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bartenders, but other trades, which have to do with the furnishing and maintenance of saloons and breweries are committed against the national fight for prohibition. To them it is not a matter of sentiment, but one of economic interest.

But it is a toss-up as to which side would win in a clear cut fight. Some of the most powerful leaders in the federation are known to be opposed to the saloon and they are not afraid to say so. On Sunday several of them preached in prominent St. Louis pulpits, where they gave strong utterance to strong anti-saloon sentiments.

To help along the discussion, Archbishop Glennon preached a special sermon to the Catholic delegates, in which he said that barroom thinkers are the enemies of labor. He said that the greatest ravages of the saloon are among the laboring classes. Among those who listened to the archbishop's address were delegates from the bartenders' and the brewery workers' internationals, who afterward said that they did not get very much comfort out of his sermon.

When the fraternal delegates from the British Trades congress made their addresses, Ben Turner gave the delegates a jolt, as he spoke enthusiastically of a temperance society in Great Britain exclusively for "walking delegates," which comprises among its membership representatives of one-half the trades unionists in England. This society has become so powerful that it practically dominates the trades union movement in Great Britain.

Sixteen of the labor members of parliament are vice presidents and each year, in connection with the annual meeting of the British Trades congress, a temperance mass meeting is held under the auspices of the "Trades Union Officials' Temperance Fellowship"—that is the official name of the organization. Its principal object is to secure meeting places for trades unions which shall be free from the influence of the saloon, and membership is conditioned upon total abstinence.

Whether or not such an organization is possible in America would keep one guessing until it were tried. But the American Federation of Labor has at three consecutive conventions declared unanimously in favor of pulling all labor union meetings out of saloons. Many internationals will not permit their locals to meet back of or over saloons, and several will not pay sick or death benefits if the member was injured or killed while intoxicated.

In many American cities there are labor temples owned and controlled by the trades unions. In practically every instance there is a clause in the articles of incorporation which prohibits the selling or the use of intoxicants in any part of the building. That's going some for a bunch of trades unionists, because you can find scarcely any other organization which would thus restrict itself in the matter of intoxicants.

It has been an interesting study to note the effect of the St. Louis meeting upon the delegates in the matter of indulging in strong drink. St. Louis is not a dry town by any means. Furthermore, one of the big brewers gave \$1,000 toward entertaining the convention. He had the delegates taken out to his brewery—that is most of them. Then the local committee provided a hall for the daily sessions of the convention, which is about three miles from the hotels, so that it has been impossible to return for the noon-day meal, which necessitated the patronage of a restaurant run by a saloon in the same building in which the convention is being held. Just outside the door there are saloons on either side, with big banners spread across the street, inviting the delegates to make them their headquarters.

So there are saloons on every side of them—but here is the interesting and satisfactory thing about the whole business—there has not been a sign of any delegate drinking to excess. This could not have been said a few short years ago.

The general tendency of the professional labor man today is decidedly toward more temperate living. And I would miss my guess—if the temperance proposition should come up at this convention—to find that the delegates voted in favor of the saloon.

There was just a hint the other day as to how things would go. Just before the federation began its convention, the label trades department held its annual meeting. The president of this department is John B. Lennon, treasurer of the federation, and a strong anti-saloon advocate. The brewery workers, coopers and bakers introduced a resolution with a long preamble, which stated that whereas President Lennon had been making anti-saloon speeches, "thereby injuring the interest of affiliated unions," be it resolved, that "No officer of the label trades department shall be permitted to take part in any movement which is injuring any affiliated organization."

The committee to which the entire matter was referred reported that the resolution would interfere with a man's inalienable rights, and no man needs to surrender his personal liberty by the mere fact of his becoming a trades unionist.

The sixty delegates present voted, fifty-two to eight, in favor of the committee's report. And that is the last that has been heard officially from the delegates favoring the saloon proposition.