

both sexes who have the teaching of the Church for one day in seven, while for several nights in the week they study in the theatre that which is at the very antipodes, morally, of what was taught from the Word of God. Would it not pay to give a little time to the destruction of these forces that the good might have a better chance to develop? This can be accomplished by wide, united and persistent efforts to have proper laws placed upon the statute books and then effectively enforced. If we enforce the laws against contagious disease where the bodies of men are endangered, should we not be as faithful and persistent in the enforcement of laws against the moral contagion, which destroys the soul? There is a need for public sentiment to be aroused and kept at a white heat on moral questions, for, when the average official feels that public opinion is not with him in the enforcement of the law, he is more than likely to place the glass to the blind eye.

But all this will not be found sufficient to counteract the influence of the theatre and kindred institutions. One thing is sure, the Church has been too slow to recognize the fact that the people must have amusement and entertainment. It is absolutely certain that no soul can be what it should be if life runs along in the rut of toil without the tonic of laughter and lightsome entertainment. It may be said that this has always been admitted, but we answer, no: the most part only in theory. Athletics have, only recently, been introduced into the life of the Christian,