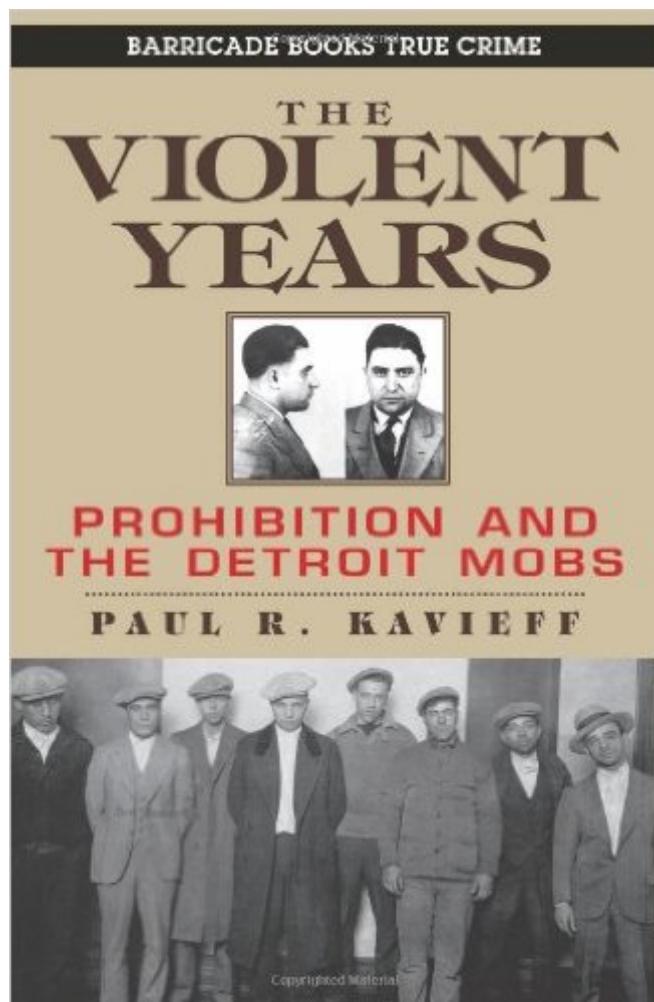


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# The Violent Years: Prohibition And The Detroit Mobs



## Synopsis

The Violent Years, a companion volume to author Paul Kavieff's best-selling book, The Purple Gang, is the story of Prohibition-era Detroit, a place of tremendous wealth and brutal violence. For those found with new prosperity after World War I ended, it became a status symbol to have one's own personal bootlegger and to hobnob with known gangsters. Not only did they supply the booze, they carried with them an aura of excitement and danger. Numerous gangs scrambled to grab a piece of the profit to be made selling illegal liquor which resulted in gruesome gang warfare among the many European ethnic groups that were involved. Among these were the Italian Giannola and Vitale gangs, the Irish "Legs" Laman Gang and the Polish Jaworski gang. All the while, author Paul Kavieff manages to provide insight into how so many immigrants gravitated to crime and why the public tolerated it for as long as they did.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

sorta boring. I grew up in Detroit, and the purple gang was centered in my neighborhood when I was a kid. So, this is just portraying everyone as criminals. Not that way at all; and to tell you the truth..... I think this is simplistic. If you lived in Detroit during prohibition, you would understand it as much the same as living in Silicon Valley today. (Yeah, dudes, I live in Silicon Valley now). The guys in this book were basically businessmen, fulfilling a need in the market for alcohol. Just like the guys in Mexico today who are brokering guns going south and drugs going north. You wanna deal with it? Make it legal and tax it.....

Great book for anyone interested in the history of Detroit and what happened from the late 1800's to 1930's and 40's

Great read - any history buff will love this!

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