

Homes at Mist Get New Paint, Roof Stain Combining Started

MIST — The Austin Dowling folks are treating the exterior of their house to a new coat of paint, roof included. Wm. Bridgers was a Portland business visitor Tues. Roy Hughes was in Portland last week attending a three-day

convention of the Legion.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Hayden, Joanne and Bobby went to Glenoma, Wash. Sun. and visited the Don Hall family.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Wickstrom drove to McMinnville Sat. to meet Margie and bring her home. Walker Mathews has recently stained his house top.

Combining has already started on the surrounding farms.

The blackberry season is about over. Berries are getting mushy. Vane Burt was in the village from Rainier Sat.

Watermelon Feed at Natal Grange Draws Good Crowd Wednesday

NATAL—Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Bragg and daughter, Dorothy,

returned from Calif. Sat. where they visited with relatives for the past two weeks.

Max Oblack has been quite sick but is better now.

The watermelon feed and program put on by the home economics ladies of Natal grange Wed. night was well attended and a good time was enjoyed. Mrs. Victor Berg and children

visited with Mrs. Carmichael at Big Eddy Fri. afternoon.

Lincoln Peterson drove to Portland Mon. and again Tues. with some beeves.

Callers at the L. Carmichael home Sun. were Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Steers and children and Mr. and Mrs. Noble Dunlap.

ARMY SAVES MILLIONS

Savings of \$2,000,000 by the army quartermaster corps during the past fiscal year by repairing clothing, equipment and general supplies for re-issue is directly traceable to strict adherence to the war department's extensive conservation program.

Louisiana Applauded by Newspaper Editors for Postponing Local Option Vote

The Birmingham News

THE BIRMINGHAM AGE-HERALD Published Each Sunday In conjunction with The Age-Herald, morning except Sunday, and The News, evening except Sunday.

ESTABLISHED MARCH 14, 1888 Absorbed THE BIRMINGHAM LEDGER April, 1920 Owns THE BIRMINGHAM AGE-HERALD since 1927

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS COMPANY, Proprietors VICTOR H. HANSON, Chairman of the Board JAMES E. CHAPPELL, Pres. and Gen. Mgr. HENRY P. JOHNSTON, Vice-President CLARENCE D. HANSON, Jr., Vice-President JOHN C. CLARK, Secretary and Treasurer

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Birmingham Post-office under Act of Congress March 3, 1879

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news credited to it or otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein. Rights of publication of special dispatches reserved.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE
 Men in service are allowed 25 per cent discount. Postal regulations require all mail subscriptions to be paid in advance.
 1 Yr. 6 Mos. 3 Mos. 1 Mo. 1 Wk.
 Morn., Even. & Sunday \$75.00 \$42.50 \$27.50 \$12.50
 Evening & Sunday 45.00 25.00 15.00 7.50
 Morning & Sunday 35.00 20.00 12.50 6.25
 Mornings or Evenings Only 15.00 8.00 5.00 2.50
 Sunday Only 5.00 2.50 1.50 per copy 10

KELLY-SMITH CO. Foreign Adv. Representatives, New York, Graybar Bldg., Chicago, 180 N. Michigan Ave., Atlanta, Green Bldg., Philadelphia, Atlantic Bldg., Boston, Waterman Bldg., Detroit, General Motors Bldg.

Operators of Radio Station WGN, Presenting Programs of the Blue Network.

PHONE-A L L DEPARTMENTS-3-1114

Wet-Dry Freeze

It seems to **The News** that the Louisiana Legislature has acted both fairly and wisely in voting to freeze the present wet or dry status in the parishes, municipalities and wards of that state until one year after the end of the war.

The broad underlying reason for the action was that so many citizens of the state would be unable to participate in such elections so long as the fighting continues.

This is sound ground and the extent of supporting sentiment is suggested by the fact that the resolution was passed in the Senate by a vote of 32 to 5 and in the House by 59 to 35.

It is necessary, of course, to continue to hold elections for public officials during the war and a state-and-national program is directed toward making it possible for men and women absent from home in the services to participate in that balloting.

But there is no similar need for local option liquor elections during the conflict and of course absent voters could not be given an assured opportunity to have their part in such local decisions.

The Louisiana arrangement works fairly for both sides in this issue. Dry advocates in a wet county would have to wait for an election, but, so would wet advocates in a dry county.

Generally speaking, the local option plan makes for an equitable and democratic handling of the problem, but the absence of so many voters from their homes at this time stands in the way of a fair and popular decision of this kind.

It would be unfortunate if it were feasible for Alabama to take such action.

Louisiana-Freeze

The Louisiana Legislature's enactment of a law postponing local option elections until a year after the war is the first act of this kind to become effective. In the anti-roadhouse bill that Governor Willis vetoed, the Kentucky Legislature had provided for deferment of local option elections until 1945.

Wets won in Louisiana and Kentucky Legislatures. Dries won in Kentucky despite the Legislature.

Louisiana lawmakers were impressed by the argument that absent servicemen and workers temporarily away on war jobs should not be excluded from wet-and-dry referenda. A factor that weakened the prohibition experiment of the 1920s was the complaint of servicemen that it was enacted while they were off to war.

Almost one-third of the nation's counties, embracing nineteen per cent of the population, have voted dry. While this movement began before the war, it has doubtless been expedited by elections in which older voters predominate.

Louisville Times June 5, 1944

REQUEST OF SOLDIERS GRANTED

(Special to the Journal)

The Army's overseas newspaper, "The Stars & Stripes", stated a year ago: "We can remember the days of prohibition, when moonshine whiskey made quick fortunes for bootleggers, crooked politicians and dishonest police officials. As a result we claim we know what we want in the way of liquor legislation and feel those at home should wait until we return before initiating further legislation on liquor control."

Taking note of this attitude on the part of men and women in the service that they should have a voice in such special questions, the legislature has suspended the operation of the local option Prohibition law (Act 17 of the first extra session of 1935) until a year after peace is declared.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 3, which suspends such wartime elections on Prohibition states: "Whereas it is necessary to hold elections for the selection of state, parish and municipal officers, regardless of the absence of men and women in the armed forces, it is not necessary to hold local option elections on the question of prohibiting or permitting beer, wine and liquor during their absence for war service."

This seems to be a sound conclusion. In those sections of the state where a majority of the voters wanted another try at the "noble experiment" they have had ample opportunity in the years since repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment to vote local prohibition while a representative number of citizens had the power to vote. It is a democratic concession to assure the preservation of that power for those who are serving their country.

Thibodaux Commercial Journal Thibodaux, La. June 3, 1944

Maintaining the Status Quo

Last Wednesday a resolution passed the Louisiana state legislature by decisive majorities in both houses. Under that resolution that state forbids all local option elections on the sale of alcoholic beverages until one year after peace has been declared.

Sponsors of the resolution explained it is intended as evidence the Louisiana general assembly wants to "keep faith" with the thousands of servicemen now out of the state and thus unable to participate in such elections.

Louisiana, like Georgia, has a system which permits legalized, controlled sale of alcoholic beverages. It is felt in that state, that any return to the handling of such beverages by the criminal element, inevitable under prohibition, would be a disaster which should not be imposed for the returning soldiers and sailors to meet when they come home.

Fanatic dries, ever eager to seize any opportunity to impose their fanaticism upon other people, are again trying, through various means to inflict prohibition upon as much of the country as they can, while a large segment of the voters are away and helpless to make their wishes known. The example of the Louisiana legislature might well be followed in other states, if for no other reason than evidence of a desire for fair play on such a vital issue.

The Atlanta Constitution May 29, 1944

FAIRNESS AS TO OPTION

The Louisiana legislature just recently passed a joint resolution suspending all local option elections until one year after peace has been declared between the United States and Germany, Japan and their allies.

This action was directed at control of special balloting on controversial questions until Louisiana's men now in service can return and voice their opinions on such matters.

This measure became effective immediately without necessity of the governor's signature.

New Mexico, with such a provision now being utilized by certain groups to promote a ballot in some sections of the state, might be benefitted by having this legislative action brought to the attention of the state's legislators at their next session, to be considered in the light of the rights of our men who are showing loyalty to their country and must expect some similar show of loyalty from their state.

Roswell Dispatch June 2, 1944

ELECTIONS ON LIQUOR LAWS OUGHT TO BE DEFERRED

ANY amendments to the laws as they relate to the sale of alcoholic beverages in the various counties and states ought to be deferred until the close of the war so that the boys who are fighting the battles of our country may have an opportunity to voice their views upon the issue.

This has already been done in Louisiana, where both houses of the Legislature voted almost unanimously to "freeze" both wet and dry parishes and wards and municipalities on their present basis. That is to say, those units that are currently dry and those that now permit sale of beer, wine and liquors will remain as at present until the suspension is lifted.

The Louisiana act is effective for one year after peace is declared and was passed under constitutional authority permitting the Legislature to suspend the laws of the state.

Augusta Ga. Herald June 4, 1944

HOLD OFF ISSUES UNTIL PEACE COMES

The Louisiana legislature adopted an idea the other day that would be an excellent one for consideration by Arizona's legislators as well as a thought for Arizonians trekking to the polls Nov. 7 to cast ballots on controversial issues.

The Pelican state lawmakers frown upon placing bills on the ballot in controversial subjects while the boys are away from home and many not able to vote. In Louisiana, the legislature adopted a measure which prohibits that state from holding local option elections until one year after the war with Germany and Japan ends.

The move is considered quite significant to hold up such situations to let servicemen cast a more complete vote than through the military ballots.

In Arizona there are a couple of issues on the ballot that, perhaps, should await a return of the state to normalcy—460 at 60 and the socialized medicine idea.

Phoenix Arizona Gazette May 29, 1944

Protecting Their Right to Vote

The state legislature has passed a resolution suspending local option prohibition elections until a year after peace is declared.

The proponents of the resolution stated that it is "as fair for one side as it is for the other side" because it means that parishes, wards and municipalities presently operating under prohibition laws must retain their status as must those places permitting legal sale of alcoholic beverages until men and women in the service of their country return home and can vote on any change which may be desired.

The local option law was passed during the first extra session of 1935. DeSoto and the adjoining parishes of Red River and Sabine were among the first to choose prohibition. Other sections of the state, including Franklin parish, have voted from time to time in the ensuing years on the question. The legislature has, in effect, taken the position that any strong sentiment of the people should have been expressed since 1935 and that wartime is no time for local controversies of such a nature, particularly since so many citizens are unable to vote at this time.

We know that those sections of the state traditionally opposed to the legal sale of alcoholic beverages have taken action under the local option law prior to the present war. Anyone opposing the temporary suspension of this law during wartime lays himself open to suspicion of wanting to deny America's servicemen their right to vote on an important social and economic question.

The Franklin Sun Winnaboo, La. June 15, 1944