

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.)

MERCHANTS LOSING TRADE AS DRUNKENNESS DOUBLES UNDER GOVERNMENT SALE

Businessmen In Alberta Disgusted With Results Under New Law—Rural Districts Suffer As Consumption of All Liquors, Good and Bad, Increases.

LIVES ENDANGERED BY RECKLESS DRIVING

ARTICLE NO. 9.
Government control having been in operation in Alberta less than four months, it is not surprising that some citizens in Alberta have not definite or final opinions as to what results are being obtained.

The chief of police of Edmonton thought it was working fairly satisfactorily, although he said there was more drunkenness than under prohibition and more reckless driving. He felt that the provision for drinking in rooms at the hotels might be a mistake, as people went there, sometimes men with women, and made themselves a nuisance to the rest of the guests.

I noticed some hilarity at night in a number of the rooms of the hotel where I was staying, but nothing of a scandalous nature.

Ex-Mayor Duggan was of the opinion that businessmen were not pleased with tendencies developed by the act. Business certainly had not been helped by government control, and there was more drinking and drunkenness. Drunks were becoming common on the streets and quite a lot of comment about it was being heard.

A man in the furniture business told me that under prohibition there had been a great improvement in his business and in the buying of supplies for the home. He could not say that he had noticed any appreciable change during recent months, but that might be due to special conditions in connection with his particular store.

Bad in Rural Districts.
I heard of one party of prominent Edmonton citizens who formed a very unfavorable impression of the act as a result of a trip through the province. One of these men was a banker. Another was a leading merchant. The third was a broker. The fourth was connected with municipal government. They all take an occasional glass. But their verdict, after visiting some of the towns in which the government control board had granted

not say that any were drunk; many were flushed and excited.

Four Drunks at One Place.

It was just closing time as I passed a third hotel on my way back to my room. Things were livelier here and the police timekeeper had some strenuous arguments with customers who did not want to quit drinking. I saw four men stagger out of this place, two of them trying vainly to steady one another. Another chap, a fine-looking young fellow, well dressed and in knee breeches, apparently a stranger in town, was in a great state of consternation over the closing down of the taverns at such a Puritan hour. He stumbled into the restaurant next door looking for additional refreshment, and asking what in the heck did they think it was—midnight. Later at the MacDonald Hotel I saw the same chap come in and try to use his blandishment on the celestial bellboy, who, in his inimitable way, told the blubious one that he was out of luck.

I saw more drunkenness in Edmonton than I had noticed in Winnipeg. The fact that I was there on Saturday night and at the closing hour may explain why Edmonton looked worse than the Manitoba capital.

Put Blame on Ottawa.

A provincial government official was very indignant with what he called the laxity of the dominion government in enforcing the excise laws. In Edmonton, as in Winnipeg, the authorities intimated that something was very rotten in the customs and excise department.

My Alberta government informant said that whiskey was being smuggled into Alberta from British Columbia and being sold to bootleggers, who, relieved of the heavy duties, undersold the government. This man, not a prohibitionist, declared that the dominion collected duties and taxes of \$20 per gallon on whiskey that sold in Scotland for \$2. I do not vouch for these figures, but pass them on for what they are worth, believing that they illustrate, if they exaggerate, a truth. Men of varying shades of opinion told me that the government whiskey prices were too high and drove people to the bootleggers.

In Alberta civil service circles it is said that steamers take whiskey through the Panama canal to British Columbia ports, where the whiskey is placed in bond. It is then released for export to some foreign country, but travels only a short distance and puts back to Canada to be distributed by various subterranean means to the bootlegging and rum-running fraternity. Calgary was suffering more in that respect, I was led to believe, than Edmonton.

Not What People Expected.

A man interested in the all-round development of the boy told me that he found a lot of people in church circles who had voted for government control saying, "Why, this is not what we voted for; we expected something altogether different." This man said that a lot of people voted for government control because they were told it would reduce drinking and drunkenness, swell the provincial and municipal revenues and reduce taxation. Taxation had not been reduced and there was considerably more drinking and drunkenness. So these people felt very much cheated.

A prominent citizen, who can enjoy a drink, said he regarded the sale of beer by many licensed places as the worst form of government control. It was prejudicial to business. People were getting drunk and either must be drinking larger quantities of beer or getting stronger stuff put into their glasses. Things had become wide open. They could not be controlled. Such tendencies had already developed and it seemed certain that government control was riding for a fall in Alberta.

Besides the menace of beer drinking in a multitude of places endorsed by the government control board I was informed that many foreign settlers, particularly Russians, made strong liquor in their homes. Chief Shute of the Edmonton police emphasized this fact. The foreigners, he said, had always made their home brew. They had done so on the continent—terrible, poisonous stuff. They continued under prohibition. And they were still at it. And whiskey prices were so high that when these foreigners took their product to country towns they readily found buyers.

Figures of Drunkenness.

I was given the figures for drunkenness and for reckless driving of motor cars by intoxicated men during the months of June and July, since the system of government control got well under way. These figures were prepared by men who are not hostile to government control and record the result of activity by police who naturally show a tendency to be more lenient with drunks when they can buy liquor from the government than when all purchasing and sale of liquor are illegal:

	1923.	1924.
June	20	65
July	33	67
Total, two months	63	132

These figures from Edmonton show an increase of 70 cases in drunkenness, or 111 per cent, during two months under a venient control as against the same two months of last year under prohibition. In July of this year, because of the increase in reckless driving, three persons convicted of driving automobiles while intoxicated were given jail sentences. The total of such cases for all last year was 10. During June and July this year eight persons were charged with having liquor illegally in their possession as against five for the corresponding period last year.

Beauty, Comedy and Songs Fantastic Dancing Scenes All Make 'The Cameo Girl'

Play By Londoners Amazes With Cleverness and Quality of Acting.

CHORUSES DELIGHT

Miss Marion Beck and Lady King-Tension Are Charming.

"The Cameo Girl" went across with a bang on the first night of its showing in the grand opera house. The large audience which packed pit and galleries may have come through curiosity, but left amazed at the excellent entertainment which had been offered.

For rarely does London have the opportunity of seeing so fine a musical comedy. And almost never do the musical comedy writers and composers known in the community.

Out of a galaxy of brilliant choruses stood "The Cameo Girl," played by Miss Marion Beck and Lady King-Tension, who, with their charming stage presence, subtle personality and beautiful singing voice helped to lift the production to almost professional dignity.

And with her, more than vying for the honors of the evening, were Lady Brigid King-Tension and Stanley Meredith, the star comedians of the performance.

While Miss Beck captured her audience with her voice and her personality, Lady King-Tension and Mr. Meredith, sent that same audience into gales of merry laughter by their spontaneous humor.

Lady Brigid is a born comedian. Her fun-making is quick and irresistible. As the "Duchess" she is one of the players who "make the show." Mr. Meredith's stage work is well known. In "The Cameo Girl" he is seen at his best, and plays up to Lady Brigid in clever fashion.

One of the finest voices of the cast is that of Harold Hinde, an actor, who played opposite Miss Beck in the role of an artist of Greenwich village. Their duet "In Shadowland" was one of the loveliest numbers of the evening.

Mr. Hambridge has an assured stage presence and dramatic sense. It is well cast in the leading male role.

Duets Beautiful.

Miss Shirley Johnston and Sydney Kingsmill have a lovely duet of "Mimi and Rudolph" were also heard together in a pretty duet "Nursery of Love." Miss Johnston proved a vision and altogether charming. Mimi, Mr. Kingsmill was an adequate Rudolph.

The music of "The Cameo Girl" is attractive, the costumes pretty, the direction of the production is excellent. The role was well taken by Mrs. Reid. Altogether it was a most successful production. It was given by the National O. D. E. scholarship fund for deceased soldiers' children, and will be repeated tonight and twice on Wednesday.

One of the most attractive choruses was "The Cinderella Ballet," a large troupe of old-fashioned stunts, with pretty grace, led by Pat Manuel, Catherine Dickinson and Lucy Cownham. The Poodle Addie Chorus, led by Miss Marjorie Skinner, made one of the biggest hits. Still others might be mentioned—the Pierrette Chorus, the Powder Puff, the great Coronation Ballet, the Jazz Girls and the Cameo Girls.

The costuming throughout was effective and colorful. "I Think I See" sung by Mr. Hambridge and the Phantom Chorus, is a pretty number, introducing small spotlights.

Two of the favorite performers were Miss Mitchell and Catherine Beltz, as merry little buglers in the coronation scene. Miss Edith Wynne-Pryce was seen in a popular solo dance, "The Stolen Gypsy."

The comedy roles of the three chancellors are taken by Major Logan Towns, Marcus Anden and Colin Scattergood, who give a very fine exhibition of the lock-step.

Other Principals. In the cast are George Mitchell, Jack Hungerford, Miss Constance Gisholm, Miss Gussie Wilson and Miss Regina Kennedy, all of whom have been excellently cast. Miss Reta Lowry and Miss Gertrude Morgan do very fine work as entertainers.

The production is being skillfully directed by Miss Edna Schroppe of New York, while Mrs. E. H. Johnston, acting as general convenor on behalf of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, under whose auspices "The Cameo Girl" was presented.

The first scene of "The Cameo Girl" is laid in Greenwich Village, the Bohemian section of New York city, while the production concludes with a spectacular coronation scene in Morovia, a mythical kingdom of Europe. This scene is given for elaborate costuming and attractive choruses.

The curtain rises on "Shadowland," depicted by the use of a shallow stage and effective drop curtain. Three chancellors appear, looking for the long-lost princess of Morovia. They are greeted by the Spirit of Shadowland and her bevy of pretty Powder Puffs, who dance down into the audience to find faces to dust.

This chorus includes: Marion McCann, Eileen Stevens, Anita Foster, Doda Pearce, Marjorie Harper, Helen Langford, Evelyn Gandy, Dorothy Spittal, Dorothy Field, Helen McCormick, Toots McCauley.

Coronation Ballet. Coronation ballet—Dorothy Coleridge, Eileen Stevens, Peggy Shannon, Iva Clements, Gladys Brown, Mary Kay, Phyllis Butchart, Blanche Carrothers, Barbara Gibberd, Mary Clark, Marjorie Hookway, Velda Fisher, Lillian Brady, Marjorie Montgomery, Thelma Delaney, Agnes Garvey, Marion Gillelan, Ruth Curran, Janet Jones, Helen Sweet, Gertrude Quigley, Mary Steele, Betty Wismer, Shirley Thompson, Margaret Mugan.

Phantom chorus—Arnold Webb, Gordon Perry, Harold Sadler, Malcolm McCauley, Orville Eadie, Ralph Baker, Jack Gordon, Vernon Morrison, Mac Greer, George Alexander, Annie Baker, Margaret West, Eddie Charles, Christy Agnes McLeod, Vera Taylor, Eileen Stevens, Anita Foster, Doda Pearce, Marjorie Harper, Helen Langford, Evelyn Gandy, Dorothy Spittal, Dorothy Field, Helen McCormick, Toots McCauley.

The confidante responsible for the production included: Mrs. E. H. Johnston, general convenor; co-conveners, Mrs. A. E. Miller, Mrs. Allen McLean, Mrs. V. H. Puddecombe, Mrs. E. B. Smith, Miss Carrie Fitchett, Mrs. Frank Butler, Mrs. George McDonald, Mrs. Ralph Miller, Mrs. John Gimmell; production secretary, Mrs. Rose Thorne; tickets, Mrs. D. E. Campbell and 7th Regiment Chapter; talent, Mrs. Gordon Hunt and Princess Patricia Chapter; publicity, Mrs. Suburban and Hugh Niven Chapter; details, Mrs. W. H. Line and Harriet A. Broomer Chapter; Mrs. V. Glassford and Janet Canuck Chapter; Mrs. Suburban and Janet Canuck Chapter; chaperones, Mrs. George McNeill, Mrs. Ross Thomas and the Isabel Hampton Chapter.

MAJESTIC OFFERS GOOD BURLESQUE

Kandy Kids Seething With Fine Songs—Audience Well Satisfied.

CLEVER DANCING

If it would not be considered an exaggeration, we would like to call Jake Potar's "Kandy Kids" a monopoly. The presentation, which opened at the Majestic Theatre yesterday for the first "free days of this week, seems to have cornered most of the worthwhile ingredients which, with a happy mixture of song, dance and capers, topped with the "Kandy Kids" themselves, go to make first-class burlesque.

Not that the show has a monopoly of old stuff with a new setting; the material for the most part is new and striking in its originality. It might best be called a show of specialties.

Some of these were: "The Dance of the Wooden Soldiers," in which Billy Reed danced so well that the Majestic rang with applause, and well it might, for he is one of the most skillful dancers seen here this season.

A song "Shine" made one of the several hits of the performance. The chorus invaded the aisles and sang the number several times, while Miss Syd Burke, soubrette sang, Sammy Spears, as Shinsky, an impromptu traffic cop in an informal atmosphere had a hard time persuading the audience to permit the shoe shiners to go back to the scenery.

It was the extra touch of informality that makes the Kandy Kids more or less of a riot. The chorus is given lots of latitude and the members have opportunities to express themselves. Were this not so who would have thought that Lady Astor was among them and she brought shrieks of delight from the audience when she spoke of dear old Piccadilly.

Babe Spears, a chorus lady who is not too bashful, sang a ditty entitled, "There's a Hole in the Bottom of the Ocean." Elsie Garring, Flo Bennett, in fact, the whole chorus was good. It is to the credit of the management that the girls are given a chance to get out and display their talents along with the principals. Needless to say, it also put life in the show.

Sammy Spears, as Shinsky the Hebrew, gives a clever interpretation. He is a humorist, and no mean dancer. He has any amount of snappy jokes and keeps the crowd giggling long past the usual time for going home.

Johnny Weber, who helps him, makes the comedy end of the bill strong. He dispenses a nice line of foolishness. George Gray and Warren Boyd in turn help him. He has lots of help.

Miss DeLoce has a voice that is better than one looks for in burlesque, thus "June Night" and other songs are made more pleasing to the ear. Miss Elsie Raynor also sings and leads the Kandy Kids in many popular hits. To sum it up in a few words, it's a real good show.

5 1/2 Huron & Erie Debentures

Authorized by the government as a proper investment for trust funds. Exchange your November Victory Bonds NOW for a Huron & Erie Debenture.

SECTION OF EVIDENCE ACT CALLED INVALID

Counsel For H. S. Osler, K.C., Wanted in Oil Testimony. Raises Big Point.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Oct. 6.—Doubts were raised in the supreme court of Ontario today regarding the validity of section 50, of the Ontario evidence act, which has stood on the statute books of the province for four years, and under which the U. S. government recently secured an order for the examination of H. S. Osler, K.C., formerly president of the Continental Trading Company.

The order was obtained for the purpose of tracing certain Liberty bonds said to have been purchased for the company in New York, and believed to have reached the hands of A. D. Fall.

A. W. Anglin, K.C., counsel for Mr. Osler and other witnesses who are wanted to testify on the commission in this action against the Mammoth and Sinclair oil interests, stated before Mr. Justice Rose, that the act is ultra vires of the Ontario government. As this point cannot be argued without the presence of counsel for the province, the matter was adjourned until Oct. 16.

The point was raised when two motions came before his lordship for the commitment of Mr. Osler for refusing to testify, and the other to set aside an order made by Mr. Justice Wright, acting under the section in question, requiring Mr. Osler to attend for examination.

WEGNER'S

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Overalls, Sweaters, Coats, Gloves, Mittens and Raincoats. LONDON'S LARGEST CLASS WORKINGMEN'S OUTFITTERS. Exclusive Manufacturers' Agent for the Best Canadian Made Overalls.

WEGNER, "The Heart of London," 371 Talbot St. Phone 1849. OPEN EVENINGS.

Quality Vulcanizing Only.

ARTWILKES

London Tire Repair Depot, 354 WELLINGTON STREET, Opposite McClary's.

FURS

Ross' Reliable Garments

Confidence of the buyer in the seller is the basis of business success. Twenty years fair and honest dealing has earned for the label (Ross' Limited) that perfect confidence, all over Western Ontario and in many other parts of the Dominion.

HUDSON SEAL COATS, in both plain and trimmed; latest models are selling from \$267 to \$325

ELECTRIC SEAL COATS of guaranteed quality are now offered from \$125 to \$175

NATURAL CANADIAN MUSKRAT COATS, new models, range \$190 to \$225

HIGH-GRADE TEXAS TOP MUSKRAT COATS are being shown \$115 at

FIRST QUALITY CANADIAN RACCOON COATS are shown \$225 up

An exceedingly rich showing of PERSIAN LAMB COATS \$245 and up

ROSS' LIMITED

Phone 1319. MANUFACTURERS 196 Dundas St.

Rowat's Teas

Used in Homes Where Quality Rules. From 70c to \$2.00 Pound.

T. A. Rowat & Co.

250 Dundas St. W. Phone 2051-3052.

A FRESH IMPORTATION OF YARDLEY

(ENGLAND) TOILET GOODS

NOW IN STRONG'S

DRUG STORE

184 Dundas Street.

5 1/2 Huron & Erie Debentures

Authorized by the government as a proper investment for trust funds. Exchange your November Victory Bonds NOW for a Huron & Erie Debenture.

SECTION OF EVIDENCE ACT CALLED INVALID

Counsel For H. S. Osler, K.C., Wanted in Oil Testimony. Raises Big Point.

WEGNER'S

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Overalls, Sweaters, Coats, Gloves, Mittens and Raincoats. LONDON'S LARGEST CLASS WORKINGMEN'S OUTFITTERS. Exclusive Manufacturers' Agent for the Best Canadian Made Overalls.

WEGNER, "The Heart of London," 371 Talbot St. Phone 1849. OPEN EVENINGS.

Quality Vulcanizing Only.

ARTWILKES

London Tire Repair Depot, 354 WELLINGTON STREET, Opposite McClary's.

Keep in trim with plenty of Whole Wheat Bread on your table.

Parnell's 100% Whole Wheat Bread

Supplies more nutrition than ordinary Brown Bread because it contains all the life-giving goodness of Whole Wheat. Nothing added—Nothing taken away.

At your Grocer or Phone 929.

PARNELL-DEAN CO.

233 DUNDAS STREET. TELEPHONE 2351.

J. FERGUSON'S SONS

R. B. FERGUSON, Manager. 474-480 KING STREET. Funeral Directors and Embalmers. Handsome Motor Hearse. Day or Night Service with Promptness, Neatness and Quietness. Phones: Office 543; residence, 2056W.

N. J. GRIFFITH

FUNERAL DIRECTOR AND EMBALMER. 104 Dundas Street, London. Residence on premises. Phone 450.

GEO. E. LOGAN

FUNERAL HOME. 371-373 DUNDAS STREET. PHONE 1963. J.W.T.

Walter Simson

Great West Life Assurance Co. PHONES: OFFICE 6355; RES. 2313. LONDON, CANADA. J.Y.O.E.S.

COKE

GENUINE GAS, also Hard Coke, \$12.50 ton. City Gas Company. PHONES 835 and 821W. J.Y.

PEEL'S

Removed To 10 MARKET LANE

Dr. J. W. Hutchison

OPTOMETRIST. EXPERT EYE EXAMINATION. Office in Johnston Block, Jewelry Store. Next to Allen Theatre. 6-11

Our fitters are experts \$1.50 to \$10.00. We have Trusses to fit all needs. ANDERSON & SONS, 268 Dundas St.

Cut shows one of our NELLE'S, many lines.

THE boy says, "I don't want to study." He may want wine and fret and never tell you the truth—that his eyes hurt him. Bring him here for an eye examination.

"Children are not apt to tell of their eye defects. There seems to be some mystery about glasses they wish to avoid if possible."

says Mr. Foresight

Carlyle TREBILCOCK OPTICIAN

233 DUNDAS STREET. TELEPHONE 2351.

Flynd's
211 DUNDAS STREET

THREE-DAY SALE
—OF—
DRESS GOODS AND SILKS

We are clearing out all Dress Goods regardless of cost price, for three days. Come early for best choice.

500 yards of All-Wool Serges, Cashmeres and Homespuns; 42 to 54 inches wide; values up to \$3. To clear at \$1.00

\$2.00 All-Wool French Faillie Dress Goods. 3-Day Sale price \$1.29

\$2.00 All-Wool Flannels, 54 inches wide, to clear at \$1.49

Trico-Check Silks, yard wide, in all colors and black. Reg. \$2.50. Sale price \$1.69

Silk and Wool Canton Crepe in gray, brown, navy and black; 39 inches wide. Reg. \$2.50 value. Sale price \$1.59

\$1.50 Children's Gingham Dresses and Rompers, sizes 2 to 12 years. Wednesday only 59c

\$6.00 Black Chiffon Velvet, 40 inches wide. Sale price \$3.49

Fancy Plaid and Shepherd Check Dress Goods; values to \$1.25. Sale price 59c

Colored Velveteens, 22 ins. wide; all colors and black. Sale price 88c

\$3.00 Black Silk Duchess, yard wide, extra heavy. Sale price \$1.69

Five dozen Ladies' Black Umbrellas, short or long handles; values to \$3.00. Sale price \$1.98