

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

January 7 - March 13, 1928  
[Six extra days]

all would be elected at large, one at each biennial general election for a six-year term, by the entire county electorate. This was the fourth proposal of an amendment to this section relating to election of county commissioners, and it received almost 13,000 more votes than the liquor prohibition measure. The amendment was particularly well received by voters in counties of small population and substantial area, mostly east of the Continental Divide. It received more than 60 percent support in 39 counties and Fergus and Yellowstone were the only counties of substantial urban population in this group. Voters in Silver Bow, Lewis & Clark and Missoula counties opposed it and it received only modest margins of approval in Deer Lodge and Cascade counties. A strong correlation with the vote on liquor prohibition (Pearson's r = .724) probably reflects an urban-rural pattern of division common to both issues.

1928:2 ENACT FEDERAL LIQUOR PROHIBITION  
Initiative legislation  
Rejected 45.9%  
76.5% voted, 69,431 for and 80,619 against

Prohibitionists responded to the 1926 repeal of state liquor laws with this initiative to enact the federal "Volstead Act" into state law. That legislation by Congress implemented national prohibition established by the 18th Amendment. A similar adoption of the federal law had been accomplished by voter initiative in California in 1923. After the 1926 repeal vote in Montana the attorney general ordered suspension of liquor raids and arrests by state and local enforcement officers; the new initiative would reimpose the duty on county and local law officers to enforce the Volstead-pattern liquor prohibitions.

A small force of federal prohibition officers had continued efforts to enforce the Volstead Act in Montana after 1926 repeal of state laws and newspapers reported skirmishes with bootleggers, raids of stills and speakeasies, and involvement of the federal district courts in enforcement actions. Church leaders, the W C T U and some state political figures endorsed the initiative. Some advocates compared the 1926 repeal to secessionist activities of southern states over slavery. A Montana Defense League and other ephemeral groups conducted a campaign against the initiative.

Although the number of voters in 1928 was 25 percent greater than in 1926, there were 7,000 fewer votes cast on the liquor question in 1928. But the question may have attracted largely the same voters both times, for there was impressive consistency in the relative positions of counties on the liquor question in 1926 and 1928. Of the dozen counties most favorable to prohibition in 1928, nine were among the 12 most opposed to repeal in 1926. Except for Ravalli County, all of these counties were central or northeastern, and included no major urban centers. Of the dozen counties most opposed to prohibition in 1928, 11 were among the 12 most opposed to it in 1926. Eight of these 12 counties were among the dozen least favorable to its initial adoption in 1916. These "wet" counties were along the Continental Divide and Meagher was easternmost among them. Four of the six most populous counties were included. Butte, Anaconda, Helena and Great Falls were among the six county electorates most op-

SENATE

COUNTY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATE	COUNTY	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(D) 16 (R) 39 (F-L) 1		(D) 33 (R) 69
Pearl I Smith (R)	Beaverhead	Joe Melton (D)
Evelyn A Richardson (R)	Big Horn	W E Warren (R)
George W Gustafson (R)	Biafine	E P Ekgren (R)
E H Goodwin (D)	Broadwater	Grant Head (R)
Frank McCleary (D)	Carbon	Albert Bidde (R)
*Leon L Wheeler (R)	Carter	T E Nelstead (R)
*Julius W Wentermer (R)	Cascade	M A Brown (D)
*Seymour H Porter (D)	Chouteau	Fritz Roll (R)
H C Smith (R)	Custer	S R Jensen (D)
James T Spearling (D)	Danals	George D Gordon (D)
Arthur A Baker (R)	Dawson	Charles M Simpson (R)
I P Stewart (R)	Deer Lodge	D W Chapman (D)
*Theodore R Bergstrom (D)	Fallon	Harry A Sample (R)
*Albert Johnson (R)	Fergus	Gus B English (R)
*Robert Pauline (R)	Flathead	Charles F Murphy (D)
E J Parkin (R)	Gallatin	Clive E Burrell (R)
Albert Holton (R)	Garfield	J W Hanley (R)
Dan Hogearty (D)	Glacier	David C Saltyre (R)
Henry Thien (R)	Golden Valley	Henry H Buck (R)
*John D Kennedy (R)	Granite	G W Darlington (R)
William T Cowan (R)	Hill	Robert J Dunn (R)
*E N Jeffrey (D)	Jefferson	C H Minette (D)
*John L Meers (R)	Judith Basin	L N Erickson (R)
Ralph R Tower (R)	Lake	M R Henderson (R)
W Ray Church (D)	Lewis & Clark	Peter M Rigg (R)
Leonard Plank (D)	Liberty	James A Jergenson (R)
*H G Pomeroy (R)	Lincoln	Ralph C Bickler (R)
James Crawford (R)	McCone	Cecil V Wilson (D)
*M M Durcan (D)	Medison	George F Hanson (D)
Orville Harris (R)	Meagher	Herbert M Kibb (D)
*George R Cooper (R)	Missoula	Amos Henshaw (R)
*John L Campbell (R)	Musea/Sheell	Rezal Tinsley (D)
F T McCormick (R)	Park	Fred F Fulsner (D)
Henry M Shelver (R)	Petroleum	Albert Beacons (D)
John Survant (R)	Phillips	M R Marshall (R)
Christian F Gilboe (R)	Pondera	Clarence Merritt (R)
William E Kealey (R)	Powder River	C C Clauson (R)
S A Holt (R)	Prairie	Eldon Freed (D)
F W Delaney (D)	Ravalli	Dudley Jones (R)
*Thomas Kane (R)	Richland	M C Wadswere (R)
Walter O Kemala (R)	Roosevelt	W T Walte (R)
J W Schmitzer (R)	Sandwich	Sylvan J Pauly (R)
*Charles M Dowlin (R)	Sawyer	M R Fashenber (R)
*John D Garber (D)	Sheridan	Ralph Doudgrate (R)
*Charles E Rayson (FL)	Silver Bow	David D Swase (R)
*Thomas J Walker (D)	Stillwater	John Arnold (D)
	Sweet Grass	Guy Dean (R)
	Teton	Lars Anyusick (R)
	Tooie	M I Ballard (D)
	Treasure	George Barry (D)
	Valley	Byron E Cooney (D)
	Wheatland	James F Chatham (D)
		Tod Doran (D)
		S C Arnold (R)
		Stuart H Nicholson (D)
		J E Hodgkiss (R)
		Harry E Benjamin (D)
		J C Snaffer (R)
		Lou E Bretzke (R)
		William B Johnson (R)
		Thomas A Ross (R)
		Alex Faltgrawe (R)
		R S O'Day (D)
		Sid Willis (D)
		W H George (R)
		John W Woodcock (D)
		William B Leavitt (R)
		Henry R Green (R)
		J B C Knight (R)
		N D Miller (R)
		B F Moulton (R)
		Neil C Parker (R)
		G M Moss (R)
		Fred M Brown (R)
		George J Bonline (D)
		Raymond T Neagle (D)
		George R Shepard (R)
		Asa Willard (R)
		M D Stevans (R)
		Ben Nelson (R)
		Charles Macfay (R)
		Lucy A Curran (R)
		Andrew Ueland (R)
		Phil C Goodwin (D)
		M J English (D)
		Samuel A Kivvillie (D)
		Joseph P Monaghan (D)
		Henry Sullivan (D)
		Ernest Johnson (R)