

Dominion Medical Monthly

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COMMENT FROM MONTH TO MONTH

The Social Evil is engaging the attention of strong-minded, honest, capable men and women in different communities. It is still another evidence of the tendency of the age—the prevention of disease, this time morally as well as physically. In fighting the social evil there can be no question of half measures. It must be thorough enough to wipe it out entirely.

No one knows better than the medical man of its widespread dissemination in every urban community or of its wholesale and lamentable results amongst the innocent; and, as has always been evidenced in any and every campaign for the prevention of any disease, the medical profession stand well to the front in the attack.

In tentative campaigns where isolated communities endeavor to clean up their own back yards, there must always be differences of opinion as to how best to bring about the desired reforms. One will pound away for segregation, whilst another, equally honest in his endeavor, will denounce segregation. There must be no regulation of vice. Its only remedy is extermination.

Where segregated areas are tabooed, the insidious private apartment and private house nestles alongside the home and the church; and the prostitutes driven out of one city find “homes” in another, probably not far away, where the moral sense may perhaps not be so keen.

Another community will favor the reporting of all infected persons to the Medical Officer of Health; and the cry will then be raised that the medical profession has been roped in to becoming