

either destroying the source of supply, or placing proper restrictions upon the sale of the product. And, as we pointed out earlier in this article, the people of Chatham should vote solely upon the question of whether or not Local Option REGULATES the selling of Whiskey better than the license system, for it has been shown and proven that NEITHER system will ELIMINATE the drinking.

The Planet's view on the subject, as a newspaper, is quite well known among the Local Option workers. The Planet believes that the Whitney Government has provided Ontario with an excellent liquor license law, and that if this law were STRICTLY enforced it would regulate the drinking, and work in the interests of real temperance better than Local Option is doing in Owen Sound. We admit that the law has not been strictly enforced right here in Chatham, but we believe, as a matter of principle, that if the temperance people would devote themselves to bringing about an absolutely strict enforcement of the liquor license law, they would be better satisfied with the results themselves than they would be under Local Option.

This is The Planet's view of the case, and we give it for what it is worth. Sir James Whitney stated a short time ago in one of his characteristic utterances that "a public man who did not have—and did not express—an opinion on a public question is a public fool." We agree with Sir James, and we also believe that what applies to a public man applies with equal force to a public newspaper.

We also believe that in all fairness men in the liquor business should be compensated in the event of the passing of such a measure as Local Option, but then, that raises another question in which there is room for more controversy.

The Planet considers it a duty to provide all possible information to the people on public questions that affect their liberties, their financial interests and their moral welfare. It was with the desire to provide such information that a representative was sent to Owen Sound and Galt. While The Planet has, as a result of these investigations, stated a conviction upon the issue at stake, we are rather