

## Social Vice in Vancouver

This pamphlet is submitted to the citizens of Vancouver in order to arouse the conscience of our city to the menace of commercialized social vice. It is a report adopted by the Social and Moral Reform Council of British Columbia as prepared and presented by a special committee of professional and business men acting for the Council which worked for several months in studying the general question and investigating conditions in the city. The Moral and Social Reform Council of British Columbia is composed of representatives of the churches of the Province, duly appointed by the governing bodies of the different denominations.

We believe this pamphlet is particularly timely. The growing impatience among good citizens at the prominence of social vice in Vancouver, as shown among other things by the large and spirited delegation which waited on the Police Commissioners on May 21st and the refusal of the Commissioners to promise to abolish the segregated area, demand such a presentation of the case as is found in the following pages. Many are not aroused because they are not informed. An informed and aroused Vancouver will not condone this evil nor tolerate Commissioners who refuse to enforce in its entirety the criminal law of Canada.

We therefore submit:

A resume of present conditions in Vancouver with causes contributing to the evil.

A brief statement of the Canadian criminal law, which is absolutely opposed to toleration.

An authoritative presentation of the ravages of attendant diseases.

A sketch of the present day treatment of social vice by various cities showing that the latest scientific treatment is opposed to toleration.

We believe that a new day is dawning for the cities of the Pacific slope. The "wide open" town is becoming a thing of the past. Such cities as Spokane, Seattle, Los Angeles and Victoria have banished their vice colony and are rigidly enforcing the law. Vancouver must join this upward movement. As we are aspiring to be one of the world seaports, are planning many open spaces for parks and playgrounds, and are being urged to adopt as our ideal The City Beautiful, surely the time is come resolutely to clean out all vile nests that harbor social vice and degrade human beings for mercenary ends.

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