

effort were made to enforce the liquor license law as IS mad to enforce Local Option, there would be less drinking in Owen Sound than there is right to-day. There can no doubt be found men in Owen Sound who dispute this. After all it is a matter of opinion, as there has been no way of proving it as yet. It is a big question, with plenty of room for argument on both sides, and it is a question upon which big-minded men are bound to differ. The Planet was careful to interview only men who were looked upon as being representative citizens, and broad-minded business men, with no personal interests in the liquor traffic, and this was the essence of their views. As an opinion from men who live under Local Option conditions, it does not necessarily have to be accepted, but it is worthy of at least passing consideration by people who are contemplating the advisability of establishing similar conditions of civic life.

Other facts which appear on the surface in Owen Sound, while not very surprising, are worthy of consideration too. A large number of young boys carry around whiskey flasks in their hip pockets; people keep liquor in their homes who never before thought of doing so; men now buy a bottle whereas formerly they bought a drink; men who formerly drank beer, now drink whiskey, because beer is too cumbersome to handle by men who break the law in selling it.

The temperance people admit most of this, but these facts are merely pointed to in order that people may come to a reasonable decision as to whether Local Option REGULATES the drinking of liquor better than the license system.

While in Owen Sound The Planet attended the police court. A man named Lewis was up for beating his wife because she wouldn't give him fifty cents with which to go and buy liquor. Lewis had been up several times before on the charge of being drunk. The last time was on the 14th of October. He was found guilty of being drunk and sentenced to 21 days. At the trial the other day the police officer who laid the charge against Lewis for beating his wife stated on oath that since Lewis got out of jail after serving the 21 days in October, he had never drawn a sober breath. He had been drunk CONTINUOUSLY