

"Everyone who is in the habit of frequenting such houses and does not give satisfactory account of himself or herself."

"Everyone who, having no peaceable profession or calling to maintain himself by, for the most part supports himself by gaming or crime or by the avails of prostitution."

A fine not exceeding fifty dollars, or imprisonment with or without hard labor for any term not exceeding six months, or both, is the penalty imposed by Section 239, Criminal Code, upon conviction under the preceding section.

In the above mentioned sections we have set forth the main body of the law as it relates to prostitution as at present established in the City of Nelson.

Mr. Justice Robson has this to say with regard to the segregation of social vice, and it applies to things as they are in this city: "The selection of such a restricted area is a conditional licence to commit a continuing offence. In view of the law neither the Police Commissioners nor the Chief of Police have the authority to permit such a state of affairs. Their duty is to see to an unremitting enforcement of the criminal law in all parts of the city."

LAW ENFORCEMENT.

The question is often asked by the uninformed and by the misinformed: Can the law against this kind of crime be enforced with any degree of success; does the closing of bawdy houses and the breaking up of vice colonies improve the situation? The answer is emphatically—Yes. The law against this evil, as against all other evils, certainly can be and is successfully enforced.

There are hundreds of towns and cities in British America, as well as in other countries, that have been without restricted districts and bawdy houses for years. Not a few, some in British Columbia, have never tolerated such places, and would not think of doing so.

Other large centres, such as the City of Victoria, B. C., have found that in getting rid of these crime-breeding resorts, the observance of other laws, such as the liquor licence law, the law against theft, violence, etc., has been vastly improved; and it is also well to note that the tax upon the people for the enforcement of law has substantially decreased.

It is well known that one of the chief sources of revenue to the prostitute is in the illicit sale of liquor, and in the thefts of from a few dollars to many hundreds of dollars at a time from the pockets of their drunken, debauched and often drugged victims.

Ample proof can be given to show that segregation furnishes an easy cover from justice for the worst kinds of criminals, while the policy of no compromise gives the people and their public servants the stronger and quicker hand in dealing with isolated cases.

Not only is such a clear and emphatic verdict against this dreadful evil and against the shortsighted segregation method the result of most careful and prolonged investigation on the part of the world's best citizens, but it constitutes a loud call to all pure and fairminded citizens of Nelson and in British Columbia to act promptly and drastically with the power which the law of our country gives us against our greatest foe.