

THE SOCIAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO.

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"This Association has been formed for the purpose of uniting in Educational and Practical efforts all those who earnestly desire the improvement of the social and moral condition of humanity."

TORONTO, April 14th, 1894.

DEAR SIR,

The above extract from a circular explaining our objects is our excuse for asking your assistance in some special work we have in view at present. We want to reach more people than we are doing, and we realize that through the pulpit we can do this more effectually than in any other way. If we could arrange for a series of sermons to continue throughout the summer in the various City churches, on questions which are of vital importance to pulpit and pew alike, a great deal of good could not fail to result. In this respect you can assist us, and we sincerely hope you will be able to do so. The plan outlined by a committee consisting of Rev. Dr. Galbraith of Berkeley St. Methodist Church, Rev. Charles H. Shortt of St. Cyprian's Anglican Church and the Secretary of the Association, is to take up the subjects following, and to endeavor to have at least one sermon preached each *Sunday evening* in some church, dealing with the subjects assigned to that month:

Until the Second Sunday in May	—"How Best to Treat the Saloon Evil."
To Second Sunday in June	—"Child Labor."
" " July	—"Public Parks and Playgrounds."
" " August	—"Prison Reform."

These are the same as proposed by the American Union for Practical Progress, and it is anticipated that they will be spoken on from pulpits all over the continent. We wish to have Toronto take her proper place in this grand movement for the betterment of the conditions which are responsible for so much misery among thousands—yes, millions—of our fellows. The clergy throughout the United States, irrespective of denomination, are responding in large numbers to the appeal now being made, and we have not the slightest doubt that their example will be largely followed in our cities.

One or more sermons each Sunday evening on these subjects will only be possible through a pretty general response. Some ten or twelve ministers have promised already, and we wish to arrange for the requisite number to fill up the list. We want to have ministers of all denominations, if possible, included in our arrangement, and to have the subjects brought before the people in all parts of the City. Will you preach one or more sermons in your own church on any of the subjects named? If so, kindly fill in the enclosed postal, indicating how many sermons you can deliver, and which subjects and dates you would prefer, and mail it at once to the Secretary. We wish to complete the list for publication as quickly as possible, so you can see that time is an object. If you cannot assist us, or do not think our proposal a good one, we hope you will give your reasons on postal. This is not for publication, but we wish to find out just what the feeling is among clergymen on this question.

Yours very truly,

GEO. A. HOWELL, *Secretary,*

316 WELLESLEY ST.