

and it is not long since the concert hall could count upon the most pious of the community.

The most mighty force to be brought against the immoral play-house is the gospel as preached from the home and the Church, but it must be backed up by clean, inspiring, up-to-date entertainment, held in halls convenient to the people, conducted upon sound commercial principles, with admission so low that the wage-worker and his wife and family can, at least once a week, take the rest and relaxation so necessary for his tired muscles and also for her tingling nerves.

When Dr. Wilbur F. Crafts, Superintendent of the International Reform Bureau, was asked for something to counteract the low theatre he outlined the above plan—not a new one, of course, but one which has yet to receive the support of the Church as it should.

The average church entertainment is altogether too irregular, and too often the local talent is selected because it costs nothing, and such efforts have no more effect against the regular, thoroughly equipped, and moneyed theatre, than a flake of snow has under the wheel of the fast express on a down grade. This is a mighty power which has never been fully tested, and which will yet meet one side of human nature now captive to the demoralizing drama.