

of a materialistic or formal righteousness.

One thing, however, is certain : the old system under which our liquor trade was conducted was absolutely unsound and can never be restored. In the first place it is intolerable that there should be in our community a body of men permanently in the condition of helots as the old saloon-keepers have been for many years, engaged in a constant endeavour to avert the impending removal of their licenses and fighting against it by such subterranean and devious means as came to hand. These men were in the position of serfs and the serf is a moral leper, an injury to himself and a still greater injury to those who are put in a position to make him a serf, as well as a taint to the community which permits him to be treated in such a manner. When his license had been taken away, the landlord knew that his customers had signed and kept the pledge, he might feel that his own commercial death was not fruitless, but nobody pretends that this result was secured under the licensing system. The drunkards changed their haunts and not their habits. Therefore we cannot possibly go back to the old regime of the saloons. The bar is "banned" for ever in Canada. Even the distillers in the pamphlet issued under their auspices accept and bow to this as an accom-