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SAYS WHISKY IS WHISKY

President Taft Declares Buyers Must Know What They Are Getting.

GOODS MUST BE CORRECTLY BRANDED

Declares Liquor Made from Neutral Spirits Is Whiskey If Reduced to Potable Strength—Label Must Indicate Nature of Contents—President Takes Chemists to Task for Their Fine Distinctions As to What Whisky Is.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Whisky is whisky, President Taft has at last declared. It is whisky when made of neutral spirits, says the president, if reduced to potable strength. But it must be branded so that those buying it may know just what they are getting.

The decision, made after a long series of hearings participated in yesterday by members of the government's pure food department and distillers, was announced yesterday. The president covered various details in his decision and gave directions for the proper branding of the various varieties of liquor, holding, among other things, that whisky made from a mixture of "straight" whiskey and "neutral spirits" may be called a blend.

According to Mr. Taft's instructions "straight whiskies" will hereafter be branded as such, but the brand may be accompanied by the legend "aged in wood" and whiskey or neutral spirits will be branded so as to make known the principal ingredient. In addition, if they so desire, manufacturers of straight whisky also may use the word "Bourbon" or "Rye" as the facts may warrant.

The definition of "blends" is not made broad enough to include neutral spirits made from molasses and reduced to potable strength. This article, the president says, cannot be labeled as whisky; it is rum.

Wiley Taken to Task.

The president takes Dr. Wiley and other chemists to task for a "fundamental error" as to what the name "whisky" has included in the last 100 years and also expressed the opinion that Mr. Powers makes "too nice a distinction" in his deductions. "If," he said, speaking of the opinion of Mr. Powers, "whisky wines at from 140 to 160 degrees, when reduced to potable strength and containing a quantity of fusel oil and flavored by burned sugar, are whisky, as he has found, then the continuous distillation so as to give a product of from 160 degrees to 188 degrees proof and still further to reduce its fusel oil is not to change its whole nature or to make what was genuine 'whisky,' because of a slightly reduced trace of ingredient. The distinction is too impracticable, in my judgment for the execution of the law."

The president thinks such an order as his decision contemplates cannot do injustice. "Those," he says, "who make whisky of 'rectified,' or 'redistilled,' or 'neutral' spirits cannot complain of it to prevent further frauds, they are required to use a brand which shall show exactly the kind of whisky they are selling. For that reason, it seems to me fair to require them to brand their product as 'whisky made from rectified spirits,' or 'whisky made from neutral spirits,' as the case may be and, if aged, in the wood as sometimes is the case with this class of whisky, they may add this fact.

"The public will be made to know exactly the kind of whisky they buy and drink. If they desire straight whisky they can get it by purchasing what is branded 'straight whisky.' If they are willing to drink whisky made of neutral spirits, then they can buy it under a brand showing it, and if they are content with a blend of flavor made by the mixture of

straight whisky and whisky made of neutral spirits, the brand of the blend upon the package will enable them to buy and drink that which they desire. This was the intent of the act. It injures no man's lawful business because it insists on the statement of the truth on the label.

No Cause for Complaint.

"If those who manufacture whisky made of neutral spirits and wish to call it 'whisky,' without explanatory phrase, complain because the addition of the 'neutral spirits' in the label takes away some of their trade, they are without a just ground because they lose their trade merely from a statement of the fact.

"The straight whisky men are relieved from all future attempt to pass off neutral spirits whisky as straight whisky. More than this, if straight whisky or any other kind of whisky is aged in the wood the fact may be branded on the package and this claim to public favor may truthfully put forth.

"Thus the purpose of the pure food law is fully accomplished in respect to misbranding and truthful branding."

The decision follows lines of conclusions reached by the royal commission of Great Britain and reverses the verdict of former President Roosevelt, former Attorney General Bonaparte, Solicitor General Bowers and Dr. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry. The Roosevelt-Bonaparte-Wiley order denied the use of the word "whisky" in branding to all liquor except "straight whisky," the whisky which is aged in charred oak casks.

Mr. Bowers extended the use of the word to liquors made of "rectified" and "distilled" spirits. President Taft goes a step further and includes blends and whisky made from "neutral spirits."

Elaborating his conclusions, the president says:

"After an examination of all the evidence, it seems to me overwhelmingly established that for 100 years the term 'whisky' in the trade and among the customers has included all potable whisky made by rectification or redistillation and flavoring and coloring matter, a subsequent improvement and that, therefore, it is a perversion of the pure food law act to attempt to limit the meaning of the term 'whisky' to that which modern manufacture and taste have made the most desirable variety."

"LANKY BOB" TAKES THE COUNT OF TEN

"GRAND OLD MAN OF THE RING" KNOCKED OUT

Bill Lang's Youth and Weight Too Much for Poor Old Fitz—Stays Gaily to 12th When He Goes to the Floor—Fitz a Great Favorite.

Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 27.—Bill Lang, Australian heavyweight, knocked out Bob Fitzsimmons in the 12th round of their fight at Rush, Cutters Bay stadium today. The fight was evenly contested up to the last round when Lang forced Fitzsimmons to the ropes, knocking him down with a right hand blow to the jaw, and when he arose, sent him to the floor senseless with a right hand uppercut.

Fitzsimmons had not appeared in the ring in Australia since he left here many years ago, and when he climbed through the ropes today he was given a great reception. The veteran looked to be in splendid condition after his long period of preparation. The fight opened rather tamely, Lang showing his extreme nervousness. He was frequently hooted for holding in the clinches and frequently butting his opponent and refusing to break clean. Fitz, on the contrary, fought cleanly and quickly became the favorite with the crowd.

Lang Recovers Confidence.

As the fight progressed, Lang acquired confidence and forced the pace, but Fitzsimmons cleverly evaded his rushes and frequently landed clean blows on the face and body. In a hot rally in the eleventh round Fitzsimmons cut Lang's right eye severely with a left hand punch.

When the twelfth and last round opened, Lang rushed Fitzsimmons to the ropes and floored him with a right hand swing.

Fitzsimmons took the count of nine and rose groggy. Lang was at him fiercely as soon as he regained his feet, battering the tottering veteran about the ring. He forced Fitzsimmons against the ropes and with a hard right uppercut on the jaw, sent him down and out.

Lang was a strong favorite in the betting at the odds of one to two. His weight was announced at 188 pounds, while Fitz gave his as 156 pounds. Arthur Scott was the referee. The weather was warm. Twelve thousand spectators witnessed the fight.

Passengers Are Delayed.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 27.—About 500 passengers on the Penna railroad were obliged to remain here last night as a result of the snow blockade east of Lancaster, Pa. All trains from the west were stopped here and it was announced that no trains would be run eastward during the night.

LYNCH LAW IN OREGON

Farmers of Grant County Take "Murderer" From Officer and Shoot Him.

MAN HAD KILLED UNOFFENSIVE HERDER

Southern Methods of Justice Employed by Hamilton Farmers—Oliver Snyder, Murderer, Ran to Earth by Posse—Deputy Sheriff Starts to Canyon City With Him—Mob Takes Him and Riddles Him With Bullets.

Heppner, Ore., Dec. 27.—Oliver Snyder, who Friday night shot and instantly killed Arthur Greene, an inoffensive shepherd, was forcibly taken away from Deputy Sheriff Joe Cassidy by a mob of infuriated farmers, and his body riddled with bullets, according to news brought here today by the deputy sheriff. According to Cassidy, Snyder blew off the top of Greene's head with a shot gun when the latter attempted to prevent Snyder from killing a dog belonging to Charles Beymer.

Following the shooting Snyder is said to have fled to the woods. A posse was quickly organized and started in pursuit. Early Saturday, Snyder was located fifteen miles from Hamilton where the shooting occurred and surrendered to the posse. Yesterday Cassidy started for Canyon City with the prisoner. According to his story he had hardly gotten outside of Hamilton before a mob held him up and ordered the officer to drive on. Cassidy drove back to Hamilton for assistance and when he returned found Snyder's lifeless body in the road, riddled with bullets.

TESTS FOR CENSUS ENUMERATOR NOT HARD

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—Any person of good judgment, who has received an ordinary common school education, can readily and easily pass the test to be given applicants for census enumerators' places on Saturday, Feb. 5th, the date finally set by U. S. Census Director Durand, according to an announcement from the Census Bureau today. This will be a comforting assurance to the several hundred thousand who are believed to be contemplating application for the places.

It was emphatically stated at the bureau that the test will be an eminently reasonable and practical one, similar to that applied to applicants for filling out a sample schedule of population from a description, in narrative form, of typical families; and, in the case of enumerators whose work will be in the rural districts, they will be called upon to fill out an additional sample schedule of agriculture, from information furnished by the Census Bureau.

GERMANY WILL NOT BUY ZEPPELIN'S LATEST

Berlin, Dec. 27.—It is believed here that Count Zeppelin, whose wonderful dirigible balloon startled all Europe, will suffer a heavy financial loss as a result of the announcement from the German war office that the government will not buy his Zeppelin III, for which the count expected to receive \$140,000. The reason given by the government for not purchasing the dirigible is that the big flyer will be out of date in two years, owing to the large number of technical improvements.

Mrs. G. W. Knight and daughter, Miss Mary Knight, were passengers on the incoming Northern Pacific train today.

INDUSTRIAL WORKER KILLED IN DUEL WITH POLICEMAN

San Francisco, Dec. 27.—Andrew McCormick, a member of the Industrial Workers of the World from Portland, was killed yesterday in a pistol duel with Patrolman A. W. Bickel after the policeman had been shot in the arm and a bystander wounded in the head. The battle followed a row in a saloon of the Barbary coast region precipitated by McCormick's refusal to pay for a drink. He resented the proprietor's effort to collect by drawing a pistol and firing a shot which penetrated a partition in the saloon, striking Christopher Elliston in the head. McCormick ran out with Bigelow in pursuit.

EAST SWEEPED BY BLIZZARD

Storm God Exacts Toll of Life and Property in Atlantic States.

NEW YORK'S DESTITUTE SUFFERING TERRIBLY

Hardest Blizzard in Years Swoops Down on East, Blowing for Two Days—Fourteen Perish in New York City—East Side Denizens are Storm's Victims—Much Property is Destroyed—Two Dead in New Haven.

New York, Dec. 27.—It is estimated today that fourteen persons lost their lives as the result of a blizzard which has swept New York since Christmas. The storm swept down upon the city from the northwest and at times the gale registered a velocity of sixty miles an hour. On the east side the suffering is intense, and practically all deaths reported have occurred in this district. Charitable organizations are finding it impossible to care for even a small per cent of the destitute.

Much Damage at Boston.

Boston, Dec. 27.—News filtering slowly into Boston today over the wrecked wires apparently make certain that at least a dozen lives have been lost and property damage amounting to more than one million dollars has resulted from the heavy winds which prevailed throughout New England Christmas and yesterday.

Two Dead in New Haven.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 27.—Two men are dead, and half a million dollars worth of property has been destroyed as the result of a blizzard which has been raging here for two days past. Wires are down and street car and railroad traffic is demoralized. Conductor Donovan, and a passenger named Michael Morton were killed when a street car in charge of Donovan plunged over an embankment into the Nagatuck river.

Passengers Held in Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Dec. 27.—After being totally paralyzed since early yesterday by the first storm Pennsylvania has known in years the railroad systems have resumed operations slightly today but little is done to move the trains. Passengers, delayed by the storm, have remained in hotels without braving the storm to get to the railroad stations.

Traffic Badly Demoralized.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Street car traffic was partially resumed today after a complete tie-up due to a blizzard that swept the city for two days blowing down wires and covering the tracks with ice and sleet. Railroads are still badly crippled and doubtful train schedules will be in order for several days. All overnight mails from the west are from five to 25 hours late, and many trains are snowbound at points outside the city.

THREE VICTIMS FROM OIL TANK EXPLOSION

Vallejo, Calif., Dec. 27.—Three men, one dying, and the other two seriously burned, were brought to this city today and placed in the Downing hospital as the result of the explosion of an oil tank on the steamer Roma Oleum, late yesterday. The dying man is Manuel Silva. The two seriously burned victims are Lewis Tyler and Sam Knutsen.

Civil War Veteran Dies.

Peabody, Kas., Dec. 27.—Col. Bertin Hinkney, a well known Kansas pioneer, died yesterday, aged 86. He commanded the sixtieth Wisconsin volunteers.

AVIATOR HAS ACCIDENT ON HIS TRIAL TRIP

Washington, Dec. 27.—Harry Orme, inventor of an aeroplane which experts have declared to be a long step forward in the science of aviation, came to grief here last week in a private trial, and his flying machine was badly damaged. This has just become known.

Orme's accident was similar to that which overtook Orville Wright in his trial flight at Fort Meyer and which resulted in the death of Lieutenant Selfridge. A loose wire got in the way of the propellers, breaking them, the rear steering device and ruining many wire supports. The machine will be repaired soon and the test resumed. The Orme machine differs from the usual types of aeroplanes in that it is equipped with a parachute arrangement above the biplanes, which the inventor claims will prevent the sudden plunging of the aerial craft to earth if any mishap occurs.

TACOMA INVENTOR SOLVES PROBLEM OF FLYING

Tacoma, Dec. 27.—Intense interest is being taken today in the startling investigation of Lucian F. Cook, a local capitalist, who declares he has invented a flying machine which will revolutionize the science of aerial flight and solve in a practical way for all time the problem that has baffled mankind for ages. Cook, who has already perfected several ingenious inventions, stated today that within a few weeks he will give demonstrations that he expects will set new stakes in the aviation field. The plan for the flying machine is locked up in a safety deposit vault here and will be patented by Cook within two months. The principle upon which the airship will work is that employed by birds in flight, and is called by the inventor "atmospheric contact."

LABOR MAKES APPEAL FOR HOME MADE PRODUCT

Helena, Mont., Dec. 27.—A special session of the legislature was convened here today to consider an appeal from organized labor for an additional appropriation with which to permit the proposed wings of the state house to be built from Montana stone instead of cheaper material from Bedford, Indiana.

SENSATION CREATED IN STOCK EXCHANGE

ROCK ISLAND COMMON HAS SUDDEN RISE AND FALL

Jumped From 50% to 81 and Then Receded Back to 50—Exciting Times in Buying Centers.

New York, Dec. 27.—The skyrocket rise of Rock Island common stock from 50 5/8 to 81, and its immediate recession to 50 furnished the stock exchange financial centers throughout the country today with one of the biggest sensations of the closing year. Everywhere reports of a corner were heard and there was intense excitement on the floor, resulting in the falling off of the general list several points, some sustaining a loss of three. The fact that the control of the railroad system was not in the ownership of the common stock was the only anchor that saved the situation from growing worse than it did. This fact precluded the possibility of the buying being conducted by persons trying to suddenly gain control of the property. There was very heavy selling throughout the brief period of the exciting activity, one sale of 1800 shares being at the highest mark of the day, 81 points. The first sale of the day was 600 shares at 50 5/8 and immediately thereafter heavy orders came in apparently from all sides.

COMMITTS SUICIDE THROUGH FEAR OF INSANITY

Seattle, Dec. 27.—Fearful that his mind was weakening and that he would end his life in a madhouse, Raymond Lloyd, aged 35, son of Attorney H. P. Lloyd, of New York city, a Yale graduate in the class of '94, scion of one of the oldest and most prominent families in the east, committed suicide today by drinking carbolic acid. The following telegram, evidently from Lloyd's father, was found in his room: "I hope that the darkness soon will break for you, and that Christmas day will bring pleasant thoughts of olden times when we were not a broken family, but were happy together."

CHILDREN BURN TO DEATH; MOTHER ESCAPES

Loveland, Tenn., Dec. 27.—Two small children of S. M. Sunny, of this city, were burned to death, fire destroying their home. The wife escaped from the burning building in her night clothes, after ineffectual attempts to save the lives of the little ones.

Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Nelson and son of Vale are now in the city visiting at the home of Mrs. Nelson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Sloan.

MADRIZ STARTS REFORM WAVE

New President of Nicaragua Will Wipe Out Monopolies of Predecessor.

CAUSES SWINDLERS TO BE ARRESTED

Zelaya Left Him in Bankrupt State and he Arrests Men Who Are Party Responsible for Condition—Son-in-Law of Tyrant and Zelayan Minister of Finance in Hands of Authorities—Franchises Revoked.

Managua, Dec. 27.—The new president of Nicaragua, Jose Madriz, is taking hold of affairs with a strong hand. Zelaya left him the legacy of an empty treasury, and soon after President Madriz had publicly announced, in effect, that the country was practically on the verge of bankruptcy, the arrest of Joaquin Passos, Zelaya's son-in-law, and Ernesto Martinez, Zelaya's last finance minister, was ordered. They are now in the hands of the authorities charged with misplacement of funds, failure to register several bonds, and the circulation of unsigned paper money.

Iris as minister general is preparing a decree establishing a commission to revoke the franchises under which scores of monopolies given to individuals by Zelaya have been operated.

These monopolies poured into Zelaya's purse vast sums of money. While they were ostensibly in the hands of others, it was to the former president that the greater portion of the returns was transferred. Passos is looked upon as the creator of these monopolies and the rummy utilization by Zelaya to cover his large stock interests therein. His arrest has been encouragingly received.

Senators Ramirez, Zelaya's chief of telegraph, also has been arrested. He is charged with having sent a telegram in the name of President Madriz ordering the government troops to abandon their strong positions. Generals Anastasio Oraz, Benito Chavarría and Paulino Godey, banished by Zelaya in 1895, have been recalled by Madriz.

DID U. S. AND MEXICO AID ZELAYA TO FLEE

Mexico City, Dec. 27.—It is reported in government circles that the United States and Mexico had a full but secret understanding concerning the flight from Nicaragua of former President Zelaya. Whether the two governments agreed upon permitting the former dictator to find refuge away from his turbulent country with the understanding that his departure was equivalent to self imposed exile, is causing much disturbance. Another report has it that the United States may take steps to bring Zelaya to task for the alleged indignities to which he submitted certain Americans in Nicaragua. The foreign office officials refuse to discuss the case.

REMINGTON DICTATES HIS EPIITAPH BEFORE DEATH

Ridgefield, Conn., Dec. 27.—On the tombstone of Frederick Remington, the artist, who died yesterday following an operation for appendicitis, has been engraved the words, "He knew the horse." It was the artist's last request. His body was taken to Canton, N. Y., of which place Remington was a native. The funeral services will be held tomorrow.

PINCHOT RENEWES HIS ATTACK ON FOES.

New York, Dec. 27.—Forster Gifford Pinchot today renewed his fight against the foes of conservation. In a luncheon speech he said: "The American people evidently have decided that our national resources shall be conserved. But are they to be conserved for the profit of a few or for the benefit of the majority?" The conflict that will decide this question of paramount importance to the American people is now on. The battle is being fought. It is the honorable distinction of the forest service that it has been more constantly and bitterly attacked by the representatives of the special interests than any other government bureau. It is notable that the more successful we have been in preventing land grabbing and absorption of water power, the more ingenious the attacks have become.