

to be, CANNOT FIND IT. The blind pig flourishes in Owen Sound. This is admitted by even the friends of Local Option, but in conversation with The Planet, the Inspector stated that as far as he knew there was not a single blind pig in Owen Sound at the present time. THEY CANNOT BE LOCATED. Drunkards get liquor. They get all they want, and they get drunk. Young men get liquor and they get all they want, no matter whether they happen to be over 21 or under 10 years of age.

How then does Local Option REGULATE the drinking of liquor in Owen Sound? That is a fair question.

The Planet was enlightened by an official authority upon the manner in which the hotels break the law. The bar-room is leased to a young fellow who wants to take a chance on making some money by selling liquor. He carries his stock in a bottle in his hip pocket. When his customers come into the bar-room he produces his bottle and sells his drinks. Of course, he is careful to know, before the bottle is produced, that all of the men in his bar-room at the time are "live wires." If there is any fellow of whom he is doubtful, he calmly says "Boys, there is nothing doing," and the crowd disperses and congregates a little later, minus the gentleman suspected of being a spotter, or a dangerous man to sell to. Of course this scheme has its faults, and at some time or other the young liquor dealer with the leased bar-room is caught and charged with the illicit selling of whiskey. He is found guilty, probably, and given a hundred dollar fine. He is also told that if he ever comes up again on a similar charge, there will be no fine—he will be imprisoned. There have been some who have actually served time for the second offence, but usually they are not willing to take the chance. They go out of business immediately. They have in the most cases earned sufficient money to pay the fine and retire with a snug bank account. Instead of the Bar being put out of business, however, it still goes merrily on only under the management of a new proprietor, who buys out the lease of the young man who was fined. In this way, the hotel proprietors are immune from prosecution, and they realize good sums of money through leasing their bars. It is said that there are hotelmen in Owen Sound who are heartily