

of the character of coercive legislation, on a matter in regard to which a very large portion of the people consider they are qualified and entitled to judge for themselves, to be accepted as a measure they are called upon to unhesitatingly obey, and hence the impracticability of efficient enforcement. With the powers possessed by the various provinces to legislate in respect of the traffic ; with the certainty that in some of the provinces prohibition would meet with determined opposition ; with an open frontier, such as the Dominion possesses, largely bordering on States in which sales would be carried on, the undersigned consider that it is illusory to anticipate that a general prohibitory law could be enforced with any reasonable degree of efficiency."

"The question of making compensation to those engaged in the manufacture and in the wholesale and retail vending of liquors (one or both classes), should the traffic be put an end to by legislation, has been frequently referred to, and much evidence has been taken on the subject. The undersigned Commissioners, regarding the evidence given, and what has been proposed in other countries, as for instance, England, France, Germany and some of the British Colonies, consider that the payment of compensation could not, justly, be avoided in the case of those who, by such legislation, would have their business, which they have been carrying on under the sanction of the State, abruptly put an end to, and their capital in many cases almost swept away, and in all considerably diminished."

568. The report under the head of "General Remarks" recommends :— A Dominion register of all manufacturers and of dealers in liquor with a Dominion fee and certificate ; the establishment of places to which habitual drunkards might be committed for restraint and treatment ; the endorsement of convictions on licenses, so as to avoid the difficulty of proving previous convictions ; the abolition of saloon licenses ; the discontinuance of the licensing of the compounding or mixing of liquors ; the detection of adulteration ; the granting to residents of facilities to oppose the renewal of licenses ; the taking a vote every three years in Scott Act or local option counties and municipalities whether or no there should be a continuance for three years ; the imposition of high licenses, with thorough enforcement ; making the illegal purchaser equally guilty with the illegal vendor ; the training of the female portion of the population in a knowledge of domestic economy and household duties ; the compilation of the returns of the inmates committed to and remaining in jails, asylums, almshouses and reformatories, with the cost, and returns of the number and classes of licenses issued in each city and county with the amounts collected, to be done by and at the cost of the Dominion Government.

569. The report is signed by Sir Joseph Hickson, the chairman, Judge McDonald, Mr. Clarke and Mr. Gigault, the last named Commissioner dissenting from the recommendation that liquor dealers should take out Dominion certificates, and from the statement that the Salvation Army had aided the temperance movement. The Rev. Dr. McLeod dissented, and did not sign.

#### MINORITY REPORT.

570. The Rev. Dr. McLeod, one of the Commissioners, presented a separate report, stating that he had reached conclusions different from those of the other Commissioners.