

streets, which will look, in time, like mere lanes. Wings are built precisely in the places where they will intercept the sun-rays most directly. Some so-called improved dwellings are constructed in which the half of the rooms are lighted from closed yards, which consequently contain only stagnant air. Moreover, some of these yards are only wells, styled light-wells, but where the sun can never penetrate. Rooms are made without any window whatever. And lastly, dwellings, healthy until now, are transformed into absolutely unhealthy dwellings, and tenants are always found for them.....

"The public authorities should boldly undertake the fight against the cupidity of the real estate owners. They should not, indeed, hesitate. 'Let no one,' writes Chessyon, 'speak of the violation of the right of ownership. If ownership has rights, it also has duties, and the respect for the interests of the proprietor cannot go so far as to deliver up to him, without control and counter-weight, the lives of the families he lodges in his property. If indeed, ownership is one of the foundations of society, public health is another of them, and it has also a right to consideration.' "

Referring to slum conditions in Ontario, J. J. Kelso, Superintendent of the Department of Neglected Children, speaks as follows:

"These slums are exceedingly dangerous to the health and morals of a city because they are, to the great majority of the people, unknown and unexplored retreats. If leading citizens had to visit these places frequently, the dilapidation, stench, and general misery of mothers and children would so appeal to them as to bring about a quick reform. They are not concerned because they do not comprehend the horrors of the situation.....If there could be a drastic measure passed requiring every house in which human beings dwell to front on a forty or sixty foot street, or else be pulled down, how long would drunkenness, vice and ignorance exist! Not very long, provided there was good municipal government and active Christian effort for social betterment. The slums should be attacked and abolished because they are the great enemy to the home, which is the foundation stone of the State. Bad housing conditions inevitably tend to drunkenness in parents; to delinquency in children; to disorderly conduct; to wife and family desertion by men who get tired of it all; to immorality in the growing generation owing to the lack of privacy and the consequent loss of modesty; to the spread of typhoid fever, diphtheria, scarlet fever, and the ravages of the great white plague."