

# SENATE SPENDS DAY AND NIGHT MANGLING BILL

Liquor Control Measure Is Battered Remnant after 12 Hours' Work

## FINAL VOTE DUE MONDAY

Final consideration of the liquor control bill in the senate is scheduled to start at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon. The time was set as the upper house adjourned Friday noon after spending 12 hours Thursday and Friday morning in deliberations which mangled the bill almost beyond recognition.

The house, which stood in recess Friday morning, awaiting possible final action in the senate, also adjourned, but until Monday night at 8 o'clock. It is the hope of legislative leaders that the senate will have passed the bill by then. The house, which passed the bill in radically different form, will then refuse to accept changes made in it by the senate. Thus the bill will be referred to a conference committee which was being tentatively chosen Friday morning by Lieut. Gov. Allen B. Stebbins, president of the senate, and Speaker Martin R. Bradley of the house.

The Friday senate session was cut short at noon because the members left in a body to attend the funeral at Bay City of Senator Calvin A. Campbell (R) of Indian River, who died Tuesday night. No quorum could be promised for Saturday morning.

### Make Change in Age Limit

On Thursday, the upper house labored for 10 hours, at three sittings, morning, afternoon and night, adjourning half an hour after midnight Friday morning. On Friday morning, one change voted Thursday was reversed, that being the provision that no one under 21 could legally purchase beer or wine. This section was eliminated so that these lighter alcoholic beverages might be bought by anyone 18 or over, while hard liquors could be purchased only by those 21 or over. The first provision was believed unenforceable.

Most important of the changes made Thursday and Friday were these:

Local legislative bodies would not only pass on applications for licenses to sell liquor, but could, upon petition to the liquor commission, gain revocation of any such license.

Restaurants could sell whisky by the glass only in Wayne county and in the upper peninsula.

The state liquor store system would be retained with but one store in each county of less than 75,000 population; in any county with more than 75,000 population there would be one store for each 75,000 of population or fraction (not major fraction) thereof.

There could be no liquor store in any county of the state if the board of supervisors voted against it, although this body would have no con-

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# SENATE WORKS DAY AND NIGHT ON BILL

Mangled Measure Is Finally Ready for Third Reading Early Next Week

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trol over other kinds of distributors' licenses.

### Reduce Size of Commission

The 17-member liquor control commission was eliminated and a three-man commission substituted with full-time positions paying \$7,500 annually and all expenses.

The liquor commission's share of local fees of distributors would be reduced from 25 to 15 percent.

After deduction of \$1,000,000, from revenues, for the control commission as revolving fund, the entire balance would be placed out on loans to school districts needing emergency aid, the loans to be repaid when, as, and if the schools received revenues under the \$15,000,000 school aid bill of the regular session.

Repayment of such loans would be made to the old age pension fund.

No person receiving welfare aid would be able to purchase beer, wine or liquor anywhere in the state.

### Make Purchase Subject to Bids

All purchases of hard liquor by the state liquor commission (which would buy the entire legal supply for this state) would be only from the lowest bidder, after an advertised purchase, as other state supplies are now bought.

The reversal of sentiment as to the age before which a person might legally purchase beer and wine, represented a defeat for Senator Felix H. Flynn (R) of Cadillac, who had gained adoption of the "no beer or wine to those under 21" amendment, Thursday night. Senator Doyle attacked this and carried his point Friday morning. The amendment barring welfare charges from legally buying any sort of alcoholic beverages was also Senator Flynn's.

### Reverses Stand on Wayne Sales

The provision whereby restaurants could sell whisky by the glass in Wayne county, apparently encountering opposition, aroused Senator Leo G. Karwick (D) of Detroit into a frenzy of oratory which so engendered manifest antagonism that Senator Anthony J. Wilkowski (D) of Detroit, sponsor of the move, said frankly that "I'm sorry Mr. Karwick spoke as he did. I think the amendment would have carried if he had not spoken at all."

The amendment was withdrawn, and offered again at the night session when it carried, 14 to 7. A moment later, Senator Ray Derham (R) from Iron Mountain proposed an additional amendment which thrust the entire upper peninsula into the same category and permitted whisky sales in restaurants there as well.

The break between Senators Wilkowski and Karwick furnished some of the fireworks of the session. It was intensified when Senator Karwick, long a champion of state stores but who reversed his position Thursday morning because of pressure from his constituents, he said, rose again to strike out all provision for a liquor store system. Senator Wilkowski jumped to his feet and yelled: "what has happened since the time he first introduced the liquor store amendment he is now trying to kill? I'd like to know that. Last night at 6 o'clock he wanted liquor stores!" Senator Karwick offered no further explanation.

As was expected, there were sparks when the matter of the liquor control commission was reached. Senator Edward B. McKenna (D) of Detroit started the show by proposing a five-man commission. Senator Derham proposed that three of them should be the secretary of state, the state treasurer, and the superintendent of public instruction, that is, members of the state board of auditors. Before this proposal could be acted upon, Senator Albert L. Moore (R) of Pontiac struck out against the "absent treatment control system" of the present 17-member commission, most of whose business is, according to the Pontiac man, conducted by the executive committee of three at present. He proposed a three-man board and framed an amendment which McKenna sponsored.

## Foster Urges Salary Boost

Senator Joe C. Foster (R) of East Lansing bitterly attacked the salary provision, saying it was not high enough for each of the three men, considering the fact that from \$10,000,000 to \$30,000,000 worth of whisky would be bought annually by them, and that the temptation to graft would be too great for a man to stand. "I certainly hope—even though there would be no chance of it anyway—that my brother would never be one of these three men. The temptation should not be placed before any man—you could make a cold million for yourself on a purchase of this kind," he said.

James D. Foster, Detroit and Lansing man, representing the sixth congressional district on the liquor control commission, is the senator's brother.

Senator Derham, speaking for the amendment, said that Frank Picard, chairman of the liquor control commission, had told him privately, that outside of the two other members of the executive committee, the "rest of the commission is in my way and I don't need them." The amendment carried, 14 to 12, and reconsideration of the matter was refused.

## Fight Over Revenues

Most bitter was the struggle over disposition of the bulk of the revenues of this measure. As the clock of the senate was turned back, 15 minutes at a time, so that the journal would show that the session occupied only one legislative day. Senator William F. Doyle (R), Menominee, championed the cause of the old age pension fund and presented a plan which, on the face of its acceptance, convinced a majority of the senators present, would also give the public school system a helping hand.

Most legislators continued to regard the so-called "\$15,000,000 school aid bill" passed at the regular session, as providing merely mythical millions, but Senator Doyle won conviction to his view. The school aid bill was to be financed from surplus revenues of the sales tax bill. Prior claims on these proceeds, however, total \$31,700,000, as follows: general state government administration, \$19,000,000; state welfare aid, \$12,000,000; the University of Michigan and Michigan State college, \$700,000, to make up deficiencies in their needs not satisfied by the remaining shred of the state's property tax.

Senator Doyle said that the sales tax would yield more than all these prior claims, leaving some balance to go toward the school aid, and thus for repayment of the loan from the liquor revenues. Further, he said that an effort would be made to repeal the \$12,000,000 welfare proviso, with the federal government supporting the

load and that certainly in that event there would be ample funds for repayment of the school loans.

## Flynn Fights Sales to Minors

Senator Moore sought a plan whereby, according to Senator Doyle, "you would take whisky money, dodge behind a sheet and come out with school money—why not be frank about it and quit taking cash from one basket and putting it into another and take whisky money for schools?"

Senator John Leidlein (D) of Saginaw proffered several amendments written, he said frankly "by my good friend Ed Shields, attorney for the drug men," but they were turned down. Senator Foster offered an amendment which would have stricken out the provision that the liquor control commission buy all liquors sold in this state, and which would have designated drug stores as outlets for

hard liquors. He said that the amendment had not been given to him by any druggist, and pleaded that the state get itself out of the liquor business. The amendment lost.

"If we must have state purchases of liquor, let Bernie Abbott and his crew buy it," Senator Foster said, continuing, "You know I have a brother on this commission, but I think it's mysterious why members of this commission are fighting for the right to buy all the liquor for the state!"

## Bid Amendment Loses

Senator Karwick offered an amendment covering this point, providing for competitive bids on all liquors bought by the commission, but too, it was rejected only to be approved when offered again Friday morning by Senator McKenna.

Senators Charles B. Asselin (D) of Bay City and James T. Upjohn (R) of

STOP

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