Anti-Bar Protest Gaining Ground In Germantown

Hundreds of residents who have been bitterly protesting against the proposed transfer of a taproom to their Germantown community have a good chance of winning their campaign because of the recent passage of new legislation affecting the opening of bars in neighborhoods where a majority of the citizens are opposed.

The proposed taproom location is at 6216 Chew ave. in the heart of a residential section where Negroes recently began buying homes in large numbers.

The owners, Harry Pustin and his father-in-law, Maurice Zimmerman, have petitioned the State Liquor Control Board to transfer the taproom license from its present location at 2020 Ridge ave. to the Chew st. address.

OWN TAPROOM CHAIN

Pustin and Zimmerman already own three other taprooms, all located in predominantly Negro communities in Germantown.

The residents are waging a fierce protest against the opening of the new bar claiming it will downgrade the community and that it will have detrimental effects upon the youth of the area, contributing to juvenile delinquency and teenage drinking.

The residents further claim that the area is already over-saturated with taprooms and that they are now trying to "get rid of three already located in the community."

There is a distinct possibility that the Liquor Control Board will refuse to grant the transfer.

At least 100 persons, including several clergymen and civic leaders, appeared at a recent hearing conducted by the board to register their protests.

Among those who spoke against the transfer was the Rev. William T. Moore, Jr., pastor of Cliveden Presbyterian Church, 529 e. Washington Lane.

MINISTER PROTESTS

The Rev. Mr. Moore argued that the area was predominantly residential, not commercial as the taproom owners contend.

Other witnesses testified that the proposed location would be passed daily by children attending Roosevelt, who heard arguments from and Washington Lane, and Emlen School, Chew ave. and Upsal st.

In addition, they pointed out, the site immediately adjoined a candy store, heavily patronized by youngsters.

Liquor Board Examiner William Zeiz, who heard orguments from both sides, said a ruling would take several weeks.

The Tribune learned that the other three taprooms owned by Pustin and Zimmerman are at 5101 Germantown ave., 304 w. Coulter st. and 27 e. Haines st.

PROBE ALLEGED VIOLATION

The State Liquor Board at Harrisburg is presently investigating an alleged violation in which a bartender at the 5101 Germantown ave. establishment was arrested last June on charges of bookmaking.

He was later discharged by a magistrate, rearrested and discharged again. A spokesman for the board told the Tribune that the case is being investigated independently and that a citation might be issued "if the evidence warrants a suspension."

— 76th ANNIVERSARY —

A bald head is soon shaven.