

Chief Trudel: I move that the Secretary-Treasurer's report be received; seconded by Chief Clark.

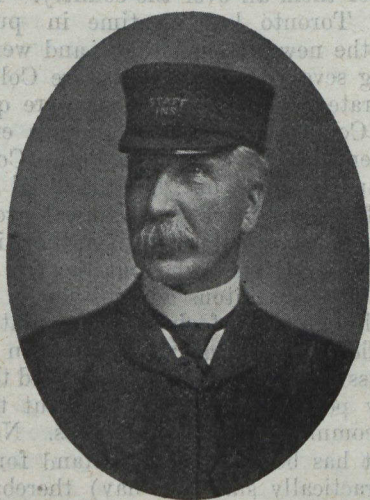
Chief Langley: Before the Secretary-Treasurer's report is passed I would like to say a few words regarding Opium and Cocaine, to which the report refers. We have in the West many Opium Joints and in order to get a conviction we must satisfy the Magistrates that they are places where people congregate and smoke opium, and I would suggest that a strong recommendation be made to the Minister of Justice to have an Act passed making it an offence to smoke opium or use cocaine anywhere, the fact of using it should constitute the offence, whether in your private house or elsewhere.

Chief Chamberlin: I think perhaps my friend from Victoria and myself are more interested in the Opium and Cocaine question than are any others in the Dominion, in fact in the East you scarcely know what it is. Last year we got a few convictions for the sale of opium, and in every case seized a quantity of opium, but had to give it back. The law should not be such as to compel its return after a conviction has been secured. It is not so much a conviction we want as to stop opium smoking.

The Secretary: Under the Act as recently amended opium or other paraphernalia used in Opium Joints can be confiscated and destroyed by the convicting Magistrate's order.

Motion carried.

The President: Inspector Archibald, of Toronto, will now read his paper.



Gambling:-as applied to the Race Track, and the Stock Market

Chief Inspector Archibald, Toronto

In dealing with this question let us ask and endeavour to answer the following questions:—Can the law provided for the suppression of gambling be enforced, and if so, what are the reasons why it is not enforced?

Here is a brief definition of the literal and legal meaning of gambling according to first, the Standard Dictionary: "to play a game, especially a game of chance, for stakes, to risk money or other possession on an event, chance or other contingency; to pretend to buy or sell, depending upon chance variations in prices for gain". And for the second definition which is the legal and statutory one, let me refer you to the Criminal Code, S.S. 226-236 inclusive.

In the reading of these sections, in so far as the lay mind can comprehend their meaning, one would be inclined to conclude that all phases of known gambling are therein enumerated and defined together with provisions made for their suppression. Then it may well be asked, why are these vices not suppressed?

Let us also ascertain to what extent gambling, and especially race-track gambling, is carried on in Canada. Here we may quote an extract taken from the *Toronto Evening Telegram*, giving an approximate estimate of the numbers who attended during the two weeks at the recent Ontario Jockey Club's meet, held at the Woodbine Race Track, Toronto, and also the amount of money which changed hands. This extract was in part quoted by the Toronto Conference of the Methodist Church, and included in a resolution dealing with the question of Race Track Gambling, of which the annexed is an extract.

Extract from Toronto Conference Report. 1909.

"As a Methodist Church, and as Christian Citizens, we deeply deplore the existence in this rapidly growing young nation of quasi legalized Race Track Gambling, with all its corrupting and demoralizing influences. Your Committee begs to express surprise and regret that the Dominion Government though strongly appealed to for some years past, has so far neglected to grant effective legislation dealing with this evil.

"The *Toronto Evening Telegram* of June 5th, publishes the following startling statistics regarding the last meet of the Ontario Jockey Club in the City of Toronto:

Attendance	168,000
Amount bet	\$2,600,000
Expended by book-makers	\$115,000
Car fare	\$12,500
Admission, (members)	\$5,000
Hacks and Autos	\$10,000
Racing Dope	\$10,000
Other Expenses of meet	\$346,115

"The foregoing is only the mercenary side of the question. No language can attempt to give an adequate idea of the disastrous consequences physically, intellectually, morally and religiously resulting from this university of gambling and crime. We profoundly regret that the Governor General of this Dominion, and other men occupying high positions of honor and trust, have, by their presence at the Woodbine Race Track, given countenance and support to a debasing evil which permeates all classes of Society in one form or another, and which is a menace to the moral welfare of our nation. Rigid laws against Race Track Gambling in many of the States of the American Union have driven professional gamblers to this side of the line, till even the Grand Jury in its last session in this City characterized this Province as a "Paradise for gamblers".

"We therefore urgently petition the Government of Canada to introduce such legislation as will prohibit gambling and betting in connection with horse racing at any time, and anywhere, and also to prevent the publication of advertisements offering tips on races and betting intelligence of every sort.

"We would also quote an extract from the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in June 1909.

Race Track Betting.

"That whereas the Courts have interpreted the clauses of the Criminal Code intended to prohibit professional book-makers from negotiating bets, in such a way as to make this lawful on a race track if the book-maker moves about, while unlawful if he remains in any building, booth or place, thus at once defeating the manifest intention of Parliament and making the law ridiculous.