

her under the circumstances, and I was thoroughly disgusted with him. I never saw the fellow again. But it rather reinforced my feeling about the real harm of that sort of thing. The real danger of the use of alcohol. But if others feel that a mild use of it is alright, I would not make a fuss about it. But I certainly feel there are great dangers connected with it, and I would advise strongly against it.

But to make a sharp line on any use of it has always seemed to me rather silly. I would take the same attitude on tobacco. Evidence about the harm of cigarette has become far greater in recent years than it was before. So a person is in quite a different position today than they were 30 yrs. ago when most people thought there was no harm in it at all!

But there are groups of earnest Christians particularly in the south and in parts of Europe who think that there is nothing wrong in using tobacco. And to make that a division point in Christianity seems to be foolish, but since most of our Christian groups don't use it in the north here, I think it is a good thing to conform in that regard.

But I have tremendous sympathy for those people who have been smoking and then been converted and find it very difficult to stop. I've known people who have smoked for years, and they could just quit like that and think nothing of it. On the other hand I've known people--it's just like killing them to quit. It has such a tremendous hold on them.

In such a case I think it's good if they come to a decision and for their own health's sake do away with it, but and I think that feeling among most of our Christian groups being so strong I think they ought to abstain ~~xx~~ from it when they are in groups of people who feel that way. But if they find it terribly difficult, I have great sympathy with them. I've heard of churches, for instance, who won't let a person teach a S.S. Class-- a very earnest Christian who is so anxious to serve the Lord, but just can't seem to break the habit of smoking. Well, I can't personally agree with such a line of separation as that.

When I was in college and many years later most of the Christian groups I was connected with thought that to attend the theatre was utterly wrong. I remember one fellow talking about the harmful effects upon the character of the act of pretending to be someone else. I'm not so sure, because I think it's a natural human tendency in tight situations anyway.

Even if we never act, you might say we daydream; pretend we are in a man's situation where we have given, etc. I never argued about it but I never felt that way, and I never attended a theatre or a movie picture much but I have never taken any stand against it. When I've been with people who don't do it, I just haven't done it. But if then I was in an area where they would not see me, and I felt inclined to go to one, I would not hesitate.