

Detroit Very Wet But Makes Most Of Its Own Drink

Denial of Statements That
Large Quantities of Canadian
Liquor Are Smuggled
Across.

Detroit, Mich., June 18.—Beer and liquor are obtainable at scores of places in the heart of Detroit, in road-houses, in the outlying districts and in restaurants, soft drink establishments and similar places in the city and in Ecorse, Wyandotte and other down-river towns. But more than fifty per cent. of the illicit beverages sold are made in and around Detroit.

This is the consensus of opinion of rum-runners, police, federal and local peace officers and Canadian customs officials. The bootleggers who are selling alleged Canadian whiskey claim that it is genuine Canadian—but they stand alone in their assertions.

The runners who are operating boats across the Canadian river—and they are openly and steadily at it—admit that they are not transporting much whiskey.

An operator sat in his boat at Pettit Cote, the Canadian terminal for the beer-running fleet, taking on a load. "Whiskey running is falling off," he said. "In the first place there is little demand. The Americans are apparently getting all the whiskey they want, but it isn't coming from Canada. Our customers over there don't ask us for whiskey. They want beer."

This operator averages about four hundred gallons of beer a day in his out-board motor row boat. He makes, at fifty cents a case, about \$65 for four trips. He clears his boat from the Canadian port with regular clearance papers. When he leaves port he can't go back until his cargo has been discharged, and he has been coming in and out for three years.

Customs officials at Windsor, who are in close touch with the amount of liquor and beer taken out of the country, refuse to disclose figures. But one of them said, "anyone who thinks they are running large quantities of whiskey is crazy."

The cafe and road-houses, and proprietors of other establishments on this side where liquor is sold, do not get their "hard" liquor from Canada, is the word of the runners. Many of them buy it as Canadian liquor, but it is actually made in Detroit and fitted with counterfeit labels. Canadian distillery officials scoff at the stories of great quantities of whiskey going across the river. They say that they have more business than they can handle, and that it would be exceedingly difficult for anyone to get the men to smuggle. In fact, there have been cases reported to the customs officials where attempts were made to smuggle alleged Canadian liquor from Detroit into Canada, to be disposed of in Windsor. One shipment was confiscated. It was tested and found to be alcohol, colored and flavored.

Detroit is wet. One can order beer by the case, and it will be delivered to his home. It is possible to obtain whiskey in many hotels. In the heart of the city, beer, wine and whiskey are sold openly. Synthetic gin in plentiful. But, tracing down every possible source, the conclusion invariably reached is that not more than 15,000 or 16,000 gallons of beer and whiskey—and virtually all of it is beer—are coming across or under the Detroit river. Home brew, sometimes disguised as brewery beer, "faked" whiskey, in Canadian labelled bottles, and synthetic gin, in bottles labelled as pre-prohibition gin, are dispensed freely.

But more than fifty per cent. of Detroit's wetness is manufactured in Detroit.

DIVES FROM BUS IN ATTEMPT TO DIE

Women in Broadway Faint
as a Man Plunges from a
Fifth Avenue Coach.

New York, June 18.—Suffering from mental depression, Arthur Haronian, 31 years old, dived from the top of a Fifth avenue bus at Seventy-second street and Broadway.

Women screamed as they saw the man plunge from the bus, strike on his head just in front of the traffic tower on Seventy-second street. Half a dozen fainted and were attended at near-by drug stores.

On the way to Roosevelt Hospital a taxicab in which the injured man's brother was riding struck a boy. Haronian was riding on top of the bus with his brother Frank, who lives with him. The latter said Arthur had

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been suffering from depression for some time. He had turned away from the ill man for a moment when the latter rose from his seat and leaped over the guard rail.

Michael Flanagan of 310 West 141st street, chauffeur of the bus, and Michael O'Leary of 402 West Fifty-fifth street, the conductor, ran to where Haronian lay unconscious and, aided by traffic policemen, placed him in a commandeered automobile and took him to Roosevelt Hospital, where it was found he had received contusions of the head and body and a sprained back. His condition was said not to be serious.

Patrolman Drayton and the injured man's brother followed the other automobile in a taxi. They were going on Columbus avenue when, at 60th street, Joseph Garvia, seven years old, of 119 West 60th street dropped off the rear of a truck and ran directly in front of the taxi. He was knocked down and Patrolman Drayton placed him in the cab and took him to Roosevelt Hospital where it was found he had escaped with contusions of the elbow.

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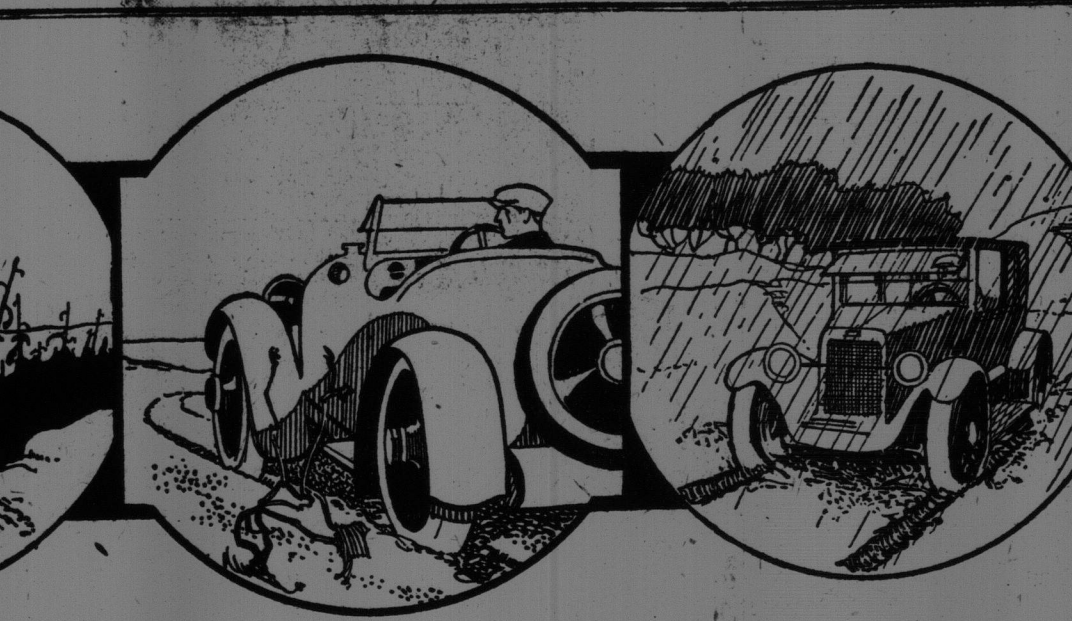
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