Document A: Prohibition and Health (Modified)

Alcohol poisons and kills; *Abstinence* and Prohibition save lives and safeguard health.

Dr. S.S. Goldwater, formerly Health Commissioner of New York City, stated the decision of science, the final opinion of our nation after a hundred years of education upon the subject of alcohol.

“It is believed that less *consumption* of alcohol by the community would mean less tuberculosis, less poverty, less dependency, less pressure on our hospitals, asylums and jails.”

“Alcohol hurts the tone of the muscles and lessens the product of laborers; it worsens the skill and endurance of artists; it hurts memory, increases industrial accidents, causes diseases of the heart, liver, stomach and kidney, increases the death rate from pneumonia and lessens the body’s natural immunity to disease.”

Justice Harlan speaking for the United States Supreme Court, said:

“We cannot shut out of view the fact that public health and public safety may be harmed by the general use of alcohol.”

Document B: “Hooch Murder” Bill

Anti-Saloon Head Aims to Reach Those Whose Drinks Cause Death.

William H. Anderson, State Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, announced in a statement yesterday that the organization would sponsor a measure at the upcoming State Legislature. The measure would be known as the “Hooch Murder” bill. It says a person can be tried for murder, and punished accordingly, if they are suspected of selling alcohol that resulted in the death of the person drinking it. Commenting on the measure, Mr. Anderson said:

“This bill is intended for whoever it may hit, but it is especially directed at the immoral foreigner, usually an *alien*, who had largely stopped killing with a knife from hate or with a gun for hire, and has gone into the preparation and thoughtless selling of poison for profit.”
Document C: “Alcoholism and Degeneracy”

**ALCOHOLISM AND DEGENERACY**

61 Children in 10 Very Temperate Families
5 Died in Infancy
2 Had St. Vitus Dance
2 Were Backward, not Idiotic
2 were Deformed
50 were Normal

57 Children in 10 Intemperate Families
25 Died in Infancy
1 Had St. Vitus Dance -- Idiotic
6 Were Idiotic
5 Were Deformed
5 Were Dwarfed
5 Were Epileptic
10 Were Normal

Temperate Parents Had Defective Children 16%
Normal Children 83%
Intemperate Parents Had Defective Children 82.5%
Normal Children 17.5%

Deniere: The Influence of Alcohol on the Child. Investigations in Berne, Switzerland, 1878-1889. Families lived in same section and were similarly situated except as regards intemperance.