

State's Alcoholism Rate Is Not Enviably Record

By VINCENT THOMAS
Assemblyman, 68th District

The growing menace of alcoholism to California's social, economic, and governmental fabric has again unhappily been reviewed by a legislative group. The subcommittee on alcoholic rehabilitation of the Assembly Judiciary Committee held a two-day hearing on the problem, and the situation as presented by experts is anything but bright.

Our estimated 885,000 men and women with severe alcoholism tops the nation, of course, but is certainly no enviable record. The rapid rise in teen-age drinking constantly adds to the total, and makes the future look even grimmer, unless an effective program covering many fronts can be developed.

A state-supported alcoholic rehabilitation program has been in operation since 1954, but on such a modest scale that the results are scarcely noticeable. Eight county-run clinics in the larger cities, 90 per cent of whose costs are paid by the state, offer guidance and rehabilitative services for a limited number of alcoholics.

A SMALL Alcoholism Research Clinic in connection with UCLA, a demonstration program for acute alcoholism, and restricted education program, make up the balance. The total state appro-

riation for 1964-65 is slightly over \$1.1 million — about 1.6 per cent of state revenues from alcoholic beverages.

The subcommittee was reminded of a resolution adopted by both houses at the 1964 special session which recommends that the federal government rebate 5 per cent of liquor taxes collected in California, to be used to fight al-

coholism. Such a rebate would give the state \$20 million annually for the purpose. The resolution was endorsed by the Attorney General and others present at the hearing.

Witness after witness stressed the facts that advertising glorifies the drinking of alcoholic beverages as a means of gaining social sta-

tus, but that government agencies concerned with problems of heavy drinking do nothing to emphasize its dangers. One member of the subcommittee lashed out at parents and educators who are failing to do enough about teen-age drinking. Commenting on the fact that liquor taxes collected in California were scheduled to testi-

fy, he expressed disappointment that local district authorities were not on hand to tell what is being done to fight alcoholism at the high-school level.

"SOME PRESSURES have to be exerted against the kids in school and against their parents to attack juvenile alcoholism or California is going to end up with a lot more

alcoholics than we now have," he asserted.

One spokesman for the liquor industry said that new law is needed to make it illegal for minors to drink in private homes. He urged imposition of heavy penalties on minors who violate such a law. He then startled the subcommittee somewhat by

saying that studies have shown that New York's minimum drinking age of 18 may be more "realistic" so far as juvenile alcoholism is concerned than California's minimum of 21 years.

It was apparent from the hearing that our state program of medico-psychiatric attack on alcoholism as a disease will have to be greatly strengthened and improved to achieve any important results.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has requested a cut of at least \$50 million in a \$275 million flood control bond issue which would face the voters in November. "I believe the current pro-

Hahn Wants Fewer Bonds

posals can be cut substantially without hurting the overall flood control program," he said. "Only those flood control projects absolutely necessary should be included in the issue."

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Supervisors Considering Housing Fee

A license fee on apartment houses was under study by the Board of Supervisors this week at the suggestion of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

According to Hahn, the fee is levied to pay the cost of inspections, by the Health Department, of all apartment buildings and house courts with five or more units, and was forced upon the County in a recent merger of the City of Los Angeles and County health departments.

Hahn has termed it "one of the most unnecessary taxes ever levied on the people." The Board of Supervisors is expected to act on Hahn's proposal within two weeks.

Law In Action

Life insurance serves many purposes. For a small sum a young man can protect his family with additional funds in case of his accidental death.

When is his family entitled to extra indemnity?

BILL BOURBON had a \$50,000 life policy plus \$25,000 if he died by accidental means. Bill's heavy drinking had impaired his reflexes which ordinarily open or close a person's windpipe when he swallows. Bill choked and died on gastric material because his impaired reflexes did not work.

The court held that this death was not by accidental means. It might well have been had he accidentally swallowed the alcohol or choked on some food. But of his own will, Bill drank to excess and choked on material from his own body. He did not die of a sudden outside force.

AGAIN JONES who had just recovered from pneumonia went swimming in strong cold current. This led to some hemorrhages, and weeks later, to his death. No accident, no double indemnity.

In another case the insured while carrying a heavy trunk up some stairs had a stroke and later died. The court held that this is not accidental; it might have been, had he slipped and fallen and then had a heart attack. The event that is by "accidental means" must be sudden and unexpected.

DEATH FROM infection is, thus as a rule, not accidental. But a dental patient, got a fatal infection from unclean instruments when he had a tooth pulled. He took normal care after the infection and the court said that the cause of the infection was accidental.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.

GRAND OPENING THIS WEEK!

GARDEN GROVE—12601 KNOTT AVE.

<p>LUER SMOKED SKINNED FULLY COOKED HAMS</p> <p>SHANK PORTION (as cut) LB. 29¢</p> <p>Butt Portion (as cut) LB. 49¢</p> <p>Center Slices LB. 89¢</p>	<p>U.S.D.A. GRADED CHOICE BEEF</p> <p>Boneless Family Steak LB. 79¢</p> <p>WHOLE OR POINT CUT (FLAT CUT, LB. 79¢)</p> <p>Boneless Beef Brisket LB. 69¢</p> <p>7-BONE OR ROUND BONE Shoulder Steaks LB. 49¢</p> <p>U.S.D.A. GRADED CHOICE Blade Cut Chuck Roast LB. 39¢</p> <p>FRESH NORTHERN Dover Sole Fillet LB. 79¢</p>	<p>SLICED FARMER JOHN BACON 1-LB. PKG. 49¢</p> <p>FARMER JOHN SKINLESS Pork Link Sausage 4 5-OZ. PKGS. 1.19</p> <p>HYGRADE CHUNK Canadian Style Bacon LB. 1.19</p> <p>BONELESS FROZEN Swordfish Steaks LB. 59¢</p>
<p>CORNERED BEEF BRISKETS LB. 49¢</p> <p>FRESH CALIFORNIA GROWN DELICIOUS BRAND HEN TURKEYS U.S.D.A. GRADE A LB. 39¢</p> <p>U.S.D.A. GRADED CHOICE BEEF WELL TRIMMED RIB STEAK LB. 79¢</p>	<p>RINSO BLUE 55-OZ. PKG. 49¢</p> <p>PRICE INCLUDES 10¢ OFF</p>	<p>MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE 2-LB. CAN \$1.33</p> <p>1-LB. CAN 69¢</p> <p>MARKET BASKET 1-LB. CAN 67¢</p> <p>2-LB. CAN, \$1.33</p>
<p>DELICATESSEN VALUES</p> <p>MARKET BASKET SLICED Bologna 4-OZ. PKG. 29¢</p> <p>LUER ALL MEAT—1-LB. PKG. Frankfurters 49¢</p> <p>HYGRADE ALL MEAT 1-LB. PKG. Ball Park Franks 59¢</p> <p>LEO'S Sliced Beef Spicy Beef YOUR CHOICE</p> <p>CORNERED BEEF 3 1/2-OZ. PKG. 35¢</p> <p>Sliced Ham 3-OZ. PKG. 35¢</p> <p>WISCONSIN CREAMY Longhorn Cheddar Cheese LB. 59¢</p> <p>MARKET BASKET 16-OZ. CTN. Potato Salad 29¢</p>	<p>APPLE TIME 16-OZ. CAN APPLE SAUCE 10¢</p> <p>MARKET BASKET FLOUR 5-LB. BAG 29¢</p>	<p>SUNSHINE STATE FROZEN ORANGE JUICE 5 6-OZ. CANS 99¢</p>
<p>VEGETABLES 4 BAGS 99¢</p> <p>FOODCRAFT SWEET WHOLE, KOSHER DILL OR DILL Pickles YOUR CHOICE 4 12-OZ. JARS 1.19</p> <p>KELLOGG'S CORN FLAKES, 12-OZ. OR RICE KRISPIES, 9 1/2-OZ. Cereals YOUR CHOICE 3 PKGS. 99¢</p> <p>SPECIAL K, 10 1/2-OZ. PKG. 2 FOR 99¢</p> <p>JERSEYMAID FIRST QUALITY Butter GRADE AA 1-LB. CTN. 67¢</p>	<p>DELAWARE PUNCH 6 4-OZ. CANS 99¢</p> <p>Sta Puf Rinse 1/2-GALLON BOT. 85¢</p> <p>Swan Detergent (INCLUDES 16¢ OFF) 22-OZ. BOT. 49¢</p> <p>Wisk Detergent (INCLUDES 16¢ OFF) 1/2-GAL. BOT. 1.19</p> <p>Treats Crackers PACIFIC 16-OZ. PKG. 33¢</p> <p>Honey Grahams NABISCO 16-OZ. PKG. 39¢</p>	<p>ALL VARIETIES GRAPES SEEDLESS, CARDINAL OR RIBIER 2 LBS. 25¢</p> <p>LE GRANDE Nectarines 2 LBS. 25¢</p> <p>FRESH PICKED SWEET Corn 12 FOR 49¢</p>

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