

SABBATH OBSERVANCE AND PUBLIC MORALITY

The subject of Sabbath Observance, and others relating to Intemperance and Social Impurity, are of such importance in the healthful progress of any nation, that we think it fitting to give space to certain "Recommendations" which a Committee connected with the Synod of British Columbia put on record this year.

1. This Synod, prizing above all price, the Christian Sabbath as a Divine Institution, and an unspeakable blessing to mankind, would hereby record its gratitude for all the efforts put forth by the Churches, the Lord's Day Alliance and its Branches, and good citizens generally, to preserve so precious a boon to ourselves and our children.

2. This Synod expresses its gratification at the fact that the Attorney General of the Province has recently granted leave to prosecute, under the Lord's Day Act, many offences for which permission had been long refused. It regrets however, that much unnecessary delay has occurred in some important cases; and it earnestly calls on the Attorney General, henceforth to use the powers conferred upon him by the Dominion Act to protect the people's rest day from the inroads of illegal pleasures and commercial cupidity.

3. This Synod enters its emphatic protest against the re-opening of Post Offices on Sunday; and earnestly hopes that the law will be duly enforced and that no reactionary measures will be adopted by the Postal Authorities.

4. This Synod, while rejoicing in every evidence of a growing temperance sentiment in the community,

would none the less urge ministers, elders, parents and Sunday School teachers to spare no effort to instil into the minds of the young, temperance principles enforced by both moral and scientific sanctions; to earnestly advocate total abstinence on moral and philanthropic grounds; and to regard total prohibition of the liquor traffic as the true goal of all temperance legislation.

5. This Synod, realizing as never before, the appalling danger to the community of commercialized vice, would earnestly urge all good citizens to place in authority men who are known to be in sympathy with a high and pure morality; and to give them every encouragement and aid in enforcing the law, and in reaching and maintaining the highest possible level of social purity and righteousness.

6. The Members of this Synod, conscious of their responsibility as guardians of public morality, and educators of the people in the higher things of life, while gratefully acknowledging the fidelity of many of our Magistrates and Chiefs of Police, in protecting the community against the direct enemies of its social life; yet feel impelled to demand in the sacred interests of public virtue and domestic happiness, that all Provincial and Municipal Officers charged with the enforcement of criminal law, shall use their utmost authority and power to eradicate commercialized vice, including intemperance, social impurity and gambling in its various forms; and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Attorney General of the Province; to the Mayors of our Cities and to the various chief executive officers of rural Municipalities.