

The answers were classified by the Commission as follows :

Under 10 per cent	8
10 per cent. to 25 per cent.	11
25 " 50 "	6
50 " 75 "	65
Over 75 per cent.....	15
Indefinite	53

161

It will be noticed that a large number of answers are indefinite. This no doubt means simply that the persons replying did not give their answers in percentage form, many of them, however, probably being overwhelming evidence that drink is a cause of crime.

ONE CITY'S RECORD.

As further illustrations of thousands of testimonies that might be quoted, a few are submitted confined to only one Canadian city.

The Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons in 1874 reported the following statement made by police officials in Montreal.

The Recorder of Montreal—The Clerk of the Court and two assistants, all barristers, gentlemen of mature age, perfectly competent to offer opinions on the subject of this question, are of opinion with myself that apart from the violations of statutory law and the by-laws of the city, every case tried before the court, with but very few, if indeed any exceptions, arises out of intemperance. The Clerk of the Court is of opinion that the proportion of the cases, which directly and manifestly owe their origin to intemperance is at least three-fourths; his first assistant sets the same proportion down at seven-eighths, and the second assistant at nine-tenths. My own opinion corresponds with the last estimate.

Chief of Montreal City Police.—Mostly all offences are due either directly or indirectly to intemperance. What is the cause of almost all larcenies? Drink! Of assaults? Drink! Disorderly conduct? Drink! Fights, furious driving, interference with the police, foul language, blasphemies? Drink, drink, drink! Of cowardly wife-beating? Drink! In short, intemperance is to be found as the universal direct or indirect cause of all evils.

The following extracts are from the evidence taken in 1892 by the Royal Commission on the Liquor Traffic.

Hon. Calixte A. Dugas, Police Magistrate of Montreal.—To intemperance, leaving aside the provincial criminals, I attribute eighty or ninety per cent of police court cases. Generally the people here are good, but when they are drunk they are apt to commit many offences more or less serious which they would not do if they were not drunk.

Hon. Benjamin A. D. de Montigny, Recorder of Montreal.—If I am to judge from the daily list, more than three-fourths of those cases are on account of drunkenness. As I told you, the number set down as drunkenness does not represent it all, because assaults, disorders, and furious driving and much are indirectly due to liquor. The cases of keeping disorderly houses and being inmates and frequenters of disorderly houses are mostly due to abuse of liquor.