

Here is a distinct admission that there are pocket peddlers in Truro. It is to be noted that Mr. Paltillo makes no denial of the statement in *The World* that the vault in the Truro City Hall is filled with bottles of whiskey seized in the past few months. This fact of itself is proof that the illicit vendors are doing business.

The *World* made no statement that there are open bars in Truro. It did make the statement that there are blind pigs or kitchen bars. Between open bars and kitchen bars there is a decided distinction—a distinction familiar to those conversant with conditions in prohibition places. An open bar is a definitely known establishment, accessible to all varieties of the initiated, where liquor is sold promiscuously by the glass or bottle. A kitchen bar, often called in Canada a blind pig, designates, as the term implies, a surreptitious household place where liquor is sold either in some room in the home or on the premises. The difference between the two methods is precisely the difference that prohibition invariably introduces—that of driving the sale of liquor to the home.

The authorities, as Mr. Paltillo admits, may not know of all or even part of the illicit liquor traffic, but because they do not know is by no means proof that the evil does not exist, nor does lack of knowledge justify any sweeping denial of a statement as being "absolutely untrue." It is easy to locate open bars, but to detect kitchen bars is a vastly different matter. Continuous domiciliary visits would be necessary, and even these might not produce the evidence, so surrounded with secrecy and precautions is the traffic in homes.

If a commission were appointed by the Nova Scotia Government with a real aim to get at the facts, it would doubtless find, from an examination of certain wholesale whiskey jobbers, that the shipments of that liquor to