

BEER LEGISLATION AND LICENSING

The Legislature of 1933 took prompt advantage of the liberalization of the Volstead Act, and the sale of beer was authorized in Baltimore City, and in all counties of the State except three, Caroline, Carroll and Garrett Counties, in each of which the same was made subject to a referendum.

The State-wide beer law is Chapter 213 of the Acts of 1933. This Act legalizes the manufacture, transportation and sale of beer and wines containing 3.2 percentum of alcohol by weight. Licenses are granted by the Clerks of the several Circuit Courts, and are divided into two classes. "On Sale Licenses" permit the sale of such beverages for consumption on the premises only, and the license fee for this is \$50.00 a year. "Off Sale Licenses" permit the sale of such beverages in packages containing not less than one dozen bottles, or single containers of not less than five gallons content, for consumption off the premises only, and the license fee for this is \$25.00 a year.

Each application for a license must be supported by the affidavit of ten reputable citizens, voters and taxpayers. The application must then be advertised in a local newspaper, and if objections in proper form are not filed within a period of one week, then the license is forthwith issued. If objections are filed within said period by ten or more reputable citizens, voters and taxpayers residing in the election district in question, then the same are referred to the Bureau of State Licenses, and are there heard and decided by the Chief Inspector and two assistants, appointed by the Comptroller, subject to the approval of the Governor.

For this purpose the said Bureau consists of the following:

Chief Inspector:

Frank P. Bratten, Pocomoke City.

Assistants:

W. Clinton McSherry, Frederick.

L. Franklin Purnell, Ocean City.

This law applies to the following counties of the State: Anne Arundel, except the City of Annapolis; Calvert, Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Kent, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester.

Baltimore City and the following counties are exempted from the application of the Act: Baltimore, Harford, Howard, Prince George's, St. Mary's, Caroline, Allegany, Washington, Garrett, Carroll and the City of Annapolis.

The Legislature of 1933 enacted special laws covering the sale of beer in each of the above exempted counties, and in the City of Annapolis.

The chapter numbers of these laws are as follows:

	Chapter
Allegany	389
City of Annapolis.....	392
Baltimore	522
Caroline	523
Carroll	525
Garrett	524
Harford	393
Howard	489