

"A prohibitory law will not prohibit." Most assuredly it will. It may not absolutely and immediately check the trade in intoxicants. Does the enactment of a law prohibiting the appropriation of another's property absolutely check stealing? No, but its violator is a thief.

"We are not ready for a prohibitory law." Who says we are not? Is it, in the main, the most conspicuously law-abiding section of the community? Is it that portion of the community whose bitter experience has convinced them of the evil of intoxicants; or is it the people whose morals are questionable and whose itching for the cup is perceptible?

When that day comes the churches will vote for and the saloons and dens of shame will vote against prohibition. There will be exceptions, but they will be exceptions. Purity vs. impurity, law vs. disorder will be the order of the ranks.

If the enactment of a law prohibiting theft were postponed, until the burglars and cutpurses of the law assembled and passed resolutions craving the passing of such legislation, at what date might we reasonably expect to hear of the introduction of such a bill.

"Though the liquor traffic is an evil, prohibition is not the ideal method of dealing with it." Well, bring on your ideal and bring it quickly. Meanwhile, as you are seeking out your ideal we are going to do something for this brother and this sister who if not immediately rescued will be lost. Human lives and immortal souls are not proper subjects for cold experiments. Immediate action is imperative, and as we are accountable to God we must do the best we can now. If that man has liquor within his reach for the next three years he will sink into a drunkard's grave and to a drunkard's awful doom. Act now.

"The odds are too great. Prohibition will not carry." Whatever others may do, as for us we will, with all the earnestness of our souls, speak and pray and work for its success, firmly convinced that our cause is just. Neither directly nor indirectly will we give the liquor traffic a certificate of good character. We distinctly refuse. We are its enemies, holding out no prospect of reconciliation, refusing to be satisfied with anything short of its utter annihilation. It is an evil, and compromise is disgrace.