#### GOVERNMENT SALE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

(One of a series of twenty articles following impartial investigation of government sale of liquor as practised in Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia and Quebec.)

## UNPOPULAR B.C. LIQUOR LAW **ALMOST KILLS GOVERNMENT**

Oliver's Party Suffers Near Defeat As Result of Law Forced Upon Them When Public Shows Resentment Against Conditions Following Government Sale.

#### POLICE HEAD WARNS AGAINST SYSTEM

ARTICLE NO. 15.

servative leader in the person of R. H. Pooley, a lawyer practicing in Victoria, but representing the provincial riding of Esquimalt. I conversed with Mr. Pooley in his office.

Mr. Pooley is successor to Mr. ship. The general impression here is men lie around on all sides. On one that with another leader than Mr. occasion out of more than 100 log-Bowser the Conservatives would have carried the province last June. But many Conservatives who did not like Mr. Bowser went into the formation of a new party, called the Provincial from the north a lot of girls who had party, which only elected three mem- been attending a girls' camp. There bers but seriously split the vote. As were so many drunken men around it was the government had a close the Union Steamships' wharf that I call and both the premier and Mr. simply had to stay on the job to

Bowser were defeated. The association with liquor intersay that anyone who has any regard ers; that they paid no attention to for the good of his own party will anything but a big club. keep it away from the government

control system. against his party when it had sup- Until now prohibition has not had a ported prohibition. He was sorry to fair trial." say that politics had crept into the enforcement of the government contime when he was there. Liquor any question. was openly sold on it by a political friend of one of the ministers. Fishermen were "rolled" before they got ashore. While he looked on, a fight between several tipsy men had occurred on the scow. He had raised going on now as before.

#### Eighteen "Shabeens."

In his own riding of Esquimault 18 "shabeens" or bootleggers got their they want." supplies from one brewery and had hundreds of customers. Local authorities failed to move and the provin-It could act. in any place where the or Alberta." law was not being enforced and could

went on in spite of government con- States. trol. He said many drinking men were willing to pay a little more to the bootlegger if they could have Johnson, "that I wondered whether sociability along with their liquor. He denied the truth of government of a constructive tendency." He denied the truth of government contentions that the delivery of beer was monopolized by the government. He said that someone would arrange with the government to get a barrel of beer. The government store would phone the brewery, which in turn phone the brewery, which in turn and take possession of your whole customer might tell the brewery to house as they are doing in B. C." increase the order to two or three barrels. Only one barrel would appear on the records, although the government had inspectors on the police commissioner in Vancouver, and other interested by the government in the government in

that during the recent Nelson by- though he told me that he had been election, in which Premier Oliver connected with the Liberal party had secured a seat, several ministers during most of his 35 years in Van-had gone into the riding, and the couver. Mr. McPherson is a quiet- association at Detroit on Ocother 21, liquor law had been violated on all spoken man of character, with a 22 and 23. sides, government members being Presbyterian contempt for humbug. among the offenders.

Mr. Pooley has long condemned the use of stool pigeons by the govern-

### Anglican Clergyman's View.

British Columbia, but none more interesting than that of an Anglican but government sale." clergyman, Rev. A. H. Sovereign, of

St. Mark's church. Mr. Sovereign is a young looking and vigorous man, almost belying the fact that he has been longer in harness in Vancouver than any other minister. He has been working there have it in B. C.?" "I would not." for eighteen years, and this year was honored by his brethren of all denominations by being chosen as president of the ministerial association of Greater Vancouver. He has intact a cultured English accent. His reputation is that of a broad-gauged man, not given to fanaticism, who would judge on its merits any system of dealing with the liquor problem that might be tried. Here is the verdict of Mr. Sovereign:

"The system is simply not working; it is not controlling. Bootlegging is very prevalent. The debauchery in the hotels, where women and liquor are taken, is terrible and

, it home. Bootlegging is worse than

British Columbia has a new Con- it was under prohibition. "The government has located liquor store for the Chinese in the Chinese section. It has located another one for sale to loggers, miners and fishermen. Anytime the loggers boat is about to pull out from the Union Steamships' wharf, drunken gers going north on the steamer only two were sober.

#### Had to Guard Girls.

"Three weeks ago I brought back save the girls from molestation.

"The export warehouses are largely ests which the people's vote for gov- to blame for the conditions, for they ernment control forced upon the supply the illicit trade. Attorney Oliver party is blamed for the govern- General Manson told the ministers ment's decline. Temperance people that there was no holding the brew-

"Personally, I would like to see continental prohibition tried for a The new Conservative leader ex- ten-year period to see whether that plained to me that he had been is not the best method available.

#### Government Controller Talks. The task of controlling the sale of

trol law and that present conditions liquor in British Columbia is largely were bad. He cited the case of a in the hands of Chairman A. Johnscow tied up to the government son of the liquor control board, with wharf at Prince Rupert, to which headquarters in Victoria. He is a some 40 fishing craft moored at one man who flashes a ready answer to

> "What is your greatest difficulty in enforcing the law?" I asked. "Bootlegging."

"Why do men go to the bootlegger when it is so easy to get good liquor from the government?" "They want the matter in the legislature and the conviviality and sociability, and will government acted. But things were go behind a grocery store, a candy counter or into some dive to get it. They also like to do the thing that is forbidden. It's more than the liquor

"Does that suggest that Quebec has the best system of government control?" "No, it's all a matter of cial police stepped in. That showed nationality, temperament, environthat the government could not take ment. Quebec is French and used shelter behind the municipal police to that sort of thing. What may suit and blame non-enforcement on them. Quebec may be all wrong for Ontario

Mr. Johnson said Dr. Butler, the charge the cost up to the munici-Mr. Pooley mentioned three places that he wanted to devise a really conclose to his office where bootlegging structive liquor policy for the United Mitchell commented.

than he could chew," observed Mr. there was any solution or measures

would notify the customer. And the and take possession of your whole

### Police Commissioner's Opinion.

None of the beer supplied by appointed by the government in re- last month but the bylaw was not the 18 Esquimault bootleggers appeared on the records.

The Conservative leader declared that during the recent Nelson bythat during the recent Nelson bythat during the recent Nelson bythough he told me that he had been though the government in response to the public demand for a completed. The health board is pressing that the plumbing statutes be put in shape before the 1924 counting the recent Nelson bythough he told me that he had been though the government in relast month but the bylaw was not completed. The health board is pressing that the plumbing statutes be put in shape before the 1924 counting the recent Nelson by-

When I told Mr. McPherson that Ontario was to vote on government control and that my mission was to will have to be sent in within a few ment in seeking convictions, which find how the system was working in weeks' time.

Reports for August and September

I heard many opinions, pro and want. Go to a government liquor diseases. con, about government control in office and you can get \$100 worth or more. It's not government control,

"Is there much drunkenness? "Quite a lot."

"How about the social evil in Vancouver?" "Bad."

"Would you advise Ontario to adopt government control as you have it in B. C.?" "I would not."

In interviews with local papers mades in Hyde Park cemetery. In interviews with local papers Mr. McPherson said a wave of crime was sweeping Vancouver, the city was wide open, bootlegging and disorderly houses flourished, and that Call, formerly a prominent physician some raids appeared to have been tipped off. Just before I reached The funeral will be held from the Vancouver an Italian accused of residence of her daughter, Mrs. (Dr.) bootlegging charged that police frequented his club and got free beer. instigation the Vancouver police commission is urging that the long horse racing season be curtailed.

### A Police Court Worker.

Major Cummins, the Salvation the hotels and police cannot stop it. Army's police court worker in Van-Men who only want a liquor and couver, agrees with Commissioner soda are compelled by the system to McPherson that British Columbia has buy a whole quart of liquor and take government sale, not government neighboring butcher shop.

control. After 19 years' experience across Canada he favored prohibition as the best way of reducing the evils of drinking. Ontario would be making a terrible mistake if it gave up its present system.

Statistics, he said, did not show excessive drunkenness in Vancouver, but there was a good deal, nevertheless. The record of convictions was kept down by many accused persons forfeiting their bail. They were not forced to appear. A lot of rotten liquor was being sold, mainly wood alcohol and canned heat, which could be bought at 25 cents for two played in the Grand Opera house last cans. Squaws used this stuff as well as a cheerful tonic to the world at as white men. It was deadly. Some large. men would rather pay two bits for happy, laughter-compelling comedy as this been offered to London thear the rise of the firs'

Only the day before I saw him, he tre-goers. From the rise of the first said, a former school teacher with three children had been in for help the healing of the quarrel between because her husband, who was on the young husband and wife but a the "Indian list," was drinking away year married, the audience laughed the money needed for the home.

Cabarets had been closed down for ly some months, said Major Cummins, bootlegging than under prohibition.

Oddly enough, I met few men of

who were prepared to openly approve of government sale, though I looked throughout the three acts. for them. The best type of wets offered to give me their views in confidence. Others said they were con-nected with this or that body, and youthful country swains. The scenes if they spoke would be credited with are laid in Reading, a small town in Illinois, and in Joplin, Mo., where the speaking for the organization. It love nest of the Tuckers is built. The would be improper for them to speak vicissitudes of the 'Tommy' Tuckers of their association.

government sale or positively con-demnatory of it as hurtful to busi-Bert Chapman, as Tommy Tucker, demnatory of it as hurtful to business and good citizenship.

Special Meeting Is Called To Craven knew them beforehand and Discuss Pollution of Thames.

board met last night and discussed the matter of inadequate sewage disposal and disposal of wastes from industrial plants. On the motion of Ald. L. H. Douglass, seconded by Ald. Jack Anderson, it was decided to discusse conditions with the en-

Ald. Lack Anderson, it was decided to discuss conditions with the engineer.

"Two or three sewers are emptying directly into the river from the north side of Dundas street," Chairman C. Mitchell commented. "Some day we'll have something serious happen as a result. I was called up on the telephone and was told that the small life and still interested in the act."

Ald. Lack Anderson, it was decided town," and a very much married man, and the skit has strength. In the Pathe news film this half of the week, there are some good pictures of the Prince's visit to Syosset and Montreal. The appreciation of movie audiences for pictures of Prince the day and Montreal. The appreciation of movie audiences for pictures of Prince the day and Montreal had been to see him and had said directly into the river from the north elephone and was told that t of the river was something awful. It's bad at the foot of York street, too." In his monthly report Dr. Down-ham, medical officer of health, called attention to a report he had made on

To Re-Draft Plumbing Bylaw. lass a recommendation was made that

of the board to attend the annual con-Dr. Downham called attention to the fact that the departmental year closes

the end of this month and annual reports for the provincial department

## Obituary

CAROLINE KNIGHT. Caroline Knight passed away in

MRS. JENNIE McCALL. The death occurred in this city yesterday of Mrs. Jennie McCall, widow of the late Dr. Daniel S. Mc-

#### WOMAN FINDS 25 NICKLES IN \$1.25 CHICKEN'S CROP

Montreal, Oct. 13 .- While prepar-L. Marcus, Park avenue, found 25 completion of harvesting, it is report shining Canadian nickles in its crop. She had bought the bird for \$1.25 at a neighboring butcher shop.

ditions are more favorable for the completion of harvesting, it is report ed from most districts of the prairie, following a period of heavy and general rainfall.

## 54 Not Elderly Judge Declares

damage action at the courthouse yesterday afternoon, Mr. Hender-son asked a witness if he could

not see that the woman ahead of

not see that the woman ahead of him was elderly.

"You can't judge these days.
Mr. Henderson," reminded Jared Vining, counsel for defence.

"I wouldn't call fifty-four elder-

ly," declared his lordship, "and I don't think the jurymen would

either," he added, gazing at the bald heads of four of the "twelve good men and true."

Empty Hands" Attraction at

Loew's, Filmed in North

Country.

the bill.

A photoplay that smacks of the pen

A LAUGH-MAKER A man is only as old as he feels, and sometimes not that ancient. W. B. Henderson, one Grand Offers Comedy On Marof London's younger lawyers, considers that fifty-four is an elderly age, but His Lordship Mr. Justice Riddell does not believe it.

Bringing out evidence in a ried Life—Its Troubles and Pleasures.

No theatre manager or critic could make a mistake in recommending Frank Craven's "The First Year," as

from the courting in the first act to and enjoyed itself immensely

There has not been such a genuinely human comedy of married life written and played in many seasons. and he was not sure that the social evil was any worse than might be in spring. It's the turning back of expected under existing conditions in a seaport town. There was more bootlegging then under prohibition London has the benefit of having People were using one another's permits.

Few Open Champions.

Oddly enough I met few men of played the "First Year" for a year in New York, and the best that is in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. It's all gail sellers in the clever little play is prought out. play is brought out. It's sly sallie standing anywhere west of Ontario are given their proper value, and it's

#### Real Love Working.

It is the story of the courting and on a highly controversial question in their attempts to keep up a tiny flat not directly connected with the work husband, of a wonderful deal, which

from his small real estate business into a man of means overnight by a brilliant coup, but who is so much better as a businessman than a lover, and Lucille Sears, as Grace Livingston, the daughter of the country town merchant, who wants to rise in the world and "travel to London and to the longon and the seast of the world and "travel to London and to the longon and the seast of the story, and the hero of the story, and th the indomitable yokel who turns from his small real estate business town merchant, who wants to rise in the world and "travel to London and Paris," a dear and completely adorable figure, share the honors of the play. They are so well suited to their parts that one imagines Mr. Craven knew them beforehand and wrote the story after.

Play Well Received.

the pretty, yet flippant, young thing I with whom he is forced to face the task of getting a living out of the bush for many menths. Cupid comes to shatter the high stone walls of dislike, the society maid is transformed and the climax is a real bit of film art.

Nace and Carlyle open the vaudeville half of the bill with a pleasant

#### Play Well Received.

Members of the board of health will hold a special meeting next week and take up with City Engineer W. P. Near problems surrounding the pollution of the river Thames. The board met last night and discussed the matter of inadequate sewage discussed the matter of inadequate sewage discussed.

and still interested in the affairs of young people, gave a finished performance of a type all too rapidly

assing away. Paul McGrath as Dick Loring, an insuccessful suitor, and Earl Mc-Millan, and Rose Tiffany as Mr. and Mrs. Barstow, visitors at the home of the Tuckers, rounded out the per-formance with well played parts. The scenary was fresh and in keeping with the atmosphere of the story The play was exceptionally well re-ceived last night and the constant ripples of laughter were proof of the fun in the play and the genuinenes

# MONTREAL EXCHANGE

Semi-Annual Audit of Books Show Firms On Sound Financial Basis.

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, Oct. 13.—Edgar M. Smith, chairman of the Montreal stock ex-change, announced today that the bylaw adopted six months ago order-ing every brokerage house connected with the exchange to have its books ment in seeking convections, which the commissioner's eye.

Reports for August and September with the examined semi-annually, with a plumbing Inspector Young, by Dr. view to providing adequate proof ommissioner's eye.

"There's no control about it," he Tamlin, inspector of do ies and milk, that it was solvent, had now been declared. "You can buy all you by Sanitary Inspector Sanders and on compiled with, and that every memtuberculosis and on communicable ber could provide a satisfactory ber could provide a satisfactory auditor's certificate of solvency. The action of the exchange was precipitated by the financial difficulties of various houses some time ago, and Mr. Smith is of the opinion that compulsory auditing will prove more satisfactory than the questionthis city yesterday, following a naire plan of the New York stock lengthy illness.

The funeral will be held from the

#### home of her brother. Thomas Smith. HUNDREDS PAY TRIBUTE TO SIR W. PRICE'S MEMORY

Canadian Press Despatch.
Quebec, Oct. 13.—A final tribute
was paid to the memory of one of
Canada's best-known businessmen. when hundreds of relatives and friends gathered at the English cathedral here this afternoon to attend the memorial service for the late Sir William Price.

The funeral of Sir William was

also held this afternoon at Kenogami, commissioner McPherson is agitating for a real clean-up. At his will be made in McCall Cemetery.

Tow at 10 o clock.

Services will be conducted in Brock's Creek church. Interment will be made in McCall Cemetery.

Services will be conducted in The federal government and the governments of the various provinces were represented. were represented.
Chief Justice François Lemieux ad-

### journed the sittings of the criminal assizes as a tribute to Sir William. WEATHER FAVORS HARVEST.

Winnipeg, Oct. 13.-Weather con

## LEW KELLY'S PUP STILL ROLLS OVER

Roger and Dope Continue To Delight Burlesque Patrons.

Lew Kelly, the renowned "Dope" of burlesque, is at the Majestic Theatre for the first half of this week. With him is his faithful pup Roger and a burlesque company.

We mention the dog before the company for reasons of sentiment. We first saw this hound of the dope fiend's fertile imagination perform some 15 years ago. From time to time since we have seen him roll over and do his other little tricks, and so feel more or less attached to

him.
There is no doubt that Mr. Kelly is one of the most original humorists in burlesque. His every word, gesture and facial expression shows how thoroughly he has mastered the role he has chosen. His imitators neve get within grasping distance of his material.

Nor has he had to change his lines to hold his following. He still goes up in the balloon. He still drives a horse across the ocean, and when he norse across the ocean, and when he gets tired he gets out to walk. His imagination still soars. Roger still rolls over at the command of the master, and Lew Kelly still whispers secretively that in order to teach a dog tricks one must know more than

of Arthur Stringer is "Empty Hands," the dog.

The humor in the weird and Paramount corporation, now being as Kelly chooses to call himself, is shown at Loew's Theatre. The fea- not altogether in exaggeration. His stories are whoppers. They are wild ture film opened a three-day run at Loew's yesterday afternoon and bal-Loew's yesterday afternoon and balances well the lighter offerings on that strike home.

In the scene entitled "Mrs. John-son's Husband," Mr. Kelly and Miss Gertrude Lynch pass some snappy Jack Holt and Norma Shearer take on a nignly controversial question not directly connected with the work of their association.

Half of the drinking men I met attempts to keep up a tiny hat on the real estate earnings of the husband, of a wonderful deal, which he eventually succeeds in putting over, of the quarrrell which orginates as most of them do from nothing but nerves and worry, and of the control of the system of government constitution.

Jack Holt and Rothing Sheater that Gertrude Lynch pass some shapped backyard gossip from one front porch to the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the picture is society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein to the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the picture is society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the picture is society life. In fact the picture is society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the picture is society life. In fact the picture is society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the picture is society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the other. A mock trial wherein society life. In fact the other, a fact the other and the other a trol in B. C. was a good thing, but Quebec had the right system. But a number of prominent citizens who took an occasional glass and who expressed their opinions in confidence were dubious about the results of government selections. ment from civilization, by reason of their becoming lost in the heart of the Canadian wilds, of a young mining engineer and the gay young daughter of his employer.

Fortunately they find themselves with sufficient clothing to pass the

JUDGE SNIDER TO PROBE

CHARGES BY SETTEL

Public Inquiries

Act.

into the Settell letter and probably will commence by visiting Settell at

Hamilton to ascertain what bases

there are for the allegations and if

Settell has anything to substantiate

Play Well Received.

Then there is Mary Marble as Hattie, the colored maid engaged by girls have personality and their work Created Commissioner Under

Well-Known London Businessman Victim of Nervous Breakdown.

Herbert S. Wilcox, prominent busiessman of London, a member of the firm of Benson-Wilcox Electric Company, Limited, died at Clifton Springs, New York, early yesterday afternoon. Mr. Wilcox enjoyed a large circle of friends, and many Londoners will mourn the loss of this leading citizen.

Mr. Wilcox had been ill since January, 1923, when he suffered a nervous breakdown, and since that time had never enjoyed good health. He went to Florida last winter, thinking that the climate and the rest would prove of benefit to him. He regained some of his former good health, but was again stricken three months ago. Since that time he had been in Clifton Springs. Mrs. Wilcox was with her husband at the time of his death, having gone there several weeks ago, when he took a turn for the worse.

He was born in Bridport, Vermont, in 1869, to Edwin and Francis Wilcox. His early education was received in the public schools of Vermont and New York, but his parents moved to Tillsonburg, Ontario, when he was 15, entering the grocery business. In 1890 Mr. Wilcox entered the employ of D. S. Perrin and Company as a traveller. In 1901 he became the agent of a manufacturing concern in

Hydro had just made its entrance nto London in 1910, when Mr. Wilcox and Mr. Benson started the firm of Benson & Wilcox, electrical supplies and contractors. They were one of the first firms carrying on this type of business in London, and wired many of the largest buildings in the

city. He was a member of Mocha Temple nd the Rotary Club.
His wife, formerly Miss Edith M Waite, survives. Funeral arrangements have not yet

#### JUDGMENT ON CROW'S NEST PASS EXPECTED THIS WEEK

Canadian Press Despatch.
Ottawa, Oct. 13.— Judgment of the
railway commissioners in the Crow's

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Sented to a windsor lady. It was one of the finest pieces of workmanship seen by the jewelry craft in years. Of course produced and sold by John A. Nash, my jeweler, London't windsor lady. eventually buy."-Advt.

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