

in the States of the United States which have adopted prohibition, and it is only necessary to add that they do not believe the social condition of the people of the Dominion would be improved by the enactment of a general prohibitory law."

"That prohibition of the traffic would adversely affect the agricultural interests of the country the Commissioners believe is a fact beyond successful contention."

"The business, industrial and commercial interests are so closely interwoven that they have to be considered conjointly. Adopting the view that the breweries and distilleries would be closed, and the retail trade in liquor put an end to, there would probably be thrown out of employment not less than 30,000 persons, many of them having families, and all at present earning their livelihood directly from the liquor traffic. This is an estimate. The data do not exist from which a correct statement can be compiled. It excludes the numbers engaged in the making of cider and native wines. That the cognate trades furnishing supplies to brewers and distillers, amongst which may be mentioned coopers, bottle makers, cork cutters, capsule makers, &c., would be largely affected cannot possibly be questioned. That real estate, buildings and machinery, occupied and employed by brewers and distillers, would be seriously affected in value there cannot be any doubt, in fact much of it would be rendered almost valueless. That property occupied by the wholesale and retail vendors of liquors would also be depreciated in value if the traffic in liquor was put an end to is, the Commissioners believe, a certainty. It is not, of course, practicable to definitely determine to what extent all these interests would be affected by the adoption of a law prohibiting the making, importing and selling of liquors, but it is impossible to suppose that so serious an interference as it must bring about, with a business, which one way and another affects investments and the employment of money, in the aggregate, equal in amount to that of the whole of the capital of the chartered banks of Canada, could take place without causing a very grave disturbance of the industrial, commercial and financial affairs of the country."

"The enactment of a prohibitory law for the whole Dominion would, in the opinion of the undersigned, prejudicially affect the business, industrial and commercial interests of the country."

"The Commissioners cannot agree with the view so earnestly put forward by some church organization, and many witnesses, that the recognition of the traffic by licensing it is an immoral act and a national sin. On the other hand the undersigned are of opinion that the combined system of license and regulation, which for centuries has been the rule of civilized nations, with such amendments as experience has proved and shall, from time to time, prove to be needful in order to make it more efficient, should not be departed from."

"The undersigned consider that the aim of any system of regulating or prohibiting the liquor traffic is to lessen or extinguish the evils which arise from intemperance, or from the improper use of intoxicating beverages; and, after the most careful and anxious consideration of the subject, they have come to the conclusion that this would not be accomplished by the enactment of a law prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors throughout the Dominion, and that if such a law were passed it could not be efficiently enforced. A prohibitory law partakes too much