

"Bullet Proof" Cartoon

Creator: Carey Orr

Date: 1926

Published in: Chicago Tribune

Source type: Political Cartoon

Introduction: This cartoon by Cary Orr, an **editorial cartoonist**, was published in the *Chicago Daily Tribune* six years after Prohibition began. Officials in Chicago and other large cities found that enforcing the law was difficult. This was because many people opposed the ban. They wanted to keep drinking alcohol, so they went to **speakeasies** — places where people could buy liquor illegally.

Speakeasies were operated by gangs who hired **bootleggers** in rural areas to make the alcohol. The **bootleggers** trucked the alcohol to cities, where the gangs distributed it. These gangs were part of large **organized crime** networks that were controlled by “bosses.” Gangs used their profits from selling alcohol to **bribe federal agents**, local police, and judges, so they would not be prosecuted and punished for their crimes.

