

solicitor, and sued Moses for libel (laughter), and I have in my possession here a most abject apology to Mr. Weart which Mr. Cotsworth wrote on September 13th, 1911, and he refers to this paragraph, and says: "I now desire to say that I did not in any manner refer to you in the above quoted paragraph, or intend to call into question, or reflect upon your honor or loyalty to the best interests of Burnaby Municipality. As to the whole letter, I without qualification absolve you from any charge of dishonesty or unfaithfulness to the interests of the Municipality, and I did not intend to cast any slur upon you." That is the author of the Crisis document, who is now in court on another libel action caused through this document. (Applause.)

Now, I hope I have not tonight been too strong in my criticism in reference to the brethren of the clerical profession who have been so deceived as to sign this document. "There are preachers and preachers," and a great many in this Province are strong personal friends, I am glad to say, of myself. I have been working hand in hand with them since I have been in the Department in doing what I could in the way of legislation to raise the moral standard of the Province, and the ministers of the different congregations, and different creeds, have been only too glad to state publicly their appreciation of my efforts. I have tried to do what I could, and in order to show that perhaps these ministers of the Ministerial Union of the Lower Mainland may have been deceived by this designing man, I want to read a short editorial from the Western Methodist Recorder, dealing with the question of this document: "Whether the charges are substantially true or false, we are not in a position to say. If they are true, the guilty parties should not escape the penalty of public humiliation; and we hope now that the actual facts will be disclosed. On the face of it, however, the attack looks too bitter to be sincere, and suggests that the ministers have been used to accomplish the personal designs of the author of the pamphlet, and perhaps the party politicians. We ministers are supposed to be rather susceptible in such matters; and if it is true that some have already admitted that they had not personally inquired into the facts (notwithstanding the 'Foreword' of the pamphlet), but had accepted simply the statement of Mr. Cotsworth, the crusade will have little effect upon public opinion."

That is a very fair statement from the Methodist Recorder.

The Methodist Conference, shortly after this pamphlet was issued, held their Annual Conference in the City of Westminster. Mr. Moses Cotsworth was there, busy as could be, around the door, (laughter) trying to sell the "Crisis" document; and you