quickly grabbing hats and coats from the hallways of middle-class homes to the competition between gang-dominated fire companies to control neighborhoods.

The activities of street patrolmen developed in response to this flexible situation. The cop on his beat lived with overt violence and frequently responded in kind. He was generally little respected, something new technology such as uniforms and telegraph call boxes did not alter. I was struck with how little has changed over the past hundred years when I compared Johnson's description of the street policeman's life with that presented by Jonathan Rubenstein in his study of today's police in City Police (1973).

That both legitimate society and the underworld shape law enforcement is at its clearest in the relationship of the police to "vice." Generally, the "decent" elements in society determined what behavior would be labeled vice. Attitudes toward gambling, for example, became more repressive during the nineteenth century as middle-class reformers perceived a threat to social order in the growth of gambling syndicates involved in off-track betting and chains of faro houses. The belief in decentralized political control of police left reformers at a severe disadvantage when contending with well-organized, efficient gambling syndicates. Thus reformers fumed while local police frequently protected rather than prevented gambling in nineteenth-century cities.

Johnson's volume, as well as others on our growing list, should be required reading for those who shape law enforcement policies. The lessons of the past, though frequently ambiguous, do sensitize us to the social forces that frequently reshape the good intentions of the policy makers.

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The struggle to secure and sustain prohibition in Michigan is the subject of this study by journalist-historian Larry Engelmann. The author believes that Michigan was a pivotal state in the national
crusade against intemperance. In 1916 the efforts to exorcise demon rum first achieved positive results in the heavily populated industrial states east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio when Michigan enacted prohibition legislation. Engelmann believes this success to have been a key to breaking down opposition to the dry crusade elsewhere in the region. He contends that from the spring of 1918, when Michigan's statute went into effect, until the implementation of the Volstead Act at midnight on January 16, 1920, the state provided a laboratory for the operation of the dry law, affording the remainder of the nation an idea of what might be expected if and when alcoholic beverages became permanently illegal.

Proponents of prohibition in Michigan believed that their experience boded well for the rest of the nation. They pointed to increased industrial productivity, declining taxes, and greater stability in the family as a vindication for the experiment. Unfortunately, as Engelmann explains, those who saw in Michigan's experience all the benefits of a dry future failed to take into account the extraordinary zeal and discipline engendered in the populace by World War I. They also refused to recognize the seriousness of the growing traffic in illegal alcohol. Indeed, if the author is correct, the period from 1918 to 1920 provided those who sought to evade prohibition legislation with an opportunity to gather valuable experience which would serve them well during the dry decade that followed.

Once prohibition became the law of the land Michigan enjoyed the best of both worlds. At least during the early twenties, and perhaps thereafter, there were the real economic and social advantages of prohibition and there were the equally enormous advantages of the trafficking in illicit alcohol. After the mid twenties neither world was quite so pleasant as it had once been. An increasing number of critics called into question the socially and economically redeeming qualities of bone-dry prohibition. The onset of the depression gave added impetus to this dissent and transformed what had initially been largely a movement for modification of prohibition statutes to permit the manufacture and sale of wine and beer into a drive for repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. The prohibitionists who had tied the prosperity of the twenties to their noble experiment now faced a rising tide of opposition from those who linked recovery in the thirties to its termination. Meanwhile, a host of entrepreneurs engaged in slaking the thirsts of the citizenry of Michigan found themselves operating in a lucrative but increasingly competitive, expensive, and violent world. By 1930 the Canadian government was cooperating with
a determined President Hoover to stem the hitherto generous flow of Canadian spirits across the Detroit River. Yet it was not the efforts of the authorities which curbed the activities of importers, manufacturers, and retailers of illegal alcoholic beverages but the will of the people of Michigan and the nation to rid themselves of a social experiment which had become increasingly onerous. In May 1933, Michigan became the first state to ratify the Twenty-first Amendment.

The product of Engelmann's apparently extensive research is a rather well written and informative if not particularly innovative or illuminating study. The work adds little to our understanding of the social, economic, and moral forces behind the rise, reign, and fall of prohibition. His analysis of prohibition in Michigan reflects the influence of the broader interpretations of the era by such scholars as James H. Timberlake, Andrew Sinclair, John C. Burnham, and Joseph Gusfield. Granted that the author's intention was to comment on intemperance in several guises rather than to produce a new interpretation of this most famous experiment in social engineering there are still several problems with the study. Engelmann asserts that Michigan was important because it was the first state east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio to enact prohibition legislation but makes no effort to explain why it was the first. He contends that from 1918 to 1920 Michigan provided a kind of laboratory in which the rest of the nation could observe the operation of prohibition but affords little evidence that anyone outside the state paid much attention to happenings there. Finally, in his survey of these turbulent years he colorfully and ably describes and explains the evasions of the law, the difficulties with enforcement, and the efforts at repeal but makes little effort to go behind the morass of conflicting statistics from Michigan itself to evaluate the degree to which prohibition was successful in the state. Had he done so he would have made a greater contribution to our understanding of the period. Despite these shortcomings Engelmann has produced a book of interest to students of Michigan history and to those intrigued by the colorful details of the prohibition era.

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