

Mean and Narrow Fanaticism (December 11, 1911)

Some well meaning but deluded people think that all wickedness can be overcome with the millennium ushered in by prohibition. Anything that they do not happen to like is bad, according to their ethics, and forthwith is put upon their prohibition list.

These people strain at gnats and swallow camels. They throw a fit over a man taking a drink at 11:30 or playing a game of cards, but they are not concerned about wage-slavery or child sweating, which has 1,000 victims where a saloon has one.

It is wonderful how tamely people will submit to this spirit of intolerance, this mean and narrow fanaticism. I know that many are opposed to it and yet such is the economic independence that they dare not to speak out for fear they may lose some trade, or some practice, or some prestige, or something else on which they depend as a means of livelihood.

Published in *Toledo Times*, Dec. 11, 1911, title and page unknown. Reprinted as "What Labor Leader Says" in *Coshocton [OH] Daily Age*, vol. 21, no. 132 (Dec. 12, 1911), p. 5.