

Registrars not representative

To the Editor:

We have noted with interest last week's announcement of appointments of deputy registrars to accept voter registration in Champaign County. While this system of voter registration is one which we have long advocated, and one which the current County Clerk, Dennis Bing, has until recently adamantly opposed, we have important objections to the manner in which the clerk has proceeded in making these appointments and grave doubts about the fairness of his selections. In particular we note that in Champaign District No. 2, which includes part of the campus area as well as two precincts west of the I.C. tracks, of the five deputy registrars selected by the clerk three live west of the tracks and the remaining two live on the fringes of the campus neighborhood remote from the large housing complexes and the bulk of the population in the district. When new precinct lines are approved this month by the county board, three precincts of the six in the district will have no registrars, and those three precincts will be the three containing the largest population and the largest number of unregistered voters, and thus the largest need for voter registrars.

While the Illinois Election Laws clearly

call for the appointment of "an equal number of deputy registrars from each of the two major political parties" in each district (section 4-6.2), Mr. Bing is apparently unfamiliar with the law or chooses to ignore it. Moreover, he has chosen not to accept recommendations of possible registrars from the Champaign County Democratic Party and, in our opinion, appointed registrars whom he feels will be less ambitious than others might be in seeking out new voters. We remain convinced that Mr. Bing continues to see his role as one of obstructing increased voter registration in Champaign County and that he continues to fail in his duty as clerk to make the process as convenient as possible and to actively seek new registrants. We call on the clerk to exercise fairness and good sense and appoint additional permanent registrars to serve the campus residents whom we represent and we remind him that the campus community continues to be vigilant of the policies and practices of his office.

JAY SMITH,
County Board, District No. 7
MARY POLLOCK
Champaign City Council
District No. 2



Mike Royko

(CDN) — The American beer industry answers its critics by saying it gives us the kind of beer we really want.

Oh yeah?

This weekend I ran a beer-tasting session in which 11 people sampled 22 beers.

The beers included the biggest selling American brands, imports from eight countries, and a few smalltown American breweries that sell mostly in their own areas.

The tasters, drinking from unmarked glasses, rated each beer from one point (barely drinkable) to five points (great).

The most points a beer could have received was 55. The least was 11.

Here are the results:

Wurzburger (Germany): 46.5

Bass Ale (England): 45

Point Special (Stevens Point, Wisc.): 45

Heineken's (Holland): 36.5

Old Timer's (Eau Claire, Wisc.): 35.5

Zywiec (Poland): 34.5

Lowenbrau (Germany): 29.5

Huber Premium (Monroe, Wisc.): 29.5

Kirin (Japan): 29

Stroh's (U.S.): 26

Barrel of Beer (Monroe, Wisc.): 26

Miller's (U.S.): 26

Meister Brau (U.S.): 25.5

Hamm's (U.S.): 25.5

Ringnes (Norway): 23.5

Pilsner Urquell (Czechoslovakia): 23

Pickett's (Dubuque, Iowa): 22.5

Old Chicago (Chicago): 22.5

Carta Blanca (Mexico): 21.5

Old Milwaukee (U.S.): 20.5

Schlitz (U.S.): 18.5

Budweiser (U.S.): 13

As you can see, clustered at the top were nine beers that didn't include any of the major American brands.

And a distant last were our two biggest TV braggarts.

The whole thing was rigged, some patriotic beer drinker is saying. I rigged it because I've said that America's beer tastes as if it is brewed through a horse, and I wanted to find a panel of tasters who would agree with me.

That isn't so. The panel consisted of men and women who didn't know what beers they were tasting. Some of them usually drink only American popular brands. Other's drink foreign and domestics. A few seldom drink beer at all, and a few others drink it regularly.

They included young people and middle-

aged people. Their ethnicity ranged from German to Polish to Bohemian to Irish to Norwegian to Jewish to WASP.

To keep their taste buds alert, a variety of snacks were provided, including fresh Augusta rye bread, liverwurst, Polish sausage, potato chips, dill pickles, pigs feet, and other haute cuisine.

To show how legit the testing was, I didn't take part. My job was to wash glasses and break up fights.

If anything, the imported beers were at a disadvantage. Beer loses flavor if it is on the shelf too long. And foreign beers must be shipped a long way and they'd don't turn over in the stores as quickly as the popular American brands.

This could explain why Pilsner Urquell—considered by most brewing masters to be the world's finest—did so poorly. Pilsner Urquell, from the world's oldest brewery, is so good that it is the leading import of Germans.

As the tasters wrote down the points for each beer, they also jotted some observations.

Among the comments about Wurzburger, the top scorer, were: "full rich flavor and no aftertaste;" "solid taste;" "very good;" "I could drink a lot more."

About Point Special, which is brewed about 220 miles north of Chicago, they said: "great flavor and great beer smell;" "light and lovely and I could drink it all night;" "smooth;" "could drink a lot of it."

Ah, but the things they said about those beers that are the subjects of huge, spectacular TV commercials.

After the samples of Schlitz were brought around, I didn't notice anybody grabbing for any gusto. A few people grabbed for potato chips to get rid of the taste. Among their notations were: "this beer is tired;" "weak;" "nasty;" and "ugh."

Maybe at the ad agency it is gospel that when you say Budweiser, you've said it all.

But my back-yard beer tasters had a few additional comments about Bud: "a picnic beer smell;" "lousy;" "Alka Seltzer;" "sweet and weak;" "yecch."

Schlitz and Bud are free to use any of the above comments as testimonials, or in their next commercials. It might be fun to see one of those dashing actors on a sailing ship downing a can of beer and instead of grabbing for gusto, grabbing his stomach and yelling: "Yecch!"

Green St. hearing Wednesday

To the Editor:

Limited publicity has been given to a meeting which is of great significance to Champaign. On this Wednesday, the public will have an opportunity to comment on proposed improvements and changes to Illinois Route 10 at the auditorium of Edison Junior High School. The continuous meeting will be held from 2:30-5:30 p.m. and from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The three alternatives include (1) widening Springfield Avenue to five lanes, (2) utilizing Springfield Avenue and Green Streets as a one-way couple, and (3) doing nothing.

This meeting will provide an opportunity for residents of Champaign to discuss their concerns regarding the proposals. These concerns include the widening of Green Street with the destruction of many trees; potential safety hazards to students attending Westview, Southside, and Edison Junior High School; the routing of heavy truck traffic on Green Street; pollution factors; and the effect of such a change on an excellent residential area.

More publicity should be given to such significant proposals which could greatly influence the lives of many people.

J.G. LANGAN

Fein column trite, ridiculous

To the Editor:

I'm sitting here in my shiny money-green Ford Mustang with AM-FM, air-conditioning and white wall tires. But I won't buy a Ford with a vinyl roof, since I figured out that Ford is just an armrest for one of the most exploitive corporations America exports (ask the Latin workers). But I don't want to tell you about Ford, if you're aware at all . . . You're a bullshit liberal, Vern Fein (July 3 column). If McDonald's is detestable and a malaise, why the hell are you buying milk there? Anyone who sits in McDonald's is a clown, even those with a sad smile, V. F. You also fail as a quasi-sociologist when you mistake neo-Kiwanis clubism as the effort of a "culture".

Positive community action deserves recognition, but it's credibility lies in it's means and ends, not in any nomenclature you can supply. Finally your journalism is as trite as your bias. The use you make of sentiment, article structure and novice rhetoric is as amateurish as the point you portend to make. A dictionary and historical insight will provide the distinction between "Nazi" and fascist; a non-friend will explain why only the naive spell America with a "k"; and you may also want to review logic in the area of cause-effect relationships. I'm afraid the Daily Cardinal would send you home for revisions, and material.

RONALD KLIPP

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