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**A Famous Letter**

From the Leader of the Liberal Party to his henchmen on the eve of the last provincial election, calling upon them to meet and decide, secretly and with a view solely to their own political interests, whether they should run on a platform of Prohibition or Government Control.

Summerside, P. E. I. March 21, 1927.

Some of the executive members of the East Prince Liberal Association feel that on account of Premier Stewart's announcement in favor of Government Control of liquor as one of the planks in the Conservative platform at the next Provincial Election, it might be advisable to call an informal meeting in your district OF SOME OF THE PROMINENT AND OUTSTANDING PARTY WORKERS to consider this question, and to advise me just what course they think OUR PARTY should adopt. I think it would be desirable to have such a meeting at once, as no time should be lost.

I have reason to think that the election may be called on an early date, possibly the middle of May. For that reason our party must be prepared to announce its policy on an early date. I also feel that the meeting SHOULD BE TOO LARGE, as it might lead to some ACRI- TIOUS DISCUSSION without any tangible results. I would, however, think it best that both sides should be well represented at such a meeting—that is, those who favor the present law and THOSE WHO ARE OPPOSED TO IT.

Kindly do not let our Conservative friends know anything about such a meeting. The Chairman of your meeting should also make it quite clear that everything should be STRICTLY IN OUR PARTY'S INTERESTS AND OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE. We need not remind you how carefully guarded the Conservatives kept all their discussions, and kept their own counsel. Please impress this on all who attend your meeting.

You should also bring to the attention of the meeting the success at this election means more than on any other occasion. We will be getting at least \$160,000.00 additional subsidy, and it will simplify the work to such an extent that I am sure whichever Party succeeds on this occasion will be there for the next fifteen years. Therefore it is of the utmost importance that you do all you reasonably can to have your meeting view the situation with an open mind, AND DO WHAT YOU CONSIDER IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF OUR PARTY.

You can then report to me THAT THE MEETING IS IN FAVOR OF GOVERNMENT CONTROL OR IN FAVOR OF RETAINING THE PROHIBITION ACT, or is evenly divided on the question, as the case may be. This will enable me to come to what I hope may be a conclusion on THE VERY BEST INTERESTS OF OUR PARTY.

Yours truly  
ALBERT C. SAUNDERS

P. S.: L. H. D.

**Promised Enforcement Of Prohibition Act A Shameful Betrayal**

The outstanding issue in the last election campaign was the assurance of the Liberal candidates that they would enforce the Prohibition law in such a manner as to give the Province "THE GREAT BOON OF A BANISHED LIQUOR TRAFFIC." This appeal was made by the Patriot newspaper to "the clergymen, the Church workers, the mothers of children, the men and women whose homes have been desolated by the liquor traffic, the upholders of goodness, sobriety and truth, the Church-going people, those who feel that they are their brothers' keepers, the men and women who place principle and Christianity before party, and workers against what has proved to be the greatest evil in the world—the curse of liquor drinking."

People of all creeds and of both parties were urged to forget every other issue and put their shoulders to the wheel TO INSURE THIS RESULT BY ELECTING THE SAUNDERS-LEA-MCINTYRE-AGGREGATION TO POWER.

As evidence of the effectiveness of the Prohibition Law, the Liberal organ showed that there had been a steady decrease in convictions for drunkenness up to the time of the 1927 election campaign, and assured the people that WITH STRICT AND HONEST ENFORCEMENT THIS DECREASE WOULD BE EVEN MORE MARKED IN THE FUTURE. Here are the figures for previous years, as given in the Patriot of June 18, 1927:

"During the period of license, from 1877 to 1880 inclusive, the convictions were 1,600, or on an average of 400 a year. In one year they amounted to 737.

"Under the Canada Temperance Act and Liquor Regulation Act, from 1881 to 1900 inclusive, 19 years, the average was about 250 a year; and during that time the Liquor Regulation Act was in force for five years, and in every year of the Liquor Regulation Act the number of drunks was above the average.

"During part of 1901, Prohibition came into effect and the amount of drunks for the year was only 200.

"From 1902 up to 1926, under Prohibition, the average fell to 170 a year. In the year 1918, when the Prohibition Act was consolidated and amended, the number of drunks was only 88. Last year the number was 127, and the year before 131."

How has the Lea Government fulfilled its solemn promises to the temperance people? INSTEAD OF A FURTHER DECREASE IN CONVICTIONS FOR DRUNKENNESS, THE POLICE COURT RECORDS FOR CHARLOTTETOWN AND SUMMERSIDE SHOW THAT DRUNKENNESS HAS INCREASED TO A GREATER EXTENT THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE THE DAYS OF FREE RUM.

In 1926, the last full year of the Stewart administration, convictions for drunkenness in Charlottetown numbered 148.

In 1927, election year, convictions numbered 163.

In 1928, the first full year of the Saunders-Lea Government, they jumped to 300.

In 1929 there was a further increase to 324.

IN 1930 A STILL FURTHER INCREASE TO 386.

During the present year the situation has become even more alarming. In the month of July alone there were 84 arrests, including 54 for drunkenness—THE LARGEST NUMBER RECORDED FOR ANY SINGLE MONTH IN THE WHOLE HISTORY OF CHARLOTTETOWN.

What is the liquor situation in Summerside, as revealed by the Police Court figures?

In 1927, convictions for drunkenness in Summerside numbered 24.

In 1928, the first full year of the Saunders-Lea Government, they increased to 62.

In 1929, a further increase to 84.

IN 1930, A STILL FURTHER INCREASE TO 96.

FOR 1931, UP TO JULY 1ST, THEY NUMBERED 52—AN UNPRECEDENTED INCREASE OVER THE FIRST HALF YEAR PERIOD.

On the Liberal organ's own showing, therefore, and by the only statistical comparison available, DRUNKENNESS HAS INCREASED UNDER THE LEA GOVERNMENT TO A GREATER EXTENT THAN UNDER ANY ADMINISTRATION SINCE THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT CAME INTO EFFECT.

This is the sum and substance of Liberal "prohibition" administration, the net result of all the pledges and promises given by Premier Lea and his colleagues in 1927.

CAN THEY EXPECT ANY VERDICT AT THE HANDS OF THE PEOPLE BUT ONE OF CONDEMNATION AND REPUDIATION?

**COMMENDS PREMIER BENNETT**

(Montreal Gazette)

The Canadian Churchman, in its current issues, takes the opportunity to praise the Right Hon. R. B. Bennett for his legislative effort to keep undesirable publications from crossing the international border. The Churchman remarks that not long ago its representative was at a meeting where the subject of evil literature was broached and the question was asked, "How can we stop this flood of base literature which is spoiling the minds of our young people?" A committee was appointed to ascertain what steps could be taken. Meanwhile, the Churchman is confident that Mr. Bennett's measure may prove adequate and that the committee may be able to disband. The Prime Minister is heartily commended for his effort along this line.

The subject discussed by the Canadian Churchman has exercised the minds of many thinking Canadians for

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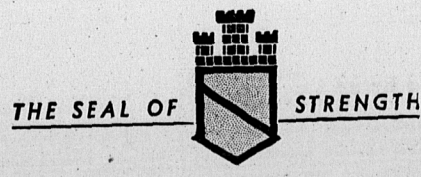
4.40/21 (29x4.40) . . . . .	\$6.50
4.50/21 (30x4.50) . . . . .	\$7.40
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some time. There are many fine publications which come into Canada from the United States. These are welcomed by the reader of good literature. But there are also some very undesirable publications crossing the border. Many of these stress the sex element and the illustrations and text are highly objectionable, to say the least. They pander to what is base and it is a fact that they are bought and read regularly by the young, some of their patrons being children in their teens. Upon such juvenile minds

they can have only an evil effect. These vicious periodicals are sold in the thousands. The harm they do must be great for they make no pretence whatever of decency. In the same class are certain cheap books, which are lent to children at a few cents a day. These are dangerous to a degree on youthful morals. Both the vicious magazines and the questionable books deserve to be banned from the country. No matter whence they originate, their sale should be prohibited in Canada.

By George McManus

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