

strictions must be applied gradually and in small instalments. It is permissible for the restrictions to be slightly in advance of public opinion, so as to lead this opinion rather than to follow it; but the gap between the two must be a narrow one. It is not reasonable to expect individuals to change suddenly and radically the habits of a lifetime, and it must be left for each succeeding generation to modify in turn the habits of the preceding generation. Hence the progress of temperance reform is bound to be a very slow one. There is no single path leading to immediate and complete success. A number of paths exist, each leading to some improvement, and it is our duty to traverse these paths diligently and hopefully, for the attainment of full sobriety by the nation is one of the most important of the social and economic problems with which we are confronted at the present day.