Hackensack River Flows with Beer

Stuff Seized in Barn Emptied Into Stream by Police

Hackensack police yesterday afternoon emptied ninety-seven barrels of alleged high powered beer into the Hackensack River. The beer was taken several days ago in a raid on a barn belonging to William Espinoza of 67 Huyler street, Hackensack. The barn is back of Espinoza's home.

Fear of Hackensack police that federal prohibition agents from Newark might seize the barrels as they were being transported to the river from police headquarters proved groundless.

Espinoza was freed by Judge Charles J. McCarthy in First District Criminal Court Thursday night of a charge of illegal possession of liquor after Dr. Ralph Gilady, county physician, testified the alleged beer contained no alcohol. H. L. Howard, a chemist attached to federal prohibition headquarters in Newark, said his test showed it contained four per cent alcohol.

When Judge McCarthy dismissed the case he gave police a court order to destroy the contents of the barrels. Police were of the opinion federal prohibition agents would seize the barrels if they attempted to transport them to the river, on the strength of Howard's analysis.

The court also upheld the contention of counsel for the defendant that the contents of the barrels might be classed as a foodstuff and not as a beverage, which would give the police no jurisdiction. This decision was based on admissions by Howard.

While the beer may be a foodstuff in Hackensack in Newark it's a violation of the national prohibition act, in the opinion of the two United States commissioners in Newark.

"The national prohibition act specifies beer as beverage," said Commissioner Holland. "I'll hold them for the grand jury if they come before me," declared his colleague.

Newark News 1/25/30

4 CAMDEN SALOONS FACE PADLOCK SUITS

Camden Courier

Government Acts in Federal Court; New Gretna Cafe Also Cited

1/25/30

Courier-Post Trenton Bureau

Trenton, Jan. 25.—Padlock proceedings against four Camden saloons and another in New Gretna, Burlington county, have been instituted in Federal District Court by U. S. District Attorney Phillip H. Forman.

The Camden establishments named are located at 200 Federal street; 1504 Federal street; 1475 Haddon avenue, and 1921 South Fourth street. The White Oak Inn in New Gretna is the other place.

John Kirk is named as proprietor and Edward W. Mathews as owner at 1475 Haddon avenue. James Mullins and Anna Mullins are cited as proprietors and owner at 1504 Federal street. Andrew J. Kelly is named as the proprietor, Edward J. Kelly as employer, and Freda Beringer as owner of the "Kel-ac" Hotel at 200 Federal street. Waclaw Konopka is named proprietor and his wife, Priscilla, owner of the saloon at 1921 South Fourth street.

The proceedings follow raids made by federal prohibition agents last December 21. Liquor was purchased in each instance, the complaints state.

assign a fireman to assist in supervision of destruction."

Commissioner Kenlan said yesterday