

hibition is not the cure for anything. The only cure for corrupt human nature is the old-world cure of enlightenment or a new mind; but some modern reformers are bringing in Caesar to help Christ, which is a sad acknowledgement on their part that Christ has failed. But in my opinion, and I know what I am talking about, the real Gospel of the real Christ has never had a chance since the Apostolic age. Men have switched away from the glorious liberty of the Nazarene to Caesar, and countless fads and fancies and theories and dogmas and doctrines without number.

I have spent several days looking up and comparing statistics on this issue, because I felt it was the crux of the whole debate. Prohibitionists claim that if we got Prohibition in British Columbia it would reduce crime to a minimum, and that the revenue we derive from liquor would be more than made up by the reduction in the cost of criminal prosecutions. But after a very careful and complete examination of the evidence produced, I declare emphatically that this is wrong. I have compared very carefully the criminal statistics of Prohibition states and licensed states, comparing them according to population as near as I could, in order to be fair. And yet, to be frank, I must acknowledge that it is almost impossible to make anything like a scientific deduction from the data at hand, because laws vary in various states; conditions vary; the vigilance of the police vary; the enforcement of the law also varies to such an extent that, as I said, it is impossible to make anything like scientific deductions. But the Prohibitionists are forced to make comparisons on this point, for if Prohibition does not lessen the stream of crime, of what good is it? So, in order to keep up the agitation and keep the organization flourishing, they pick out a Prohibition state here and there and compare the number of criminals therein with the number of criminals in licensed states of twice and three times the population of the former. This is evidently unfair, for the larger the population the greater the number of criminals in proportion. So I have compared the states according to population, as near as they can be. To save space (P.