

only partially. The very intricacy of the problem, dealing as it necessarily must with the question of right, on the one hand, of an individual to live in 200 cubic feet instead of 1,000 of air space, and to work for 25 cents or 50 cents for sixteen hours a day if so disposed, and of the landlord to make such a condition possible for him, and, on the other hand, of the authorities to interfere with such presumably natural rights, cannot but make it appear evident that before success can be obtained some ethical standard of being and doing must be recognized which will be sufficient to prevent the grinding of the faces of the poor. Where shall we find it? Amongst the leaders of labor? Without questioning the value of labor organizations, I have yet to recall any more serious attempts on their part than those of increasing wages and shortening the working hours. But if they have not called loudly for sanitary reforms, as Frederick Harrison advised them twenty years ago in England, if they have not been the most advanced in advocating temperance in the drinking customs of the people, can we say, though suffering most, that they have been different in this from the wealthier classes?

"Our aspirations, our soul's genuine life,
Grow torpid in the din of earthly strife."—*Faust*.

Are we to expect that landlords, speaking generally, for there are good landlords, will be the first to move or that the employers of cheap labor will encourage conditions which would at once force up the wages to a living point, when yearly thousands upon thousands of new hands come to their doors asking only the privilege of working?

I know a Canadian city in which there is not a single by-law which prevents either residence in a cellar or the overcrowding of tenements by tier over tier of bunks, and another in which the city council refused to ask, and the provincial legislature, when urged by the health officer, neglected to provide a law to prevent residence in cellars, though an epidemic of smallpox was present. Surely of such the words of the Master are true, "Ye are yet in your sins." In what direction are we to look for assistance? I sometimes wonder, when I have seen in the daily newspaper the sports page, which used to be a column, now spreading over to the second page, and the report of an important Board of Health meeting, once a month, reduced to half a column, how the Saviour's words, "What went you out for to see? A reed shaken in the wind?" would be applied by these daily providers of public pabulum, who find their defence in supplying, as they say, what the public demand. Have they not, with their large opportunities, yet larger responsibilities, as educators of public opinion, to investigate conditions and to educate our people to first desire and