

how that proposition, if carried into effect, is going to affect his own interests. This view point is natural, and we cannot find fault with it. It is more potent in human affairs than any other consideration. So it behooves us to briefly review the effect on our interest should Prohibition be brought about at present in B. C. How would it practically leave the STATUS QUO as it is? Let us, for the sake of argument, brevity and conciseness, suppose that Prohibition became the rule of the Province tomorrow what would be the immediate results?

1. In the first place, it would put a number of men out of work. There are approximately 5,000 men directly employed in the liquor business in British Columbia today. This does not include allied trades and industries which are deriving considerable business and employment from the liquor industry, such as glass workers, hack men, restaurants, box and cork factories and so forth. These 5,000 men draw approximately about \$120,000 weekly in wages, which goes to the support of, let us say, about 16,000 persons dependent on the 5000 direct employees.

Here then, is one evident result. It is going to put these 5000 out of work, and these 16,000 out of support, and it is going to reduce the wage roll in B. C., which is already small enough, by \$120,000 weekly. All this is a loss! Direct and immediate; for Prohibition does not create any new industry to replace the liquor industry which it kills. Of course, the friends of Prohibition may argue that it does not and will not reduce the money in circulation, for the money spent now on the liquor business will still be spent in other channels, or it will be saved up!

True, the money will be here, but the point I wish to emphasize is this: that the \$1.00 John Doe spends per week on liquor now goes to maintain an industry in which are employed 5,000 hands and to whom are paid \$120,000 a week in wages, but when John Doe keeps that dollar in his pocket or puts it in a bank that industry perishes, that labor is lost, those wages are no longer in circulation,