

THE DURHAM RECORDER.

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MAKING AND SELLING BOOZE

G. S. Shepherd had Government License Runs a Dispensary.

SOLD WHISKEY WITH A HIDDEN HAND

Bad State of Affairs Causes Investigation—\$400 Cash Security—Unique Blind Tiger.

G. S. Shepherd, a well known farmer living west of the city, was arrested Monday on the charge of making brandy in violation of the Watts and Ward whiskey laws. He was arraigned before Justice of the Peace J. E. Owens, waived examination and was sent over to the grand jury under bond of \$40. His bond was first fixed at \$500, but was reduced on appeal of counsel for Shepherd. He gave bond by depositing the cash.

Shepherd had gone into the business of making brandy in a wholesale way and open and above board, without any pretensions at secrecy. His cider he ordered from other states in car load lots and he was protected so far as the federal authorities are concerned with government license. The manner in which the law was being openly violated came to the sheriff's office and Monday Deputy Sheriff J. F. Harward found Shepherd in the city and he was placed under arrest. Under advice of his counsel he waived examination and was sent to the higher court.

This is not the first trouble that Shepherd has found himself in on account of handling whiskey. There is now on the dockets of the county a case in which he is charged with selling whiskey, the case pending until the next criminal term of court.

Last fall when Solicitor Brooks was making it warm for a number of people who were violating the whiskey laws, G. S. Shepherd, commonly known as "Sam" Shepherd, was on the grand jury and in his investigations, the solicitor found that he had government license to sell whiskey, this being before he put in his brandy still attachments to his business. It was after this that the solicitor caused the arrest of Shepherd on the whiskey selling charge. In this case the fact that he had license to sell whiskey will be used against him, as the provisions of the state whiskey laws are such that the possession of whiskey license from the government is prima facie evidence of his guilt under the state law.

Recently, however, Shepherd secured license for the manufacture of brandy and revenue officers have been checking up and gauging his brandy just as another government still in territory where such stills are allowed. In other words he was looking after his fences on the government side but paying no attention to the state law covering this traffic.

Report from the neighborhood in which Shepherd lives and has been doing business tell of a bad state of affairs. It is said by those who are frequently in that section that on Sunday crowds of people gather from Chapel Hill, Durham, Hillsboro and other places and they have things their own way in drunken carousals. It could hardly be termed an open secret that all the whiskey wanted could be secured in that locality and the gathering was such as to disgust the better class of citizens and make it very disagreeable for people who obey

the laws and live a sober and orderly life.

Wednesday officers J. F. and J. D. Pleasants, armed with search warrant and warrant of arrest, raided the store of W. A. Dezern, near Hickstown, and brought to light a unique blind tiger establishment.

It came to the ears of Justice of the Peace J. E. Owens that whiskey was being sold at the store of Dezern and he had several young men summoned to appear before him and testify as to what they know about this violation of the laws. From some of these witnesses it was learned that they could get all the whiskey they wanted at the store of Dezern, but they did not know who sold it to them. They then 'old of going into a room adjoining the main store building, putting their coin in a pocket book that was attached to a string, give the string a "yank" and in a few moments see a bottle of booze slip into view, tied by the same string.

A warrant was issued for the arrest of Dezern and the officers were also armed with a search warrant in order that they might learn something of this invention—this inanimate whiskey seller. The search they made revealed quite a unique arrangement.

Behind the counter in the main store building there was a trap door through the floor and through this ran an endless cord, spools being used as pulleys. The cord went under the floor, to the adjoining room and there was another trap door. Attached to the cord was a game and all the man who was distressingly dry had to do was to go into the smaller room, put his money in the purse, give the cord a pull and it would be taken into the next room. The noise made by the trap door attracted the attention of the one on the inside, he would take the money, attach a bottle of whiskey and the cord would again be pulled, this time by the one in the store, and the person who had just parted with his coin would find a bottle of whiskey in front of him. The transaction was made and yet not a word had been said and neither of the parties had seen the other.

One young fellow, who told under oath of what he knew, said that he placed one dollar in the purse and received in return a quart of whiskey. That was all he could tell.

When the information as to the arrangements was secured the officers placed Dezern under arrest.

Three Small Fires.

Tuesday afternoon late fire was discovered in the building on Church street occupied by L. D. Rogers. Prompt work on part of those around prevented a serious fire.

Two alarms of fire were sent in Wednesday. The first call was about seven o'clock in the morning and the department was called to the Seaboard Air Line yard on Dillard street. The caboose of a freight train was on fire and the car and the contents were destroyed. The second alarm came from box 44 calling the department to the old Roanoke Inn. The services of the fireman was not needed, and very little damage resulted from the fire.

The Alaska Packers Association give the heartiest support to the Pure Food Laws, and guarantee their products to meet all the requirements.

DRANK 2 OUNCES LAUDANUM

Thomas Browning Attempts Suicide Wednesday Afternoon.

NO REASON GIVEN FOR THE RASH ACT

Physician's Timely Arrival Saves Him—Given to Gloomy "Spells"—His Home in Edgemont.

Thomas Browning, a young man who looks to be some 23 or 24 years of age, attempted suicide late Wednesday afternoon by drinking two one ounce bottles of laudanum. There is no doubt but that he intended to end his life and the only reason that he was not successful was the prompt arrival of a physician. For sometime he lay in an extremely dangerous condition but later he was moved to his home in Edgemont and the last heard from him was that he would survive his attempt at self destruction.

Just why Browning attempted to end his life is not known. He gave no warnings of his intentions, other than to quit work and say he would work no more in this life, and during the day he did not seem out of the ordinary frame of mind. Some of his friends suggested that he frequently had "spells," this being said with a view of framing an excuse for his efforts of self murder.

Browning held a position with W. R. Herndon, working at the Parrish street stables. About 4:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon he left the stables, telling the men in charge that he did not have anything against them, but that he was not going to work any more, for him or any other person. He was told to go home and rest and to report for work this morning.

From there he went to the Orange street stables of Mr. Herndon and asked Mr. James Green for his time. This was refused and he was told to go home and rest from work today. He then asked Mr. Green to loan him 40 cents. This was done. He appeared to be half crying, and as he walked away he said: "Good-bye." Mr. Green says that he was not under the influence of whiskey. A little later he came back to the side of the stables, at the blacksmith shop, and one of the men saw him empty the contents of a bottle into a dipper and drink it. He called to one of the men in the stables and another went after some one to tell them of the act. When they were returning they saw Browning empty a second bottle into the dipper and before they could stop him he drank that also. Then the bottles were taken from his hand and it was seen that he had drunk two ounces of laudanum. A physician was quickly called.

When Dr. Calvin Hicks arrived Browning was practically unconscious and a little later he was unconscious. The stomach pump was used and after this he was given antidotes. In something more than an hour he showed some signs of reviving and two or three hours after the occurrence he was taken to his home in Edgemont. While not out of danger later in the night it was thought that he would recover.

Browning had gone about his attempt at self destruction in a deliberate manner. One bottle showed that it had been purchased from the drug store of C. E. King & Sons and the other from the Thomas Pharmacy.

DURHAM THE PLACE OF MEETING.

Teachers to Meet Here From June 11th to 14th.

The annual meeting of the North Carolina Teachers' assembly will be held in Durham beginning June 11 and holding through 14.

This is the decision of the special committee appointed to select the place of meeting. This committee, as will be recalled, met in Greensboro last Saturday night, at which time several invitations were given to the teachers to hold the annual meeting at various places—Durham, Charlotte and Morehead City making offers to the committee. After carefully considering these invitations and carefully canvassing the entire situation the committee decided that Durham was the best place for the next meeting.

The citizens of Durham, chamber of commerce, the teachers of the city schools and the faculty of Trinity college all joined in extending the cordial invitation that went to the assembly, and the people of the city pledged sufficient financial support to prepare a programme that will contain some of the most distinguished educators and lecturers in the country.

Superintendent W. D. Carmichael, through whom the invitations from Durham people were extended, has received a letter from Secretary R. D. W. Connor expressing the thanks and appreciation of the committee for the interest and support by the citizens of our city.

The assembly last year met in Raleigh and more than seven hundred teachers were in attendance. It is confidently expected that even a larger number will attend the Durham meeting. It is probable that a special teachers' train will be run from Durham to Norfolk to carry the teachers in a body to the Jamestown exposition and this feature of the season will be a great drawing card. The people of Durham will co-operate in every way possible with the officers of the assembly to make the meeting a great success.

The officers of the assembly are: Prof. J. A. Matheson, of Durham, president; Superintendent T. R. Foust, of Greensboro, vice president, and Mr. R. D. W. Connor, of Raleigh, secretary.

There is no article of food more nutritious or healthful than Argo Red Salmon. As a brain and muscle builder, it is far ahead of beef or other meats.

This showed that he knew what he was doing and that he knew that he could not get more than a small bottle from any one druggist.

Browning is the son of Henry Browning, is about 23 years of age and married. He has no children. He lives in the Edgemont section with his wife, who was a Miss Smith before her marriage. He had been working for Mr. Herndon for some time.

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Statement of Bank at Close of Business Jan. 26, 1907.

Resources.		Liabilities.	
Loans and Investments,	\$586,954.95	Capital,	\$100,000.00
U. S. Bonds,	150,000.00	Surplus,	60,000.00
Premiums U. S. Bonds,	5,659.69	Undivided profits,	14,272.25
Banking House,	13,000.00	Circulation,	100,000.00
Cash and due from Banks,	293,129.84	Deposits,	781,657.23
Redemption Fund,	7,200.00	Dividends unpaid,	15.00
	\$1,055,944.48		\$1,055,944.48

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