

Wets Win By 298 Votes; No Sales Until Friday

City Votes Lead To Wet Victory

By a total vote of 15,880, which was the heaviest turnout since the governor's race in May, 1954, Tuscaloosa County voted "wet" in yesterday's referendum by a margin of 298 votes. Based on complete but unofficial returns from all boxes in the county, the vote was 7,839 for and 7,541 against legal sales of alcoholic beverages.

But under Alabama law, the official results cannot be declared before 12 noon Friday, June 25. This official canvass is made by the probate judge, clerk of the Circuit Court and sheriff.

Not Legally Wet

Probate Judge Chester Walker said the county naturally cannot officially be considered wet until the official announcement. In primary, the county Democratic executive committee can legally make the official canvass on the day following an election. This falls in the category of elections covered by a law which prohibits the making of an official canvass until the Friday following.

Beat 16, Tuscaloosa, voters swung the election to the wet side. Rural boxes generally voted dry.

The vote in Beat 18 was 5275 wet and 3835 dry. Northport voted 934 dry and 753 wet.

The wets carried all boxes in Beat 15 except one at Southside and the two at Alberta.

One Box A Tie

One rural box showed 14 dry and no wet votes. Another tied seven and seven. Only a few rural beats were recorded for legalized control.

Records on previous county-wide referendums on the question showed the following:

1937 - dry by 758 votes in a total vote of 5436.

1940 - dry by 892 votes, total vote, 7586.

1949-dry by 112 votes, total vote 9476.

1951 - wet by 35 votes in total vote of 9627.

1954-dry by 767 votes in record turnout of 17,351.

Tuscaloosa County voters followed the national trend in voting to repeal the 18th amendment in 1933 but opposed the present state liquor control system in 1955.

None In County

Under an act passed by the recent state legislature, liquor, beer and wine cannot be legally sold outside the police jurisdiction of Tuscaloosa and Northport.

This act also changes the radius from the courthouse in which legal sales may be made to 1,000 yards.

Jaycees Win Top Honors In Fair, Fire

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Special) — Work of the Tuscaloosa, Ala. Jaycees received national honors here at the 36th annual convention of the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

NO DEFEAT, DRY CHIEF PROCLAIMS

"We are not defeated," the Rev. John C. Taylor, head of dry forces, said this morning in a statement on the outcome of yesterday's wet-dry referendum.

The Rev. Mr. Taylor last night telephoned Jack McGuire, head of wet forces, and expressed his thanks for a clean campaign, Mr. McGuire said.

Grateful for Display

In his own statement, the Rev. Mr. Taylor said, "I am grateful for this exhibition of American citizenship."

Mr. McGuire said this morning he is grateful for the outcome, only "wished it had been a better vote for the dry's."

"We will bend every effort to see if legalized sales work for the betterment of Tuscaloosa County and the city," he said.

Speaking of dry proponents, Mr. McGuire said, "They feel it is a moral issue — we don't."

The Rev. Mr. Taylor's prepared statement reads:

"I acknowledge the law of our Christian forces in Tuscaloosa County for their moral struggle at the polls for righteousness. I want to personally apologize to the churches, the Christians (including god mothers, leading laymen, children and ministers) for not being able to lead them to 'ictory against the powers and circumstances."

Thanks Workers

"I want to thank every person who worked untiringly with sacrifice for the good cause of the Tuscaloosa County Temperance Association without any financial remuneration.

"However, they shall be paid in spiritual gifts. It has been a real privilege for me to have these associations and learn to love more of the good citizens of this fine county."

"I have not received any threats,"

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Permits Must Wait On Official Tally

Licenses to beer retailers in Tuscaloosa and Northport will be issued as soon as possible after the official count Friday, the ABC board said this morning. But all such permits will be issued only after the applicant has been approved by the local governing bodies.

ABC Administrator Melvin Dawkins is out of Montgomery for the remainder of the week, but his aides told The News that the board will take no action until after the official count on the wet-dry vote here is completed Friday. The county will remain legally dry until then.

Number of Stores Uncertain

The ABC said it has not been determined how many ABC whiskey stores will be opened here. At least one is certain, and will be opened as soon as a location can be secured if the official count confirms the wet victory.

During the last period that Tuscaloosa County had legal sales, the

ABC Agent Opens Office Here Monday

Ralph Suttles, district agent for the state ABC board, said this morning he will establish a temporary office in Room 211 City Hall Building Monday morning to accept applications for beer permits.

No applications will be accepted until that time, he said.

ABC operated one store near the courthouse on 7th St., and another on Southside.

ABC officials have visited Tuscaloosa recently to conduct a preliminary study of available sites but no action has been taken.

Wagner Finneel, assistant city attorney, said all the city's previous rollings on legal sales are still on the books and will take effect automatically when the official count is in.

No Liquor In Cafes

During the last period of legal sales, the city, county and Northport all banned sale of liquor in cafes but permitted beer sales.

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PATROL RADIO OPERATOR DIES IN CRASH

William D. Spencer, night-time Highway Patrol radio operator here and senior in the University law school, was killed last night in the crash of his automobile on U. S. 31 north of Prattville.

Mr. Spencer, who would have received his law degree in August, was enroute to Montgomery to be interviewed today for a position as clerk to the Alabama Supreme Court.

Skids 319 Feet

The highway Patrol reported his auto left the highway, overran several times and skidded 319 feet after leaving the road. He was thrown out of the car. Cause of the accident had not been determined.

Mr. Spencer, 38, was the son of a retired state Department of Education official, Dr. W. L. Spencer of Montgomery who for many years was assistant director of the division of secondary education.

Other survivors include his wife, Mrs. Violet T. Spencer, and a daughter, Susan, 5. The family lived at Northampton.

He was born in Bowling Green, Ohio, but considered Montgomery, where he had attended the public schools, his home.

Mr. Spencer, a member of the Presbyterian Church, had done part-time public relations work for Sullivan College here before leaving the highway Patrol last year.

Memorial Fund Planned — Law students and law department friends today opened a Spencer Memorial Fund in memory. Contributions were made through the Law School.

Mr. Spencer had been a city editor of the Birmingham Post-Herald and news editor of Radio Station WBRG in Birmingham before coming to Tuscaloosa. He also had worked as announcer for an Atlanta radio station.

Working at night at the patrol station here on the Birmingham Highway, he attended law school by day.

Gov't Orders Stern Measures For Strikers

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Government orders calling for "stern measures" against rioters were in effect today after an outbreak of strike violence virtually paralyzed this Peruvian capital.

Constitutional guarantees were suspended for 30 days as authorities moved to cope with a general strike here and at the nearby port of Callao. The workers walked out

U.S. Okays Its Share Of First 15th Street Work

The U. S. Bureau of Public Roads yesterday approved its \$315,000 share of the cost for preparing plans and buying rights-of-way on part of 15th St., to be widened to four lanes from Greensboro Avenue to the city limits near Loop Road.

W. H. Nicol, acting chairman of the city commission, this morning received a telegram from U. S. Rep. Armistead Spalden and U. S. Sens. Lister Hill and John Sparkman notifying him of the bureau's action.

The action makes possible letting of contract for construction as soon as plans are complete, Mr. Nicol said.

However, the immediate project would extend only from Greensboro to Hackberry Lane, according to the Bureau's action yesterday, which approved funds for plans and construction only in that section.

The child was treated in the

Cottondale Boy Hurt As Bike Hits Bridge

Larry Morrison, 8, Cottondale Rd. 1, suffered possible fractures to both wrists when the bicycle he was riding ran off a bridge and into a six-foot cut yesterday. He also suffered a painful back injury.

News Complete Wet-Dry Vote Beat By Beat

Beat & Box	Yes	No
1	45	22
2	68	28
3	20	61
4	136	175
5-1	0	24
5-2	11	40
6	80	71
7	49	45
8	50	79
9	20	24
10-1A	105	136
10-1B	53	76
10-2	127	133
10-3A	79	142
10-3B	62	91
10-4	85	119
10-5A	140	120
10-5B	101	97
11-1	65	46
11-2	11	49
12	22	33
13	45	110
14-1	7	7
14-2	45	98
15-1	109	191
15-2	88	84
15-3	31	72
15-4	175	258
16-1A	293	156
16-1B	224	139
16-2	232	109
16-3	149	129
16-4A	132	72
16-4B	190	80
16-5	264	183
16-6	226	95
16-7A	184	76
16-7B	166	102
16-8A	180	142
16-8B	182	131
16-9	104	91
16-10A	193	124
16-10B	175	84
16-11A	245	231
16-11B	239	281
16-12	145	98
16-12A	296	253
16-12B	353	274
16-14A	309	214
16-14B	325	292
16-15	159	91
16-16	108	83
16-17	172	123
17	16	86
18	24	295
19-1	31	71
19-2	18	32
20	16	50
21	5	99
22	53	67
23-1	20	44
23-2	87	103
24-1	16	47
24-2	24	63
25	28	20
26	45	97
27	66	103
28	23	4
29	58	67
30	5	25
Ab.	194	117
Totals	7,839	7,541

OFFICIAL COUNT GIVE WETS 298 MARGIN

The official canvass of Tuesday's wet-dry vote this morning gave the victory to the wet forces by 298 votes.

The canvass by Probate Judge Chester Walker, Sheriff Nathan Chism and Circuit Clerk Lowell Hardin gave the "yes" count as 7839 votes and the "no" votes 7541.

The unofficial count tabulated Tuesday night by The News resulted in those identical figures for both sides.

Posting of the official count today makes the county legally wet, although no beer sale permits will be issued before next week.

Commission OK's Permits For 3 Beer Distributors

The City Commission this morning approved three applications for beer wholesale dealerships, made in the names of J.C. Pool Jr., Grover Burchfield Jr., and Edwin L. Minges.

It also decreed that dancing be prohibited where beer is sold and that dealers be required to stop selling at 12 o'clock.

Receiving commission approval were applications made for the Euco Beverage Co., 610-25th Ave.; Green Beverage Co., 1830-15th Ave.; and Minges Distributing Co., 912-29th Ave.

The three applications had previously received the approval of

Chief of Police W.C. Tompkins, Food Inspector A.C. Mullins, and License Inspector W.V. Phillips.

Under the usual procedure, applications are made with the ABC Board and forwarded to City Clerk Wallace DaLee. Mr. DaLee in turn sends a memoranda to the police chief, the food inspector, and the license inspector. The applications then find their way to the City Commission.

After commission approval, the

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Tuscaloosa Boy

Officers Sh

COMMISSION

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applications are returned to the ABC Board for final action, either approval or rejection.

In other action, the commission accepted a petition, signed by 39 citizens of Southside, requesting that a beer license not be issued to Bar-B-Q Haven, a Negro restaurant located on 26th Ave. on Peanut Hill.

The petition stated that "during the two years that Tuscaloosa County was wet this beer joint caused much disturbance in the Southside area".

DRIVER IS ARRESTED