

poisonous stuff, largely alcohol. Yet under the law anyone can be fined for selling beer containing only a little more than one per cent. of alcohol. The consequence has been that the people cannot get a real temperance drink. The stuff sold here is poison. The law is well enforced, but the vile stuff is continually secretly sold, and 499 out of every 500 people will perjure themselves rather than tell where they got it. Arrest, fine, jail or other measures can't break the system. Apart from the peddlers, there are four or five organized clubs in town and the young and old in them get all the whiskey they want. You've been under the Scott Act for more than twenty years, and this is the result. In addition, the drug stores here sell patent medicines full of alcohol. There is no doubt that the majority of people favor licenses."

Bad Stuff Sold.

Without an exception, the chiefs of police in all of the prohibition cities complain that it is not the liquor that does the harm; it is the atrociously bad quality of liquor sold. As the Sydney chief of police expressed it, "The liquor sold is bad liquor, which does infinite harm. The dealers have to pay so many fines that they have to recoup themselves, and therefore sell bad stuff, much of it practically poison."

So notorious are these conditions that Dr. George W. MacKeen, a leading physician of Westville and one of the most prominent prohibitionists in Nova Scotia, has issued a signed statement denouncing existing prohibition law as "a blot on our statute books, a cumberer of the ground, a breeder of liars, perjurers and slanderers, a breaker of homes and a maker of more mischief in any community in which its farcical enforcement has been tried than even, I had almost said, the