

HOW GOVERNMENT SALE WORKS IN ALBERTA

(One of a series of twenty articles following impartial investigation of government sale of liquor as practised in Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia and Quebec.)

LIQUOR SUPPLY UNLIMITED AND BOOTLEGGER IS GAINER UNDER ALBERTA LIQUOR LAW

Calgary's Police Magistrate Tells of Big Increase in Consumption of Liquor in City Under Government Sale—Export Warehouses Used by Smugglers.

PENALTIES UNDER LAW ARE CALLED UNJUST

ARTICLE NO. 10.

Chief Ritchie of the Calgary police force told me that in his city there were two government liquor stores, selling strong beers and all kinds of spirits; 18 hotels licensed to sell 4½ per cent beer, and five clubs which could legally sell beer. These take care of the drinking of a city with a population only slightly greater than London.

The chief did not find much fault with the new law and did not think it was working badly. The worst feature, he said, was that in two or three hotels women were sitting down and getting liquor. This was not contrary to the law, but he thought it looked bad and he intended to give the hotels a quiet tip to let up on it.

A Police Chief's Views.

Chief Ritchie believed there was no escape from bootlegging under any system. In Calgary a man could get a good glass of beer for 10 cents, yet when a man was thirsty after the legal hours for selling he would pay a bootlegger 50 cents for a bottle. The chief observed that in Manitoba and British Columbia beer could not be had by the glass and government control there was forcing men who could not afford to buy a bottle of whiskey, which was the least they could get, to get a "shot" from the bootlegger. The law in those two provinces favored the rich man at the expense of the workman, and was working badly, as he knew from personal observations. The drinker who got into trouble was the whiskey drinker. The beer drinker, as the saying went, "got full before he got drunk."

There was an increase of reckless driving in Calgary by intoxicated men, Chief Ritchie said, but he attributed that to the increase in the number of cars. Actually there has been no striking increase in the number of cars in Alberta during the last year. The province having had a hard time to "get by" financially. The chief said some bootleggers were getting supplies through liquor export warehouses in British Columbia.

Police Magistrate Talks.

Col. Saunders, Calgary's police magistrate, to whom the chief graciously introduced me, emphasized the fact that there was no limit to the amount of liquor which a man might buy in Alberta. This fact facilitated drunkenness and bootlegging. But Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan could not get good results from government control while the dominion allowed export warehouses to be used for smuggling liquor into the provinces without payment of duty, to be distributed there by bootleggers.

The very day after government control opened up in Calgary, Col. Saunders observed a boarding house keeper broke the law. He stocked up with a lot of liquor, no limit being imposed on him by the law, and many men were seen coming and going. The government control law imposed on this man the onus of proving his innocence of illegal selling. He was convicted and sentenced by the colonel to six months' imprisonment. That was in May and the man is still out on bail and at the time of writing this case and four others are being heard by an appeal court.

Colonel Saunders doubted the wisdom of the government control law requiring that a man convicted of drunkenness should be fined \$20 or sent to jail. He said it was almost a British tradition that a man had the right to get drunk if he did not molest others. A poor man could not pay a \$20 fine, let alone a \$50 fine, as required in British Columbia, and he had to go to prison when he ought to be out working.

Figures for Drunkenness.

During the last three months the figures for drunkenness in Calgary are as follows:

	1923.	1924.
June:		
Drunk	27	28
Drunk and disorderly ..	0	11
Drunk driving auto....	0	4
Total for June	27	43
July:		
Drunk	34	53
Drunk and disorderly ..	0	7
Drunk driving auto....	0	3
Total for July	34	63
August:		
Drunk	32	27
Drunk and disorderly ..	0	7
Drunk driving auto....	0	2
Total for August	32	36
Total for Three Months:		
Drunk	93	108
Drunk and disorderly ..	0	25
Drunk driving auto....	0	9
Total drunkenness ..	93	142

It will be noticed that nine drunken men drove recklessly about the streets of Calgary in the three months under government control and none in the three months under

LIBERAL ELECTED TO FEDERAL SEAT

W. B. Snowball Wins Over Conservative Opponent in Hot Fight.

MAJORITY OVER 600

Snowball, Liberal, 6,008
Hickey, Conservative, 5,372
Majority 636
Six polls yet to be heard from will not affect result.

Canadian Press Despatch. Newcastle, N. B., Oct. 7.—W. B. Snowball, Liberal, was elected over C. P. Hickey, Conservative, by over 500 majority in the Northumberland by-election today to fill the vacancy in the Dominion House, caused by the death of the late Hon. John Morrissey.

The election was the culmination of a strenuous campaign in which the outstanding leaders of both parties participated.

The Liberals were represented by the premier, Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Hon. E. Lapointe, Hon. Charles Murphy, Hon. A. B. Copp and Hon. P. J. Veniot, and the Conservatives by Right Hon. Arthur Meighen, Senator Gideon Robertson, J. E. Baxter, M.P., and A. J. Doucet, M.P.

The result in Northumberland leaves party standing in the house unchanged. The two vacant seats are Yale, B. C., and West Hastings, Ont. Both returned Conservatives at the last election. Should they again return Conservatives, Liberals would be in a minority of two were all parties on the opposition side of the house to vote together.

Although the standing is unchanged, the Liberals are delighted with the result of today's election. With the two victories scored recently in Quebec by-elections, the voting is taken as a show of confidence in the government. The fact that the government a few months since lost seats in New Brunswick also adds spice to today's victory, as it is taken as an indication that public favor in the Maritimes has again turned toward Liberalism.

ATTEMPT TO DYNAMITE MINE GATE UNSUCCESSFUL

Associated Press Despatch. McAlester, Oklahoma, Oct. 7.—Gateways to mine No. 12, of the Rock Island Coal Mining Company, near Hartshorne, were dynamited last night and an attempt was made to burn two railroad trestles leading to the mine, it became known today. Damage was slight, but the incident has aroused the mining field. No arrests have been made.

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Old Memories Awakened.

One ad, showing two hands and a corkscrew pulling a cork out of a bottle, is headed: "Awakens Old Memories." Another with a picture of a Scotch whiskey bottle urges the readers to "be sure and get the new — bottle at the government liquor store."

Another shows a bottle with straight sides and advertises: "The Gin with a Worldwide Reputation."

A brewery ad gives city prices delivered to home or f.o.b. railway for country customers. Bottle beer is advertised per barrel of 19 dozen pints at \$13.50. Half a barrel draught beer at \$21.

Another ad, with pictures of a leather-cased bottle, cocktail glass and book says: "We have prepared a small book of recipes for nearly every drink you can mix. Copy free for the asking." The books bears the title: "For the Connoisseur."

BRITISH POLITICAL SITUATION IN TURMOIL OF UNCERTAINTY

MacDonald Leaves Country Wondering If Defeat Will Come Today.

AGGRESSIVE STAND

Bitterly Attacks Attitude of Lloyd George and Asquith.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Oct. 7.—Premier MacDonald's speech today before the conference of the Labor party really left it no clearer whether there will be an early election or not. He was most careful to give no indication what may happen in the House of Commons tomorrow when motions hostile to the government will be introduced. But the whole manner of the premier was grimly aggressive, his references to his leading opponents being particularly interesting.

His most bitter phrases were reserved for Lloyd George. The premier seemed particularly resentful of what Lloyd George said in a speech on Saturday about MacDonald being led away by party extremists, and referred to the Lloyd George efforts as "wild endeavors to overwhelm the nation in earthquakes and tidal waves of heaving, ignorant emotionalism." Such a sentence, it is pointed out, might well have come from Lloyd George himself in his best form.

Hits Tariff Plan.

Towards the Conservative leader, Stanley Baldwin, the premier was quite gentle, and spoke indeed of his "commendable courage" when in the last election he produced his tariff proposals regardless of the fate they might bring upon his party. Even so, the premier could not refrain from describing such proposals as "nostalgic"—always a hard-worked word when tariffs are under discussion.

As for the Liberal leader, Mr. Asquith, the premier said in effect that he (MacDonald) realized from the beginning that the elderly statesman intended that the Labor ministry should be under his thumb, "to cut out of his hand," was MacDonald's actual phrase, but the time had now come to make a definite stand against this.

Perhaps the least expected of the premier's criticisms was reserved for the press, whom he accused of using, in the last two months, fluctuating arguments to upset public opinion and turn popular government into rule of mob passion.

Changes Attitude.

It is true MacDonald was referring only to criticisms concerning the government's treaties and he absolved "certain criticisms of the better type of journals." Nevertheless, in February last, speaking of the press, Mr. MacDonald declared that the ministry's efforts were being received in a sympathetic spirit of fair play, while other ministers roundly declared that no government had ever entered office with better support from the whole newspaper world.

The MacDonald speech today, however, in its most essential features, was a bitter railing against Liberalism as at present presented in the House of Commons.

"That is what the stodgy complaisance of the Liberals has got by way of reward for giving Socialism a trial under safe conditions," declares one Tory paper tonight.

BARS COMMUNISTS.

Associated Press Despatch. London, Oct. 7.—The British Labor party's relations with the Communists formed the subject of a considerable discussion at the Labor party conference this afternoon before the adoption of the executive's recommendations whereby the Communists are excluded from any sort of identification with the Labor party.

Frank Hodges, civil lord of the admiralty, in moving the adoption of the recommendations, said the Labor

Party Standing In Parliament Is Unaffected

Special to The Advertiser.

Ottawa, Oct. 7.—The victory in Northumberland, although leaving the party standing in the house unchanged, is regarded by the Liberal party as highly significant, particularly in view of the two victories recently scored in Quebec. The three victories together are taken as a show of confidence in the government, and will likely postpone election time in Canada. The parties in the house now stand, excluding the speaker: Liberals 118, Progressives 62, Conservatives 60, Labor 2, Independents 2, Vacancies 2. Total—234.

party with its parliamentary and political ideas of development could not find any ground of harmony with the thesis of fundamental principle characterizing the Communist party. "We believe in our parliamentary institutions as a means of affecting our democratic ideals," said Mr. Hodges. "We hold the view that the Labor movement can achieve politically practically anything that it desires."

Mr. Hodges emphasized that the fundamental principles of the Labor party must be accepted by its members, and he urged the Communists to go into the wilderness and conduct their own campaign openly and honorably, adding that the Communists could not enter parliament without hindering the Labor movement.

Jack Jones, Labor member for West Ham, delivered a hot attack on the Communists, often evoking laughter for instance when he alluded to "certain gentlemen in Moscow with unpronounceable names and less distinguishable nationalities." He said history had proved that the Communists were wrong. No dictatorship had ever been justified. Mr. Jones asked the Communists to join the Labor party unconditionally, but he declared that they were not going to dictate to the Labor party from the outside.

Premier MacDonald, who presided at the Labor conference today, referred to Communism as "the product of Tsarism and war mentality."

GLASGOW READY.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Oct. 7.—An election atmosphere is already gripping Glasgow politicians, who are arranging to hold an intensive campaign immediately. All the Clyde-side members of the house are going to Glasgow for the week-end, but there is already a fly in the ointment for the Labor forces.

They have booked the Glasgow public and music halls for Sunday meetings to be addressed by Labor ministers among others, but the city magistrates by a majority, which is comprised of the moderates of the corporation, have refused permission to hold the meetings. The magistrates point out that such meetings would be used to sway the Labor vote. One magistrate said that the Labor party was raising a fund of £12,000, and it was principally by these Sunday meetings that the money was being obtained.

The magistrates' decision has caused consternation among the Labor leaders, several of whom are absent in London attending the Labor conference. The whole question will be raised in the town council on Thursday, but as the magistrates' decision cannot be upset by the corporation there is prospect of a lively afternoon.

MEASURE SOCIALISM.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Oct. 7.—"Now we shall see with some precision how many disciples Karl Marx has in Britain," says Winston Churchill in an interview relative to the prospective election. "Hitherto the Labor party has followed in the wake of some powerful Liberal radical movement and has grabbed a share of others' fruits of victory. Now they have to fight in isolation. This will be the first election here socialists have had to stand on their own feet unaided."

DEBT OF CANADA SHOWS REDUCTION

This Is Accomplished Despite Decrease in Ordinary Revenues.

EXPENDITURES LOW

Canadian Press Despatch. Ottawa, Oct. 7.—The net debt of Canada dropped \$2,110,786 during the month of September, and now stands at \$2,385,406,851. In September, 1923, the debt showed a decrease of \$5,349,520.

Ordinary revenue for the month of September was \$24,542,556 as compared with \$30,928,801 during September, 1923, or a decrease of over six million dollars. Ordinary expenditure last month was somewhat lower than in September, 1923, the figures being \$22,629,262 for last month, and \$23,434,756 for September of last year.

Comparison of the figures for the elapsed portion of the fiscal year show a decrease of nearly twenty-six million dollars in ordinary revenue, and an increase of \$1,513,355 in ordinary expenditure. The first half of the present fiscal year closed on Sept. 30. Ordinary revenue collected amounted to \$187,160,872 as against \$213,092,087 for the six-month period of 1923. Ordinary expenditure for the six months just ended was \$136,385,123, as against \$134,856,769.

The falling-off in excise tax collections when the two six-month periods are compared amount to \$20,472,857, due largely to modifications in sales tax.

W. FAUBERT, BLENHEIM, STRICKEN WHILE WALKING

Special to The Advertiser.

Blenheim, Oct. 7.—Wm. Faubert, a well-known resident of this town, expired suddenly on Saturday evening while conversing with friends on the business street. He had been in his usual health during the day, but after eating his supper had complained of slight indigestion. The body was carried into Dr. McCall's office nearby, and thence to Masse's mortuary. Death was pronounced due to acute indigestion followed by heart trouble.

The deceased man was 48 years of age, and had been a lifelong resident of this vicinity. He is survived by his wife and 12 children.

The funeral was held this morning, with requiem mass in St. Francis church.

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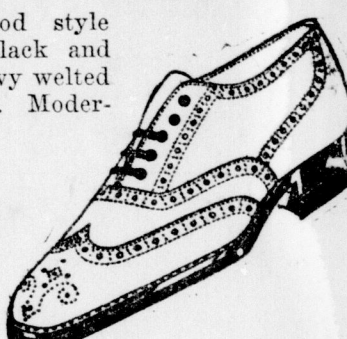
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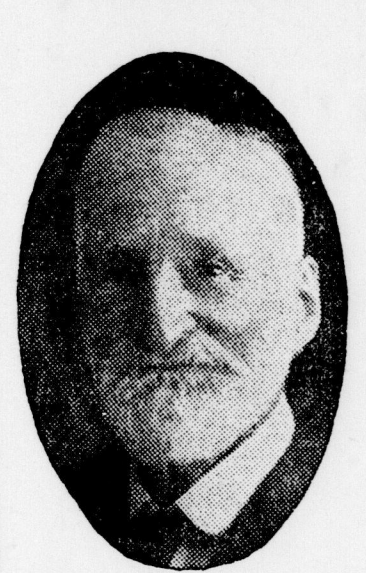
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