

# The Madison Messenger

Miss Watkins

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Every Thursday

## Beer Advocates Win First Round; Senate

Just before the holidays, the house, by a vote of 230 to 165, passed the bill to legalize the sale of a 3.2 per cent beer (the ways and means committee bill) equal to 4 per cent by weight, and, according to most authorities, a very good pre-war beverage, whether or not it is intoxicating "in fact" under ordinary conditions. This is the first "wet victory" since the 18th amendment was adopted. The senate immediately promised early action, but this will not come until after the Christmas holidays.

Three members of the state delegation, Messrs. Weaver, Lambeth and Clark, cast dissenting votes, because the bill was finally submitted in unexpurgated and unamended form—the house rather peremptorily declined to lower the alcoholic content, and then some of the members regarded as significant, if there was not something sinister, in the omission of the provision contained in most beer bills hitherto, in which Congress would undertake to declare, affirmatively, that the beverage was not intoxicating.

Chairman Summers, of the judiciary committee, of which Mr. Weaver is also a member, commented during the debate on the floor of the strange absence of this paragraph, and he saw in this an effort to make it difficult for the courts to take cognizance of any act of Congress providing for modification.

Representative Rayburn, another Texan, and colleague of Speaker Garner, took a somewhat similar view, and several of the Texas members failed to "go along" with the speaker and the house leadership in support of the bill, which so many of the Democratic leaders looked upon as one of the measures demanded by the Democratic platform, and a necessary step, if the campaign promises of the Democratic candidate for the presidency and for the vice presidency are to be redeemed.

Mr. Rainey, Democratic floor leader, and candidate for the speakership said to a Daily News representative following the vote:

"I am greatly pleased with the result of the vote. It means that Democrats are going to keep faith with the voters." But of course the vote today does not mean beer by Christmas—certainly not this Christmas. It is generally assumed that President Hoover will veto the bill if it ever reaches his desk, but there may be some chance for such a measure in the senate especially if it is brought forward, primarily, as a revenue measure, and a general manufacturers' excise tax is included as a rider. Senator Reynolds expressed gratification when he heard of the house vote, and added he had an impression that advocates of the bill would have a very good chance to secure senate approval. Senator Bailey did not care today to discuss the beer bill, or its chances.

Speaker Garner fears the outlook is not so good for favorable action by the senate. He said to the Daily News: "There is no certainty that the bill will be approved at the other end."

No doubt it will be different after March 4 when the Democrats will be in absolute command, with Mr. Garner as vice president.

There was a fly in the ointment for the house leaders today in the circumstances that so many of the southern members voted against the bill, and it was said that the church influences had been active during the last few days. Half of the Virginia delegation voted against the bill, and dry speakers today boss down strong on

the point that members "could not escape their responsibility" by leaving the constitutionality of the pending to the measure to the Supreme court.

Mr. McSwain, of South Carolina, answered this by declaring he had appealed in vain to the law books for a definition of intoxication, and had then appealed for light to the physicians, most of whom had replied the alcoholic content provided in the committee bill would not prove intoxicating, in fact. The South Carolina member, therefore, concluded that it would be entirely safe and legal for him to cast a vote in harmony with the Democratic platform.

Besides, as Mr. Doughton, a dry and member of the committee pointed out, this is not a proposal to change at this time the organic law of the land; if the people do not want the beer they get it, and if the conditions surrounding its sale do not prove satisfactory, Congress may easily change or repeal the law. Mr. Doughton and many other members are also of the opinion that modification may prove a step in the direction of temperance, that it may postpone the day of the return of hard liquor. Mr. Hancock has been inclined to the opinion that it would probably be found wise to modify the Volstead act, and then stop there.

Mr. Lambeth explaining his vote, said he regretted his inability to cast his vote with the majority, but that he had told the voters of his district during the campaign that whereas he was perfectly willing to vote for resubmission of the 18th amendment, he could not cast a vote that might lead in the direction of nullification. He said most of the beer bills had proposed a lower alcoholic content, and that the idea now was to put more alcohol in the beverage, and lower the tax, by way of promoting sales. Mr. Lambeth added that the tax on the sale of some cigarettes amounts to 60 per cent, where the proposed tax on beer was only 1 cent a glass. Mr. Clark also favors resubmission, but thinks 3.2 beer, virtually the pre-war kind, is clearly intoxicating, if drunk in large quantities, and therefore it must be considered in contravention of the constitution.

Mr. Clark is among those who have consistently taken the view, since Congress met, that a repeal resolution should be put ahead of the beer and wine, or modification of the Volstead act. He makes the point that if Congress declares 3.2 beer to be non-intoxicating, then the federal government will automatically lose all control over the traffic in the beverage, and he apprehends, had the members of the North Carolina delegation, presented a united front support of the beer bill it would have paved the way for similar action by the legislature of North Carolina, with the result, if the bill should become law, that by summer about every filling station and hot dog stand in the state would be handling beer, possibly under a state sales tax, as an additional reason or incentive for promoting the business.

Mr. Clark goes even further in considering the possibilities. He envisions the hypothetical case of the man who buys half dozen bottles of beer from a filling station, and starts out in a condition not quite normal, to say the least. Should there be an accident, and some one should suffer injury, it could not be well charged that he was driving while intoxicated because, even if the bottles should be found, the defendant would only have to cite the act of

(Continued on last page)

## Balancing The Books



### Mrs. J. R. Covington

Mrs. Jettie Rierson Covington, 71, widow of Harding W. Covington, passed away yesterday at noon at the home of her daughter, Mrs. G. H. Murray, 1219 East Twenty-fifth street, following a serious illness of one week with pneumonia.

She was born in Stokes county, April 27, 1861, a daughter of the late Elijah and Elizabeth Rierson. She spent most of her life in Stokes county where her husband was a farmer. He passed away ten years ago. She had been making her home with a daughter, Mrs. J. F. McGee, Winston-Salem, Route 3, and was visiting Mrs. Murray when she was stricken ill. She was a member of Clear Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Stokes county.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. L. C. Tucker of Madison, Route 1; Mrs. G. H. Murray of this city, and Mrs. J. F. McGee of Winston-Salem, Route 3; one son, W. A. Covington of this city; two sisters, Mrs. Albert Samuel of High Point, and Mrs. Luther Young of Danbury, and thirteen grandchildren.

The funeral will be held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Clear Springs Primitive Baptist Church. Elders Watt Tuttle and S. H. Reid will conduct the services. Burial will follow in the church graveyard.—Winston-Salem Journal, 29th.

### Lost \$350.00

H. J. Grogan of Madison, who was operating a fireworks stand on the High Point road, just out of Greensboro, suffered the complete loss of his stock a few days before Christmas, when a customer lighted a firecracker in the building and it exploded before he could throw it out of the building. It caused a fire that gutted the entire building. Mr. Grogan's loss was about \$350.00.

### A Daughter

Born to Mr. and Mrs. J. Cecil Brown, Sunday afternoon, a daughter.

James D. G. Barbara Ann

### Rain And Sleet Is Hard On Livestock

Heavy rains followed by the sleet and snow which have fallen over most of North Carolina in recent weeks causes more hardship to livestock than subzero weather. Especially do animals not adequately bedded suffer under such conditions.

"We write and say much about our mild winters being suitable for the keeping of livestock on North Carolina farms, and it is quite true that we have an advantage in this respect. We should not overplay this advantage, however, and use it as an excuse for neglecting the stock," says L. I. Case, livestock specialist at State College. "Such weather as we have had in the State recently is hard on animals kept in barns or lots with insufficient bedding. Stock running in the open field will be much more comfortable under such conditions. We should keep in mind the old saying that an animal with a good bed is half fed."

Mr. Case has found in his demonstration work with livestock that if livestock is provided with a good place to lie, a considerable amount of food is saved.

"While we are all concerned with the suffering of human beings during the winter, let us not forget our livestock," Mr. Case says. He believes farmers are doing their part in relieving human hardships but they should, at the same time, give proper consideration to their dumb animals. They should be properly fed and cared for both from a humane standpoint and from an economical viewpoint. Where sufficient feeds were not produced on the farm for adequately nourishing the animals, such feeds should be purchased. Where dry bedding is not available, it must be secured somehow, somewhere and in some manner.

This will pay in peace of mind as well as in dollars, Mr. Case believes.

Read The Messenger ads and buy it at home.

### Baptist Church News

(O. E. Ward, Pastor)  
Happy New Year! Why not make a new start? Come to church. A New Year—New Life—New Purpose—New Power. Sunday school convenes promptly at 10 A. M. Classes for the whole family. Morning worship at 11. Sermon by the pastor, subject "Facing The New Year." Evening services at 7:30. Mid-week prayer meeting Wednesday evening 7:30. Everyone who reads this is invited to attend all these services and you will also find a warm welcome.

### Nelson—Mitchell

Shirley Mitchell of this place and Miss Dorothy Nelson of Walnut Cove staid a march on their friends Saturday afternoon by motoring to Rocky Mount, Va., where they were united in marriage. Mrs. Mitchell is the attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Nelson of Walnut Cove, while Mr. Mitchell is a popular young business man of Madison. Both enjoy a large circle of friends.

### Quiet Christmas

"Old inhabitants" tell us that this has been the quietest Christmas for many years—in fact the quietest they ever experienced. There are several contributing causes. In the first place, the depression is reigning supreme in this section. Then, too, the snow, followed by rain for the past several days have played havoc with the roads, and they are reported to be in worse condition than for many years. It is really a problem to get anywhere, if one does not live on or near the hardsurface roads.

### Broke Arm

Mrs. Ed Jones had the misfortune of falling on the floor at New Jones Hotel Saturday afternoon and breaking her right arm near the shoulder. She is recuperating nicely, friends will be pleased to learn.

## Roosevelt Is 'Agin' The Sales Tax Proposition

Washington, Dec. 27.—The sales tax, recommended by President Hoover and again thrust forward in Congress during the past few days, was virtually dismissed today as a possibility at the present session.

This was clearly indicated after President-elect Roosevelt at Albany was represented as being "horified" by published reports that he had endorsed the general manufacturers sales tax.

This attitude on the part of the next President, said Speaker Garner, "kills the sales tax this session anyhow."

Even before this, Senator Harrison of Mississippi, ranking Democrat on the finance committee, had expressed the opinion that the sales tax could not pass this branch. This view was generally held by Democratic leaders.

In both branches, however, the Democrats pushed forward their attempt to balance 1934's budget, so as to avoid if at all possible a special session before next fall.

The ways and means committee of the house will begin on January 3 an exhaustive study of federal financing.

This is the tax-raising committee and its chairman, Collier, of Mississippi, only yesterday said he knew of no means of balancing the budget except the sales tax.

However, the views of President-elect Roosevelt communicated to Congress have been directed largely at reduction of expenditures, and intensive work along that line is in progress. A study of fixed expenditures, which do not vary from year to year, and amount in all to more than a billion, was undertaken by a subcommittee of

the appropriations committee at the request of Chairman Byrns. They are to see if any reduction is feasible.

As Democratic congressional leaders understand it, the President-elect would like the present session to adopt a resolution for the repeal of the 18th amendment, pass a beer bill, cut expenditures to the bone and enact a Democratic farm relief measure.

If all this could be done, Senator Harrison said today, "we could get along without an extra session until late summer."

He saw no escape from an extra session if President Hoover should veto the beer and farm relief bills.

The senator also favored continuing the existing one-cent gasoline tax, which he estimates meant a yearly revenue of \$130,000,000.

On the question of regular annual appropriations, the house appropriations committee has been more critical than usual. It has submitted to the house three bills—the treasury-postoffice, interior and agriculture departments. These carry \$425,724,000 less than for the current year and \$33,637,000 less than the budget asked.

Two of these bills, those for the treasury-postoffice and interior departments, already have passed the house, the latter today. The third, carrying \$110,000,000 for agriculture, was then taken up.

Both in house and senate the Democrats indicated they wished to make way for plans of the new President to reorganize the government establishment. He is understood to contemplate asking Congress for blanket reorganization authority and Senator Harrison said "we are going to give it."

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* **MAYODAN** \* \* **STONEVILLE** \*  
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Mr. and Mrs. Tot Gilbert and daughter of Martinsville are spending the holidays with Mrs. N. A. Gilbert.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Dalton of Winston-Salem spent Sunday in town.

Bill and Melvin Shropshire of Roanoke spent the holidays in town.

Mrs. Robert Dalton, Misses Maude and Sallie Dalton of Greensboro are visiting Mrs. J. V. Highfill.

Miss Merle Freeman of Winston-Salem is spending the holidays with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunt Smith and son and daughter of Martinsville spent the week end with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lehman and Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Lehman and son and daughter spent the week end in Charlotte.

Miss Lucy Martin of Hickory is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Martin.

Jesse Hurd and son of Martinsville spent Sunday with relatives.

Miss Thelma Brown of Roanoke spent the week end with friends.

Miss Beulah Whitbeck of N. C. C. is home for the holidays. Miss Susie Dalton of Greensboro is visiting Miss Maude Joyce.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Smith and sons of Danville spent Sunday with relatives.

John Dempster of Charlotte spent the week end with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Tulloch of Winston-Salem spent Saturday with Mrs. J. C. Johnson.

R. M. Barham and sons and daughter of Leaksville spent Sunday with Mrs. J. C. Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Durham and children of Greensboro are visiting relatives.

Mr. Sue Stone of Raleigh is on a visit here.

Will Taylor and family of Warsaw, Dr. L. L. Taylor and family of Winston-Salem and Jesse Taylor of Fort Bragg visited Mrs. J. M. Taylor during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Ivie and son, Lawson, Jr., Mrs. W. L. Gravelly, Miss Rivers Ivie and Mr. Fitts of Leaksville visited Stoneville Christmas Day.

Miss Annie Smith of near Stoneville was married to Jeter Grogan Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. B. K. Thomas is on a visit to her mother, Mrs. T. J. Glenn.

Mrs. J. P. Carter and Wilbur Carter were recent visitors in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Swanson of Pilot Mountain are visiting relatives.

Mr. Siler of Siler City visited friends in town recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bennett spent a few days here recently.

Dr. Bedford preached in the Christian Church Sunday.

We regret to learn that J. A. Scales is on the sick list.

Miss Louise Vernon visited her parents Christmas Day.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Vernon, Clarence Vernon, and Miss Florence King visited Martinsville Friday afternoon.

### Collum-Harris

A wedding was solemnized at Wake Forest Monday, in which friends in Madison will be interested, when Miss Frances Collum of that place and Lawrence Harris plighted troth. Mr. Harris was a former member of Madison high school faculty and has a number of friends in this section.

Read The Messenger ads.