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**Articles : Original and Selected.**

**THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN.**

By W. D. LIGHTHALL, M.A., B.C.L.

*(Concluded.)*

Now, for the application of the foregoing observations.  
1. How do the results attained to-day among us compare with what should be? 2. What can we do practically in the matter of the child better than is being done?

The results we have attained differ somewhat in the different provinces. In all, the parents' condition and the parents' will govern almost exclusively the destiny of the child. The children of habitual paupers, habitual drunkards, habitual criminals, are with but few exceptions left to their fate. The rare exceptions in Quebec, where the magistrates interfere, are where complaint is laid that life or limb is endangered, support refused or vice positively taught.

Compare the results with the conditions which are the true right of the child. This right, as we have observed, comprises *all* that would make for him a fair and equal chance in life with every other child in the community. Obviously to leave him exposed to control of and association with parents who are habitual criminals is a cruel outrage. I assert the principle that *wherever two parents are discovered to be habitual criminals, their children ought inva-*