

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS—CONTINUED.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Executive Department
Saint Paul

April 24, 1947

*Honorable Lawrence M. Hall
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Minnesota State Capitol,
Saint Paul 1, Minnesota.*

Sir:

I am returning House File No. 911 without my approval.

The bill would modify the population classification in a special law passed some years ago so that International Falls may continue to operate an off-sale municipal liquor store and at the same time issue licenses for private on-sale liquor establishments. The population of Koochiching county has grown until it exceeds the figure used in the limiting classification in the act, and sponsors of the bill are asking that a higher figure be placed in the law to make certain the present plan of control can be continued.

I do not feel I can give my approval to continuance of a plan of control which I think unwise. The general state law provides that a municipality choosing to establish a municipal store shall make the municipal store a monopoly and not issue private on-sale licenses. I do not think it desirable to mix the two types of control. The fact that the Legislature has on a few occasions passed special bills making exceptions to the general rule is not sufficient justification for me to approve continuance of the system.

I am opposed to continuance of this special act for another reason. It allows the issuance of private on-sale licenses without limitation, with the result, I am told, that the city has issued 26 on-sale licenses in a population of 5,626. I think that opportunities for sale of liquor will be ample if the special act expires and International Falls returns to control under the general act. Under such circumstances, it could operate a municipal liquor store, or, if it prefers private liquor establishments, issue licenses for five on-sale places.

Respectfully yours,

LUTHER W. YOUNGDAHL,
Governor.