

Who Is Responsible?

Upon whom does the responsibility for this wasteful and ruinous traffic rest? Not upon liquor sellers solely, nor upon our legislators, but upon the people who, by their indifference or their votes, legalize the traffic. The Christian people of Canada can stop this scourge, and sweep it away whenever they please. The simple and shameful fact must be confessed that the liquor traffic continues and flourishes in Canada to-day, simply and only because those who deplore and denounce it in words do not have the grace and common-sense to carry their convictions with them to the ballot-box and vote as they talk and pray. Bar-rooms will never be closed so long as Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists and Episcopalians vote the same ticket as distillers, brewers, tavern-keepers and bummers.

Is it Right?

I am oppressed with the thought that so many Christian people in this enlightened country seem to feel so slightly the awful guilt of permitting such a traffic, yea, by their silence or their votes, becoming partners in it. I appeal to the conscience of all who have the love of humanity or the fear of God before them.

Is it right to permit, foster, and encourage a traffic that is acknowledged to have not one redeeming quality, but exists as a blighting, damning curse on everything that is pure, holy and virtuous in society?

Is it right to license a man to sell liquor and then exclude him from church membership for doing that which you licensed him to do? I am assuming of course that no church would admit a rumseller into its membership.

Is it right to pass resolutions in Assemblies, Synods and Conferences denouncing the liquor traffic as a sin