

Drink & Drugs

barrel house: illegal distillery

belt, snort, jorum of skee: a swallow of liquor

bent, blind, blotto, hoary-eyed, ossified, splifficated: drunk

bootlegger, rumrunner: to make, transport, or sell illegal liquor

brown, brown plaid, skee: scotch, whiskey

busthead, coffin varnish, horse liniment, panther piss/sweat, rotgut, strike-me-dead, white

lightening: **homemade liquor**

butt, gasper, pill: cigarette

dope, junk: cocaine or opium

drum, dump, juice joint: speakeasy, roadhouse

dry/wet: someone in favor of/opposed to Prohibition

hop (-fiend, -joint, -ped up): illegal drugs (drug user, opium den, high on drugs)

Indian hop, hemp, tea: marijuana

M: morphine

pen yen: opium

pull a Daniel Boone: vomit

real mckoy: genuine, not homemade, liquor

rum row: offshore waters outside Coast Guard

jurisdiction

screaming meemies: deliria tremens

shine box: bar for blacks

Cars & vehicles

flivver: Model T Ford

hack: a taxi

iron: a motorcycle

jalopy, tin lizzy: old car

jitney: private, nickel fare bus

Guns & weapons

artillery, gat, heater, persuader, rod, roscoe, smoke wagon, torch: **a gun or pistol**

belly gun, snug: small gun for close range

black betsy: bat

carry the difference, wear iron: carry a gun

chatterbox, chicago typewriter, chopper, tommy gun, violin: **Thompson submachine gun**

chib, shiv, sticker: knife

drill, give lead poisoning, scrag, smear, squirt metal, throw lead, whang: **shoot, kill**

guinea football: small bomb, time bomb

long rod, pea shooter, winchester: rifle

noise, soup: explosives, TNT

remington: machine gun

sap: blackjack; "drink sap, given sap poison" to be hit with a blackjack

sawyer: sawed-off shotgun

shell, slug: bullet

sissy rod, speakeasy: gun with silencer

Ethnic Slurs

Black: dinge, jig, shine, smoke

British: Brit, limey

Chinese: celestial

Eastern European: bohunk

French: frog

German: the Boche, kraut

Irish: harp, mick, mulligan (esp a cop),

shamrock

Italian, Mexican: greaser

Jew: kike, mockie

White: ofay

Money

money: bacon, folding paper, lettuce, mazuma, rivets, sugar, many more!

\$1: ace, bean, bone, case note, iron man (coin)

\$5: Abe's Cabe, fin, finnif, five-spot,

\$10: dime note, saw, sawbuck, ten-spot

\$20: double sawbuck

\$100: bill, C, C-note, yard

\$1000: G, grand, large

Diamonds: ice, rock candy

Jobs, personal descriptions

ambulance chaser, shyster: lawyer
badge, bull, claw, mug: cop
bell bottom: sailor
bimbo, mug, point-head, torpedo: thug
(bimbo also means what it means today)
bolus: underworld doctor
canary: female singer
[Casper] Milquetoast, nance: wimpy, timid person
croaker, pill peddler: doctor
eagle eye, eye, fink, gumshoe, op: detective
egghead, wisehead: smart person
goldbrick: loafer, avoider of responsibilities
goniff, gorilla: crook
gumfoot: plainclothes cop
gungel: young gunman; young unstable or homosexual man
hot sketch: a real character
jingle-brained: confused, addled
nark: informer
newsie: news boy
nod-guy: yes-man
nose, slim: paid police informer
operator: conman, thief, pickpocket
pinko: communist, socialist
pug: boxer
reuben: country person
sin hound: chaplain
square John: law-abiding citizen, easy mark

Men & Women

angel, baby vamp, doll, panic, raggle, thrill:
pretty, popular woman
b-girl, blowen, pelican: prostitute
battle, chunk of lead: ugly woman
bearcat: pretty, feisty woman
bird: odd person, random person (guy, bloke)
bozo, gink, hombre, jasper: a man
cake-eater, parlor snake, wolf: ladies' man,
sexually aggressive man
chromo: ugly person
daddy: lover, boyfriend (esp rich)
ethel: effeminate man
frail, quail, rib, twist: woman
richard: a deformed man
sheik: boyfriend, male heartthrob
three-letter man: homosexual

Various Catchy Expressions

Ab-so-lute-ly, you said it! affirmative
all wet: mistaken, incorrect
baloney, banana oil, bushwa, horse feathers,
phonus balonus: nonsense
[it's the] bee's knees, berries, cat's pajamas: it's
very good
butt me: give me a cigarette
blue-nose, Mrs Grundy: puritanical kill-joy
dry up: go away
dutch act: be cowardly
goofy, stuck on: in love with, infatuated with
ish kabbible! as if I should care? I don't care!
hotsie-totsie, jake: OK, alright; "everything's h-
t/jake."
know one's onions: be an expert
lollapalooza: spectacular, out of the ordinary
now you're on the trolley: you understand
squirrel fever: lust
trip for biscuits: wild goose chase, trip for no
purpose or failed
the willies: nervous