WHALEN FINDS DRY LAW WORST CRIME BREEDER

Gotham Police Head Flays Prohibition.

New York, April 4—[Special.]—Prohibition is the worst breeder of crime in New York City, according to Police Commissioner Grover A. Whalen. The dry law and its by-product, the commission, told Rotariana here today, is responsible for "gangsters, high-waymen and potential murderers." Because of prohibition and the resulting 32,000 speakeasies in this city, Mr. Whalen predicted that within a few years it will be necessary to double the present force with 18,000 policemen and the present annual cost of fifty million dollars for his department.

"Crime is on the increase in this city as it is elsewhere in the United States," he told the Rotarianas. "We must admit the facts. There are several reasons, none being more prominent than prohibition. The speakeasy problem is one we now have more than 32,000 in the city. All you need is a couple of bottles and a room and a speakeasy grows overnight."

"In the old days we could clean up saloons without difficulty, but now it is difficult for the police department to get legal evidence on the dives which criminals frequent. Practically every major crime we have investigated we have traced to prohibition in some form or other. Nevertheless, New York, with the many different nationalities among its inhabitants, ranks among the most alarming cities in the United States."

INMAN PAID FOR WIFE'S DIVORCE IN 1919, SHE SAYS

Reno, Nev., April 4—[AP]—Walker P. Inman was so anxious to marry the wife he now seeks to divorce that he paid for her divorce from another man back in 1919, the jury was told in the Inman trial in district court here today.

Mrs. Inman gave the testimony about Inman's ardent courtship following their meeting in New York while she was still the wife of Grant Clarke, a theatrical man, whom she married in Kokomo, Ind., in 1914 at the age of 17.

The witness said that at the time she was separated from Clarke, Inman offered to finance her divorce, but she refused, she testified. Later, she said, she learned that Inman, through her sister, Mrs. Irving Scholes of New York, had paid the costs of her divorce from Clarke.

50 Lb. Fern Pot Falls on Table and Perils Women

Mrs. May Lipsky, 1760 Humboldt boulevard, a member of a dinner club at Henrici's restaurant, at 71 West Randolph street, last night; narrowly escaped being struck by a fern pot, weighing 60 pounds, which broke from a chain from which it was suspended above the table at which she sat. The pot fell to the table and sent dishes flying, but no one was injured.