

# Kotzebue Probe . . .

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Board concluded, when shipments from Fairbanks and Anchorage are considered.

Kotzebue citizens have been concerned about the situation for some time. There have been several stormy city council meetings on the subject, and recent newspaper articles about Kotzebue have stirred public feeling.

Many here feel unfairly treated by the legal system: nearly every arrest in Kotzebue is for a drunk or drunk-related offense, but the last conviction of a bootlegger was in 1962.

Others object to liquor on religious grounds or because they feel it is a factor in parents' lack of control over teenagers.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board heard these points of view expressed. Also it heard from people desiring to have liquor available and those believing law enforcement was better where the sale of liquor was legal.

The ABC Board tried to gauge community sentiment. Most of the audience felt the present situation was bad and that bootlegging should be controlled. Others felt a liquor store run by the city might be a better solution.

Still, in some ways, the present situation had certain good points:

"When the town is wet, booze is cheap and the poor man will spend all his money for it," one man said. "When we vote 'dry' we know there will be bootleggers and that a bottle will cost \$20.00. So, the poor man with only a few dollars will spend it for food for his family,

and he will drink only when he has a lot of money."

The Board stressed the basic responsibility for control of liquor rests with the individual citizen. Purchasing liquor is an individual choice and no one has to buy from bootleggers.

Police control, furthermore, would be more effective if citizens with first-hand knowledge of bootlegging transactions would sign complaints and testify against bootleggers.

Some members of the Board said that the solution to the bootlegging problem would be to have the sale of liquor legalized. In fact, they said it so often it seemed they were trying to sell the product rather than meet the problem of how to enforce the state's "local option" prohibition law.

But, as Mr. Rhodes stated near the close of the meeting, the situation at hand was that the present prohibition laws exist and are in force in Kotzebue, and it was the duty of these state officials to work for enforcement of them.

Some pointed questioning brought indications that the enforcement agencies were beginning to move against the bootleggers.

Federal Income Tax officials have been alerted regarding possible tax violations and, Mr. Mill-sap said, the Nome and Kotzebue hearings should serve as "due notice" to bootleggers that other action might be forthcoming.

Further, the Board suggested that some of its regulations might be changed as a result of these hearings.

For Alaskans Also—

## Special Indian Law Scholarships

Special scholarships in law are being offered to American Indians again this year by the University of New Mexico.

The UNM Law School is presenting, for the third year, the Special Scholarship Program in Law for American Indians. The program will consist of an eight-week "pre-law" program, beginning June 16.

### Kotzebue Liquor

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Milsap, director of the ABC. The figure did not include numerous small orders and it did not include those shipped to Kotzebue from Fairbanks liquor dealers.

Most of the liquor shipment received in Kotzebue, ABC chairman said, is being sold by Kotzebue bootleggers. Bootleggers' prices are usually exorbitant, many times reaching \$20 per bottle.

The names of the bootleggers were listed in a report read into the record by Robert Hackstock, an investigator for the ABC from Anchorage.

According to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Kotzebue has a population of 1,850. Election supervisor's office in Kotzebue lists 460 eligible voters.

Located just above the Arctic Circle, Kotzebue is 169 air miles from Nome. Since there is no highway, bootlegging traffic is done by air freight through existing airlines.

Investigator Hackstock said that the 6,249 pounds of liquor shipped in the period in question was equivalent to 173 cases not counting, of course, the numerous small orders.

Students selected to continue in the program after the summer session will enroll in law school as regular students in the fall.

The purpose of the program is to encourage Indians to enter law school and to help them obtain this objective.

Students selected for participation will receive substantial scholarship grants. Each student selected will be awarded a tuition scholarship, travel and book allowances, and a grant for living expenses.

The amount of the grants will depend upon the student's need, but it is anticipated they will range from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for the eight-week summer session, and from \$2,500 to \$6,000 for the academic year.

It is hoped that the New Mexico program will attract Indians who are presently in their third or fourth year of college, those who will graduate this June, and individuals who have graduated during the past five years.

Since the program has no prescribed college pre-law program, students majoring in any subject are eligible.

Last year, in the second year of the program, eighteen applicants representing thirteen tribes were accepted for the summer portion. Five of these were undergraduate students who had not completed undergraduate work.

Of the eighteen, thirteen were eligible for law school last September, and all were accepted and are now regular law students.

Those interested in making application should contact Mr. Woodrow B. Sneed, University of New Mexico School of Law, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106.

If life had a second edition, how would I correct the proofs. —CLARE

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