

PROHIBITION IS TARGET FOR HOT VERBAL ATTACK

Washington, Dec. 22.—(A.P.)—The house prohibition debate which has been waged steadily and warmly for several days was resumed by that body Monday with Representative Phillips, republican of Pennsylvania, leading an onslaught against present enforcement methods.

He declared that "lawless methods" and "underhand methods" were being used in gathering evidence in prohibition cases. This, he said, had resulted "in crimes more shocking to the public conscience than the evasion of law."

He assailed "recent" constitutional amendments "as a series of innovations which have undermined rather than strengthened our government," describing prohibition as "an experiment" that should have "reasonable time to demonstrate its worth."

He added that as a "conservative" house member he condemned "our autocratic, high-handed laws" and "methods used in enforcing the 15th amendment."

"Not only does the prohibition law seek to make legally wrong that which is not morally wrong," he said, "but it has caused so much emphasis to be placed upon this one law that other and more important laws have been overshadowed and all but forgotten."

A new local option amendment to the constitution to take the place of the present prohibition amendment, was proposed by Senator Bruce, democrat, Maryland. It would permit the voters of each county, parish, city or town to decide at a special election whether they wanted prohibition.

DEPUTIES BACK SYRIAN COURSE

Paris, Dec. 21.—(A.P.)—The policy of the French government in carrying out its mandate in Syria has the backing of the chamber of deputies. By a vote of 200 to 29 the chamber late last night after debate which lasted throughout the day and far into the night upheld the government's activities in the mandated territory.

During the debate General Sarraill, the former high commissioner in Syria, defended his policy against members of the opposition. He had his defenders however, and most notable of these was Premier Branda. The premier praised the work for civilization which he said France was carrying out in Syria and declared that when the country was pacified the people would be accorded democratic institutions.

Revenge of Gambler Is Epic of Early Day Steamboating Tales

The story of one particular gambling episode on a Willamette river boat, in which Basil Dalore, a half-breed French Indian owning a wood yard on the river bank above Independence, lost his bank roll, got into a keeling scrape in which he was severely cut about the face, and later succeeded in binding the winner of the roll to a bedpost in Basil's own home, playing a game of cards with the sons to see who should kill the prisoner, was related by Frank "Gunboat" Smith, officer on the river steamer Northwestern, at the dock at the foot of Court street recently.

Cosmopolitan Days
"In those days," said Smith "race and color mingled indiscriminately on the lower deck of our river boats. Card games were the order of the day—and night. Stakes were not always very high, but the games nevertheless lacked nothing of the spectacular. The professional card shark of the larger cities, the inborn of the smaller communities, and the common laborer with nothing but his month's earnings in his possession, engaged in a titanic struggle, and every device known to the dishonest gambler held full sway."

"Basil Dalore, a half-breed of French extraction, who owned a wood yard near Buena Vista, was returning from a trip to Salem where he had been to collect from the steamer line for his output of wood furnished during the season. Loaded with his sum of money and sundry notions of equine and canine, he boarded the steamerboat for his yard landing home. Soon after embarking he became imbued with a desire not only to pass a pleasant evening at seven up or high, low, jack and the game but to reimburse himself for various losses to his pocketbook occasioned by frequent social calls on the many gin palaces that existed in Salem at that time."

Fought Over Losses
"By the time Bofa was reached

he was admitted to a questionable game aft the boiler. By the time the boat got as far as Independence about all he had was a bad disposition, a fearful breath and one dollar in silver.

"As the game progressed he lost all but the hang over from his libations. In endeavoring to retain the stakes of his last game he was involved in a struggle with his opponent in which he was severely cut in the face by a large disc knife popular in those days.

"During the excitement that followed the fight his assailant secured himself on the guards of the steamer near the wheel and could not be found.

"In the meantime Dalore's wood yard home had been reached and Dalore went ashore. Unknown to the occupants of the boat, the knife wielder jumped ashore also, utterly unconscious of the fact that he could not have chosen a worse spot, so far as his own safety was concerned. Finding a trail leading from the river he followed it, and soon saw a light toward which he proceeded in search of a night's lodging.

"On reaching the house he was admitted and came face to face with the man he had assailed on the boat.

Played For Life
"Before he could rush back into the darkness he was caught and bound by the two sons of his victim, who had just been regaled

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with a recitation of the encounter on the river.

"They bound him to a post of an old fashioned bed in the room and proceeded to play a game of cards to a find who would be his executor.

"The wife and mother, after frequent appeals, that no blood be shed, left the room and busied herself in the kitchen preparing a midnight meal.

"As the game progressed, the spirit of the players arose, with a corresponding depreciation on the part of the victim, until, by a preconceived arrangement, the head of the house won the game.

"Producing a knife, he whetted the edge and, with a bound reached the side of his helpless victim. Flourishing the weapon, he made a pass at the shaking man's forehead.

Treated, Not Killed
"Instead of giving him a vital thrust, however, he severed the bonds, and as the wife appeared announcing the meal he was cordially invited to partake of something to eat.

"He accepted the invitation, but without a great deal of relish. I don't blame him, myself, for not being very hungry.

"During the time the meal was being taken no mention was made of the fight on the boat, and from the viewpoint of the family the meal was quite a success. After it was over he was gently relieved of his winnings, and was shown a bedroom, in which he was invited to remain for the night. He accepted the invitation, but a few minutes after he retired to his room

the family heard the window rattle, and heard him run off into the woods.

"The steamer, by the way, was named after a relative of the Patton family now living in Salem.

Fields of grain and hope now grow where the woods were once located that supplied the Dalore woodyard and Dalore himself, as well as the Fannie Patton, which has long since succumbed to the inevitable."

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