

S. F. No. 946: A bill for an act authorizing the Commissioner of Agriculture, Dairy and Food to adopt standards, definitions and grades for dairy products, and providing a penalty for non-compliance with the standards, definitions and grades so adopted.

S. F. No. 999: A bill for an act relating to savings building and loan associations and amending Minnesota Statutes 1945, Sections 51.25 and 51.43.

Sincerely yours,

LUTHER W. YOUNGDAHL,
Governor.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Saint Paul

April 18, 1947

*The Honorable C. Elmer Anderson,
President of the Senate,
Minnesota State Capitol,
St. Paul 1, Minnesota.*

Sir:

I return to you herewith, without my approval, Senate File No. 319, known as the Polk County liquor bill.

I cannot approve of a measure which would set aside the general county option law, as this bill would do, and allow the people in any one of the six municipalities affected to determine whether a municipal liquor store is to be established in that municipality, instead of having the decision made in a county-wide vote.

The principle long has been established in Minnesota that the county is the proper unit for exercise of the option accorded citizens to determine what type of liquor control they wish to have used. Originally, voters were required to make their choice between wet and dry. A bill was passed by the Legislature later, however, which would allow voters at the initial balloting to choose between a municipal liquor store and no liquor. Now, the Legislature is being asked to enact a law which would allow any one of the six municipalities in Polk county with a population of 500 or more to decide for itself whether it is to have a municipal liquor store.

Effect of such a proposal would be to set aside or nullify the county option law and, by making the municipality the option unit, deny to the people outside the municipality the right to vote in the election. The people who live in a given municipality

are not the only people who have an interest in the question of whether municipal liquor stores are to be established. Around each municipality are large numbers of farm families and others, who have to come into the municipality to do their trading and who must in many cases send their children into the municipality for schooling. All have a vital concern in this question of whether liquor stores are to be opened in the nearby municipalities, which serve as the center and gathering place for young people and adults alike, from the farms as well as from the cities and towns.

Laws have been passed on two occasions which would allow the people living in municipalities in two specific counties to make use of local option. I cannot approve passing another special law making another exception to the general option law. If the general county option law is not satisfactory it should not be whittled away bit by bit, but the Legislature should work out a new program establishing a proper policy, applicable to the state as a whole.

The suggestion has been made that passage of this bill would make it easier to enforce the liquor laws. I feel that law enforcement can be made fully effective only through a will on the part of officials to see that the laws are obeyed and a willingness on the part of the people to back up the officials who make a real effort to enforce them.

Respectfully yours,

LUTHER W. YOUNGDAHL,
Governor.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Pedersen moved that the foregoing message be laid on the table.

Which motion prevailed.

Which message was laid on the table.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

Upon the author's request permission to introduce within bill hereby requested.

LUTHER W. YOUNGDAHL,
Governor.

Mr. Hagen introduced—

S. F. No. 1407: A bill for an act relating to boards of county commissioners, permitting county boards to erect or aid in erecting monuments or other memorials to soldiers and sailors of the