BEER QUESTION STILL BREWING: BARLEY RAISERS AND OTHERS WANT TO KNOW
A STAFF CORRESPONDENT
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BEER QUESTION STILL BREWING

Barley Raisers and Others Want to Know What It Is.

ASK CONGRESS TO ACT.

Minnesotan to Offer Resolution Requesting Wilson to Define.

[BY A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

Washington, D. C., July 27.—[Special.]—"What is beer?"

This question, supposed to have been answered legally by the government some months ago, is still agitating barley raisers and brewers. Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, former government chemist, has joined the fight in behalf of the barley raisers and the great army of consumers.

Representative Anderson of Minnesota will introduce a resolution in the house next week calling upon James Wilson, secretary of agriculture, to inform congress why beer has not been defined under the terms of the pure food law.

The charge will be made by inference in the Anderson resolution that the brewery interests have, through their influence in certain quarters, succeeded in evading the pure food law, although the statute was passed five years ago.

Asks "Why Not Labeled?"

It will be pointed out that whisky is now labeled as to its ingredients and that practically all food and drug products are subjected to government regulation.

Representative Anderson wants to know why the product of breweries is not labeled as are other beverages and foods that enter into interstate commerce.

Just before he retired from public office Dr. Wiley as a member of the board of food and drug inspection framed an answer to the question, "What is beer?"

Dr. Wiley held that "beer is a fermented product from a mash composed of barley malt and hops, with or without a small quantity of unmalted cereals not exceeding 30 per cent of the barley malt used."

Representative Anderson and Miss Alice Lakey of Cranford, N. J., president of the National Consumers' league, have been endeavoring to find out for a long time why Secretary Wilson has delayed in announcing a ruling as to what constitutes these under the law.

Replies Not Satisfactory.

They have addressed letters to the secretary on the subject, but the replies have not been entirely satisfactory.

Secretary Wilson said in one of the letters to Mr. Anderson that government experts were making an inquiry into the beer industry in this and other countries in order that a conclusion might be reached on the point in controversy that would be fair to all interests concerned.

Man Drops Dead in Drug Store.

Customers in a drug store at Twelfth street and Michigan boulevard were thrown into excitement yesterday when a well dressed man about 40 years old dropped dead in the store. He is believed to have been J. G. Koenegsmecke, 2447 South St. Louis avenue.

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