

CONGRESS WILL FACE FURIOUS BEER BATTLE

Drys Will Exert Utmost Efforts to Prevent Brew Return.

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gally prepared to receive beer even if congress legalizes it.

Before the last election there were six: Maryland, New York, Massachusetts, Nevada, Montana, Wisconsin.

Nine states repealed their enforcement laws in the last election: Michigan, Louisiana, Washington, New Jersey, California, Oregon, Arizona, North Dakota, Colorado.

Fourteen Repeal Acts

That makes fourteen states which have repealed enforcement acts since national prohibition (Maryland never had any), and makes more than 40,000,000 people eligible to receive whatever congress offers them.

But in the other thirty-three states, even if the national law is repealed, the state law remains.

Furious fights are certain in the legislatures of many of these states to repeal state laws and get them in shape to profit by any national modification.

The American Federation of Labor and the Crusaders for the wets, and the W. C. T. U. and Anti-Saloon League for the drys are already active here.

Bear in mind that so far as congress has power to legalize beer at all, it must do it on the theory that it is nonintoxicating.

Will Kill State Laws

That brings up the next problem. If congress declares 4 per cent beer non-intoxicating, it is possible that practically all the state laws (which set a 1/4 per cent limit) will become unconstitutional, being in conflict with the law of congress. And then all restrictions on this revived beer are off.

Beer will get a big stimulus, in addition to the definite prod of the electorate, from the fact that the government needs money, and needs it badly.

Any aid beer would bring to unemployment or the grain surplus would be a help, too. Those factors are going to be important to fence-sitters in congress.

There will be literally scores of beer bills thrown into the hopper as soon as the gavel falls. In fact, there are scores left over from last session. The judiciary committee will have to hold hearings, weed out those with very high or unlimited alcoholic content, and pick one which seems likely to get court approval.

Bitter Fight Sure

This will be fought bitterly both in committee and on the floor, for the drys are going to battle every inch of the way.

If modification should be blocked in the "lame duck" session, it is certain to go through in some form when the newly elected congress meets in response to an expected call from President-Elect Franklin D. Roosevelt after his inauguration, March 4.

For the astounding overturn in the recent election completely changed the complexion of congress. The "lame duck" congress lines up: House, wet 188, dry 247; senate, wet 31, dry 65.

But the new congress will line up: House, wet 323, dry 26, undecided 86; senate, wet 61, dry 30, undecided 5. Thus the drys lost 221 seats in the next house and 35 in the senate, almost a complete reversal.

Democrats and Wet

It is thus clear that in the next session house and senate will both be Democratic and wet by good matriculation.

The platform on which it was so overwhelmingly given power was promised: 1. Repeal of the eighteenth amendment by proposing a repealer to "truly representative conventions in the states called to act solely on that proposal."

2. Pending repeal, immediate modification of the Volstead act to legalize beer and other beverages "of such alcoholic content as is permissible under the Constitution."

With such a tremendous majority, the new congress is certain to modify in some way, even if the "lame duck" congress does not.

But at the root of the matter lies the eighteenth amendment. The Democratic position is clear. It implies complete repeal, turning back the whole matter to the states, and clearing the federal Constitution of any specific mention of liquor.

No Substitute Implied

Its demand that the federal government use its power to "enable the states to protect themselves" against outside liquor traffic, does not imply any substitute amendment to take the place of the eighteenth.

Attorney-General Mitchell, however, believes that if a substitute amendment seemed to congress necessary to give the federal government power to protect dry states, such a substitute could be

Divorce Fought



Helen Lee Worthing
LOS ANGELES, Nov. 14.—Helen

Lee Worthing, once a Pollie beauty, will face a hearing in superior court here Tuesday, instituted by her divorced husband, Dr. Eugene C. Nelson, Negro, to set aside the decree granted here last year.

Nelson declared that the residential requirements of the Mexican law were not met in their marriage in 1927. If successful, he plans to file another suit for annulment of the marriage.

either written in one piece with the repealer or submitted at the same time.

In that case the states could accept or reject either or both. Thus the form in which repeal is submitted is most important. It could be submitted in such form as to make adoption almost impossible.

Drys Have Hope

While undoubtedly a drive for repeal will be made in the "lame duck" congress, it has less chance than in the new one. Then there is almost certain to be a repealer, either with or without a substitute, submitted to the states.

However, the "bone drys" do not concede even this. Mrs. Ella Boole, president of the W. C. T. U., says she does not believe even the new congress will achieve the two-thirds majority needed to submit repeal to the states.

Varying degrees of wets seem assured of 223 in the next house, the drys 26, with 86 undetermined. That is plenty more than two-thirds.

The senate will be closer. The best estimate is 61 wet, 30 dry, 5 undetermined. Thus the wets need at least three of those undetermined senators to have their two-thirds.

36 States Needed

It is in the next house, after the preliminary battle of submission is won in congress, that the bitterest fights will be fought.

For of course the adverse vote of thirteen states can block any amendment to the Constitution, thirty-six states being necessary to ratify.

The dry strategy will be to put up as bitter a fight as possible against superior numbers in congress, and then if beaten, to fall back to their entrenched position in states.

NEXT: What may be expected if beer returns, in taxes, in employment, in the grain situation, in the realm of the racketeer?

PENNEY TO SPEAK HERE

Founder of Chain of 1,477 Stores to Address Managers.

J. C. Penney, founder of the J. C. Penney Company chain of 1,477 stores, will address a meeting of central Indiana and eastern Illinois Penney store managers Wednesday in Indianapolis.

Beginning his career as a dry goods store clerk at \$2.27 a month, Penney has become one of the nation's leading merchants, his stores having an annual volume of business of \$175,000,000.

Asthma Treatment On Free Trial!

ST. MARY'S, Kan.—D. J. Lane, a druggist at 1413 Lane Building, St. Mary's, Kan., manufactures a treatment for Asthma in which he has so much confidence that he sends a \$1.25 bottle by mail to anyone who will write him for it. His offer is that he is to be paid for this bottle after you are completely satisfied and the one taking the treatment to be the judge. Send your name and address today.—Advertisement.

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What if just one little boy or girl in Indianapolis fell into a rickety old uncovered cistern . . . and went down, down, down!

Would you help?

Would you care whose boy, or whose girl it was?

Would you hesitate because you thought somebody else would assume the responsibility?

Would you fail to do your very best just because you couldn't hear his cries?

Or would you wait to see what was going to hap-



FLORENCE CRITTENDEN HOME



INDIANAPOLIS DAY NURSERY

Let's take another example—but a true one this time—there ARE tiny tots asking for help. Not just one or two, but hundreds and hundreds of them—children of unemployed, innocent little youngsters in institutions who have no mother's breast to shelter them, crippled children who want to be made well and strong, who want to run and play.

You can't hear their appeals—but God knows they are appealing to you.

If any one of these precious little children toddled up to you and said "please," you know very well what you would do. You wouldn't hesitate, you wouldn't wait for some one else to help.

You would be glad and anxious to do your part.

Remember, too, that hundreds of these youngsters couldn't even walk to you and ask for help—they are cripples—they would have to be carried on stretchers!



ST. ELIZABETH'S HOME

pen before you offered to help?

There is only one answer to this question . . . we know what you would do . . . we know what every red-blooded citizen in Indianapolis would do.



INDIANAPOLIS ORPHANS' HOME

When you think of the Community Fund, think of these innocent little youngsters at St. Elizabeth's Home, think of the cuddly babies at Florence Crittenden Home, of the cute little children under care at the Indianapolis Day Nursery and at the Indianapolis Orphans Home—just a few of the many who are silently appealing to you.

But remember this; they ARE appealing to YOU.

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