

remember that the Democratic convention insisted upon having a dry plank in its platform, whereas Mr. Smith, the Democratic candidate, insisted on having a free hand to wipe out the 18th Amendment and the Volstead Act, and the party went to the country with those two policies. My reading and observation of conditions in Houston during the carrying on of that convention convinced me, beyond a shadow of doubt, that never was a convention that talked temperance and prohibition held in any city in which intoxicating liquors were flowing more profusely. The Baltimore Sun, a very reputable and dependable newspaper, which is disposed to be Democratic, had a special writer from Washington at the convention, and his descriptions of the drinking, and of the quantities of liquor that were being consumed by the very people who were carrying on this convention, were appalling. That was one event which rather convinced me that on the other side of the line there is just as large a percentage of hypocrisy on this subject, among political parties and in other quarters, as there is in this country.

I have had reason to be in the United States, particularly in the southern parts, during the summer, for the last four or five years, and I have conferred with business men and other prominent citizens there. The information I have received from those men was that they never had any difficulty in getting liquor when they wanted it; that almost unlimited quantities came in, and that it was manufactured in the country in almost unlimited quantities. I have been in houses down there where very fine qualities of ale, of wine, and of brandy liqueurs, made on the premises, were served to the guests in the house. I have seen that.

I have been in departmental stores down there in which as you went about you could see the various parts which make up stills. You do not find them all in one place; you see one part on one counter, another part on another counter, and a third part somewhere else. All you have to do is to buy the various parts, take them home and assemble them, and you have a still for making liquor. My information from reputable citizens is that large departmental stores in New York, Chicago, Baltimore and other cities carry on the same kind of business that I have just mentioned.

Now, if it is true that 95 per cent of the liquor consumed in that country is made there, or imported from other countries than Canada, it seems to me that the first duty of the Government of the United States is to

tackle the 95 per cent, and not to make so much fuss about the 5 per cent. In any event I should like it spread abroad in this country that Canada is not responsible for the consumption of the huge quantity, but that the people of the United States are responsible for 95 per cent, as against 5 per cent which possibly goes from Canada.

Right Hon. GEORGE P. GRAHAM: Honourable gentlemen, I am sure we were all very much interested in the eloquent, earnest and interesting speech of our right honourable friend from Ottawa (Right Hon. Sir George E. Foster). He always has something to say when he talks, and thus he sets a good example to the rest of us. But there is one thing he said with which none of us will agree—that he is getting anywhere near the time when he will cease to talk to us in the Senate, and be with us. We honour him, we admire him as a Canadian, we look with pride on the work he has done for the Dominion of Canada, and we are all of one mind in the hope that he and his good wife will have a pleasant trip, and that he will meet us next year and the year after, and be here among us, giving us such addresses as we have listened to to-day.

Now, I do not see why I am the leader of the Government. I did not know anything about it till I got here, and I am not yet sure of the reason.

Right Hon. Sir GEORGE E. FOSTER: In the fitness of things.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: Thank you. I surely expected the honourable senator from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Belcourt) to be in his place this afternoon, and I made no preparation in any way for taking charge of the business of the House.

This is a big question, and a serious question. It has an international aspect, no doubt; and I submit that we are gaining ground and improving our position, even internationally, on this subject as well as others. I do contend that our friends across the line are more eager to co-operate when they want something than they are when we want something. I think that is true in respect to nearly everything, even including the humble spud which my right honourable friend described. They are lying in wait with a hatchet at the present time, until their legislation is passed, and I am not sure that the Canadian spud will not be even more unpopular in some parts of the United States than a bottle of Scotch whisky. But, as my right honourable friend has said, we are advancing. Short-circuiting was one of the things investigated by the Commission. By