INTERESTING ADDRESS

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With all due apologies once more to the lord, I want to say that the American liquor traffic belongs to this class. It hasn't the right to live protected by common law, and its up to you liquor men to prove that the saloon crime and the whisky traffic is helpful to the public peace, the public prosperity, the public happiness, the public morality, the public education and public religion. If you cannot prove this, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I'll charge you to return a verdict against the liquor traffic tonight, that it is a legalized outlaw and lawful lawlessness. If this be the case, you are by this contraction of it (crime it is without legal sanction or legal protection. And I say again, and if God would give me the voice to resound it around this entire globe I would shout it with a voice of thunder. Nowhere in all the world is there such a thing as a legalized saloon. It may be tolerated or permitted in localities, but it is not legal. It's contrary to the spirit of law and an enemy of civil government. I care not how much money you may get out of it or how much higher protection by it you may put on it, it doesn't make the traffic right. Judas crime would have been none the less had he sold his Lord for fifteen thousand in the place of fifteen dollars. Crime is crime in high places or low and I charge tonight, ladies and gentlemen, that the church of God must show her way into the lower and take higher ground upon this question, before a true and lasting revival will come to the United States of America.

All America industry falls into two departments, charity and business. Charity serves and gets no profit; it exists to be charity when it serves for a profit, and it's right that it should. All the value between a dollar of leather and a good shoe belongs to the man who made the shoe. He has added to the wealth of the world by labor of that much value and before him it belongs to business he serves the people and should have profit. With one of these two classes does the liquor traffic belong to—business or charity? Neither one. Business? How me, will you? The saloon gives a profit and gives no service. It's a bad boy, a hyena, a vampire, and a highway robber. Those words are hard names, but watch me prove them. I have two boys, one is 14 and the other 8. I'd rather send one up on the darkest floor of the night, pull up a revolver and face Arthur and Whitey Bulgin and instead of them, be sent up to their mother by the regular legal lawful plan, take their money as a highway robber and go off with it—than to sell them a dollar's worth of whiskey here at home. Why? I'll answer in a moment. Right now, we are considering the question of the saloon as a business. Is it? Is it business? Is the saloon business? Does our fire insurance, banking business and grocery business. The home must sell, therefore we the enemy of the business men. Is the enemy of the laboring man. All this noise and this wise statement about driving the unclean element out of the liquor business is going to injure the cause, to misquote Dr. Knapp. I'll tell you. Why? For every dollar invested in whisky it would go thirty-six times to sell it invested in the legalized trade. Here's a problem if you get any where to put it, put it down. It takes an abnormal thirst, fostered previous to the manufacture of whisky to make a man's system in a state of health that will require a drink every thirty minutes. Put the saloon in business and sell groceries, hardware, clothing, boots, shoes and soap and you'll find that the business of every legitimate business will increase wherever there is a saloon. Its the enemy of all. Answer it to tell me why