

Canadian Secular Union

(Incorporated by General Act of Parliament,
1877 and 1885.)

For the Propagandism of Secularism in
Canada and for other purposes.

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Principles and Demands.

PRINCIPLES.

1. That, the present life being the only one of which we have any knowledge, its concerns claim our earnest attention.
2. That Reason, aided by Experience, is the best guide for human conduct.
3. That to endeavor to promote the individual and general well-being of society to the best of our ability, is our highest and immediate duty.
4. That the only means upon which we can rely for the accomplishment of this object is Human effort, based upon knowledge and justice.
5. That conduct should be judged by its results only—what conduces to the general Well-being is right ; what has the opposite tendency is wrong.
6. That Science and its application is our Providence, or Provider, and upon it we rely in preference to aught else in time of need.

DEMANDS.

1. We demand that churches and other ecclesiastical property shall no longer be exempt from just taxation.
2. We demand that the employment of chaplains in Parliament, in Provincial Legislatures, in the militia, and in prisons, asylums, and all other institutions supported by public money, shall be discontinued.
3. We demand that all public appropriations for educational and charitable institutions of a sectarian character shall cease.
4. We demand that all religious services sustained by the Government shall be abolished ; and especially that the Bible in the Public Schools, whether ostensibly as a textbook or avowedly as a book of religious worship, be prohibited.
5. We demand that the appointment by the Governor-General or by the Lieutenant-Governor of all religious festivals and fasts shall wholly cease.
6. We demand that all laws directly or indirectly enforcing the observance of Sunday, or the Sabbath, shall be repealed.
7. We demand the legalization of purely civil marriage and the establishment of a divorce court.

8. We demand that all laws looking to the enforcement of "Christian" morality as such shall be abrogated, and that all laws shall be based upon the requirements of natural morality, equal rights, and impartial justice.

9. We demand that, in the practical administration of the Government, no privilege or advantage shall be conceded to Christianity or any other special religion ; that our entire political system shall be founded and administered on a purely secular basis ; and that whatever changes are necessary to this end shall be consistently and promptly made.

The President or the Secretary will be at all times pleased to answer inquiries, by mail or otherwise.

Pioneer Pith.

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