

"While this decision is a disappointment and a matter of regret to many earnest temperance workers, yet it should be loyally accepted; for, at this time, it is essential that the authority of the Government be upheld and its orders obeyed. One thing we cannot afford, and that is a divided nation. As far as 'The Parasite' is concerned, therefore, unless the Government reverses its decision, the question is settled."

"The exigencies of war-time, however, make it emphatically necessary that whatever is done should be in harmony with the wishes of the present Government of Canada, for the Government has shown itself by its acts, as well as its words, to be earnestly desirous of promoting the welfare of Canada. For its splendid prohibitory enactments it cannot be too warmly commended."

This was acknowledged by the Premier in a letter on April 6th, in which he said:

"My Dear Sir:—

"I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 3rd instant, and I thoroughly appreciate your attitude in bowing to the decision of the Censorship Committee, which was approved by the Government."

SECOND.—The first case dragged on for eight months. The matter was the subject of correspondence between the Department of Justice at Ottawa and the Department of the Attorney-General of Ontario, and also between these Departments and Mr. Spence's solicitors.

In this correspondence, Hon. C. J. Doherty wrote the following letter to Mr. Spence's counsel:—

"Ottawa, April 30th, 1918.

"Dear Sir:—

"I have your letter of the 29th instant. I am writing the Attorney-General, stating to him that in the matter of the prosecution in the case of Rex vs. Spence, the Government is content to leave entirely to his judgment the question whether the same should be further proceeded with, and that if in his opinion the circumstances would justify the entry of a *nolle prosequi*, this Government would not insist on further prosecution.

"Yours sincerely,

"(Sgd.) CHAS. J. DOHERTY.

"W. E. Raney, Esq., K.C.,
"808-9 Bank of Hamilton Bldg.,
"Yonge St.,
"Toronto, Ont."

The substance of a letter from the Attorney-General of Ontario to the Minister of Justice was made public. Following is a quotation from the newspaper report at the time:

On April 30th Mr. Lucar received a letter from the Minister of Justice, saying that "under the circumstances it had been suggested that the prosecution be not