

## Victory for Ontario Drys

[By Ben. H. Spence, Corresponding Secretary of the Dominion Alliance, in a special wire to the American Issue.]

After three full years' trial the province of Ontario, Canada, is satisfied with prohibition. On Monday, October 20, electors voted on four questions:

First: The repeal of the Ontario temperance act, meaning reinstatement of the license system.

Second: Allowing sale of two and one-half per cent beer in government agencies.

Third: Allowing sale of two and one-half per cent beer in standard hotels.

Fourth: Allowing sale of liquors of all kinds in government agencies.

Every question was answered in the negative by huge majorities. The latest figures are, for the first proposition, yes 223,874; no 508,809; majority 284,935.

For the second proposition, yes 243,802; no 479,511; majority 235,709.

For the third proposition, yes 235,193; no 493,278; majority 258,085.

For the fourth proposition, yes 277,580; no 453,545; majority 175,965. Dry majorities will be increased when full returns are received. Question one will have over 300,000 majority, question four about 200,000.

The liquor interests put up a desperate fight. They organized under the name of the "Citizens' Liberty League" and played the usual game of having eminent citizens as officers. The temperance forces organized under the name "Ontario Referendum Committee" and put up a splendidly organized campaign, the features of which were extensive newspaper publicity covering every weekly and daily newspaper in the province, billboard advertising, special editions of the Pioneer, literature and leaflets of various kinds. The dry forces were thoroughly organized in every municipality and polling division.

Women voted for the first time and they voted and they worked. It is impossible to praise too highly the sacrificing efforts of the women of Ontario and their energetic enthusiasm in this campaign. They were fighting for their homes with a dauntless determination and they won.

The biggest fizzle of the campaign was the attempt of the Citizens' Liberty League to corral the soldier vote. They had the returned soldiers all nicely tagged and labeled as their exclusive property, but when the fight came on the men themselves had something to say about it and from almost every platform heroes from the front—battle scarred veterans—expressed their indignation at this action of the League and emphatically came out for prohibition. It is safe to say that a substantial majority of those who fought the Hun overseas voted against the liquor traffic at home. Indeed, these Canadian men fell back into their old places in Canadian life and with most of them that place was on the progressive and right side of public questions.

The churches were practically a unit and the pulpits of the province were used with telling effect. In addition, in the city or Toronto groups of churches united in the holding of outdoor demonstrations covering practically every section of the city.

Help from the United States was cordially welcomed. Amongst the Anti-Saloon League leaders who assisted in the campaign were Wayne B. Wheeler, F. Scott McBride, Grant M. Hudson, Lieutenant-Governor Dickinson of Michigan, Emerson E. Hunt, A. C. Graham, R. N. Holsapple, H. F. Carson, Dr. George B. Stafford, and Dr. Parker Shields. This international courtesy was warmly appreciated and the wider significance of the fight emphasized. The bringing of these men was a distinct contribution to success.

Other provinces of Canada also helped. Dr. H. R. Grant, general secretary for Nova Scotia; Dr. H. R. Stuart, general secretary for Saskatchewan; W. G. W. Fortune, general secretary for British Columbia; and George Bell, member of the British Columbia legislature, addressed many meetings.

A questionnaire of Ontario business men showed that they were twelve to one in favor of prohibition. A questionnaire to doctors

brought an overwhelming indorsement of the temperance act.

The law itself was the best argument for prohibition. Ontario has tried license and has tried prohibition and now its citizens by a majority of more than two to one have emphatically declared for prohibition.

### THE DEFEAT OF INJUSTICE

"Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant."—Matt. 20:26-27.

In our issue for August 15 I mentioned telling my good mother that the little text about loving our enemies and doing good to them that hate us was to the great wide world an unexplored region. Since then the terrible European war has broken out, and I am ever so much more impressed with the sentiment I voiced at this time about rendering good for evil, as it is literally true—yes, clear up to this twentieth century an "unexplored region." In that same issue I gave a clipping from the Sunday School Times; and I told our readers that if there was a call for it I would have it printed in large type so that elderly people and everybody else could read it easily. Here it is:

"No one can ever afford to think about any injustice he receives. It is disaster and destruction to do so. It is like deliberately lifting a glass of poison to our lips and swallowing it. Injustice inflicted upon us never harms us until we dwell on it. While we ignore it, and do right, it is powerless against us. When we begin to turn it over in our mind, it starts its murderous work upon us. It soon exaggerates itself, blinds us, rankles, inflames, embitters. It breeds self-pity, which soon reduces us to a condition of worse than helpless uselessness. Jesus paid no attention to the awful injustices of his lot. We can not afford to do other than he did, but with our lesser injustices. If love is our master-passion, 'thinking no evil' and 'bearing all things,' we shall live emancipated from the misery of dressing our own wounds. Such wounds heal quickly when we are lovingly busied with the needs of others."

There you have it, friends. I confess that at first glance some would think the Sunday School Times had almost overdone the matter; but I tell you they are right about it. For almost forty years I have been testing the matter of returning good for evil, of forgetting an injury or an insult or an affront, just as soon as possible. Get your mind on something else. I know it is hard sometimes; but just hold fast to the little prayer I have given you—"Lord help." Get busy, and before you know or realize it you will have forgotten it entirely, and be happy and joyous.

Our friends will recall that at various times I have spoken about meeting happy surprises. Well, the follower of Christ Jesus—one who is really in accordance with the clipping above—will in due time meet with happy surprises, for he is right along in the line of that joyous and happy throng who said to the Master, "Lord, when we saw we hungered, and fed thee, or thirsty, and gave thee drink," etc. You see these people had been so busy in doing good, right and left, that they had been losing sight of self entirely, and they had forgotten all about their loving ministry to poor, suffering humanity.

Somebody recently said of Gladstone that if we wanted to get a glimpse of him at his best, we should have to watch for an opportunity and show him some unkindness—that is, if you should happen to have a chance to do so, and just see how quickly he would put himself out of the way to do you a favor. I know it seems almost wicked to suggest such a thing; but he was a true type of that kind of humanity. "Bless them that curse you; pray for them that despitefully use you."—A. I. Root, in "Gleanings from Bee Culture."

### THE BIG FIVE COMBINE

Seven they are, they are seven, are the words found in a liturgy of the ancient east. Some day of future enlightenment there will be those who will chant: Five they were, they were five—the vampires of the earth following the great war; they who trafficked with the rights of livelihood of their fellows and who fattened upon the food that was taken from the mouths of the woman and the child and the toiler who has sought to provide bread for his household. The "big five;" see them high, exalted over all, but trembling as Attorney General Palmer, foreboding open their food storage plants with the ing open their federal law that they—the people—crowbar of fed instead of the pocketbooks of the

"big five." Yet, how little that crowbar has been used!

They are honorable men! all honorable men! But the public would like to see some of them or all of them given a good dose of strong American justice. They create more of the radical discontent than any other set of men. Is this because they are outright knaves? Not at all. It is because they have assumed to control, without any warrant of the public, the entire food supplies and subsidiary commodities of the nation. And the nation will refuse to be fed from their hands, unless that supine mass of humanity called the American congress shall show itself tacitly, if not professedly, the supporters of the "big five."

The "big five" packers are held up to the public view by the federal trade commission as masters of two hundred foods. That means they handle a large percentage, says the commission; in some cases nearly 50 per cent of the country's entire production of two hundred foods. And yet they don't want to have a licensing law or other law for their curtailment or restraint. Why should they? If they did the people would know—they would know there was something rank in Denmark.

What is congress going to do? Something that counts? What are the people going to do? Hold congress to account. What will be the one issue in the next campaign? The high cost of living?

Then the people will talk through their ballots.—Baltimore American.

### SMOKING OUT ARMY GRAFTERS

Again it is demonstrated that war brings more evils to a people than mere slaughter, disease or maiming. It is the parent of immorality and the breeder of corruption and theft. This demonstration comes from the testimony delivered in the congressional investigation of conditions at Camp Sherman in this state. The story is the old and sordid one of robbing and cheating the government, too busy with the exigencies of war properly to protect itself against dishonesty and wastage.

It has ever been so. The inquiry by the congress of the United States is a highly meritorious action. It is beside the question to charge that the facts found will be used in partisan fashion. The point to watch is the exposure and the pillorying of speculating contractors and unfaithful officials. Their punishment will serve as a moral lesson to the present generation.

When the probing is done congress, out of the abundant material provided, should be able to write a new penal law for use in the next war, if one occurs, and not permit the matter to languish after the rascals are trapped.

It is perhaps going too far to urge imitation of the methods of Peter the Great of Russia, whose plan it was to hang or whip to death army and navy contractors whom he detected in crooked actions. The offense at least should be catalogued as treasonable and punishment made accordingly. If these criminals, in their desire to grow rich through thievery, encompass the death of soldiers or sailors, the extreme penalty will be at hand to administer.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

### MY BROOK

By George Sterling

A glorious jest my brook has found,  
And earth is gladder for the sound.  
All day and night the silver throat  
Is joyous with a gurgling note.

The very jays slink near to guess  
The reason of that roughness—  
The pleasntry that, summer-long,  
Hides, yet is patent, in its song.

I wish that I had only half  
The mirth implicit in its laugh;  
But how shall mortal be as gay  
When men are what they are to-day?

Who taught the nimble waters all  
The secret merriment they drawl?  
The mother rain? The wayward breeze?  
The winking stars? The comrade trees?

Who was the teacher? What the jest  
So cryptic yet so manifest?  
Something, perhaps, a faun once said  
To set a dryad blushing red.

I do not know; I cannot tell  
What entertains my brook so well.  
It chuckles, chuckles to the wood—  
I wish I knew a joke as good!