

anywhere to represent the material taken for the liquor industry. The consumer's money is divided between the maker and the dealer and the government, but there is no furniture in the customer's home. He is poorer by the full amount that has been transferred to the other parties.

The liquor business adds nothing to the sum of the commonwealth's common wealth. It may result in injured health, shortened lives, disease, poverty, insanity, remorse, or crime, but it has had no material result except the enrichment of some at the expense of others. The work of the liquor-maker and seller is worse than wasted as far as any wealth-producing effect is concerned.

Had the business energy, the judgment the foresight, the physical power, the capital, and the time of these men been invested in almost any other occupation, they would have added to the country's wealth. As it is they are mere parasites, living on a community to which they give nothing in return. Were it not for this liquor system we would be better off by all that the capital and qualifications of the liquor-traffickers would have done for us if employed in some other way.

Rev. Joseph McLeod, D.D., a member of the Dominion Royal Commission on the liquor traffic, estimated that a man was worth to the country \$596 a year. That is, that every worker besides providing for his own maintenance, made at least this addition to the wealth possessed by himself and his fellow-citizens. Let us take an estimate even more conservative still, and count an average man as worth only \$500 a year to the country in which he works. Now, according to the last Dominion census of

manufacturing industries, we had in the year 1905, 3,692 persons employed in production of strong drink. We had in the country at large not less than 5,000 more whose time was given up to the selling of liquor. 8,692 men were worse than idle, who, but for the liquor traffic, would have been helping to make our country better off, and according to the estimate already made, would each have added at least \$500 to the country's wealth. We lose every year the value of the labor of the men engaged in the liquor business, a total loss of not less than \$4,346,000.

But the loss is even greater. We have calculated that an average man's work produced at least enough to maintain himself besides the additional \$500. There was no result from the liquor men's labor with which to maintain them. Their very living had to be taken out of the people who were foolish enough to spend their money for strong drink. Adding to the aggregate loss to the wealth of the country the maintenance of those 8,692 non-producers, at \$300 each, increase the waste by \$2,607,600. These totals combined give us an aggregate of \$6,953,600, which is lost to the country every year by misdirection of the labor of men who ought to be profitable citizens.

4. Drink-Caused Mortality

It is not practicable to ascertain accurately the extent to which the drink habit shortens life. Official reports of the cause of death are not of much help in solving this problem. Deaths are charged to diseases of many kinds, which diseases frequently grow out of intemperate habits.

The carelessness that leads to fatal