

Mayor has 'last say,' will veto liquor license

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The Nebraska Council on Alcohol and Drug Education plans to take a stand against Billy Bryan's if the corporation files for a liquor license, said James S. Hamilton, executive director of NCADE.

He said his organization plans to mail out information about the establishment, urging Nebraskans to contact the mayor or city council if they oppose it.

Lincoln doesn't need another place to sell liquor, Hamilton said. That is one of the reasons NCADE is opposing Billy Bryan's, he said.

But the main reason the organization opposes Billy Bryan's is because it is "insulting to his name," Hamilton said.

Mayor Luedtke has let it be known that he too opposes an issuance of a liquor license for Billy Bryan's. He said he will veto the license if the City Council decides to grant it.

"I have the last say," Luedtke said.

Luedtke, whose grandfather was a personal friend of Bryan, said he has received many letters from people who oppose Billy Bryan's. People are offended by the name used in conjunction with an establishment that serves alcohol, he said.

Luedtke, who says he has never heard Bryan called "Billy" before, said he thinks the name alone is offensive.

UNL Nebraska history professor Fredrick Luebke said Bryan might have been called "Will" by close friends, but he said he doubts that anyone called him "Billy."

Political enemies might have called him "Billy," Luebke said. But if that was the case, he said, then using that name is disrespectful.

"It would be like calling the restaurant 'Ron-

nie Reagan,'" Luebke said. "It's bad. It shows a lack of sensitivity to other people's feelings."

Luebke said those that have named the restaurant show "poverty of imagination that they haven't been able to come up with a better name."

Merritt said he and his partners didn't mean to discredit the memory of Bryan. Rather, Merritt said, the restaurant was named for Bryan because he was the most prominent of the Nebraskan politicians that will be honored.

Lineweber said the name had a "good ring," and he and his partners thought it was a "nice touch."

George W. Norris, a U.S. senator of the 1930's and Charles Dawes, vice president under Calvin Coolidge, also will be remembered in the restaurant, Merritt said. In fact, the restaurant will be located in the Dawes house, he said.

Merritt said he realizes that Bryan supported prohibition. But, he said, Bryan also was an alleged overeater.

"We plan to serve fine food," he said. "Bryan probably would have liked that."

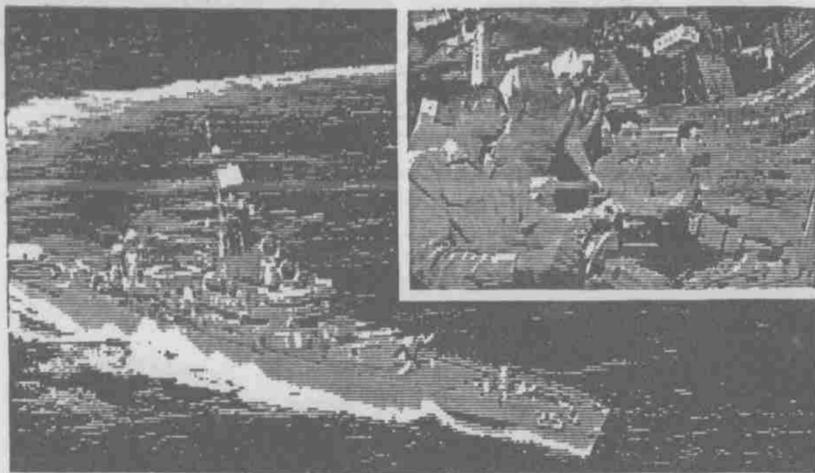
Merritt said he and his partners didn't anticipate the attention that Billy Bryan's has received.

The object of this establishment is not to sell alcohol, he said.

"You can't anticipate creating a restaurant in 1986 that intends to have a full menu and not at least offer spirits," Merritt said.

Lineweber said he thinks publicity has blown the issue out of proportion. A number of people have said they are happy that there will be a place like this, he said.

"People don't have to come in and get fall-down drunk," Lineweber said. "It's just going to be a good restaurant."



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Marchers try to raise funds

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us, 'The world is watching you, the world is waiting for you.' We'll go as long as people will help us. We have a lot of resources, we just have to pool them together."

One celebrity, Robert Blake, also has decided to continue the march, telling Stratton he would march as long as there were still families going.

"It's gotten tough," Stratton said. "You get up in the morning and don't know if you have any-

where to legally camp that night. But people have given up their lives for this."

The marchers have been in Barstow, Calif., since Monday, trying to reorganize and raise the funds needed to continue.

"It's gotten really hard," Stratton said, "but it has raised my level of appreciation for some simple things, like water. I haven't had a shower in four days."

Stratton said donations should be made payable to The Great Peace March, not PRO-Peace.

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