

DRUGS IN RELATION TO PROHIBITION—A REPLY.

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druggists declare there is no increased demand for drugs; and courts declare there is no evidence that former drinkers are now using drugs. When Mr. Carrick broadly states "we are worse off," can we have any confidence in his abstract theories regarding this universal demand for some poisonous stimulant which never fails to demoralize and ruin a large percentage of its patrons?

How can Canada be worse off for prohibiting what is estimated to have caused ten thousand deaths per year—almost as many as died in the war?—Our soldiers died as heroes to be loved and honored always—but the ten thousand drunkards, ruined, debauched, disgraced, are remembered only with shame and regret by their best beloved. It seems that the saving of these year by year means little to Mr. Carrick, if we are worse now, because a number of foreigners who fail to get their native stimulant will use drugs!

If B. C. goes bone dry, what a calamity it will be to some men who prefer their own profit or self-gratification to the life and happiness of the victims of the liquor traffic!

Can Mr. Carrick give us proof out of a thousand men drinking vodka in Russia not one was injured; that out of a thousand men in France using their native wines, none are in any way injured, or of a thousand in South America, using coca leaves—or in Eastern Europe—in all such cases no harm results? And can the testimony be given after careful and expert testing by impartial and disinterested parties? In that case we could base some kind of argument on such testimony.

But even that would not disprove the testimony we have of hundreds of young people attending school having been tested by giving a large percentage of them a glass of wine a day, the others none, when it was found the one glass per day lowered the grade in their class work. Also that when the amount was reduced to one glass in three days, the effect was still visible, yet that was the alleged harmless native drink.

No, Mr. Carrick, there are other kinds of ostrich more blind to facts than the prohibitionists.

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