

Let Canada begin in her youth to train all her sons and daughters to industry, and the evils of outcast London will find no place here. This training cannot be accomplished without giving the Government power such as it does not now possess. It has now the power to punish criminals; it should have the right of interference before criminality is ripe. We now get the Government to watch disease; we should also give it power to guard health. We wait until idleness produces crime, then we seize the criminal and compel him to labor in a penitentiary. The Government should have power to seize the idler before he becomes a criminal. First all excuse should be taken from the idler by the establishment of training schools and workshops, where youth may be taught, and where men desirous of employment should always be able to find it at a fixed rate of wages. Public works, such as harbor-making, road-making, swamp-draining, waste land reclaiming, should be carried on, where men objecting to work should be set to it under compulsion of the strictest nature, the Government being responsible for the payment of due wages. Let Canada adopt such measures, and whatever form wretchedness may take in the large cities of the future, it will not shape itself into over-crowding, hunger and nakedness.

Such measures will prevent poverty, not crime. Crime can be hindered only by taking away the will to commit sin. This cannot be done by legislation. No government can make men virtuous; but a strong and paternal government, by aiding the willing and compelling the idle into occupation, will pave the way for Christian effort. The effectual safeguard is the co-operation of a wise and strong government with Christian effort, begun while a city is small and growing with its growth and strengthening with its strength. The average Christian considers it his chief business to save his own soul. In one sense, and within certain limits, this is true; but it is not the whole truth. The Christian life is a warfare. Now a soldier will do but little credit to the cause he fights for if he goes into battle considering only how he shall save his own life. The business of Christian men is to save the world, and the