

THE SITUATION IN NELSON, B. C.

I.—TEN FACTS FOR THE CITIZENS OF NELSON, B. C.

1. IT IS A FACT that there is in this city a segregated district for vice, situated on Lake Street, and that it has been in existence for a long time.

2. IT IS A FACT that this segregated district is contrary to the law of the Dominion of Canada, and yet it continues unmolested as far as the authorities are concerned.

3. IT IS A FACT that the City of Nelson, B. C., receives revenue from this illegal and shameful business, and thereby every citizen is made a partner in the concern. The sum secured in this way amounts, in round figures, to over \$4,000 per year.

4. IT IS A FACT that the Police Commissioners have given orders for the police to obtain certificates of freedom from venereal diseases from each woman in these houses. These certificates are issued by medical doctors, and a fee charged therefor.

5. IT IS A FACT that not only are houses of prostitution recognized by the Board of Police Commissioners, but interference has been offered by individual members of that Board with the Chief of Police in the discharge of his duty to lessen the evils resulting from the said recognition of these houses of prostitution.

6. IT IS A FACT that mortgages are held at unusually high rates of interest on some of these houses on Lake Street by certain citizens of Nelson, some of whom are charged with official responsibility for the enforcement of law.

7. IT IS A FACT that the City of Nelson, B. C., contains today approximately one public prostitute for every eighty of the population of the city; that is to say, that at present in Nelson, B. C., one person out of every eighty is a certificated prostitute.

8. IT IS A FACT that ninety per cent of the convictions made in the Police Magistrate's Court of Nelson, B. C., are convictions for prostitution. These criminal statistics are collected by the Federal Government at Ottawa and published in the annual Criminal Statistics of Canada.

9. IT IS A FACT, for which sufficient evidence can be adduced, that the policy of segregation in Nelson does not limit the evil to a segregated area.

10. IT IS A FACT that the segregated district in Nelson, B. C., as elsewhere, furnishes a convenient rendezvous for all classes of criminals, a station for the WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC, and a profitable field for those who live on the proceeds of vice.