry about the future.

Live in the first person, criticizing yourself rather than condemning others.

Live in the singular number, caring more for the approval of your own conscience than for popularity with many.

And inasmuch as we must have some verb to conjugate we cannot do better than to take the one we all used, both in Latin and in English, "Amo," I love. I live in the spirit of intelligent good-will that all the activities of my life may be brought into unity of holy purpose.—Sel.