

would be with the manufacturer, the purchaser would be assured of a pure article at a reasonable price.

The contention of the distillers of Canada is that there has been no breakdown in the legislation enacted by the Provincial Legislatures, and that no reason has been given why, except for purely war purposes, the right to legislate in the matter of the sale, distribution and consumption of alcoholic beverages should be taken out of the hands of the Provincial authorities by the Dominion Government. On the contrary, it is submitted that the experience of the legislation enacted by the Provincial authorities has justified it, and that it should be left to the Provincial authorities to deal with this matter. In the Province of Ontario the present Provincial Act provides for a referendum being taken to enable the people of that Province to vote on whether they wish to continue the operation of the Ontario Act, or whether they wish to revert to the old system of public bar drinking. This referendum would be rendered unnecessary by any action of the Dominion Government, and if the people of the Province desired to continue the Ontario Temperance Act they would be prevented from doing so. This would be a clear interference with the enacted intention of the people of Ontario. It is sought by those in favor of complete prohibition to make the issue be one as between public drinking and prohibition. As has been shown on the previous pages, this is not the issue at all. The issue is really between Provincial Governmental control and complete prohibition, with this to be kept in mind, that any Province which wishes to do so can enact complete prohibition. There is, therefore, no reason why the Dominion Government of Canada should enforce on the people of the Provinces something which they can voluntarily enact for themselves.