

# Illinois Valley News

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J. C. Abernathy - - - - - Editor

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## RENAISSANCE OF PROHIBITION

Medical science has made huge strides in recent years, but the researchers have still not discovered the "busy-body" gland, oversecretion of which is undoubtedly to blame for fanaticism in otherwise sane human beings. What makes a milk-chewer or a deep-breather or a graham-breader so positive that he and his small clique hold the key to salvation and that the world is out of step? What mysterious force drives him to impose his will, by force if possible, on the vast majority of more temperate thinking beings?

The failure of prohibition in this country is there for all to see and it is not our intention to warm it over. However, what many of us do not realize is that the same band of zealots who foisted this ghastly joke on the American people is still determinedly drilling away, like a band of dedicated termites, in a piecemeal attempt to create the same situation all over again. No gain is too small to strive for; if they only succeed in making it difficult for a person to get a drink rather than impossible, it is hailed as a huge victory. They have made many a bootlegger happy by fostering restrictive state liquor laws and drying up counties across the country in a checkerboard pattern.

Recently this movement reached the acme of asininity when two "temperance" organizations raised a rumpus in Washington over the fact that beer is occasionally made available to the boys fighting in Korea, logistics permitting—one can per day. One asks why the GIs can't have soda pop, fruit and vegetable juices or just plain, pure American water. The other says: "Surely, if beer can be supplied, wholesome fruit juices and soft drinks can be made available where the local water supply is unsafe."

These people brought no evidence to indicate that the GIs do not have soda pop and fruit juices, and it is our bet that these beverages are present in much larger quantities than beer. And during the hassle just past, a few million gallons of "plain, pure American water" were canned and shipped all over the world—came in very handy for shaving.

Without actually putting it into those words, the organizations paint a picture of the cruel army shoving a can of beer at a poor GI who is weeping piteously for a few drops of water and telling him to drink it or else. "Both expressed concern over the chance of the young fighting men becoming alcoholics." On one can of beer a day—when you get it; you boys who fought the last one know how that goes.

To digress a bit, no one, not even a Carrie Nation, has accused the British Navy of not knowing its job; those boys do pretty well when they have the tools for the task at hand, and they fight on half a pint of rum a day. The British sailors do not have to drink this rum—if they desire they can "stop their grog" and receive its equivalent in cash. Most of them drink it.

Getting back to Oregon, the minders-of-other-people's-business have fostered an initiative measure which would prohibit the sale of any "advertised" alcoholic beverage. It will appear on the ballot and you will have an opportunity to vote on it.

This is part of the heckling campaign; if they tried to vote total prohibition, the voters would wake up and vote it down with a thump, so they attempt to sneak in another liquor restriction in a state that is pretty thoroughly "regulated" as it is. The bill has wonderful possibilities; inasmuch as practically every national magazine and out-of-state newspaper would carry liquor and beer advertising, it could pretty well dry the state up to everything but mountain dew. Not that Oregon didn't produce some pretty good mountain dew in her time, and cheaper than the green front grocery too.

The American Legion, at its recent State

## THE AMERICAN WAY



Kidding Himself

Convention in Grants Pass, concluded a resolution regarding this measure as follows:

"Now, therefore, be it resolved by the American Legion, Department of Oregon . . . that Initiative Bill No. 317, being a bill to prohibit sale in Oregon of liquor that is promotively advertised, and to be voted on by the electorate of Oregon on November 7, 1950, should be overwhelmingly rejected by the people of Oregon for the reason that said bill is a hypocritical piece of legislation which, if passed, would return Oregon to the lawless, immoral and cynical evils of prohibition and submit our people to a suppression of free speech and free press, tending to break down the strength and moral fiber of democratic government."

## THE EDITOR'S DOGHOUSE

Two or three people have mentioned that something seemed a trifle out of adjustment in our front-page date-line last week—two or three hundred, that is.

This is just another example of the sad fact that people love to find fault, because the date lines have been correct several times lately (a good 50 per cent, anyhow) and nobody mentioned it at all.

We must admit however, that aside from prodding the editor's ribs with a stiff thumb, most people were merely curious to know how such a mistake can occur; the mechanics of the thing. How can we get up into October when everyone else still thinks it's September?

Well, it's like this: Instead of sticking each type in, one letter at a time as in days of yore, it has become the custom to cast a whole line at a time on one slug—this saves time and magnifies errors in equal proportions. Date lines are cast up two months in advance and piled in the rack; each week the printer picks the top date line slug out of the rack and throws it in the form—some weeks, that is. Other weeks we forget and run last week's over again. Last week somebody turned the pile over, and the last one came up first. That is dirty pool in anybody's league.

Why don't we read the slug; why don't we catch the first few copies off the press? For the same reason that people run out of gas with a gauge as big as an 8-day clock staring them in the face; in other words, nolo contendere.

This thing is a real challenge, but we'll lick it—just give us a few more weeks before you start setting your calendars by our date lines.

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## Capital Parade

By MURRAY WADE

### STATUS OF COLLEGE MEN

A comprehensive analysis of selective service procedure relating to men who will be attending college this year was released this week by Col. Francis W. Mason of the Oregon division of selective service.

Regulations provide that a college student who has commenced work in an academic year before his order to report for induction has been issued, may have his induction postponed by presenting a certificate that he is satisfactorily pursuing a full-time college course of study to his local board.

Such a postponement will be in effect until the end of the current academic year, in June, 1951, or until the student leaves college or fails to do satisfactory work prior thereto.

Temporary regulations gave local boards permission to place certain students in class 2-A. As soon as schools begin enrollment this fall this deferment will no longer be given the men and the procedure already explained will be in effect.

On their enrollment in college the men will be re-classified to 1-A and will receive their armed forces physical examination. This will enable them to know immediately whether they qualify for service. They will then be ordered to report for induction in the regular manner but the induction will be postponed until the end of the school year if requested by the student.

Graduated students whose curricula include part-time assistantships in teaching or research are to be considered as full-time students.

### \$3000 WAGE MEDIAN

More than half of Oregon's workers who are covered by the state unemployment commission earned \$250 a month during the last year. The top war year, 1941, saw only 34.4 per cent reach the \$3000 class.

Median earnings of all covered workers jumped to \$1569 in 1949 as compared with \$1367 in 1948. A total of 240,000 regular workers are included in the covered rolls.

### POLIO INCREASING

Twenty-five new cases of poliomyelitis were reported to the state board of health last week. The cumulative total for the current

"disease" year (the "disease" year for poliomyelitis begins with the 12th week of the calendar year, is 158 cases, compared with 104 cases for the corresponding period last year.

### NINTH COAST DEFENSE

A prescribe for the organization of a coast defense unit of the new Oregon national guard reserve was issued last week by Governor Douglas McKay. The order provides for a naval arm of the reserve, which now has three infantry regiments and an air branch.

Maj. Gen. Thomas E. Rilea, state adjutant general, said it would provide a naval reserve arm on the coast and Columbia and Willamette rivers to be made up of yachtsmen, fishermen and other small boat owners designated as the Ninth coast defense. Platoons will be at coast and river points as far east as Umatilla and south to Salem.

### HAIR STYLISTS

The Oregon Hair Fashion annual council was welcomed to the capitol Sunday by Budget Director Harry Dorman (sans chapeau) representing Governor Douglas McKay.

During the meeting, 18 girls from state institutions were given permanents and hair styles by ten of the top hair stylists in Oregon. President Christine Larsen said approximately 150 hair stylists from all over Oregon attended. Among the guests was the national chairman, Don Johnson.

### NEW CROP OF LAWYERS

Ceremonies admitting 129 successful law students to the state bar were held in the state supreme court chambers Monday morning. The announcement that 129 out of 189 students had passed the tests given in July was made last week. This year only 68 per cent of those taking the tests passed, while last year 76 per cent passed.

### BANKS CHIEF IN BOSTON

Oregon's superintendent of banks, A. A. Rogers, left last Friday for Boston, Mass., to attend the annual meeting of the association of supervisors of state banks. Rogers, previously president of the association, is now chairman of the executive committee. The convention was scheduled to open Wednesday, September 20.

## HAMBURGER HAVEN

Buy 'Em By the Sack!

Have a 'burger or a hot dog while at the football game this Saturday.

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