PROHIBITION AND ITS "IRKSOME RED TAPE"

Congress outlined federal enforcement of Prohibition in The National Prohibition Act - known as the Volstead Act. Pharmacies like this one were now the only places for average citizens to legally purchase alcohol with doctor's prescription or federal permit.

In order to continue selling alcohol, pharmacies were required to:

- Apply for a permit to sell products that included alcohol, to be renewed annually
- Provide a security bond
- Keep a log-book of all prescriptions filled for medicinal alcohol
- Keep a monthly record of the volume of all products bought or sold that included alcohol

All letters and forms are copied from the archival collection of the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum. The two amendments are courtesy of the Library of Congress.

18th Amendment

On January 17, 1920 the 18th Amendment to the Constitution went into effect. Popularly known as "prohibition," it barred the "manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors." Alcohol could only be purchased for medicinal, scientific, or sacramental purposes.

Sixty-fifth Congress of the United States of America;

At the Second Session,

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the third day of December, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following amendment to the Constitution be, and hereby is, proposed to the States, to become valid as a part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of the several States as provided by the Constitution:

"ARTICLE -.

"Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

"Sec. 2. The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

"Sec. 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress."

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President of the United States and

This R. Marshau

President of the Senate.

21st Amendment

While lobbying groups like the Anti-Saloon League hoped the 18th Amendment would eliminate excesses of the drinking culture in the United States, others questioned its effectiveness and enforcement. Ultimately the 21st Amendment brought an end to Prohibition.

Seventy-second Congress of the United States of America; At the Second Session, Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the fifth day of December, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-two. JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is hereby proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by conventions in three-fourths of the several States: "ARTICLE -"Section 1. The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed. "Sec. 2. The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby "Sec. 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress." Mr. M. Ferrer Speaker of the House of Representatives. Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

January 17, 1920 - Letter to Mr. C. R. Long

Written the day Prohibition went into effect, this letter refers to Federal Form 1403, known as a Prescription Blank. Physicians needed to complete this form when they prescribed medicinal alcohol to their patients. The Leadbeaters were required to keep a copy of this form and as well as include these prescriptions in their monthly reports to the Federal Prohibition Department.

Mr. C. R. Long,
Strasburg, Va.

Dear Sir:
We regret that we are unable to fill your prescription
which we return as we have no Whiskey in stock. For your information we might add that **Sprascription now can only be filed
when it is written on forms furnished to physicians by the Internal
Revenue Department. Your Doctor should write to Mr. S. R. Donohoe,
Federal Prohibition Director of Richmond, Virginia for further
information. The prescription as sent us cannot be filled at all.

Very truly yours,

LEADBEATER DRUG CORTORATION.

July 26, 1920 - Letter from the Office of the Federal Prohibition Director

The additional regulation of alcohol created layers of paperwork and reporting requirements that pharmacists struggled to keep up with. The 1923 American Journal of Pharmacy reflected the field's feelings, describing these new rules as "irksome red tape."

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF FEDERAL PROHIBITION DIRECTOR
RICHMOND, VA.

July 26, 1920

TO THOSE REQUIRED TO FILE FORM 1421: -

This office is experiencing considerable difficulty in having the Monthly Report, Form 1421, returned within the specified time limit. The law requires this report to be filed on or before the 5th of each month, and NOT the 6th, 10th or 20th, as a great many now are doing. Failure to comply with the law will mean revocation of your permit to use alcoholic spirits.

It is also requested that you fill in on the report your correct permit number. If you are unable to remember your permit number it can be a scured from the upper right hand corner of Form 1410, Permit to Purchase, which you use in procuring alcoholic spirits.

PLEASE SEE THAT THE AMOUNT OF ALCOHOLIC SPIRITS USED DURING
THE MONTH IS STATED IN GALLONS AND QUINCES, - and not in hundredths
of a gallon. SEE THAT THE ENTRY IS MADE IN THE CORRECT COLUMN AND
DO NOT SHOW THE TOTAL USED IN THE COLUMN "Tax Paid Alcohol Consumed
in Laboratory." This column is reserved for those actually using
alcohol in their laboratory for a cientific purposes or for manufacturing glue, etc.

Kindly endeavor to comply with the above requests, in order that the reports coming in to this office may be uniform.

Very truly yours,
S. R. DONOHOE,
Federal Prohibition Director.

SRD:11

September 2, 1920 - 1421 Form

Form 1421 required pharmacies to report their use of alcohol and other liquor used in manufacturing and compounding on a monthly basis. The Leadbeaters' usage for August 1920 included the sale of port wine by prescription and the manufacture of flavoring extracts.

REPORT OF ALCO	OHOL AN	D OTHE	R LIQUOI	R
USED IN MANUFACTURING AND COM UNDER THE NATIONA				RM 1405,
	0773037	20	Sept.	2, 1920
To Federal Prohibition Director				
atRichmond, Va.				
manufacturing and compounding of the art permit and the National Prohibition Act as	icles enumerate	d below, in ac	cordance with t	he terms of my
ARTICLES IN THE MANUFACTURE OR COMPOUNDING OF WHICH ALCOHOL OR OTHER LIQUOR IS USED.	QUANTITY OF ALCOHOL USED.		LIQUOR OTHER THAN ALCOHOL.	
	WINE GALLONS.	Proof Gallons.	KIND.	QUANTITY IN WINE GALLONS.
Alcoholic medicinal preparations unfit for beverage use.	4 galls		Port Vine.	3200
	Vi og		Port Nine.	scription
			The second secon	
Alcoholic medicinal preparations fit for beverage use Antiseptic solutions, toilet preparations, and perfumes,	2 gallo			
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Alcoholic medicinal preparations fit for beverage use Antiseptic solutions, toilet preparations, and perfumes, unfit for beverage use Flavoring extracts and sirups unfit for beverage use Culinary uses in hotels, bakeries, etc	2 galls 23 galls 112 g	Tag of A a second		2001005
Alcoholic medicinal preparations fit for beverage use Antiseptic solutions, toilet preparations, and perfumes, unfit for beverage use Flavoring extracts and sirups unfit for beverage use	2 gallo 23 galls 112 g			
Alcoholic medicinal preparations fit for beverage use Antiseptic solutions, toilet preparations, and perfumes, unfit for beverage use Flavoring extracts and sirups unfit for beverage use Culinary uses in hotels, bakeries, etc Tax-paid alcohol consumed in laboratory, manufactur-	2 gallo 2-3 gaels 112-3	LEADBEA EDLead 300	TER DRUG (Lieuter Strug S (Street and nymber.)	200010497

October 27, 1920 - Application to Procure Wine for Sacramental Purposes and Like Religious Rites

Exceptions to Prohibition included the use of sacramental wine in religious ceremonies. Christ Church and the Virginia Theological Seminary were two of the local church organizations that purchased sacramental port wine from the Leadbeaters. Note the use of the port wine for "private celebrations with the invalid and sick as needed."

APPLICATION TO PROCURE WINE FOR SACRAMENTAL PURPOSES AND LIKE RELIGIOUS RITES
LEADBEATER DRUG CORPORATIONS About 3 gallons. ALEXANDRIA, VA. Quantity applied for herein 2 "
Quantity on hand date of application.
of Church or congregation.) Olympia Morton Reduced (Official designation.) Olympia designation.)
from the Leadleatur Due Corp. 2 Corp. King & Facility of Street gldress.) Our and in (Name of dealer.) gallons of City.) gallons of City. (State.) wine for sacramental purposes or like religious rites, to be used solely as follows: "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" ""
private colobrations with the invalid of sick
The quantity above specified is necessary to supply legitimate needs for the purposes stated until March 192/. OHISIOAUROGRAPHIA VA Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of
(Signature of director, or, where the church or congregation has a helrarchal form of organization, signature of head of ecclesiastical jurisdiction or official designated by him.) 2-0002 (A) (A) (B) (B) (B) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C

October 2, 1920 - Form Request

The demand for sacramental wine was apparently greater than the number of forms provided to the Leadbeaters, prompting them to request more forms from the National Prohibition Director.

