CLEAN-UP PLEDGED IN PRINCE GEORGES BY SHERIFF-ELECT The Washington Post (1923-1954); Nov 8, 1923; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Washington Post (1877 - 1993)



Fink, Chosen on Reform Platform, Announces War on Vice and Gamblers.

## 500 STILLS DECLARED OPERATING AT SURRATS

## Bladensburg Road Is Called Battlefield for Bootleggers and Hold-Up Men.

John Fink, of Berwyn, Md., elected sheriff of Prince Georges county on campaign promises to scourge the county of vice, last night declared he already had begun to lay his plans for a wholesale clean-up of bootabolishment of legging and the gambling resorts.

Sheriff-elect Fink was indorsed by the Law and Order League of Prince Georges county, and carried a great majority of the women's vote.

only opponent for the office was Conoperation. Two of the largest gamonly opponent for the online and coperation. Two of the hardest game stable Thomas Garrison, of Hyatts Ding houses south of New York have ville. been in operation for more than a "Vice is rampant throughout the ar. Bladensburg road, the main county. In the Surrats district, To retoway to the National Capital, has

"Vice is rampant throughout ounty. In the Surrats district, iles from Washington, there county. In miles from

His probably 500 illicit stills in daily

agateway to the National Capital, has been virtually turned into a battlefield by bootleggers and hold-up men,"

were some of the charges made by Mr. Fink last night. Mr. Fink declared that if he had not had the support of the Law and Order league and the women of the county he would have been defeated as the gambling and bootleg element were against him.

## Gamblers to Be Ordered Out,

"As soon as I receive my commis-sion and take oath of office I will per-sonally serve notice on the proprie-tors of the gambling resorts to shut their doors," he said. "With that ele-ment out of the way we will at once turn our attention to the boolleggers. "The citizens of Prince Georges county are demanding that vice be stamped out. At Seat Pleasant and "The citizens of Prince Georges. "The citizens of Prince Georges. county are demanding that vice be stamped out. At Seat Pleasant and Aquasco a week before the election I pledged that I would clean up the county and regardless of who it hurts that's what's going to be done." Mr. Fink, for more than five years, has been connected with the office of supervisor of elections and had never run for public office. Conditions in

supervisor of elections and had never run for public office. Conditions in Prince Georges, which were brought to the attention of voters by the Law and Order league at public meetings in Hyattsville and elsewhere in the county, resulted in his selection for sheriff.

snerm. His entire ticket was elected. Jo-seph Mattingly, of Oxon Hill, de-feated States Attorney Wilson Ryon for associate judge, and Allen Bowle, of Brandywine, defeated Arthur Keef-er, of Mt. Rainier for States Attor-ney.