

"DAMAGED GOODS"

—THE SENSATION OF THE DECADE—

A Strong Plea For Pure Life Before Marriage

What St. John and Halifax Clergymen, Doctors, Professional Men and Others Say About It

Dear Mr. Spencer.—After having had the opportunity of seeing the picture called "Damaged Goods" and realizing the great need that there is for instruction on the subject of which it treats, and how great and disastrous are the consequences of ignorance concerning that subject, I have no hesitation in endorsing the picture. The truth is told more effectively than could be done in any other way and in a manner that is free from anything that could offend. I hope that its showing may be the means of disseminating knowledge to many, and that the truth it teaches may prove their deliverance.

F. E. BARRETT,
Secretary of Social Service Council of Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—Having seen the motion picture film entitled, "Damaged Goods," I am quite prepared to express myself as strongly in favor of its public performance to segregated audiences. It is my firm conviction that "Damaged Goods" will bring home to many who might otherwise remain in ignorance until too late, truths which they most surely ought to know. Here ignorance means not bliss, but blight and ruin.

Because I believe this picture is calculated to counteract an evil that constitutes a deadly menace to the welfare of society, I must cordially extend to it my approval.

ALFRED ROGERS,
Pastor of Gratton Street Church.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—I can readily understand why "Damaged Goods" was placed under the ban a few years ago, and I consider it a healthy sign of the times that the ban has been removed indicating an awakening on the part of the laity. Our profession can but endorse it as it is scientifically correct and to a slight degree "lifts the lid" on what we in our professional capacity see daily. Would that every young man and woman could see and understand fully what this picture portrays.

It is the duty of every parent to see this picture and to take their children, who are of years of understanding, and if necessary, explain it to them. The day of mock modesty and ignorance should be past, and it is through the medium of such pictures as a supplement to home instruction that these evils can be successfully combated.

C. S. MORTON, M.D.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—I have to thank you for an opportunity of seeing the film of "Damaged Goods," which you are to show to the public in a few days. I wish to say that, in addition to being well-acted and attractively put on, it impressed me as a powerful presentation of a great social problem. Notwithstanding the inherent ugliness of the subject, there is nothing in its presentation that is offensive; but it presents in a frank, straight-forward way facts and conditions that every growing youth and girl should know; and it has struck me that on account of its impersonality, the film production is the best way of laying bare this problem before young people.

A. STANLEY MCKENZIE,
President Dalhousie University.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—After having had the privilege of seeing the film "Damaged Goods," I have great pleasure in stating that I consider this series of pictures to be of the greatest importance from the public health point of view. There is nothing in the film which could cause any offence, and I know in dramatic illustrations of the distressing conditions which are common today as the result of ignorance in respect to social disease. It is of the greatest importance that the public should be enlightened in such matters, and that a sentiment should be created, which is really necessary, in order to make effective such legislative enactments as are now being put upon the Statute Books in various provinces. I cannot conceive that this picture can have any other effect than to be productive of much good.

W. H. HATTIE,
Provincial Health Officer.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—I saw the play "Damaged Goods" given as one of its most important features before an International Congress for public hygiene. I have seen your film reproduction which is an admirable presentation, as graphic and more effective for general instruction than the expensive original drama with its actors could be.

It will help the Church and the moralist where their efforts have hitherto failed to reach some of the sources of evil. It shows some truths which will help to set free society from an invisible and insidious terror which does not seize only upon the sinner, might by the unmerciful be allowed to work out his own doom without publicity.

Your film will give very necessary instruction to some of the public which can hardly be reached in any other manner by all other agencies combined.

A. H. MACKAY,
Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia.

**Endorsed by Charlottetown Clergy
Doctors, Editors and Representative Men and Women**

**Starting Today at 3.15
7 and 8.45
FOR
WOMEN ONLY**

**NOTE--Children Under 16 Years Not
Admitted to Any Performance**

An Expression From Halifax Women:

Many splendid letters favoring "Damaged Goods" were received which space does not permit reproducing here. Appended will also be found the names of well known Halifax ladies who have seen the picture and kindly express their willingness to publicly endorse same. This fact should convince every woman in Halifax that there is no reason for absenting themselves from the Academy next week.

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| MRS. A. I. MADER, | MRS. JOHN F. STAIRS, |
| MRS. MURRAY MACNEILL, | MRS. WILLIAM DENNIS, |
| MRS. WM. MACNAB, | MRS. O. E. SMITH, |
| MRS. H. E. KENDALL, | MISS C. GLASS, |

The Opinion of Senator Dennis:

Dear Mr. Spencer.—I was very glad to take advantage of your invitation to witness a private screening of "Damaged Goods," and I wish in the most emphatic language possible to endorse the action of Censor Wall in removing the "ban" from this wonderfully educational film, and thus allowing the people of Halifax and the Province to benefit by its exhibition.

While the delicate subject so vividly portrayed in "Damaged Goods" has long been treated by European Nations in the open common sense, hygienic way, that it demands and requires, we Anglo-Saxons have hitherto ignored it, or regarded it with a prudishness, hypocrisy or ignorance that is amazing.

But, as one consequence of the war, the vital importance of the subject has been brought home to the English-speaking world in a way that can no longer be ignored, and makes our past neglect as criminal as it has been ridiculous.

The most drastic laws for compulsory reporting, examination and treatment of infection have recently been enacted in Great Britain and in some States of the adjoining Republic; while Ontario is setting a much needed example to the rest of Canada, and New Brunswick, it is announced, proposes to take action during the present session of its Legislature.

The Nova Scotia Legislature now in session can render no greater service to the public health than to make the drastic British regulations the law of this Province.

The realistic teachings of "Damaged Goods," prohibited by timid Canadian Censors recently, is now permitted by an awakened and enlightened public opinion; and if "an ounce of prevention is worth a ton of cure," it should be made a feature of our compulsory teaching in the public schools. That "knowledge is Power" is particularly true in this matter. While recognizing the difference of opinion that exists on this subject, and that Mr. Wall naturally inclines to the line of least resistance, I frankly believe that the startling lessons of the film will be much more effective if exhibited before both sexes together. The subject is as vital to one as the other, and should be studied and discussed with perfect frankness by both sexes without embarrassment, as is the case with other infectious diseases.

WM. DENNIS.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—I had the privilege of seeing "Damaged Goods" and do not hesitate to say that it should be seen by every adult in Halifax and throughout the province. It treats of a subject which should be one of the uppermost at the present moment rather than shrouded in the dark and clothed in mystery.

J. F. FRASER,
President of Halifax Y. M. C. A.

Mr. F. G. Spencer, City:

Dear Sir.—Pursuant to your request that I attend a private exhibition of the picture "DAMAGED GOODS" and submit a personal opinion as to its being a contravention of the criminal code and thereby cause its suppression by the police department, permit me to state, viz:

That I have seen the picture and am fully in accord with the opinions of clergymen, doctors and others who have seen the picture, that it is educational and should be shown to segregated audiences, a limit being placed on the ages of those who are permitted to see it.

I also wish to commend the judgment of the censors in passing the picture as it may be possible that the exhibition of such pictures may ultimately tend to the promotion of such legislation as will enforce the production of health certificates before marriage may be consummated.

Personally, I cannot see where there is any contravention of the code, and believe that the picture should be shown in its entirety in order that the full amount of educational value should accrue to its patrons.

Respectfully yours,
(Sgd.) H. R. McLELLAN,
Commissioner of Public Safety,
St. John, N.B.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—I am delighted to learn that the motion picture "Damaged Goods" will be exhibited in Halifax. It treats of a subject which it is only hypocrisy to hide or speak of in confidential whispers. A subject which vitally concerns individual, social and national life, and which today by reason of its very gravity is beginning to receive the widest possible publicity. "Damaged Goods" is a flood of light on a dark subject, and its educational value cannot be too highly commended. The transformation of "Butch," once captain of the college eleven to a loathsome object of the city gutter, is in itself, and though merely one episode of the picture, a strong and terrible lesson concerning a fast and thoughtlessly vicious life. "Damaged Goods" merits a public showing in this city because it strikes a trenchant blow at that particularly hideous form of the social evil, undoubtedly in our midst, and which to use a Biblical phrase, is indeed "the abomination which maketh desolate."

HAROLD T. ROE,
Pastor of Oxford Street Church.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—Having had the opportunity of seeing "the film" "Damaged Goods," I do not hesitate to say that I think much good can be accomplished in exhibiting the picture, as it shows very vividly both the cause and effect of a terrible social evil, which, according to the best statistics is alarmingly on the increase in Canada today.

The showing of "Damaged Goods" should have a beneficial effect wherever shown, as it will educate and arouse them, so that they may avoid falling into moral pitfalls through ignorance of its existence, and should tend to educate public opinion to seek to secure means to deal with the terrible conditions resulting from the prevalence of the evil exposed in the film.

The danger both to public morals and to public health is so very imminent from this source today, that I regard it as the worst form of mock modesty on the part of individuals or the public to oppose the exhibition of "Damaged Goods" on the ground that it is indecent.

ROBERT IRVING,
Speaker of the Nova Scotia Legislature.

Dear Mr. Spencer.—This morning I had the pleasure of seeing that most interesting and instructive film "Damaged Goods," and beg to say that I consider it the most valuable, educational and moral picture.

It takes up in a clean, straightforward manner, a subject which has too long been tabooed by polite society and one on which the general public, both men and women, should be thoroughly informed.

The social evil in Europe and America has become alarming in the extreme, and has unfortunately been aggravated by the ignorance and reticence of the general public to be educated upon such matters.

The false modesty in connection with this subject has resulted in millions of deaths and untold misery and unhappiness. This could be prevented by a proper and truthful educational campaign in which your picture "Damaged Goods" will be a powerful force for good.

The picture places the danger of social diseases before the public in a true and yet delicate light, and its influence will be inestimable. Apart from being a moral stimulant, it has great dramatic value. The acting is excellent and the whole story is intensely interesting from start to finish.

F. McK. BELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Assistant Director Medical Services, Military District No. 6.

**REMEMBER: Three Shows Daily Prices Orchestra 35c Balcony 25c
Today and Thursday May 8 and 9**