

less than 3,000, and the same authority shows that in a period of twenty years, deaths from alcoholism increased in dry territory 83 per cent. and decreased in wet territory 34 per cent. Why? Simply because when you close the legitimate saloon, you convert the beer drinker into a whiskey drinker. (Applause.) You open the way for patent medicine people to sell in dry territory what they call "Tiger Oil Liniment", and Lemon Extract, 95 per cent. alcohol. You make it possible for the manufacturers of Peruna to do a land office business in prohibition territory, and Peruna contains five times more alcohol than beer. (Laughter and applause.) Then, the class of liquor made from chemicals, consumed in some prohibition districts, is a menace to health, and that is why there has been an increase, instead of a decrease in the number of deaths from alcoholism in prohibition territory.

The same authority in the same connection shows, by the way, that for every person that drinks himself to death, 33 people dig their graves with their teeth. Give me a committee of doctors and let us go up and down this town, and for every man we find drinking himself to death, we will find 33 people digging their graves with their teeth, by unwise eating or over-eating. This same authority shows that during the months of July and August twice as many people die from over-eating as die from the same cause in January and February. If you can do all things by law, why not have the legislatures of the whole country meet and pass a law making July and August as cool as January and February, and save all these lives. (Laughter.)

You would not advocate the prohibition of food, would you, because some people are digging their graves with their teeth? Moderation is the only cure, the only remedy. Moderation is the remedy, whether you eat or whether you drink.

But again, my friends, in the face of their argument that prohibition issue is not raised, they have an organization in this city for the reduction of licenses, which issued a statement that appeared in the daily press on December 16. In this statement they declare that "prohibition is not an object" in this campaign and still they want to cut the dog's head off; they want to appropriate all its powers. We find them denouncing our ad. writer as a fallen creature without a spark of manhood because he did not believe in prohibiting a thing that according to their claim causes the destruction of human life, but they tell us that "their object is not prohibition." Their object then is not to save life. Logic is inexorable, gentlemen, there is no escape. I believe in holding everybody to the logic of their position in every kind of a controversy. Let them take their medicine.

They also state in the same manifesto that I am an "ultra-socialist and the editor of the *Iconoclast* of Chicago." These dear people, against whom I have not a thing in the world, should make sure of their information, before they publish it broadcast. Socialism is not an issue in this campaign, but even if it were, I am not a socialist. Now, they tell you that prohibition is not an issue and we have shown that it is. They told you I was a socialist and I declare to you that I am not. In fact, I had a debate with Arthur M. Lewis, the most eminent socialist in America. I stated my objections to socialism, while he defended it. Now, these dear friends should tell you the truth about Windie, about prohibition, tell you the truth about everything. I won't call anybody a liar, although I may sometimes compliment people on their ability to separate themselves a respectable distance from the truth. (Laughter.) In declining our offer to debate this question on its merits, without offering any proof to substantiate their arguments, they say that "It would be useless to debate a question long since decided in the minds of all right thinking people." Then this question of prohibition has been decided already in the minds of all right thinking people. Too late to discuss it now. It was decided then, without discussion, without debate, without applying the acid test. You cannot settle anything that way. Nothing is settled till it is settled right. I want to say to all our friends on the other side. You cannot afford to be unfair. Candour is a grand thing; it becomes a man; it also becomes a minister of the gospel. Hypocrisy becomes no man and it is a disgrace for any human being to practise hypocrisy and subterfuge in a contest of any kind. I won't do it. I pity others who do.

Just a word now to these brethren. The Federal census of the United States Government gives us a table showing the number of church members in the various states of the Union, and I want you to think about this table for the next 24 hours, if you are a Christian or a minister. This table shows that in wet New York, where they haven't prohibition, 48 per cent. of the people belong to